

6. Glossary of terms

Actors, non-state: Actors at the international level that are not states.

Adolescent: Young people who have reached or just passed puberty.

Adjudication: Decision making is at a higher level, by international tribunal or courts. Participation, though higher than in the use of force, is minimised by decisions being made by a third party. Conflict management and regulation come to the fore and expensive mechanisms are put in place to ensure security, for example peacekeeping forces.

Alienation: Withdrawing, isolation or separation from something meaningful.

Arbitration: A third party is involved in the effort to resolution. Both parties have a say in who will make the final decision about the solution that will be applied, and it may be that the law is invoked as the final basis for decision making. The third-party facilitating also has the power to impose a solution on the parties. Although the parties may or may not abide by the outcome, there is a high level of participation.

Autonomy: Self-governing (but not self-determination) of a state or a person.

Avoidance: Refusal to acknowledge the existence of a conflict or indifference to the outcome of a conflict. Includes a low level of activity and little concern for both personal concerns and needs, and the needs and concerns of the other conflict parties.

Balance of terror: Term used to describe the mutual nuclear deterrence caused by the arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union (and their respective allies) during the Cold War. It refers to the mutual fear of total annihilation that gripped the world during the Cold War.

BATNA: Best alternative to a negotiated agreement. BATNA proposes that you cannot make a wise decision about whether to accept a proposed solution to a conflict unless you know all your alternatives.

Bottom-up: Influence upward from the lowest levels in a hierarchical system or organisation.

Bullying: Being teased or threatened by others because of, for example, appearance, choice of clothes, style, sexual orientation, gender or because of being a member of a minority. Often takes place in school.

Child soldiers: Armed combatants under the age of 18.

Children: Young people in the ages between infancy and adolescence/youth.

Civil society: Institutions, voluntary organisations and corporate bodies that form the basis of a functioning society, and which are less than the state but greater than the family.

Clash of civilisations: Theory proposed by Samuel P. Huntington predicting that the primary axis of conflict in the future would be along cultural and religious lines.

Cold War, the: Term used to describe the state of conflict, tension and competition that prevailed in the time period from the end of the Second World War until 1989 between the United States and the Soviet Union, and their respective allies.

Co-management: Refers to a model of youth participation practised in the Council of Europe youth sector. Representatives of both government and young people decide together on priorities, main budget envelopes, implementation of the work priorities and on allocation of resources for youth activities of the youth sector.

Competition: Rivalry over, for example, profit, prestige or a prize. In a conflict setting the parties place great importance on their own concerns and needs while ignoring the concerns of others.

Compromise: A settlement of differences in which each side makes concessions, also known as sharing or horse-trading.

Conciliation: A third party acts as a “go-between” for parties, usually in a meeting.

Conflict: Derived from the Latin word *conflictus*, which means collision or clash. This term is understood as a disagreement between two or more parties through which the parties involved perceive a threat to their needs, interests or concerns.

Conflict analysis: Systematic study of the profile, cause, actors, and dynamics of a conflict, including interpretation and evaluation of this information.

Conflict escalation: Upward spiral motion of a conflict into a more hurting, destructive or, in other ways, worse condition.

Conflict management: Approach based on the idea that conflicts are neutral but the outcome of a conflict may turn out to be negative or positive according to the actions of the parties. This perspective does not make any value assumptions on how to manage conflicts – these can range from military interventions to stop an assumed genocide, to long-term dialogue projects at the grass-roots level.

Conflict parties: Actors involved in a conflict, never less than two but can be more.

Conflict partner: Term used in the conflict field to highlight that the parties are not opponents, but rather that they will resolve the conflict.

Conflict prevention: Approach based on the assumption that conflicts are necessarily negative and will, most often, end in violence. In this approach, conflicts should be stopped from taking place. Prevention methods usually include careful monitoring of potentially violent disputes, establishing early warning mechanisms, using planned co-ordination to prevent the creation of conflict and institutionalising the idea of preventing conflict at the local, regional and international levels.

Conflict resolution: The aim is to solve the conflict completely so that all the needs of the parties are met and the conflict disappears.

