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EXECUTIVE  
SUMMARY

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COUNCIL FOUNDATION  
**SPAIN INDIA**





**SPAIN  
INDIA**  
COUNCIL  
FOUNDATION

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# WELCOME LETTER

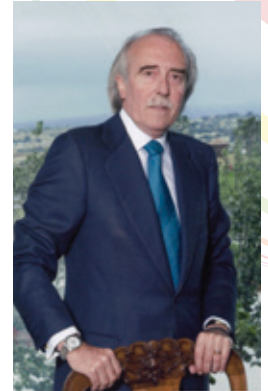
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The Spain-India Council Foundation is now approaching its fifth anniversary and continues to respond to the need to create a civil society platform made up of companies, financial institutions, cultural players, universities, business schools, lawyers and consultants. All of them, all of us, stand to benefit from fostering relations between Spain and India in collaboration with the Public Administrations.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation coordinates and promotes this initiative as part of the network of foundations that the Ministry has in place with many of the major countries with which Spain has a special relationship. India could not be left off this list. This is our belief as the promoters of this initiative, which in just five years of life has already become a point of reference in public-private partnerships to benefit the interests of all those of us who want to see our relationship given the place it deserves.

We see this project as a long-term investment between two ancient countries which are nevertheless young in the current international context. The opportunities offered by India in a wide range of sectors are vast, and our trustees know that we must not – that we cannot afford to – waste the opportunity offered by the current political and economic conditions of the globalised world of the 21st century.

This long-standing, far-reaching initiative encompasses a wide range of activities launched by the Foundation itself, as well as support for the most important official activities. We also support initiatives by organisations that share our interest in India. I therefore offer my gratitude to everyone who has joined the Foundation for their confidence and to those who, from outside, lend us their cooperation.



**Antonio Escámez**  
President  
**Spain-India Council  
Foundation**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Antonio Escámez', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

# OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES

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The Spain-India Council Foundation operates within the general framework of the group of Council Foundations promoted and supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, with the aim of encouraging and strengthening bilateral relations with foreign countries (in this case India) considered as high priority in Spain's foreign policy with respect to the Asia-Pacific region.

The aim is to bring together, in a single civil society platform, efforts being made across a broad variety of sectors in Spain to promote common interests and goals and to address concerns related to areas of activity that affect India. The entities promoting this initiative (Santander Group, La Caixa, Chaincorp and the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation) believe that an undertaking of this nature cannot fail to further these interests as India comes to the forefront one of the emerging countries with the greatest international impact at the beginning of the 21st century.

The Spain-India Council Foundation participates in high-level events and activities of major importance designed by the government to promote bilateral relations. These include state visits, investment forums and business meetings sponsored by the Spanish Institute for Foreign Trade (ICEX) and business organisations, as well as cultural and educational activities and the development of exchange programmes in fields such as science and technology, art, cuisine, law and cinema.

The Foundation also promotes initiatives, events and actions considered to be of high priority by its Trustees, who represent a wide range of both public and private activities. This requires a coordinated and coherent approach, as well as the joint effort and the motivation of all parties involved.

The Foundation's members include prominent representatives of central, autonomous and local government, whose task is to support the work of the Foundation while developing as many initiatives as possible within this general framework of action.

# ACTIVITIES



**30 SEPTEMBER 2008**  
**Presentation of the Foundation to Minister Miguel Ángel Moratinos**

The Presentation of the Spain-India Council Foundation to the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation took place on 30 September 2008. The event was attended by Mr Antonio Escámez, adviser to Santander Group and President of the Banco Santander Foundation; Mr Juan María Nin, Managing Director of "la Caixa"; Mr Mohan Chainani, businessman; Mr Rafael Conde de Saro, Head of International Economic Relations for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, and Mr José Eugenio Salarich, Head of Asia-Pacific relations at the Ministry.



**1 APRIL 2009**  
**First meeting of the Board - Presentation to the media**

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Spain-India Council Foundation and its presentation to the media was held at Palacio de Viana and attended by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mr Miguel Ángel Moratinos; the Secretary of State for Trade, Ms Silvia Iranzo, and representatives from the Indian Embassy in Spain. The event was also attended by delegates of most of the major Spanish companies, institutions and bodies that comprise the Foundation's Board of Trustees: Abengoa, Agbar, BBVA, Garrigues, Abertis, Gas Natural, OHL, PWHC, Acciona, Técnicas Reunidas, Isolux Corsán and Repsol, among others.



