

**Speech by PDG Alessandro Pastorini,
National Coordinator of the Inter-Country Committees Italy - Malta - San Marino,
at the Rotary District 2032 Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (SIPE)
Sanremo - 29 March 2025**

On 29 March 2025 in Sanremo, in the event rooms of the Casino, the SIPE of the Rotary District 2032 took place, a training Seminar aimed at the Presidents-Elect of the Rotary District 2032 in the Rotarian year 2025-2026.

Below is the report of the speech by PDG Alessandro Pastorini, National Coordinator of the Inter-Country Committees Italy, Malta and San Marino.

«The internationality of Rotary is today more than ever a fundamental value, consistent with the original vision of Paul Harris». This is how Alessandro Pastorini, Past District Governor of Rotary District 2030 and National Coordinator of the Inter-Country Committees for Italy, Malta and San Marino, introduced his report during the SIPE held on 29 March in the prestigious setting of the Sanremo Casino, an event that saw the participation of the District Governor Natale Spineto, Governor-Elect Luigi Gentile and a large Rotarian audience.

*In his speech entitled “**Consolidated opportunities and new challenges - The role of the Intercountry Committees**”, Pastorini retraced the fundamental stages of Rotary's international expansion, starting from the birth of the first club in 1905, when the young lawyer Paul Harris, «eager to recover in the chaotic Chicago that climate of friendship and solidarity of his youth», gave life to what is now a global network. This simple but profoundly innovative vision quickly took Rotary beyond the American borders, making it an international point of reference.*

Pastorini emphasized that «Rotary was born as a local reality, but it immediately understood the importance and added value of the global dimension». Among the most significant examples cited during his report is the PolioPlus program, started in 1985, which was one of the most effective and ambitious global health interventions ever carried out, concretely demonstrating how the strength of international collaboration can overcome even the most difficult challenges.

At the center of his speech, Pastorini placed the Intercountry Committees, officially born after the Second World War to promote dialogue and peace between countries that were once adversaries. «These committees have played a crucial role, becoming true builders of bridges of peace» he said, recalling the first historic Franco-German Committee created in 1950 in Strasbourg, a city that symbolizes European reconciliation. Today, the Intercountry Committees represent a global network that involves 119 countries, with thousands of Rotarians actively engaged in service projects, cultural and professional exchanges, contributing to peace and global understanding.

Looking to the future, Pastorini highlighted the importance of addressing emerging challenges such as the digital revolution and current global crises: «Rotary can respond by demonstrating, through concrete projects and international collaborations, that cooperation beyond borders is not only possible but indispensable». He also underlined the decisive role of the new generations, «grown up with digital technology and capable of introducing innovation and dynamism into Rotary programs, keeping Rotary always current and relevant».

In conclusion, Pastorini made an appeal to those present to continue to be actors of a “silent but effective” diplomacy, committed daily to building a more peaceful and supportive world, always respecting the fundamental values that distinguish the Rotary International.



