



CISV Belgium
Building global friendship

2024-2025



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CISV HISTORY

Over its 60-year-history, CISV International has become a worldwide movement working toward peace and intercultural cooperation and understanding. We have educated and inspired many thousands of children and young people, empowering them to achieve their full potential and to play an active role in creating a better world.

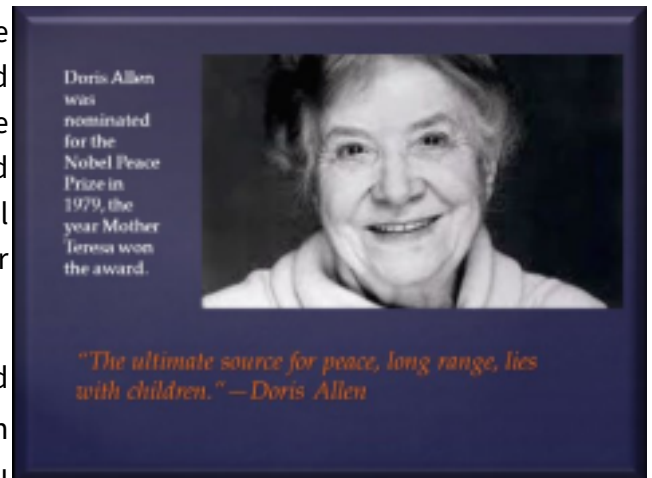
In late 1940s, a progressive child psychologist named **Dr Doris Allen** developed the concept of an organization that would foster inter-cultural

understanding and friendship as an essential step toward world peace. Doris Allen believed that by creating opportunities for children of different cultures to come together to learn and make friends, they would grow up to become ambassadors for a more just and peaceful world.

In just a few years, but with much hard work on the part of volunteers and supporters, Dr. Allen's idea had become a reality. CISV was originally called Children's International Summer Villages (now CISV International) and registered as a non-profit corporation in Ohio in 1950. The first Village programme was held in Cincinnati in 1951, bringing together young people from Austria, Britain, Denmark, France, Germany, Mexico, Norway, Sweden and USA. CISV International is now officially registered in the United Kingdom.

Where we are today

Over the years, beginning with that first Village, CISV volunteers have organized over 7,000 international programmes for some 300,000 participants. Since 1950 the world has changed, and CISV has evolved along with it. Today, CISV offers experiences to people of all ages, starting with children aged eleven, through to young adults. In the spirit of Doris Allen's original vision, CISV aspires to be a unique and pioneering organization. CISV has grown from one programme model to seven different international programmes; from one Village to over 200 programme-events a year, involving over 8000 participants. CISV continues to grow, guided by its founding belief that a more just and peaceful world is possible through inter cultural exchange, education and friendship.



VISION, PURPOSE & PRINCIPLES

CISV has a vision of a more just and peaceful world.

We believe that we can all take responsibility for making this happen. This vision gives us a strong purpose, or mission, which is summed up clearly in our Statement of Purpose:

In other words, CISV exists to educate and inspire people so they can actively contribute to a world of peace, justice and equality, where Human Rights and the environment are respected.

CISV does this because we believe that everyone can play an active role in creating a better world.

CISV's vision and purpose are supported directly by its four Educational Principles, which form the foundation for CISV's educational programmes.

They sum up the vision of a better world.

Not only do these Principles guide CISV's Peace Education content, but they also provide a guide for the organization, and everyone involved with it.

CISV's four principles

- We appreciate the similarities between people and value their differences
- We support social justice and equality of opportunity for all
- We encourage the resolution of conflict through peaceful means
- We support the creation of sustainable solutions to problems relating to our impact upon each other and the natural environment

We believe that through the choices we make, debates we have and actions we take within our families and communities, we can all take responsibility for making our world a better place to live in.



Peace education content & Approach, Research and Partnerships

Peace education content

CISV is a Peace Education organization acting to make a positive impact in the world. But what does “Peace Education” mean?

Simply put, Peace Education looks at local and global issues, recognizing that peace can mean much more than the absence of war. Peace Education is a way of learning about issues that are seen to be the root causes of social injustice and conflict.



