Workshop Content

Day 1: The first step in being able to resolve or transform conflicts is to understand what a conflict is about. But what is conflict? What is the dynamic between conflict and violence? And what are some tools to help us understand what a conflict is about and where we can start to engage?

We will define key terms, such as conflict and forms of violence, explore the dynamics which drive conflicts, stages of conflict escalation, and apply tools for analysing conflicts from different perspectives.

Day 2: We will identify the skills that define professional mediators and negotiators. Then we will simulate efforts to resolve a conflict affected by water scarcity.

While we all negotiate, professionals do this differently. They take care to develop constructive relationships, to search for common ground and to prepare and follow up. Mediators do everything they can to facilitate a negotiation, and nothing else.

Day 3: Peace Research is an important part of conflict resolution. We will discuss challenges and realities of doing research in conflict and post conflict zones. Additionally, students are invited to explore the Peace Tech Marketplace, which will be important for their final essay.

Objective and Methodology

Based on a pre-defined scenario, participants shall gain a basic understanding of key elements and concepts of practical peace work and be able to incorporate those into their own (professional) contexts.
The Summer School is an interactive course including group works and discussions, simulations, and a written final paper.

General Information

Group Size: 20-30 students
Language: English
Requirements: Good working knowledge of English is required. No previous relevant experience is expected; however, we value a genuine interest in the topic, intellectual curiosity, and an open mindset. A reading list will be provided.
Workshop facilitators: Augustin Nicolescou (Senior Conflict Resolution Expert, ACP), Sami Faltas (Senior Facilitator, Conflict Resolution Skills), Jan Pospisil (Coventry University and ACP Advisory Board Member), Sayra van den Berg (University of York).

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Partners

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