



ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH



Doing Good in the World



Peacebuilding
and Conflict
Prevention



Disease
Prevention
& Treatment



Water,
Sanitation
& Hygiene



Maternal &
Child Health



Basic Education
& Literacy



Community
Economic
Development



Environment

ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

November is celebrated across the Rotary world as Rotary Foundation Month, a time to honor and support the humanitarian work made possible through The Rotary Foundation (TRF). For more than a century, the Foundation has served as the engine behind Rotary's mission of Doing Good in the World, transforming donations into sustainable projects that uplift communities locally and globally.

The Rotary Foundation focuses on seven key areas: promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water and sanitation, supporting maternal and child health, strengthening education, growing local economies, and protecting the environment. Through these areas of focus, Rotarians create meaningful and lasting change for millions of people each year. One of the Foundation's greatest achievements is its leadership in the global fight to end polio. Through the End Polio Now campaign, Rotary and its partners have reduced polio cases by 99.9%, bringing the world closer than ever to total eradication.

This accomplishment highlights what is possible when Rotarians unite behind a shared mission. Funds raised by Rotarians support both Global Grants and District Grants. Global Grants help deliver large-scale, long-term solutions such as clean water systems, disease prevention programs, and educational initiatives. District Grants, on the other hand, empower clubs to address needs within their own communities—whether through literacy projects, health camps, or environmental cleanups. Both types of grants ensure that Rotary's impact is felt at every level.

November is also a time to celebrate the generosity of donors who sustain the Foundation's work. Contributions to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, and the Endowment Fund provide the resources needed to continue these life-changing programs. Many clubs use this month to recognize Paul Harris Fellows, Benefactors, and Major Donors—individuals whose commitment strengthens Rotary's global reach.

Clubs are encouraged to highlight Foundation Month by organizing educational programs, inviting Foundation speakers, showcasing completed projects, or launching fundraising activities. Sharing success stories and impact statistics helps inspire continued giving and service.

As we observe Rotary Foundation Month, we are reminded that every contribution—whether financial or through service—helps build a more peaceful, healthier, and prosperous world. Together, Rotarians prove that when compassion meets action, extraordinary change becomes possible.

The
Rotary
Foundation



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR



FRANCESCO AREZZO
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
PRESIDENT
RY 2025-2026

This November, as we celebrate The Rotary Foundation, I invite you to consider not only what we give but why we give. The Foundation is more than a fund for projects. It is the beating heart of our promise that service, rooted in trust and friendship, can create lasting change.

Our Action Plan calls us to increase our impact, and the Foundation is how we make this vision real. Since 1988, Rotary and our partners have immunized nearly 3 billion children against polio. We have committed more than \$2.6 billion to this cause, and last year alone we directed \$146 million toward the final push for eradication. These numbers are significant, but the true impact is not in statistics — it is in the lives of children who will never again fear polio. It is in the hope restored to families and the peace built in communities once defined by disease.

But polio is only one story among many. Each year, the Rotary Peace Centers train new generations of leaders who will transform conflict into dialogue and division into understanding. In 2023–24, nearly 100 new fellows began their studies, continuing a legacy of more than 1,800 peacebuilders from over 140 countries. When we invest in them, we are planting seeds of peace that will bear fruit for decades to come.

The Foundation also touches lives through district and global grants, supporting projects large and small. A clean water well for a rural community, scholarships for young professionals, medical care in the wake of disaster — these are not temporary gestures, but steps toward dignity, resilience, and opportunity. This is how Rotary service becomes lasting impact. And when natural disasters strike, our Foundation allows Rotary to act quickly with disaster response grants.

Our Foundation is not about what we can do alone but what we can do together. Each contribution, no matter its size, joins with others to create a collective act of faith in humanity and in the future. The last mile of any great journey is always the hardest. We see this in our final steps toward ending polio, in our work for peace, and in every project that seeks to lift people out of despair. Yet every time we give, we declare that our work will continue regardless of the challenge.

This November, let us give with gratitude, with joy, and with hope. Through our Foundation, we Unite for Good, and in doing so, we leave behind not only projects but a legacy of peace, trust, and Service Above Self.



HOLGER KNAACK
CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Undeniable impact

Many of you will remember the theme I chose as RI president in 2020–21: Rotary Opens Opportunities. I remain passionate about these opportunities, and I know you do too.

As we celebrate Rotary Foundation Month, let's reflect on the many ways the Foundation makes the world better. Rotary is extraordinary, and the Foundation amplifies that impact.

I encourage all of you — in Rotary and Rotaract clubs — to discover this for yourselves. Go beyond the local level and engage with The Rotary Foundation globally. You can partner with clubs to boost literacy in Guatemala or fight malaria in Zambia. You can make a difference with clean water initiatives reaching millions or maternal health programs saving lives across continents.

It doesn't stop there. Through major impact projects like Programs of Scale, we're pursuing bold initiatives that push Rotary's potential to create lasting change even further. Greater impact and greater visibility: this is our path forward.

Many of you have asked about the status of Rotary's biggest impact project in history — our long-term commitment to polio eradication. Recently, RI President Francesco Arezzo, International PolioPlus Committee Chair Michael McGovern, and I met with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the army leadership of Pakistan. Everyone is fully committed to eradicating polio once and for all. We were absolutely convinced by the work of Pakistan's emergency operations centers, where experts plan and coordinate vaccination.

While some governments scale back support for polio eradication, Rotary remains committed to its pledge to raise \$50 million again this year. This meeting reaffirmed our unwavering commitment to finishing this historic mission.

What excites me most is seeing how each of us can make a real difference through our Foundation. I urge everyone — especially newcomers to Rotary — to explore these opportunities. Find your passion among our areas of focus and discover projects to support, especially through global grants.

We members fund, sustain, and deliver these projects. That's why the Foundation consistently earns top ratings from Charity Navigator. If you don't want to lead a project, you can still be part of the Foundation through annual support.

ROTARY FOUNDATION CHAIR MESSAGE - OCTOBER

Our fundraising goal for 2025–26 is an ambitious \$500 million. Your gift this month will create countless opportunities.

We have incredible opportunities before us, and the impact we achieve together through The Rotary Foundation is exponential. The proof is undeniable.

Holger Knaack

Chair, Board of Trustees, The Rotary Foundation





N. ALTAN ARSLAN

PP 2005-2006 RC ANKARA KIZILAY

PDG 2018-2019 D2430

RPIC 2023-2026 ZONE 21B

Healthy Communities Are Messengers of Peace

December is the Rotary Month of Disease Prevention and Treatment. Rotary believes that strong communities can only exist when people are healthy. When individuals live healthy lives, societies become more peaceful, more productive, and more hopeful. For this reason, health is one of Rotary's seven areas of focus and an essential part of building peace.

Rotary's greatest success in this area is its global fight against Polio. Many years ago, polio was a disease that caused fear and suffering for millions of children. Today, thanks to Rotary's strong leadership and its partners, polio cases have been reduced by 99% worldwide. This is one of the largest and most successful health campaigns in human history.

But Rotary's mission is not finished yet. True success will come only when polio is ended completely — when we reach 100%.

The fight against polio shows Rotary's deep commitment to preventing and treating diseases. However, the work goes far beyond this. Rotary clubs around the world support projects that improve access to healthcare, promote mother and child health, provide clean water, educate communities, and help with early diagnosis and prevention. Our goal is not only to treat diseases, but also to stop them before they begin.

The month of December reminds us that we are all part of this global effort. Every club, every member, every volunteer, and every donation helps build a healthier and more peaceful world. Healthy communities are the strongest messengers of peace.

Today, our responsibility is to continue Rotary's mission — to finish the fight against polio, to bring hope to communities affected by disease, and to create lasting change.

Together, a healthier world is possible.

Together, peace is possible.

With love and respect,

Rtn. N. Altan Arslan

PP 05-06 Ankara Kızılay RC

PDG 18-19 D.2430

RPIC 23-26 Region 25



Power of Goodness
Video Competition



Last Submission Date: 16 March 2026
<https://thepowerofgoodness.com>



Power of Goodness
Video Competition



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GUIDELINES FOR FILMING A VIDEO FOR COMPETITION

“THE POWER OF GOODNESS”

1. Plan the filming in advance.

As you prepare your project or event, decide who will be responsible for filming, what equipment will be used, and which shots will be needed. Assign a dedicated person or team for this task.

2. Use a drone when possible.

For outdoor activities, aerial shots provide dynamics and add a professional look to the video.

3. Include interviews.

Record short interviews with participants, volunteers, organizers, or beneficiaries. Ask what the project means to them, how it made them feel, or what inspired them.

4. Tell a story, not just document.

Focus on emotions, action, and outcomes. Show people, not only activities.

5. Capture the preparation phase.

Behind-the-scenes footage of volunteers packing, organizing, or coordinating creates authenticity and highlights the effort behind the cause.

6. Gather short statements.

Even one or two sincere sentences from someone whose life has been touched can be very powerful. Seek authenticity rather than long monologues.

7. Ensure good lighting.

Whether indoors or outdoors, light is essential. Avoid dark rooms or shooting directly against the sun.

8. Use stable equipment.

Unsteady shots are distracting. If you don't have a professional camera, use a tripod or stabilizer for your phone.

9. Film in horizontal format.

For higher quality and compatibility with platforms such as YouTube, always shoot horizontally.

10. Include close-up shots.

Faces, smiles, and hands in action bring warmth and humanity to the story.

11. Ensure clear sound.

Use an external microphone if possible. In noisy environments, consider recording separately or adding narration afterwards.

**GUIDELINES FOR FILMING A VIDEO FOR COMPETITION
“THE POWER OF GOODNESS”**

12. Show the final result.

Present the completed project, the happy participants, and the overall impact achieved.

13. Build a timeline through your shots.

Show “before, during, and after” the event. This structure helps tell a complete story.

14. Capture audience reactions.

Smiles, applause, and emotions are living proof of the project’s impact.

15. Include children and youth (with consent).

If children are part of the initiative, ensure parental consent for filming. Their smiles often speak louder than words.

16. Add supporting images or archives.

If your project has history, use “before and after” comparisons, documents, or older photos to show progress.

17. Use music to enhance emotion.

Neutral, uplifting music reinforces the message. Make sure to use licensed tracks or free-to-use libraries.

18. Add English subtitles, especially when people are speaking.

Even short statements should be subtitled to ensure clarity and accessibility.

19. Display names and roles.

When showing someone speaking, add their name and role for context.

20. Start and finish with identity elements.

Open with a short title/intro and close with your club’s logo.

21. Include a message or a quote.

A powerful line or inspiring quote at the end can leave a lasting emotional impression.

22. Prepare a clear script before editing.

Decide what story you want to tell, in what sequence, and with which footage.

23. Show the impact achieved.

Highlight how lives were improved or what was accomplished. This is the heart of the contest — the lasting mark of kindness.

24. Respect Rotary branding.

Use the official Rotary logo, fonts, and colors. Guidelines are available at brandcenter.rotary.org.

You are not alone in this process! Contact us if you have questions!

– Arkan Apturahman, ARPIC D2482 Bulgaria

ARPIC SERTAÇ GÜMÜŞ ON.....

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF



ARPIC SERTAÇ GÜMÜŞ
DISTRICT 2452

BACK - TO - SCHOOL PROJECT - ROTARACT CLUB OF KYRENIA COSMOPOLITAN - CYPRUS D2452

The Rotaract and Rotary Club of Kyrenia Cosmopolitan continue their full support to the community.

As part of the club's Back-to-School Project due to Rotary's Theme Basic Education and Literacy Month, the members had the pleasure of delivering donations to a school in need.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported this meaningful initiative. Together, we make a difference!

