



Estatu Batuetako euskaldunak, agur!

As most of you may know, I have recently been appointed Director for the Basque Community Abroad, a new challenge in my life that I will face with great honor.

I was familiar with the Basque centers, as I had been part of the Board of Directors of Euskal Etxea of Madrid. But now I will have to take more responsibilities from this position.

This is going to be my second week in office and I hope you understand that I declined the invitation to attend the NABO meeting in Salt Lake City, as I am willing to work with no rush and will need some time to touch ground and learn about our programs.

As the new Director of the office at the Basque Government Presidency managing the policies that the Basque Government offers to the Basques Abroad, I will try to fulfil me tasks as efficiently as possible. We have quite a history of collaboration and mutual support that has proved to be much successful and productive. As a result of our collaboration, the Basque Communities all over the World and especially in the US have been put on the spotlight and have gained prestige. We should continue walking that same path.

On February and March, we have to draft the new Strategy for the next years, we have the meeting of the Advisory Board but at the same time we also want to open the process of the annual grant. This is going to keep us very busy. On your side, I wish your meeting in Salt Lake City turns out to be very productive, too.

Before concluding, I would like to let you know that I will do my best to attend the NABO Convention in Buffalo, and meet with all of you there.

So, see you soon. Laster arte!

Vitoria-Gasteiz, February 3, 2017.

Gorka Álvarez Aranburu  
**Kanpoan den Euskal Komunitatearentzako zuzendaria**  
**Director for the Basque Community Abroad**