

Interreligious Dialogue Badge

(IRD Badge Programme – March 2018)



In the Scouts each form of religion is respected and its active practice encouraged, and through the spread of our brotherhood in all countries we have the opportunity to develop the spirit of mutual goodwill and understanding.

Chez les Scouts, chaque forme de religion est respectée et sa pratique active est encouragée. Par la progression de notre fraternité dans tous les pays, nous avons la possibilité de développer un esprit de bonne volonté et de compréhension mutuelles.

En los Scouts cada forma de religión es respetada y su práctica está alentada de forma activa, y gracias a la difusión de nuestra fraternidad en todos los países, tenemos la oportunidad de desarrollar un espíritu de buena voluntad y de comprensión mutuo.

Bei den Pfadfindern wird jede Form der Religion respektiert und es wird zu ihrer aktiven Ausübung ermutigt, und durch die Verbreitung unserer Bruderschaft in alle Länder haben wir die Möglichkeit, den Geist gegenseitigen guten Willens und der Verständigung zu entwickeln.



Baden-Powell
4th International Conference
Kandersteg, Switzerland (1926)

Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— DEVELOPMENT OF OUTLOOK: “REVERENCE” —



Development of outlook naturally begins with a respect for God, which we may best term “Reverence”. Reverence to God and reverence for one’s neighbor and reverence for oneself as a servant of God, is the basis of every form of religion. The method of expression of reverence to God varies with every sect and denomination.

What sect or denomination a boy belongs to depends, as a rule, on his parents’ wishes. It is they who decide. It is our business to respect their wishes and to second their efforts to inculcate reverence, whatever form of religion the boy professes.

There may be many difficulties relating to the definition of the religious training in our Movement where so many different denominations exist, and the details of the expression of duty to God have, therefore, to be left largely in the hands of the local authority.

But there is no difficulty at all in suggesting the line to take on the human side, since direct duty to one’s neighbor is implied in almost every form of belief. [...]

Religion can only be “caught” not “taught”. It is not a dressing donned from outside, put on for Sunday wear. It is a true part of a boy’s character, a development of soul, and not a veneer that may peel off. It is a matter of personality, of inner conviction, not of instruction.

Baden-Powell, Aids to Scoutmastership (1920)



European Scout Interreligious Forum

IDENTITY STATEMENT

The **European Scout Interreligious Forum** is the group of religious networks in the European Scout Region that share common ground and acknowledge the right and opportunity Scouts should have to develop and practice their spirituality and religion.

VISION

To be a relevant interreligious network, based on friendship and mutual respect, operating in close regional and national partnership regarding the spiritual and religious dimension in Scouting.

To set society a positive and inspirational example of interreligious dialogue and peace building.



European Scout Interreligious Forum

MISSION

Our mission is to:

- engage in *Duty to God*, personal spiritual development, interreligious dialogue and peace education;
- share our spiritual and religious experience;
- work in close partnership with the European Scout Region and NSOs/NSAs to support, contribute to and provide opportunities for their educational work on the spiritual and religious dimension of Scouting, as well as interreligious dialogue.



European Scout Interreligious Forum



IDENTITY STATEMENT, VISION AND MISSION

*Approved in Rome (Italy) on April 1st, 2017 by general consensus of the **European entities** of:*

- CPGS** – Council of Protestants in Guiding and Scouting
- DESMOS** – International Link of Orthodox Christian Scouts
- ICCS** – International Catholic Conference of Scouting
- IFJS** – International Forum of Jewish Scouts
- IUSM** – International Union of Muslim Scouts
- WBSC** – World Buddhist Scout Council

Interreligious Dialogue Badge

(IRD Badge Programme — WORK IN PROGRESS March 2018)



The IRD Badge Programme has been developed
by members of the Interreligious Forum of World Scouting.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— AIM OF THE PROGRAMME —

The Programme aims to help young people to become:

- capable,
- confident
- committed

In spiritual and religious development by being actively engaged in interreligious friendship.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— DUTY TO GOD – DUTY TO SELF – DUTY TO OTHERS —

It offers young people in older sections an opportunity to discover, understand and befriend in an (inter-)religious world. It encourages them to grow in spiritual responsibility by living out their:

- **Duty to God** by being actively involved in their religious tradition;
- **Duty to Self** by developing their responsibility for their own growth in their faith or religion.
- **Duty to Others** by being actively engaged in interreligious friendship (dialogue) with other members of the human family.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— REQUIREMENTS —

The IRD badge:

- requires young people to learn about and develop friendly relations with *at least* one other religion.
- requires young people to learn more about their own religion.
- teaches young people what World Scouting is about and the breadth of religions of which it is composed.

In short, the interreligious Dialogue Badge will allow young people to experience the friendship that exists between religions in Scouting, allowing them to deepen their knowledge of their own religion under favourable circumstances.

Each NSO will decide the age range for the award but the minimum is 15.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— DUTY TO GOD —

Aim of the programme: **KNOWLEDGE** | Religious Traditions

Programme, projects and training to be developed by Regional Interreligious Forums

- Religion and Culture
- Discovery of religious traditions: major beliefs, sacred texts, festivals and ceremonies, clothing, etc
- Religion and violence. Why?
- Promoting dialogue and openness
- Learning to live in harmony with others: Code of practice



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— DUTY TO SELF —

Aim of the programme: **ATTITUDE** | “Explorer of the invisible”

Programme, projects and training to be developed by Regional Interreligious Forums

- Exploration involves going somewhere new
- Exploration requires personal commitment
- Exploration implies involvement with its discoveries and experiences
- Exploration affects the explorer
- Exploration requires appropriate training
- Explorers make use of maps and guides
- Exploration requires preparation and training
- Exploration can last a lifetime



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— DUTY TO OTHERS —

Aim of the programme: RELATIONSHIP | The Human Family

Programme, projects and training to be developed by Regional Interreligious Forums

- Respect for people's different religious and non-religious identities
- Mutually inspiring relationship between people of different backgrounds
- Common action for the common good



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND CONTENT —

- Participation in a **Scout Spiritual Retreat** including initial training in WOSM *Dialogue for Peace* programme.
- **Choice of a mentor** to partner Scouts on their spiritual journey. Mentors will establish with them a **constructive dialogue based on trust**.
- With the mentor's help, **setting up a service project** on Interreligious Dialogue.