Conflict transformation: The process by which conflicts are transformed into peaceful outcomes. This process engages with the relationships, interests, discourses and, if necessary, the very constitution of society that supports the continuation of violent conflict. This approach aims at shifting how individuals and communities perceive and deal with their differences, away from adversarial (win-lose) approaches towards collaborative (win-win) problem solving.

Conflict, armed: A contested incompatibility where two parties, of which at least one is the government of a state, resort to the use of violence causing at least 25 battle-related deaths in a year.

Conflict, cold: Conflict in which the parties appear to have lost all orientation of goals and self-esteem and they are blind to the effects of their own behaviour on others with detached attitudes and frozen relations. Also called latent conflicts.

Conflict, hot: Conflict that appears as simmering, active and full of energy, ready to boil over.

Conflict, intergroup: Conflicts between different social constellations, various formal and non-formal groups or levels in the society such as between management and employees in a workplace, administration and trade union, various groups that are part of a class, departments of an organisation, various cultural groups in a small community or between different groups at a school, etc.

Conflict, international/global: Conflicts in various international organisations and among trans-national corporations and between nation states. These can involve armed interventions, including wars, and a significant loss of life.

Conflict, interpersonal: Conflicts between two or more individuals, for example between family members, manager and subordinate, student and lecturer, individual representatives of cultural groups, etc.

Conflict, intra-state: Militarised armed conflict within a state.

Conflict, intractable/protracted: Long-standing conflict that takes place between individuals, groups, or nations, that resists any attempt at management, and that continues to escalate towards higher levels of hostility and intensity.

Conflict, intrapersonal: These occur within an individual as a result of frustration that the individual feels with themselves over their goals, targets, plans or accomplishments or as a result of competing values and questions of conscience.

Conflict, inter-state: Militarised armed conflict between two or more states.

Conflict, latent: Conflict that remains beneath the surface, involving hidden agendas, condescending body language, power interests and resources that influence the conflict.

Conflict, major armed: Conflict with between 25 and 1 000 battle-related deaths annually, and at least 1 000 persons killed in the conflict. See also "War".

Conflict, manifest: The visible aspects of a conflict: the complaints, the negotiations and the words that hurt, etc.

Conflict, minor armed: An armed conflict with at least 25 but less than 1 000 battle-related deaths in a calendar year.

Conflict party: Actor involved in a conflict.

Conflict, post-phase: The period of time immediately following the end of an armed or violent conflict.

Conflict, pre-phase: Describing the period before violence breaks out.

Conflict, social: see "Conflict, intergroup"

Co-operation solution: A solution which allows both parties to win in a positive-sum situation. See also "Win-win".

Deterrence: Theory and military strategy developed during the Cold War. Generally refers to a strategy in any field of potential conflict of being prepared to inflict unacceptable damage on an aggressor, and making sure the potential aggressor is aware of the risk so that he does not engage in aggression. It is especially relevant with regard to the use of nuclear weapons, and figures prominently in foreign policy regarding the development of nuclear technology by certain states, deemed "rogue", or dangerous.

Deadlock: A standstill, stalemate or impasse which takes place because each party requires a response or an action from the other before agreeing to the continuation of negotiations.

Demos: Greek word for “the people”.

Diplomacy, track-one: Official diplomacy involving negotiations between high-level leaders such as politicians and policy makers.

Diplomacy, track-two: Unofficial diplomacy, in which civil society is included.

Diversity: The fact of the existence of different cultural, political and religious backgrounds within a society.

Ethnocracy: The rule of one ethnic group in a state or organisation.

Ethnos: A group of people who share a common culture separate from other people.

Facilitation: When an impartial third party helps to improve communication between parties, usually in a meeting.

Force: A process by which peace is imposed by an external military agent. The level of participation of the conflict parties is low and the root causes are often suppressed or diffused.

Grass roots: The majority of the population, comprising individuals, represented by local NGOs, community workers, different special interest groups, unions, activists, health officials and in some societies local elders, members of indigenous groups and refugee camp leaders.

Heterogeneous: An object or system that has a large number of variants. Often refers to the existence of difference in a society.

Homogeneous: A uniform object or system that consists of several identical items.

