



# Glossary

## ‘Peace Mediation Course’

<b>Armed conflict</b>	<p>“An armed conflict is a contested incompatibility which concerns government and/or territory where the use of armed force between two parties, of which at least one is the government of a state, results in at least 25 battle-related deaths.” (Uppsala 2006).</p> <p>The Commentary of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 confirms that "any difference arising between two States and leading to the intervention of armed forces is an armed conflict within the meaning of Article 2, even if one of the Parties denies the existence of a state of war. It makes no difference how long the conflict lasts, or how much slaughter takes place." International humanitarian law distinguishes two types of armed conflicts, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• international armed conflicts, opposing two or more States, and</li> <li>• non-international armed conflicts, between governmental forces and nongovernmental armed groups, or between such groups only. (ICRC 2008)</li> </ul>
<b>Armed Non State Actors (ANSA)</b>	<p>Armed groups who challenge the state’s monopoly on coercive force, operate outside effective state control, and have some sort of political, economic and military agenda (ACCORD 2005).</p>
<b>Compromise</b>	<p>Every party’s minimal requirements satisfied at least (BW). OR “A solution to a mutual problem that meets some, but not all, of each of the parties' interests.” (Colorado conflict glossary)</p>
<b>Conflict</b>	<p>Conflict: a struggle between two or more actors over</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues = security / justice / political / economic / environmental</li> <li>• Data = lack of information, different interpretation or assessments</li> <li>• Resources &amp; Structures = control and use of resources, power, time</li> <li>• Relationship = miscommunication, negative emotions, destructive behavior</li> <li>• Values = differing judgments of what is right and wrong, worldviews</li> </ul> <p>Adapted from Moore 2003, p. 64</p>
<b>Conflict management</b>	<p>Conflict management generally involves taking action to keep a conflict from escalating further - it implies the ability to control the intensity of a conflict and its effects through negotiation, intervention, institutional mechanisms and other traditional diplomatic methods. It does not usually address the deep-rooted issues that may be at the cause of the conflict originally or attempt to bring about a solution (Search for Common Ground). (Note: others use “conflict management” as a general term to describe all forms of “managing” conflict)</p>
<b>Conflict prevention</b>	<p>Both structural and diplomatic measures to assist national actors in keeping intrastate and inter-state tensions from escalating into violent conflict, in all phases of a conflict cycle (pre-, in, post). ‘Operational prevention’ deals with measures applicable in the face of an immediate crisis, and ‘structural prevention’ focuses more on the long term prevention of crises (Adapted from Annan, 2001).</p>
<b>Conflict resolution</b>	<p>Conflict resolution seeks to resolve the incompatibilities of interests and behaviors that constitute the conflict by recognizing and addressing the underlying issues, finding a mutually acceptable process and establishing relatively harmonious relationships and outcomes (Search for Common Ground).</p>
<b>Conflict transformation</b>	<p>Conflict transformation seeks to change the way of dealing with conflicts by empowering parties and enhancing mutual recognition so as to minimize the use of</p>