#Rotaract #Rotary #BackToSchool #CommunitySupport
#ServiceAboveSelf #KyreniaCosmopolitan



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

BACK TO SCHOOL JOINT PROJECT IN BAHRAIN - D2452

The Rotary Club of Salmaniya, the Rotary Club of Seef Bahrain and Isaca Bahrain Chapter successfully completed the School Bag Project, distributing school bags to children through several charitable organizations. The beneficiaries included Al Kawther Society for Social Care, A'ali Charity Society, Al Sanabel Orphan Care Society, Capital Charity Association, Riffa Women's Cultural Society, Tree of Life Charity Society, and the Capital Governorate. This initiative aims to support students as they begin the new academic year, ensuring they are equipped with the tools they need to succeed.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

UNITED IN PINK* ROTARACT CLUB BAHRAIN _D2452

United in Pink

Event date: 9 Oct 2025

Event time: 5pm-7pm

Location: Water Garden City

The Rotaract Club of Bahrain participated in “United in Pink”, an awareness event dedicated to support breast cancer awareness. The initiative was part of the club’s ongoing commitment to community health and empowerment, held in line with global Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Attendees came together to participate in the Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, share information on early detection methods, support survivors, and encourage regular screenings. The event also featured ribbon distribution, interactive conversations, and photo sessions to raise awareness on social media and within the community.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

ROTARACT CLUB BAHRAIN - BLOOD DONATION - BAHRAIN D2452

Blood Donation Drive

Event date: 17 Oct 2025

Event time: 7am-12pm

Location: King Hamad University Hospital

The Rotaract Club of Bahrain, alongside the ATM society, collaborated with King Hamad University Hospital to organize an incredibly successful blood donation drive, where 110 donors came forward to give blood, potentially saving hundreds of lives. Also food and drinks were distributed to donors, helping them stay hydrated and mitigate any side effects. This initiative reflected Rotaract's strong commitment to community service and humanitarian impact, promoting both health awareness and social responsibility. Club extended heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated nurses and staff of King Hamad University Hospital for making this initiative possible and also expressed their sincere thanks to the ATM Society for their efforts in helping attract donors for this cause.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

DR. MARIOS ANTONIOU OF RC OF NICOSIA SALAMIS AT ROTARY PEACE CENTERS ANNUAL MEETING AT BRADFORD UNI. - D2452 CYPRUS

Rotarian Dr. Marios Antoniou of the RC of Nicosia Salamis, District 2452, participated in the annual meeting of the Rotary Peace Centers Committee, on which he has served since 2023. The meeting was held from September 24 to 26, 2025, at Bradford University in England, one of the Fellowship's partner universities. During the meeting, committee members finalized the selection process for the next cohort of Rotary Peace Fellows across the various peace centers worldwide. The agenda included discussions on fellowship matters, as well as an introduction to the newly established Rotary Peace Center at Symbiosis International University in Pune, India.

Importantly, the committee also reviewed the program's future goals and strategic growth initiatives. Dr. Antoniou's participation underscores his ongoing commitment to Rotary and the Rotary Peace Centers, as well as his dedication to promoting international peace and supporting the development of future leaders focused on conflict resolution and global understanding.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

WATER DISTRIBUTION PROJECT - D2452 BAHRAIN

On 3 October 2025, the Rotaract Club of Bahrain, alongside the Rotary Club of Salmaniya, partnered with the Ghanaian Community to support the diligent migrant workers in Manama. As part of this effort, 2,500 water bottles were handed out, of which 1,500 were kindly provided by Al-Osra Supermarket. This initiative is a reminder that even the smallest gestures can affirm kindness, solidarity, and appreciation to those who keep our societies functioning, and whom we cannot live without.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

WELLNESS IN ACTION PROJECT - D2452 BAHRAIN

Wellness in Action!

The Rotary Club of Salmaniya and Rotaract Club of Bahrain, in partnership with Al Hilal Hospital, hosted a free Wellness Camp in Muharraq. Attendees received vital health checks, doctor consultations, and took important steps toward healthier living. This initiative proudly supports UN SDG 3: Good Health & Well-being.



ARPIC SERTAÇ GÜMÜŞ ON.....

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

CLEAN UP BAHRAIN, CLEAN UP THE WORLD! - D2452 BAHRAIN

Rotary Clubs in Bahrain rolled up their sleeves with the slogan "Clean up Bahrain, clean up the world!" and helped make Janabiya Beach shine again — one piece of trash at a time.

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

SDG 14: Life Below Water

SDG 15: Life on Land

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

PIZZA DAY WITH SPECIAL CHILDREN - RC SALAMANIYA D2452 BAHRAIN

A Heartwarming Day with Children from the Down Syndrome Society

On October 5th, several members of the Rotary Club of Salmaniya spent a heartwarming day with children from the Down Syndrome Society at Cico's Italian Restaurant, thanks to the generosity of Khalifa Al Zayani, who kindly sponsored the event.

The day was filled with joy, laughter, and creativity. The children first learned how to draw their pizzas, then had the wonderful experience of making their own. Each child received a thoughtful gift and proudly took home their freshly made pizza. And a big thank you to our Community Service Director, Seema Baqi, for organizing this special day.

It was a beautiful and memorable day that touched everyone's hearts, reminding us how simple moments of inclusion and joy can create truly magical experiences.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

FOSTERING THE NEXT GENERATION: RC SEEF BAHRAIN CELEBRATES NEW DELMON EARLYACT CLUB BOARD - D2452 BAHRAIN

On 9 Oct 2025, the Rotary Club of Seef Bahrain showed its support for the next generation of leaders at the recent ceremony for the Delmon School EarlyAct Club's new board. with District 2452 DDG Faisal Juma in attendance, the event marked a fresh start for a year of impactful community service.

The incoming board, led by new President Aya Mohammed, is composed entirely of elementary school students from Delmon School. Leaders from both the Rotary Club of Seef Bahrain and the Delmon Earlyact club expressed their excitement for a continued partnership, looking forward to a productive year of collaborative projects.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

BAHRAIN BREAST CANCER AWARENESS WALK-A-THON ROTARY CLUB OF SALMANIYA EVENT REPORT

The Rotary Club of Salmaniya was proud to participate in the Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk-A-Thon organized by the Bahrain Cancer Society at Water Garden City in Seef District. The event took place on Friday, 24 October 2025, with participants gathering from 4:30 PM and beginning the walk at 5:30 PM. The walk brought together a vibrant mix of survivors, families, supporters, and community leaders united under one message of hope, early detection, and support for those affected by breast cancer.

We were deeply honored to collaborate closely with the Bahrain Cancer Society in this meaningful initiative. This partnership allowed us to amplify outreach and reinforce the importance of early screening, which continues to save countless lives. It is inspiring to know that more than 2.8 million women around the world are surviving breast cancer, a number that has tripled in the past 60 years. Events like this remind us of the power of awareness and community engagement in advancing health and wellness.

Our participation helped bring Rotarians together in service and fellowship. Members walked side by side, proudly representing Rotary's commitment to making a difference in the lives of others. It was a moment of unity and compassion that showcased the spirit of Rotary in action.

We extend our appreciation to the dedicated volunteers, healthcare professionals, and organizers who made this event a success. The Rotary Club of Salmaniya looks forward to continuing this partnership and supporting future initiatives that promote public health and strengthen our community.

Together we walk with purpose. Together we support survivors. Together we stand for a healthier future for Bahrain.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

ROTARY CLUB OF MANAMA, INTERACT - D2452 BAHRAIN

On 24th of October, 18 of our dedicated Interactors came together to bring their Feed the Workers project to life in collaboration with WeCareBahrain. Together, they distributed 300 complete meals, including water, juice, and fresh salads, to workers in a camp in Buri.

As the Interactors knew many workers were lacking basic hygiene items, they also decided to distribute 300 toothbrushes and toothpaste, and they reached out to Peninsula Farms, who generously donated goat milk soaps to complete these hygiene essentials.

Adding to the day's impact, Kim's Hospital graciously agreed to join the effort, setting up a medical station where workers received free health check-ups and dental vouchers.

The Interactors showed remarkable teamwork not only in setting up this project but in making sure it is a true success. It was heartwarming to witness once again how a simple act of care can bring joy to those who need it most.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

END POLIO NOW - D2452 LEBANON

As usual every year during October month, the Rotary clubs in Lebanon joined efforts to support the Polio Vaccination Campaign.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health and RC Keserouan, the four ROTARY clubs of Tripoli launched the campaign in different dispensaries in the Tripoli.

At the Al-Iman Center, and the Makarem Al-Akhlaq Center in Mina, free vaccinations were provided along with gifts for the children.

Eradicating polio is a global goal of Rotary and we will continue the mission till the virus gets eliminated.

A delegation of Rotarians from France assisted also to this initiative.

ROTARY Doing Good to the World



تنظم نادي روتاري طرابلس و نادي روتاري طرابلس المعرض بالتنسيق مع وزارة الصحة العامة-البرنامج الوطني للتحصين، حملة توعية اجتماعية للتفويض ضد شلل الأطفال والأمراض التي يمكن الوقاية منها باللقاحات.

الوقت: بين التاسعة صباحاً والثانية عشرة ظهراً،
البريد: ٢٠٢٥-١-٢٥
المكان: مركز الإيمان، مركز المكور الصحي، الميناء طرابلس

بالعمل سوياً نستطيع تلقيح كل طفل.

ملاحظة: الرجاء إحضار بطاقة التفويض أو السجل الصحي للأطفال.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

ROTARY CLUBS UNITE FOR WORLD POLIO DAY! 🌍 - D2452 CYPRUS

On Saturday, 25th October, the Rotary Clubs of Kyrenia Liman, Nicosia Sarayonu, Kyrenia St. Hilarion, and Kyrenia Cosmopolitan came together to host a Polio Awareness Day at Silver Rocks, Kyrenia.

Members from all four clubs, along with their friends and families, joined this meaningful fundraising event in the spirit of fellowship and service.

All proceeds from the day will be donated to the Rotary Polio Fund, supporting Rotary International's ongoing mission to eradicate polio worldwide.

We were also honoured to have Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator Tastan Altuner, who shared inspiring insights on Rotary's remarkable progress in eliminating polio globally — and reminded us that our work continues until the world is completely polio-free.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

DG PETER ASHDJIAN'S OFFICIAL VISIT - D2452 CYPRUS

A Night of Fellowship and Celebration ✨👏

On Monday, 27th October, following District Governor Peter Ashdjian's official visit to the Rotary Clubs of Kyrenia Liman, Nicosia Sarayonu, Kyrenia St. Hilarion, Kyrenia Cosmopolitan, and the Rotaract Club of Kyrenia Cosmopolitan, all clubs came together for a joint gala dinner in honour of our District Governor at the Sky Roof Hotel in Nicosia.

A touching highlight of the evening was the twinning ceremony between RC Kyrenia Cosmopolitan and RC Eskisehir Yazlikaya (Turkey). Presidents Alpay Celebi and Ayşegül Unugur delivered heartfelt speeches and exchanged twinning certificates, symbolising unity and international friendship. 🌍💙

The evening also marked special moments of recognition and growth, with District Governor Peter Ashdjian proudly pinning new members — Rotarian Ayşenur Kayınbaşıoğlu and Rotaractor Berke Taşeli. In addition, Rotarian Çilem Vural of RC Kyrenia Liman was honoured with the prestigious Paul Harris Award for her outstanding service and dedication. 🌟

The night was filled with warmth, fellowship, and the true spirit of Rotary, concluding with an inspiring closing speech by our District Governor, reminding us of the enduring values and purpose that unite all Rotarians



ARPIC SERTAÇ GÜMÜŞ ON.....

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

DG PETER ASHDJIAN'S OFFICIAL VISIT - D2452 CYPRUS



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF



**ARPIC MARIA MASTORA
DISTRICT 2475**

RID 2475

DG'S MONTHLY LETTER (NOVEMBER 2025)

**MESSAGE OF RID 2475 DG
STEFANOS ANASTASOPOULOS**

Dear members of our Rotary family,
The month of November is dedicated to The Rotary Foundation — the financial, social, and ethical pillar of Rotary International. It is a powerful fund for progress and hope, enabling Rotary to turn ideas into action and dreams into tangible, measurable results around the world.

The Rotary Foundation is not just a financial arm; it is the force that supports our large and small projects. It is the driving force of humanitarianism — in our neighborhood, in our country, internationally. Rotarians' support for the Foundation comes back to our district and is essential to our ability to fund the programs, actions, and projects we plan together. But contributing to The Rotary Foundation has an even deeper value: it is part of Rotary's global effort to change lives, create hope, and transform the world. This year, with the theme "Unite for Good," the Foundation is calling on us to be part of the solution. And already.. in this District, we are!