The purpose behind Peace Education is to develop the Attitudes, Skills and Knowledge needed in order to act for positive change; in other words, to help individuals to become Active Global Citizens.

Experiential learning

‘Learning by doing’, or ‘Experiential Learning’ is simply a way of saying learning through direct, personal experience, rather than from reading books or listening to lectures. It is the basic educational approach of all CISV Programmes and this process is referred to as ‘Experiential Learning’.

Research & partnerships

CISV also has two other important ways of contributing to working towards the vision of a more just and peaceful world. One is by setting up partnerships with other organizations to work on projects with shared goals.

The other is by carrying out research, which contributes to the body of knowledge on Peace Education and its effective delivery.

Learning by doing

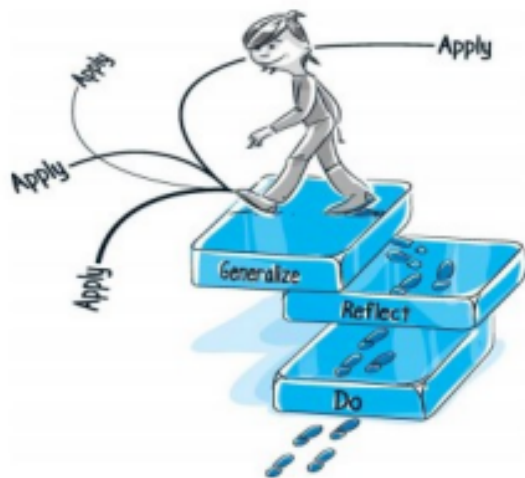
Learning by doing is a part of any CISV activity.

Our Participants “**DO**”, have hands-on experience

“**REFLECT**” on what they have done

“**GENERALISE**” what they have learned

“**APPLY**” what they have learned



Active Global Citizens need a combination of Attitudes, Skills and Knowledge.

These components are the heart of our educational goals and our approach to learning.

OUR PROGRAMS

Village

A camp-based programme for 11-year-old lasting 23 or 27 days supported by 16-17-year-old as Junior Councillor (JC)

The first Village, our original programme, was held in 1951

CISV Villages are international camps that inspire 11-year-old children to imagine a more just and peaceful world. The children come together from many different countries to take part in a variety of educational, cultural and fun activities.

Each Village welcomes delegations from 12 countries. Each delegation has two boys and two girls, accompanied by an adult leader. The camp is coordinated by adult staff, supported by Junior Counsellors (age 16-17).

A Village creates a safe, fun setting in which your child will learn, with children from around the world, about each other's lives and cultures and how to communicate, cooperate and live together. The Village learning experiences, and the friendships made, will last your child a lifetime.



Youth Meeting

A camp-based programme for 12–13-year-old, lasting either 8 or 15 days

The first Youth Meeting was held in 1969. Youth Meetings bring small groups of young people, of similar ages together from different countries within a region.

Youth Meetings are for 36 participants (8 delegations of 4 children), coordinated by adult staffs. Join a Youth Meeting and explore aspects of a theme that affects us all, such as democracy, and share your perspectives and learn from each other. You will also think about how you can use what you gain from your experience - new understanding and planning and communication skills - beyond the camp in your school, college or community. As with all of our programmes, you will find there is an emphasis on

friendship and fun!

Step Up

[A camp-based programme for 14–15-year-old, lasting 23 days](#)

The first Step Up was held in 1985. CISV's Step Up programme encourages young people to take a leading role in planning and organizing activities.

The participants and their adult leaders use CISV's peace education to guide the theme of the camp around which they plan activities, such as identity, democracy, or environmental protection.



Step Up delegations come from nine countries and consist of four young people, 2 girls and 2 boys, who are accompanied by an adult leader. The camp is coordinated by adult staff.

Taking part in Step Up gives you the amazing opportunity to learn about important issues that affect us all and how they are thought about and dealt with in different countries and cultures. You will think about how you will take your new knowledge and leadership skills and make active use of them in your school or community. Just as importantly, you will have fun and make new and lasting friendships.

Seminar Camp

[A camp-based programme for 16–17-year-olds, lasting 21 days](#)

The first Seminar Camp was held in 1959. This personally challenging, intensive programme is coordinated by the young participants themselves. They develop their own agenda and explore global issues based on their backgrounds and interests, through activities and in-depth discussions.

