



Centre for
Humanitarian
Dialogue

Mediation for peace
Médiation pour la paix
الوساطة من أجل السلام
为和平而调解
Mediación para la paz
Посредничество во имя мира

The Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD) works to prevent and resolve armed conflicts around the world through mediation and discreet diplomacy.

Since 1999, HD has been fostering dialogue, securing peace agreements and reducing the human suffering caused by war to help open the way to stability and development.

HD's global reach, multi-track mediation and extensive networks allow us to work beyond the constraints of traditional diplomacy and engage all parties in pursuit of peace.

From international to local, we bring together governments, armed groups, opposition parties and communities – including women and youth – to help them build a shared vision of a better future and create sustainable peace.

With HD's results-driven system of mediation support and analysis, we hone our effectiveness and share our knowledge – including expertise in digital conflict, inclusive peace processes, environmental peacemaking and healthcare challenges in high-risk areas.



A non-profit organisation based in Switzerland, HD is supervised by an independent board, regularly reports to donors and undergoes financial audits every year.

HD is deeply honoured to receive the Carnegie Wateler Peace Prize for 2022 for our “track record of finding the means, including mediation, to bring parties together and end conflicts”.

HD Highlights

HD runs multi-track mediation and peacemaking projects across Africa, the Middle East, Eurasia, Asia and Latin America.

The map highlights just some of our work in more than 75% of the world's violent conflicts.



1 SAHEL

HD has set up a network of 2,000 mediators across Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Chad as the region faces political instability, jihadist attacks and conflict over resources. HD's efforts have led to hundreds of local conflict settlements and reduced jihadist violence.

3 LIBYA

HD brokered an immediate ceasefire in August 2020 and an agreement among major Libyan stakeholders to recommit to political talks. This led to a formal ceasefire and UN-brokered political deal with a new interim government, a roadmap for elections and substantial women's representation in the future cabinet.

2 NIGERIA

HD is convening dialogue among various groups to address conflicts over land, water and political power in Middle Belt states. In 2021, HD secured the first social media peace accord between communities in conflict and has since achieved a peace agreement based on the sharing of natural resources.

4 UKRAINE

HD has been active in Ukraine since 2014, positioning our teams to help set up civilian evacuation corridors and develop discreet channels for communication after the war started in early 2022. During talks between Russia and Ukraine to restart the flow of vital food shipments, our teams provided advice and close support to the Black Sea Grain Initiative led by the United Nations and Türkiye.

5 SOUTH CHINA SEA

HD has convened two tracks of dialogue: On preventing violent escalation between coastguards and on avoiding a collapse in fish stocks. These resulted in operational principles to prevent incidents at sea and in scientific consensus on fisheries management between China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

7 SPAIN

For 15 years, HD discreetly and steadily helped to resolve decades of violence in Spain, starting in 2004 with confidential support for talks and ending with the Basque armed group ETA disbanding. ETA's final declaration was made public in a ceremony at HD headquarters in Geneva on 3 May 2018.

6 TUNISIA

HD facilitated the Charter of Honour for Elections, an agreement between all major political parties in Tunisia that allowed the 2014 elections to proceed peacefully.

8 PHILIPPINES

Since 2004, HD has helped efforts to end the conflict in the southern Philippines. HD's initiatives include support for successful peace talks in 2014 and ratification of the law establishing the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, along with community dialogue sessions and training of mediators.

What exactly do we do?

As an impartial, neutral and independent organisation, HD seeks to bring all parties together to foster trust, resolve differences, end violence and achieve inclusive, sustainable peace agreements.

Using networks built up over many years, HD engages creatively with political actors, armed groups and other influential parties at international, inter-state, country and local levels.

At the same time, we support communities and marginalised groups to play active roles in peace processes and the resolution of conflicts affecting them.

Our approach and activities revolve around three main types of engagement:

- **Mediation and dialogue**
- **Peace negotiation support**
- **Mediation support**

To ensure quality and accountability, HD's adaptive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system allows us to continually assess our effectiveness, adapt our operations and demonstrate the value of our work.

HD supports peace processes from concept to implementation by cultivating networks of trust and long-term engagements with parties to conflict and those able to resolve them.

These efforts are supported by our process design, on-the-ground analysis and capacity to connect the different levels of conflicts and peacemaking – as well as providing discreet advice and ideas to the international peace community.

For more on HD's approach



Peace brings obvious benefits for people and societies but the innovation and persistence to make peace require substantial and lasting investment.

How is HD funded?

Over the last two decades, HD's funding has come from an increasingly diverse range of donors who see the value and effectiveness of our private diplomacy and mediation model.

HD receives strategic support and targeted project funding that are both fundamental to our operations.

Strategic support helps to safeguard HD's independence, improve operational effectiveness and drive innovation. The flexible funding also allows HD to respond rapidly to emerging conflicts and new opportunities.

Targeted project funding, which makes up the majority of donor support, enables HD to run a global and diverse portfolio of initiatives.

Alongside inaugural donors such as Switzerland, Norway and Sweden, HD's key supporters now include Germany, the Netherlands, Canada, Denmark, the UK, Australia, Ireland and others, along with the multilateral bodies of the European Union and the United Nations.

HD also gets funding from a number of private foundations.

We welcome interest in helping HD to build a better future with comprehensive peace agreements that reduce the human suffering caused by war and create the conditions for stability and development for millions of people.

How does conflict end and peace begin?

Adam Cooper brings you behind closed doors with riveting stories and insights from prominent peacemakers on what it takes to end wars and other violent conflicts. The Mediator's Studio is an Oslo Forum podcast brought to you by HD and Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Listen to full episodes here



»The Mediator's Studio.«

AN OSLOFORUM PODCAST



Read the full Oslo Forum 2022 report for all of the insights from this year's retreat.

The report captures two full days of discussions – plus photos and background reading – by peacemakers from 50 countries assessing the prospects for dialogue and conflict resolution in a polarised world.



HD insights



Annual report 2022



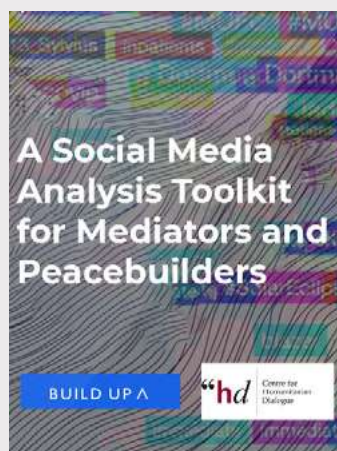
Natural resources management in the Sahel: Uses and customs at the service of conflict resolution



Band of sisters: Six strategies for women in peacemaking



When great powers behave: Mediation lessons from the Cambodia peace process



A social media analysis toolkit for mediators and peacebuilders



Preventing a collapse in South China sea fish stocks

For more on HD's work — and all of our news and insights — please visit

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