

Quarterly Report 2020/1

As this is the first quarterly report, we will consider the development for the period from January to March 2020.

We can say that during this time the efficiency has gone up within the board and its committees as we are getting into the flow of our work and responsibilities. With the situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, the future of the convention is as unsure as it has never been before.

One of the most important decisions of the board has been to hold the Rotex International general meeting as proposed in the last report.

Internal organisation and PR Committee

As we've always practiced virtual connections within the board, the current situation doesn't have an impact on our work in terms of organisation. Our meetings continue as we are used to, except for a slightly higher frequency. The communication between the Board and PR Committee has been improved by a mutual calendar, meetings and is ongoing as we still want to further improve the relationship. The PR Committee is keeping up their great work and has been very effective with content production and thus increasing our range in social media, with LinkedIn as most recent addition. The aim is to support Rotex clubs in connecting and exchanging information and experiences. The website will play a key role in this. One major achievement of the PR Committee was the #stayhomewithrotex campaign with the purpose of relieving exchange students from stress caused by quarantine and the current situation entertaining, engaging and teaching them through the campaign. Hereby, we were able to reach over 3000 people and land over 32.000 impressions.

NPO Registration

We have worked towards the NPO registration in Germany. With the necessary changes to our constitution and bylaws, as well as the Guidelines of Rotex International, we have laid the base for an official registration. We will carry out the registration. Changes in the paperwork could still be done in the context of our general meeting.

RI Youth Exchange Board

We have established with the RI YE Board. After a few calls and exchange of emails, we can say that the exchange is considered mutually beneficial and should be continued. We hope there will still be someone for an exchange after the dissolution of the YE Board in June 2020.

Rotex International and Rotary International

This continues to be one of the principal topics in our work. While we preferred an institutionalization of Rotex within the RYE program in our last report, this is no longer our primary target. With the downsizing of the RI Leadership on its programs, a further increase of the RYE program would not be supported.

Taking in account the new factors and inputs we looked around for a different option. We are now working towards creating more membership options for Rotex in Rotary. Rotex Rotary Clubs, Satellite Clubs, Passport Clubs or membership in established Rotary Clubs are all valid options. We are looking more into that and will be presenting our results at our general meeting.

Finances

Part of the preparations for the NPO Registration has also been a financial plan. We propose a financing mechanism through membership fees for clubs of approximately 100€ annually. This will serve to cover ongoing or newly arising costs of our continuously growing organisation. This is still subject to change and will be explained and discussed in the context of our general meeting.

5th Rotex International Convention

2020 started well with new partnerships closed and further negotiations with suppliers and what seemed to be a good perspective ahead for the organizers. Unfortunately, in the middle of this the COVID-19 pandemic arose.

A number of Rotary events around the world have been cancelled, including the RI Convention in Honolulu. Events in Brazil were also affected and many events had to be either cancelled or postponed. The Board and the Host Organizing Committee decided to postpone the event in one year, setting the new date for August 5th to 8th, 2021. For the moment all the tickets sales are blocked and as soon as the situation of supplier and all the involved are clear, new information and sale of tickets will be released.

General Meeting

The Board of Rotex International has called a general meeting. The meeting will take place on the **30th of May 2020 at 2pm** (Central European Summer Time (CEST)) in a virtual meeting room on the platform “Zoom”. Main topic will be the establishing and registration as NPO. There will be a few other things to discuss concerning our work within the board, progress and regarding the Convention.

The invitations with the accompanying paperwork have been sent out. If you didn't get anything but would like to have the agenda, send an email to pr@rotex.org.

Prospects

Most topics we worked on will accompany us into the next quarter. With the uncertainty of the Convention, this makes also for some planning uncertainty.

We foresee to continue our work and tasks towards the general meeting but also for the time beyond.

We look forward to meeting with you in the context of the general meeting and get some feedback on our work. In the meantime, we hope all of you and your loved ones stay healthy and well.