



Berghof Foundation

Annual Report 2017

Creating Space for Conflict Transformation

3	Editorial
6	Programmes
8	Conflict Transformation Research
8	Mediation and Dialogue Support
10	Peace Education and Global Learning
12	Africa
13	Caucasus
15	Latin America
16	Middle East and North Africa (MENA)
18	Consultancies and Events in 2017
20	Facts and Figures
22	Financial Report
26	Organisation and Team
29	Publications
32	Networks

Editorial

The global conflict dynamics of 2017 have affected the Berghof Foundation's efforts to support conflict transformation in many different ways.

On the negative side, a continued trend of growing geopolitical tensions has increasingly turned into an emerging crisis of the entire international order. One visible expression of this crisis is the weakening of existing multilateral regimes governing areas such as arms control, international trade and regional cooperation. Some national conflicts have become proxy wars – as in Yemen, Syria or Eastern Ukraine, to mention only a few – primarily at the expense of a suffering local population. Other conflicts have increasingly spilled violence over national boundaries, thereby creating zones of regional instability, particularly in parts of the Middle East and Africa. If major powers evade their responsibility to guarantee agreed rules and principles of multilateralism in order to (re-)occupy their spheres of influence against each other, the space for inclusive conflict transformation inevitably starts to shrink. This shrinking of space tends to diminish the chances for active local engagement and, more often than not, has resulted in political deadlocks and the freezing of violent conflicts. It also has negative repercussions on external support for local actors' peacebuilding efforts.

The Berghof Foundation continues to support conflict parties and other actors in many countries in their efforts to prevent or overcome social and political violence. Yet we are aware that supportive regional frameworks and local ownership are necessary preconditions for nonviolent conflict transformation towards sustainable peace. In that sense, the conditions for transforming protracted violent conflicts have seriously deteriorated. Another worrisome development, related to manifold social grievances, is the sharpening political polarisation in a number of democratic states, which – in domestic and in international contexts – seems to make strategies based on political paternalism and exclusion more attractive to many people than cooperative approaches. Many countries in the Global South rely on the support provided by democratic donor countries. If this support is vanishing, millions of people in these countries may lose hope that building peace will benefit them at all, prompting them to leave their home countries or resort to violent struggle against their neighbours.



However, if there is one tangible lesson to be learned from the past, it is that neither power politics nor exclusion will ever lead to sustainable peace. This lesson brings us to the more positive side of this short analysis. Against the backdrop of international destabilisation and domestic fragmentation, we are convinced that inclusive and participatory spaces for conflict transformation have become even more important in preventing fragile peace processes from losing momentum or from breaking down.

In our effort to create such spaces, our approach aims to enable conflicting parties to transform their mutual relations based on actual or potential violence into opportunities for nonviolent change and into sustainable responses for exiting conflicts of interests.

This approach acknowledges that stakeholder groups' interests in addressing grievances in a conflict are legitimate, no matter how strong and powerful these groups may be. There is a continuing need to engage with all of them in a joint and fair learning process and to find ways of turning confrontational behaviours into constructive collaboration by addressing the root causes of the conflict.

The conceptual term for this approach is multipartiality. It aims to equalise the existing structural inequalities and power asymmetries in order to allow the conflict parties to establish new and nonviolent social realities. It helps a third party, such as the Berghof Foundation, to understand better the underlying motivations and interests of social and political actors in a conflict in order to facilitate a constructive dialogue and learning process which involves them all.

Our Annual Report 2017 therefore sheds light on the highly relevant concept of *multipartiality* and its guiding role for our programmes and project work. We are convinced that it is a far more promising response to current conflict dynamics and challenges than the return to power politics and dominance.