**20-23 APRIL 2009**  
**The Foundation, present at the state visit to Spain of Her Excellency the President of the Republic of India**

The Spain-India Council Foundation participated in the events organised on the occasion of the state visit of Her Excellency the President of the Republic of India, Mrs Pratibha Devisingh Patil, in April 2009. This was a historic visit, as it was the first time an Indian Head of State had visited Spain, giving new impetus to bilateral relations and culminating what can be considered a new stage in the relationship between the two countries.



**20 MAY 2010**  
**Working breakfast with Minister Abdullah**

On Thursday, 20 May, the Spain-India Council Foundation held a working breakfast focused on renewable energies at Hotel Villamagna, Madrid. This breakfast was attended by Union Minister for New & Renewable Energy, Dr Farooq Abdullah; high-ranking officials from his Ministry; the Indian Ambassador to Spain, Ms Sujata Mehta; the President of the Foundation, Mr Antonio Escámez, and the Secretary General for Trade of the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade, Mr Alfredo Bonet.



**21-23 JUNE 2010**  
**Global India Business Meeting**

This annual economic meeting brought together in Spain, for the first time, more than 300 Presidents and CEOs of the main Indian and Spanish companies, as well as many other companies from around the world. The event, which took place at the Westin Palace hotel in Madrid, was organised by Horasis and hosted by Casa Asia, Madrid City Corporation, PromoMadrid, ICEX and INVEST IN SPAIN representing Spain and by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) representing India, in addition to the collaboration of the Spain-India Council Foundation.

# ACTIVITIES



## **25-26 OCTOBER 2010** **Official Launch of the** **Foundation in New Delhi**

On October 25 and 26, 2010, the official presentation of the Spain-India Council Foundation was held in New Delhi, through three high-level functions that achieved the desired visibility and prominence. The institutional presentation took place in the gardens of the residence of Spanish Ambassador Mr Ion de la Riva in New Delhi and was attended by over four hundred people involved in Indian politics, business and culture.



## **27 MAY 2011** **Lunch with the Indian** **Minister of Road** **Transport and Highways**

The Spain-India Council Foundation held a working lunch in honour of the Indian Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri C. P. Joshi, on May 27 at Hotel Villamagna in Madrid. This visit was important for various reasons: the privileged relationship Spain is building with India, the crucial role of the infrastructure sector in the international economy and the potential of Spanish companies in these sectors.



## **31 MAY 2011** **Lunch in honour of Som** **Mittal, President of** **Nasscom**

On the occasion of a visit to Spain by Mr Som Mittal, President of Nasscom, and in coordination with the Areces Foundation and Casa Asia, the Spain-India Council Foundation held a lunch on May 31 at the restaurant Señorío de Alcocer in Madrid. The lunch preceded a lecture by Mr Mittal entitled "The Rise and Development of Information and Communication Technologies in India" at the Areces Foundation, in collaboration with Casa Asia.



## **22-23 NOVEMBER 2011** **The Foundation co-** **organises the 17th** **Technology Summit** **& Platform in Delhi,** **with Spain as "Partner** **Country"**

The Technology Summit and Technology Platform is one of the largest IT events in India. It is a bilateral summit between India and one or more "Guest Countries" organised annually by the Department of Science and Technology (within the Indian Ministry of Science and Technology) and the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) in Delhi. For the 17th edition in 2011, Spain was selected as "Partner Country".



## **26 MAY 2012** **Queen Sofia presents** **Zubin Mehta with the** **first Spain-India Council** **Foundation Award**

Her Majesty Queen Sofía of Spain presided over the presentation ceremony of the first edition of the Spain-India Council Foundation Award, which recognised orchestra director Zubin Mehta's work in strengthening bilateral relations between India and Spain. The event was attended by the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mr José Manuel García-Margallo, and President of the Valencian Government Mr Albert Fabra, among other dignitaries. Mr Mehta, visibly moved, said: "Thank you for this award. Spain is in my heart and always will be".



**28 MAY 2012**

**The 1st Indian Future Leaders Programme visits Santander Group's Financial City**

The first edition of the Indian Future Leaders Programme was held across the cities of Madrid, Valladolid and Barcelona, comprising several institutional visits during which the ten participants had the chance to get acquainted with Spain's current situation. The ten leaders in this first edition were prominent opinion leaders in the fields of business, academia, research and media. One of the most noteworthy visits was to Santander Group's Financial City, where they were greeted by the Foundation's President and had the opportunity to take a tour of one of the world's most innovative corporate headquarters.



