



## Press Release

### THE WINNING PROJECTS OF THE 5TH RHODES YOUTH FORUM HAS BEEN DETERMINED

On September 28th 2014, during the official closing ceremony of the 5th Rhodes Youth Forum, organized by the International Youth Time Movement, the authors of the projects, which were selected by the jury of the Forum, have been announced. These projects have been determined as the finest among the ones proposed in the respective workshops.

We would like to remind you that the key topic of the Rhodes Youth Forum was defined as the idea that concern the contribution of young people in community development or rather: "Positive participation of young people in the life of society: from individual initiatives to collective cooperation." The Forum took place on September 25-28th, 2014 on the island of Rhodes in Greece: it provided an opportunity for 130 participants from more than 40 countries of the world to share some innovative ideas with each other.

It should be pointed out that, according to the rules for conducting the Forum, the participants have to offer their own ideas and projects regarding the solution of the specified problems, and to announce the initiatives on involvement of the young specialists who have a whole new approach to dealing with global and local problems. The slogan of the Forum remained unchanged: "From something in mind to something in kind!" This year's jury had thrown the handkerchief to the authors of projects that corresponded with this motto.

The project called "ONUS", created by the participant from India Prakhar Bhartiya, won in the workshop called "Modern Educational Environment". This project is actually a program of leadership development among Indian students and it involves the creation of youth associations for aiding the students, providing them with an additional training on a "peer to peer" basis and carrying out consultations on the topics of interest.

"Train of Friendship" - a project by the Slovenian participant Urban Jaksa - was determined as the best in the workshop "Youth Diplomacy and International Relations". As explained by the winner himself, this project was designed to enrich the relationship between the European Union and Russia on the social level by helping their representatives to get involved in intercultural dialogue, to dismantle the existing stereotypes and to explore the peculiar features of different nations in order to consolidate peace.

Nada Berrada, the participant from Morocco, and her partners, have won the "Social entrepreneurship" workshop with their project "Studen'Trip". Its authors intend to establish an organization that will assist the students of the National University of Morocco during their trips to remote regions of Morocco and will make its contribution in the development of rural areas.

The special personalized prize from the honorary guests of the Rhodes Youth Forum: the CEO of Renova Management AG, Peter Löscher and his wife, the social activist Martha Löscher has been awarded to the participant from Nepal, Renu Shakya, for her project "Happy Grandma" which was designed to support the traditional crafts and occupations of older Nepalese women. This project has been presented in the "Social Entrepreneurship" workshop.

It should be noted that the sponsors of this event, as part of the Rhodes Youth Forum, provided the winners with 70 percent of the requested budget for the selected project. The nominees are required to attract the remaining 30 percent from overall cost from other sources. Afterwards, they have to submit a report regarding these projects to funders and supervisors.

This year, the Rhodes Youth Forum was not only a platform for the presentation of dozens of projects by the participants, as well as discussion of current issues with the representatives of an older generation and high profile experts from all over the world. The joint session called "A century since the beginning of the First World War – the collective memory. How to avoid possible future conflicts" has been conducted in cooperation with the World Public Forum "Dialogue of Civilizations" (WPFDC). It gave the chance for young leaders to be heard by the 400 participants of WPFDC; among them were businessmen, politicians and experts in different fields from all parts of the world. On September 28th, 2014, in the course of the joint session and the group work, the participants of both forums have expressed a deep concern over the escalation of tensions in international affairs and offered to make some actual steps to maintain the efforts in resolving conflicts in a peaceful manner and to eliminate the threat of war. As the result of their collaboration, the WPF "Dialogue of Civilizations" and the Rhodes Youth Forum have put forward a number of initiatives in order to contribute to the development of an alternative model of conflict resolution, including the creation of analytical center and schools of intercultural dialogue.

You can find more information about the World Public Forum "Dialogue of Civilizations" at the official website of the organization [wpfdc.org](http://wpfdc.org).

The full record of all workshops and plenary sessions of the Rhodes Youth Forum 2014 is available at the official website of the International Youth Time Movement <http://youth-time.org/30-blog-yt/262-broadcasting-live>. The official hashtag of this event in social networks is #ytrhodes.

The media publications about the last Forum is available at the official website of the International Youth Time Movement in the "Press about us" section.

You can find out more about the concept and the program of the Rhodes Youth Forum, the International Youth Time Movement and the projects of our organization at the website [youth-time.org](http://youth-time.org) or at the official Facebook page [www.facebook.com/youth.time.international.movement/](http://www.facebook.com/youth.time.international.movement/).

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