Open letter to the international community in Ojén

"The voice of the internationals in Ojén – Inform. Integrate. Inspire".

Dear neighbors and friends,

From the OIRA Association, we would like to share with you a reflection that represents the common feeling of many international residents in Ojén — particularly in areas such as La Mairena and Palo Alto.

What are international residents looking for? What do local neighbors expect from those of us who share this space?

✓ Peaceful and enriching coexistence. We all seek to live in harmony, with security, well-being, and quality of life.

✓ Respectful adaptation. The various foreign cultures arriving in Ojén are willing to integrate, respecting local customs and bringing positive values.

✓ A commitment to Ojén as home. Many of us are not merely tourists — we have chosen to live here long-term, investing in property and becoming part of the community.

✓ Economic and fiscal contribution. International residents make a significant economic contribution: purchasing properties, creating indirect employment, and above all, contributing high-level taxes to local, regional, and national administrations. However, these revenues are not reflected in the quality of services we receive in our areas.

✓ Willingness to participate. We are also eager to take on responsibilities as active citizens, collaborating with institutions and supporting the continuous improvement of the municipality.

✓ Greater visibility and institutional engagement

Areas such as La Mairena — home to a significant part of the international community — require more attention from institutions and local government.

We call for active collaboration from the Ojén Town Hall in key areas such as:

- Stable security and police presence
- Clear and agile urban planning
- Effective cleaning services
- Support and coordination with the Urban Conservation Entities (EUCs)

Moreover, it is essential to establish a direct and functional connection between our residential area and the Ojén town center. At present, access routes depend on Marbella, resulting in over 23 kilometers of travel — a barrier to real integration and proper municipal services.

What should our common goal be?

✓ A diverse, integrated, and united community

✓ A model of coexistence where both Spaniards and internationals contribute through their experiences

✓ An Ojén that grows with pride — preserving its identity while opening up to the world

✓ On this journey, OIRA is your ally. We stand by your side, we inform you, and we represent you.

Because we believe in true integration — with voice, with rights, and with commitment.

Warm regards,

María Martín

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