Seminar Camps are for 30 international participants, with the supervision and assistance of international adult staff.

Joining a Seminar Camp puts you in the driving-seat, as with your fellow participants you plan and lead the programme. Being part of Seminar Camp's group-living environment encourages you to take a creative and cooperative approach to problem-solving and resolving differences that can arise from healthy discussion. Friendship and fun ensure that your Seminar Camp experience is lasting and positive.

Mosaic

Mosaic is CISV's local community-based programme for participants of all ages. Mosaic can be anything from a one-off event to a year-long project.

Mosaic projects are planned and delivered by our Chapters, using CISV's educational approach, and each one responds to local needs and interests in a meaningful way. Most projects are designed and run in cooperation with partner organizations to further the benefit to the local community.

Being part of a Mosaic project is a real-life learning experience that will have a lasting impact and, if you're new to CISV, it's a great way to get involved!

Junior Branch

CISV's Junior Branch members (JBers) are young local CISVers, who develop their intercultural and leadership skills through organizing and taking part in educational and social activities. JBers also often take an active role in the administrative responsibilities of their Chapters. Through their national and international network, JBers organize their own regional and international activities and events on a wide variety of themes, such as social justice and the environment. Most of JB activities are for 15+ and some are open to participants as from Village or those under 15 who have attended a Step-Up camp. To join please send an e-mail to njr@be.cisv.org and like the "JB Belgium" Facebook page.

CISV IN BELGIUM

CISV Belgium is run by volunteers.

CISV is a family organisation. We cannot make it happen without YOU!

Legal structure

CISV in Belgium is composed of a National Association (NA - CISV Belgium) and with one chapter : CISV Belgium.

The day to day running of CISV in Belgium, is run by different teams listed below.

Operational structure

- Communication
- Program Hosting & Sending
- Training
- Finance
- FundRaising
- Risk Management
- Shop
- IT-team & website

You have great ideas to share with one of the teams? You are welcome to send a mail to communication-team@cisv.be

Now, let's be frank. You will be even more welcome if not only you share your ideas but you also help to make them happen. We are all volunteers with a limited time available and are always very happy to learn to know new people.

How it all works

Each year, CISV Belgium receives invitations from CISV international to send about 80 delegates to an international CISV program. There are different rounds of invitations.

For next summer, in this year's first round, we have already received invitations for:

- Villages (11 years old)
- Youth Meeting (12 – 13 years old)
- Step Up delegations (14 – 15 years old)
- Junior Counselor (16 – 17 years old)
- Seminar Camp (16 – 17 years old)

NOTE: As invitations can change up until the end of February we do not share delegation and travel information before the month of March

Most of our programs are in July, some might be in August.

EVER THOUGHT OF TAKING AN ACTIVE PART IN GLOBAL
PEACE EDUCATION – EVER WANTED TO BE A STAFF?
ALWAYS DREAMED OF BEING A LEADER?

WHAT YOU LEARN FROM IT

Cooperation, work with other cultures, pedagogical approach,
organization, communication, leadership, responsibility
increase your network at global level

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

We train you (how to organize an activity, deal with stressful
situations, conflict management, risk management...)

We support you (through the local chapter and teams, before,
during, after the camp.

KEY MOMENTS IN THE RUN UP TO A CAMP

Preparation meetings (see calendar at the end of info-pack)

Taking part in the preparation activities is not only a sign of motivation, but also a key step in your child's CISV adventure. You'll find the yearly calendar of our meetings at the end of this booklet. These meetings usually take place once a month on a Sunday afternoon. These meetings are mandatory (exception for planned school trip or if sick 🤒).

Your child will have the opportunity to learn about CISV, build a strong relationship with other delegates, start preparing for his/her camp, learn national dances, lullabies, and energizers... Note that once your child has been selected in March, participation in meetings after Easter remains CRITICAL in order to build a special link with his/her delegation and leader.

Note that meetings with parents will also be held as necessary at the same time as activities are held for participants. This is our opportunity to share more information and, for you, to ask all the questions you might have and raise any possible concern.

