



What is the problem we address?

The conflict in Ukraine is waged to a large extent in the mass media and one-sided accounts on both sides narrow down the common ground for dialogue. **Ukrainians and Russians hardly** have opportunities to **speak to each other**, which limits their exposure to alternative viewpoints of the background of the current conflict and hinders citizens of both societies to see the common ground they might share. At the same time, there is no inclusive dialogue of all countries and groups involved in the conflict. This leads to a fundamental **lack of consensus about the roots of the conflict** and possible solutions to it.

What are our goals?

We want to give Russians, Ukrainians and Germans, who are interested in a constructive dialogue, the opportunity to participate in “**Trilateral Peace Talks**” in Berlin. Together, we seek to establish a common understanding of the conflict’s origins, its framing in the media and possible solutions to bringing it to an end. By cooperating in the organization of the event, and by discussing and sharing our opinions at the conference itself, we **develop long-lasting and regular relationships** that will enable participants to take on the role of “social multipliers” within their personal network.

How do we want to reach these goals?

In order to better get to know each other and to foster the buildup of trust, the program features various **recreational activities** that the whole group will participate in. In parallel, two **workshop** sessions on **inter-personal and political conflict resolution** will help to enable the participants to engage in a productive dialogue. The thematic part of the program will build on this introduction: experienced experts alongside **participants hold short presentations** on one of the three main topics. Each presentation is followed by a discussion and a summary of its results in working groups. Further, we will **present our key findings at a “Citizen Talk”**. This closing event will be attended by German citizens, representatives of the media and civil society as well as German parliamentarians who are interested in interactively discussing the results of the conference.

Who may participate and how?

We have already received more than 160 applications from Ukraine and Russia, and we are glad to announce that the **application process is now open to German applications**. If you are 30 years or younger, have a demonstrated interest in politics and sufficient command of the English language, we kindly invite you to apply with a written thematic proposal. **Your proposal** should be no longer than 550 words and **deal with ONE of the following topics: 1)**



Roots of the conflict, **2) Framing** of the Conflict **in the Media** or **3) Possible solutions** to the conflict. You can analyze the topic of your choice in many possible ways – be it from a political, economic, historical or philosophical perspective. **You are free** to choose unconventional approaches and hold controversial opinions but you have to offer arguments and facts that support your analysis. Whatever topic you choose, **we will not judge your opinion** in any way. Rather, it is important that you **base your statements on well-grounded arguments**. The better your arguments, the easier it will be for the other participants to understand and even share your position and the more constructive will be our dialogue. Your proposal will serve as the basis for your short presentation during the conference.

Please send your English-language proposal and a CV to peacetalks@ifair.eu by **April 10th** (we only accept your application if you send us your proposal and CV in **ONE** document).

How much will this cost me?

We will cover your accommodation from May 1st to May 5th. Currently, we are securing additional funding in order to provide for your catering during the same period and to make a financial contribution to your travel expenses.

Where and when will the event take place?

The “Trilateral Peace Talks” take place at the Hertie School of Governance, Friedrichstraße 180, Berlin, from 1 to 4 May 2015. In addition, we will hold background discussions and benefit from the cultural activities at other locations in Berlin.

Do you have problems or questions?

If you have any questions, please send an email to Yulia.Yarina@ifair.eu.



Program for the "Trilateral Peace Talks" between Russia, Ukraine and Germany in Berlin

Thursday, 30/04/2015

- Afternoon: Arrival of participants

Friday, 01/05/2015 (Hertie School of Governance)

- 10.00-11.00: Welcome note by IFAIR, formation of working groups
- 11.00-13.00: Guided City Tour
- 13.00-14.00: Lunch
- 14.00-15.30: Workshop „Resolving interpersonal conflict“ I with Msc. Rima-Maria Rahal
- 15.30-16.00: Break
- 16.00-17.30: Workshop „Resolving interpersonal conflict“ II with Msc. Rima-Maria Rahal
- 18.00-19.30: Visit of the art exhibition „Collection Boros“
- 20.00: Intercultural encounters at a Ukrainian restaurant

Saturday, 02/05/2015 (Hertie School of Governance)

