EURASIAN BRAVE SPACE FORUM

The Netherlands Delegation

Itinerary

ICO organises this exchange so students from Amsterdam, India and Taiwan can meet after their online work. The residential Forum uses the Brave Space method to compare perspectives, discuss global issues and develop a practical action.

DATES	**1 - 4 and 7 October 2026**
PLACES	**Stayokay Soest • Ir. Lely Lyceum**

Brave Space method

The Forum asks students to speak from experience, examine assumptions, listen across differences and take responsibility for how the group works. Times are provisional and the group leader confirms practical details each morning.

Programme overview

The itinerary combines the residential Brave Space Forum (for all participants) with educational visits around the weekend (for the Taiwanese and Indian students), which provide historical and social context for discussions.

Date	Place	Main programme
Thu 1 Oct	Home, after school	Pack, choose your story object and prepare questions
Fri 2 Oct	Amsterdam / Soest	Travel to Soest, for the Forum opening
Sat 3 Oct	Soest	Intercultural communication and Global Dialogue Labs
Sun 4 Oct	Soest / Amsterdam	Action plans, presentations, evaluation and return
Wed 7 Oct	Ir. Lely Lyceum	Welcome your international friends back to school

How we will work

- Meet as equal partners: nobody speaks for an entire country or culture.
- Speak from your own experience, listen to understand and challenge ideas without attacking people.
- Compare local examples, ask genuine questions and leave room for quieter voices.
- Turn dialogue into one realistic action and say how you will know whether it helped.

How the programme connects

The visits provide examples related to migration, belief, power, public space, conflict, memory and art. During the Forum, mixed groups compare these examples with their own communities. On Sunday, each group develops one realistic action for their school or community.

Bring

- Comfortable walking shoes, warm layers and a waterproof jacket.
- A daypack, refillable bottle, notebook, pen and charged phone (preferably with data plan).
- Sports clothes for optional activities.
- Medication, travel documents and a power plug to charge your phone.
- For Friday evening: one small object or photo connected to your life or identity.
- A board game, your favourite music or small group activity for free time during the evening.

THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 2026

Preparation at school & during the evening

Students prepare one local example, two questions and a personal object or image for the Forum.

Daypart	Programme	Extra information
Morning	Normal school programme.	Think of one local issue or experience that connects to inequality, identity, gender, technology, climate, education or participation.
Afternoon	Normal school programme and final practical checks with your teacher.	Confirm the Friday meeting point, travel plan, emergency contact and what lunch you need.
Evening	Pack your overnight bag and choose one small object or image for Stories Across Cultures. Prepare two genuine questions for international classmates.	A personal example is more useful than a polished speech. You do not need to represent all of Amsterdam or The Netherlands.

Link to the Forum: Good dialogue starts with preparation. A concrete local example and a genuine question help international classmates connect global themes to real school and city life.

Reflection question: Which view or opinion about inequality, identity, gender, technology, climate, education of yours feels certain? Write the strongest fair argument against it, an argument that could help you understand another student's experience.

FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER 2026

Travel to Soest and Forum opening

Students travel to Stayokay Soest, meet the other participants and agree how the Brave Space will work.

Daypart	Programme	Extra information
Morning	School morning and final travel preparation.	Your teacher confirms the departure point and group arrangements.
Afternoon	Travel to Soest and walk from Soest Zuid to Stayokay with luggage. After an official welcome, we will start building our Brave Space.	Help everyone settle in. Agreements include speaking from experience, listening to understand, challenging ideas rather than people and making room for quieter voices.
Evening	Dinner, Stories Across Cultures and an informal game night.	Share your object or image without turning your own experience into a rule for everyone else.

Link to the Forum: As the host-school group, you help turn an international event into a shared space. Welcoming others, explaining unfamiliar routines and making room for quieter voices are forms of leadership.

Reflection question: Who has not yet been invited into the conversation? Learn a name, make an introduction and help one mixed group move beyond small talk.

SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 2026

Brave Space Forum dialogue day

Students practise intercultural communication and discuss climate, technology, inequality, gender and participation in mixed groups.