**27 OCTOBER 2012**

**Intense activity by the SICF during the King's visit to India**

Manuel Cacho, Secretary General of the Council Foundation, met with several Indian personalities, experts and institutions. Thanks to the India-Spain Multilateral Partnership organised by ICEX, Manuel Cacho had the chance to meet with representatives of the Indian business associations ASSOCHAM, FICCI and CII. Mr Cacho also met with Mr K. C. Sivaramakrishnan, Chair of the Centre for Policy Research in India, and with renewable energies expert and director of the Energy-Environment Technology Development Division of TERI, Mr Amit Kumar.



**28 JANUARY 2013**

**Indian and Spanish companies meet at BioAsia**

The Spain-India Council Foundation co-organised, together with the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness and the Centre for Industrial Technological Development (CDTI), Spain's presence as a Guest Country at BioAsia, the main biotechnological industry forum in India and one of the most important in Asia. At the event, which enjoyed significant backing from the Indian government, several institutional and business meetings took place to foster the interaction of Spanish industry leaders and Indian companies. These meetings gave rise to several cooperation projects in the fields of biotechnology and energy.



**21 MAY 2013**

**The Spain-India Council Foundation helps promote Spain as a filming location**

A visit to Spain by the president of the Indian Film & Television Producers Guild, Mukesh Bhatt, allowed for the promotion of the country as a filming location. Several meetings and visits were scheduled to this end, to highlight the values of the Spanish audiovisual industry for Indian cinema, the most important film industry in the world in terms of feature film production and number of cinema-goers. These actions were undertaken by the Spain-India Council Foundation, the Institute of Cinematography and Audiovisual Arts and Casa de la India in collaboration with the Spain Film Commission.



**27 MAY 2013**

**His Royal Highness The Prince of Asturias meets the 2nd Indian Future Leaders Programme**

For the second consecutive year, Felipe de Borbón welcomed the members of the 2nd Indian Future Leaders Programme at the royal Zarzuela Palace. The audience was attended by representatives of the Trustees of the Spain-India Council Foundation, the organiser of the programme. HRH The Prince of Asturias had the chance to talk to the leaders, prominent Indian journalists, with whom he discussed Spain's privileged relationship with regions such as South America and the Middle East.

# ACTIVITIES



## **26 JUNE 2013** **Seminar on business opportunities for Spanish SMEs in India**

Held in Palacio de la Aljafería, headquarters of the Parliament of Aragón, the seminar took place thanks to the contribution of Aragón Exterior (Government of Aragón), the Parliament of Aragón and CREA (Confederation of Industrialists in Aragón). This seminar was aimed at providing Spanish SMEs with an overview of the current situation and the future prospects of the Indian market, the main business opportunities in different sectors and the keys for internationalization.



## **26 JUNE 2013** **Mr. Gustavo de Arístegui: "India is not an emerging but an emerged market"**

The Ambassador of Spain in India participated in the seminar on business opportunities for Spanish SMEs in India organized by SICF. Mr. Gustavo de Arístegui emphasized the prospects of growth of the Asian country and shared key ideas with the enterprises planning to set up in India. The diplomat highlighted infrastructure, energy and tourism as the most appealing sectors for Spain, and offered the enterprises the counseling services of the Spanish Embassy and the two commercial offices which our country has in India.



## **19 SEPTEMBER 2013** **Seminar on Legal and Financial framework for Internationalization in India**

The seminar, organized by SICF in Barcelona, consisted of two sessions and one round table. Both Spanish and Indian experts participated in the seminar by sharing their expertise and knowledge on this issue. Juan María Nin, at the time Deputy Chairman of SICF, inaugurated the seminar, in which H.E. the Ambassador of India in Spain, Shri Sunil Lal, participated.



## **17 OCTOBER 2013** **Spain, guest country at Mumbai International Film Festival**

Spain-India Council Foundation has been actively involved in several editions of the festival, financing the Spanish participation. As a guest country, Spain organized two special promotion activities: a showcase of contemporary Spanish cinema and a selection of films by the Festival Director, which traces the history of Spanish cinema. Besides, during the event the video "Shooting in Spain", made by the Spain Film Commission in collaboration with the Secretary of State for Culture, was screened.