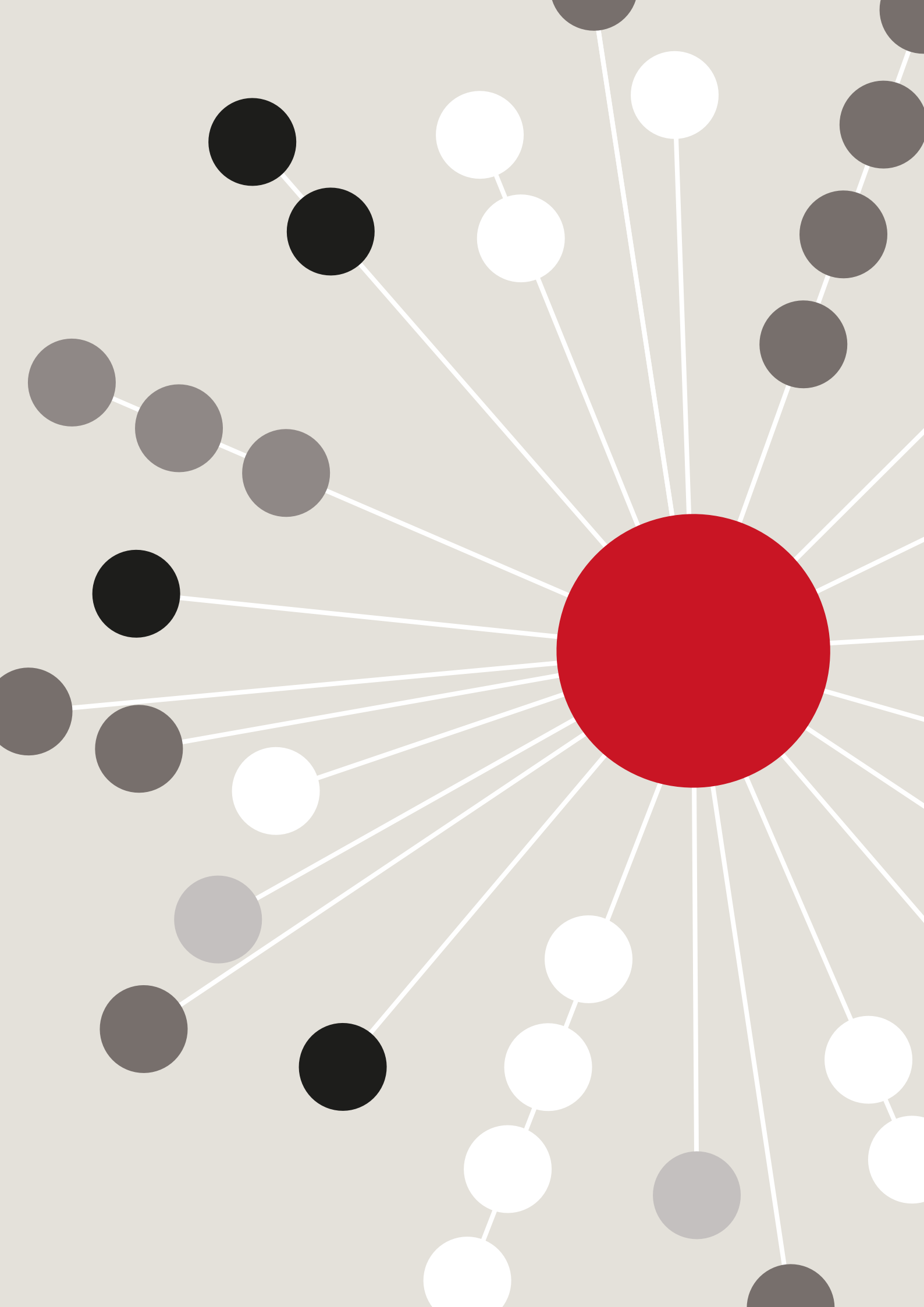


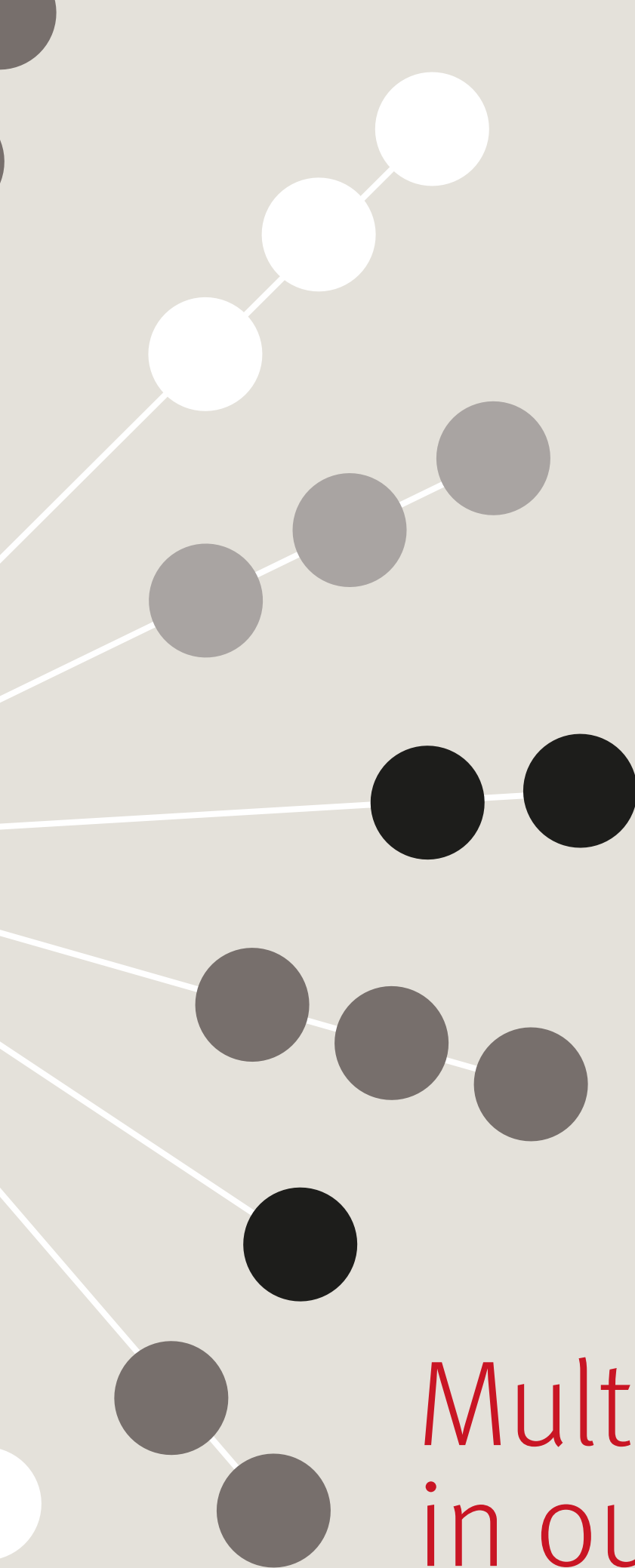
The detailed reports from our projects that you find on the following pages illustrate the diversity of our activities as a whole. They also reveal that multipartiality offers promising opportunities to make a positive difference in protracted conflicts and violence prevention by counteracting incentives to resolve conflicts at the expense of others and create new grievances.

We are proud and grateful to have like-minded partners on our side who have supported our efforts in 2017. Without their trusted partnership and support, we would not have been able to work towards our vision of a world in which people maintain peaceful relations and overcome violence as a means of political and social change.

Our growing team has worked throughout the year with passion and perseverance. Their efforts deserve appreciation and acknowledgement. Particular thanks go to the Zundel family, our Board of Trustees and all our partners and donors for their support and their continued trust in our work.

Hans J. Giessmann
Executive Director





Multipartiality
in our work

Conflict Transformation Research

Berghof’s approach to research aims to engage local partner institutions in participatory action research, by which we seek to ensure the inclusion and participation of actors with different backgrounds, perspectives and views.

In 2017, with support from the German Federal Foreign Office, the Conflict Transformation Research Programme began implementing its project “Opportunities for Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) in the Western Balkans”. Inclusive and multipartial features have been central to this project and have shaped the research and outreach plans, for example through the use of elements of collaborative research design and implementation and the inclusion of interaction and dialogue initiatives involving a wide array of stakeholders in the communities.

Focusing on specific municipalities in four countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Macedonia), the project explores why some communities are more affected by or show greater resilience to the phenomenon of violent extremism, particularly foreign fighter recruitment. To that end, the engagement of local research partners and communities is imperative. From the outset, the project partners were involved in co-creating and co-shaping project activities in the different phases. In particular, the project offers regular spaces for team reflections on the best ways to expand and deepen emerging discussions on transformative and community-based approaches to PVE. The project actively seeks to involve representatives from communities investigated during the fieldwork, who take part in the design and implementation of the pilot dialogues, in cooperation with local stakeholders such as religious leaders, local officials, youths and other civil society actors, in order to explore and develop strategies to prevent violent radicalisation in the Western Balkans.

FURTHER PROJECTS

1	Nonviolent Resistance and Democratic Consolidation
2	Former Female Combatants to Post-War Community Leaders: Building a Regional Peer-Advice Network
3	The Role of International Donors in Supporting Inclusive and Legitimate Political Settlements
4	Salafi-Jihadi Groups – (De)escalation Trajectories and Dialogue Options
5	Enhancing EU Peacebuilding Capacities through Whole-Of-Society Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding

Mediation and Dialogue Support

Since April 2016, the Track 1.5 Dialogue in Macedonia project, implemented in cooperation with the Südosteuropa Gesellschaft, has established an informal Track 1.5 dialogue platform for representatives of political parties, experts and influential persons to engage constructively on key topics of national relevance. The aim is to increase mutual understanding and to develop opportunities for cooperation and

consensus-building to break the political deadlock. Despite the initial situation not being very conducive to multipartial engagement, the project team found creative ways to engage with all parties to the conflict. It has made an effort to consult the political parties on a regular basis on best approaches, issues of concern, and the format the project could take in order for the parties to comfortably participate in the dialogue workshops. Consistent efforts have been made to avoid association with any particular stakeholder over another in order to remain credible and provide a safe space for all actors. Multiple spaces and parallel tracks were created in order to include the perceptions and views of a diverse range of actors. In this way, the project ensured inclusivity in terms of topics, views and representatives. A key element of the project is the extensive engagement with a diverse section of civil society representing a variety of political viewpoints, as well as with members of the academic and professional sector in Macedonia. This group was later institutionalised as the Civil Society Reference Group, which served as input-giver, bridge-builder and safety net for the political dialogue table. Throughout the project, great emphasis has been placed on local ownership by offering space for joint reflection, joint conflict analysis and joint design of the dialogue formats.

FURTHER PROJECTS

1	Afghanistan: Fostering Meaningful, Effective, and Sufficiently Inclusive Peace Negotiations
2	Supporting De-escalation and Dialogue in Turkey
3	Track 1.5 Dialogue Process in Macedonia
4	Continuing Support to Armenia-Turkey Normalisation through Sustained Dialogue and Confidence-Building
5	Negotiation Support for Resistance and Liberation Movements in Transition
6	Putting the National Dialogue Handbook into Practice: Regional Dissemination, Training and Practical Process Support
7	Training Programme: Supporting Peace Negotiation and Mediation Processes at Track 1 (in partnership with ZIF)
8	Berghof Mediation Roundtable Discussion Series
9	Training Course in National Dialogue and Peace Mediation (in partnership with swisspeace)
10	Supporting the Religion-Mediation Nexus Workshop
11	European External Action Service – Conflict Prevention and Mediation Support
12	Initiative Mediation Support Germany (IMSD)

Programme highlights

In November 2017, the Afghanistan project team, in collaboration with the National Dialogue Handbook project team, facilitated a study visit to Indonesia for the Berghof Foundation's Afghan government partners. During the first part of the visit, in Jakarta, participants met with experts on a number of relevant peace and national dialogue processes from around the world, including the Philippines, Nepal, Tunisia, Colombia and Thailand, and reflected on key learning points for the Afghan context. They also participated in several meetings with high-level representatives of the Indonesian government, including the President and Vice President, in order to learn from their experiences in resolving the Aceh conflict. The group then travelled to Banda Aceh, where they had the opportunity to meet high-level negotiators and representatives of GAM, the former resistance movement, as well as members of civil society, academics and Ulama.



High-level Afghan officials participate in a workshop in Jakarta as part of Berghof's Afghanistan project.



Damjan Denkovski
Project Officer,
Mediation and Dialogue Support

Peace Education and Global Learning

Were there any issues where you needed to be particularly cautious when applying a multipartial approach?

Yes, there were instances where certain views were presented by stakeholders that were considered a priori offensive and objectionable by other stakeholders present in the room, who would in turn reject the very provision of a platform for such views to be voiced. In these instances, it was crucial for skilled facilitation to establish a balance between providing equal space for all views to be voiced while ensuring that no stakeholders felt like they were being singled out or targeted.

Were there any lessons learned with regard to the applicability of multipartial approaches that could be useful in other contexts in the Western Balkans?