As our visits to almost all Rotary clubs in Greece are coming to an end, the conclusion is clear and moving : we are all experiencing a period of beautiful harmony. Calm, unity, harmony, and organized effort have created a fertile environment—a ground where ideas become projects and projects become examples. Rotary clubs throughout Greece are flourishing. Actions are multiplying. Collaborations are being born.

Proposals are being developed. There is mobility, creativity, and—above all—heart. With every visit, every gathering, every board meeting, one discovers how much our district has matured. Together – as a family – we envision, plan, and act.

On October 23, we experienced a landmark event at the War Museum in Athens. We had the opportunity to learn, raise awareness, and honor the titanic struggle to eradicate polio that Rotary International has been waging for more than four decades. It was an event that demonstrated faith in the values of scientific knowledge, prevention, and vaccination. We honored all that has been accomplished. We remembered how many lives have been saved. And we emphasized that the fight is not over; if there is even one case of polio on the planet, all children in the world are at risk. Warm thanks to PDG Dora Kemou and to everyone who worked to make this a unique evening.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

A few days ago, Athens became a global meeting point. Our District had the honor of hosting an international meeting of the ICC's and Public Image of the Zone, with participation from 34 countries and more than 250 Rotarians, including many high-ranking and experienced Rotarians from Rotary International.

Greece was promoted internationally; we showcased Athens, Ancient Corinth, our sights, our culture, and our hospitality. New friendships were formed, old relationships were renewed, and a solid foundation for future cooperation was laid.

The speeches, presentations, and topics discussed were of a high scientific and Rotary standard, covering all the issues that concern our organization today.

Warm thanks to the Organizing Committee: Maria Delivoria, Maria Mastora, Rachel Topalidou, and Dimitrios Karpouzou.

The result proved you right—and made us all proud.

Education is a key focus for our District. On the initiative of Rotarian Ioannis Apostolou, the translation of the My Rotary Learning Center into Greek, and the first chapters have already been posted with the Greek flag appearing alongside the platform's official languages. This is a historic step that will significantly help increase knowledge, access, and understanding of Rotary tools. At the same time, four training seminars have already been held in cities across Greece, and we are continuing with two more in Kavala and Rhodes. Training unites, organizes, and inspires. It creates better Rotarians—it creates a better tomorrow.

District Grants are already being delivered, with a total cost of approximately €45,000. At the same time, the large Global Grant for the Agia Sofia Children's Hospital is nearing completion. With the help of international partners, we are funding modern medical equipment that will enable fast and reliable histological examinations for children with cancer and other serious diseases. This is not just a project – it is a promise of life, an act of hope.

The Plant Our Future project continues dynamically. Clubs in our District are gradually planting trees, demonstrating that volunteerism is also ecological awareness. Every new tree is a small pledge for the future. All over Greece, from one end to the other, Rotarians participate, create, dream, and give. It is amazing to see that when the heart is open and ideas meet cooperation, Rotary gains a voice, strength, and soul.

This year, we are experiencing the power of unity. We are demonstrating what it means to be Greek Rotarians, proud and committed. And we are turning the motto of the year into a living reality: Unite for Good. Because good is not just a vision. It is a responsibility. It is action. And it is the path we have all chosen to follow together.

With rotarian love and appreciation,

DG Stefanos Anastasopoulos
RID 2475



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - POLIO EVENT

On Thursday, October 23, 2025, at the War Museum in Athens, RID 2475 organized a splendid and moving event with large participation by Rotarians from across the country to honor Rotary International's great global effort — for nearly four decades — to eradicate polio from the planet.

This effort continues with consistency and perseverance, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), the CDC, UNICEF, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, until the last case of the disease is eliminated.

Polio is now one of two diseases that can be permanently eradicated from the Earth; the first was smallpox. And it is important to remember that when future historians write that "the two diseases that disappeared from the planet were smallpox and polio," behind the second will stand Rotary's organized, sustained, and global effort.

The event conveyed a clear and timeless message:

Respect for scientific knowledge, belief in prevention, and responsibility towards the value of vaccinations — the only real shield protecting the health of children and adults.

In this spirit, two excellent speeches were given: by Professor Skouteris, an infectious disease specialist, and PDG Kosmas Houtouriadis, who clearly highlighted the importance of this global collective effort.

The evening continued with wonderful music, initially accompanied by the sounds of a harp, and then with excellent music curated by a DJ, in an atmosphere of friendship, camaraderie, and Rotary inspiration. The dinner was excellent, the company warm, and the message strong: Rotary never stops. We are there where the need persists.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - POLIO EVENT

On the border between Pakistan and Afghanistan, in isolated villages and inaccessible areas, thousands of Rotary volunteers continue to offer the children of the earth two drops of hope. In his speech, DG Stefanos Anastasopoulos emphasized that "As long as there is even one case of polio in the world, all children in the world are at risk. That is why the effort will continue until the end." He also underscored the importance of the global effort to date and the invaluable work that has been achieved thanks to the dedication of Rotarians.

Warm thanks and congratulations to the Chair of the Polio Committee and Past Governor Rot. Dora Kemou, for the love, inspiration, and dedication with which she organized this great event.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC ATHINAI

“KNIGHTS FOR RARE 2025” – AN EVENING DEDICATED TO PATIENTS WITH RARE DISEASES

On October 18th, 2025, in the heart of Athens, a special evening was held in honor of patients with rare diseases, organized by RC Athinai in collaboration with Avanzanite Bioscience. The event aimed to support the Hellenic Union of Rare Disease Patients (E.S.A.E.) through a charity auction, promoting solidarity and collective giving.

Rotary Club of Athinai President, Rotarian Anastassios Ballas, emphasized that the Rotary values — solidarity, selfless service, and dedication to others — are guiding principles that bring light and hope to patients and their families.

Rotarian Sotiris Botozis, active member of R.C. Athinai and General Manager Southern Europe of Avanzanite Bioscience, highlighted the power of collaboration and faith, which can transform knowledge into action and action into hope.

The keynote address was delivered by the former **Member of the European Parliament Stelios Kypouropoulos**, who spoke with deep emotion about the values of solidarity and hope. Representatives of rare disease patients, **Vasileios Karatzias and Dimitrios Athanasiou**, also stressed the importance of social support and continuous care.

Distinguished guests included **RC Glyfada President, Rtn Anastassios Zacharas, Member of Parliament Maria Syreggela (representing the President of the Hellenic Parliament, Nikitas M. Kaklamanis), and General Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Lilian-Venetia Vildiridi.**

With 160 participants from Greece and across Europe, the evening highlighted the power of collective effort, the Rotary spirit, and human compassion, reminding everyone that hope grows stronger when shared.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - MEET THE GOVERNOR

A new way to connect – A new era of connectivity in Rotary!

On Monday, October 27, we experienced something different in Crete. A meeting that was not just an event, but a true experience of communication. Rotarians from all the clubs on the island came together for a relaxed, open discussion with RID 2475 DG Stefanos Anastasopoulos.

Everyone expressed himself, shared ideas, concerns, suggestions, and visions. And everyone listened—and was heard.

The discussion evolved into a lively interactive dialogue, with the Governor responding to every question, commenting, encouraging, and inspiring.

It was a true moment of unity, transparency, and participation, demonstrating the power of Rotary when it functions as a family and a community of ideas.

With this meeting, we inaugurated a new way of communication between the Governor and the Clubs—a way that is more direct, more human, and more creative.

This approach will continue in other areas of Greece, bringing Rotary closer to its people and closer to the future.

Warm thanks and congratulations to AG Rachel Topalidou and PAG Ioannis Samiotis for the idea, coordination, and flawless execution of this special event.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC RHODOS

RC Rhodes received a significant award during the TCC Forum, which took place at the Apollo Blue Hotel on October 31 and November 1, 2025, for its tree planting activities in the burned areas of the island. RC Rhodes, in line with the objectives of RID 2475, through its Environment Committee and as part of the nationwide "Plant our Future" program, was awarded for the tree planting it carries out in collaboration with the "For Nature" Organization in burned forest areas for which there is already an approved reforestation study.

The Club's goal is to complete tree planting covering an area of 100 acres over the next eight years. This initiative began in 2023 under the presidency of Ioannis Halikias, continued in 2024 under the presidency of Nikos Retsas, and is being implemented with full compliance with the legislation governing tree planting and under the guidance of the organization "For Nature."

The award was received by RC Rhodes president Dr. Beatrice-Kalliopi Servou, in presence of AG 2025-2026 Ioannis Chalikias, past president Nikos Arvanitidis, PAG Kyriakos Kyriakoulis, and members Giorgos Barboutis and Panagiotis Triantafylla



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - 4TH CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR

This Rotary year marks a new dynamic in the education and continuing training of Rotarians. Because progress in Rotary is not accidental; it is the result of continuous learning, collaboration, and utilization of the tools that Rotary International offers to each club and each member.

As part of this effort, the 4th Rotary Continuing Education Seminar was held with great success on Sunday, November 2, hosted by RC Dionysos . The event was hosted at the beautiful facilities of PEGAPNY.

Participation was particularly promising, with a large number of members from various Attica Clubs attending with interest a high-quality and well-organized program. The speeches were inspiring, with an ideal combination of experienced and new speakers, full of energy, knowledge, and new ideas for collaborations and actions.

The atmosphere was warm and friendly, with exemplary hospitality from RC Dionysos and President Kalliopi Oikonomakou. The coffee break, with fine products from the Laconic land, was a pleasant surprise and added a special touch to the Rotary meeting.

This seminar confirmed once again that education is the cornerstone of Rotary's progress and development.

Our District continues to invest in knowledge with consistency and vision, empowering its members and preparing the leaders of tomorrow.

Warm congratulations to all the speakers, participants, and of course RC Dionysos for the excellent organization and Rotary warmth they offered to everyone.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC RHODOS

RC Rhodos strongly supported the "Rhodes for Life" initiative by purchasing T-shirts and actively participating in the annual walk in the city of Rhodes.

The idea for this great initiative was inspired by rtn Savvas Savvides, and since 2010 it has evolved into an institution that offers substantial work in the field of health on our island. For the sixteenth year, the entire local community gathered in Town Hall Square and then took to the streets of the island to support the cause.

Through the participation of thousands of citizens and the purchase of event T-shirts, significant funds are raised each year, which are used to purchase and donate medical equipment to the General Hospital of Rhodes and other health facilities on the island.

Wearing mint-colored T-shirts, the members of RC Rhodos joined thousands of their fellow citizens on Sunday, November 3, 2025, with the aim of supporting the General Hospital of Rhodes with the purchase of two new, specialized machines: an articulated, programmable system for the automatic preparation of chemotherapy drugs for the Oncology Clinic, which ensures maximum accuracy and safety in treatments, and a flexible ureteroscope for the Urology Clinic, which will allow for detailed examination of the ureter of the kidneys, contributing to the diagnosis and treatment of serious diseases.

This year, the goal was achieved and the Organizing Committee is now in the process of purchasing two modern medical devices that will significantly enhance patient care and diagnosis at the General Hospital of Rhodes.

The action of RC Rhodos was coordinated by rtn Fereniki Vardelli, who, with her dedication and organizational skills, contributed decisively to the successful completion of the action, which was supported by all the members of the Club.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC DIONYSOS

RC Dionysos delivered packages of plastic paint to the Avlona Youth Detention Center for the renovation of the inmates' living quarters. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the company CHROTECH and our dear PDG Dimitris Tsioukias for their kind mediation and donation.



