

JEWISH SCOUTS IN EURASIA SCOUT REGION

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





WHERE ARE THE JEWISH SCOUTS?

"Education means teaching a child to be curious, to wonder, to reflect, to enquire. The child who asks becomes a partner in the learning process, an active recipient. To ask is to grow." – Rabbi Jonathan Saks

Before the Second World War and the tragedy of the Shoah, there were scout groups in almost all Jewish communities in Europe.

74 years after the Shoah and 30 years after the fall of the Iron Curtain, not a single group of Jewish Scouts was created in Europe (except one in Czech Republic)!

At the same time, there are many Jewish Communities in Europe interested in offering Scouting to their youth, with a **balanced programme** of activities with scouts of their countries and a dedicated Jewish Scout programme **fostering exchanges and programmes among European Jewish Youth.**

Diversity and Inclusion are now top priorities of the World Scout Movement. Let's put them into practice with Jewish youth!



OUR CHALLENGE

"We are not a club or a Sunday school class, but a school of the woods." – Baden-Powell

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?

The Pan-European programme called "*Tsofim Yehudim*" (*Jewish Scouts in hebrew*) is the answer. It 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 (NSOs), National Scout Associations (NSAs) and the International Forum of Jewish Scouts (IFJS).



WHO WE ARE

*"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 missions of the International Forum of Jewish Scouts (IFJS) 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... AND MORE TO COME!

"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

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



MEXICO

UNITED
KINGDOM

FRANCE

LITHUANIA

CZECH
REPUBLIC

ISRAEL

BRAZIL

AUSTRALIA





THE INTERRELIGIOUS FORUM OF WORLD SCOUTING

"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 in developing the spirit of mutual good will and understanding." – Baden-Powell

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



- 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





WHAT IS SCOUTING?

"I have over and over again explained that the purpose of the Boy Scout and Girl Guide Movement is to build men and women as citizens endowed with the three H's namely, Health, Happiness and Helpfulness. The man or woman who succeeds in developing these three attributes has secured the main steps to success this Life."—Baden-Powell

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 50 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.**



"TSOFIM YEHUDIM" A PLURALISTIC AND INCLUSIVE PROGRAMME

"Am Echad, Lev Echad, One people, One Heart."

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

The "Tsofim Yehudim" (*Jewish Scouts in hebrew*) programme is **pluralistic and inclusive**, meaning to address all Jewish families, **whether practising or not**.

This pluralistic 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** used by French Jewish Scouts (EEIF) since the 1930s:

- Kashrut — Respect of Jewish Dietary Laws
- Morning Service — Shacharit (= *we start our day together, as a community*)
- Grace at Meals — Motsi & Birkat Hamazon (= *we eat together, as a community*)
- Shabbat & Yom Tov (*Jewish Festivals*) – specific activities



SCOUTING, A TIME OF SHABBAT

"The world has our hands, but our soul belongs to Someone Else. Six days a week we seek to dominate the world, on the seventh day we try to dominate the self." – Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

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 learning, 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 boys and girls 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 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.**

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 SCOUT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

DISCOVER

Scouts develop a strong sense of self.
 Scouts develop positive values.
 Scouts gain practical life skills.
 Scouts seek challenges in the world.
 Scouts develop critical thinking.

+ CONNECT

Scouts develop healthy relationships.
 Scouts promote cooperation and teambuilding.
 Scouts can resolve conflicts.
 Scouts advance diversity in a multicultural world.
 Scouts feel connected to their communities, locally and globally.

+ TAKE ACTION

Scouts can identify community needs.
 Scouts are resourceful problem solvers.
 Scouts advocates for themselves and others, locally and globally.
 Scouts educate and inspire others to act.
 Scouts feel empowered to make a difference in the world.

DISCOVER

+

CONNECT

+

TAKE ACTION

=

LEADERSHIP





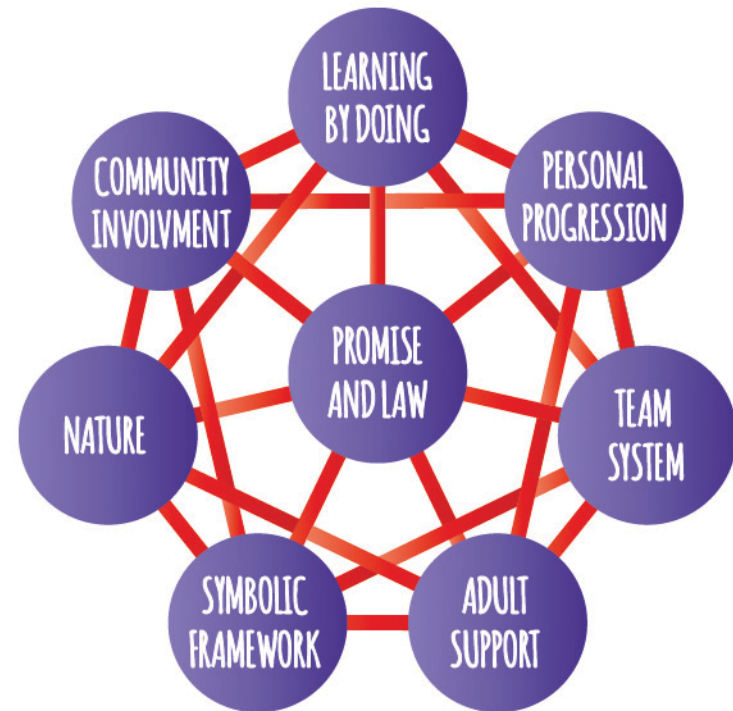
THE SCOUT METHOD

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**.

