



IIC Info News

News Letter of the CISV International Interchange Committee
for National & Local Interchange Coordinators

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To send an email to a member
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Norway (Junior)
[Lise Elboth](#), CISV Denmark

Dear NICs, LICs & Friends of Interchange

The past few days have been interesting days in the life of this World. I am sure that the statement of Mr. Blix on Friday will go a long way in either avoiding a war in Iraq. Then this past weekend millions marched to show their opposition to war and their belief in the 'peace process'. I am sure that many CISVers were amongst the marchers for peace. We as an organization and as individuals owe it to Doris to do all that we can do in the name of peace and peace education. I am often reminded of a statement that a past Mexican chair of IJB said about CISV, he said, "CISV is a note in the symphony of mankind". One note at a time we in CISV will do our bit for peace. This past December and January Norway & Indonesia contributed to the peace of the world by going against many opinions and proceeded with their Interchange. I encourage all to read the article on this Interchange.

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PLEASE SHARE THE INFORMATION IN THIS NEWSLETTER WITH
YOUR LIC's and Other Friends of Interchange
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FEATURE ARTICLE – Nor & INA Interchange

Norwegian students have fun despite fears

Features - January 12, 2003

Fitri Wulandari, The Jakarta Post, Jakarta

Eight Norwegian students stood on a simple stage covered in red carpet at the Kanisius College High School in Central Jakarta. The Norwegian red-and-black-cross flag hung on as a backdrop.

With their usual carefree, indifferent teenage style and smiling faces, the students -- aged between 14 and 15 -- took turns to perform their traditional songs and plays as well as introducing Norwegian culture and their way of life.

The students were participants of a cross-cultural interchange program organized by the London-based Children's International Summer Village (CISV), a non-governmental organization promoting cross-cultural education for teenagers aged 11 to 19 years old worldwide.

From Dec. 19, 2002, to Jan. 12, the eight Norwegian students, accompanied by two chaperons, have been living with Indonesian families and getting first hand experience about Indonesian

“Official” IIC Web Page

www.cisv.ca/iic

Links To Other CISV Sites

www.cisv.ca/iic

Need a Hug Today

Go to
www.cisv.ca/iic

cultures and lifestyles.

While many student exchange programs were canceled following the horrific Oct. 12 Bali bombings, the Norwegian students went ahead with their plans to visit their Indonesian host families.

The terrorist attacks here did not seem to disturb or daunt them. Nor the fact that there were foreign teenagers of their own age among the 195 bomb victims.

Fourteen-year-old Lauritz O.V. Raustel commented casually, "I'm not afraid. I read about it (the bombings) before I came here. It (terrorist attack) can happen anywhere in the world, even in the U.S."

His group-mate, Helene Gran Overli, also 14, confidently quipped, "I don't think, whoever did it, will try to do it here again."

"Besides, if you just staying in the house and be afraid all the time, how are you going to live your life?," Raustel remarked.

It was somewhat surprising to hear such confidence from these teenagers. Adults could actually learn from them about how to overcome their fear of terrorism, which seems to have clouded most people's minds after the bombings, not surprisingly.

Margit Tengen, one of the chaperons, admitted that the CISV Norway Chapter had considered canceling the trip amid rising concerns from the participants' parents, whose approval was, of course, necessary for the visit.

In addition, the Norwegian government still imposed their travel warning to Indonesia.

After a thorough explanation and lengthy discussion between the organizer and the Norwegian government, finally the students and their chaperons were permitted to leave for Indonesia but strongly advised not to visit certain tourist destinations, including Bali.

However, in order to continue the program, CISV Norway sought support from CISV headquarters, and held discussions with the parents.

"The program had been arranged. It would be a pity to cancel it .. so we had meetings to talk about the situation with the parents, and kept close contact with the hosts," she said.

"But in the end, it was up to the parents. We wouldn't send them if the parents didn't want them to go," Tengen added.

Exchange information with the host families and the CISV Indonesia chapter played a big part in ensuring the success of the

DATES TO REMEMBER
IC's STARTING
JUNE / JULY 2003

FEB. 28 - Administration Fee payable to IO for cancellations after this date

FEB. 28 - Application Forms for traveling delegations received by hosting chapter for matching

FEB. 28 - Only cancelled countries on the Open List at this time will be allowed to rematch

MAR. 31 - Matching of Delegates to be completed

MAR. 31 - No more Interchange matches after this date

APR. 15 - First group meeting of parents, delegates, leaders & LIC

program.

Adviser and co-founder of CISV Indonesia Mira Wisendha said they had sent detailed information about the latest situation in Indonesia to avoid unwarranted fears.

"We regularly sent reports about our activities here so they could see that their children would be fine," she said.

All the efforts bore fruit in the end as none of the parents canceled their child's trip and CISV headquarters managed to convince the Norwegian government.

"Although they're afraid, I think my parents want me to explore and experience things. Moreover, if it (the bombing) teaches peace and tolerance, that's the aim of this program," Lauritz added.

