



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
Distretto 2110 - Sicilia e Malta

Gaetano Lo Cicero
Governatore



Palermo, 1 febbraio 2013

Dear Friends,

we have in fact been speaking about peace all year both during our development meetings, as well as during the Club visits since “peace through service” is specifically the theme chosen by the International President for this Rotarian Year.

We have reflected upon the fact that we Rotarians, through our services projects, compete to build peace in the communities in which we operate because we address the basic needs of people and thus we help to ease social tensions and to reduce the level of conflict.

These are concepts which are familiar to us who live Rotary being very clear about the objectives and values which are at the foundation of the organisation and thus I believe that there is nothing to add apart from to encourage you in our mission of service that I have seen is well understood and implemented by clubs within the district.

I would also like to remind you that the 23rd February is the day of "world peace and understanding", but it is also the 108th anniversary of the foundation of Rotary. I have strongly recommended to focus on this day on service activities as through the service we bring peace. Throughout my Club visits I have been presented with the planned initiatives which, I hope, will be fulfilled. I recommend also that these initiatives involve the young from Rotaract and Interact.

Speaking of projects, I urge you not to forget Rotary Foundation's POLIO PLUS project and, in this regard, to remember to include a photo of yourself, with the fingers gesture "*this close*", as part of the world's largest advertisement. It does not cost us anything, yet through each photo add benefits through a greater contribution of a sponsor (www.endpolio.org).

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Early in December I had participated in the first of three forums dedicated to peace organised by Rotary International so as to place peace at the centre of attention of Rotarians. I was struck by the large participation of young people from all corners of the world who brought their hopes for world peace. It was with conviction that I signed the “Declaration of Peace without Borders” on your behalf dear friends of District 2110 knowing that you would have done so without hesitation.

It is with this conviction that I invite you to increase your service projects so as to ensure that the stream of our efforts will become a large river.

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