Preparation Weekend or Two full-day meetings

Each year, we hold two full-day meetings. Participation is mandatory for the experience. Acceptable exceptions are : school field trips or health reasons. This is THE MOMENT for the participants to spend time with the delegates and get to know each other better. It is also the time for us to look at the children's affinities and see how delegations could be created.

Setting up delegations

Please note that all camps are the same all over the world (including in Belgium...). Only dates and travel costs vary. This is why CISV does not offer you the possibility to choose the camp you/your children are going to attend. Delegations will be set up taking into consideration the fit and dynamics we observe between participants and leaders.

Our major concern when setting up a delegation is that ALL participants are comfortable with their group and leader.

We will focus on keeping the balance right for ALL.

Yet, when signing up for a CISV program we offer you the possibility to choose between a

destination in Europe (this includes Belgium) or one outside Europe. This is due to the difference of costs it involves. We will make our best effort to fit your preferences.

Selection / Decision making criteria

Should we have too many candidates for our programs, we will have to make a selection. We use the following selection criteria:

- Motivation
- Taking part in the preparation meetings and activities throughout the year (mandatory as it is critical for us to know the candidates):
- Age
- Maturity
- Family / participant's support to CISV Belgium
- Being a hosting family for CISV delegates for 1 or 2 week-ends in July (see below)
- Subscription and payment of deposit before 31 of December: gives you priority to candidates that arrive later in the year
- Finally, when all the above criteria will have been met, we will also give priority to candidates living in Belgium

Delegation announcement / Important admin info

Delegations will be announced in March during a preparation meeting. It will be followed by an information meeting with parents where there will be an opportunity to meet other parents and leaders.

We will inform you of all the admin details, in particular how to sign up to myCISV (with CISV International) and submit **mandatory forms** that MUST be completed prior to joining any CISV program/camp.

In addition, we will need:

- proof of health insurance” (mutualité / mutualiteit)
- Prescription for optical glasses (when appropriate)
- Copy of ID or passport

REMEMBER : we are volunteers and it is imperative that you submit those documents in time as per the deadline set by CISV International.

Ahead of camps, starting In March/April, hosting staffs will prepare “pre-camps” (up to 3 max). These contain a lot of info on your/your child’s upcoming camp. **Please read them carefully and, for parents, SHARE with your children.** This will help them get ready for camp.

We also suggest that, ahead of the camp, you organize a little activity with the co-delegate(s) of your child to give them even more opportunities to know each other better. We also encourage you to invite the leaders at home for an evening to get to know them better and share whatever you believe is important regarding your children.

We can’t make it real without you

Your child is about to participate in a CISV program, it’s probably not obvious but this means A LOT of work from MANY volunteers here in Belgium.

One of the reasons your child may go on camp is that we organize camps here in Belgium. No hosting of camps in Belgium means no invitations to send participants to other CISV camps. This means A LOT of work and preparation before AND during AND even after...

HOST FAMILIES

Being a host family is a perfect way to better understand CISV and to have a glimpse in your child’s experience: For some days during camp, participants are hosted by local CISV families (homestay), while the leaders and staff meet and prepare the camp. As a host family we suggest that you choose activities that are appropriate for a peace education programme. The activities should not be too tiring and they should show the normal life of a family in that hosting country in order to experience the culture.

We ask all families that send a child to a CISV camp to be a host family and / or to find host families for one or two week-ends during the Village organized by CISV Belgium.

This implies welcoming 2 delegates during a week-end (from Friday to Sunday) either at the start of the camp, in the middle of the camp, or the end of the camp. In case you cannot commit to host delegates, we will ask you to find families in your network to host delegates.

This is a wonderful way to share a little of your child's adventure

OTHER SUPPORT includes: Kitchen Staff, Cleaning teams at the end of the camps, transportation of delegates from and to the airport, accompanying adults during excursions, laundry etc ...

We also welcome food, cleaning products, arts & crafts material (paper, ink, pens, glue,....)