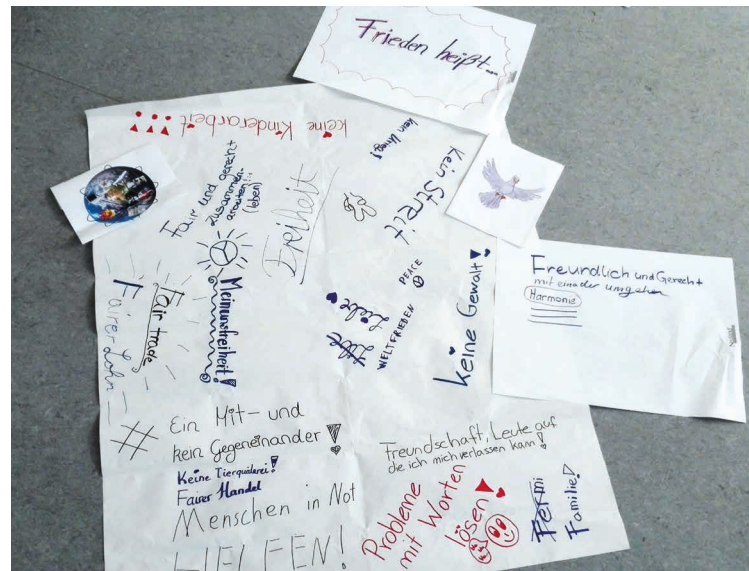
The establishment of parallel tracks helped to ground the process and develop trust with stakeholders who had been sceptical of engagement. Flexibility and adaptability to dynamics on the ground through earnest and transparent engagement with actors proved to be an effective strategy towards trust-building as well. Finally, it was crucial that our project was a longer-term engagement as this is the only way to support true change in relationships.

Peace education without active participation is inconceivable. Violence, war and terrorism evoke a massive fear of the future in children and young people. Schools are increasingly becoming a key platform for discussing issues and challenges related to peace and conflict. Against this backdrop, it was a great success that from 2017 onwards, the structure and funding of the Service Centre Peace Education Baden-Württemberg were secured for the coming years. The Service Centre occupies a unique position in promoting peace education in German schools.

With support from the Berghof Foundation and based on a declaration signed by Baden Württemberg's Ministry of Education, the Service Centre brings together a diverse range of actors, including 17 peace organisations and the Education and Science Workers' Union.

The Service Centre supports teachers in preparing lessons and projects, offers training activities and

develops learning media on the topics of peace and war, conflict and violence. During workshops and project days, students learn interactively about conflict dynamics, various strategies for conflict transformation, and possible ways to make a personal contribution to peace. Methods such as biographical learning and peer mediation play an important role here. The Service Centre also promotes the systematic integration of these topics into education plans and networking between stakeholders in the formal and non-formal education sectors.



During a workshop on resources and peace, 6th-graders at the Dillmann Gymnasium in Stuttgart defined what peace means to them.

FURTHER PROJECTS

1	Promoting direct and structural peace education in Iran
2	Civic and nonviolent education in Jordan: schools, universities, refugee assistance
3	Culture of conflict 3.0: learning spaces and media for young people to deal with internet violence and hatred
4	Frieden-fragen.de: online portal for children covering issues of war and peace, conflicts and violence
5	Conflict-sensitive refugee assistance – workshops and learning media
6	Peace Boat: study trip with students on the Master's Programme in Peace Studies and International Politics at Tübingen University

Programme highlights

“Schools without Violence!” was the topic of two summer camps with 12 participating schools in Amman in September 2017. More than 70 8th-graders interactively learned the basics and methods of peer mediation.

A group of professionals and volunteers both with and without experience of displacement had jointly contributed as experts in refugee assistance to developing a poster series on conflict-sensitive refugee assistance. The final product was unveiled to the public at Georg Zundel House in July 2017.

Girls practising good team work during the summer camp on peer mediation in Amman, Jordan.



Africa

The Berghof Foundation’s work in Sudan is based on the recognition that the political root of conflict in this country is the exclusion of voices wishing to find political avenues for expressing their vision, demands and needs to the state. Since 2014, the Berghof Foundation has therefore worked with various actors from all sides, including the Government of Sudan, which has an important role to play in creating a political process in which everyone can participate. This process began with the National Dialogue and may focus on other conceivable political vehicles in the future. Regardless of the formal name of any given process, the Berghof Foundation’s firm belief is that only through engaging all relevant actors in a multipartial way is successful and durable conflict transformation attainable.

FURTHER PROJECTS

1	South Sudan: Finding a Sustainable Solution to the Conflict
2	Horn of Africa Dialogue
3	Sudan: Supporting National Dialogue and Reconciliation
4	Strengthening Federalism through Conflict Transformation: Community (Re)conciliation and Mediation Support in the Somali State of Hirshabelle

Programme highlights

The first South Sudan Young Leaders Forum (SSYLF) Convention was held in Kigali, Rwanda, in November 2017 and was coordinated by the Berghof South Sudan project. This event brought together over 70 South Sudanese influential young leaders from different political backgrounds and countries around the world to identify and establish a shared agenda for youth representation in the peace process.

In October 2017, the Berghof Foundation provided substantial support for the organisation of the consultative meeting on South Sudan with the African Union and IGAD. The more than 130 participants included representatives from the regional governments and civil society, academics and other key figures. The conference kick-started a high-level dialogue process that aims to address the region’s security and economic challenges. The success of the conference has encouraged the African Union to apply this approach in other regions of Africa as well.

Board Members and Interim Secretariat of the South Sudan Young Leaders Forum (SSYLF) in Entebbe, Uganda





Karla Şanel
Programme Officer,
Africa Programme

Was it easy to convince all relevant actors to engage in this multipartial process?

Decades of conflict in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile have led to a deep-rooted mistrust between the warring parties and political forces that have more than once impeded a durable peace and political transformation. My experience from the dynamic Sudanese context is that for stakeholders to see a multipartial approach as a viable option, it is imperative to build trust in the process and the mediators' facilitation role. This can be achieved through frequent and consistent engagement with all parties, which is aimed at jointly identifying opportunities for dialogue and overcoming obstacles to mutually beneficial solutions. I believe that our long-term engagement with the armed and political opposition, as well as with the government and civil society actors in Sudan, has allowed Berghof to be perceived by all parties as a neutral and trusted interlocutor and concomitantly for the parties to recognise the benefit of a multipartial approach.

Caucasus

For a number of years, the Berghof Foundation has engaged with young ethnic Megrelians, an ethnic Georgian minority living in Abkhazia. Many Abkhazians regard Megrelians as Georgian “traitors”. However, they have been living in Abkhazia for centuries. They are therefore both a “separating element” and also potentially a “connecting” actor between the two communities.

With the project “Georgian-Megrel-Abkhaz Initiatives on History”, we support efforts to enlarge the inclusivity and public visibility of the Georgian community in Abkhazia in order to overcome existing enmities and enemy images within society. As part of our project, we form ethnically mixed teams and organise workshops, where the team members get the chance to meet each other and work on the topic of history but also share and reflect on their diverse perspectives on their common past. In our work, we try to make room for the different views and narratives and give all participants equal space, which helps them better understand the need for both diversity and inclusivity. Resulting from these encounters, existing differences are no longer seen as negative but are perceived as an opportunity for cooperation within Abkhazia but also between Abkhazia and Georgia. Our mixed teams carry this message into the wider public, including the media.

In 2017, 40 Georgian-Megrel-Abkhaz participants built 12 mixed teams, which then implemented their initiatives in seven regions of Abkhazia and reached a total of 285 beneficiaries.



Exhibition in Sukhum(i) in the framework of the project on Georgian-Megrel-Abkhaz youth initiatives on history



Dr. Oliver Wolleh
Programme Director, Caucasus

What was the biggest challenge that had to be overcome when trying to bring together ethnically mixed teams for joint workshops in Abkhazia?

The challenge is not to have a joint workshop but to create a joint team that is capable of acting together and ultimately publicly on all sides of the conflict divide. Basically, three elements are needed to achieve this. The team members should

- 1) share the same vision
- 2) be skilful enough to implement the measures and
- 3) have enough social acceptance and status in their wider societies to operate jointly in public. The third element is often the most difficult to achieve.

Do you see any other areas in Abkhazian public life where a multipartial approach could be particularly fruitful?

Multipartiality is closely connected to inclusivity or rather the “process of transcending exclusions”. In protracted conflicts, exclusions have a reason and a social and political function. It is therefore useful if increasing inclusivity is scrutinised through forms of public and social acceptance. It is useful to have areas and topics that many people can relate to and where this increased inclusion can be publicly celebrated.