- 10.00-13.00: Workshop „Political Conflict Transformation“ by the Berlin Center for Integrative Mediation (CSSP)
- 13.00-14.30: Lunch
- 14:30-18:00: Topic 1 of the „Trilateral Peace Talks“: Background of the conflict in Ukraine with Prof. Irina Busygina, MGIMO
- 18.00-18.30: Debriefing in assigned working groups
- 18.30-20.30: Intercultural encounters at a Russian restaurant
- 21.00: Movie Screening

Sunday, 03/05/2015 (Hertie School of Governance)

- 09.30-13.00: Topic 2 of the „Trilateral Peace Talks“: Framing of the Conflict in the Media with Oleksandr Holubov, Deutsche Welle
- 13.00-14.00: Lunch
- 14.00-17.00: Part III: Proposals for a lasting peace in Ukraine with Prof. Dr. Peter W. Schulze, Expert on Eastern Europe
- 17.00-17.45: Contacting Civil Society: Meeting with representatives of German NGOs with a focus on Eastern Europe
- 18.00-20.00: Intercultural encounters at a German restaurant



Monday, 04/05/2015 (Hertie School of Governance)

- 10.00-13.00: Summary of results of working groups
- 13.00-14.30: Lunch
- 14.30-16.00: Preparation of the closing event
- 17.15-18.30: Visit of the Reichstag
- 19.00-20.00: Presentation of the conference results at BMW-Foundation Herbert Quandt
- 20.00.-20.30: “Town Hall Meeting” with a guest expert of the European Academy Berlin
- 20.30: Reception

Tuesday, 05/05/2015

- Departure of participants



About the Cooperating Institutions

IFAIR – the **Young Initiative on Foreign Affairs and International Relations** is a non-profit open think tank, center for skill development and incubator for impact-oriented volunteer work. IFAIR connects young people who want to take part in specific projects, and offers young talents opportunities to learn the skills to leave their impact on international relations. Website: www.ifair.eu/en

CDR – the **Center for Democratic Renaissance** in Ukraine unites socially active experts and activists. CDR’s goal is to promote civil society in Ukraine and help to establish a competitive market economy and an active societal dialogue about the future of Ukraine. The CDR is an official partner of IFAIR and helps to recruit participants in Ukraine. Facebook-Link: <https://www.facebook.com/CDRUkraine?fref=ts>

YDI – the NGO **Youth Diplomatic Initiative** aims at strengthening Ukraine’s foreign relations on a cultural, social and diplomatic level. YDI provides opportunities for young people to learn about negotiation techniques and best practices in diplomacy. The organization is an official partner of IFAIR and helps to recruit participants in Ukraine. Facebook-Link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/151458421593212/?fref=ts>

IMEMO – the **Institute of World Economy and International Relations** in Moscow is a non-profit organization. The institute advises legislators, policy makers and entrepreneurs by providing an analytical basis for decision-making. IMEMO is the official Russian project partner of the Trilateral Peace Talks and helps to recruit participants in Russia. Website: www.imemo.ru/en

About the Supporters

The project is supported by the foundation “West-Eastern Encounters” which is dedicated to international understanding, reconciliation, peace and the promotion of neighborly relationships. Website: www.stiftung-woeb.de. Also, the project is supported by the “Hertie Foundation” that promotes education, research and talent development. Website: <http://www.ghst.de/en/hertie-foundation/>.



About the Organizing Team



Viktoriia Palii studies business administration at LMU Munich. She works as a scientific assistant for a crowd investing project of the German Research Foundation.



Yulia Yarina studies law at the Humboldt University in Berlin. She is an active member of the Young European Movement that organizes simulations of the European Parliament.



Malvin Oppold studies Political Science and Eastern European Studies at University of Berne and currently writes his master thesis on the societal effects of civil war in Kosovo.



David Schlutz studies Public Policy at the London School of Economics and Hertie School of Governance in Berlin and writes his master thesis on the effects of financial disclosure systems on corruption levels.

Viktoriia, Yulia, Malvin and David are together responsible for the regional department “Russia & CIS” at IFAIR.