



Instituto Cervantes
Estambul

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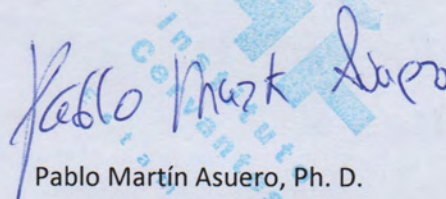
To whom it might concern,

The Cervantes Institute's objective is the promotion of the Spanish Culture and Heritage; therefore, we recommend the project, Jew'els of Spain, presented by Mr. Roberto Rodríguez Ponce de León.

In fact, since we opened the Institute in Istanbul in 2001, we have done many cultural activities with the Sephardic Community such as conferences, books presentations, food tastings, etc.. In May, we hosted a meeting of leaders of the Sephardic Community from all over the World. It was organized by the local community and the Centro Sefarad and Israel, a Spanish Foreign Office organization. During the meeting, I recognized the people's interest in the above mentioned project.

I consider this project a very interesting approach to the Sephardic reality. Since 1992 in Spain, we have seen a revival of the Sephardic Heritage based on oral history and folklore. Jew'els of Spain presents a different approach, introducing the opinions of important scholars and researchers from the Academic World. I think that this perspective is also important in order to understand the Sephardic reality, the recreation of the historical and sociological context through the centuries. It will allow us to appreciate the Sephardic Culture as part of the Spanish Culture, separated for many centuries but recuperated and integrated in our Cultural Heritage today.

Yours sincerely,


Pablo Martín Asuero, Ph. D.