## **2 DECEMBER 2013** **SICF organizes a meeting with CEO Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC)**

Mr. Amitabh Kant explained to the Patrons of SICF the relevance of this urban and infrastructure project, taking into consideration the difficult situation that the freight transport in roads and ports in India is going through. Additionally, he highlighted the urban development which the DMIC may bring, promoting the creation of 24 cities and "whose planning is based on technology, by making a safe bet on Smart & Intelligent Cities". Mr. Amitabh Kant praised the infrastructure in Spain because of its modern technology.



**25 MAY 2014**  
**Higher education,  
 guiding principle of  
 the 3rd Indian Leaders  
 Programme**

The six participants in this edition had an up-to-date overview of the situation in Spain, and the assets which have turned the country into a role model in the educational field, being among the first positions in international rankings thanks to the excellence of Spanish universities and business schools. At the end of the Programme, the participants expressed their commitment to strengthen the links made and work on the interesting opportunities that emerged during this Programme.



**9 JUNE 2014**  
**Presentation of the  
 Comprehensive Plan  
 for Indian Market  
 Development**

Organized in cooperation with the Spanish Secretary of State for Trade, this event was another sign of the strong involvement of the Spanish Government in the economy of India. The Plan was presented by Antonio Fernández-Martos, Director General for International Trade and Investment of the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness. At the same time, Ricardo Santamaría, Country Risk and Debt Management of CESCE, explained the current investment opportunities in India.



**16 JUNE 2014**  
**“Analysis of the new  
 scenario for bilateral  
 relations in the  
 aftermath of Indian  
 elections”**

Antonio Escámez, President of SICF, Emilio Lamo de Espinosa, President of Real Instituto Elcano and Ernesto Zulueta, Director General for North America, Asia and the Pacific of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, among other guests, shared with the Patrons of SICF their view on the new framework for relations between India and Spain in the breakfast-meeting organized jointly with Real Instituto Elcano.



**16 SEPTEMBER 2014**  
**Business breakfast  
 with High Speed Rail  
 Corporation (HSRC)**

As part of the preparatory activities of the 1st Spain-India Forum, this event consisted of a presentation of HSRC and a debate with the Patrons of Spain-India Council Foundation. It was organized thanks to the contribution and support of the Patrons of SICF, Spain Business Overseas and the company OHL, in whose headquarters in Torre Espacio the meeting was held.



**25 SEPTEMBER 2014**  
**The Indian Ambassador  
 presents the Indian  
 Government's strategic  
 plan for development**

Shri Vikram Misri, newly appointed highest representative of the Republic of India in Spain, met the Patrons of SICF in a business meeting organized with the aim of introducing the new Ambassador and announcing the implementation of a strategic plan by Narendra Modi's Government. This plan includes infrastructure development, an increase in industrial production, energy sufficiency, training for a qualified workforce and promoting an attractive ecosystem for business.

# 2012-2014 MILESTONES

**20 APRIL 2012**

## **Meeting between the Spanish and Indian Foreign Affairs Ministers**

José Manuel García-Margallo meets Somanahalli Mallaiah Krishna on his first visit to Spain.

The Indian Minister of Foreign Affairs visited Madrid to meet with the Indian ambassadors accredited in European capitals. During the meeting with his Spanish counterpart, topics of discussion included current affairs and bilateral European agenda issues. García-Margallo highlighted the opportunities India offers Spain in sectors in which the European country is a leader, such as infrastructure, renewable energies, telecommunications and tourism.



**21 MAY 2012**

## **Isolux Corsán to work on Kolkata metro system**

The company will install the electromechanical systems for 6 metro stations. The contract is valued at 4 million euros.

This is the first electromechanical systems installation project ever undertaken by Isolux Corsán in India and its first project in Kolkata. The Indian Government awarded the project to the Spanish company through Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation. Isolux Corsán will be responsible for the installation and maintenance of six elevated Kolkata Metro stations under the €4 million contract, through a joint venture with Sterling and Wilson.



**30 MAY 2012**

## **Acciona inaugurates its largest wind farm in India**

The farm, located in Tuppadahalli, state of Karnataka, will produce enough energy to power 35,000 homes.

The new facility has a capacity of 56 MW, which makes it the largest wind farm in terms of installed capacity out of the three owned by Acciona in the country. With a total installed capacity of 85.8 MW in India, the company is currently the largest wind operator in India. The power generated is acquired by state-owned supplier MESCOM.



**5 JUNE 2012**

## **Spain and India, leaders in software development**

Based on the number of organisations with CMMI certification, the most prestigious international standard.