Human rights: Refers to the universal human rights listed in the non-binding declaration the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1948. Despite its non-legal character, the declaration is widely considered to be a central element of international law, which under certain conditions may be invoked by national and other judiciaries.

Human security: Term framing security in a broader sense than traditional notions of national security, reflecting the human dimension of security, arguing that the proper reference point for security should be the individual rather than the state, and encompassing environment, political, economic, food, personal, health and community security.

Human trafficking: Recruitment, transportation, harbouring, or receipt of human beings for the purposes of slavery, forced labour or prostitution.

Intercultural dialogue: An open and respectful exchange of views between individuals and groups belonging to different cultures that leads to a deeper understanding of the other’s world perception.

Intercultural learning (ICL): Intercultural learning has emerged from local and international experience as an effective educational response to the challenges of living and working together in the multicultural society. Its main objectives are to help its participants gain the capacity to recognise inequality, injustice, racism, stereotypes and prejudices and to give them the knowledge and the abilities which will help

them to challenge and to try to change these mechanisms whenever they have to face them in society.

Inter-governmental organisations (IGOs): Organisations that are made up primarily of sovereign states, for example the United Nations and the World Trade Organization.

International relations: The study of relations among states within the international system, including the roles of states, inter-governmental organisations (IGOs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and multinational corporations (MNCs).

LGBT: Abbreviation for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual. Sometimes also written as GLBT. Also sometimes written with Q for Queer.

Macro-level conflicts: Internationalised armed conflicts and wars between states. These conflicts have significance beyond their consequences for the individuals involved. They will have consequences for the wider society, for example.

Mediation: Process by which a third party, known as a mediator, facilitates the resolution of a conflict, without having the power to impose a solution on the parties. The role of the person intervening is to make it easier to come up with solutions that are workable for everyone.

Micro-level conflicts: Intrapersonal, interpersonal and group or social conflicts between people at the grass-roots level without international or national resonance. Micro-level conflicts are of importance to the individuals concerned, but they will not influence the course of development of the wider society.

Militia: A military force composed of citizens that provide defence, emergency law enforcement, or paramilitary service.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): Eight internationally recognised development goals to be achieved by the year 2015, including the halving of extreme poverty, reduction of child mortality rates, fighting epidemic diseases such as HIV, and developing a global partnership for development.

Minority: A group of people sharing a unique identity and culture different from a larger part of the society or the majority of the society. Being a member of the minority can lead to social and other kinds of marginalisation. Examples include immigrants, national minorities, sexual minorities and people with disabilities.

Multiculturalism: Generally, refers to a state of cultural and ethnic diversity within the demographics of a specified place, for example in a school, business, neighbourhood, city or state.

Nationalism: Devotion to the nation one considers oneself part of. A political ideology that raises the importance of devotion to nation to the highest position.

Needs: A lack of something desirable or useful. Needs may be cultural (values, ideas, principles), material (resources) or social (power balance, status, or role in a group).

Negative peace: State-centred approach to peace that ultimately requires all social relations to be regulated by violence. Peace is merely the opposite of war. The goal is still to avoid war, which is accomplished by the maintenance of the balance of power and deterrence, rather than by co-operation.

Negotiation: An attempt to reach a solution that meets the interests of all involved parties through discussions between the parties themselves. Negotiation involves a very high level of mutual participation, with all parties involved and collectively

looking for a solution to problems. Political bargaining may entail coercion to impose decisions made, but each party has room to manoeuvre.

Neutrality: The state or policy of remaining impartial in a conflict and between parties. Commonly referred to as “not taking sides”.

Non-formal education: any organised educational activity that takes place outside the established formal educational system.

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs): Organisation with no participation or representation of any government. Such organisations can be totally or partially funded by governments, but they remain independent of government policies and exclude government representatives from leadership.

Non-state actors: see “Actors, non-state”

Non-violence: A philosophy and strategy that actively raises awareness, initiates change and resists oppression without resorting to the use of violence. Non-violence is considered an alternative to passive acceptance of oppression and armed struggle against it. It includes methods such as civil disobedience, direct action without violence and targeted communication via independent mass media.