FURTHER PROJECTS

1	Through History Dialogue towards Further Cooperation
2	Culture of Dialogue and Constructive Engagement in Ukraine
3	Youth Action on Memory in Abkhazia – The enhanced Georgian-Migrelian-Abkhazian Youth Initiatives
4	Memory and History as a Basis for Dialogue in Azerbaijan and Karabakh

Programme highlights

In 2017, a new chapter in the history of the Biographical Salon in Sukhum(i) was opened when two guests from Georgia were welcomed and shared their experiences with Abkhazians. Professor Natalia Lazba from Batumi State University was a guest at our Evening Salon. She has an ethnic Abkhaz background (Makhadzhirstvo) and lives in the Autonomous Republic of Adjara, Georgia. We also welcomed Mrs. Rusiko Marshania from Tbilisi to the Biographical Salon. She was forced to leave Abkhazia together with her Georgian husband and their children. The event was recorded for the Abkhaz television channel Abaza TV and attracted a great deal of public interest.

Latin America

Multipartiality plays an important role in our work in Latin America. For example, in Colombia's Norte de Santander department, we supported the establishment of a regional dialogue platform on territorial development and peace, creating conditions to bring all relevant actors to a joint space. In the Catatumbo region of Norte de Santander – known for its complex context where all armed actors, such as former guerrillas FARC, guerrilla groups ELN and EPL, paramilitary groups, organised crime and government forces are present – this endeavour has been particularly challenging.

For a peace agenda, all voices are needed. However, some indigenous and peasant organisations, especially those perceived to represent the political demands of armed groups, had never before agreed to sit down and dialogue among themselves or with other actors. Against this background, the role of a multipartial actor facilitating a multi-stakeholder platform was identified as an effective option. Subsequently, an academic observatory – the Observatorio Socioeconómico y Ambiental de la UFPSO – which had existed before and gained the trust of all actors in the region, was supported by our team to strengthen its capacity as convenor and facilitator of this dialogue.



From another line of work: “Acción Capaz” (“Action Ability”) workshop for institutionalising capacities for peacebuilding and conflict transformation in Norte de Santander

In order to bring the indigenous organisation Asociación Ñatubaiyibará and the peasant organisations ASCAMCAT, Cisca and Movimiento Constituyente Popular together with an umbrella organisation of 14 municipalities and other actors, the platform started with an exchange with stakeholders from the Meta and Putumayo departments – where similar exercises had been useful – in order to discuss benefits and risks for all actors. A second step was to jointly analyse the conflict context in the Catatumbo region. Furthermore, some actors – such as the indigenous Barí and the municipalities – were supported in parallel processes to develop the necessary capacities for a multi-stakeholder dialogue. As a result, the platform was able to develop a peace agenda for the Catatumbo region which was, for example, able to devise a joint political process for the watershed management of the River Catatumbo, and was a factor that helped ASCAMCAT and the Barí to maintain relations when peasants had been expelled from indigenous territory.



From another line of work: Kick-off Workshop for social contracts in Norte de Santander

FURTHER PROJECTS

1	Arge Como-Berghof for GIZ ProPaz (2015–2019)
2	Facilitation of Civil Peace Service Country Strategy for Colombia (July–October 2017)
3	Workshop Conflict Sensitivity for Danish Refugee Council (Dec 2017) in cooperation with the MENA Programme

Programme highlights

Berghof’s specific learning, modelling and regional peace approaches were shared in a number of panel discussions and other events during 2017, e.g. at the Frankfurt Symposium on Colombia: Memoria Colectiva, Migración y Postconflicto, at a discussion on Colombia at Stuttgart City Hall, and during a guest lecture on the Colombian peace process at Marburg University.

Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

Now in its fourth year, the conflict in Yemen has gained complexity on different levels. The political landscape is marked by increased fragmentation; new actors and coalitions have emerged and old alliances have crumbled. We therefore aimed to give each party a voice in the various dialogue formats we maintain. In Sana’a, we have continued to support multiparty dialogue meetings that remained a safe space for constructive political discussions even in difficult times. These meetings were complemented by consultations outside Yemen, also involving parties who were unable to take part in the discussions in Sana’a. These formats were organised in conjunction with

the Office of the UN Special Envoy and brought together high-level representatives from all parties to discuss options and ideas for a possible return to negotiations or interim measures to mitigate the impact of the war in the meantime. At the local level, we continued to support a multi-stakeholder dialogue forum in Taiz, which included actors from across the frontlines, to discuss initiatives for building trust among the conflict parties and for de-escalation. This inclusive and balanced approach proved to be essential for keeping dialogue channels open amidst extreme polarisation and for identifying areas of potential consensus that can lead to sustainable peace.

Yemen Consultation Meeting





Dalia Barsoum

Project Manager, Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

How did actors at the local level respond to the multipartial approach of the dialogue forum? How did you build up trust among the conflict parties?

Getting all actors on board with a multipartial approach requires a thorough stakeholder analysis and excellent context-specific knowledge. In Yemen, one of the biggest challenges is to keep the same distance to all parties, to be perceived as impartial at all times in a highly dynamic environment and at the same time to gain all the parties’ trust. With a long track record and an outstanding partnership inside Yemen, we have managed to walk this tightrope and gradually consolidate our position as an impartial, trusted actor.

This is why we were able to bring the different parties together in our dialogue platforms and to set some ground rules to make them safe and useful for everyone.

How do you manage to exchange/link the outcomes of different dialogue forums in and outside Yemen with each other?

Since many of the parties the participants are affiliated to can neither communicate nor physically meet in the current war situation, they greatly appreciate the opportunity to speak freely, away from rigid negotiating positions, and know that their discussions and positions will reach the other parties as well as the UN Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen. In order to ensure this complementarity and mutual exchange between the participants in all dialogues, we invited at least one representative of the dialogue group inside Yemen to present their discussion outcomes in the dialogue meetings outside Yemen. We also developed a vast multipartial network of previous and regular dialogue participants, in which we circulate reports of the dialogues under Chatham House rules.

FURTHER PROJECTS

1	Dialogue Process on Interim Stabilisation Measures in Syria (as of June 2017)
2	Supporting a Peaceful Solution, Political Dialogue and Transition in Yemen 2017–18
3	Improving Diaspora Emergency Response Capacity and Coordination with the Conventional Humanitarian System – Diaspora Emergency Action and Coordination (DEMAC) Phase II (as of May 2017)
4	Strengthening Inclusive Local Governance and Peacebuilding in Yemen (as of May 2017)
5	Supporting the Establishment of Safety Nets against Polarisation of Sunni-Shia Relations in Lebanon (as of August 2017)
6	Strengthening the Capacities of Sunni Institutions to Enhance Stability and Religious Tolerance (until mid-September 2017)
7	Lebanon: Strengthening the Strategy Development of Sunni Institutions to Enhance Stability and Religious Tolerance (until end of May 2017)
8	Deepening Intra-Sunni Dialogue in Lebanon and Supporting Dar Al-Fatwa in Advancing its Strategies to Address Root Causes of Radicalisation (as of June 2017)
9	Strengthening the Culture of Tolerance: Counteract Extremist Ideas among Students in Jordan (until August 2017)
10	Strengthening Outreach of Moderate Religious Institutions in Lebanon: Supporting the Implementation of Dar al-Fatwa’s Media Strategy (until end of April 2017)

Programme highlights

In April, our partner Dar Al-Fatwa hosted a conference on the role of religious institutions in supporting dialogue and peace processes in Beirut involving the Muftis of Jordan and Egypt and Al-Azhar representatives.

Furthermore, we have launched a new project to support inclusive local governance and local peacebuilding initiatives in Yemen in cooperation with GIZ.

Since June 2017, we have been working with an independent Finnish expert group to support Syrian-led discussions on interim stabilisation.

In October, the German Permanent Mission to the UN hosted a briefing by MENA Programme Director Oliver Wils on our work in Yemen. The New York briefing was attended by representatives of the UN Security Council and like-minded member states.

Consultancies and Events in 2017

In 2017, we provided high-level policy research consultancy services to a number of international, governmental and non-governmental agencies. These services included:

- ≡ a study on international support options for inclusive political settlements in fragile and conflict-affected societies (commissioned by the OECD and disseminated within the International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF));
- ≡ a report on national capacities for conflict prevention (commissioned by the World Bank for the flagship report “Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict” to the UN Secretary-General);
- ≡ a report on community control mechanisms to limit human rights violations by armed militias in Afghanistan (commissioned by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)) for a publication on ‘norms of restraint’ of non-state armed groups;
- ≡ a report on funding mechanisms to incentivise non-state armed groups to abide by ceasefire agreements (commissioned by the Norwegian Centre for Conflict Resolution (NOREF));
- ≡ and a report on the nexus between nonviolent resistance and peacebuilding strategies (commissioned by the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict (ICNC) and launched at the US Institute of Peace).

