



The Network University (TNU) is a centre for collaborative learning. TNU is rooted in the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. It offers innovative academic courses via the Internet to a worldwide audience of students and professionals.

Participants with different professional backgrounds share their experiences in interactive group discussions and assignments. They become co-producers in joint knowledge networks.

The goal of TNU is to be one of the world's most innovative institutions of higher learning which

- ◆ creates networks between universities and social organisations in Europe and beyond;
- ◆ offers manifold opportunities of inspiring collaborative and competence based learning in degree-programmes and expert-courses;
- ◆ offers participants access to broad knowledge networks.

TNU's activities are aimed at generating new knowledge and insights and then spreading these throughout the participating networks. These activities include the development and supervision of:

- ◆ online courses
- ◆ online debates
- ◆ commissioned research
- ◆ workshops combining online and face-to-face learning experiences
- ◆ consultancy and strategy development on E-learning

TNU PROGRAMMES

ONLINE COURSES ON CONFLICT RESOLUTION:

- ◆ Transforming Civil Conflict [Award: International Security Network Award for excellence in education]
- ◆ Gender and Conflict Transformation.
- ◆ Post-Conflict Development NEW!
- ◆ Youth and Conflict [Award: 2003 EU Education Awareness Award]

OTHER TNU ACTIVITIES RELATED TO CONFLICT:

TNU has organised large-scale online debates on:

- ◆ 'The Role of Women in Conflict Resolution', under the auspices of UNESCO and KEGME
 - ◆ 'Road Map for a Democratic Europe', in co-operation with Papandreou Foundation, Greece;
- TNU has developed a special tool called:

- ◆ 'Split Screen'. A computer screen, split in two halves, allows conflicting parties to express and discuss their positions in an innovative and refreshing way. The 'Split Screen' tool has been awarded the Digital Pioneers Grant.

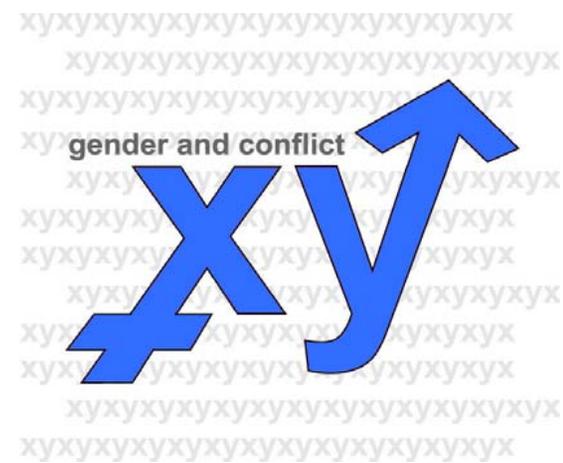
TNU has created virtual community meeting spaces such as:

- ◆ An online youth exchange programme on global issues for Baobabconnections.

For more information, consult our website at www.netuni.nl. Visit our demosite at www.netuni.nl/demos/genderconflict.

GENDER & CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

2004



A Four-Week Online Course

offered by



GENDER & CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

Based on years of experience in creating the award-winning online course 'Transforming Civil Conflict', The Network University has now clustered its knowledge and expertise in the online course 'Gender and Conflict Transformation'.

In many conflict situations security is considered a men's affair and is exclusively defined in military terms. Human security, based on universal human needs, is however essential and often underrated as a factor contributing to lasting peace.

Given the rapid proliferation of violence, terrorism and conflict during the last decade, women's different skills, perspectives and leadership styles can prove extremely useful to ensure human security. A gender-sensitive approach to conflict transformation is therefore fundamental.

HOW

Within our online learning environment, you will familiarise yourself with the theories of conflict transformation and the relationship between gender and conflict transformation.

The course uses a variety of interactive methods in order to stimulate you to think critically on why, when and how to apply conflict transformation.

After completing this course, you will be able to place your own experiences in a larger framework and develop gender-sensitive strategies to improve your organisation's performance.

WHO

The course is developed for individuals working in organisations that are active in a conflict area. They can be part of women's organisations, NGO's, local authorities, companies or trade unions.

PROGRAMME THEMES

Week 1. Experiencing

'My conflict'.

Articulation of participants' experience with conflict is the starting point for discussing basic conflict dynamics and tools for resolution. Participants describe their own point of view in a conflict situation of their choice. In a role-play participants play out a conflict and reflect on it.

Week 2. Understanding

'Rethinking conflict from a gender perspective'.

Following a practical and a theoretical track, participants will look into the question why gender matters in understanding conflict. Both paths will arrive at a discussion about the different roles women and men play in conflict. Can the explanation for this difference be found in nature or nurture?

Week 3. Strategizing

'Women as agents of change and transformation'.

This week's focus will be on women's active roles in conflict transformation. A number of local and global strategies will be discussed, representative of the course writers' experiences. Participants will share their own strategies with the group and will collaboratively build a collection of strategies that inspire action.

Week 4. Acting

'Building a constructive alternative'.

After having understood some of the dynamics in a conflict situation, and getting familiar with strategies for transformation, participants prepare for concrete action. Each participant designs and reviews an action plan. Participants are asked to enrich a number of these with their own insights and experiences.

Development of the Online Course:

Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Gerd Junne
Content development: TNU: C.Dijkema, L.Wessels; E. Stameris (KEGME), J. el Bushra, Shelley Anderson (IFOR) and Ancil Adrian Paul (International Alert).
Technical development: TNU Technical Team
Advice: L. van Druten, Vic Klabbers

PROGRAMME DETAILS

COURSE DATES

31 May -25 June and 20 September -15 October 2004.

DURATION

4 weeks, the workload is designed for 5 to 6 hours of total study time a week.

PROGRAMME APPROACH

The course is taught and supervised entirely on the Internet in English. The course focuses on creating a shared learning experience. By participating you will become part of a learning community of participants and experts. This is achieved by weekly assignments and intensive discussions, which form a central part of our programme approach. The coaches are present daily at the online 'call centre' to provide guidance, give feedback and answer questions that you may have.

REGISTRATION

For registration, go to www.netuni.nl/courses click on 'Register' and fill in the registration form. Or visit our demosite first at www.netuni.nl/demos/genderconflict.

COURSE FEE

€450. Limited amount of partial scholarships available.

CONTACTING TNU

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