

Dear Colleague and Friend,

The Cordoba Forum is a newly-launched annual initiative, created by a group of individuals and organizations deeply concerned by the divisions in our societies, and the distress, injustice and violence caused by ignorance and unwillingness to accept those different to ourselves. Driven by a sense of urgency, the members of the Cordoba Forum are seeking to gather, inform and encourage those who are working to counter the effects of fear and mistrust all over the world, to promote the practice and principles of *convivence*- of living together in solidarity, respecting and embracing our differences.

The Forum will take the form of an interactive conference held in English, French and Spanish spanning three days in Cordoba. It aims to engage representatives of diverse civil society organizations in order for them to encourage, inspire, discover new synergies and build new partnerships with their peers across the globe. Through the consideration of shared challenges and the sharing of promising strategies, best practices and success stories the Forum will produce new understandings of what is needed for people to flourish together and an enrichment to their work.

With a strong focus on equipping young actors in this field, the Forum will be preceded by **“Dialogue for Peace”- a two-day Youth Seminar on 14-15 May**, a training in dialogue approaches and techniques principally aimed at participants under 30 undertaking project work contributing to convivence in their communities, but also open to more experienced actors interested in honing their skills or fostering young talent. (More information and registration form for the Forum are attached).

Cordoba Forum Awards for Convivence will be attributed, about which further details will be given to registered participants.

Representatives of your organization would add great value to this event and we would be delighted to welcome you or your delegates to Cordoba in May 2019. Whilst your delegation may be of just one member, if two wish to attend it would be ideal if one is of decision-making level and at least one either a woman or youth participant in order to widen the variety of viewpoints we gather.

Please note that you will need to arrange your own travel and accommodation. As Cordoba does not have an airport, it is advisable to fly to Seville, Malaga or Madrid on the morning of the 15th May, and travel on from there by car or with the regular train services to Cordoba. To allow you to arrive and depart in comfort, please book flights which arrive early on 15th May and which depart late on the 18th, as activities will end in Cordoba at midday and you will need time to leave the city.

When organising your trip (especially if you have never been to Cordoba before) we recommend that you take the opportunity (outside conference hours!) to visit some of the unique and unforgettable sites of the city, such as the Mosque-Cathedral and the Torre de la Calahorra: both are living museums which embody how, around the year 1000, convivence was both a way of life, fraught with compromise as it is today, and a myth which has come to inspire the concept of this Forum and the choice of Cordoba as its meeting

place. We therefore suggest that you come earlier and/or leave later in order to enjoy the city and its unique history. Kindly note also that the date of May 16th is imposed upon us by the fact that it is the UN International Day of Living Together in Peace... but that, hotelwise, it is the busiest period for Cordoba. So, book your lodgings early!

With my compliments and best regards,

Jacques Moreillon, LIM; PhD,
Chairman of the Organising and Fundraising Committee of the Cordoba Forum

Annexes to this invitation ([click here](#)):

1. An “Introduction to the Cordoba Forum”
2. Tentative Programme of the Forum
3. Registration Form for the Cordoba Forum (**Deadline: 15th February 2019**)
4. Introduction to the “Dialogue for Peace Youth Seminar”