

National Dialogue and peacemaking course

September 3 – October 15, 2026

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
Tuesday		Sept 8, 2-4 pm Facilitated peer exchange Participants exchange on the e-learning unit and deepen their understanding of how National Dialogues are defined, what their key characteristics are and how they are structured and designed.	Sept 15, 2-4 pm Facilitated peer exchange Participants discuss the objectives of a National Dialogue, get insights how National Dialogues complement other mechanisms of conflict transformation and look at key challenges and opportunities.	Sept 22, 2-4 pm Facilitated peer exchange Participants explore the various aspects of the Preparation Phase: including preparing and initiating the process, getting the mandate, securing political buy-in and building trust among participants.	Sept 29, 2-4 pm Facilitated peer exchange Participants deepen insights about the Process Phase: setting the agenda, developing the process design and decision-making mechanisms, selecting participants, facilitators and convener.	Oct 6, 2-4 pm Facilitated peer exchange Participants reflect on key aspects of the Implementation Phase: the different forms of outcomes, various implementation mechanisms, and where challenges and opportunities lie.	Oct 13, 2-4 pm Bonus Session Expert inputs on the nexus of National Dialogue and climate change, and the impact and opportunities of digitalization on National Dialogues. Q&A following presentations.
Thursday	Sept 3, 2-4 pm Welcome session Introduction of the course and participants; overview of the course structure and learning objectives, resources and e-learning tool, experiences and expectations; Q&A.	Sept 10, 2-4 pm Expert Session Expert inputs on Berghof Foundation's National Dialogue engagements, and other case studies to explore key concepts of National Dialogue. Q&A session following presentations.	Sept 17, 2-4 pm Expert session Expert inputs on different political and peace processes, and how they might be most effectively linked to National Dialogues. Q&A session following presentations.	Sept 24, 2-4 pm Expert session Expert inputs on managing inclusion and effective participation, confidence-building, and key preparation aspects impacting the likelihood of success of National Dialogues.	Oct 1, 2-4 pm Expert Session Expert inputs on key considerations for process design, consensus-building, deadlock-breaking and public engagement. Q&A session following presentations.	Oct 8, 2-4 pm Expert session Expert inputs on National Dialogue outcomes, legitimacy and implementation, support options and infrastructures. Q&A session following presentations.	Oct 15, 2-4 pm Capstone & Closing Deep dive into a country context allowing participants to apply their learnings to a real-life case study. Closing reflections and feedback.
Weekend	E-learning platform Unit 1: Introduction and defining National Dialogue	E-learning platform Unit 2: Objectives of National Dialogue	E-learning platform Unit 3: Preparation phase	E-learning platform Unit 4: Process phase	E-learning platform Unit 5: Implementation phase	E-learning platform Final review	

*All live sessions take place in Zoom, Berlin time (CEST).