



JUINE 28 - 29, 2024 • ESSAOUIRA - MOROCCO
28 و 29 يونيو 2024 • الصويرة - المغرب

11th EDITION 11 الدورة
HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM منتدى حقوق الإنسان

MOROCCO, SPAIN, PORTUGAL
A HISTORY THAT LOOKS TO THE FUTURE
المغرب اسبانيا البرتغال
تاريخ بمستقبل واعد

PRODUCED AND ORGANIZED BY



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



The 11th edition of the Human Rights Forum is organized in partnership with the Council of the Moroccan Community Abroad



PRESS RELEASE

CASABLANCA, THURSDAY, 20th JUNE 2024

HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM OF THE GNAOUA AND WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL RENOWNED SPEAKERS WILL ANALYSE THE HISTORIC AND FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN MOROCCO, SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

For its 11th edition, the Gnaoua and World Music Festival's Human Rights Forum will address the theme of **“Morocco, Spain, Portugal : a history that looks to the future”**, on Friday June 28th and Saturday June 29th, 2024 at the Atlas Essaouira hotel.

Organized every year in partnership with the Council of the Moroccan Community Abroad (CCME), the forum invites leading figures from diverse backgrounds to debate freely in the context of three thematic panel discussions as well as a keynote address. For this edition, the keynote speaker will be former President of the Spanish Government, Mr. José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero.



In 2030, less than six years from now, Morocco, Spain and Portugal will conjointly organize the World Cup of football. This shared bid bears witness to the excellent relations shared by these three nations for over a thousand years, with variable but virtually uninterrupted human, economic and cultural flows. This shared history, however, has also been fraught with friction, even conflicts of all kinds.

The strengthening of economic and political relations between Morocco, Spain and Portugal as well as the joint organization of the 2030 World Cup represent real advances and clear opportunities for dialogue and cooperation. But the challenges facing the three countries have also changed, requiring greater cooperation, understanding and mutual respect.

In this context, what impact will the joint organization of the World Cup have on future relations between the three countries? What role can civil society, intellectuals, artists and sportsmen and women play? How will mobility evolve between the three countries? How does each diaspora speak of exile, of community and homeland? These are just some of the issues to be addressed in debate during the three thematic panels that include intellectuals, political figures, business and non-profit stakeholders from the three countries.

“The forum has always been attuned to the debates and issues that shape our societies. The organization of this World Cup is a major moment in our contemporary history. This year’s forum is our way of participating in this moment, through the insights and contributions of leading personalities,” explains Neila Tazi, producer, Gnaoua and World Music Festival in Essaouira.

Driss El Yazami, President of the Council of the Moroccan Community Abroad, concurs: “Given the new challenges facing the three countries, we will consider the roles of civil society, intellectuals, artists and athletes in building healthy and sustainable relationships. It is also important to explore the evolution of mobility in this part of the world. To understand how, among each of the diasporas, subjects such as exile, community and country, for example, are discussed,” he concludes.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER :

THE MEDITERRANEAN ... BORDER OR CROSSROADS BETWEEN AFRICA AND EUROPE?

José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, Former President of the Government of Spain
(April 2004 – December 2011) - *(Spain)*

ROUND TABLE 1 :

SPORT, ART AND CULTURE ... FATUM NOSTRUM (OUR SHARED DESTIN)

Anouar Majid, Professor, University of New England, publisher, editor-in-chief, Tingis Magazine - *(USA)*

Mohamed El Morabet, Author and translator - *(Spain - Morocco)*

Nieves Muriel García, Author and researcher - *(Spain)*

Oumama Aouad Lahrech, Doctor of Iberian and Iberian-American Literature,
Former Ambassador of H.M. the King Mohammed VI to Peru, Bolivia and Panama - *(Morocco)*

Rodrigo Sobral Cunha, Author, researcher and university professor - *(Portugal)*

ROUND TABLE 2 :

1000 YEARS OF HISTORY, WHAT DO WE CARRY WITHIN US?

Carlos Martins, Musician - *(Portugal)*

Farida Benlyazid, Producer, director and screenwriter - *(Morocco)*

Gonzalo Fernández Parrilla, Professor, translator and author - *(Spain)*

Nadia Hafid, Comic author and illustrator - *(Spain)*

Youssef El Maimouni, Author and educator specialising in social issues - *(Spain - Morocco)*

ROUND TABLE 3 :

HUMAN MOBILITY, ECONOMY, DIASPORAS ... NEIGHBOURING HISTORIES

Abdallah Saaf, Professor of political science, PhD in public law - *(Morocco)*

Iván Martín, Associate Professor at Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, Spain)
and Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique (UM6P - Morocco) - *(Spain)*

Laila Karrouch, Author - *(Spain - Morocco)*

Maria João Tomás, Researcher and lecturer, international politics analyst and author - *(Portugal)*

Mohammed Anouar Haidour, Trade unionist and activist - *(Morocco)*

MODERATORS :

Driss Bennani, Journalist and TV producer - *(Morocco)*

El Arbi El Harti, Poet and playwright - *(Morocco)*