



# ANNUAL REPORT OF RC & PRESIDENTIAL TERM 2022/2023

by RC President / Mr. Peter Ilgo







## **THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROJECTS OF ROTARY CLUB LJUBLJANA INTERNATIONAL FOR 2022 -2023**

I prepared this report in light of the programme of activities that I presented to you in June 2022.

Let us start with the achievements: during the Rotary year 2022/2023 we successfully completed 3 projects started in 2021/2022 as well as 4 new projects that were part of the above-mentioned programme of activities. That's, as far as I'm concerned, for such a small club in terms of the number of members a great achievement. Here I need to mention the titles of all the 7 projects: help to repatriated Slovenes from Venezuela, assistance to refugees /school children from Ukraine, promotion of bye bye plastic bottle, support of young promising artist / painter, visit and signature of friendship agreements to two foreign RCs: RC Prague International and RC Skopje International and the tango evening event.







Not just that. In the first half of 2023, we succeeded in working together with RC Prague Internacional and our “godfather” Janez Podobnik, who selflessly helped us all the Rotary year 2022/2023, to lay the foundations of the new Speechless Reconciliation Reunion project, which will take place at COŠD Planika on Hoško Pohorje between 4 and 7 August, 2023. In the final stages of preparation for this project, Janez and I, were assisted by our new president Bojana Košnik Čuk. Bojana has already taken over the operational management of this project in April/May, which will be one of the major in her term of office. Also I visited, during travelling to USA, the Rotary Club Chicago no 1 and exchanged flags.

Now, a few words about achieving the projects mentioned above:

#### **HELP TO REPATRIATED SLOVENES FROM VENEZUELA**

The project was successfully completed. Between 50 and 60 repatriated were included. We paid for them additional courses of Slovenian language as well as organized 4 workshops on topics relevant to this group of people. About 15 we helped to find a job. We spent EUR 2500 on this project as well as dozens of hours of volunteering of several members of the club. Thank you Pamela.

#### **ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE/SCHOOL CHILDREN:**

Work on this project did not come to life or in other words expectations were not met. Finally, we completed the project by donating the money contributed by members EUR 500 together with SILA Association for the purchase and installation of a playtoll in a refugee camp for children and mothers from Ukraine at Debeli rtič.





### **THE DISTRICT'S "BYE BYE PLASTIC BOTTLE" PROJECT :**

We included the bottle in our Friendship Agreement with the Czechs. To RC Prague Int. we donated 20 bottles from the club fund, and 60 of them were then commissioned by our Embassy in Prague (approx. 800 EUR). Unfortunately, to date, we have not received a proposal from the District team of a business model suitable for the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

### **SUPPORT OF YOUNG PROMISING ARTIST /PAINTER PATRIK DVORŠČAK:**

The commission in the composition of Varja, Jon and Peter I. has selected painter Patrik Dvorščak from among the 3 candidates. We helped Patrik with EUR 1450 including his trip to an exhibition of his artworks in the Czech Republic, participation in several exhibitions organised by AAMI and also participation in EXPO 3 at Brdo near Kranj. We shall also organize his exhibition at the Antiq Palace hotel with the support of Jon. From the painter we received 3 small drawings, which were given as gifts when visiting foreign RCs. We have also agreed with the artist to share a stake in the eventual sale of works at Antiq Palace hotel exhibition, which will go to the club's bank account.





## **CONTRIBUTION TO SAVE KAROLINA'S LIFE:**

Karolina is a small girl with a diagnosis of an extremely rare, severe and progressive genetic disease. The genetics explained to parents that the prognosis is very poor, that life expectancy is extremely limited and that there is no treatment. The disease causes progeria – accelerated ageing, loss of vision, hearing, disability, mental backlog, feeding problems, sensitivity of the skin to sunlight, low growth, visual changes and ultimately premature death. We paid EUR 250 for Karolina to the account of the Viljem Julijan Society.

## **VISIT AND SIGNATURE OF FRIENDSHIP CLUB AGREEMENT WITH RC PRAGUE INTERNATIONAL**

organized by Miha Murn. Miha did a great job at organizing the event. The reception and the gala dinner were superb. Even the Czechs were astonished. The guest of honor was our Ambassador in the Czech Republic. The costs of participation were borne by the participants of the event themselves. There was 8 club members participating in Prague. In the friendship agreement we included the Speechless Reconciliation and “ Bye Bye Bottle” projects.

## **THE ORGANISATION OF THE “TANGO EVENING” EVENT IN LJUBLJANA :**

the project team consisted of: Peter Skuber, Mateja Košir and Bojana Zarnik. The tango evening was well prepared and around 130 guests enjoyed the rich program as well as the “milonga”. The difference in price created will allow for a EUR 4800 donation to the Paralympic Committee of the Republic of Slovenia and another EUR 650 will go to the club's bank account for future projects. Thank you Peter S. for buying the skies. We decided we want to continue with this project also in 2023/2024.



