



PRESS RELEASE

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The 2nd Spain-India Forum is being held in Madrid

- Jointly organised by the Spain-India Council Foundation and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- It will take place at Cibeles Palace, the headquarters of Madrid City Council, on 16 November
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the Mayor of Madrid and the Secretary of State for Energy will open the Forum
- The Indian and Spanish Prime Ministers, Narendra Modi and Mariano Rajoy, have publicly expressed their support for the Spain-India Forum
- Focused on the energy sector, it will examine the renewable energy potential and needs of the two countries and the energy policies being developed
- Experts, companies and institutional representatives from the two countries will gather for a high-level event that represents a unique opportunity to debate and examine issues of common interest
- The Spain-India Forum will review the status of bilateral relations, strengthened since the visit by Narendra Modi to Spain and the celebration of the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations

The Spain-India Council Foundation and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) are organising the 2nd Spain-India Forum at Cibeles Palace, the headquarters of Madrid City Council, on 16 November.

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This forum is a high-level meeting attended by experts and representatives from companies and institutions in Spain and India to discuss certain issues of common interest to the two countries. This year's event, which will be held under the slogan of "Re-energising our Strategic Ties", is focused on the energy sector and will examine renewable energies and energy policies.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Alfonso Dastis, the Mayor of Madrid, Manuela Carmena, and the Secretary of State for Energy, Daniel Navía, will open the Forum.

The Spain-India Forum is based around five sessions, at which the various participants will enter into constructive dialogue on various issues ultimately aimed at producing solutions or ideas and promoting ties at all levels between Spain and India.

Another topic of discussion will be the excellent state of bilateral relations between Spain and India since the celebration of the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations in 2016 and a historic official visit by the Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, to Spain last spring.

In a joint statement, Narendra Modi and the President of the Government of Spain, Mariano Rajoy, have underlined their express support for the organisation of this 2nd Spain-India Forum and the work undertaken by the Council Foundation as a great tool for boosting relations between the two nations.

The 2nd Spain-India Forum has institutional backing from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the Ministry of Energy, Tourism and the Digital Agenda and Madrid City Council. ICEX and the Chamber of Commerce of Spain are working with the forum as partners.

The energy sector; a priority for India and an opportunity for Spain

The use and development of renewable energies in India is a priority for the government led by Narendra Modi. The government is committed to changing the energy production model, which until now has been focused on thermal power plants, and has committed to ensuring that 40% of the energy produced in the country in 2032 comes from non-fossil fuels.

Spanish companies are world leaders in the renewable energy sector. The contracts won worldwide combined with an enormous and recognised R&D+i effort have placed them in an advantageous position over the rest of the world.

Harnessing the synergies that arise from this situation is an obligation for the two countries, and the Spain-India Council Foundation is responding by offering this forum as a unique opportunity to create a space of knowledge and dialogue in which to further develop these issues.

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About the Spain-India Council Foundation

The Spain India Council Foundation is a private non-profit institution that was set up in 2009 and whose mission is framed by the so-called exercise of public diplomacy. This mission is supported by the national authorities, especially the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, to complement this external action from a civil perspective.

It seeks to foster increased content in all aspects of our bilateral relations - economic, cultural, education and scientific - and create a permanent focus on India in Spain and vice-versa.

Its board of trustees includes those entities - banks, companies, universities, local council authorities - of an outstanding nature in terms of their bilateral activity and commitment to said country. Represented by senior civil servants, various government departments also sit on the board of trustees to facilitate dialogue and public-private collaboration.

The foundation organises various activities under its action plans, such as the Indian Leaders Programme and the Spain-India Council Foundation Awards. Furthermore, it organises seminars, meetings or round tables and collaborates with other entities and institutions on their events and projects, provided that they share the same objectives and goals.

For further information

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