



## Youth e-newsletter - April 2009

A free monthly update to share experience and information about activities worldwide  
Please send your stories, suggestions and comments to [youth@ifrc.org](mailto:youth@ifrc.org)



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### Youth on the move

With less than eight weeks until Youth on the move, those of you who will attend the meeting in Italy must already be thinking about what to pack! There are now over 500 registered participants, representing 150 National Societies (that's over 80 per cent of all of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the world!). If you're not taking part in Youth on the move in Italy, you can still have your voice and opinion heard. There is a discussion space on our Facebook page where you to [leave messages for participants](#) . You can get more information about Youth on the move on [FedNet](#) , where you can also [download the logo](#) as well as a document on how to make the best use of it.



### Celebrating the gift of blood

On 14 June 2009, World Blood Donor Day will be celebrated throughout the world. Each year a different country plays host to

### Bringing smiles and laughter in times of distress



On the night of 6 April 2009, the communities of the province of Abruzzo and the surrounding region were hit by an earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale. The small village of Onna was at the epicentre of this quake, and the devastation in this area and beyond was enormous. At least 298 people lost their lives, around 1,000 were injured, and tens of thousands of others were left without homes or hope. The response of the Italian Red Cross youth brought the possibility of hope to those affected, helping them to take the first step in rebuilding their lives and communities. Read the article in [English](#) .

### Humanitarian ambassadors for a future of peace

A group of young European Red Cross-volunteers visited Israel and Palestine to get a first-hand impression of the conflict and its humanitarian consequences. They were invited by the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) and the national Red Cross Societies of Italy, France, Iceland and Denmark who support psychosocial projects at 130 schools

World Blood Donor Day and this year the honour goes to Australia, however events will be taking place in dozens of countries to mark the event. The focus will of course be on the most important people in blood donation – the donors themselves. Young people play a big part in the recruitment of voluntary non-remunerated blood donors, and are often donors themselves. The Red Cross and Red Crescent programme, [Club 25](#) , is focused on recruitment of donors through the action of youth, but is much more than a blood programme; promoting healthy lifestyles is also a key aspect of this programme, which is always carried in support of local blood centres and national ministries of health. If you're National Society is involved in Club 25, or blood donation, why not find out how you can get involved and mark the day by visiting [www.wbdd.org](http://www.wbdd.org) .

### Our world. Your move. – share your move

Have you heard about the "Our world. Your move." web portal? You can use this portal to find out about some of the many challenges that humanity is facing today, and how individuals around the world are making their move to make the world a better place. You can even submit your move or your stories through the portal's blog. Why not [visit today](#) and let the world know about your move.

### Resources

- **The girl effect**

Girls are capable of creating a better future – that's the message from this organizations website. Why not watch the video and [find out more](#) .

- **Youth on the move logo**

Want to use the Youth on the move logo for your activities? Find out how and get the image on [FedNet](#) .

- **Youth on Facebook**

Want to meet hundreds of other youth volunteers? Join us on [Facebook](#) !

### The global youth communications programme is supported by:

throughout the West Bank. Read the full article in [English](#) .

### Atlantis V

Each year, the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the Mediterranean hold the Atlantis youth camp, and this year it will be hosted by the Moroccan Red Crescent from 1–8 August. The goal of the camp is to encourage young volunteers to develop their humanitarian capacity through sharing experiences, information and opinion. It is also an opportunity to promote intercultural dialogue among youth of the Mediterranean. This year main topics of the camp will focus on climate change and the environment. You can download the invitation letter and other related documents from [FedNet](#) , or [contact](#) the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean.

### Opportunities not to be missed

- **World blood donor day**

14 June – visit [www.wbdd.org](http://www.wbdd.org) for more information and resources.

- **Photo context**

The Centre for the cooperation in the Mediterranean is organizing a photo context for young people focused on climate change and its effects. The deadline for submissions is 30 May. Find out more and download the entry forms from [FedNet](#) .

- **Seminar on the current challenges of migration**

Spain will play host to this seminar on 2–3 June. For more information, please visit [FedNet](#) .

- **Youth Commission – your voice at Governing Board**

Your commission will be attending the IFRC Governing Board in May. If you have issues that you want raised at the top levels the International Federation, [email the commission](#) .

- **Rolex Awards: Youth laureate programme**

Have you heard of the Rolex Awards? The programme targets young people aged 18–30 who are involved in projects or activities in a number of areas and finalists will receive a cash prize of \$50,000 USD which they can use towards their project. You can find out more [here](#) , and if you want to submit an entry, please



email [youth@ifrc.org](mailto:youth@ifrc.org) .

• **International Youth Day 2009** This year, the theme for International Youth Day (12 August) will be "Sustainability: Our challenge. Our future." You can find out more [here](#) .

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian organization, with 186 member National Societies. All our work is guided by seven Fundamental Principles; humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality.

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