

Press Release

05 October 2020

The Anna Lindh Foundation Virtual Marathon for Dialogue in the EuroMed – officially launched on 30 September 2020

On 30 September 2020, during the [Intercultural Mediterranean Dialogue](#) international conference organised by [Diplocat](#) and [IEMed](#) in Barcelona, the **Anna Lindh Foundation** launched a series of celebration and mobilization activities of civil society, institutional representatives, young people, media and academia, framed by the **Anna Lindh Virtual Marathon for Dialogue in the EuroMed** as the main ALF contribution of to the **25th Anniversary of the Barcelona Process**.

“With this initiative we intend to give voice to our large network of civil society - cultural operators - opinion leaders - educators - think tanks and universities - partners - youth - men and women to showcase a variety of cultural cooperation and solidarity initiatives in the EuroMed region, data and reflections on intercultural trends and areas to be strengthened for the promotion of intercultural dialogue for the future of social and cultural EuroMed cooperation.” stressed **Dr. Nabil Al-Sharif**, the Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Foundation.

The Anna Lindh Virtual Marathon for Dialogue consists in a series of cultural activities, weekly webinars on main issues for the promotion of EuroMed cultural cooperation, virtual trainings, seminars, exhibitions and debates, led by the ALF Networks and partners.

The Virtual Marathon’s programme will be developed around the overarching theme of “Intercultural Dialogue for Sustainable Societies” which is at the heart of the vision of the ALF for its next years of programming. It will emphasize the relevance of intercultural dialogue for the sustainability of EuroMed societies, as an essential tool to ensure social cohesion, economic growth, environmental respect and sustainability, youth development and exchange, gender equality and civil society empowerment.

“Also at this moment of crisis brought about by the pandemic, our duty is to underline the importance of having societies respectful of cultural diversity, as an asset for the growth and wellbeing” highlighted **Dr. Al-Sharif** and emphasized that the ALF civil society Network and youth will be at the heart of the rethinking of the ALF intercultural dialogue approach, as a basis for the growth of open and pluralistic societies in the EuroMed region, within the regional and global contexts characterized by the outburst of the pandemic COVID19, its consequences and the new recovery measures.

The ALF Executive Director concluded by making a regional invitation for organisations interested to plan activities for 2021 in the framework of the Anna Lindh Foundation Marathon for Dialogue to start contacting the Secretariat to share their proposals.

For more information check the ALF [website](#).

