INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in engaging your club, district, and community in Rotary’s commitment to peacebuilding. Your efforts are an important part of connecting Rotary members from around the world to this global peacebuilding agenda. This guide will help you prepare for your Positive Peace presentation. We recommend that you read it in full before giving your presentation.

DEFINITIONS

**Negative Peace:** The absence of violence or the fear of violence from war, crime, etc.

**Positive Peace:** Peace is much more than the absence of violence. Positive Peace describes the attitudes, structures, and institutions that underpin and sustain peaceful societies. Positive Peace is the presence of something good, like education, sustainable resources, human capital, or a functioning government. Negative and Positive Peace are distinct, but interconnected.

**Systems Thinking:** Systems thinking can be seen as a perspective. Derived from systems theory, systems thinking is a holistic approach of analysis and problem solving that looks at problems as multidimensional. It requires us to think about all the interrelated parts of the problem and how that system works over time and within the context of larger systems.
PEACEBUILDING AS A CORE COMMITMENT OF ROTARY

Promoting peace is the common thread that links all of our organizational initiatives, including Rotary’s six areas of focus and polio eradication. When communities are embroiled in conflict, their access to clean water, health care, and education is compromised. Without peace, businesses fail to thrive and the community as a whole suffers. And in war-torn countries, polio workers have been attacked and even killed.

One of Rotary’s greatest assets is our commitment to building relationships and using those relationships to work together toward a common goal. These are the fundamental tenets of putting Positive Peace into action and ultimately creating a more peaceful world. Through these workshops, we hope to make Positive Peace relevant, meaningful, and understandable to all Rotarians.

All gathered here are unofficial diplomats and peacebuilders of our age. When you build a system for clean water, you are a peacebuilder. When you help out a student struggling to graduate, you are a peacebuilder. When you launch any project to support education, health, or economic development in your local community, or elsewhere...

YOU ARE BUILDING THE OPTIMAL CONDITIONS FOR POSITIVE PEACE.

— John Hewko, general secretary of Rotary International
Building on their past successful collaborations, Rotary International and the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) entered into a strategic partnership in 2017. The Rotary-IEP partnership capitalizes on IEP’s research on the attitudes, institutions, and structures of more peaceful societies and Rotary’s grassroots experience in communities around the globe.

The focus of the partnership is Positive Peace, and particularly, the framework derived by IEP through analysis of the underlying conditions that lead to more peaceful societies. Through education and community-based programming, the partners hope to bring together the work of each organization in a way that enhances and adds value to the field of peace and conflict prevention/resolution. Specifically, the strategic partnership will:

- Reinforce and enhance work in Rotary’s six areas of focus — particularly in the area of peace and conflict prevention/resolution — by applying the Positive Peace framework and its theories of peace and conflict resolution to inform Rotarians’ work
- Educate and empower Rotarians to apply their experience and expertise to mobilize communities to address the underlying causes of conflict
- Convey a strong message about the importance of Positive Peace in communities around the globe

GOALS OF A POSITIVE PEACE CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

- To broaden Rotarians’ understanding of the attitudes and institutions that support peaceful societies
- To encourage Rotarians to look for ways that their volunteer activities and projects contribute to peace
- To inspire Rotarians to consider themselves peacebuilders
- To highlight opportunities for getting involved with the peace and conflict prevention/resolution area of focus
SAMPLE AGENDA

CONFERENCE WORKSHOP (90 MINUTES)

- Introduction: What does peace mean to you? (8 minutes)
- Rotary International and the Institute for Economics and Peace strategic partnership (2 minutes)
- Overview of Negative and Positive Peace (10 minutes)
- Global Peace Index video (3 minutes)
- What are the most inspiring Rotary projects that you’ve been involved with? (10 minutes)
- Overview of the Pillars of Positive Peace and Rotary’s areas of focus (10 minutes)
- Systems thinking mindset video (5 minutes)
- Clock and cloud problems (10 minutes)
- Opportunities to get involved (2 minutes)
- Questions and answers (30 minutes)

For a fun way to get your audience’s opinions in real time, have your audience sign in to Mentimeter. The tool lets participants use their smartphones to answer your questions and instantly see the responses of all attendees.
INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES PEACE MEAN TO YOU? (8 MINUTES)

**Slide 1:** Explain why you’re passionate about peace and why you’re here to discuss this topic.

- Lead a quick idea-generation session by asking the audience to call out one-word descriptions of what peace means to them.

