

# JEWISH SCOUTS IN LITHUANIA

## SCOUTING IN THE FIELD AND FOREST

*Advance brother, to the top of the mountain  
In the forest among the trees;  
On the river bed,  
On the wide meadow  
Where Hebrew scouts pause.  
Not among the walls and not in the city -  
Laughter in their eyes, a song on their lips  
And joy - so much joy in their hearts.*

Yitzhak Katsenelson





## WHAT IS SCOUTING?

Scouting is a grassroots educational youth movement that is truly bottom-up in its structure and approach in engaging young people from all over the world.

**The World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM)** today is a confederation of 162 National Scout Organizations in a network of over 40 million members in more than 1 million local community Scout Groups.

**Some 7 millions are adult volunteers who support the local activities, resulting in a huge multiplier effect.**

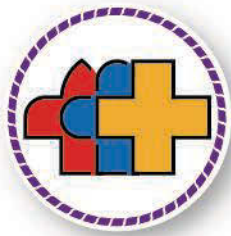
Through peer-to-peer leadership, supported by adults, each local Scout Group embraces the same set of values illustrated in the Scout Promise and Law. **Each of our 1 million local Scout Groups follows a similar system of non-formal education suited to the unique aspects of their local community.**





## THE INTERRELIGIOUS FORUM OF WORLD SCOUTING

The Interreligious Forum of World Scouting (IFoWS) aims to group together all the religions and beliefs represented in Scouting. There are eight main religious groups represented in the Interreligious Forum of World Scouting.



Some of them enjoy a **Consultative Status with the World Scout Committee:**

- CPGS – The 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
- IUMS – International Union of Muslim Scouts
- WBSC – World Buddhist Scout Council





## THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM OF JEWISH SCOUTS

*"If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, who am I?  
If not now, when? (Hillel the Elder – Pirke Avot, Saying of the Fathers 1:14)*

The IFJS goals are the following:

1. To establish ties between all the existing associations, committees, branches and groups of Jewish scouts.
2. To establish new local groups of Jewish scouts in Jewish communities around the world.
3. To represent Jewish scouts within the World Scout Movement and to be:
  - the **Jewish Voice** in interfaith activities
  - The **Organizer of Jewish Life** during international scout events (*Kashrut, Shabbat, Tefila, Limmud, etc.*)



## JEWISH SCOUTS WORLDWIDE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



MEXICO

UNITED  
KINGDOM



FRANCE

LITHUANIA

CZECH  
REPUBLIC

ISRAEL

BRAZIL



AUSTRALIA



# "TSOFIM YEHUDIM, ONE COMMUNITY, ONE SCOUT GROUP"

A PAN-EUROPEAN PROJECT 2019 — 2022



**Tsofim Yehudim (*Jewish Scouts in Hebrew*) programme,  
a bridge between the Scout movement, Communities and Parents.**

Except France, United Kingdom and Czechia, there are no Jewish scouts groups in other European countries.

At the same time, there are many Jewish Communities in Europe interested in offering Scouting to their youth\*, with a dedicated Jewish Scout offer **fostering exchanges and programmes among European Jewish Youth.**

**IFJS is currently working on the renaissance of Jewish scouts in Lithuania.**

The Pan-European Tsofim Yehudim programme will be **a chance for Jewish Youth to Discover their common European heritage and diverse identity** within the world fraternity of Scouting, from Manchester, London, Paris, Strasbourg, Athens, Prague, New York, Houston, São Polo, Sydney, to Vilnius!

This educational offer will be made available for all Jewish communities in Europe in **partnership with** National Scout Organisations or National Scout Associations (NSOs or NSAs).

\* *These requests were made in the presentation of the IFJS "Tsofim Yehudim" educational offer during the 4th Pan-European Conference of Jewish Community Centres (EAJCC) held in London in 2010.*





# "TSOFIM YEHUDIM, ONE COMMUNITY, ONE SCOUT GROUP"

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We shall respond as a priority to the expectations of the young "post-bar Mitzva" (*coming of age ceremony*) group and adolescents of between **12 and 17 years** of age.

These are five essential years, when an adolescent is trying to find his way towards adulthood.

**How to foster awareness of their Jewish identity along with cultural and religious tolerance?**

One of the keys to the success of this programme is **the association of the parents' networks** within the scout group.

*"Where the sympathy and support of the boy's parents are secured, where the parents have been brought into a mutual partnership with a fuller interest in the working of the Troop and the aim of the Movement, the task of the Scoutmaster becomes proportionately light."* (Baden-Powell)



# "TSOFIM YEHUDIM, ONE COMMUNITY, ONE SCOUT GROUP"

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Scouting is open to all.

