

**Madrid, 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2010**

**Tribute to Jean-Serge Nérin, victim of terrorism**

**Speech by Cayetano González, Director of the Internacional Center for Victims of Terrorism**

Distinguished Authorities;

Teachers, non-teaching staff, students of the CEU San Pablo University and CEU School;

Dear victims of terrorism;

We are here, today, near of the Memory Gate memorial, to pay tribute to the latest victim of ETA terrorism: the gendarme Jean-Serge Nérin, assassinated by this terrorist organisation, last Tuesday, near of Paris.

The pain caused by any terrorist attack does not depend on the uniform the wear or the country where the committed the crime. In this case, ETA, a terrorist organization, has assassinated in France and they killed a man who was working to fight against terrorism.

We, the Spanish people, have seen this terror attack as if this officer was part of the Spanish State Security Forces. Today, we are next to his wife and his sons and I would like to send, from this University Campus, a warm and affectionate message.

Unfortunately, in Spain, we know what terrorism can do. We have been suffering ETA's terrorism for more than 40 years. They have killed 857 people and they have injured thousands of people. We have suffered together but we have reacted together too, saying them that we will never win this battle. They have attacked our freedom and our lives.

In this fight against ETA, we, the Spanish people, have the help of French authorities. This collaboration has been very important to winning this battle to terrorism.

Therefore, all the Spanish have felt firsthand the assassination of Jean-Serge Nérin.

As the President of the French Republic, Nicolas Sarkozy, has said clearly, the terrorists who have perpetrated last Tuesday's crime will be arrested soon or later and they will go to jail. That is what we have to do with terrorists.

I would like to thank my good friend, Guillaume Denoix de Saint Marc, President of the French Association of Victims of Terrorism, for being here today.

Dear Guillaume;

Thank you for coming to Madrid and I would like you to send the gendarme's family, to the French people and to your Authorities our condolences and warmth in this difficult moment.

You know that the International Centre for Victims of Terrorism will keep on working for the Memory, the Dignity and Justice that all the victims of terrorism around the world deserve. And we will achieve our goal with the help of Victims of Terrorism Associations, such as the one that you lead in France.

With the conviction that we are more and that we are better people than terrorists, I would like to finish my speech sending you all a message of hope. **Do never have any doubt that we will win the battle to terrorism.**

**-VIVA LA LIBERTAD - Long live Freedom.**

**-VIVA FRANCIA - Long live France.**

**-VIVA ESPAÑA - Long live Spain.**