- On a whiteboard or tablet, list the answers according to ones that have to do with war or violence and those that describe peace positively or in more personal terms.

- Note the variety of opinions about peace.

At its most basic, peace is an open and nonviolent way of being. Peace is both a state of mind and a state of society, encompassing a wide range of actions. Martin Luther King Jr. imagined peace as unfolding in a straight line — running from “inner peace,” based in the heart, to family, community, nation, and the world. Peace is associated with a range of values, from kindness and justice to safety, security, and freedom.
FACILITATOR NOTES

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL AND THE INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMICS AND PEACE
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (2 MINUTES)

Slide 2: Discuss the strategic partnership between Rotary International and the Institute for Economics and Peace.

- IEP is a global think tank with offices in Sydney, New York, and Oxford, England, and that it has developed the Pillars of Positive Peace as a framework for measuring the attitudes, institutions, and structures associated with peaceful societies.
OVERVIEW OF NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE PEACE (10 MINUTES)

Slide 3: Introduce the concept of Negative and Positive Peace.

- Describe it as the difference between the absence of something bad versus the presence of something good.
- Use the public health analogy: the medical profession doesn’t just treat the sickest people. Doctors also work with individuals to help them stay healthy by recommending a nutritious diet, exercise, sleep, and regular checkups.
- Talk about ways we can keep societies peaceful. Describe the most important “health” factors that prevent violence from breaking out.
- As you discuss Negative and Positive Peace, use the visuals provided in slides 4 and 5 to help illustrate your meaning.
Slide 4: Negative Peace

- High-level negotiations finalized the peace agreement that ended the 50-year civil war in Colombia in 2016. But ending a war isn’t the only way to be a peacebuilder.
OVERVIEW OF NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE PEACE

Slide 5: Positive Peace

- Positive Peace creates the conditions for individuals to flourish. Equal access to education gives children the knowledge and skills they need to become successful, contributing global citizens.

POSITIVE PEACE

Defined as the attitudes, institutions, and structures that, when strengthened, lead to a more peaceful society. Positive Peace describes an optimum environment for human potential to flourish.

It is not only associated with higher levels of peace, it is also associated with stronger macroeconomic performance, as the factors that sustain highly peaceful societies also provide a framework for robust economic development.
FACILITATOR NOTES

GLOBAL PEACE INDEX VIDEO (3 MINUTES)

Slide 6 and 7: Show the Global Peace Index video (the link to the video is embedded in the slide).

- Make sure the internet connection in the room is strong. Before the presentation starts, try to have the video ready to play for a seamless transition.

- Before your presentation, look up the country where you’re presenting so you can share the country’s ranking.

- Don’t spend too much time on the index. Instead show them where the Global Peace Index is available online if they want to study it further.

WHAT ARE THE MOST INSPIRING ROTARY PROJECTS YOU’VE BEEN INVOLVED WITH? (10 MINUTES)

- Lead another quick idea-generating session by asking attendees for the names of their most inspiring Rotary projects.

- Avoid getting into long explanations about any one project. You want to hear from as many people as possible.

- Take notes as they are describing their projects so you can connect them to the eight Pillars of Positive Peace in the next slide.
OVERVIEW OF THE PILLARS OF POSITIVE PEACE AND ROTARY’S AREAS OF FOCUS (10 MINUTES)

**Slide 8:** The Pillars of Positive Peace outlines the factors that make a country more peaceful.

- Quickly go through Rotary’s six areas of focus and the eight Pillars of Positive Peace.
- Highlight any overlap between them.
- Match as many examples as possible from the service projects mentioned during the previous idea-generating session to the Pillars of Positive Peace. Feel free to use examples from your own projects.
- Remind the group that these pillars are used by IEP to produce the Positive Peace Report and the Global Peace Index.

