



Cooperation with Deutsche Stiftung Völkerverständigung

### “SchülerAustausch-Messe” at the International School of Hamburg

**(Hamburg, 10 February 2015): Under the patronage of Hamburg’s First Mayor Olaf Scholz, the Deutsche Stiftung Völkerverständigung (German Foundation of International Understanding) organizes its annual “SchülerAustausch-Messe” (StudentExchange-Fair) on Sunday, 22 February between 10:00 to 16:00. The International School of Hamburg (ISH) hosts this event for the very first time. About 50 exhibitors provide the expected 2000 visitors with information about the diverse options for overseas stays. Entrance is free for interested teenagers, families and educators.**

Whether still in school or past graduation: Gathering experiences abroad is popular among young people - and the possibilities endless. For those who plan to head overseas for an extensive period in 2015 it is high time to start with the preparations. The “SchülerAustausch-Messe” offers extensive information and orientation to that end.

Olaf Scholz, First Mayor of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, is the fair’s patron. “Abroad young adults have the opportunity to gain plenty of experiences, be it through a student exchange, a voluntary gap year, a placement as au pair or work & travel. They have to engage an unfamiliar environment and find their way, organize themselves, meet new friends and possibly earn some money. In the process they gain self-confidence, a sense of responsibility and open-mindedness. They do not only familiarize themselves with the host country’s culture, but also may perceive their own country from a different perspective. This willingness fits Hamburg’s historic self-conception as Gateway to the World.”

During the fair, leading exchange organizations and neutral consulting institutes will inform the visitors about high school stays, boarding schools, private schools, language trips, au pair, colleges, holiday/summer camps, volunteering, internships, and work & travel. Besides classic destinations such as the USA and Canada a further 60 countries are on offer. Testimonies of former exchange students, expert talks and details about the “Schüler-Stipendien-Programm” (Student scholarship program) by the Deutsche Stiftung Völkerverständigung round off the event.

“We are very pleased about this cooperation and gladly open our gates for the exchange fair and its visitors. After all, international-mindedness, international

#### Contact

International School of Hamburg  
Marc Morian / Marketing Manager  
Hemmingstedter Weg 130 | 22609 Hamburg  
Tel.: +49 (40) 8000 50 200 | Mobil: 0151 – 58 53 09 76  
Mail: [press@ishamburg.org](mailto:press@ishamburg.org) | [www.ishamburg.org](http://www.ishamburg.org)

[schulkomzept](http://schulkomzept.de) | Public Relations  
Jan Schütte  
Johann-Mohr-Weg 2 | 22763 Hamburg  
Tel.: +49 (40) 88 15 96 64 | Mobil: 0151 – 18 44 90 40  
Mail: [js@schulkomzept.de](mailto:js@schulkomzept.de) | [www.schulkomzept.de](http://www.schulkomzept.de)



# INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF HAMBURG

## PRESSEINFORMATION / PRESS RELEASE

understanding and learning in a global context are values that live and breathe at ISH. Most of our 750 students from more than 50 countries are familiar with the experience of coping with a new environment and adjusting to a foreign culture”, Head of School Andreas Swoboda explains.

### **International School of Hamburg (ISH)**

ISH was Germany’s very first international school and still remains Hamburg’s only educational institution accredited by the Council of International Schools. For more than half a century it is dedicated to a full-day, English-language education of its students aimed at turning them into responsible citizens of the world who unfold their full potential. More than 750 young people from over 50 nations currently visit ISH. They are divided into the Early Childhood Centre (age 3 to 5), Junior School (grade 1 to 5) and Secondary School (grade 6 to 12). About 100 highly qualified teachers from all over the world support them on their way to the International Baccalaureate (IB Diploma), which enables them to enter leading national and international universities. Since ISH uses the globally standardized educational systems IPC and IB, its students are able to seamlessly resume their education at thousands of schools worldwide, if necessary.

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### Contact

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Marc Morian / Marketing Manager  
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Mail: [press@ishamburg.org](mailto:press@ishamburg.org) | [www.ishamburg.org](http://www.ishamburg.org)

schulkomzept | Public Relations  
Jan Schütte  
Johann-Mohr-Weg 2 | 22763 Hamburg  
Tel.: +49 (40) 88 15 96 64 | Mobil: 0151 – 18 44 90 40  
Mail: [js@schulkomzept.de](mailto:js@schulkomzept.de) | [ww.schulkomzept.de](http://ww.schulkomzept.de)