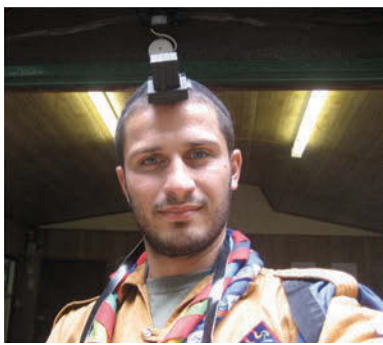
So Jewish Scouting should be open to all,  
a place to discover the wealth and diversity within Judaism

The particular characteristic of this programme is to be **pluralist and inclusive**, meaning to address all Jewish families, **whether practising or not**.

This pluralist offer is one of the strengths of our educational proposal, which makes young people aware **of the unity of the Jewish people through a shared nucleus of Jewish practices**: *"Am Echad, Lev Echad, One people, One Heart."*







## SCOUTING, A TIME OF SHABBAT

Scouting is:

A **Time of Freedom** (Shabbat).

A place to live under a **freely accepted Scout Law**, to make the countryside their privileged area to do their apprenticeship, discovering and sharing their natural skills.

A **"secure" framework**, from which to set out on the path of discovery of the world's wealth and to develop trusting exchanges with other people.

An environment, **in which they enjoy the trust of adults**, who accompany them towards the assumption of responsibility, the organisation and leadership of activities, the management of budgets and making commitments.



## JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP FOR TOMORROW THE "GLOCAL" ANSWER OF JEWISH SCOUTING

The choice of an informal education happening within the local network, on a national and international level, which **helps youngsters discover themselves, the world and others** (Jews and non-Jews).

Then **to share and pass on** these discoveries and this knowledge to younger people by participating in the activities.

Committing oneself, assuming responsibilities, organising and inspiring activities, managing budgets, these are some of the **experiences of youth which form the basis of adult commitments within the communities.**

**A Key to Leadership.**





## THE 15 OUTCOMES OF THE JEWISH SCOUT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

### DISCOVER

Jewish scouts develop a strong sense of self.

Jewish scouts develop positive values.

Jewish scouts gain practical life skills.

Jewish scouts seek challenges in the world.

Jewish scouts develop critical thinking.

### + CONNECT

Jewish scouts develop healthy relationships.

Jewish scouts promote cooperation and teambuilding.

Jewish scouts can resolve conflicts.

Jewish scouts advance diversity in a multicultural world.

Jewish scouts feel connected to their communities, locally and globally.





## THE 15 OUTCOMES OF THE JEWISH SCOUT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

### + TAKE ACTION

Jewish scouts can identify community needs.

Jewish scouts are resourceful problem solvers.

Jewish scouts advocates for themselves and others, locally and globally.

Jewish scouts educate and inspire others to act.

Jewish scouts feel empowered to make a difference in the world.

**DISCOVER + CONNECT + TAKE ACTION = LEADERSHIP**







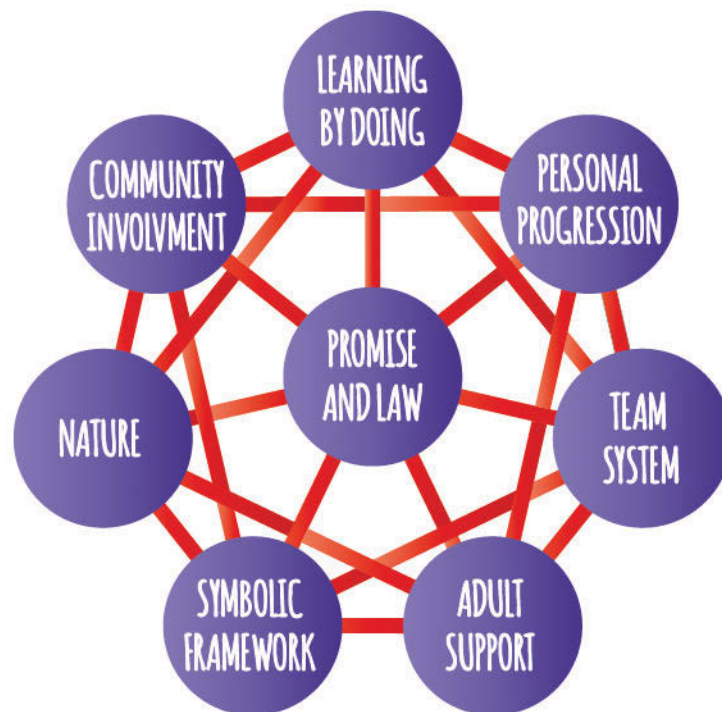
## THE SCOUT METHOD

The Scout Method is an **essential system** for achieving the educational proposal of the Scout Movement.

