

### **\*\*\*WARNING TO AVOID HOUSING “PIRATES” AND “POACHERS”\*\*\***

When IASP secures sleeping rooms at hotels for our World Congress on Pain attendees (commonly referred to as room blocks), the individual properties are researched to ensure that attendees and exhibitors are adequately accommodated, rooms meet our standards, there is a discounted rate provided for our attendees, and, because the reservations were made in our block, any issues which may occur can be handled swiftly through our official housing provider.

#### **Deceptive tactics by these Housing Pirates / Poachers may include:**

- Housing poachers may distribute forms or promotional materials that appear to be issued by IASP or IASP's registration provider, Spargo.
- Housing poachers may not deliver on promises to customers. When customers arrive, reservations are sometimes non-existent or the hotels are not conveniently located.
- Housing poachers may represent themselves as being affiliated with IASP by illegally using our name or logo.
- Housing poachers may misinform you that the room block is sold out, but they can get you a better room for a lower rate or even in the same hotel for a better price.
- Housing poachers may insist you book with them immediately because they have the best rates or you will lose the deal they are offering you.

#### **Consequences to falling prey to these Pirates / Poachers:**

- In most cases your credit card will be charged for the full length of stay, and may be nonrefundable.
- IASP cannot fight these companies or rectify any issues they cause you with the hotel; whereas, when you use our official housing company, we are able to make sure all questions/problems are handled promptly and completely.

**Please don't be misled! If you receive an email or phone call that you think may be suspicious, please feel free to forward to [iaspdesk@iasp-pain.org](mailto:iaspdesk@iasp-pain.org) or [hotelservices@rai.nl](mailto:hotelservices@rai.nl).**