**TAEKWON DO (TKD)** spread like a fire across the globe. It gained innumerable friends and supporters but, as usual, in our greedy world, many people wanted to exploit the publicity and success. Many imitators and enemies appeared who hated its successful development.

The General often referred to the imitators and obstacles he encountered, and this was enough for us (the seniors) to understand that success would soon come to its peak, and we had to shield the art for the future.

The State of Korea was the most powerful opponent of **ITF** and created a new art, naming it *Taekwondo*, even if it was something else because that name was already widely spread and powerful. Moreover, many political games were played.

The dream of the General was for **TAEKWON DO** to become an Olympic sport and to be spread more and to satisfy the Olympic Committee of that period he compromised by doing many changes in the Martial Art in order for it to become a sport. The Masters and Grandmasters of that time could not oppose the General's strong personality and affect the decline that was apparent in the horizons.

Since then, more Federations have been created, sometimes for the sake of easy profit and resulting to **TAEKWON DO** losing its **True Martial Art Form.**

In **2006**, **Master Stefanos Gaidartzakis** had the inspiration for the *first* attempt to set up the *WORLD MASTERS SOCIETY* aiming to unite the older master’s to restore and support the art. Then it became very evident, to our estimation, that the Masters of that period were bound to the institutions of the Federation and their personal careers.

Today the need to set up an independent body with the aim of restoring **TAEKWON - DO** to its original form, as a **MARTIAL ART**, is greater than ever and pushes us to set up a society under the name

## «ΙNTERNATIONAL TAEKWON-DO MASTERS SOCIETY» (ITMS).

**ITMS PURPOSE:**

**is the gathering of practitioners of the art around the world, the rescue, dissemination, and promotion of the "martial art" of TAEKWON DO as it was born, far from personal ambitions and material benefits?**

### Founding Members of ITMS

The founding council of ITMS consists of senior GRAND MASTERS and MASTERS who have always been ideologues and visionaries, with no political or economic interests.

### Who can be Member of ITMS?

Members of the Society can become all practitioners of **TAEKWON DO, ITF, 4 Dan and above, regardless of Federation**, whose desire is to know, spread and retain the Art, as it was born. **TAEKWON DO, The Art of Self Defense**.

### Board of Directors