



USA-TUNISIA DEBATES MARCH 18-27, 2012

FAQ'S

Description of Project

The USA-TUNISIA Debates will be open to students in the ages of 17-24. Major goals of the program include language acquisition in a practical setting with Arabic, French and English featured during the debates in Tunis with partners from the Mediterranean Business School, the Tunis Business School, Lycée Pierre Mendès-France, and the Tunisian Ministry of Education. Students will stay with host families adding to the "people-to-people" goal of the program. Cultural trips to Carthage and Sousse will feature the rich history of Tunisia. Perhaps the most important goal of the trip is to learn about the Tunisian Revolution through the context of the debate process. Tunisia is where the Arab Spring started launching political and economic changes throughout the Arab world. Debate topics will center around the events of the past year while discussing the future alongside Tunisian students. Teams of four will feature one American student working with three Tunisian students in each debate. Additionally, it is a goal of this project to reflect the broad diversity of the United States and include a balance of economic, gender, racial, ethnic and other backgrounds for our delegation.

Financial Assistance

We are partnering with the U.S. Department of State via the U.S. Embassy in Tunis. A generous grant by them will allow **nearly full scholarships** for each member of the delegation. If selected, you will be asked to pay a deposit of \$250 refunded at the conclusion of the trip. Aside from this expense, you would only need money for incidentals and most meals will be provided at no charge to you.

When Does the Project Begin and End?

This project formally begins with arrival of all participants at our orientation hotel in Washington D.C. on March 18 with departure to Tunis on March 19. This trip will end with departure from Tunis on March 27. (Dates are approximate and may fluctuate by a day.) USA Youth Debates will make all travel arrangements through a group booking and that will be discussed with each participant prior to booking.

Host Families

We will be staying with host families each of our nights in Tunis (with the exception of possibly one night when we travel to another city). Each family will host one student, most likely a family of one of the Tunisian students participating in the debates. Most meals (breakfast and dinner) will be taken with host families.

Passport

All participants will need to have a current U.S. passport. If you are not a U.S. citizen and will be carrying another passport, please discuss with us.

Itinerary

Sunday, March 18: Students leave home cities for Washington, DC-Orientation

Monday, March 19: Orientation continues. Leave late afternoon-Paris.

Tuesday, March 20: Arrive Paris-connect to Tunis flight-arrive afternoon-meet host families
Wednesday, March 21: Tour of area w/ Tunisian students.
Thursday, March 22: Opening of debates Mediterranean School Of Business
Friday, March 23: Opening of Debates, Tunis Business School
Saturday, March 24: Trip to Sousse
Sunday, March 25: Return from Sousse...free time in afternoon in Tunis.
Monday, March 26: Opening of debates at Tunisian National Assembly(tentative)
Tuesday, March 27: Reception at U.S. Embassy. Students return home via Paris.

Website Details

Information regarding how to apply along with an application plus information:
www.usayouthdebates.org

Please feel free to contact John Tredway, Director with questions via e-mail (tredway@comcast.net) or telephone (941-408-8353 EST)