

## CLOSER TO EACH OTHER – 2017

### A Youth Meeting between students of the II *Liceum* from Łomża and the Gvanim High School from Israel



The tenth meeting of students from the II *Liceum* and the Gvanim High School from Israel took place on 6 March 2017 in Łomża. Students from both schools have been meeting every spring for ten years. This year a group of 70 Israeli students, five teachers and three guides visited Łomża to meet 80 Polish students, eight teachers and the School Headmistress.

The jubilee meeting, like all the previous ones, was filled with an atmosphere of mutual kindness, openness and friendship. The students of both schools were greeted by Headmistress Jolanta Kossakowska, the former Headmaster Józef Przybylski and Mrs Nili Trabelsi, the Israeli coordinator of the meeting.

The official address was followed by workshops which the students carried out in seven groups. This is the most important element of the whole programme, as the students can establish individual contact with each other in such small groups. The plan of the workshop is different every year because different students take part in the meeting and both the teachers and the students do their best to prepare very attractive classes. The planning and preparation work is done in collaboration by both sides. The workshop allows the participating students to forge friendships easily.

The group work was followed by a dance class, during which the students learnt the *Polonez*, the *Belgian*, and two traditional Israeli dances. This part of the meeting is always the most popular with the participants, as it allows to them to be naturally lively and enthusiastic.

It was difficult to bring the meeting to a close as the students found it impossible to part. The event was another step towards the establishment of very good relations between young people from Poland and

Israel, as part of a project carried out by the Polish Centre for Education Development, the Yad Vashem Institute, the Israeli Ministry of Education and the Polish Institute in Tel Aviv.

Coordinator of the meeting in Łomża: Leszek Szczepara