RID 2475 - RC DIONYSOS

RC Donyos donated books to the Oncology Clinic, at the General Oncology Hospital "Agii Anargyroi" in Kifissia. We would like to thank Maria Paradeisi Zerde, Athina Kouvela, and Alexandra Papadimitriou Gaspara for their contribution of books to the lending and exchange library



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

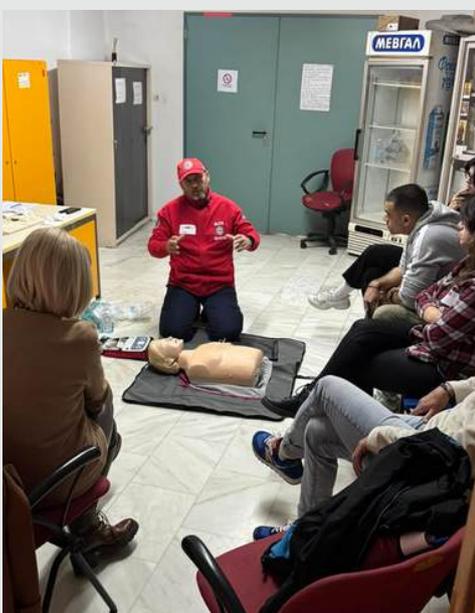
RID 2475 - RC THESSALONIKI EAST, ALEXANDER THE GREAT & PANORAMA

On Sunday, November 9, 2025, three Rotary Clubs in Thessaloniki — Thessaloniki East, Alexander the Great Hellas, and Panorama — joined forces and organized, under the auspices of RID2475, an extremely useful and essential Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid Seminar, in collaboration with the renowned Elite Rescue Team.

On a beautiful Sunday, 32 trainees chose to devote their time not to entertainment, but to knowledge that saves lives. They were trained practically, methodically, and with a high degree of professionalism, and received European Certification in CPR and First Aid.

Knowing CPR is a valuable skill that can save a life in just a few seconds. Informing and educating citizens is perhaps the most meaningful form of social contribution—because solidarity is not just a feeling, it is an act of responsibility.

Special mention should be made to the past President of RC Thessaloniki East, rtn Roma Papas , who, with exemplary coordination and enthusiasm, undertook the organization of this important initiative, as well as to the Elite Rescue Team trainers for their professionalism, patience, and passion for spreading knowledge.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC MARATHON NEA MAKRI

On Sunday, November 9, 2025, the Classic Marathon Road Race took place in Athens, one of the most important sporting and cultural events in the country, a symbol of struggle, perseverance, and human transcendence.

As part of Rotary's collaboration with institutions and organizations that share common values and humanitarian goals, RID 2475 supported and sponsored Rotary's participation in the Marathon Volunteer Support Team, highlighting Rotary's ongoing presence in activities that promote volunteerism and social solidarity.

The entire effort was coordinated by the dynamic RC Marathon - Nea Makri , which successfully organized and coordinated the participation of Rotary volunteers, who stood alongside thousands of runners with smiles, kindness, and selflessness.

Rotary's participation in such a major event proves that volunteerism, giving, and cooperation know no bounds. Rotary deeply believes in the value of social participation and human contribution, where collective effort is transformed into the power of life.

The Athens Classic Marathon is not just a road race; it is a journey of values, a reminder that true victory is not the finish line, but the journey of solidarity, cooperation, and common purpose.

We warmly congratulate the Marathon-Nea Makri Rotary Club for their excellent coordination and all the Rotary volunteers who participated with enthusiasm and selflessness.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - ROTARY LEARNING CENTER PLATFORM IN GREEK

THE ROTARY LEARNING CENTER PLATFORM IS NOW AVAILABLE IN GREEK FOR THE FIRST TIME

A historic moment for the Greek Rotary community

It is with great joy and pride that RID 2475 announces that, for the first time in the history of Rotary in Greece, the international Rotary Learning Center training platform of My Rotary is now available in Greek!

This development is the result of the inspiration, initiative, and persistent efforts of Rotarian Ioannis Apostolou, a member of RC Alexandroupolis , who envisioned and proposed the creation of the Greek translation.

The idea was immediately embraced by the District Governor, which actively supported the project, paving the way for the full integration of the Greek language into Rotary's international educational environment.

This is a pioneering project, unique in the history of the Greek District, which essentially upgrades all Rotarians' access to knowledge and education — key pillars of Rotary development and leadership.

The official translation and editing of the training material for the positions of Club President and Treasurer has already been posted, and soon all courses and modules of the Learning Center will be available in Greek, making Greek one of the official languages of the platform.

As Governor of the Greek District of Rotary International, I would like to express my warmest congratulations to Rotarian Ioannis Apostolou for his insight, creativity, and dedication.

His initiative proves in practice that Rotary in Greece innovates, evolves, and pioneers, remaining faithful to its commitment to provide tools for knowledge, development, and connection to every Rotarian.

The Greek voice of Rotary now resonates on the Organization's global educational platform. One more step forward — United for Good.

Athens, November 7, 2025
Dr. Stefanos Anastasopoulos
DG 2025–2026
RID 2475.

The image shows a screenshot of the My Rotary e-learning platform interface in Greek. At the top, the text reads "My Rotary e learning Στα Ελληνικά". Below this, there is a filter menu with "1 Active filter" and a list of languages: Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek (checked), and Hungarian. To the right, there are two course cards, each with a "New" badge. The first card is titled "Ετοιμαστείτε: Πρόεδρος Ομίλου" and the second is "Ετοιμαστείτε: Ταμίας του Ομίλου". Both cards show a duration of "EL | 15m 00s" and an "E-learning" icon. At the bottom, there is a "Rotary District 2475" logo and a Greek flag.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC KERKYRA

Donation of 11 original compositions by RC Corfu to the Philharmonic Society Manzaros

In its announcement, PSM states:

Today we had the pleasure of receiving a wonderful donation from RC Corfu, consisting of 11 original compositions for band by composers O.M. Schwarz, M.K. Weber, A. Bruckner, and G. Oswald.

The works were purchased from Germany for the sole purpose of donating them to "P.S. MANTZAROS" to enrich its music library.

A delivery-receipt protocol was signed at the headquarters of the "Rotary Club of Corfu," which was signed on behalf of the Club by its President, Christina Triviza, and on behalf of "P.S. MANTZAROS" by the Vice-President of BOD, Mr. Giannis Kontos.

Present were Chief Musician Mr. Socrates Anthis, as well as Rotarians PDG Dimitris Pitsinigos, rtn Dimitris Ertos, rtn Ourania Palavitsini, and rtn Sifis Psailas.

We owe a big thank you to RC Corfu for its sensitivity and initiative, and we are confident that today marks the beginning of a wonderful collaboration between these two historic organizations.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC RHODOS KOLOSSOS

With deep emotion and a sense of responsibility, RC Rhodos-Kolossos participated by contributing to the historic reopening of the Primary School of Psérimos, which reopened its doors after 17 years of silence.

Two young students, a dedicated teacher, and a community full of hope were the starting point for a meaningful act of giving that goes beyond material support.

Responding to the call of teacher Athina Schina, RC offered:

A modern desk computer, A musical instrument (harmonium) Educational aids, books, and abacuses

This has helped boost the school's educational work and the kids' everyday life at school. This initiative was made possible thanks to the excellent cooperation and valuable support of: To Ms. Athina Schina, teacher at the Primary School of Psérimos, and Ms. Maria Tsavitaroglou, kindergarten teacher, who keep the flame of learning alive with dedication. The Deputy Head of Primary and Secondary Education for South Aegean, Mr. Charalambos Psaras. The Association of Residents of Psérimos, and in particular its President, Ms. Irimi Kampouri, who ensured the safe transport of the donations and contributed decisively to the implementation of the initiative.

The President of the Club , rtn Spyros Dalianis, and all the members of the RC Rhodos-Kolossos express their warm thanks for the opportunity to contribute to this new beginning.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - GIVE THE GIFT OF ACCESS 2.0

We are ready and we start! For the second year, and even stronger this year, eight Greek Rotary Clubs (eClub of Greece, Agia Paraskevi, Anoixi - Semeli, Kifissia - Kastri, Patras - Kostis Palamas, Preveza, Halandri, and Psychiko) are offering more than 35 wheelchairs to more than 25 archaeological sites, monuments, museums, and ancient theaters throughout Greece, with the aim of providing independent access to all those who need such support!

All the information via the QR Code in the image, and the video of her offer to date, at the following link... <https://youtu.be/wlwR0Re6zEY?si=TGdaFMguJQ-cTnC3>

The best is yet to come, so stay tuned!



Πρόγραμμα
"Χάρισε Το Δώρο Της
Πρόσβασης 2.0"

"Give The Gift Of
Access 2.0"
Program

The logo features two hands shaking, one blue and one orange. In the center, a person in a wheelchair is shown with a yellow gear on the wheel. The gear has the Rotary International logo on it. Two classical columns are positioned on either side of the wheelchair.

2025 - 2026
2475 Rotary
International
District

A smaller QR code with a blue Facebook logo in the center and 'TQRCG' in the bottom right corner.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC ATHINAI

On November 20, essential care equipment was delivered to the “Agia Sofia” Children’s Hospital, donated by RC Athinai to support children living in the institution under court order.

The donation included:

- A baby carrier for safe infant transport within the facility
- Three strollers for abandoned infants and children
- A pair of orthopedic braces, worth €700, for a child with a chronic health condition

RC Athinai was represented by President rtn. Anastassios Ballas and member rtn. Dr. Konstantinos Stratakis, who handed over the equipment with great sensitivity and willingness to help.

From the hospital, Head Nurse Argyri Sotiriopoulou and Director Anastassios Michas expressed warm thanks, acknowledging the importance of this contribution.

This initiative reflects the Athinai Rotary Club’s spirit of solidarity, compassion, and steady commitment to supporting vulnerable children, showing how collective effort can truly improve young lives.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC VOULA PANORAMA

On Monday, November 24, 2025, R.O. Voula Panorama presented the President of the "Association of People with Multiple Sclerosis " based in Ilioupoli, Ms. Jenny Makrikosta, an air conditioner to meet their heating needs.



RID 2475 - RC KERKYRA

NEW SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CORFU

RC Kerkyra is pleased to announce the names of its new scholarship recipients, whose scholarships will begin in the winter semester of the 2025–2026 academic year.

For undergraduate scholarships:

Ms. Evdokia Katsouri, first-year student in the Department of Music Studies at the University of Ioannina, and

Ms. Alexandra Tsounou, fourth-year student in the Department of Environment at the University of the Aegean.

For postgraduate scholarships:

Mr. Chrysovalantis Zervos, a postgraduate student in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Crete, who is in his first year of the Computer Science and Engineering program.

It should be noted that this year, for the first time in its 63-year history, RC Kerkyra is awarding a postgraduate scholarship.

RC Kerkyra congratulates the successful candidates and wholeheartedly wishes them every success in their studies and in achieving all their goals.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC PATRAS (DISTRICT GRANT)

RC Patras announces the completion of the Hospital Equipment Donation Program to institutions in Patras, as part of the district grant.

The program includes the purchase of a surgical stretcher for the Karamandaneio General Children's Hospital of Patras, four wheelchairs, and a patient lift (heavy-duty lift) for the needs of people with disabilities staying at the "ASYLO ANIATON" AND "KIVOTOS AGAPIS" with a total value of €6,000.

The program involved the participation of RCs' Patras, Athens Omonoia, Anoixi Semeli, Volos Argo, Corinth, and Preveza and the sister clubs RC Anaheim Hills CA USA, RC Santa Barbara North CA USA Santa, and the Barbara-Ptras Sister Cities organization.

The equipment was handed over in presence of RID 2475 DG Stefanos Anastasopoulos, AG Christos Kafetzas and Rachel Topalidou, as well as members of RC Patras and staff from the institutions.



Από την παράδοση των 2 Αναπηρικών Αμαξιδίων στην «Κιβωτό της Αγάπης» Πατρών παρουσία της Προέδρου κ. Κατερίνας Νικολάου



Ο Διοικητής της 2475 ΡΠ Στέφανος Αναστασόπουλος και η Διοικήτρια του Καραμανδανείου ΓΝΠΠ Δρ. Ασπασία Ρηγοπούλου



Από την παράδοση 2 Αναπηρικών Αμαξιδίων και 1 Γερανού Ανύψωσης Ασθενών στο «Άσυλο Ανιάτων Πατρών», παρουσία της Διοικήτριας του Ιδρύματος κ. Γωγώς Καραλή



**ARPIC ARKAN APTURAHMAN
DISTRICT 2482**

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

**Plamen Tsvetkov
District Governor 2025-2026
Rotary International
District 2482 - Bulgaria
Monthly Message November**



Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors, and Interactors,

Happy 1 November – the Day of the National Awakeners!