## VISIT AND SIGNATURE OF FRIENDSHIP CLUB AGREEMENT WITH RC SKOPJE INTERNATIONAL

organized by Peter Ilgo. The costs of participation were borne by the participants of the event themselves. There was altogether 3 people participating in Skopje event. The Skopje RC team organized a 2 day program which ended at the Lazar winery near Veles around 100 km away from Skopje where the agreement was signed by the two presidents. The Friendship Agreement included the Speechless Reconciliation Reunion and Multiple Sclerosis Awareness projects.

The agreement with COŠD and the start of preparations for the Speechless Reconciliation Reunion event, which will take place from 4 to 7.8. on Hoško Pohorje. In meetings with Matej Keka of RC Prague Int., COŠD, Maribor RCs and the new and old Governor of District 1912 participated: Janez Podobnik, Peter Ilgo and Bojana Košnik Čuk. The cost of the event estimated at EUR 3500 will be covered by: RC LJ. INT EUR 918, RC Unity LJ. EUR 300, District 1912 1500 and a Styrian company EUR 800 -1000.



To continue a few words on the other points of the programme of activities for 2022/2023:

**Concern for membership or getting new members:** quite unsuccessful point of our activity. We've only managed to get 1 new member in the whole year. Thank you Varja. It's not at all true that no effort was made, but the result was much smaller than expected. Interest in membership has fallen considerably between Covid and immediately after its end. Why that happened I don't I have an answer? Perhaps one of the key reasons is that people have changed during this period becoming individualists. Certainly, in my opinion, the work on getting new members is one of the key tasks of the new Management Board as well as all members of the club.

On the other hand, in 22/23 seven members left the club for various reasons. Two were delisted for non-payment of membership fees, one left because of moving to Portugal and four left for other personal reasons. There are currently 13 club members. We also have two ladies under consideration as candidates for membership.





**Internal hygiene of the club:** Due to the objective problems in the work of the Management Board: covid and limited mobility and non-responsiveness & disinterest of one part of the membership, the work on strengthening and understanding certain key rules in the functioning of the club has been difficult. Regular arrival at club meetings one time per month, regular payment of club membership, the process of proposing and accepting new members, the process of proposing and confirming new projects, responsible management of approved projects, responsible management of meetings, attitudes towards the work of the MB, the process of proposing and confirming new MB and other bodies, etc. Work on strengthening the club's internal hygiene is therefore another important point of the work of the new MB.

**Better communication inwards and outwards and cooperation with other Rotary clubs at home and abroad:** On our website we reported fairly regularly on key events & projects. We started posting on Facebook as well. We visited several RCs abroad and with two RC Prague Int. and RC Skopje Int. signed friendship club agreements. The two planned visits of RCs in Slovenia were not achieved. However, we had connections with other RCs in Slovenia which were project based.

**Finding new club donors:** We managed to obtain some donations tied to specific projects. However, we have not been able to find a major donor and possibly a new member of the club.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of 2022/2023 Management Board for their hard work as well as honest and open communication, notwithstanding the many different opinions, Also I wish the new President and her team successful work in 2023/2024.

Peter Ilgo

Ljubljana, 16.6.2023



Members of Rotary Club Ljubljana International





## **As a Rotarian, I will**

- 1.** Exemplify the core value of integrity in all behaviors and activities
- 2.** Use my vocational experience and talents to serve in Rotary
- 3.** Conduct all of my personal, business, and professional affairs ethically, encouraging and fostering high ethical standards as an example to others
- 4.** Be fair in all dealings with others and treat them with the respect due to them as fellow human beings
- 5.** Promote recognition and respect for all occupations which are useful to society
- 6.** Offer my vocational talents: to provide opportunities for young people, to work for the relief of the special needs of others, and to improve the quality of life in my community
- 7.** Honor the trust that Rotary and fellow Rotarians provide and not do anything that will bring disfavor or reflect adversely on Rotary or fellow Rotarians
- 8.** Not seek from a fellow Rotarian a privilege or advantage not normally accorded others in a business or professional relationship



## ROTARY IN SLOVENIA

In Slovenia, the first Rotary club was founded in Maribor on 15 November 1930. The founding members of the first club were famous citizens of Maribor: the owner of the Zlatorog beer factory Oskar Dračar, the wealthiest person from Maribor – industrialist Josip Hutter, builder Vlado Šlajmer, and later also the Olympian Leon Štukelj. The history of this club is recorded in the book “The First Rotary Club in Slovenia”, written by Božidar Hribar.

Rotary clubs in Slovenia were disbanded at the beginning of World War II. With the occupation of Ljubljana, the fascist authorities banned the Rotary organization and confiscated the archives.

After 50 years, Rotarianism was yet again reviving in Slovenia. Wealthy Slovenian emigrants in Brazil, Vladimir Ovca and Janez Hlebanja, and Slovenian Canadian Ray Bukovec helped immensely to revive the idea of Rotarianism on Slovenian grounds. Otto von Habsburg also made a significant contribution to the revival of this idea in Slovenia.

Since 2011, Slovenian Rotarians have had an independent District 1912. The official name is Rotary district 1912 of Slovenia and Northern Macedonia. Prior to that, Rotary Slovenia was part of District 1910.





## RC SPONSORS

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**AAMI** CORPORATION



**4 SEEN**

**ZULUK**



**Vivo**  
catering

**TGS**



**All donations and help are welcome for our mission, thank you!**

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