

PRESS RELEASE

FECYT to hold European Forum on Science Journalism event MEDIA FOR SCIENCE

- **It will be held in Madrid on 12 and 13 May**
- **It will look at the challenges facing the communication of science in the 21st Century, its social dimension, the role of the media, the functions of the principal agents involved, the research perspective, and the public's perception of and participation in science**
- **It is aimed at European science journalists, experts, researchers and communicators**
- **Visitors can now register and apply for attendance grants via the website www.mediaforscience.com**

Madrid, 17 March 2010. The Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) is organising the Media For Science Forum (MFSF2010) in collaboration with the Spanish Association of Science Communication (ACCC), the Scientific Communication Observatory (OCC) and the European Union of Science Journalists' Associations (EUSJA), as one of the actions to be launched by the Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN) during the Spanish Presidency of the European Union. The congress will be sponsored by the Spanish Newspaper *Público* and will be partially financed with funds of the European Union.

This aim of the event, which will be held on 12 and 13 May 2010 at La Casa Encendida venue in Madrid, is to serve as a meeting point for communicators, journalists and researchers and to raise awareness about the challenges relating to the communication of science in the 21st Century.

Science journalism plays a fundamental role in informing and educating the public about scientific developments and their social applications, while also reacting to unprecedented challenges and opportunities arising as a result of new technologies. MFSF2010 will focus on strategic issues in science journalism and the communication of science within the knowledge society, such as the role of the

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media, the advantages and risks of new tools, the social dimension of science, the relationship between the prime stakeholders, the public's perception of and involvement in science, etc.

In order to encourage participation in and attendance at the event, the FECYT is offering 80 grants (50 for Europeans and 30 for Spaniards) to provide financial help with travel and accommodation costs. These grants are aimed at journalists and communicators linked to European universities, institutions or research centres involved in the world of science communication.

Those interested in attending can register for MFSF2010 and apply for grants, starting from today, on the event website: www.mediaforscience.com