

Young Peacebuilders

**We strengthen young people as
actors for peace and more
inclusive societies.**

FRYSHUSET

ABOUT THE PROJECT

We support young people between the ages of 18-29 who find themselves in situations of conflict and change by giving them tools and support to prevent conflicts from escalating. We want to strengthen young people as actors for peace and more inclusive societies.

What we do

We offer our participants training in conflict management and mediative dialogue using a method called Dialogue for Peaceful Change (DPC). We select course participants who have the opportunity to influence society in their role as formal or informal leaders in their local context. Our training gives participants effective tools to prevent everyday conflicts from escalating and potentially becoming dangerous or inhibitive of their personal freedom.

We also provide a network for our participants where they get support and advice from each other as well as external actors such as international mediators on how to do peacebuilding in practice. The network acts as an expert group, informing policy and decision makers on what needs to be done to strengthen youth inclusivity in peace work.

What we want

We are convinced that we have everything to gain from supporting young people in playing a greater role in local and global peace work. Not only is it their democratic right; young people possess invaluable skills that need to be utilized if we are to achieve sustainable peace and inclusive societies.

We want policy and decision makers to include young people in peace work – in a real way.

Our goal is a more peaceful society, where young people can live without fear, polarization, and violence.



ABOUT DIALOGUE FOR PEACEFUL CHANGE

Dialogue for Peaceful Change (DPC) is a method developed by experts in mediation and conflict management at the Corrymeela peace and reconciliation center in Northern Ireland. The methodology was born from experience in working with the violent sectarian divisions in Northern Ireland.

The method is taught as an educational program and increases understanding of how conflicts work, both biologically and socially, and how they are connected to resistance to change.

DPC provides participants with the necessary tools to be able to handle and, above all, prevent conflict by applying a range of different tools including mediative dialogue.

After the training, the participants will have:

- Increased knowledge and understanding of why conflicts arise and escalate
- New tools in conflict management and mediation
- Stronger self-confidence and sense of belonging when it comes to how to act in situations of conflict and change

"I was able to use the tools I learned the week after the training. A situation arose in the recreation yard between two young people and I chose to act in a different way than I usually do. I tested what we had learnt and it worked! I think the solution became

"I have always thought that transformation wasn't possible without blood. Now I think it might be possible."
- Filipino participant

"Before when I met young people in conflicts, I reacted very emotionally. Now I am more aware of what is happening in the situation and what is happening within myself. I also know that I have the opportunity to walk away if I want to."
- participant from Örebro