It is defined as a system of **progressive self-education**.

It is one method based on the interaction of equally important elements that work together as a **cohesive system**.

The implementation of these elements in a **combined and balanced manner** is what makes Scouting unique.





## TEAM SYSTEM

*"The patrol system is not one method in which Scouting for boys can be carried on.  
It is the only method." (Baden-Powell)*

*Clans (Teams, Patrols, Tsevet, Skiltis,...)* of six to 10 scouts are formed in September to the summer camp of the following year. The summer camp usually lasts one to three weeks and brings together clans or tribes from different towns or countries.

Clans are led by Clan Leaders who are selected from the oldest and most experienced scouts of the Shevet. They are trained for their function at the beginning of each year at regional or national level.



Each clan is identified by the wearing of a **Shoulder Knot** and a **Clan Flag**.





## TEAM SYSTEM

**Each Scout has a responsibility to keep** in his/her clan for a whole scout year, summer camp included. These are the Badges of Office. You may change your role in the clan the following year. These Badges of Office allow clans to be more autonomous, and thus fully live the Scout Adventure.



The various responsibilities in the clan are discussed and distributed at the beginning of the year in Clan Council. Training sessions for these various positions are organized by madrichim at the beginning of the year.







## TEAM SYSTEM

**For each responsibility in the clan, there is a madrich serving as reference to answer all your questions and help you if you need it. He/she wears the same badge as scouts.**

In clans, Badges of Office work in pairs, including - where possible - the scout in charge of the mission and a younger scout who is trained for the following year.

- Quartermaster
- Grubmaster & Kashrut
- Scribe & Reporter
- Jewish Life
- First Aid, Hygiene & Health







## THE PAN-EUROPEAN JEWISH SCOUT LAW

*this is the Law of the Swiss Scout Movement*

As Scouts, we want to:

- *Be true*
- *Listen to and respect others*
- *Be aware and help those around us*
- *Share*
- *Make our best possible choices and commit ourselves*
- *Protect nature and respect life*
- *Confront difficulties with confidence*
- *Enjoy everything beautiful*



This Law connects us with all Scouts worldwide...





## THE PAN-EUROPEAN JEWISH SCOUT LAW

... As Tsofim Yehudim (*Jewish Scouts in Hebrew*), we want to better understand what means for us in our daily life:

- *Zachor*, Memory
- *Mishpara*, Family
- *Har Sinai*, Mount Sinai, Covenant
- *Ivrit*, Hebrew
- *Israel*





## THE PAN-EUROPEAN JEWISH SCOUT PROMISE

*this is the Promise of the Swiss Scout Movement*

*"With your help, I promise to do my best to:*

- Deepen the sense of our Scout Law*
- Develop the spiritual values of my life*
- Commit myself in each community, where I live"*







## LEARNING BY DOING — THE JEWISH ADVENTURE TRAILS

*"Formal Jewish education = Talmud Torah — Informal Jewish education = Chinuch. Chinuch is learning by doing." (Rabbi Jonathan Sacks)*

During three to four years, **the Jewish Scout Adventure Trails** are an invitation to play, to discover, to surpass oneself: to sleep under a tent, to walk in the forest, to cook on a wood fire, to build a table, to sing and dance during a campfire, to light Chanukah candles with the elderly people in the community, meet scouts from other countries, prepare and live a Shabbat at the summer camp, develop personal artistic talents...

- The Jewish Trail
- The Outdoor Trail
- The Arts & Crafts Trail
- The Klezmer Trail
- The World Discovery Trail
- The Sports Trail



Advancement Programme for Scouts (12-15 years) in partnership  
with the National Scout Organization







## LEARNING BY DOING — THE PROFICIENCY BADGES



Advancement Programme for Scouts (12-15 years) in partnership with the National Scout Organization





## LEARNING BY DOING — THE PROFICIENCY BADGES

*"Our standard for Badge earning is NOT the attainment of a certain level of quality of knowledge or skill, but the AMOUNT OF EFFORT THE BOY HAS PUT INTO ACQUIRE SUCH KNOWLEDGE OR SKILL This brings the most hopeless case on to a footing of equal possibility with his more brilliant or better-off brother." (Baden-Powell)*

When a Scout has decided on which Proficiency badge he/she wish to complete there must be a reasonable amount of commitment without being overly time demanding or expensive.

The level of challenge must be within the skill level of the Scout and should be appropriate for a Scout Leader or examiner to assess.

The Proficiency Badge requires at least 10 hours of effort or participation (depending on the nature of the Proficiency) but must not exceed four months.