Spain ranks fourth in the world by CMMI certifications, surpassed only by China, the United States and India. This information was published in "CMMI for development, Version 1.3" and was presented in the State Department for Telecommunications and Information Society (part of the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism).



**31 AUGUST 2012**

## **Gas Natural Fenosa signs its largest LNG sales contract in Asia**

This contract was signed with Indian gas supplier Gail, with which an additional industrial collaboration agreement was also signed.

Gail is India's top gas operator. Under this agreement, Gas Natural Fenosa is to supply, over the next three years, approximately 3 bcm (billion cubic metres) of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to the Indian company. The supply, to begin in January, equates to 10% of the annual demand of the Spanish market. The contract with Gail strengthens Gas Natural Fenosa's position in gas sales in the Pacific and represents a major step forward in the company's strategy for growth and diversification in new, high-potential markets.



**12 SEPTEMBER 2012**  
**Indra to commission**  
**Kolkata's new air traffic**  
**control centre**

The company will implement four approximation and tower simulators to train controllers.

Indra commissioned Kolkata's new control centre and will provide the Airports Authority of India (AAI) with simulation systems to train its controllers. These new contracts strengthen the company's solid position in the country. In 2010, Indra was awarded a project to deploy 9 Mode S radar stations and implement its air traffic management systems in the towers of 38 airports.



**25 OCTOBER 2012**  
**The King promotes**  
**Brand Spain in India**

The King of Spain highlighted the potential of the Spanish economy over lunch with Indian and Spanish businessmen in Mumbai.

On this official visit to India, HM King Juan Carlos was accompanied by a large delegation of Spanish companies, some of them members of the Board of Trustees of the Spain-India Council Foundation. The Spanish Head of State was also accompanied by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Defence, Public Works and Industry. At his first function, His Majesty the King stated that the Spanish economy is "diversified, with robust fundamentals, a skilled workforce and multinational companies that operate worldwide."



**26 OCTOBER 2012**  
**OHL signs agreement**  
**with India's Hinduja**  
**Group**

The two companies join forces to develop future infrastructure projects.

OHL signed a MOU with India's multinational Hinduja Group for the joint development of infrastructure projects in India and other geographic areas of interest to both companies. The pact was signed in Mumbai by Juan Miguel Villar Mir, Chairman of OHL Group, and Mr Ashok Hinduja, Chairman of Hinduja Group in India. During the signing ceremony, Villar Mir noted that internationalisation is one of OHL's key business strategies.



**26 OCTOBER 2012**  
**Five bilateral**  
**agreements signed**  
**between Spain and India**

Important political and economic agreements were achieved within the framework of the Royal visit.

HM the King of Spain was received by Indian President Pranab Mukherjee and paid a visit to the mausoleum of Mahatma Gandhi to place a wreath. During this visit, five bilateral agreements were signed, aimed at strengthening cooperation between the two countries in the areas of tax, defence, film production and rail and road transport.



**30 JANUARY 2013**  
**Spain and India sign**  
**a R&D&I cooperation**  
**programme**

The agreement is in addition to those signed in the fields of biotechnology and renewable energies.

The agreement signed by the Centre for Industrial Technological Development (CDTI) and the Indian Department of Science and Technology focuses on priority areas such as energy, climate change, the environment, IT, health, nanotechnology and aerospace, among others. Through this agreement, the two countries endeavour to increase alliances in the next few years, following the strong results obtained since a MOU was signed back in 2007.



# 2012-2014 MILESTONES

## 4 FEBRUARY 2013

### The Indian Minister of Tourism visits Spain

Dr Shri K Chiranjeevi inaugurated India's pavilion at FITUR and met with the Spanish Minister of Industry, José Manuel Soria.

The Indian Minister of Tourism attended FITUR, the world's most important travel and tourism trade fair, under the slogan 'Incredible India, find what you seek'. India hopes to double the number of Spanish tourists visiting the country over the next few years. This desire to bring the two countries closer together through tourism adds to various initiatives launched by Spain in recent months; initiatives which led to a 50% increase in the number of Indian tourists visiting Spain in 2011.



## 2 OCTOBER 2013

### H.M. the Queen of Spain inaugurates the sculpture of Gandhi in Madrid

The event took place on the International Day of Non-Violence, which commemorates Gandhi's birthday.

