



International Association to Save Tyre

Press release

The 2nd Edition of Elissa / Didon award, on April 5th, 2016, honored 2 women from the Mediterranean at the European Parliament in Brussels.

Despite the difficult situation in the Middle East and Europe, the International Association to Save Tyre (AIST) decided to maintain the Ceremony of Elissa / Didon Award, under the auspices of the President of the European Parliament, Mr. Martin Schultz, at the European Parliament in Brussels. Mr. Schultz attended the Ceremony and gave the Awards to **Mrs. Téofila Martínez**, former Mayor of Cadiz in Spain for her outstanding work in favor of the Phoenician culture and heritage in the city; and **Mrs. Khadijah El Salami**, a Yemeni filmmaker who fights to help the youth against the grip of violence in the Arab world.

The Elissa / Didon Award annually honors two women from North and South of the Mediterranean basin, making a link between the two shores of the "Phoenician Sea". This Award honors women leaders working to strengthen equal opportunities and also the affirmation of the role of women in the cultural, political, social, economic and scientific fields.

Several personalities from different countries attended the Ceremony with the participation of fifteen parliamentarians.

Besides the President of Parliament and its Vice President Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso, were attending Mrs. Teresa Jimenez Becerril our host deputy; the MEPs; Mr. Pablo Zalba Bidegain, Vice President of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee; Mr. Francisco Millán Mon, Foreign Affairs Committee; Rosa Estaràs, Vice-President of the Petitions Committee; Verónica Lope; Beatriz Becerra, Vice-President of the Human Rights Committee; Esther Herranz; Pilar del Castillo; Mrs. Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines, MEP for 15 years; Ms. Mara Marinaki, representing Ms. Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs.

AIST chaired by Dr. Maha El Khalil Chalabi, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador congratulated the laureates and thanked the personalities that made this event happen and those who traveled from far to participate in the ceremony that was created by Tyre Foundation in partnership with Med 21 network, and the Didon D'or Award in Tunisia.