



**Nunzio Scibilia**  
District Governor  
2016-2017

Palermo, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017

***Dear friends in Rotary,***

Year in year out, the month of May represents an important stage along Rotary International's service route. This is the month dedicated to Youth Service, Rotary's fifth avenue of Service, which stimulates activities for the development of leadership, of the participation to local and international projects and the exchanges which aim to promote peace in the world and understanding amongst diverse cultures.

Youth Action sees the importance of giving a voice and visibility to young people and young professionals through such Rotary International programmes as Rotaract, Interact, RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) and the Youth Exchange programme.

'Our' Rotary still has a long way to go in order to reach a complete 'partnership' system. Rotaract has now officially become a 'partner' for Rotary, it therefore is not subordinate, in any way, but has equal dignity. On the other hand, being partners implies giving value to relationships that must exist notwithstanding eventual diversity. It is therefore important to look for the definition of the respective roles which are ever more complementary and synergetic such as the taking up of reciprocal responsibility towards the Community.

The strengthening of synergy in action between Rotary Clubs and the young clubs has developed, after an initial stage which looked at reciprocal acknowledgement to the sharing of common projects. We now must go to a further stage, that of the Rotary Club seeing its own youth club (be it Rotaract or Interact) as its 'first partner in service'. This new aim must be seen as the key element in making service actions more efficient allowing more unity and enrichment of ideas and, consequently, more reciprocal acquaintance.

For several years, our District has decided to leave its mark on the territory by means of concrete action towards the community. We are aware of having a useful tool in utilizing the forward looking ability of youth. Thanks to the close relationship created, the passage from the younger club to the patron club has been naturally favoured. District 2110 stresses its total attention towards the development and the spreading of programs for the New Generations in all aspects covered by institutional youth programs both by Rotary International and by District itself as well as by the single Clubs.

Beyond the generational diversity and the freshness in participation and experience, there is a common feeling: The aspiration to further sharing, to cohesion and to reciprocal assistance and the sharing of our values and principals.

Above all, in an ageing society such as ours, which lacks an adequate generational exchange, it will always be more difficult to keep in pace with the times even within Rotary. Hence, more than ever, the young represent a precious resource to be nurtured and given value to and we must not in any way ignore this fact.

The Rotary year is about to come to an end, but I wish to continue to encourage 'my Presidents' to sustain the passage into their Clubs of young professionals who contribute in enriching our association with their enthusiasm.

We are facing a historic change, quite a mental and operational revolution for many a Rotarian. It is a fact that unless we allow our young people to take the lead we will not be able to place ourselves to the service of humanity in a more effective manner such as has been clearly requested by our International President John Germ.

My kind regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Nunzio".