

E·R·M·E·S[®]



**EUROPEAN
RESOURCES FOR
MEDIATION SUPPORT**

The EU mechanism to support global
peace mediation efforts.

European Resources for Mediation Support (ERMES)

enables the EU to provide assistance to conflict parties, third party mediators and groups participating in inclusive peace processes, in the context of local, national or international armed conflicts, or for preventive purposes. It does so through short-term operational support, technical assistance and capacity-building. ERMES complements the EU's own diverse roles as a mediator, and political and financial supporter of mediation and dialogue efforts of others.



- The third phase of ERMES is implemented by a consortium of leading specialized not for profit and international organisations and institutes: the European Centre for Electoral Support – ECES (Belgium), the European Forum for International Mediation and Dialogue – MediatEUr (Belgium), Fondation Hirondelle (Switzerland), Interpeace (Switzerland) and the Institute for Research and Education on Negotiation - ESSEC IRENE (France).. The consortium is led by the College of Europe (Belgium).

The programme is funded and managed by the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI). FPI closely cooperates with the European External Action Service (EEAS) and EU Delegations to ensure the political appropriateness of actions undertaken under ERMES.

ERMES can provide

- **Short-term technical assistance to peace processes and actors**
- **Facilitation of meetings and workshops, including logistical support, linked to peace processes**
- **Training and coaching to peace process participants**
- **Production of research papers to guide mediation actors**

In support to

- **Conflict parties**
- **International and regional organisations, as well as governments acting as mediators**
- **Institutions and organisations mandated to support peace and reconciliation efforts (e.g. Peace secretariats)**
- **Third parties to peace processes, such as NGOs, civil society actors and community-level groups**



Examples of ERMES services

● Syria & Yemen: enhancing the role of women in peace processes

ERMES organized several workshops and events to promote the Women, Peace and Security Agenda and enhance the role of women in peace processes. ERMES supported a workshop among Syrian women activists and networks to build cohesion and capacities on conflict analysis, negotiation skills and strategic communications. ERMES also organized a high-level dialogue between prominent Syrian and Yemeni female political representatives and representatives from civil society to share experience about the role of women in peace processes, mediation, peace building and conflict resolution.

● Central African Republic

In support of the CAR Government and the African Initiative, the EU mobilised a senior expert in process design providing technical advice. The EU also organised several capacity building and strategy workshops on security arrangements, natural resources and process design. Recently, ERMES supported an analytical paper on the 2019 peace agreement.

● Central Asia

ERMES supported field research on conflict risks and opportunities for dialogue in Central Asia with a focus on Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan.

● Global exchange on mediation and dialogue

To enhance exchange on mediation and dialogue processes, ERMES supports biennial workshops, co-hosted by the United Nations (UN) Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the European External Action Service, which target intergovernmental organizations with existing mediation support capacities. The aim of these meetings is to promote engagement and the sharing of experiences for effective mediation support.

Request ERMES support

Requests for ERMES support can be triggered by any EU foreign policy actor or mechanism, including EU Delegations, EEAS/DEVCO geographic and thematic divisions, EUSRs and Envoys, as well as Crisis Platforms. As ERMES is funded under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP), the mobilisation of the service is subject to the principle of subsidiarity, i.e. ERMES shall not be used to respond to needs which could in principle be addressed under other, mainstream geographic or thematic cooperation instruments.

Requests will be treated on a first-come-first-served basis, assessing their cost effectiveness and potential impact.



For further information, please consult

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- EEAS Mediation Support Team - Ms Antje HERRBERG (Antje.HERRBERG@eeas.europa.eu)

The Consortium

The consortium responsible for implementing the ERMES III facility comprises the College of Europe (CoE) as the Consortium leader, and five consortium members: ECES, ESSEC IRENE, Fondation Hironnelle, Interpeace, the European Forum for International Mediation and Dialogue (MediateUR)

The consortium members have extensive experience in providing mediation and dialogue support in the framework of international projects in volatile and challenging contexts. The consortium members have direct and rapid access to highly skilled experts, who have provided and continue to provide advice and assistance in mediation and dialogue all over the world.

Quick facts

- The College of Europe is a non-profit organisation and first university institute of postgraduate studies in European affairs. Next to its academic activities, the College has solid expertise in managing EU-funded projects and in delivering training. **{coleurope.eu}**
- The European Centre for Electoral Support (ECES), a not for profit private foundation that promotes sustainable democratic development through the provision of advisory services, operational support and management of large projects in the electoral and democracy assistance field. **{eces.eu}**
- ESSEC IRENE, an institute specialised in mediation, negotiation, facilitation and training interventions as well as academic research in order to contribute to the advancement of sustainable peace; **{irene.essec.edu}**
- Fondation Hironnelle, a media organization working in peacebuilding and dialogue; **{hironnelle.org/en}**
- Interpeace, an international peacebuilding organization putting the connection between tracks 1, 2 and 3 at the center of its work"; and **{interpeace.org}**
- The European Forum For International Mediation And Dialogue (MediateUR), a centre of excellence for international peace mediation and dialogue. **{themediateur.eu}**



Brugge

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Natolin



This project is funded
by the European Union.

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