Daypart	Programme	Extra information
Morning	Optional run, breakfast and check-in. In the Intercultural Communication Lab, try practical exercises on hierarchy, politeness, directness and non-verbal communication. Global Dialogue Lab I follows.	In mixed groups, compare local examples of climate justice, energy, technology, AI, education and opportunity. You are not looking for one correct national answer; explain what shapes your view and listen for a perspective that complicates it.
Afternoon	Lunch and a nature walk. Global Dialogue Lab II explores power, privilege, identity, gender and inclusion. In From Tension to Common Ground, respond to a challenging statement, compare positions and name both agreement and unresolved tension. Sports follow.	Expect small-group discussion and a visible position exercise. Common ground does not mean hiding disagreement. Notice who speaks easily, who is interrupted and how a group can create fairer space.
Evening	Dinner reflection and an international social evening shaped by the participating students.	Bring music, a game, a question or a small activity that helps others join in. The aim is connection, not a polished cultural performance.

Link to the Forum: This is the heart of the Brave Space mission: practise disagreement without disrespect, compare local realities and recognise how power affects who is heard. Success does not require consensus.

Reflection question: Listen for the strongest argument against your current view. What could make your view change, become more precise or remain unresolved?

SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER 2026

Forum action day and return

Mixed groups turn one issue from the dialogue sessions into a realistic action and evaluate the Forum. Amsterdam delegation returns home.

Daypart	Programme	Extra information
Morning	Optional yoga or movement, breakfast and check-in. In From Dialogue to Action, mixed groups choose one shared issue and complete an action canvas. They then write a Shared Future Statement.	The canvas identifies affected voices, a realistic first step, a partner, a timeline and a simple sign of progress. The statement includes one shared principle, one unresolved tension and one practical commitment.
Afternoon	Lunch and Live Stratego, then presentations and a gallery walk. Give feedback to other groups, complete a personal reflection and evaluation, and join the closing circle. Amsterdam delegation departs.	Use the gallery walk to test whether each action is realistic and inclusive. In your evaluation, name what challenged you, what changed or became more complicated and what you will take back to school.
Evening	Arrive home, rest and unpack.	Keep any notes or action-plan material: the international reunion is on Wednesday.

Link to the Forum: Returning home is the first test of the action plan. The Forum mattered when insights become a realistic change in your school or community life.

Reflection question: What is the first step, who needs to join it and when will your group check whether anything changed?

WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2026

Ir. Lely Lyceum school visit

The international groups visit Ir. Lely Lyceum for a reunion, school tour and joint activity.

Daypart	Programme	Extra information
Morning	Welcome the Taiwanese and Indian groups for the morning school visit. Give a tour, introduce school life and take part in a joint activity.	Show the real school, not a perfect performance. Explain routines that visitors might not understand and ask what is different in their schools.
Afternoon	Return to your normal school programme after the visitors' packed lunch and departure.	The international groups continue to the Holocaust Names Monument and then the Portuguese Synagogue, connecting remembrance with living Jewish heritage.
Evening	Add one short follow-up note to your reflections if requested by your teacher.	A useful follow-up note could be a genuine insight as well as an actionable thought.

Host challenge

Introduce one person, one place and one school habit that help your visitors understand Amsterdam life more clearly.

Link to the Forum: Showing your school makes the exchange reciprocal and gives visitors a real setting for the ideas you discussed in Soest. Friendship grows when people understand one another's ordinary routines.

Reflection question: What could visitors misunderstand about your school without an explanation? Share one honest strength, one challenge and one habit that matters to students here.

Final reflection and useful links

Use one encounter from the programme to identify a remaining question and a practical next step.

Your final reflection

Choose one encounter that changed or complicated your thinking. Write one question you still have, one person or group you want to involve, and one small action you can try at school or at home.

Useful links

- Project page: www.connectforglobalchange.eu/projects/the-netherlands/global-citizenship-in-action-the-eurasian-brave-space-forum
- Sustainable Development Goals: sdgs.un.org/goals

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