

MADRID / 2017

SPAIN INDIA FORUM



Re-energizing our Strategic Ties

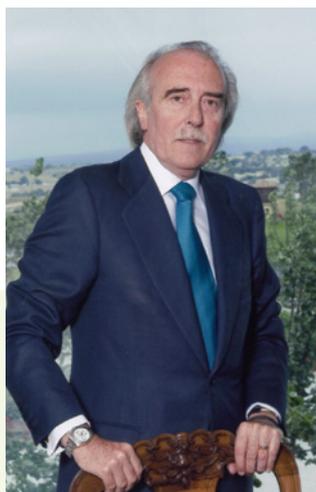


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WELCOME LETTER



Antonio Escámez
Chairman
Spain-India Council
Foundation

Dear Indian & Spanish friends,

I am very pleased to present to you the second edition of the Spain-India Forum: "Re-energizing our Strategic Ties", that will take place in Madrid on November 30th, 2016. This Forum is organized by the Spain-India Council Foundation (SICF), that I chair, a non-profit private body coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain.

We are pleased to share the organization of the II Edition of the Forum with such an important institution as the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). We also have the collaboration and support of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and the City Council of Madrid. Therefore, the Forum aspires to create an open platform for a successful bilateral dialogue where all public and private organizations interested in both countries are invited to participate.

This year the second edition the Spain-India Forum coincides with the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Spain. The Forum will be focused on renewable, clean and efficient energy, with a first session on bilateral relations. Our goal is to promote a constructive bilateral dialogue between both delegations to work together in sustainable solutions and innovative projects that will lead to a long term energy mix, as well as to debate in a prospective approach, considering new ideas to strengthen our ties and to uncover target sectors in which our bilateral relations could move further.

I have the certainty that this summit will encourage a fruitful cooperation in bilateral relations and a renewable and efficient energy mix where there are important opportunities for a successful collaboration between India and Spain. All delegates interested in taking to a new level the relations between both countries are most welcome to participate in the Forum. Allow us to share with you our hospitality and our way of life, you will find an innovative country and a friendly society in Spain.

Looking forward to welcoming you in Madrid.

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CO-ORGANIZATION & COORDINATION

Spain-India Council Foundation



The Spain-India Council Foundation is a non-profit private body, which aims to foster mutual understanding between the two countries. It brings together the efforts of a large range of institutions to promote India-related interests and it works as a civil society platform to encourage the bilateral dialogue and promote common interests and goals.

The Spain-India Council Foundation is part of the overall framework of the Council Foundations Network, promoted and supported by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. Its Board is participated by forty institutions including major economic and business ministerial departments. Its Trustees are at the forefront of today's modern, cutting edge, competitive and high technology Spain.

The Foundation started in 2009, coinciding with the historic State Visit to Spain by President Pratibha Devisingh Patil. Since then, it has developed a range of its own activities and it has accompanied and supported other government-designed initiatives and official events in India and Spain. It has participated in investment forums and business meetings, in cultural, educational, artistic and fashion activities, as well as signing agreements with private institutions and official Indian bodies.

CO-ORGANIZATION

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)



Confederation of Indian Industry

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the development of India, partnering industry, Government, and civil society, through advisory and consultative processes, founded in 1985.

CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization, playing a proactive role in India's development process.

CII charts change by working closely with Government on policy issues, interfacing with thought leaders, and enhancing efficiency, competitiveness and business opportunities for industry through a range of specialized services and

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strategic global linkages. It also provides a platform for consensus-building and networking on key issues.

Extending its agenda beyond business, CII assists industry to identify and execute corporate citizenship programmes. Partnerships with civil society organizations carry forward corporate initiatives for integrated and inclusive development across diverse domains including affirmative action, healthcare, education, livelihood, diversity management, skill development, empowerment of women, and water, to name a few.

GOVERNMENTAL PARTNERS

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation plans, directs, implements and assesses Spain's foreign policy and development cooperation policy, following the Government's guidelines and applying the principle of unity of external action. Since the royal visit to India of His Majesty Juan Carlos of Spain in 2012, the Ministry has identified its relationship with India as a top priority for its foreign policy. The Ministry aims to take forward the bilateral cooperation with India on the occasion of this Forum.

City Council of Madrid



The City Council of Madrid runs the administration of Madrid's metropolitan area, managing its urban planning development and providing sustainable urban services. Madrid is the third-largest city in the European Union, after London and Berlin, and spans a total of 604.3 km². Madrid has been internationally awarded for its waste management systems, its public transport network and its sustainable approach to urban development.

INDUSTRY & BUSINESS PARTNERS

ICEX-Spain Trade and Investment



ICEX Spain Trade and Investment is a state-owned corporation whose mission involves promoting the internationalisation of Spanish companies to support their competitiveness and add value to the economy as a whole, as well as attracting foreign investment to Spain. ICEX renders its services through a network of almost 100 Economic and Trade Offices around the world. Spain Business Overseas (SBO), part of ICEX network, offers innovative and effective solutions in foreign trade operations.

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GOALS

Spain and India are celebrating 60 years of fruitful bilateral relations in 2016. During this landmark occasion the Spain-India Council Foundation and the Confederation of Indian Industry will co-organize the second edition of the Spain-India Forum. Taking this anniversary as an excellent opportunity to analyse renovated ideas and to uncover new fields of cooperation for reinforcing our bilateral ties, the Spain-India Forum will focus on redefining our collaboration in the sustainable energy cycle.

This bilateral summit will be an outstanding opportunity to think together about co-promoting green solutions for a sustainable power generation, interconnecting communities through optimised electrical grids and proposing new formulas and measures for an efficient energy use. Putting together both goals, new proposal for reinforcing our bilateral ties and new ideas for a better collaboration in the sustainable energy cycle.

TARGET SECTORS

1/ Celebrating 60 years of fruitful bilateral relations: renovated ideas and uncovered cooperation fields in the years ahead.

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Spain and India, the Spanish Royal Institute Elcano and the Indian Observer Research Foundation are co-writing a report on the Spain-India relations with the support of the Spain-India Council Foundation. This report could be used as a framework to debate about future perspectives of our cooperation. The main goal is to debate in a prospective approach, considering new ideas to strengthen our ties and to uncover target sectors in which our bilateral relations could move further.

2/ Energy Policy: Long term energy mix.

3/ Renewable Energy: Mainstreaming innovative solutions and scaling Investments.

4/ Electricity Transmission Challenges.

5/ Energy Efficiency: the way to a Smart Grid.

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