

Youth Exchange Officers network with colleagues across the world all the time, arguably more so than any other identifiable group of Rotarians. The familiarity which arises from this activity builds trust and support and it is so much easier to convince wavering parent that their child will be safe with Rotary when you can say that you will be arranging the exchange with someone you know. It is also part of the pleasure of being a youth exchange officer.

Your support system locally:

Anyone in district who has had any experience of Youth Exchange:
Former DYEEOs - your predecessor and others.
Present and past CYEOs,
ROTEX (*see 'IN4: ROTEX – Alumni of Rotary Youth Exchange'*)
Former Host Parents and Counsellors.

National support:

RIBI Districts Youth Exchange Association

The DYEEO Management Committee and the Multidistrict Specialists in particular provide:

- support for all programmes
- assistance with making contacts abroad
- general guidance in all areas of concern relating to Youth Exchange
- training materials for District YE Team and for their Clubs

Facebook Group 'RIBIDYEA' is a closed networking group intended for DYEEOs, to spread experience and mutual support among members of the Association across the country and to enable everyone to work together as a team. Members can get general advice posted for all, as well as updated information.

The RIBIDYEA Facebook Page is at www.facebook.com/RYEGBandI

Students contribute their photographs and videos, as do DYEEOs on their behalf.

Other Online Networks

International Youth Exchange Message group: yeotalk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

This is mainly taken up with American concerns but is worth joining for the occasional useful topic and it works as a very impressive network when there is an international disaster. It tends to concentrate on the Long Term programme - bear in mind that in many parts of the world references to 'Youth Exchange' mean only the Long Term Youth Exchange programme. Other programmes are given less prominence.

To subscribe go to <http://www.yeoresources.org/Pages/YEOTalk.html>

Also STEPtalk@yahoogroups.com aims to redress the balance but it has so far not attracted the attention of many subscribers.

International Contacts:

There are two main opportunities to meet fellow Youth Exchange Officers from all over the world:

The EEMA Conference

EEMA is the acronym for 'Europe, Eastern Mediterranean, Africa'. The EEMA Youth Exchange Conference takes place in a different country each year during the first week of September. The four or five day tour after the conference has contributed to the popularity of the event among Rotarians involved in the Youth Exchange programme from other parts of the world. It is now considered by many to be the best opportunity of the year for networking with International Youth Exchange colleagues.

EEMA has now got its own website www.eema.eu.com

Rotary International Pre-Convention:

The conference lasts over two days prior to the RI Convention and attracts YEOs from all over the world. There is sometimes a tour arranged in the week leading up to the Pre-Convention.

There are other Youth Exchange Conferences around the world. The most significant of these are the NAYEN Conference in February (N American YE Network) and the Brazilian conference in November.

The RI Youth Exchange Officers' Directory is updated quarterly by RI who send the link to all DYEEOs whose names appear in it and it is downloadable from the Manual at *PM1: Miscellaneous Publications*. It gives the current list of the districts which others may not work with for Youth Exchange for a number of reasons, but mostly because they do not reach the required standards of compliance with the RI requirements for Certification. See *Uncertified and Non-Participating Districts*.

Listed at the end of the Directory are the Multidistricts and the contact details of the Officers with their different areas of responsibility. These are the people whom DYEEOs are advised to contact first when trying to arrange an exchange on these countries, rather than the individual DYEEOs whose details are given earlier in the Directory. The checklist below indicates which countries currently work in this way: (as at September 2015):

District Nos:

1010-1285	RIBI
1380-1430	Aland Islands, Estonia, Finland
1440-1480	Denmark, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Lithuania
1510, 1520, 1640-1790	Andorra, France, Monaco
1550-1610	The Netherlands
1800-1900, 1930-1950	Germany
1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1920	Austria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Hungary, Slovenia
1980-2000	Switzerland, Liechtenstein
2031, 2050 - 2080	Italy
2100, 2110, 2120	Italy (part), Malta, San Marino
2201-2203	Spain
2250-2310	Norway
2320-2410	Sweden, Latvia
3010, 3080	India (part) - Himalayan region
3131, 3132	Western India (WISEX)
3460, 3470, 3490, 3510	Taiwan
3480, 3500	Taiwan (TRYEX)
4390, 4500, 4720	Brazil (NORBREX)
4430, 4590,	Brazil (EXPRO)
4600, 4750	Express-Brazil
Multidistricts in USA	
SCANEX	Southern California/Arizona/ Nevada
WESSEX	Western States & part of Canada
SCRYE	South Central
OHIO-ERIE Youth Exchange Inc.	
RYE Florida	
ESSEX	Eastern States Canada, Bermuda & USA

This is an Open Page and contributions are gratefully accepted.