The Berghof Foundation and Allameh Tabataba’i University in Tehran signed a Memorandum of Understanding in April. This is the first agreement on peace education cooperation with an Iranian university. It will enable further cooperation, including expert meetings, courses and training events for university staff and students.

As part of the National Dialogue Handbook project, the project team has implemented several dissemination activities in response to the increasing requests from national and international actors who are involved or interested in the theory and practice of National Dialogues. Following the launch of the Handbook in Germany, a high-level dissemination event was held in New York. The German and Swiss Missions to the United Nations, together with the Berghof Foundation and swisspeace, invited participants to the roundtable discussion “International Engagement and National Ownership: Lessons learned from Yemen for emerging National Dialogue Processes”, which took place on 13 April in New York. It was hosted by the Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN. The roundtable brought together representatives from the United Nations and its member states, international experts and practitioners, and local stakeholders. By focusing on Yemen, the aim was to reflect on the nexus of international engagement and national ownership in National Dialogues and to define lessons learned for international support of National Dialogues.

In collaboration with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the German Federal Foreign Office and swisspeace, Luxshi Vimalarajah, Director of the Dialogue, Mediation and Support Structures Programme at the Berghof Foundation, gave a presentation on the National Dialogue Handbook at the UN Geneva Peace Week and took part in the panel: “National Dialogues as platforms for peaceful conflict transformation – a suitable approach for Syria?”



Participants in the workshop on the nexus of religion and mediation during an exchange with the German Federal Foreign Office

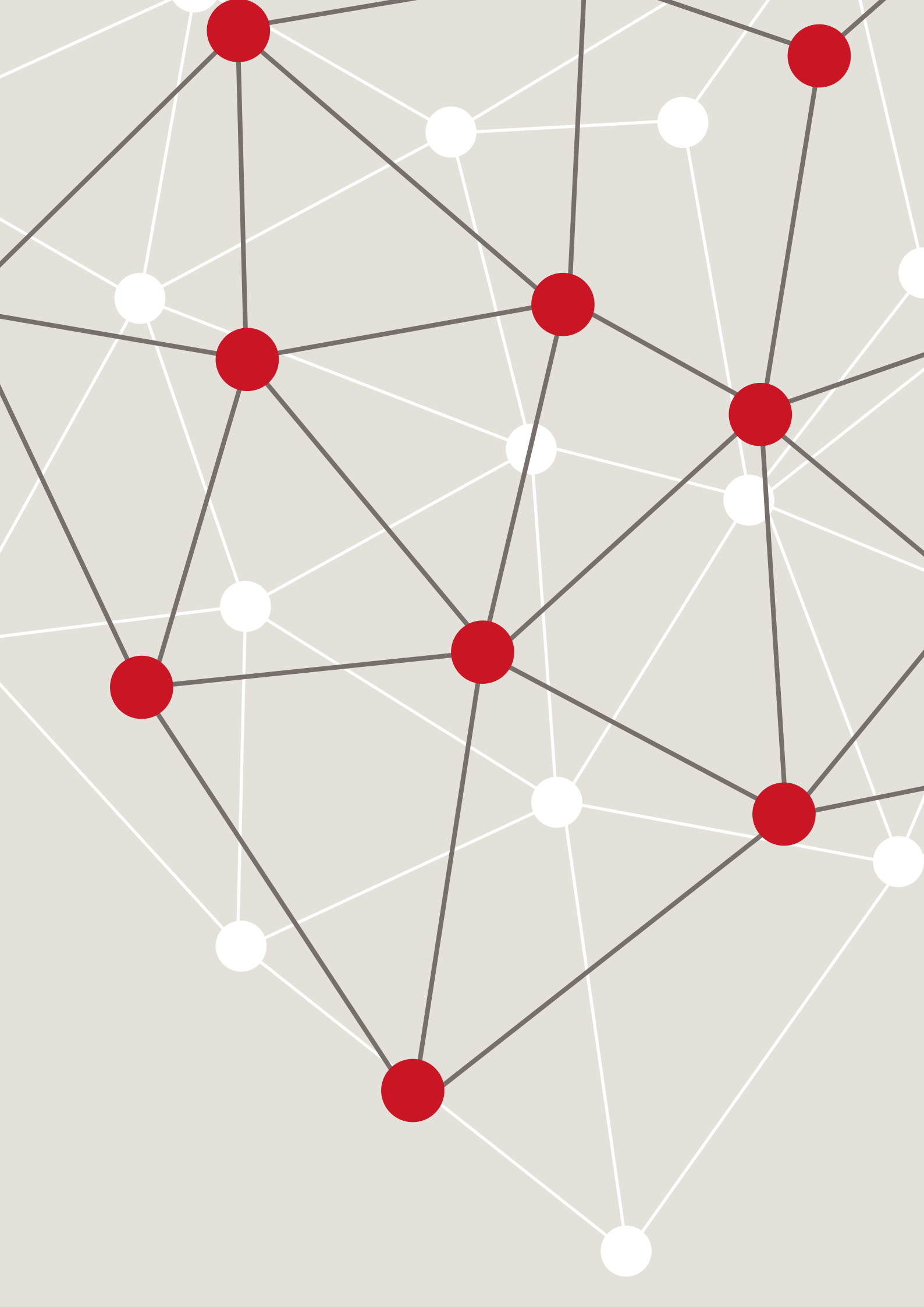
Additional network-based dissemination was undertaken, with support from the Swiss FDFA, to provide a group of Track 2 Syrian civil society leaders in Lebanon with copies of the Arabic National Dialogue Handbook and a group of Chadian scholars in N'Djamena with French hard copies.

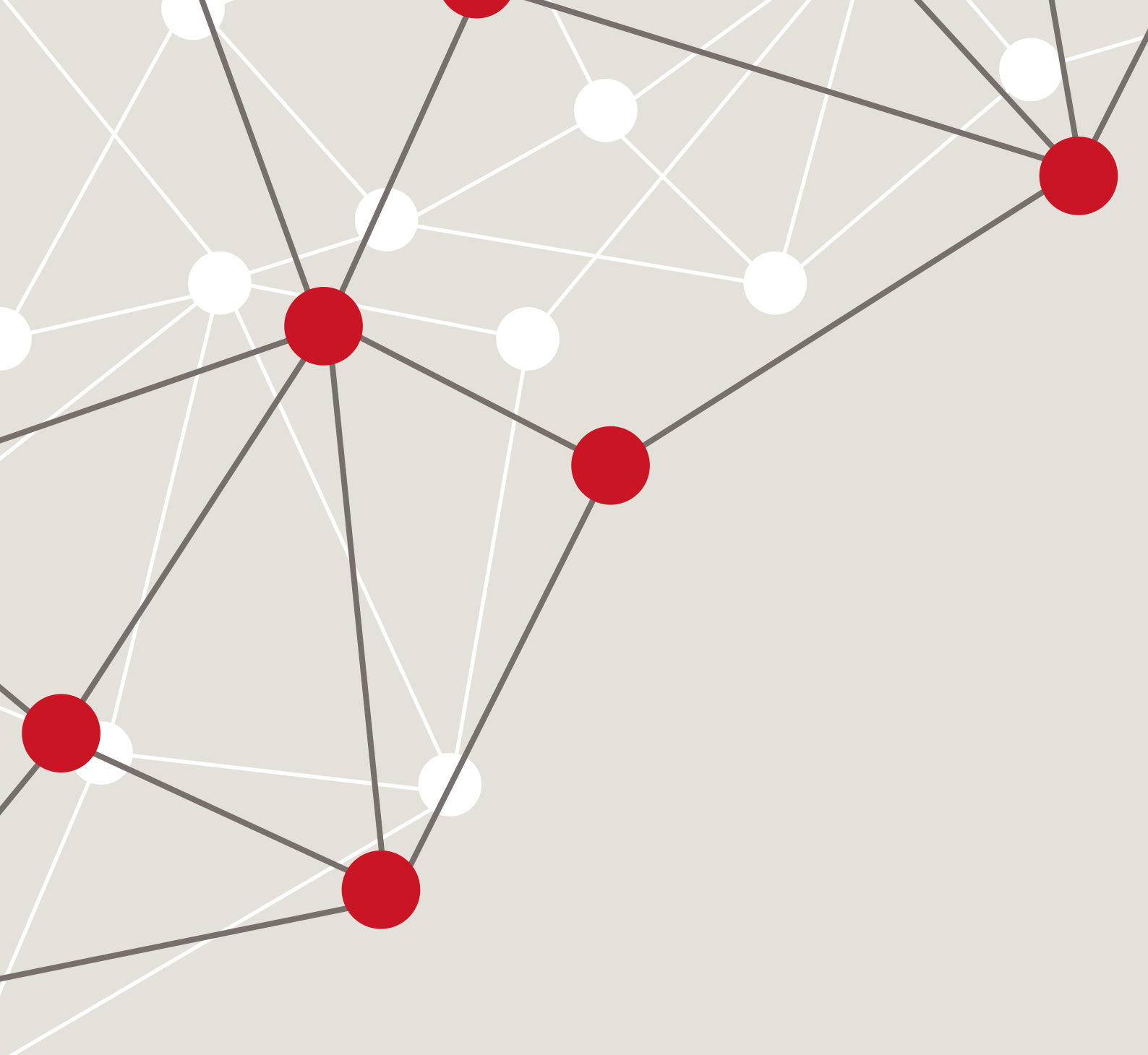
The Berghof Foundation has also accompanied the Basque peace process, which led to the disarmament of the clandestine organisation ETA in April 2017 and its formal dissolution in May 2018. Berghof provided thematic support to the Basque Permanent Social Forum, which plays an instrumental role in mobilising inclusive societal participation in the search for a peaceful solution to the Basque conflict.