	violence. It involves dealing with direct and indirect/structural causes and aspects of conflict (Source: Lederach 1996).
<b>Dialogue</b>	A dialogue process entails a series of meetings between two or more actors across the conflict lines with the intention of exchanging perceptions and building understanding and trust. Dialogue does not primarily aim at decisions and implementable action. (Source: Pruitt/Thomas 2007). In some political and cultural contexts, dialogue is also used more broadly to cover aspects of mediation and negotiation, as the term “dialogue” is often more acceptable and seen as less intrusive than other terms.
<b>Escalation</b>	Escalation is an increase in intensity of a conflict. (Colorado conflict glossary)
<b>Facilitation</b>	Facilitation is similar to mediation, but a third party facilitator is not so much involved in the contents and outcome of a negotiation process between parties to a conflict. A facilitator mainly encourages parties to talk to each other by offering the traditional “good offices” services or by creating an occasion for parties to meet. Facilitation can be understood as less structured than mediation, or it can be defined in the same way as “facilitative mediation”, where the facilitator is less interventionist (e.g. a dialogue workshop focuses more on perceptions and mutually understanding) than high-powered, or directive mediation.
<b>Good Offices</b>	“Good offices” is wider than facilitation and mediation, yet narrower than peacebuilding. Generally it refers to the efforts of a neutral third party in setting up a channel between two conflict parties, so that they can communicate again, to solve their conflicts directly. It may entail mediation, arbitration, hosting international conferences, or representing the interests of a foreign country (“messenger role”) (Trachsler 2004).
<b>Mediation</b>	<p><b>Mediation</b> is “A process whereby a third party assists two or more parties, with their consent, to prevent, manage or resolve a conflict by helping them to develop mutually acceptable agreements.” (Source: UN Guidance for Effective Mediation 2012).</p> <p>“<b>Mediation</b> is an extension or elaboration of the negotiation process that involves the intervention of an acceptable third party who has limited (or no) authoritative decision-making power. This person assists the principal parties to voluntarily reach a mutually acceptable settlement of the issues in dispute.” (Moore 2003, p. 8)</p> <p><b>High Powered Mediation or Directive Mediation</b> is a strongly structured process where an impartial third party, with high decision-making authority on process, assists others in disputes to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement.” (adapted from Moore 2003)</p>
<b>Negotiation</b>	An interdependent, dynamic decision-making process in which parties discuss and change/adapt their strategies in response to each other (adapted from Fisher / Ury / 1999)
<b>Peace Process</b>	A peace process is "a political process in which conflicts are resolved by peaceful means." It involves a "mixture of politics, diplomacy, changing relationships, negotiation, mediation, and dialogue in both official and unofficial arenas" (Source: Saunders 2001)
<b>Peacebuilding</b>	„Peacebuilding covers a broad range of measures implemented in the context of emerging, current or post-conflict situation for the deliberate and explicit purpose of promoting lasting and sustainable peace.” (Norwegian MOFA 2004).
<b>Peacekeeping</b>	Peacekeeping entails all actions undertaken to preserve peace, however fragile, where fighting has been halted and to assist in implementing agreements achieved by the peacemakers. Peacekeeping refers mainly to a military operation undertaken with the consent of all major parties to a conflict. Its purpose is to

	monitor and facilitate implementing an agreement and supporting diplomatic efforts to reach a long-term political settlement. The U.N. divides peacekeeping into three broad categories: 1) helping maintain cease-fires, 2) implementing comprehensive settlements, and 3) protecting humanitarian operations (adapted from Agenda for Peace 1992).
<b>Peacemaking</b>	"...action to bring hostile parties to agreement, essentially through such peaceful means as those foreseen in Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations." (Agenda for Peace 1992).
<b>Tracks</b>	Track = level of interactions between the parties to a conflict <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track 1 = mainly formal process of interactions between official, governmental conflict party and the top leadership of ANSA.</li> <li>• Track 1.5 = process of interaction between the top leadership of one or both parties to a conflict, but in an informal setting and in their personal capacity.</li> <li>• Track 2= process of interactions with influential, unofficial actors from civil society of the parties to a conflict (adapted from Montville 1995).</li> <li>• Track 3 = process of interaction between grass roots actors.</li> <li>• Multi-track = process of interaction between actors of two or more tracks.</li> </ul> (adapted from Montville, 1995)
<b>Violence</b>	The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or deprivation. (WHO 2002). Violence can take many forms. It is useful to distinguish between structural violence – a form of violence where some social structure or social institution harms people by preventing them from meeting their basic needs – and direct violence – a form of violence where some actors' actions cause direct physical and psychological damage to others. Cultural violence refers to aspects of culture that can be used to justify or legitimize direct or structural violence (Source: Galtung 1969; Galtung 1990).
<b>War</b>	At least 1000 battle-related deaths in a year (Uppsala 2006).

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## Useful online glossaries:

- Glossary of the International Online Training Program On Intractable Conflict, Conflict Research Consortium, University of Colorado, USA, <http://www.colorado.edu/conflict/peace/glossary.htm>
- UN glossary on terms related to peace and mediation: [www.peacemaker.un.org](http://www.peacemaker.un.org)