Today we bow before the work of the enlighteners, scholars and revolutionaries who preserved and strengthened the Bulgarian spirit, language and culture.

Their example compels us to keep knowledge alive and to pass it on.

November is Rotary Foundation Month.

This is a good moment not only to speak about how much we give, but also why we give. The Foundation is not simply a fund for financing projects – it is our instrument for lasting change, built on trust and friendship. To give with gratitude, joy and hope means to invest in a better future – here and now.

Where we stand today (a brief report for the last 4 months):

- Annual Fund: 12,909 USD from 25 clubs
- PolioPlus: 8,415 USD from 30 clubs
- Other funds: 1,650 USD from 2 clubs
-

For us, as Rotarians, it is especially meaningful that contributions to the Foundation are also coming from Rotaract clubs in our District.

Congratulations to all donors! More than 1,446 of our friends have already been recognised at various levels as Paul Harris Fellows. Fourteen Rotarians from the District are Major Donors (donations over 10,000 USD). I would like to mention with respect two of them: Kalcho Hinov – MD +3, and Marin Dimov (Rotary Club Radnevo) – MD +2. We know that the Major Donor category has levels, and above them exist even higher forms of recognition – but what truly matters is not the “rank”; it is the ongoing journey of service and generosity.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Plamen Tsvetkov District Governor 2025-2026

Rotary International District 2482 - Bulgaria Monthly Message- November

We have a clear goal: at least 50% of the clubs to contribute to the Annual Fund and to PolioPlus. Regardless of the amount, every donation matters, because it joins with the others and makes our projects possible.

Donations here: <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate>

November is rich in celebrations. **Interact Week is from 4 to 10 November.**

On 5 November we also mark the anniversary of the founding of the first Interact club (1962). I congratulate all our young people participating in the program! This year the Interact clubs in Bulgaria are working on a joint project: "Read and Pass It On!" – A new life for books already read. Let us support them – by collecting, sorting and passing on books to schools, libraries, community centres and social institutions. It is a simple gesture with a big impact: knowledge continues its journey.

Ensuring continuity in our clubs

The selection of President-Nominee and the 2026–27 Board for each Rotary club is approaching. Please plan your club assemblies so that the procedure is completed in December. Timely elections ensure stability, clarity and a smooth handover. The joint work of the two boards – the current and the incoming one – is crucial for continuity.

As is tradition, in November we will also hold the "**Vibrant Club**" Forum, **15.11.2025, Arbanasi.**

This is our most important Forum of the year. I invite you to join – to speak openly about the key elements of success: membership, projects, the Foundation and public image – and how to connect them so that club life is attractive and inspiring.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all clubs whose projects have been selected for co-funding with District resources. For more information about our clubs' projects and activities, as well as useful guides for working with Foundation resources and Public Image – follow the monthly bulletin of Bulgarian Rotarians.

Registration and information for the Forum:

<https://www.rotarydistrict2482.org/bg/event/3170>

Friends, I will conclude once again with our Foundation. It is strong when each of us participates – with time, with ideas, with a donation. This is how we leave behind not just completed projects, but a legacy of peace, trust and service.

I wish you an inspiring and productive November!

With respect and friendship,

Plamen Tsvetkov

District Governor 2025–2026

Rotary International, District 2482 – Bulgaria

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

United for Good : Rotary Clubs and Sofia Municipality Collaborate for a Better Capital

Rotarians from Sofia's clubs have joined forces to establish a **long-term partnership with local authorities.**

Through a memorandum signed by **District Governor Plamen Tsvetkov and Sofia Mayor Vasil Terziev**, the foundation was laid for collaborative work **supporting education, healthcare, and culture.**

“Rotary is a community of people of action. We believe that through joint efforts, we can not only support people in need but also build stronger and more active communities,” emphasized DG Plamen Tsvetkov during the ceremony.

Mayor Vasil Terziev also noted that when institutions, citizens, and organisations work together, people's lives improve. Education, healthcare, and culture form the foundation for a higher quality of life, he added.

Under the signed memorandum, **Rotary clubs and Sofia Municipality** will:

- **Support schools and libraries**
- **Organise youth initiatives together**
- **Partner on preventive health campaigns**
- **Implement projects promoting young talent and access to culture**
- **Work on environmental initiatives**
- **Promote an active and healthy lifestyle through various activities**
-

Within a month, the first working meeting between Sofia Municipality, represented by Deputy Mayor Blagorodna Zdravkova, and Rotarians from the Sofia clubs will take place. The meeting will discuss the city's priority projects in these areas and how Rotary clubs can participate.

One of the first joint initiatives will be a Christmas campaign focused on the prevention of cardiovascular diseases.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

United for Good : Rotary Clubs and Sofia Municipality Collaborate for a Better Capital



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Bourgas Launches Outdoor Learning Project “A Classroom Among the Garden Beds – Getting to Know Nature”

Rotary Club Burgas is pleased to announce the start of the educational and environmental project “A Classroom Among the Garden Beds – Getting to Know Nature”, implemented in partnership with the permaculture farm Biotiful in the village of Rosen and “Vasil Aprilov” Primary School – Burgas. The initiative aims to encourage children’s interest in nature, sustainable agriculture and healthy living through practical activities and interactive learning. The project is aimed at pupils from Years 3–4 and seeks to provide them with knowledge and skills in:

- sustainable agriculture and basic ecosystems;
- growing their own food and caring for plants;
- the importance of healthy eating for disease prevention;
- teamwork, responsibility and perseverance.

The initiative involves 45–50 children, as well as their teachers and parents, who participate as active partners in the process.

What does the training include?

Between November and April, participants will take part in a series of practical modules at the farm, including:

Pond and Soil Ecosystems

Children will learn about the living organisms found in the pond and soil, build a mini worm farm and plant their own seedling to grow at home.

Master Workshop for Creating a Permaculture Farm

Pupils will create their own model of a sustainable farm based on the principles of permaculture design, developing creativity, ecological thinking and planning skills. Between visits, the children will study the 12 principles of permaculture, and the knowledge gained will be showcased through a quiz and a drawing competition.

Partners and Community Role

The project is made possible with the support of:

- **Rotary Club Burgas;**
- **Biotiful Farm, which provides the learning environment, the maintained garden beds and expertise in sustainable agriculture;**
- **“Vasil Aprilov” Primary School – Burgas, which includes the initiative in its school schedule and supports pupils’ participation.**

The project is funded by Rotary District 2482, Bulgaria.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF Rotary Club Burgas Created a True Celebration of Mathematics



Rotary Club Burgas, in partnership with the High School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences “Acad. Nikola Obreshkov,” the Union of Bulgarian Mathematicians, and the Municipality of Burgas, turned the Saturday before Dimitrovdan into a true celebration of Mathematics.

Nearly 800 children from first to eighth grade—Burgas’ young talents in mathematics and its applications—transformed the day into a symbol of hope for a bright future.

Long queues are no longer a common sight in our daily lives. And yet, one formed on Saturday in front of the two buildings of the Mathematics High School. The sunlight blended with the smiles of hundreds of children and twice as many parents and teachers.

“A queue for mathematics!” the organizers joked proudly. Mathematics has become fashionable. There is a thirst for knowledge, for expression, for taking flight.

Children who registered in advance through the competition’s dedicated website became part of the second edition of the Rotary Mathematics Festival—one of the largest mathematical events in Burgas.

The organizers—Rotary Club Burgas, PPMG, UBM, and the Municipality of Burgas—continue their joint work under the signed agreement for initiatives supporting education.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF Rotary Club Burgas Created a True Celebration of Mathematics



Registration closed ten days before the deadline—all spots were filled. Only a few lucky ones managed to claim last-minute available places. Interest exceeded expectations, and capacity was reached at record speed.

The competition began precisely at 9:20 a.m. on October 25, 2025. Volunteers welcomed the participants and their families. For the youngest—up to 12 years old—special arrangements ensured safety and comfort.

Classrooms were filled with smiles and light. The atmosphere radiated love for mathematics and a desire to achieve. Children shared their dreams—to become mathematicians, artists, fashion designers, economists, or athletes. Their common thread: they all want to learn and succeed.

Over 50 volunteers took part—Rotarians, Rotaractors, and Interactors, supported by friends of Rotary. Among them were members of **Rotary Club Pomorie** and **Rotary Club Ruse-Dunav**, as well as the young people from **Interact Burgas**, **Interact Burgas Primorie**, and **Rotaract Burgas Pyrgos**.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF Rotary Club Burgas Created a True Celebration of Mathematics



Together, they ensured that the competition ran smoothly and professionally.

The event was honored by **Plamen Tsvetkov—District Governor of Rotary District 2482 (Bulgaria)**.

Interest this year was nearly double that of the first edition in 2024, when 403 children from 1st to 12th grade participated. In 2025, the number rose to 770—from only 1st to 8th grade. Special gratitude is owed to the administration of PPMG and especially to Mrs. Milena Andonova, the school's principal, with whom the Organizing Committee worked in perfect coordination.

The event attracted families not only from Burgas, Aytos, Karnobat, Sozopol, Tsarevo, Pomorie, Nesebar, and Ruen. Children from Sliven and Yambol also registered and took part. Families from Varna expressed interest as well.

The youngest participants—first graders—solved 12 illustrated problems that helped them navigate the tasks.

Students from second to eighth grade worked on 15 problems of various difficulty levels. On December 1, all tasks will be published on the competition's website.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF Rotary Club Burgas Created a True Celebration of Mathematics



Parents shared that such organization and calm atmosphere can only be achieved by true professionals.

The competition proved that interest in mathematics among young people in Burgas increases every year.

Upon leaving, each child received a Certificate of Participation.

Many second- and third-graders now proudly have two—one from 2024 and one from 2025.

A proud symbol of perseverance and love for learning.

Funding was provided mainly through contributions from the members of Rotary Club Burgas, as well as through the support of partners and friends:

- Avanti stores – supplied water for participants;
- Zalivi bookstore – provided paper and office supplies;
- Arkfin Ltd., Technological Center NOMAT JSC, Smart Web Ltd., Top Print Ltd., Esthetic Print Ltd. – assisted with event preparation and logistics.

Competition results, as well as information about the awards ceremony, will be published on the official website.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF Rotary Club Burgas Created a True Celebration of Mathematics



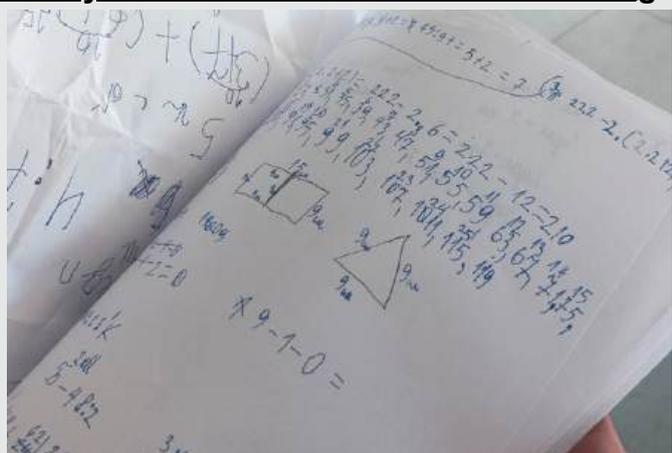
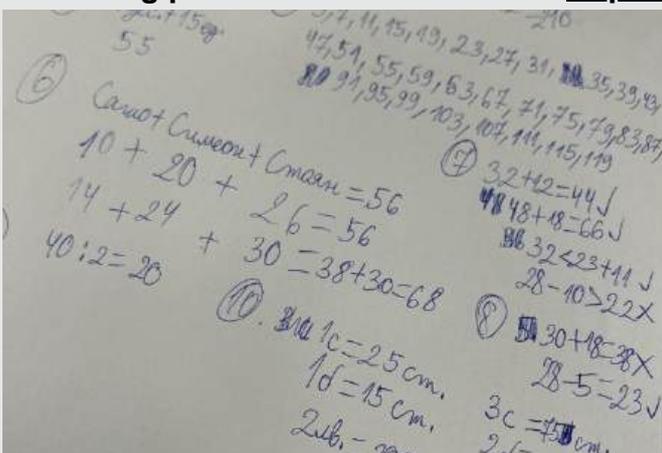
Rotary clubs from Svishtov, and Plovdiv, as well as from Turkey, Greece, and Romania, have expressed interest in holding similar competitions.

