

# **United States Institute of Peace**

## **Mediating Violent Conflict**

### Instructors

Pamela Aall, Vice President, Education and Training Center, Domestic Programs,  
US. Institute of Peace

Anthony Wanis St. John, Assistant Professor, School of International  
Service, American University and Advisor, U.S. Institute of Peace

### Final Agenda

#### Learning Objectives:

This course will focus on the objectives and methods of third-party engagement in peacemaking in interstate or intrastate conflicts. It will provide an overview of international mediation in contemporary international conflict, focuses on building competence for practicing mediation, and situates mediation in the larger peacebuilding context. Although international mediation shares characteristics with domestic mediation there are important differences in the substance, context and process. During the course, participants will examine: motivations and objectives in an intervention; means of assessing and promoting ripeness; assessing and strengthening their own institutional readiness to undertake mediation; leverage in mediation; coordination among the different third parties engaged in mediation; engaging reluctant parties; mediating in protracted conflicts; attributes and techniques of effective third parties; and best practices in support of successful third-party engagement.

Participants in the course will enhance their knowledge and skills through a series of interactive international simulations developed especially for this course, culminating in a final group project in which participants present their mediation plan for an actual conflict.

## **Monday**

8:30 am – 8:45 am	Registration
8:45 am – 9:30 am	<b><i>Session 1: Introductions and Course Overview</i></b> Pamela Aall and Anthony Wanis St. John
9:30 am – 11:00 am	<u>Introductory Exercise</u>
11:00 am – 11:15 am	Break
11:15am - 11:45 am	Debrief
11:45 am – 12:30 pm	<b><i>Session 2: Conflict Analysis</i></b> Pamela Aall
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm – 2:15 pm	<b><i>Session 3: Introduction to Negotiation</i></b> Anthony Wanis St. John
2:15 pm – 3:45 pm	<u>Exercise: Petro-Diplomacy and Debrief</u>
3:45 pm - 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	<i>Case Study on Mindanao: Introduction</i> Pamela Aall

## **Tuesday**

9:00 am – 9:45 am	Recap and Discussion of Previous Day's Themes
9:45 am – 11:00 am	<b>Guest Presentation: "Who Mediates?"</b> Abiodun Williams, U.S. Institute of Peace
11:00 am – 12:30 pm	<b><i>Session 4: Introduction to Ripeness</i></b> Anthony Wanis St. John
12:30 pm – 1:30 am	Lunch

- 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm      Exercise: Ripeness in the Mindanao Conflict
- 2:30 pm– 3:30 pm      ***Session 5: Introduction to Mediator Readiness***  
Pamela Aall
- 3:30 am - 3:45 pm      Break
- 3:45 pm - 5:00 pm      Discussion of Ripeness and Readiness

### **Wednesday**

- 9:00 am – 9:45 am      Recap and Discussion of Previous Day's Themes
- 9:45 am -10:30 am      ***Session 6: Relationships - Understanding Parties and their Environments***  
Pamela Aall
- 10:30 am – 10:45 am      Break
- 10:45 am – 11:45 pm      **Guest Presentation: History and Narratives**  
  
Jeffrey Helsing  
Deputy Director, Education & Training Center, Domestic Programs, USIP
- 11:45 am – 12:45 pm      **Guest Presentation: Culture and Conflict Resolution**  
  
Peter Weinberger  
Advisor for Programs, Education & Training Center, Domestic Programs, USIP
- 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm      Lunch
- 1:45 pm – 3:30 pm      Exercise: Placing the Displaced Simulation
- 3:00 pm – 3:15 pm      Break
- 3:15 pm – 4:00 pm      ***Session 7: Roadmap - Constructing a Strategy for Mediation***  
Anthony Wanis St. John
- 4:00 pm -5:00 pm      *Case Study on Mindanao: Working Group Session*

## **Thursday**

- 9:00 am – 9:45 am Recap and Discussion of Previous Day’s Themes
- 9:45 am – 12:00 pm ***Session 7, cont: Roadmap - Constructing a Strategy for Mediation***  
Anthony Wanis St. John
- 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm *Case Study on Mindanao: Working Group Session*
- 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Guest Presentation:**  
Soren Jessen Petersen  
Guest Scholar, USIP & Member of Independent Diplomat
- 3:30 pm - 3:45 pm Break
- 3:45 pm – 5:00 pm ***Session 8: Raising Leverage***  
Pamela Aall

## **Friday**

- 9:00 am – 9:45 am Recap and Discussion of Previous Day’s Themes
- 9:45 am - 11:00 am *Case Study on Mindanao: Working Group Session*
- 11:00 am - 11:15 am Break
- 11:15 am – 1:00 pm ***Case Study on Mindanao: Mediation Strategy Presentations to Ambassador Frank Ricciardone, former U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines***
- 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Lunch and Debrief