Summer Academy for Intercultural Dialogue

Code of Conduct

The Summer Academy for Intercultural Dialogue supports young people to become multipliers for peace, inclusivity and reconciliation. It offers them a frame to find ways out of the trauma of violence - beyond political, ethnic and religious conflicts in their home countries. Over two weeks, they look together as members of different religions, beliefs and backgrounds, for strategies to build peaceful and just societies and to overcome hate, intolerance, violence and injustice. They address structural inequalities on the global scale.

At the Summer Academy for Intercultural Dialogue, we are committed to creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all participants and team members. Our goal is to foster intercultural dialogue, promote a positive peace, and stand against racism and discrimination. The Summer Academy is committed to promote peaceful means in the struggle for peace and social justice, and as such rejects the notion that violence is necessary and leads to conflict resolution. While recognizing the rights to resistance and self-defense as outlined in the UN charter, we assert and are founded in the belief that there are always viable and alternative, non-violent means to addressing and resolving conflict.

To ensure this, we expect all participants and team members to adhere to the following Code of Conduct:

1. Respect, Diversity and Open-Mindedness

- Treat every person with respect, regardless of their background, ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or any other characteristic.
- Recognize and respect every person's sovereignty over their own self, body, and expressions, and refrain from unsolicited commentary or advice.
- Embrace the diversity of opinions, experiences, and perspectives within the academy.
- Approach conversations with an open mind and a willingness to learn from different cultures and viewpoints.
- Avoid making assumptions or generalizations.

2. Reject all forms of Racism and Discrimination

- We have zero tolerance for racism, discrimination, hate speech, and any form of harassment.
- Reports of any incident will lead to the intervention of the Leading Team which will act according to the measures stated below.
- Use inclusive and respectful language that avoids stereotypes, offensive remarks, or derogatory comments.

3. Commit to Peace and Non-Militarism

- You are committed to peace and understand it can only be achieved by non-violent and non-oppressive means.
- The Summer Academy is a place for people who recognize that violence cannot solve social, political, and/or economic issues, global, and domestic. It is for people who resist war and armed conflict and are interested in disrupting the war economy and building global cooperation.

4. Engage in Peaceful Dialogue and Communication

- Engage in dialogue with the intention of understanding.

- Disagree respectfully, focusing on the issue at hand.
- Practice active listening to ensure everyone's voice is heard and valued.

5. Take Personal Responsibility

- Take responsibility for your words and actions; be mindful of the impact they may have on others.
- Apologize and learn from any unintentional harm caused to others.
- Recognize the way historic power differentials and experience of oppression show up in interpersonal relationships and commit to equity and agency-building.

As part of your agreement to the following Code of Conduct, we invite participants to:

- Report any code of conduct violations to the designated point(s) of contact.
- Encourage others to come forward if they experience or witness any inappropriate behavior.

All reports will be handled confidentially and with sensitivity.

By participating in the Summer Academy for Intercultural Dialogue, I, the undersigned below, agree to follow the Code of Conduct. I also understand that violating any part of this Code of Conduct may result in being given warnings, temporarily removed from activities, or expelled from the Summer Academy, depending on the severity and repetition of the offense(s).

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. We look forward to getting to know you better and to a fruitful and engaging program this summer. Although the road towards realizing equity, peace, and justice may be long, it is best travelled with trusted companions.