The next stage will be a final round in the spring of 2026, bringing together participants from different cities in Bulgaria and from other countries.

Thus, the competition will grow into an international platform for young mathematical talents, inspired by friendship and the values of Rotary.

In the Gallery, we present photos from various stages—from preparation to the beautiful work created by the young mathematicians, many of which are true works of art!

Here is also the interview with **Dinko Radnev—a Rotarian and mathematician who has trained teams that have won top places in international competitions and later gone on to leading positions in their fields.** : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nb3AEe3eR_g



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THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Bourgas Launches Outdoor Learning Project “Classroom Among the Beds – Getting to Know Nature”

On 20 November 2025, **Rotary Club Bourgas** officially launched its new educational and environmental project, “**Classroom Among the Beds – Getting to Know Nature**”, co-financed by the **Rotary District 2482 Community Service Grants Program**, Bulgaria. The project aims to introduce students to the world of sustainable agriculture, ecosystems, and experiential learning.

First Steps Toward Sustainable Education

The first visit took place at the **Biotiful permaculture farm** in Rosen village, where students from **Vasil Aprilov Primary School, Burgas**, spent an active and discovery-filled day. The pleasant weather allowed lessons to take place in the farm’s natural environment, showing the children how nature “works” in reality, not just in textbooks.

Welcomed by the hosts and the farm’s four-legged assistants, **Mecho and Puhcho**, the children quickly immersed themselves in an atmosphere of calm, curiosity, and discovery.

Lessons from the Lake, Soil, and Beds

Silvia Uzunova from the Biotiful team introduced the students to the basics of organic farming, explaining how every plant, insect, and organism plays a role in maintaining the ecosystem’s balance. Students learned about lake ecosystems, soil organisms, and the principles of sustainable crop cultivation.

In addition to theory, the children undertook a **hands-on task** — preparing a raised bed and planting garlic, onions, and lettuce themselves. They learned how to position the cloves, the proper planting depth, and why spacing between plants matters. The bed was “wrapped up” for the winter, and the students eagerly anticipate its spring awakening.



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Rotary Club Bourgas Launches Outdoor Learning Project “Classroom Among the Beds – Getting to Know Nature”

Creative Workshops and Experiential Learning

After working among the beds, the children participated in two optional workshops:

- Modelling lake inhabitants from clay
- Building a small worm farm

For these activities, they collected materials from the farm — leaves, moss, soil, pebbles — and created **mini ecosystems** according to their imagination and rules.

A Different Kind of Classroom – Outdoors

One of the most impressive outcomes was the group’s behaviour: within the first half hour, all phones were forgotten. Instead, the children ran, built a “mud kitchen”, climbed rocks, applied what they had learned, and worked as a team without a single conflict.

This experience proved that in a real environment, children are fully engaged and learn easily and enthusiastically.

This visit is just the **first step of the long-term project**, which will continue through the winter and spring with additional practical modules, creative activities, and a final community event, “**Fruits of Our Labour**”.

The full story with photos can be found here:

<https://www.rotary-bourgas.org/klasna-staya-sred-lehite-poseshtenie-1/>



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Bansko–Razlog

The 17th Table Tennis Tournament for Students was filled with sporting spirit and smiles!”

On 11 October 2025, the 17th edition of the traditional table tennis tournament was held in the sports hall of PGEE – Bansko. The event was organised by Rotary Club Bansko–Razlog in cooperation with Bansko Municipality and Razlog Municipality.

Students from Year 5 to Year 12 demonstrated their competitive spirit, played fairly and with great enthusiasm, and the atmosphere was full of energy, friendship and applause.

The best players received well-deserved awards and prizes, while all participants enjoyed plenty of positive emotions and new friendships.

We thank the students and teachers who made the event possible and unforgettable!



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THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Bansko–Razlog - In Support of Life

On 19 October, the day of St Ivan Rilski the Miracle Worker and the Day of the Bulgarian Doctor, the new Intensive Care sector at the Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Treatment of MBAL “Dr Assen Velev” in Razlog was officially opened with a ceremonial blessing.

We are pleased to share that Rotary Club Bansko–Razlog donated ventilators for all five beds, as well as patient monitors connected to a central monitoring station. This donation provides higher quality and greater safety in patient care.

The ribbon was cut by the club president Mr Dimitar Iliev, the hospital manager Mrs Magdalena Kotsakova, the Mayor of Razlog Municipality Mr Krasimir Gerchev, and the head of the department Dr Sasho Karadzhov.

With this donation, we believe we are contributing to better and safer medical care for the residents of Razlog and the region. We express our gratitude to the hospital management and the entire medical team for their dedication, as well as to all our friends and partners who support the causes of Rotary.

We also extend special appreciation to our friends from our twin club, Rotary Club Sofia–Balkan – PDS Krasi Veselinov and Past President Evgeni Grigorov – who shared this important moment with us.

United for good in our community!



Rotary Club Nova Zagora

Talented volleyball player Ivaylo Kolev receives the President's Scholarship

The talented volleyball player Ivaylo Kolev is the recipient of the President's Scholarship awarded by Rotary Club Nova Zagora.

The name of this year's distinguished student was announced by the club president, Dencho Petkov, at the traditional reception hosted by the Mayor of Nova Zagora Municipality, Mrs Galya Zakharieva, on the occasion of the town's holiday – Petkovden.

Ivaylo Kolev is one of the most accomplished young athletes in the municipality and in the country, and a member of the national team.

The scholarship, certificate and message from Rotary Club Nova Zagora were presented by the club president, Dencho Petkov. He wished Ivaylo many more sporting and personal achievements in the future.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Aytos revives a sporting tradition – the “Golden Autumn” relay race

On 18 October 2025, Rotary Club Aytos, together with Aytos Municipality and the Aytos Youth Centre, organised the “Golden Autumn” relay race. The course had a total length of 1,000 metres, divided into 4 legs of 250 metres each.

For many years, this event was a tradition for the residents and students of Aytos Municipality, but it had not been held for more than 20 years. Thanks to our initiative, we have brought this tradition back to life!

Five schools from the municipality took part in the competition, with nearly 80 children participating across different age groups – from Year 5 to Year 12.

Although the organisation was a challenge for us, the event turned out to be a well-run competition that was exciting for the children and their parents, many of whom remembered taking part in this discipline years ago.

At first, the children were shy and uncertain, but after the second start the competition became highly contested. With the help of the physical education teachers and the organisers, the children quickly learned how to pass the baton correctly, how to gain an advantage in the exchange zone, and how to distribute the legs strategically among the team members. In the older groups, the races remained unpredictable until the very end, thanks to surprising changes between the legs and the speed of individual competitors.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Aytos revives a sporting tradition – the “Golden Autumn” relay race

Each school had teams that reached the top positions. Every team that placed first, second or third in its group received a prize. The team ranking was extremely close as well – the difference between the two largest schools in Aytos Municipality, “Hristo Botev” Secondary School and “N.Y. Vaptsarov” Secondary School, was only 2 points. In the end, “N.Y. Vaptsarov” Secondary School won the overall team ranking and received the Mayor’s Cup of Aytos Municipality.

The awards were presented by the President of Rotary Club Aytos, Mr Hristo Yanev, the Mayor of Aytos Municipality, the Chair of Aytos Municipal Council, and friends of the club.



Rotary Club Nova Zagora - Enlightener of the Year 2025

On the eve of 1 November, at a ceremonial meeting, Rotary Club Nova Zagora presented its annual award “Enlightener of the Year”. The recipient of the prestigious 2025 prize is the Nova Zagora Historical Museum.

The young and exceptionally ambitious team of the museum has deservedly been honoured with this year’s distinction. The museum holds one of the richest collections in the country, continuously expanded thanks to the tireless work of its young specialists.

At the ceremonial gathering, the honorary certificate was presented by the club president, Dencho Petkov, in the presence of the Mayor of Nova Zagora, friends from the Rotary clubs of Stara Zagora and Sliven, and local public figures.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Nova Zagora - Host of Zone 11 Assembly

Under the skilful moderation of PDG Valentin Stoyanov, the Zone Assembly hosted by Rotary Club Nova Zagora was successfully held.

In addition to the hosts, the participating clubs included those from Stara Zagora, Stara Zagora–Beroe, Chirpan, Kazanlak, Radnevo and Yambol.

A productive discussion took place on the assembly topics: “New Club Culture”, “New Members” and “New Clubs”.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Sofia–Balkan visits Rotaract Club Sofia–Balkan A meeting of inspiration and collaboration

In the spirit of this Rotary year's motto — “Unite for Good”, the President of Rotary Club Sofia–Balkan, Ivaylo Vasilev, attended the regular meeting of Rotaract Club Sofia–Balkan.

The visit is part of the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation and interaction between the two clubs, which continue working together for positive change in society.

During the meeting, the Rotaractors presented their ideas and implementation plan for their upcoming project “Men's Health”, which will take place in November.

President Vasilev took an active part in the discussion, connecting the team with leading specialists in the field — some long-standing Rotarians, others new friends who were keen to learn more about the work and values of Rotary.

The meeting unfolded in a warm and friendly atmosphere, filled with lively conversations, inspiring ideas and an eagerness to take action.

Future members of the Rotaract club were also present; they joined with enthusiasm, asking questions and offering suggestions, demonstrating engagement and a desire to contribute to shared causes.

The group generated new ideas for joint meetings and initiatives with partner clubs, including Rotaract Veliko Tarnovo as a collaborator on the project, and their sponsor club — Rotary Club Veliko Tarnovo.

In the context of the current waste management crisis in Sofia, a decision was made to organise a volunteer clean-up campaign at one of the city's critical hotspots.

At the close of the meeting, President Ivaylo Vasilev shared that he was leaving “energised by the youth and inspired by the enthusiasm of all Rotaractors.”

Rotary and Rotaract Sofia–Balkan will continue to achieve meaningful results, uniting the experience and wisdom of Rotary with the energy and creativity of young people.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotaract and Rotary Club Sofia–Balkan in action for a cleaner Sofia

In the spirit of this Rotary year's motto "Unite for Good", members of Rotary Club Sofia–Balkan actively joined a volunteer clean-up initiative organised by Rotaract Club Sofia–Balkan in the problem areas of Lyulin and Krasno Selo.

With joint efforts and great enthusiasm, Rotaractors and Rotarians set a personal example of how small actions can lead to visible change in the community.

The initiative was also attended by the President of Rotary Club Sofia–Balkan, Ivaylo Vasilev, who highlighted the importance of personal commitment in addressing the waste crisis in the capital:

"While a sustainable solution is being sought, each of us can help — with gloves, bags and a few hours of our own time. Caring for the environment we live in begins with our own actions." This cause is yet another proof that when united for good, we can inspire positive change. We thank all volunteers who took part, as well as the residents of Krasno Selo for their support and smiles during the clean-up.

Let us continue to keep Sofia clean and to show that Rotary is a force for good!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Ruse launches “Little Coins for Golden Deeds”

Rotary Club Ruse has announced the start of the new edition of its charity campaign “Little Coins for Golden Deeds” – an initiative that over the years has become one of the most meaningful and unifying causes in the city.

The main goal this year, as in previous years, is to raise funds for scholarships for the 2025–2026 school year, supporting talented children from Ruse in the fields of science, sports, arts and education.

In 2024, Rotary Club Ruse recognised six exceptional young talents, whose achievements served as an inspiring example of the power of perseverance and community support. The success of last year’s campaign gives the club confidence to expand the initiative this year.

Donation boxes in the city

Donation boxes have already been placed in convenient and frequently visited locations:

- Top Kids Bookstore (next to “Kralyska Zakuska”)
- Happy Clever Kids Event Centre, 36 Gen. Skobelev Blvd
- Ciela Bookstore, Ruse Mall

“Every coin counts. When people unite around a good cause, even the smallest gestures can create great opportunities,” says Ivo Sonev, President of Rotary Club Ruse.

