
Seminar: The Basque Country - Internationalization
and its Global Perspective

Basque Country-USA: Evolution and Future Relationship (Virtual workshop)

As part of the strategic seminar “Euskal Herria-
Basque Country Internationalization and its Global
Perspective” organized by the Telesforo Monzon
eLab, laboratory of ideas and the Sabino Arana
Foundation, we have organized a workshop on
“Basque Country – USA, its Evolution and Future
Relationship”.

While it is difficult to corroborate with absolute certainty, according to several studies carried out over the years, it appears that more than eight million people of Basque ancestry are scattered throughout the world. Many of them do not even know about their Basque origin and heritage.

This circumstance posits a perfectible human connection. What would we be able to do if we educate, raise awareness and engage their passion, and their wisdom to further enrich the Basque Country?

To achieve this objective, we must build bridges. Bridges between institutions, bridges between companies, between non-profit organizations, between cultural organizations, between universities, between dance and related cultural groups.

While bridges are needed, the most important complement to building these bridges is trust among people. Engaged on a foundation of trust among people of Basque origin around the world, we will be able to build authentic economic, cultural, social and academic bridges that could reach beyond our inherent traditions of global connections.

The Basque diaspora in the USA is extremely relevant to grow and enhance the Basque Country role in an interconnected global community of the future. Basque diaspora communities from Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay or Chile are also very important to move forward with this endeavor. At this time, we are intending to focus this session specifically to the United States Basque diaspora. The purpose of this two-day virtual workshop is to discuss matters related to the challenges and the opportunities to build bridges among the Basque Country and the USA diaspora.

CONTENT OF THE WORKSHOP

Virtual seminars:

Session I: March 2

(17:00–19:00 Central European Time)

1.- Introduction

WELCOME:
Mireia Zarate (SAF)



SPEAKERS (Co-organizers):
Mikel Burzako (EAJ-PNV) / Urko Aiartza Azurtza (TM eLab)

2.- Relations with the USA throughout history

SPEAKER:
Xabier Irujo (Reno Univ.)



3.- Other diasporas in the USA

SPEAKER:
Martin O'Muilleor. (Former Mayor of Belfast)



4.- View from the United States

SPEAKER:
Jean Flesher (NABO)



5.- Proposals for building bridges between young people

SPEAKER:
Iñaki Goirizelaia. (EHU)



6.- Proposals for sports bridges

SPEAKERS:
Argia Beristai / Xabier Berrueta (USFP)



Session II: March 4 (17:00–19:00 Central European Time)

7.- On the relevance of the Basque Diaspora

SPEAKER:
Juan José Ibarretxe. (ALC)



8.- Proposals for the Basque Academic Diaspora

SPEAKER:
Iñaki Goirizelaia (EHU)



9.- Proposals for cultural bridges

SPEAKER:
Kirmen Uribe



10. Some proposals to build better economic bridges

SPEAKER:
Herman Uscategui.



11. Some proposals to work the political bridges

SPEAKER:
Rafael Anchia (Texas House Rep)



12. The view and actions of the Basque Autonomous Government

SPEAKER:
Marian Elorza (Basque Autonomous Government)



13. Closure

LAST WORDS:
Iratxe Esnaola Arribillaga (ODF)



SPEAKERS (Co-organizers):
Mikel Burzako (EAJ-PNV)
Urko Aiartza Azurtza (TM eLab)



TECHNICAL ASPECTS:

- Workshop will be in English.
- The speaker will have 15–20 minutes to present each topic and then another 20–25 minutes for discussion.
- You must to register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMrc-mvpz0qGNKeLiztvvVETUqMEqyrIMf>

- After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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