

# Fundación MAPFRE

## FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE SOCIAL AWARDS

**2015**

**Award to the Best Initiative in Social Action**

### **SPEECH OF JUMANA TRAD, PRESIDENT OF THE FPSC**

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Madrid, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2016

Her Majesty,  
Mr. President of the Fundación MAPFRE, Don Antonio Huertas Mejías  
Ladies and Gentlemen, fiends all,

For our Foundation, is a great honor, to receive from you, Majesty, the Award to the *Best Initiative in Social Action* that has been granted to us by the Fundación MAPFRE.

It is very special for us, since we remind the support that your Foundation has provided to us.

The FPSC has been working in international development cooperation projects in the Middle East from more than 25 years, and during this time, we have never ceased in our efforts.

The outbreak of the devastating Syrian war, more than 5 years ago now, has unleashed the greatest humanitarian drama since World War II and has led us to work in humanitarian aid in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

Our actions are aimed particularly to alleviate the suffering of the most vulnerable collectives; minors, people with disabilities, elderly persons, women and minorities since they are who suffer the most the impact of armed conflicts.

Today we are the only Spanish NGO in the Jordanian refugee camp of Za'atari.

Allow me to address my words to Marwan, an 8 year old boy who suffers from diplegic cerebral palsy, one of the 80.000 refugees living in the camp and one of

many children who are receiving rehabilitation, physiotherapy, crutches or wheelchairs from our clinic.

Dear Marwan, we are really happy and grateful to the Fundacion MAPFRE for giving us the chance to make you and the rest of the children in our clinic known.

We are aware of how traumatic was for you, your siblings and your fathers the escape from Syria, leaving everything behind in order to get to the refugee camp.

We know that behind each refugee hides a really tough story, the loss of loved ones, the lack of news from other relatives, and especially, the uncertainty concerning the future.

Your families are like ours, engineers, builders, teachers, etc. and you, with your dignity, have make us realize that this situation, in another place or scenario, might also have happened to us.

What we do know about you, Marwan, and we are really proud of it, is that thanks to your perseverance, you began to walk.

We can also see the dedication and care of your parents, and the fact that this strong familiar link is what makes you go on, just like the majority of families in the camp of Za'atari.

Your mother told us that you come to the clinic happier each time and that makes us really proud and gives our work a meaning.

We would like to thank your mother for her work as volunteer in the clinic and for the help she brings to other mothers in her situation.

We have many difficulties but the need is enormous, and for that reason we would like to thank Fundacion MAPFRE, because we believe that this award is very important in order to move forward with our work.

We must not forget that a person became a refugee when he has no possibility to come back to his country or because he is afraid of suffering violence or persecution if he does, and that it is still possible to take action in order to help this "potentially lost" generation to face the great challenges they have to deal with in order to rebuild their future.

Thanks to you all.