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**ROTARY AREAS OF FOCUS**

1. Peace and conflict prevention/resolution (dove)
2. Disease prevention and treatment (stethoscope)
3. Water and sanitation (water)
4. Maternal and child health (mother/baby)
5. Basic education and literacy (book)
6. Economic and community development (coins)

**PILLARS OF POSITIVE PEACE**

1. Well-functioning government (institution)
2. Sound business environment (briefcase)
3. Equitable distribution of resources (equals sign)
4. Acceptance of the rights of others (people)
5. Good relations with neighbors (chat cloud)
6. Free flow of information (Wi-Fi symbol)
7. High levels of human capital (lightbulb)
8. Low levels of corruption (money sign)
FACILITATOR NOTES

SYSTEMS THINKING MINDSET VIDEO (5 MINUTES)

This section is meant only as a brief introduction of these complex concepts to entice Rotarians to learn more about Systems Thinking.

Slide 9: Show the Omidyar Group Systems Practice Mindsets video (the link to the video is embedded in the slide).

- Remember that the Pillars of Positive Peace are all interconnected. It’s our responsibility as peacebuilders to be aware of how our efforts connect with others to support a healthy, resilient, and peaceful community. As part of the IEP strategic partnership, Rotarians are committed to building and practicing systems leadership skills, shifting mental models for collaborative practices for all peacebuilders.
Slide 10: Clocks and clouds

- In 1966, Karl Popper, a philosopher of science, observed that some problems work more like clocks — mechanical, finite, predictable, controllable. Others are like clouds — infinite, ever-changing, unpredictable, hard to control. Many of the causes we care most about are more like clouds: quality of life, education, and economic prosperity.

- A system perspective (and associated tools) is a way of thinking that can help Rotarians deal with cloud problems. Working on any of the Pillars of Positive Peace requires awareness of the dynamic relationships and interconnectivity of the entire system.
FACILITATOR NOTES

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED (2 MINUTES)

*Slide 11:* End the presentation by mentioning opportunities for Rotarians to engage in Positive Peace.

- Sign up for the Rotary Positive Peace Academy
- Meet with current project partners to talk about how your initiatives connect with the Pillars of Positive Peace
- Look for new ways of investing in Positive Peace in your community
- Sponsor a global grant to conduct a Positive Peace Workshop for young people to help them learn the skills they need to implement the Positive Peace framework (a global curriculum will be available June 2019)
- Sponsor a Rotary Peace Fellow application or raise funds to support special workshops on Positive Peace for peace fellows
FACILITATOR NOTES

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (30 MINUTES)

- Ask participants to form groups of two or three and talk about the issues they found particularly interesting and the questions they still have.

- After about 5-7 minutes, ask each group to share their observations, questions, or comments. Depending on the size of your conference, you may not have time to hear from all of the groups.

- Use the final 10 minutes to answer questions asked by the breakout groups and end the presentation with final thoughts.

- For questions about the Global Peace Index or the methodology of ranking countries according to their peacefulness, direct participants to the Vision of Humanity website.
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CONSULT THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON POSITIVE PEACE, SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP, AND PEACEBUILDING

- Rotary Positive Peace Academy
- Institute for Economics and Peace
- Institute for Economics and Peace — Interactive Maps
- The Pillars of Positive Peace
- Global Peace Index YouTube Channel
- Rotarian Action Group for Peace
- Alliance for Peacebuilding: What is Peacebuilding?
- The Dawn of System Leadership
- The Omidyar Group’s Systems Practice Workbook
- Omidyar’s Why Use a Systems Practice video
- Defining Systems Thinking
- Tools of a System Thinker
- Systems Thinker website