In May 2017, promising negotiations were hosted jointly by the German Federal Foreign Office, the Berghof Foundation and the US State Department in Berlin between representatives of the Sudanese government and representatives of the Darfur opposition movements Justice for Equality (JEM) and the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM-MM), bringing the signing of a pre-negotiation agreement closer. However, a new military offensive in Darfur, driven by dynamics

in Libya, meant that a further round of informal talks was suspended until August. In order to reinvigorate the Darfur track, the parties will reconvene next year.

In late November, the Berghof Foundation, in collaboration with the German Federal Foreign Office, conducted a workshop on the religion-mediation nexus. 18 faith actors from 14 countries and regions around the world, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Iran, Iraq and Syria, gathered in Brandenburg, Germany, for the two and a half day workshop. Luxshi Vimalarajah, Director of the Dialogue, Mediation and Peace Support Structures Programme, facilitated the workshop together with Norbert Ropers, Senior Advisor at the Berghof Foundation. It proved to be an enriching experience, with participants jointly exploring pathways for faith actors to play a more active role in mediation in their conflict contexts. It also provided the space for a peer-to-peer dialogue on faith actors' approaches to mediation, comparative cases and lessons learned, and on ways to enhance mediation skills. At the end of the workshop, a roadmap was created to strategise follow-up activities such as intensive training and additional workshops in local and regional contexts.



