



Are you a partner or sponsor?

Co-host or co-create debate activities and events with us, globally or at a regional level.

Are you an individual, company, foundation or government?

Support us through donations. Contribute to our values. Help us to promote democracy, advocacy and tolerance for young people through the power of debate and education.

Contact us

IDEA Central Asia

Togolok Moldo St. 21/73
Bishkek
Kyrgyzstan, 720033
T: +996 (312) 325 402
E: ideaca@idebate.org

IDEA Francophone

Rue de la Presse 4
1000 Brussels
Belgium
T: +32 (0)2 227 1152
E: ideacentral@idebate.be

IDEA Middle East & North Africa

10, rue Abderrahmen Azzem,
Résidence Al-Wifek
RDC B01 1073 Montplaisir
Tunis, Tunisia
T: +216 71901 843
E: mena@idebate.org

IDEA Netherlands

Keizersgracht 102
1015 CV Amsterdam
The Netherlands
T: +31 (0)20 692 7299
E: info@idebate.nl

IDEA South East Europe

Dranak 34A
1000 Skopje
Macedonia
T: +389 2 322 8811
E: info@idebate.mk

IDEA United Kingdom

Collaboration House
77-79 Charlotte Street
London W1T 4PW
United Kingdom
E: ahelling@idebate.org.uk

IDEbate Press

ideany@idebate.org

Find us on the web:

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About IDEA



Empowering young people
worldwide today to be the
active citizens of tomorrow



Young people have a lot to say. Debating gives them a place and time to speak up and be heard.

Who we are – A global network of organisations who value debate education and the power of argumentation.

Our mission – To give young people a voice through education, debate and by raising their awareness about worldwide issues. We believe debate provides a forum for the open exchange of ideas, the opportunity to consider an opposing point of view and nurtures critical thinking and dialogue.



Where we are

We are international. We run debating activities in over 60 languages in more than 50 countries, and are continuing to grow,

striving constantly to improve the quality and quantity of our services – working locally, acting globally.

IDEA NL
– Amsterdam

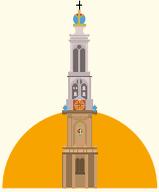
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– London

IDEA FR
– Brussels

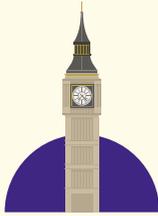
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– Skopje

IDEA CA
– Bishek

IDEA MENA
– Tunis



1999



2011



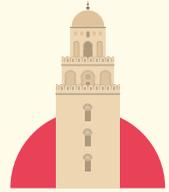
2011



2012



2013



2014

What we do

We aspire to be the world's leading provider of debate education, offering debate resources, debate training and debate events to educators, youth groups and young people across the world.

- Debate events for young people, especially those marginalized;
- Foster worldwide network of debating clubs in schools, universities and local communities;
- Tolerance and mutual understanding through informed dialogue and information
- Authoritative online resources, attracting over 2.5 million visitors idebate.org and Debatabase idebate.org/content/about-debatabase. Debates written by experienced debaters.

What we value

- The contribution young people bring to our society
- The power of informal and formal education
- Respect and tolerance towards people and their ideas
- Democratic principles

Who we work with

We work with schools and universities, debate organisations and community groups. We partner with foundations, NGOs, businesses and governments and we are supported by our donors who believe in our vision and mission.

Why we debate?

As a debater, you can openly exchange ideas and dialogue with others in a structured format. When discussing controversial and important social issues, debating has a great advantage as debate draws out both sides of an argument: the pros and the cons. As such, it's a unique way to mutually understand others and become an informed citizenship while enhancing cultural exchange and aiming towards greater academic excellence.

Debate is also a great way to improve your active listening skills; you need to hear the other person's points of view in order to respond. It also helps you build self-confidence as you need to speak up and assert your position in front of an audience. It also encourages greater tolerance towards others through listening and understanding both sides of the argument.