**Once a Scout has earned his Proficiency Badge, he/she will prepare with his/her clan an activity every three months related to the topic of this Badge.**







## LEARNING BY DOING — THE SENIOR BADGES

*"A week of camp life is worth six months of theoretical teaching in the meeting room."*  
(Baden-Powell)



**Scout  
Trapper**

*in partnership with the NSO*



**Masterchef**



**Bezalel**

*Arts and Crafts*



**Klezmer**

*Songs, Dances  
Klezmer Music*



**Ledor Vador**

*Limmud  
Jewish studies*

IFJS Advancement Programme for Senior Scouts (15-17 years)





## LEARNING BY DOING — THE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

*"We are the sowers - our children are those who reap.  
We labor so that future generations will be better and nobler than we are." (Maria Montessori)*



WOSM PROGRAMME  
in partnership with the NSO



IFJS PROGRAMME  
"from Cordoba to Vilnius"



IFoWS PROGRAMME

Advancement Programme for Rovers and Madrichim (+17 years)







## PERSONAL PROGRESSION — JEWISH IDENTITY

### “THE FIVE-LEGGED TABLE” of Avraham Infeld

Avraham Infeld’s vision for the Jewish People is **to find a way to be unified without being uniform.**

We can achieve this vision by constructing a “Five-Legged Table” which allows each person to choose at least three of the following legs to express their Jewish identity:

- ZACHOR, Memory
- MISHPARAH, Family
- HAR SINAI, Covenant, Mount Sinai
- IVRIT, Hebrew
- ISRAEL, The Land/The State





## ADULT SUPPORT — JEWISH IDENTITY

### "BEING AN INSPIRING PARENT" by Rabbi Jonathan Sack

#### **Rule 1: Give children the space to inspire us, and they will**

How making space for our children to inspire us is one of the greatest gifts we can give them.

#### **Rule 2: Serve God in joy if you want your children to love Judaism**

The importance to serve God in joy if you want your children to love Judaism.

#### **Rule 3: Lead the way, with high ethical standards**

The importance of setting an example, living a life of high ethical ideals if you want your children to do the same.

#### **Rule 4: No need for highwalls**

Explores the value in giving children a strong faith in their religion.





## ADULT SUPPORT — JEWISH IDENTITY

### “BEING AN INSPIRING PARENT” by Rabbi Jonathan Sack

... and Madrich (Jewish Scouts Leader)!

#### Rule 5: **Make your Judaism sing**

The role that music and song have in instilling a love of Judaism in your children.

#### Rule 6: **Don't just sit and learn but go and do**

The importance of giving our children the space to lead if we want them to grow.

**This is Scouting!**







## “TSOFIM YEHUDIM, ONE COMMUNITY, ONE SCOUT GROUP”

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### “HOW TO” KIT

Creation and preparation of an educational teaching kit, to answer all the needs involved with building a scout group within Jewish communities in Europe.

### PAN-EUROPEAN WEBSITE

A multilingual website will also serve as the information platform for global exchanges and communication between the different Jewish scout groups.

### SCOUT TRAINING

A partnership with NSOs/NSAs and the Jewish Scouts of France (EEIF) for the training of new Jewish scout leaders (madrachim) will be organised.

### FINANCING

Private and European funding are currently being researched.





## “TSOFIM YEHUDIM, ONE COMMUNITY, ONE SCOUT GROUP” A PAN-EUROPEAN PROJECT 2019 — 2022

### THE JEWISH SCOUT GROUP, AN UNPLUGGED COMMUNITY

The year's activities culminate in the summer camp. Two to three weeks to discover another rhythm of life far from the technological crutches that surround us and become total addictions (*mobile phones, video games, internet, Facebook, Twitter, etc.*). Freeing oneself from these material circumstances is the modernity of Shabbat.

### THE JEWISH SCOUT GROUP, A CONNECTED COMMUNITY

This ability to live unplugged among nature does not stop the scout groups from using the Internet to best advantage for exchanges and training. This is where it is important to set up a multi-lingual site like the French sites, [AKADEM](#) and [LA TOILE SCOUTE](#).





## THE CHALLENGING ISSUES

### **VOLUNTEERING**

The Jewish Scouts of France (EEIF) struggle at mobilizing counselors on activities during the year :

- They do not always have the right profile
- They are not always committed on the long-run
- It's hard to find new volunteer counselors
- It's difficult to train people who will not get paid

### **PROFESSIONALS**

How to reach talented people for implementing informal Jewish education projects on a Pan-European level?







## SCOUTING, A TIME OF SHABBAT

*"Be of the disciples of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing peace, loving your fellow creatures and drawing them near to the Law."*

Hillel the Elder – Pirke Avot, Saying of the Fathers 1:12





## SCOUTING, A TIME OF SHABBAT



*Yes, we are the best!*