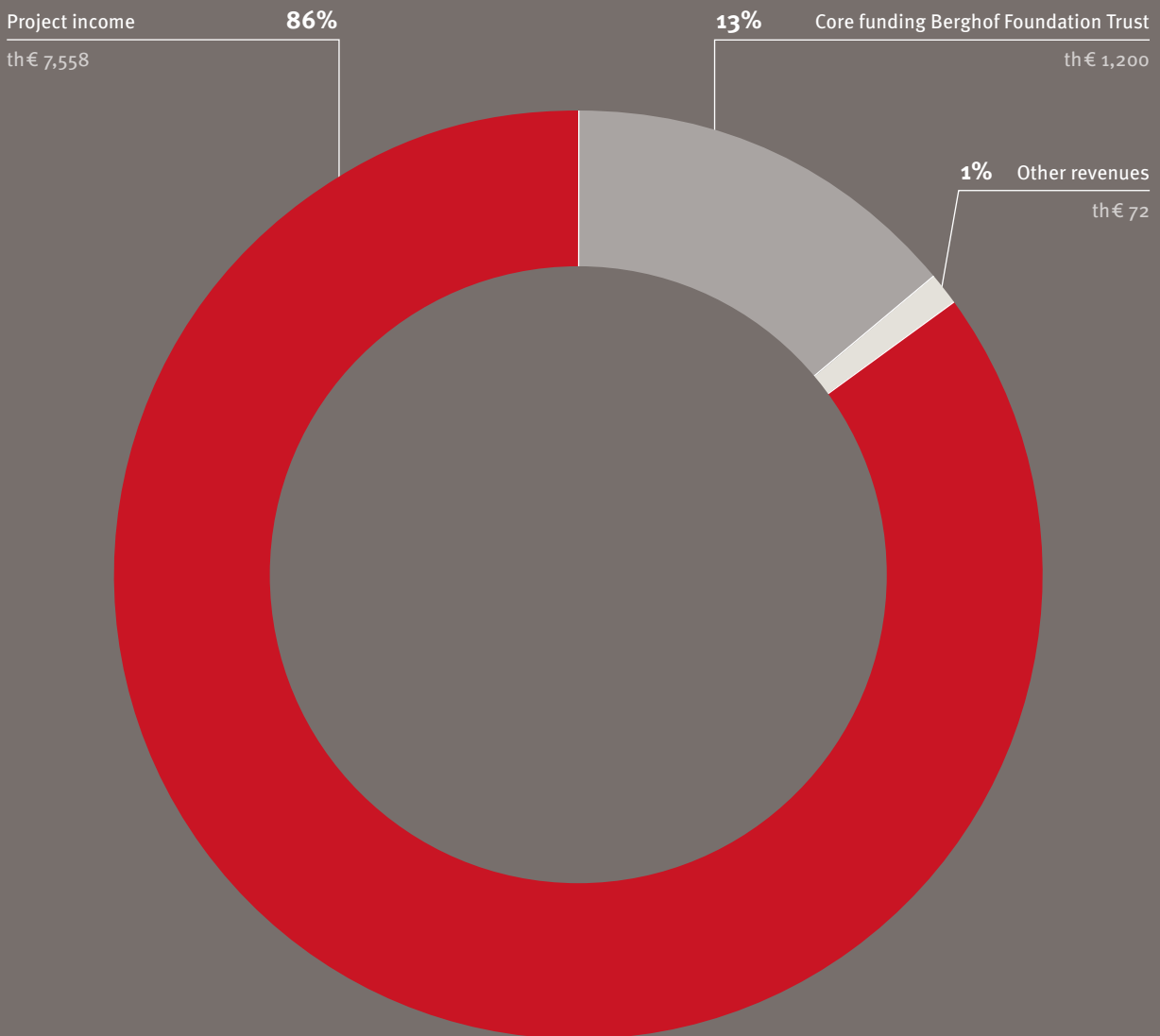


Facts and Figures

Financial Report

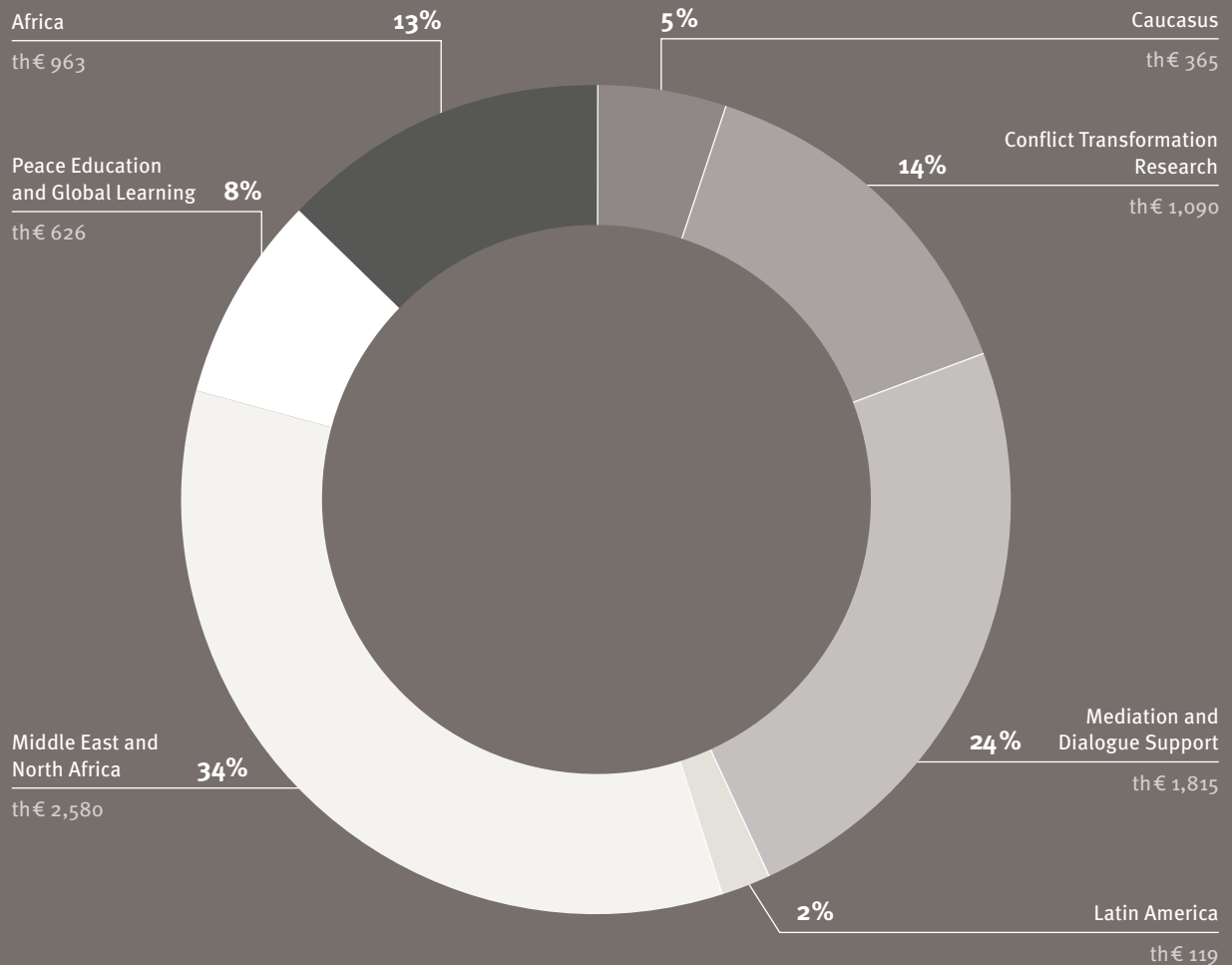
Operating Revenues

Total: th€ 8,830



Project Income

Total: th€ 7,558



Auditors' Report

We have issued an unqualified audit opinion for the financial statement as of 31 December 2017 (balance sheet, income statement and notes) of the Berghof Foundation Operations GmbH, Berlin, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in Germany. The figures of the annual report 2017 have been derived from these financial statements and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position as of 31 December 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year.

Ebner Stolz GmbH & Co. KG
Wirtschaftsprüfer Steuerberater
Zweigniederlassung Berlin

Berlin, 21 March 2018

Karina Frille
Wirtschaftsprüferin, Steuerberaterin
(German public auditor, tax accountant)

Matthias Könke
Wirtschaftsprüfer
(German public auditor)

Financial Report

Balance

Assets		in th €	2017	2016
Non-current assets	Intangible assets (patents, copyright and software)		70	41
	Fixed assets		162	152
	Total non-current assets		232	193
Current assets	Inventory		5	6
	Debtors		514	354
	Other receivables and prepaid expenses		147	255
	Bank and cash in hand		1,244	994
	Total current assets		1,910	1,609
Total assets			2,142	1,802

Net assets and liabilities				
Net assets	Basic capital		25	25
	Other equity capital		322	308
	Total net assets		347	333
Current liabilities	Bank indebtedness		48	20
	Accounts payable		538	663
	Accrued liabilities		459	163
	Project advances from funders		424	275
	Other liabilities		326	348
	Total current liabilities		1,795	1,469
Total net assets and liabilities			2,142	1,802

Income Statement

		in th €	2017	2016
Operating revenues	Institutional funding		1,200	1,200
	Project income		7,558	5,821
	Income grantmaking		0	30
	Other revenues		72	128
	Total operating revenues			8,830
Operating expenses	Salaries and social insurance costs		3,516	2,860
	Expenses grantmaking		0	30
	Professional fees		2,427	2,304
	Travel, representation and seminars		1,605	1,066
	Other project costs		530	381
	Office costs		599	453
	Depreciation		108	79
	Total operating expenses			8,785
	Operating surplus		45	6
Net loss	Net surplus before corporate tax		45	6
	Corporate tax		31	22
	Net surplus / loss for the financial year		14	-16

Organisation and Team

(as of 31 December 2017)

Board of Trustees

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Tübingen, Germany (Chairperson)

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Uppsala, Sweden

Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu, Centre for Policy
Alternatives, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Prof. Dr. em. Dr. h.c. mult. Dieter Senghaas,
Bremen, Germany

Dr. Christian Sundermann, State Secretary in
non-active service, Berlin, Germany

Engjellushe Morina, Project Manager

Vanessa Prinz, Project Manager

Nico Schernbeck, Project Manager

Frans Schram, Dialogue Facilitator

Sebastian Sönksen, Project Manager

Peace Education and Global Learning

Prof. Uli Jäger Uli Jäger, Programme Director

Isabella M. Bauer, Project Officer

Svenja Brunkhorst, Student Assistant

Hazem Elgafari, Project Officer

Anne Kruck, Senior Project Manager

Dagmar Nolden, Project Manager

Lena Raisdanai, Student Assistant

Dr. Nicole Rieber, Project Manager

Cassandra Schützko, Project Officer

Carolin Sokele, Student Assistant

Executive Directors

Prof. Dr. Dr. Hans-Joachim Giessmann

Sandra Pfahler

Programmes

Conflict Transformation Research

Dr. Véronique Dudouet, Programme Director

Theresa Breitmaier, Project Officer

Julian Demmer, Project Officer

Matteo Dressler, Programme Officer

Basir Feda, Project Manager

Janel B. Galvanek, Senior Project Manager

Karin Göldner-Ebenthal, Research Fellow

Stina Lundström, Project Manager

Mediation and Dialogue Support

Luxshi Vimalarajah, Programme Director

Selin Aksoy, Project Officer

Sinan Cinar, Student Assistant

Rebecca Davis, Project Officer

Damjan Denkovski, Project Officer

Mir Mubashir, Project Manager



Stefan Witthuhn

Project Controller,
Peace Education and Global Learning

How did you end up at Berghof?

After finishing university two and a half years ago, I was looking for a position in an international environment where I could work in non-profit projects and also make use of my working experience in business administration. I found the job opening through a mailing list and joined the Peace Education team in Tübingen a few weeks later.

What is the most challenging aspect of your work?

And what is the most rewarding?

In our projects we mostly work with taxpayers' money with strict rules. So when we plan a new project, all possible requirements must be considered. I act as a link between project teams with project partners worldwide on the one hand and donors on the other hand. Finding a solution that helps to reach project goals by consensus with all parties involved is most rewarding.

Africa

Theodore Murphy, Programme Director
 Michael J. Arensen, Senior Project Manager
 Nina Bernarding, Project Manager
 Leona Hollasch, Project Officer
 Karla Sanel, Project Officer

Caucasus

Dr. Oliver Wolleh, Programme Director
 Izzat Khusbakov, Project Officer
 Dr. Andrea Zemskov-Zuege, Project Manager

Latin America

Barbara Unger, Programme Director

Middle East and North Africa

Dr. Oliver Wils, Programme Director
 Sonja Neuweiler, Co-Director MENA Programme
 Basma Abdelaziz, Programme Officer
 Ali Anan, Senior Project Manager, Lebanon
 Lara Azzam, Project Manager, Lebanon
 Dalia Barsoum, Project Manager
 Zina El Nahel, Programme Officer
 Alia N. Eshaq, Project Manager
 Nadine Francis-Pohle, Project Manager
 Feras Kheirallah, Senior Project Manager, Lebanon
 Hassan Mais, Project Officer, Lebanon
 Priscilla Megalaa, Project Officer
 Mohammed Moneim, Project Officer, Lebanon
 Hala Nasreddine, Project Officer, Lebanon
 Nora Rathje, Project Manager
 Radwa Salah, Project Manager, Lebanon

Finance and Human Resources

Svenja Fredrich, Personnel Manager
 Heike Wellm, Accountant
 Marc Zuiderveen, Controller
 Uta Bieber, Project Controller
 Jana Rieckmann, HR Assistant
 Annett Rößling, Executive Assistant
 Christine Seifert, Executive Assistant
 Jenny Stock, Project Controller
 Emilija Taseva, Project Controller
 Malte Tepe, Project Controller
 Anja Wendlinger, Accountant
 Stefan Witthuhn, Project Controller



Anja Wendlinger
 Accountant

What are you currently working on?

I am working in the accounts department and my major focus is on reviewing travel expense reports, including the booking in our financial programme and payment afterwards. Also, the booking of payments of our visa cards belongs to my main tasks.

In your opinion: What makes Berghof special?