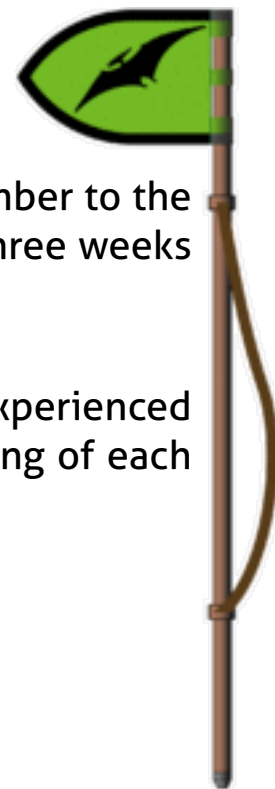
The implementation of these elements in a **combined and balanced manner** is what makes Scouting unique.





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 (tribe)*. They are trained for their position 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

"Scouting put the boys into fraternity gangs which is their natural organization whether for games, mischief or loafing" – Baden-Powell

Each Scout has a responsibility to stay 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.



QUATERMASTER



GRUBMASTER



SCRIBE



JEWISH LIFE



FIRST AID

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 (scout leaders) at the beginning of the year.



TEAM SYSTEM

"Individualism to which one gives free rein leads to egoism, which is the opposite of what we seek. On the other hand, individuality based on character is something else. He is a disciplined individual, full of energy, skilful and loyal, concerned with justice and the common good." – Baden-Powell

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.

A Madrich (scout leader) wearing such badge is in charge of this task in the Shevet (Tribe). He/ she will be the **reference** to answer all questions and help scouts if they need it.



The Pandas of Klaipėda



The Beavers of Vilnius



The Owls of Vilnius



The Green Dragons of Kaunas

Tsofim Yehudim LeDor VaDor, Jewish Scouts from Generation to Generation



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

"How God must laugh at the little differences that we set up amongst ourselves under the camouflage of religion, politics, patriotism or class, to the neglect of a far greater tie – that of the Brotherhood in the Human Family."

– Baden-Powell

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

- *Zachor, Memory*
- *Mishpacha, 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 SIX ADVENTURE TRAILS

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

During five 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



*Yellow Knot
(1st Year)*



*Green Knot
(2nd Year)*



*Magen Scout
(3rd/4th Year)*

Advancement Programme for Scouts and Senior Scouts (12-17 years)
in partnership with National Scout Organizations



LEARNING BY DOING — PROFICIENCY BADGES



Advancement Programme for Scouts and Senior Scouts (12-17 years)
in partnership with National Scout Organizations



LEARNING BY DOING — 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 a Proficiency Badge, he/she will prepare with his/her clan (or with other scouts wearing the same badge) an activity every three months related to the topic of this Badge.



LEARNING BY DOING — 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 NSO



LEDOR VADOR
*Limmud
Jewish studies*



MASTERCHEF
Jewish Cuisine



BETSALEL
Arts & Crafts



KLEZMER
*Songs, Dances
Klezmer Music*



LEARNING BY DOING — INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

"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 NSO



IFJS PROGRAMME
"from Cordoba to Vilnius"



WOSM PROGRAMME
in partnership with IFoWS

Advancement Programme for Rovers and Madrichim (Scout leaders) (+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
- MISHPACHA, 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 Scout 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!



SCOUT



ROVER



MADRICH



SOWER



"TSOFIM YEHUDIM" ONE COMMUNITY, ONE SCOUT GROUP

A PAN-EUROPEAN PROJECT 2020 — 2023

"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 – www.jewishscouts.eu

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 International Forum of Jewish Scouts (IFJS) for the training of new Jewish Scout Leaders (madrichim) will be organised.

FINANCING

Private and European funding are currently being researched.





"TSOFIM YEHUDIM" ONE COMMUNITY, ONE SCOUT GROUP A PAN-EUROPEAN PROJECT 2020 — 2023

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 their advantage for exchanges and training. This is where it is important to set up a multi-lingual site like the French sites Akadem, La Toile scout.





THE CHALLENGING ISSUES

"When you want a thing done, 'Don't do it yourself' is a good motto for Scoutmasters." – Baden-Powell

VOLUNTEERING

The Jewish Scouts of France (EEIF — +4,000 members, +40 groups) 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-term
- 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?



JEWISH SCOUTS Uniform & Badges





The Ultimate Scout Prayer

The eighteenth century Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav took this urge to enjoy nature in the context of prayer in a new level when he prayed the following:

"Master of the Universe, grant me the ability to be alone;

May it be my custom to go outdoors each day among the trees and grass among all growing things and there may I be alone, and enter into prayer, to talk with the One to whom I belong.

May I express there everything in my heart, and may all the foliage of the field, all grasses, trees and plants awake at my coming, to send the powers of their life into the words of my prayer so that my prayer and speech are made whole through the life and spirit of all growing things, which are made as one by their transcendent Source.

May I then pour out the words of my heart before your Presence like water, O L-rd, and lift up my hands to You in worship, on my behalf, and that of my children/family!"



International Forum of Jewish Scouts