



**Instituto Cervantes**

**Luis García Montero**

*Director*

Mme. Audrey Azoulay  
Director General  
UNESCO  
7, Place Fontenoy  
75352 Paris 07 SP

Madrid, 3 de julio de 2019

Dear Director General:

Instituto Cervantes is pleased to endorse the candidacy of Orihuela for the Creative Cities Network in Literature.

The Instituto Cervantes is an official organization created by the Spanish Government in 1991. Its main aim is to promote the teaching of the Spanish language and Spain's co-official languages around the world, and to contribute to the advancement of the cultures of all Spanish-speaking countries.

Instituto Cervantes centers are spread across five continents, where they offer courses in Spanish and in Spain's co-official languages, as well as special courses and self-access learning resources.

The Cervantes Virtual Center is one of the main reference sites on the Internet, with more than pages on the language and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries.

The library network has more than 1,200,000 volumes in all types of media.

The Instituto Cervantes organizes the official exams to obtain the Diplomas in Spanish as a Foreign language (DELE), as well as the Test of Constitutional and Sociocultural Knowledge of Spain (CCSE) which is one of the requirements to obtain Spanish citizenship.

In 2018 we hosted in Orihuela a great part of our annual meeting of Heads of Instituto Cervantes around the world and we were all astonished by the city and its cultural and literacy history which one can breathe from the very first moment arriving there. That great hospitality together with the «Strategic Transformation Plan» that Orihuela has developed are really valuable tools for the city to become UNESCO's Creative City of Literature.

Therefore, this Instituto Cervantes is pleased to endorse the candidacy of Orihuela for the Creative Cities Network in Literature.

Yours sincerely,