Doubling the donations

All donations will be matched by Rotary Club Ruse, significantly increasing the impact of the campaign and enabling more children to be supported.

Donations via bank transfer

Those wishing to support the initiative can also donate via bank transfer:

- Recipient: Rotary Club Ruse
- IBAN: BG84BPBI79211045517401
- Reference: Donation – Little Coins for Golden Deeds

A tradition with heart

“Little Coins for Golden Deeds” is more than just a fundraising campaign. It is a living tradition that brings the people of Ruse together around the idea that supporting children’s talent is an investment in the future of our city.

The club invites all residents of Ruse and friends of the cause:

Join us – even the smallest gesture can turn a child’s talent into great success.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Nova Zagora honours Stoyan Omartchevski

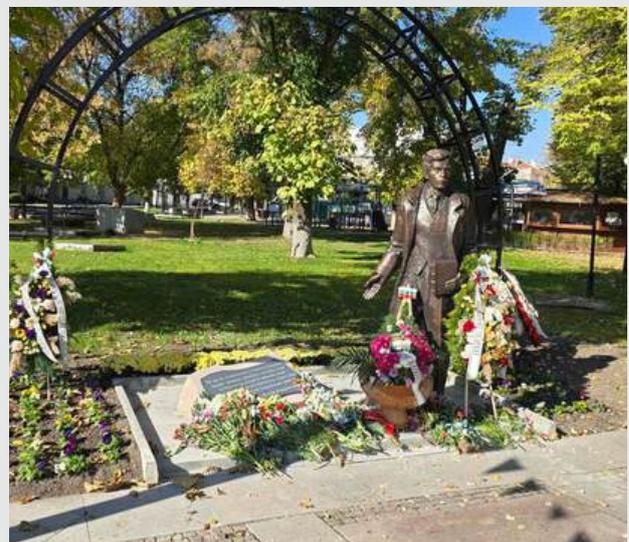
We are proud to share that, on the initiative of our club in Nova Zagora, a monument to our distinguished fellow citizen, statesman and educator Stoyan Omartchevski has been erected and officially inaugurated.

The unveiling was attended by the Minister of Education and Science, the Mayor of Nova Zagora, representatives of local authorities, Rotarians, and numerous citizens who shared in the excitement of this significant event.

The monument is the work of sculptor Todor Dimitrov and architect Nikolay Vasilev. It was built with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Culture, Rotary Club Nova Zagora, and local agricultural producers.

A congratulatory address was read on behalf of the District Governor of Rotary Bulgaria, Mr Plamen Tsvetkov, who expressed appreciation for the initiative and highlighted its contribution to preserving the memory of Bulgaria's great personalities.

Rotary Club Nova Zagora continues its mission to serve society by supporting cultural, educational, and historical causes that unite and inspire!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Harmanli welcomes Rotarians from Canada and the USA

Rotary Club Harmanli had the honour of hosting a friendly Rotary exchange with Rotarians from clubs in Canada and the USA. Our guests spent two unforgettable days in Harmanli and the surrounding region, filled with history, culture, local flavours, and true friendship.

During their stay, they visited some of the region's most treasured landmarks:

- The Thracian Tomb in Alexandrovo
- The Great Tomb and Neuzetikon Fortress in Mezek village
- The Golden Treasure in Topolovgrad
- The iconic Svodest Bridge in Harmanli

Warm social gatherings were organised, including special dinners, an off-site club meeting, and a tasting of the distinctive wines of South Sakar, which were highly appreciated by our guests.

Linda, Keith, Victoria, Kurt and Mike were impressed by our rich history, beautiful landscapes, and above all, our hospitality.

We extend our thanks to all the friends in our club for the warm welcome and dedication!

Rotary connects us through service, friendship, and mutual respect, and these autumn days in Harmanli were a wonderful example of that!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Harmanli successfully concludes prostate health screening campaign as part of “Movember”

On 19 November 2025, a large-scale health initiative was held at MBAL Harmanli, organised by Rotary Club Harmanli as part of the international “Movember” campaign, dedicated to men’s health and the prevention of prostate cancer. The screenings were completely free for all participants and were made possible through the partnership between Rotary Club Harmanli, MBAL Harmanli, and urology specialist Dr Miroslav Sakarski from Plovdiv.

The initiative attracted considerable interest. A total of 120 men from various age groups took advantage of the opportunity to undergo preventive ultrasound examinations. The results clearly demonstrate that the initiative is both timely and necessary — less than 2% of the men screened were advised to undergo further tests, highlighting the importance of early diagnosis and timely preventive measures.

The screenings were conducted by Dr Miroslav Sakarski, an experienced specialist who accepted Rotary Club Harmanli’s invitation and contributed with exceptional professionalism and dedication. All examinations were non-invasive, painless, quick, and focused on the early detection of prostate-related issues.

Rotary Club Harmanli extends sincere gratitude to the management of MBAL Harmanli for providing the facilities and support for the organisation of the initiative. Special thanks are expressed to Dr Zlatka Chankova, the hospital director, for her assistance and meaningful partnership. Without the support of the hospital, carrying out the campaign on such a scale and with such efficiency would not have been possible



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Harmanli successfully concludes prostate health screening campaign as part of “Movember”

The Movember campaign aims to raise men’s awareness of the risks of prostate cancer, the importance of preventive care, and the need for annual check-ups after a certain age. Through this year’s initiative, Rotary Club Harmanli once again demonstrated its commitment to the health and well-being of the local community.

The President of Rotary Club Harmanli, Alexander Petrov, also thanked all volunteers, club members, and partners who helped prepare and organise the event. Initiatives like this serve as an example of the power of collaboration between medical professionals, civic organisations, and institutions.

Rotary Club Harmanli remains dedicated to its mission of promoting prevention, health awareness, and community support. The club is planning further initiatives addressing various aspects of health and improving the quality of life in the municipality.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

REPORT ON THE DONATION OF MBOT ROBOTS AND TEACHER EDUCATION IN ŠABAC



ARPIC ALEKSANDAR RADOJICIC
DISTRICT 2483

On October 9, 2025, mBot robots were donated at the Center for Professional Development in Šabac and an accredited seminar was held for teachers and professors of primary and secondary schools from Šabac. The attendees were greeted by the Mayor of Šabac Aleksandar Pajić and our hosts Marko Panović, Director of the Center for Professional Development in Šabac, and Aleksandar Letić, President of the Rotary Club of Šabac. On behalf of the organizers, the attendees were informed about the following donations and the festival "With Knowledge for the Future" by Past Governor Vladimir Matić and nominated Governor of the National Assembly Vladimir Lalošević. Our main partners for the festival "With Knowledge for the Future" from the Klett Publishing House, Director Gordana Knežević Orlić and Ilija Ćosović, informed the teachers how they can all use their services in monitoring the seminar and festival. Special thanks to Mayor Aleksandar Pajić for the support of the City of Šabac in the implementation of not only this seminar but also for all the actions of the Rotary Clubs of Šabac and Belgrade Čukarica.



RC Belgrade Skadarlija: Wind at their backs

The traditional action "Wind at their backs" of the Rotary Club Belgrade Skadarlija was successfully carried out by sailing in the Ionian Sea. This year, members of the clubs RC Singidunum, RC Sava, RC Čuprija Morava, RC Kotor and RC Čačak participated, which further enriched the atmosphere of togetherness and humanity. 3 catamarans and almost 30 participants. The action was carried out in the spirit of the mission "Unite for Good", which is also this year's goal within the Rotary community. The participants had the opportunity to visit the islands of Paxo, Antipaxo and Corfu, and to promote humanitarian values, friendship and an active lifestyle through sailing. At the very beginning, the entire fleet was hosted by the Rotary Club Preveza with a good atmosphere and fellowship in the Rotarian spirit, where we exchanged gifts and flags, as well as ideas and agreements on joint actions.

ARPIC ALEKSANDAR RADOJICIC ON.....

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RC Belgrade Skadarlija: meeting with RC Kerkyra Kapodistrias from Corfu.

While sailing in the Ionian Sea, Rotary Club Belgrade Skadarlija organized a meeting with Rotary Club Kerkyra Kapodistrias from Corfu. In addition to members of the fleet and Rotarians from RC Kotor, Singidunum, Sava, Cacak and Cuprija - Morava, the meeting was attended by the Honorary Consul of Serbia in Corfu, the Deputy Mayor of Corfu, and the President of the Greek-Serbian Friendship Association. The exchange of ideas and work on joint projects, as well as networking and socializing, were the main topics.



RC Kraljevo: Rotary Club Kraljevo visits fraternal club Sibiu

Leading children from the Judo Club "Mašinac" from Kraljevo to an international tournament in SIBIU, Romania, as friends and sponsors of the club, five members of RK Kraljevo visited the fraternal club SIBIU and held a joint meeting. Both clubs, since their last gathering in Kraljevo, have rejuvenated their membership, so this was an opportunity for new members to get acquainted with the long-standing fraternal cooperation. After a welcoming speech and an exchange of flags and other gifts, Miodrag Rajković, secretary of the Rotary Club Kraljevo, informed the members of RK Sibiu in detail about all the joint projects of the fraternal members and the club's activities. The new host members were particularly interested in the RK Kraljevo Monograph, which, among other things, presented the joint activities of the two clubs. The hosts from Sibiu said that this year the club is celebrating 30 years since its charter, and they especially emphasized its participation in the erection of a monument to Samuel Brukenthal, the former governor of Transylvania. Kraljevo Rotarians invited the hosts to participate in the Kraljevo Wine Fair and the Vrnjačka Banja Carnival next year.



RC Zrenjanin: Visit of Rotarians from the USA to Rotary Club Zrenjanin

On September 24, 2025, the Rotary Club Zrenjanin had the honor of hosting a delegation of Rotarians from the United States of America. The visit was programmed as a combination of getting to know the city and a working meeting, with the aim of strengthening international cooperation and exchanging experiences. Before the official meeting, the hosts from RC Zrenjanin organized a short but informative tour of the most important landmarks of Zrenjanin for the guests. The delegation visited the City Hall and the National Museum of Zrenjanin, where they learned about the history and architectural significance of these spaces, as well as the Cathedral Orthodox Church and other local landmarks. During the tour, the guests had the opportunity to hear stories about the cultural and historical heritage of Banat, which gave the visit additional context and warmth. After the tour, a working meeting was held in the hall of the Vojvodina Hotel between the members of the Rotary Club Zrenjanin and the members of the American delegation. The meeting took place in a constructive and friendly atmosphere. During the meeting, concrete contacts were established and it was agreed to continue intensive communication to develop possible projects. As an immediate next step, it was agreed that representatives of both sides would exchange additional materials and project proposals, in order to determine the possibilities for joint application for relevant grants and for the organization of exchange programs. The visit further strengthened the ties between domestic and international Rotarians and opened up space for real international cooperation in the coming period.

24.09.2025 - RC Zrenjanin: Donation of mBot robots and training for teachers

The Rotary Club of Zrenjanin has continued its support for global grants that have been implementing the project "Knowledge for the Future" for years. This year, as part of the activities, a visit was organized by Rotarians from the USA who are partners in these projects. As a central part of the visit on 24.09.2025. a ceremonial awarding of mBot robots for elementary schools in Zrenjanin and the surrounding area was organized, as part of the project "Knowledge for the Future". This initiative is being implemented in cooperation with the Rotary Club of Zrenjanin, the Rotary Club of Belgrade Čukarica and Rotary District 2483, and with the support of the City of Zrenjanin, the Ministry of Education and the Institute for the Advancement of Education. Those present were greeted by the President of the Rotary Club of Zrenjanin Siniša Pandurov, PDG Vladimir Matić, PDG Hamsa Thota on behalf of District 6920 Georgia / USA and the Mayor of Zrenjanin Simo Salapura. In addition to the donation itself, with the support of the City of Zrenjanin, accredited training was organized for 25 teachers and professors of primary and secondary schools from Zrenjanin and 21 teachers and professors of schools from surrounding towns, with the aim of acquiring practical knowledge for the application of robotics in teaching. In this way, the donation takes on full meaning - because teachers become ready to transfer the acquired knowledge in a real environment and motivate students to develop creativity, critical thinking, logical reasoning and teamwork through robotic tasks. This is the fourth year in a row that the Rotary Club of Zrenjanin has been implementing this activity, which builds continuity and strengthens the foundations of modern education in the local community. The results so far show that students are interested in such programs, and teachers emphasize that the donation significantly enriches the teaching process.