Non-violent communication (NVC): Communication without resorting to accusations and without placing guilt on one’s communication partners. It uses language that is non-accusatory, avoids attacking, criticising, judging, punishing or labelling.

Non-zero-sum: see “Positive-sum”

Pacifism: The approach that refuses the use of violence as a means to solve conflicts. The term covers a variety of different stances from the rejection of all forms of violence under any circumstances, even self-defence, to calls for the total abolition of the institutions of the military and war. Pacifists believe that international disputes can and should be peacefully resolved.

Paradigm: A set of assumptions, values, practices and concepts that constitutes a way of viewing reality, shared by a community, especially in an academic discipline.

Peace building: The processes and activities involved in resolving violent conflict and establishing a sustainable peace.

Peer groups: Individuals that are at an equal level (same age, social status or interest) and that form a group.

Positive-sum: Situation in which both parties win in a co-operation solution, also called non-zero-sum or win-win solution.

Positive peace: Peace by peaceful means, meaning that the methods used to achieve peace respect the principles of justice and human rights. Positive peace aims at accomplishing freedoms, rights and equality as a means of guaranteeing sustainable peace without racism, exploitation and other forms of barrier to equal opportunities.

Reconciliation: A process that involves restructuring the relationships between the conflict parties in order to restore peaceful relations between the parties in a conflict. Those involved go beyond the resolution towards a closer examination of relationships, perceptions, attitudes, hostilities and hate, to attempt to change them to harmony and solidarity.

Ripeness: The reaching of the golden opportunity to start negotiations on the eventual resolution of the conflict.

Rogue state: A state that acts outside of the accepted international norms and policies by restricting human rights, sponsoring terrorism or by spreading weapons of mass destruction.

Secession: The act by which a geographical region or given state removes itself from the political control of that country and declares itself independent, often, thereby, creating a new state.

Segregation: Forced or voluntary separation or isolation of a class or ethnic group from the remainder of the community.

Sociometry: A quantitative method for measuring social relationships (degree of relatedness among people) developed by the psychiatrist Jacob Levi Moreno (1934). It can be a useful tool for reducing conflict and improving communication by analysing group dynamics.

Structural prevention: Identifies the structural foundations of a peaceful community, including the rules for solving conflicts at the international level and the obligations of members of the international community in regard to each other.

Submission: Approach to conflict in which one party gives in to the other in order to save the relationship between them.

Third party: Party not directly involved in the conflict which assists in finding a solution. Third parties can be mediators, interest groups, humanitarian organisations, states, international organisations, etc.

Trafficking: see "Human trafficking"

Violence: Physical and psychological assaults on other human beings.

Violence, direct: see "Violence, physical"

Violence, physical: Direct assaults on another human being such as punching, shooting or pushing.

Violence, structural: Violence built into the structures of a society such as gender inequalities or discrimination against minorities.

Violence, urban: Usually refers to armed criminal activity (especially as directed by organised criminal elements) and gang warfare involving the use of small arms in large urban settings.

War: Armed conflict with at least 1 000 battle-related deaths in a calendar year. See also "Conflict, armed".

War on terror: Various military, political and legal actions in response to the 11 September 2001 attacks.

War, civil: War within a state.

War, interstate: War between two or more states.

Win-win: Approach to conflict in which the conflicting parties work together to find a solution to the root cause of the conflict with the result that both parties fulfil their respective needs. Also called co-operation solution.

Xenophobia: Fear of difference. Often also expressed as hatred of difference.

Young people or youths: People that are no longer children or adolescents but who have not yet completed the transition to full, independent adulthood. Young people

are aged 15 to 24 in the United Nations definition, although other institutions, such as the Council of Europe, use broader age ranges, from as young as 13 to as old as 35.

Youth bulge: A very high proportion of young people in the overall population. These have often been associated with (or even blamed for) outbreaks of social violence or armed conflict.

Youth crisis: In this perspective young people are understood as causing social unrest, as being at the origin of social problems facing modern societies, and therefore, as an inherent security threat. At the same time, young people are seen as being disproportionately negatively affected by the existence of social problems that cause them legitimate grievance.

Zero-sum: End result of a conflict by which one of the parties wins over the other.