The host parents' role in explaining the real situation to the children proved to be most helpful.

"I try to give the best information I know about the bombing," said Mira, who hosted Jorgen Hebe, 14.

Tengen added that after spending three weeks in the country, the students all said they had a great time, and many even said they would come on their own some day when they were older.

The commitment from the students and parents as members of CISV is inseparable from the organizations philosophy that no country should be excluded from its programs.

"We also sent our children to conflict-torn Colombia, why would it be any different with Indonesia? In addition, we believe in the principal of learning by doing. Children have to get first-hand experience," Mira said.

Founded by British psychologist Doris Allen 52 years ago, CISV believes that peace can take root by helping youngsters to understand different cultures and become more sensitive about their environment.

CISV programs emphasize cross-cultural education to combat racism, xenophobia, religious and any other forms of prejudice in families, neighborhoods, schools and workplaces around the world.

It now has 62 countries as members and CISV Indonesia, which was established 10 years ago, now has 250 families as members.

DATES TO REMEMBER
IC's STARTING
DEC, 2003 / JAN. 2004

AUG. 15 -

Administration Fee payable to IO for cancellations after this date

OCT. 15 - Application Forms for traveling delegations received by hosting chapter for matching

AUG. 15 - Only cancelled countries on the Open List at this time will be allowed to rematch

OCT. 31 - Matching of Delegates to be completed

OCT. 31 - No more Interchange matches after this date

NOV. 15 - First group meeting of parents, delegates, leaders & LIC

FEBRUARY 28 COMETH

For Interchanges that start in June / July of 2003, the last day to cancel the IC without any penalties is February 28. For Interchanges that start December 2003 / January 2004 the last date to cancel the IC without any penalties is August 15, If as NICs you need to cancel an IC at any time, please keep the following procedures in mind.

(i) Notify the partner LIC. If at all possible try to be more personnel and talk directly to the LIC by telephone. Just think, how would you like to receive the news. And remember; give plausible reasons why you cannot proceed with the IC.

(ii) Notify your partner NIC of the cancellation and give reasons.

(iii) As NIC, you would probably know by now but ask other chapters in your country if they can pick up the IC.

(iv) If no other chapter in your country wants the IC, notify both IO and myself of the cancellations AND giving reasons for the cancellation at the following email addressees:

CISVIO@dial.pipex.com and BBL4pines@golden.net
or at the following fax numbers

+ 44 191 261 4710 and + 519 696 3418

After February 28 / August 15 cancelled ICs are subject to financial penalties imposed in accordance with Info File C-11 (Internet link to Info File can be found at www.cisv.ca/iic). The only exceptions are cancellations due to "force majeure" in which case the penalty is about 25 Br. Pds. It is my understanding that "force majeure" includes such things as acts of war, strikes and lack of proper insurance.

The penalty is assessed to the National Association causing the cancellation. The penalties listed in C-11 can only be a portion of the total penalty. The other half can be costs incurred by the other chapter in the preparation of a hosting Programme or in the case of a traveling delegation, the flight costs of purchased tickets.

REVISED INTERCHANGE CALENDAR

Go To
www.cisv.ca/iic

ODDS & ENDS

INTERCHANGE ID NUMBER - when corresponding with the IIC & IO please use the identification number (ex. I-2003-999). It saves me a lot of time trying to guess which IC it is and also which year. It also avoids confusion on short forms such as AUS or AUT, SLO or SVK, IND or INA, ISR or ISL - get the picture - tanx

MICROSOFT CONVERTERS - ever get an attachment that when you open it its full of stuff you do not understand. It may be that the version of MS Word, Excel etc is an older version then what is being sent to you. Or if you are using Microsoft and someone sends you a Mac file. Help is available by way of converters or viewers which can help you and which can be downloaded from <http://office.microsoft.com/assistance/9798/viewerscv.t.aspx>

ADDRESS UPDATES

SPAIN - NEW E-MAIL

Ana.cid@es.cisv.org

Alternate: trustee@es.cisv.org

FINLAND - NEW NIC

Heli Kandolin
Humalistonkatu 15a A 16
20100 Turku
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+358-(0)2-233 8381
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Paradox of our Times

We've cleaned up the air,
but polluted the soul.

We've conquered the atom,
but not our prejudice.

We write more,
but learn less.

We plan more,
but accomplish less.

We've learned to rush,
but not to wait

Give time to Love, give
time to speak, give time
to share the precious
thoughts in your mind.

George Carlen

IN CONCLUSION

So my friends this is my first try at making the IIC Info News into a 'fancy schematize' newsletter. Hope you like the layout and that you will get use to it.

As I did in the last IIC Info News, I am again asking you to send me any 'feel good' stories about any of your Interchanges. Too often we tend to dwell on the negatives organizational aspect of the Interchange Programme. We need to hear about the positive things that we do, the things that we do so well that give our youth a memorable experience. Certainly, some of you must have written articles for your national or local newsletters... how about sharing them with all of us.

Keep in touch

TTFN

Yours in CISV

Heinz Boehnke - IIC Chair