Reception at the Mayor's Office

In the Baroque Hall of the City Hall in Zrenjanin, a delegation of Rotary District 2483, Rotarians from the USA and the Rotary Club of Zrenjanin was ceremonially received by Mayor Simo Salapura. The meeting was attended by representatives of the local government, as well as members of the Rotary community, emphasizing the successful cooperation of the city and the Rotary Club of Zrenjanin to date. The Mayor emphasized that he always supports such Rotary projects, which are largely focused on the areas of education and social responsibility, which fully coincides with the priorities of the local government. The conversation emphasized the importance of the partnership between the city and the Rotary Club, as well as the readiness for joint action in the coming years, with an emphasis on projects that contribute to youth and the development of the local community.

24.09.2025 - RC ZRENJANIN: DONATION OF MBOT ROBOTS AND TRAINING FOR TEACHERS



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RC BELGRADE TERAZIJE: RETURN VISIT TO ROTARY CLUB LAUSANNE-OUEST

From September 28 to October 1, 2025, members of the Rotary Club Belgrade Terazije visited Switzerland, where they returned the visit to their friends from the Rotary Club Lausanne-Ouest. The delegation consisted of President Nikola Stojanović with his wife Bojana, Club Secretary Andrija Ranković with his wife Milica, and incoming President Aleksandar Bolić. The visit was a continuation of the friendly relations that began in March, during the stay of the members of the Lausanne-Ouest Club in Belgrade, on which occasion we jointly presented a van to the Center for the Protection of Children and Infants with Special Needs on Zvečanska Street in Belgrade. At the regular meeting of the local club, President of the Rotary Club Belgrade Terazije Nikola Stojanović presented the projects and activities of our club, and the future District Governor 1990, Jean-François Richter, also addressed the attendees. On that occasion, the club presidents exchanged Rotary flags and agreed to continue cooperation through joint projects and future donations, with the aim of strengthening the international Rotary partnership. During their stay, the club members visited the Dubois Family Winery on the shores of Lake Geneva and the Rolex Educational Center at the University of Lausanne, as well as the La Gruyère region, where they toured cheese and chocolate museums. A special part of the visit was a meeting with members of the Serbian Business Club "Archibald Rice" in Switzerland, with an exchange of experiences and discussion of future cooperation opportunities. The visit ended with a tour of Geneva and strengthened the long-term friendship between the Belgrade Terazije and Lausanne-Ouest clubs, confirming the common values of Rotary - friendship, humanity and community service. The Belgrade Terazije Rotary Club extends sincere gratitude to the friends from the Rotary Club Lausanne-Ouest for their warm hospitality and attention. We owe a special thanks to Kristijan Šer, Marko Ivanov and Žarko Stević, who selflessly dedicated their time to show us the beauty of Switzerland and make our stay unforgettable. Their warmth and dedication are the best example of the Rotarian spirit of friendship and connection.



RC Bijelo Polje: Enhancing the space and painting the walls in several kindergartens in Bijelo Polje

The Rotary Club Bijelo Polje, as it has done many times before, responded to a call for help in a humane project. Namely, it is about improving and decorating the premises in one of the kindergartens in Bijelo Polje. In addition to the club's financial assistance, for the purchase of necessary materials and the like, one of the members of RC Bijelo Polje, academic painter Dražen Konatar, personally participated in the design and creation of decorations for the environment of that preschool institution.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RC Belgrade International: Music without Borders - Workshops for Children with Autism

Thanks to the support of the Rotary Club Belgrade International and Rotary District 2483, a series of music workshops were held at the Anton Skala Elementary School for children with autism. The workshops were filled with emotion, rhythm and togetherness - moments in which music and laughter became the universal language of understanding. Musicians from the DiA Music Center and Artysh Lab introduced the children to the world of instruments - keyboards, violins, flutes and accordions. The children participated in the performance, played children's instruments, sang and danced to the rhythm of the music. Each workshop was a combination of joy, play and creativity, and at the end everyone danced a waltz together. A particularly touching moment was the performance of a former student, Nemanja Mitić, who delighted his younger friends with his songs and music. The final performance brought special excitement – the children proudly showed what they had learned, and the hall was filled with smiles, applause and sincere warmth that accompanied every note. We owe our gratitude to the school and teachers, therapists, parents, District 2483 and members of the Rotary Club Belgrade International, but above all to the children, who once again showed us that music truly speaks to the heart.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RC LESKOVAC: MAGAZINE DONATION TO THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

In the spirit of its motto "Choose to be a light", the Rotary Club Leskovac has carried out another humane and educational work - the donation of the 161st issue of the international magazine Rotary to the National Library in Leskovac. This prestigious magazine, published in English, offers readers the opportunity to improve their language skills, but also to broaden their horizons about humanitarian work, culture and the lives of people around the world. Its pages feature authored texts and experiences of Rotary clubs from different countries, making it an inspiring and interesting read for all generations. Club President Aleksandar, together with members Vidosav, Milorad and Nada, handed over the magazines to the library representatives, Maja and Aleksandar, on Friday, October 3, 2025. With this gesture, the Rotary Club Leskovac once again demonstrated its commitment to the community, encouraging the spread of knowledge, humanity and the light that connects people of good will



RC NOVI SAD - DUNAV

Donation of school supplies to children undergoing treatment at the Institute for Child and Youth Health Care of Vojvodina

The Rotary Club of Novi Sad - Dunav marked September — the month of primary education and literacy — by donating school supplies to children undergoing treatment at the Institute for Child and Youth Health Care of Vojvodina. Our goal is to support their education and encourage smiles and hope in the upcoming school days.



RC SENTA: TRADITIONAL “SMILING APPLE” CAMPAIGN

On October 10th and 11th, the Rotary Club of Senta organized the traditional “Smiling Apple” campaign at the main town market. The wives of club members collected donations from citizens, and everyone who participated received a smiling apple as a symbol of gratitude. All funds raised will be used to develop and improve the work of kindergartens in Senta. This campaign has been held in Senta for ten years in a row, and thanks to its success, clubs from other countries have also taken it on board, making it an internationally recognized humanitarian initiative.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RC KOTOR: SOCIALIZING WITH RESIDENTS OF THE HOME IN BIJELA

On Saturday, October 11, the members of the Rotary Club of Kotor organized a traditional excursion for residents of the Public Institution "Mladost" Children's Home in Bijela. The children had the opportunity to visit Tivat Airport, where they spent an unforgettable morning in the role of real passengers. During the visit, they visited Terminal 2, checked in and received their boarding passes, and employees of the Airport of Montenegro patiently explained to them how airport procedures work. The children then went through document control and security control, visited the departure gate and learned firsthand what the pre-flight passenger process looks like. On the platform, they observed the planes up close, entered the Air Montenegro plane, where they were greeted by the crew and captain. Each child entered the cockpit and had the opportunity to learn how the pilot controls work – and even to “choose” their destination, the one they had previously entered on their boarding pass. The gathering continued in the fire department vehicle, where the little ones had the opportunity to see how the airport protection and rescue service works, as well as to observe takeoffs and landings from close range. The trip continued with a visit to the special nature reserve “Tivatska solila” where the children, accompanied by professional guides, enjoyed walking and observing birds and crabs in the reserve, as well as a VR presentation. Airports of Montenegro and the Public Company for Maritime Domain Management provided the children with appropriate gifts – as a nice memento of a day filled with smiles and new experiences. The gathering ended with a lunch organized by the “Vukšić” Business Center in Radanovići. This year’s action was coordinated by RC Kotor member Renata Bergam Grandis. Rotary Kotor thanks the hosts of the trip, sponsors and friends of the club for their help in the organization, gifts, logistics and hospitality: “Airports of Montenegro”, “Public Company for Coastal Zone Management”, “Meridian DMC” and “PC Vukšić – D’event Hall for Ceremonies”.



RC ĆUPRIJA MORAVA: CELEBRATION OF THE 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT

On the occasion of the festive celebration of the 21st anniversary of the discovery of the relics of Saint Despot Stefan Lazarević, an official visit, guided tour and charity lunch were organized in his foundation, the Manasija Monastery. As part of the celebration of the 21st anniversary of its renewal, the Rotary Club of Ćuprija-Morava took part and, with its members, friends and associates, made a modest material contribution to the renovation of the guest house. Although the weather conditions were not in favor of the event, more than 70 benefactors from Serbia, Montenegro and Bulgaria had the opportunity to see for themselves and enjoy the blessing of Resava. The current and former governors Veliša Stamatović and Aleksandar Radojičić graced the gathering with their presence. Immense gratitude to the hosts, the monastery brotherhood led by Archangel Pavle, for the opportunity to be of use to the community. Their dedication from the reception to the farewell left a strong impression on those gathered as the best invitation to visit and help Manasija on all other days. Immediately after the donation campaign at the Manasija Monastery, a gala dinner was organized. After his address, President Goran Jelcic took the opportunity to award the most deserving people in the past period with awards. The Governor of District 2483 Veliša Stamatović was presented with a charter and a gold coin with an engraving, and his assistant Danilo Guberinić was presented with a letter of appreciation. After the awarding of the charters and letters of appreciation, an unforeseen circumstance occurred due to the loss of electricity in the entire municipality of Despotovac. What seemed like an inconvenience at first glance turned into an advantage by the end of the evening, as the celebration continued with cake and candles and the guests continued their conversations/agreements without any disturbance.



PRE REM EVENT IN NIŠ

This year's PRE REM event, held in Niš, was attended by Rotaractors from several clubs in the region. During the gathering, the participants had the opportunity to visit some of the most important historical sites in southeastern Serbia – Mediana, Čele-kula and Čerg – and to get to know the rich cultural heritage of this region in an authentic way.

This event was a real combination of education, fellowship and fun, bringing new acquaintances, beautiful memories and even stronger ties within the Rotaract family.

We thank the hosts for the warm welcome and excellent organization – see you at the next meeting!

REM SKOPJE 2025 – ROTARACT EUROPE TOGETHER

The delegation of Rotaract District 2483 participated in the Rotaract Europe Meeting (REM) in Skopje, North Macedonia, where our representatives spent several inspiring days in the spirit of fellowship, education and international cooperation.

We are particularly proud of the fact that the ERIC secretary from our district was also in the delegation, which confirms the high level of engagement and recognition of our team within the European Rotaract.

During REM, participants:

- attended workshops and lectures,
- established contacts and friendships across Europe,
- presented District 2483 at the traditional Country Booth.

At the E.R.I.C. General Assembly for the current Rotary year, we voted for:

- next REM Karlsruhe,
- Peace Workshop,
- ERIC assembly and board update,
- as well as announcements of upcoming international events (Taipei, Interota).

The meeting ended with a glamorous gala dinner in the spirit of togetherness and Rotaract energy.

We would like to thank the hosts from Skopje for the excellent organization and hospitality!



DISTRICT ASSEMBLY 2483 – NOVI SAD IN THE SIGN OF ACTION AND INSPIRATION

On October 18 and 19, the District Assembly of Rotaract District 2483 was held in Novi Sad, bringing together members of clubs from all over Serbia and Montenegro. During the two days, the atmosphere was filled with energy, dedication and a vision for the future.

Speakers, including DG Veliša Stamatović and DRR Nikola Jelenković, emphasized the importance of cooperation and joint action. PDG Zorica Jestrović and PDG Nikola Božić presented the importance of the RI Foundation and key Rotaract projects such as End Polio Now.

Milena Albijanić's workshop on the topic of leader authenticity attracted special attention, which provided participants with concrete tools for developing leadership skills and teamwork.

The event was also enriched by international presence – friends from Croatia and Bulgaria presented their actions and projects. The working part of the Assembly was rounded off with a wine dinner and socializing, in the true spirit of Rotaract.



CONTACT US!

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🗣️ You are welcome to contact the assistants assigned to your districts and send in your questions or projects to be featured in the Zone 21B newsletter.

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