

***Director Hourani Presents the Lebanon Dialogue Initiative to
Representatives of Lebanese Organizations in Mexico***

LERC Staff

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LERC Liaison Officer Mr. Antonio Trabulse Kaim invited all the Lebanese Organizations in Mexico to attend a business lunch in which Dr. Guita Hourani, Director of the Lebanese Emigration Research Center and Lebanon Dialogue Initiative Campaign Coordinator at Notre Dame University in Lebanon, presented the Initiative.

The business lunch was held at the Centro Libanés under the auspices of its President Mr. Ricardo Kahwagi Rage and his wife Ms. Amira.

Attendees were the Maronite Bishop of Mexico His Eminence George Saad Abi Younes, Vice President of the Centro Libanés Mr. Jorge Antonio Serio Canaan and his wife, Mr. Antonio Trabulse Kaim and his wife Ms. Marta.

The event began with an introduction by Mr. Trabulse Kaim and a speech by C. L. President Mr. Kahwagi Rage who welcomed Dr. Hourani and declared that he and his Center support the Initiative because of its importance to Lebanon and the Middle East.

Dr. Hourani then gave a speech about the Initiative in English which was read in Spanish by Ms. Martita Trabulse Khouri. In her speech, Dr. Hourani explained the genesis of the idea, the history and rationale behind the idea of Lebanon being a land of dialogue and supported her argument with quotes from various religious leaders in Lebanon and abroad. She then closed by asking all the representatives to promote the Initiative among their members and friends and to encourage them to sign and share the petition.

Following the end of the event, many of the attendees came up to Dr. Hourani and expressed their gratitude for NDU that is spearheading this effort and said that it is encouraging to see that there continue to be an interest in assisting Lebanon to reclaim its vocation as a country of freedom, plurality and conviviality.