The sculpture, made by the senior artist Ram Sutar, was a gift from the Indian Government to the city of Madrid. Spain-India Council Foundation collaborated in this initiative and was represented in this event by its President, Antonio Escámez. Other dignitaries, such as the Minister of Defense, Pedro Morenés, the Minister of Industry, Energy and Tourism, José Manuel Soria, the Ambassador of India in Spain, Shri Sunil Lal and the Mayor of Madrid, Mrs. Ana Botella, accompanied Her Majesty Queen Sofía.



## 23 AUGUST 2013

### Increase in Indian tourism in Spain

As of July 2013, more than 34 million tourists had visited Spain. Out of these, the number of tourists from BRICS countries is increasing.

According to the Survey on Tourist Movement across Borders (Frontur), our country reached its highest figure since 1995. In the first seven months of the year, the number of travelers increased by 3.9% in comparison to the previous year. Catalonia, Balearic Islands, Canary Islands and Andalusia were the preferred destinations for Indian tourists, and the Valencian Community recorded the most significant growth.



## 13 NOVEMBER 2013

### First Spain-India tender to fund R&D projects on Water technology and ICTs

Published in "Global Innovation & Technology Alliance Platform".

The Ambassador of Spain in India, Mr. Gustavo de Arístegui, and Mr. Arbindra Mitra, adviser and director of Science & Technology International Cooperation Division of the Government of India, opened the tender. The Spanish Ambassador celebrated the excellent work done by the Science and Technology Office of the Spanish Embassy in New Delhi pursuing an active bilateral cooperation.



## 13 APRIL 2014

### Atlético de Madrid Kolkata is launched

The new team will represent the traditional red & white colours of Atlético de Madrid in the Indian Super League, which will feature eight franchise teams.

Through this agreement, Atlético de Madrid Football Club will work to enhance the expansion of football in India, by designing a series of growth models related to sports, commercial opportunities, marketing and communication, in order to share its "know-how" in the key areas of club management. Furthermore, in August 2013 Real Madrid Football Club opened St. Thomas Sport and Social Club, which shelters 200 students aged 10-13 years old, from low-income families.



**1 APRIL 2014**

**Mondragon  
Unibertsitatea exports  
its entrepreneurship  
model to India**

The University and the Indian center MIDAS create a network to promote the entrepreneurship culture.

The joint work of both education centers will help to develop the postgraduate programme on Intra/Entrepreneurship of Mondragon Unibertsitatea in India and to train students of the Indian center in the most advanced tools for entrepreneurship. The Spanish center will create an incubator for Indian entrepreneurs and enterprises, by providing a space in which they can carry out their entrepreneurship projects and be in contact with Indian students and entrepreneurs in different sectors.



**10 APRIL 2014**

**Mr. Karan Sing visits  
Spain**

The President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was hosted in the Zarzuela Palace by His Majesty King Juan Carlos I.

After a warm welcome, the President of ICCR had a meeting with the Spanish King in his office. Mr. Karan Singh gave a lecture in Valladolid, sponsored by House of India. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was founded in 1950 and contributes to the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes pertaining to India's external cultural relations, in order to foster and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries.



**28 MARCH 2014**

**The Deputy Minister of  
Foreign Affairs of India  
visits Spain**

A meeting with his counterpart, Gonzalo de Benito, took place in the headquarters of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

The Secretary General of SICF, Mr. Alonso Dezcallar, the Ambassador of Spain in India, Mr. Gustavo de Aristegui, and the Ambassador of India in Spain, Shri Sunil Lal also attended the meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to boost political relations between the two countries, and to deal with different aspects of their bilateral relations. In May, the Indian Commerce Secretary, Mr. Rajeev Kher, also visited Spain to participate in a business meeting.



**28 MAY 2014**

**"India: business  
opportunities for  
Spanish companies"**

Casa Asia, Garrigues and Spain-India Council Foundation organized this conference on internationalization.

The growth in the Indian economy is currently steady, after having achieved important progress in areas such as Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), aviation, information technologies and multi-brand sectors. The aim of this conference was to identify key points to start investing and selling in the Indian market: companies' potential, most dynamic commercial sectors, export strategy, local partners, logistics, marketing and legal aspects, among others.



**8TH OCTOBER 2014**

**Barcelona offers India  
its cooperation in Smart  
Cities**

The Mayor of the city, Xavier Trias, participated on the panel "Redefining Urban Agenda" of XI Metropolis World Congress in Hyderabad.

In his presentation, Mr. Trias pointed out that "Barcelona is boosting future strategic sectors, such as mobile technologies, smart cities, electric vehicles, clean energies, biomedicine, the agrofood industry and the art of navigation".



# TRUSTEES