Peace. That I can be part of an organisation that advocates for peace in the world and whose employees “live” peace in their daily lives. The respectful and careful interaction with each other makes my work so much more engaging. Even if we are stressed sometimes and have a lot to do and it seems there is no time for one other, brief eye contact and a smile – if only for a second – is always around. My colleagues appreciate my work and I get the opportunity to increase my knowledge with seminars etc.

Publications and Core Services

Beatrix Austin, Senior Coordinator
 Berghof Handbook
 Astrid Fischer, Project Manager
 Website, Publications
 Phillip Holz, Student Assistant
 Claus-Dieter Wild, Senior Administrator
 Library, IT, Organisation

Facility Management

Claudia Ebert, Facility Management Tübingen
 Christina Wrobel, Gardener Berlin

Interns

Thadeus Fürstenau (Mediation and Dialogue Support)
Hanna Hell (Conflict Transformation Research)
Julieth Marcela Hake (Latin America)
Lea Korossy-Julius (Peace Education and Global Learning)
Mundher Mubarak (Middle East and North Africa)
Timothy Schwier (Conflict Transformation Research)

Associates

José Miguel Abad (Colombia)
Mohammed Abu Zaid (Lebanon)
Musa Al Munaizel (Jordan)
Andrés Aunta (Colombia)
Lorena Fernández (Colombia)
Dr. Radwan El-Sayed (Lebanon)
Ali Saif Hassan (Yemen)
Andrés Home (Colombia)
Dr. Christoph T. Jaeger (Kenya)
Omar Kayyed
Shadia Marhaban (Aceh/Indonesia)
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Dr. Mohammed Sammak
Roberto Sanabria (Colombia)
Leban Serto (India)
Shota Shvelidze (Georgia)
Dr. Martin Wählisch (Lebanon)
Dr. Annette Weber (Germany)
Prof. Dr. Mesut Yeğen (Turkey)
Sohaib Al Zoubi (Germany)
Abass Kassim Sheikh (Somalia)
Dr. Peter Biar Ajak (South Sudan)
Amb. Nakaha Stanislas (based in Ethiopia, South Sudan project)
Sidi Yattara (based in Mali, South Sudan project)
Dr. Heidi Huuhtanen (Finland)
Ilkka Uusitalo (Finland)
Jaakko Oksanen (Finland)
Rusiko Marschania (Georgia)
Eleni Natenadze (Georgia)
Sevinj Samadzade (Azerbaijan)
Bakhtiyar Aslanov (Azerbaijan)

Publications

Berghof Publications

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Networks

Partners

African Foundation for Development (AFFORD), United Kingdom
 African Union High-Level Implementation Panel for Sudan and South Sudan
 African Union Peace and Security Department
 Agency for Social, Economic and Cultural Development, Tskhinval(i)
 Al-Balqa' Applied University, Jordan
 Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran
 Association for Development Cooperation (AGEH), Germany
 Atlantic Initiative, Bosnia and Herzegovina
 Berlin Center for Integrative Mediation (CSSP), Germany
 Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service, Germany
 Center for Conflict Studies and Cultural Diversity, Prince of Songkla University (PSU), Thailand
 Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), Germany
 Center for Peace and Conflict Studies (CPCS), Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
 Center for Peace Mediation at Europa-Universität Viadrina, Germany
 Center for Public Policy and Democracy Studies (PODEM), Turkey
 Centro de Investigación y Educación Popular (CINEP), Colombia
 City of Tübingen, Germany
 Clingendael Institute of International Relations - Conflict Research Unit, Netherlands
 Como Consult GmbH, Germany
 Conciliation Resources, United Kingdom
 Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Denmark
 Dar al-Fatwa, Lebanon
 Deep South Watch, Thailand
 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Germany
 Escola de Cultura de Pau, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (ECP), Spain
 ESSEC IRENÉ (Institute for Research and Education on Negotiation), France
 European External Action Service (EEAS), Belgium
 European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), Belgium
 Finn Church Aid, Finland
 Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
 German Federal Foreign Office
 Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), Netherlands
 Hiiraan University, Beledweyne, Somalia
 Government of Hirshabelle, Federal Member State of Somalia
 Hrant Dink Foundation (HDF), Turkey
 Inmedio, Germany
 Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM), Albania
 Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH), Germany
 Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University, Thailand
 Institute of Peace Studies, Prince of Songkla University (PSU), Thailand
 Institute of Political Science, University of Tübingen, Germany
 Institute of World Policy (IWP), Ukraine
 International Center on Conflict and Negotiation, Georgia
 International Center on Nonviolent Conflict, USA
 Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia
 Jobkey University, Jowhar, Somalia
 Jordanian Society for Democratic Empowerment, Jordan
 King Prajadhipok's Institute, The Office of Peace and Governance, Bangkok, Thailand
 Kosovo Centre for Security Studies, Kosovo
 Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Baden-Württemberg, Germany
 London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), United Kingdom
 MediatEur, Belgium
 Ministry of Education, Jordan
 Mothers of Abkhazia for Peace and Social Justice
 Open Horizons Co. Ltd., Nairobi, Kenya
 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development – Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC)
 Peace Boat
 Peace Counts Network, Germany
 Peace Development Center, Georgia
 Peace Information Center, Thammasat University, Thailand
 Peace Studies Institute, Prince of Songkla University (PSU), Thailand
 People's College, Thailand
 Political Development Forum (PDF), Yemen
 ProPaz GIZ, Colombia
 Regional Development Support Society, Georgia
 Relief International
 South Sudanese Women's Coalition
 South Sudan Young Leaders Forum (SSYLF)
 Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)/German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Germany
 Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Sweden
 Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft, Germany
 Swisspeace, Switzerland
 Tehran Peace Museum, Iran
 Theodor Schneller Educational Training Centre, Jordan
 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
 United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
 University of Duisburg-Essen
 University of Jordan (UJ), Jordan
 University of Law and Political Sciences of Bamako (USJPB), Mali
 University of Petra, Jordan
 University of Utrecht, Netherlands

World Bank, USA
 World Without Violence, Sukhum(i)
 Zeitspiegel Reportagen, Germany

Funders

Baden-Württemberg Stiftung, Germany
 Berghof Foundation Trust
 Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service, Germany
 Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Germany
 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Germany
 Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Amman, Jordan
 European Commission (HORIZON 2020 – EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation)
 European Commission (IcSP)
 European Union Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)
 Federal Agency for Civic Education, Germany
 Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Switzerland
 Federal Foreign Office, Germany
 Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, Initiative „Ein Netz für Kinder“, Germany
 Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (“Live Democracy!” Programme), Germany
 Finn Church Aid, Finland
 Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom
 Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Germany
 German Foundation for Peace Research (DSF), Germany
 City of Hamburg via the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH), Germany
 Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen, zivik Funding Programme, Germany
 International Committee of the Red Cross
 Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
 Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports Baden-Württemberg, Germany
 Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Centre (NOREF), Norway
 Robert Bosch Stiftung, Germany
 Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan
 World Bank, USA

Memberships

European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)

The European Peacebuilding Liaison Office is a European association of non-governmental organisations engaged in peacebuilding, crisis prevention and conflict resolution. As a platform for collaboration within a community of like-minded partners, it also lobbies for a more prominent role for peaceful tools and strategies in the policies of the European Union.

German Platform for Peaceful Conflict Management

The platform is a German network of associates which promotes peaceful conflict management. It is designed as an open network.

Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) / Working Group on Education and Fragility

INEE is a network of practitioners from international NGOs and UN and government agencies who work to promote education opportunities in crisis or conflict areas. It supports its members inter alia through information sharing and management, advocacy work and providing tools for practice and policy.

Mediation Support Initiative Germany (IMSD)

The Mediation Support Initiative Germany consists of a consortium of five non-governmental organisations that aim to further the knowledge and application of mediation and mediation support in public discourse and Germany’s (foreign) policy and to integrate mediation as one efficient and sustainable instrument of civilian crisis prevention.

Mediation Support Network (MSN)

The Mediation Support Network’s mission is to promote and improve mediation practice, processes and standards to address political tensions and armed conflict.

The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers

The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers brings together actors to provide global support for grassroots to international peace and peacebuilding efforts. The aim of the Network is to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of peace-focused efforts by collaboratively supporting and strengthening the positive role of religious and traditional actors in peace and peacebuilding processes.

Friends of Berghof Peace Education

The main task of the Friends of Berghof Peace Education in Tübingen is to support the Berghof Foundation's Peace Education and Global Learning Programme in the implementation of ideas and initiatives such as the Berghof Summer School for International Peacebuilders and the publication of learning materials on peace education for schools. Peace education within the Berghof Foundation focuses on the development and implementation of violence prevention and peace education projects in conflict areas and the organisation of events and encounters on the topic.

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