



# **"Young Friends"**

**A Norwegian "Rotary Project for Peace"  
by Skøyen Rotary Club - Oslo**

## Shalom-Salam

- **Launched in 1993**
  - bringing students from **Israel & Palestinian Territories** together
- **6 week program at ISS**
  - Focus on **Academic Achievement and International Goodwill**
- **12 students of equal mix each year**
  - nationality/gender
- **Financing**
  - Norwegian RC's, RD2310, MoFA
- **Suspended 2001 due to political situation**

## International Summer School (UiO)

- **Long tradition**
  - Started 60 years ago just after the second world war
  - Confidence and peace building experience
- **Brings together students from all over the world**
  - Over 500 students every summer
- **Twofold objective**
  - Bring together young people from different cultures to create international connections and friendship
  - Give students knowledge of European and Norwegian Democracy as well as general information about our culture and history

## International Summer School (cont'd)

- **Extra curricular activities**
  - Various excursions available
  - Various social and sporting events
- **High standing**
  - Several of Norway's leading politicians, parliamentarians and academics are among the lecturers

# "Zagreb" Pilot

## Launched in 2007 with Zagreb Rotary Club

- Executed summer 2008 with 1 student
- Shalom-Salam Plus program with new focus
  - Program: 1 week at NAL prior to 6 weeks at ISS
  - Focus: Students from former Yugoslavia
- Financing
  - Zagreb RC, Skoyen RC
- Success (read story)

ISS 2008

It's really difficult to say everything in few words. Summer that I was in Norway was the best time of my life. This was experience where I saw that things can be different and better. The Norwegian civilization showed me that value of equality and compassion for people in need one day can be active in our society too. I hope that this day will come soon.

While my plane was approaching to Oslo through the window I could see the beauty of this country. Under me there were a lot of lakes. The grass was so green that in one moment I was

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## Nansen Academy of Lillehammer

- **Named after Norway's first Nobel Peace Prize winner and polar explorer Fritjof Nansen.**
- **Specializing in "dialogue" as an effective tool in deeply divided regions, for reconciliation and peace building.**
- **1 week program at Lillehammer before the start at ISS is part of our project. The Nansen Academy has trained a number of students from various conflict areas around the world.**
- **The students from former Yugoslavia will be together in one group and will all continue their courses in Oslo the following 6 weeks.**

# **"Young Friends" project proposal**



## **Extend "Zagreb" pilot to 8-10 students**

- **Select candidates from**
  - **Croatia and Bosnia & Herzegovina**
- **Shalom-Salam Plus program**
  - **1 week at NAL, Lillehammer, followed by**
  - **6 weeks at ISS, Oslo**
- **Total cost - estimated € 4 500 per student**
  - **Travel & Accomodation**
  - **NAL/ISS fees**
  - **Pocket Money**
- **Future – increase # of students as interest grows**

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## Target - Rotary Clubs in RD 2310 (Norway) and RD 1910 (Balcans)

- **Norwegian Rotary Clubs**
  - Host responsibility for 1 or 2 students
- **Home Rotary Clubs**
  - Responsibility for screening, nominating, preparing and debriefing students
- **Financing**
  - Participating and supporting Rotary Clubs
  - RD 2310 and RD 1910
  - Norwegian MoFA (grant applied for)



# "Young Friends" Timeline

- **01.12.08 – Invitations to target clubs**
- **31.12.08 – Home clubs responses**
- **01.02.09 – Home clubs nominations**
- **01.03.09 – Skøyen RC/ISS select candidates, confirm commitments**
- ...
- **21.06.09 – Arrival in Oslo**
- **22.06.09 – NAL / Lillehammer**
- **27.06.09 – ISS / Orientation Meeting**
- **29.06.09 – ISS / Opening Ceremony & reception**
- **06.08.09 – ISS / Farewell Party**
- **09.08.09 – Departure from Oslo**

*Come to Norway*  
*Meet the world*

<http://www.uio.no/iss>

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