

1975-2016

**41 YEARS OF STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE,
41 YEARS OF LONG WAIT FOR A FREE SAHARA**

Forty-one years of exile are too many. Forty-one years of exile is too much for anyone. Three generations of Sahrawi have grown up in exile or under the illegal Moroccan occupation of their own territories. The Kingdom of Morocco took advantage of the situation of chaos to take control of the Sahrawi territory. This, against the legal essence of the final opinion of the International Court of Justice from The Hague on 16th October 1975.

In a context of social instability, aggravated by the political uncertainty that the delicate medical condition of General Franco created, a late Franco government opted for the easiest solution: the transfer of the territory as an answer to the threat of the Green March. Spain surrendered the territory through the so-called tripartite agreements which were not accepted either by the General Assembly or by the United Nations Security Council.

In view of this situation, the Polisario Front faced the invasion while extracting the civilians in danger to neighbour Algeria, who offered them shelter.

Just like that, what was supposed to be a temporary residence has lasted until today.

41ST EUCOCO

"WESTERN SAHARA: AUTO DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE"

In this International Conference in Support and Solidarity with the Sahrawi People, promoted by the solidarity movement worldwide held every year since 1975, we want to bring together the maximum political support and solidarity. This is because the Sahrawi question is a political issue and because solidarity is the tenderness of the people.

The 41st EUCOCO is a discussion forum that contributes to the search for a definitive and democratic solution to the conflict. By doing this, we want to repair the injustice done more than 40 years ago by fulfilling the political, moral and historical debt we have with the Sahrawi people.

The 41st EUCOCO wants to be a call to action to our leaders. We want them to assume the historical responsibility of Spain and we want them to take the position of the International Law and Justice.

This year has been sad for the Sahrawi people. The president Mohamed Abdelaziz, a man of peace who devoted his life to fight for the freedom of his people, has passed away. Carrying him in their hearts, the Sahrawi people look to the future with hope. The youth is claiming to be heard, a youth that knows how to combine the traditional values of the Sahrawi culture with the challenges of a modern, globalized world.

Let's turn Vilanova i la Geltru, 41 years later, into an opportunity to rectify the betrayal and the abandonment caused, and continue to work, as usual, in the search for a solution that ensures the self-determination of the Sahrawi people.

REFERENDUM NOW!

VILANOVA I LA GELTRÚ – CATALONIA

18TH AND 19TH DE NOVEMBER 2016

Auditori Eduard Toldrà
(C/ Olesa de Bonesvalls, 8 - 08800 Vilanova i la Geltrú)

PROGRAM

Friday, 18th November 2016

Morning Political meeting at the Parliament of Catalonia
15:00 Registration of participants and delivery of documentation

16:00 Opening Session

18:00 Tribute to President Mohamed Abdelaziz

20:00 Constitution of working teams

Saturday, 19th November 2016

09:30 Workshops, meetings and working teams

11:00 Break / Coffee

13:30 Lunch

16:00 Interventions by delegations and international personalities

17:30 Conclusions of the workshops

18:30 Pausa/café

19:00 Closing Ceremony. Final Declaration of the 2016 EUCOCO

21:00 Closing dinner

23:00 Musical Evening

Registration: www.eucococatalunya.org