After gaining the IRD badge, **active participation** in the WOSM Interreligious Dialogue Network.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND CONTENT —
(developed)

The programme structure should normally include:

- A **residential experience** (3-4 days) such as a retreat, in which basic understanding can be gained and key skills can be learned and practiced;
- **Ongoing personal reflection**, including writing a journal;
- With the support of a mentor, finalize plans for **voluntary service** based on the theme explored during the Discovery Retreat.
- Service, in which **values, principles and skills** can be increased and developed;

Participation in the Interreligious Dialogue network, after gaining the badge, to offer mutual support to others in the network and encourage interreligious friendship in Scouting.

One opportunity for gaining the badge could be specialist training followed by taking part in the Faith and Beliefs Programme at Jamborees and other youth events as IST.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— DISCOVERY RETREAT —

The content of the residential element will include:

- Appropriate elements from the *Dialogue for Peace* Programme (such as the 10 Principles of Dialogue);
- An understanding of different forms of dialogue such as dialogue of life, dialogue of service, dialogue of religious teachings and dialogue of religious experience;
- Approaches to religious traditions such as phenomena (eg teachings, festivals, texts, rites, founders, places of worship etc), historical narratives, and personal testimony.
- Opportunities for growth in their own religious tradition;
- Opportunities for developing a basic understanding of at least one other religious tradition;
- An understanding of the principles of the Scout Method, and the *Guidelines on Spiritual and Religious Development*.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— LINKS AND RELATIONS —

- IRD Badge Programme should be part of the Better World Framework (*Educational Methods — Strategic priorities: Diversity and Inclusion*).
- WOSM strategic priority Diversity and Inclusion: this means that the programme is really **open to all**.
- Relationship with the *Dialogue for Peace* programme which will need to be mentioned in both documents.
- IRD badge programme will use *Dialogue for Peace* courses for training adults and young adults (Facilitators and Advisors).

The IRD Badge Programme should help build a core of young adults skilled in Spiritual and Religious Development in an interreligious context who can support both youth engagement in this field and programme development.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

— ROLE AND TRAINING OF MENTORS —

Training to be organised by NSOs/NSAs in cooperation with Regional Interreligious Forums at a national or regional level

Mentor are the **spiritual support** in the programme.

They should be chosen from the spiritual/religious environment of the scout.

- Use genuine experience “Learning by doing”
- Encourage observation
- Feelings – value first impression
- Acknowledge emotion and feelings
- Encourage questioning



Interreligious Dialogue Facilitator

(Facilitators will be appointed by NSOs/NSAs)

- **MISSION**

- Facilitating spiritual and religious development programmes and activities in an interreligious context.
- Facilitating the programme and activities in Faith and Belief Zones.
- Helping IRD Advisors in religious services and activities.
- IRD Badge Mentorship.

- **TRAINING**

- IRD Badge holder.
- *Dialogue for Peace* WOSM initial Scout course.
- Advanced training provided by religious organisations.

- **EXPERIENCE**

Participating successfully in an initial interreligious activity.





Interreligious Dialogue Advisor

(Advisors will be appointed by member organisations of the IFoWS)

- **MISSION**

- Partner and support NSOs in Spiritual and Religious Development in an interreligious context, supporting both youth engagement in this field and development of programme
- Partner with NSO organizing teams in Faith and Belief Zone programmes.
- In charge of religious services for Scouts, Rovers.

- **TRAINING**

- *Dialogue for Peace* KAICIID initial Scout course.
- Advanced Training provided by religious organisations and IFoWS.

- **EXPERIENCE**

- Involved in the local community (*parish, synagogue, temple, etc*)
- Involved in educational programmes related to the spiritual and religious dimension in Scouting.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

(2018 — 2020)

Pilot

We propose to run a pilot of the IRD Badge programme in 2018 with NSOs/NSAs interested in launching this programme.



Interreligious Dialogue Facilitators

Two major international scout events will take place soon:

- 2019: the World Scout Jamboree in the USA
- 2020: the European Scout Jamboree in Poland

An initial training seminar for future Interreligious Dialogue Facilitators was organised in February 2018 in Antwerp. Future staff members of Faith and Beliefs zones.



Interreligious Dialogue Badge

UNESCO Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue Programme

The Organization's Member States have understood that, *"in order to build peace in the minds of men", spiritual issues, which had been ignored during recent decades, deserved consideration. In order to achieve this goal, UNESCO brought together different religions and spiritual traditions, so that they could acknowledge, through formal Declarations, the proximity of their spiritual values as well as their commitment to interreligious dialogue [...]*

[...] The introduction of specific teaching of intercultural and interreligious dialogue, through the adequate pedagogical tools, is conceived as a means to foster reciprocal knowledge of shared values contained in the message issued by religions and spiritual traditions, which can be considered as a common spiritual and cultural heritage "



7 March 2018