Individual knowledge of Countries.

Be prepared to ask experienced people in RIBI and the Youth Exchange Association about Youth Exchange in different countries (but don't expect the same answer from any of them). Rotarians with recent experience of the country concerned will have up to date information and tips. Many have built up contacts by attending EEMA conferences and from previous exchanges. Your request may be general (South America) or a named country or town.

Country specific information is often discussed on the yahoo group [yeotalk](#)

Some helpful information from Japan

The following is the timetable for the majority of districts in Japan for Outbound LTEP students:

Recruit students	April to July
Closing	July to September
Examination & Interview	August to October
Orientation	Once a month until Departure
Departure	July to August

They are receptive to students for the next round from May of the previous year.

Very few Japanese districts do STEP (Family to Family).

Students Visas for Long Term Exchange to Brazil

The following information comes from a Youth Exchange Chairman in Brazil:

When students are preparing their paperwork to go on Long Term Exchange to Brazil the DYEO will receive a package of documents in Portuguese from the Host district. These are required by the Brazilian Consular Service worldwide to process Youth Exchange students' visa applications for a year's study. There are basically two documents needed:

1, The Host District's Guarantee Form originals with signature in blue ink (they usually send two copies of this).

2. Brazilian Visa Request (Formulario de Pedido de Visto NRN 49/00-CNig), a bilingual one-page RYE Brazil form in use since 2001: (1) identifying the student; (2) his or her parent's guarantee based upon those on the GF; (3) name of the host club, its president and the incorporation certificate number (CNPJ), and date; (4) first family identification data; and (5) finally name, sex and phone number of host club counsellor.

There are three attachments to this form (1) copy of club's minutes of original incorporation or yearly reorganisation. (2) a copy of the club's CNJP certificate furnished by a Federal Revenue website, and (3) a letter from the principal of the host school specifying the type of enrollment (paid or scholarship), grade level, and period of study. All the signatures in the attachment documents have to be notarized.

The Consulate also requires that all documentation produced by the student shall be translated into Portuguese and notarised.



IN4. ROTEX – Alumni of Rotary Youth Exchange



ROTEX - the term for all former Rotary Youth Exchange students.

The Role of ROTEX

These are the people who have the first hand experience of Youth Exchange across all the different programmes. Unprompted they will usually say what a wonderful time they had and most will be keen to 'give something back'.

They may assist in their district with RYE presentations, encourage the next generation to come forward and may take part in the interview and selection process.

ROTEX make a significant contribution to the Orientation training for the outbound students. They can bring their particular skills and vocational experience to help Rotary Youth Exchange Officers at club, District and Association level.

They may be able to offer work placements for New Generations Service Exchanges or become host families in the future.

Most significantly, ROTEX members could eventually become members either of Rotaract or of Rotary.

Membership

Membership qualifications for ROTEX vary around the world. From a GB & Ireland point of view students who have been on any programme (including a Camp) are eligible to be ROTEX members. and help their districts with the new students. Students are encouraged to fill in a ROTEX registration form on completion of their Exchange/Camp. Hopefully this will mean that they will be proactive and they are encouraged to do so. At any event, when they return from their exchange their details are transferred from their Youth Exchange records to a ROTEX database and will be made available to the Rotary Membership Committee and to Rotaract.

ROTEX clubs exist around the world in an unofficial capacity. Their age group may be quite wide, from sixteen to mid twenties, and clubs consist of students who feel that they have more in common with each other than with students from Rotaract. They may do a variety of projects apart from working with newcoming students to Youth Exchange.

Besides our home grown ROTEX there is a variable number of young foreign nationals who exchanged elsewhere but are working over here. Sometimes there are ROTEX among the Foundation Scholars and Peace Fellows. Districts which have these will find that them a source of enthusiastic help and support.

Should anyone discover someone who in their past did Rotary Youth Exchange but never identified as ROTEX the message is that it is never too late to register. Their 'out of date' experience translates into opportunities to host, provide work placements or get involved in a practical way wherever they happen to be. The main thing is that they keep in touch and know where they can join in when they are ready.

IN4A. ROTEX Registration Form may be [downloaded here](#).