



THE ANNA LINDH FOUNDATION VIRTUAL MARATHON FOR DIALOGUE IN THE EUROMED – ALF CONTRIBUTION TO THE 25 ANNIVERSARY OF THE BARCELONA PROCESS

CONCEPT NOTE

25th Anniversary of the Barcelona Process – The Anna Lindh Foundation Community Celebration

The ALF, as the first institution created in the framework of the EuroMed Partnership/Barcelona Process, intends to contribute to the 25th Anniversary of the Barcelona Process by giving voice to its 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.

Anna Lindh Foundation Virtual Marathon for Dialogue in the EuroMed - ALF celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Barcelona Process:

Taking into consideration the symbolic and strategic importance of 2020 as the year of the 25th Celebration of the Barcelona Process, and the large mobilization made by the ALF community in preparation of MEDForum 2020, which had to be cancelled due to the outburst of COVID19, the ALF plans to launch by the end of 2020, a series of celebration and mobilization activities of civil society, institutional representatives, young people, the media and the academia framed by the Anna Lindh Virtual Marathon for Dialogue.

At this historic moment for the EuroMed cooperation, the Anna Lindh Foundation Virtual Marathon for Dialogue aims to offer a platform to analyse the orientations for the future within the current context but also to make even more visible the work for dialogue done at the institutional and grass-root level and that is still little known to the broad public.

The Anna Lindh Foundation 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, debates led by the ALF Networks and partners, and building on all the work the ALF had done in preparation of MedForum 2020.

The main components of the Virtual Marathon for Dialogue include:

- A regional launch event by the end of September 2020 in Barcelona, in conjunction with IEMED, the Head of the Anna Lindh Foundation Spanish National Network
- The organization of a series of ALF planned activities between September and December 2020 to launch the debate on the future of EuroMed cooperation
- Presentation of the ALF civil society contribution during the UFM regional Forum in November 2020 (date and format to be defined in coordination with the UFM)
- The launch of a social media campaign by December 2020 and running through 2021 to broadly spread messaging around the importance of EuroMed cooperation and Intercultural Dialogue and engaging large audience and social media influencers with a specific focus on youth
- A traditional media campaign and coverage of the Virtual Marathon for Dialogue activities at the EuroMed level
- A programme of virtual activities: regional conferences, workshops, exhibitions, trainings and debates in the first semester of 2021 to be organised in coordination with the ALF Heads of Network and network members as well as some of the ALF partners
- A final regional outcomes activity in Croatia in 2021 in close collaboration with the Head of the Croatian ALF network who had been particularly involved in the planning of MEDForum 2020

Themes

The 25 Anniversary of the EuroMed Partnership calls on all the stakeholders committed to the promotion of cooperation around the Mediterranean Sea to analyse the orientations for the future within the current context but also to make even more visible the work done at the institutional and grass-root level and that is still little known to the broad public.

The Programme of the Anna Lindh Foundation Virtual Marathon for Dialogue 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. The programme 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.

The Virtual Marathon for Dialogue will be opportunities to exchange good practices, identify and discuss new trends and priority areas of work for the promotion of intercultural dialogue in the EuroMed region in the main domains of the ALF work and taking into consideration the new context brought about by the outburst of the world pandemic Covid19.

The programme of the Anna Lindh Foundation Virtual Marathon for Dialogue will offer the opportunity to civil society, institutional representatives, young people, media, educators, researchers and citizens from the EuroMed region and beyond to debate around the following topics:

- Youth exchanges and mobility
- New concepts for EuroMed mobility and environmental sustainability
- Media and social media to counter hate speech and stereotypes
- Civil society exchanges and empowerment and new formats for economic development through social action
- Culture, arts and translation
- Intercultural education, virtual exchanges and research
- Gender and combating gender stereotypes
- Intercultural cities and localised action for dialogue
- Digital tools and Virtual Exchange for dialogue
- Green recovery post-Covid19 crisis and international cooperation

Provisional format

The Format of the Virtual Marathon for Dialogue includes

- 2 Hour-Webinar every week at the same time, over a couple of weeks (1 Month max) on issues of main interest for EuroMed cooperation and intercultural dialogue - livestreamed and open to large audiences
- A series of debates, workshops, seminars, roundtables, exhibitions, trainings
- Outcome - "Policy - Recommendations" activity

Partnerships

The ALF identifies in the ALF Networks the main partner in the development and implementation of the Virtual Marathon for Dialogue.

Therefore, from the early stages, the ALF Heads of Network are to be involved in the organization of specific activities, mobilization of Networks members and communication of the ALF Virtual Marathon for Dialogue.

The ALF established institutional partners as well as other organisations interested to contribute to this regional initiative for dialogue in the EuroMed region will be invited to contribute and a specific attention is ensured to the collaboration with the Union for the Mediterranean fully engaged in the celebrations of the 25th Anniversary of the Barcelona Process.