**IN OTHER WORDS, YOUR SUPPORT IS KEY TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS
FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS AND FAMILIES**

MEMBERSHIP FEE

To participate in a CISV program - in Belgium or abroad - as well as participate in all activities held in Belgium, **all delegates MUST be members of CISV in Belgium.** We propose the following memberships:

- **Family Membership** : 80€ - all the family members living under the same roof are then members of CISV Belgium.
- **Single parent family membership with 1 child** : 50€.
- **Individual membership** : 50 € - for adults (18 years+) participating in our activities and not belonging to a CISV family (leaders, staff, ...)
- **Support membership** : from 100 € & up – a nice way to show your support to our organization

INDICATIVE PRICES FOR CAMPS

Participation costs for our programs are built as follows :

1- The membership Fee : see above.

2- The Travel Costs : These are paid by the families directly. These will also include, for the delegates traveling with a leader, the ticket for the leader. Cost to be divided among participants.

3- The National Fee : covering hosting of programs and activities in Belgium, leaders/staff/JCs training

Camp duration	Indicative price National Fee
27 days	1,320 €
3 weeks	1,100 €
2 weeks	825 €

Note that a delegation pack paid by CISV Belgium will be given to each delegation in order to prepare for their national day during the camp : candy, chocolates, costumes, flags, gifts for staff...

All prices are indicative and might slightly vary (not more than 10%) due to the International Fee. CISV is an inclusive non profit organisation and will also consider sequenced payments of the above fees.

WANT TO JOIN – HOW TO APPLY

Fill in:

- The subscription form 2024-2025 : <https://shorturl.at/8VEIm>
- Find the form our FB page : <https://www.facebook.com/CISVBelgium>
- Or via www.cisv.be => “apply now”
- Pay a deposit of 150 € by 31 December for camp subscription

CISV BELGIUM BE12 3630 6148 3892

Communication : Deposit + surname + first name of participant

- Pay the membership fee as of today

CISV BELGIUM BE12 3630 6148 3892

Communication: Membership 2023-2024 + surnames
and first name(s) of the persons becoming members.

AND JOIN THE ACTIVITIES... See the agenda on the next page: Follow CISV Belgium on Social Media to stay up-to-date: Instagram @cisv_belgium & Facebook @CISVBelgium

YEARLY PLANNING

Check our FB page for updates

Date	Time	What	For whom	Where
Sunday September 15th 2024	13.30 to 16.30	Getting to know CISV Info session for parents Preparation Meeting	Everyone interested new or not Village (11y) (+JC), Youth-Meeting (12- 13), Step-Up, Seminar Camp	Basisschool Prinses Juliana Rue d'Oultremont 19, 1040 Bruxelles
Saturday October 12th 2024	TBC	General Assembly	Board members mandatory / all members welcome	TBC
Saturday October 12th 2024	13.30 to 16.30 + 18.00 to 22.00	Preparation meeting + Fundraising event	Village (11y) (+JC), Youth-Meeting (12- 13), Step-Up (14-15), Seminar Camp (16)	
Sunday November 17th 2024	13.30 to 16.30	Preparation meeting	Village (11y) (+JC), Youth-Meeting (12- 13), Step-Up (14-15), Seminar Camp (16)	Basisschool Prinses Juliana Rue d'Oultremont 19, 1040 Bruxelles
Sunday December 15th 2024	13.30 to 16.30	Preparation meeting	Village (11y) (+JC), Youth-Meeting (12- 13), Step-Up (14-15), Seminar Camp (16)	Basisschool Prinses Juliana Rue d'Oultremont 19, 1040 Bruxelles
Sunday January 19th 2025		Special visit	Village (11y) (+JC), Youth-Meeting (12- 13), Step-Up (14-15), Seminar Camp (16)	Mechelen
Weekend with sleepover February 15th +16th 2025	February 15th 10:00 until February 16th 16.00	Preparation Meeting for all camps	For all subscribed	Nekkerspoel Mechelen
Sunday March 16th 2025	13.30 to 16.30	Preparation Meeting - Delgation Announcement	For all subscribed	Basisschool Prinses Juliana Rue d'Oultremont 19, 1040 Bruxelles
Sunday April xxth 2025	13.30 to 16.30	"picnic with parents" - Shop open		TBC
Sunday May xxth 2025	13.30 to 16.30			TBC
Sunday June xxth 2025	13.30 to 16.30			TBC

