

Advisory Council

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Prof. Norberto Padilla
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G20 Interfaith Forum

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June 18, 2020

Re: Passing of Norberto Padilla

Dear G20 Interfaith Forum Advisory Council Members:

It is with great sadness that I share with you the news of the unexpected passing of Norberto Padilla, one of the members of our Advisory Council. He suffered a heart attack while in intensive care at a hospital in Buenos Aires following complications after surgery he underwent a month ago.

Norberto was one of the key supporters of the G20 Interfaith Forum that was held in Buenos Aires in 2018. His many friends and connections were critical in raising the level of the Buenos Aires event and in attracting support from the highest echelons of government, academia, and the interfaith world in Argentina, Latin America, and beyond. His engaging smile, his accepting friendliness, and the genuine commitment shared with his wife, Gloria, to interfaith engagement made a practical difference in the lives of all who knew him.

He was one of the founders of the Latin American Consortium for Religious Freedom and its current President. He was also one of the founders of the Argentine Council on Religious Liberty (CALIR), and has been active as well in the International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, and numerous other interfaith organizations. He has been an active supporter of our organization going back many years.

The teachings of our various religious traditions have profound implications for public policy at the global and local level. They are deeply intertwined with making progress on sustainable development goals. But at no time do they have deeper meaning than at the time of the passing of loved ones, when they remind us of the enduring and transcendent significance of life. I am sure I speak for us all in drawing on the resources of our varying traditions to send wishes for comfort, peace, and assurance at this time of loss. We join in paying sincere tribute to one of the great ones we have known--someone who embodied much that is highest in all that we are about.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'W. Cole Durham Jr'.

W. Cole Durham, Jr.
President