



The only lasting peace is the one built by the disputants themselves.



LET'S WORK TOGETHER

Mediators Beyond Borders International (MBBI)

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Connect with us:    



## People-Centered Peacebuilding



People Building Peace



We build local skills for peace and promote mediation worldwide.

Our approach emphasizes:

- \* Inclusivity,
- \* Cultural competency, and
- \* Sensitivity to the impact of trauma on communities.

Through our multi-disciplinary practitioners, we address how peace intersects with the economy, the environment, health, and education.

We:

- \* **Build Capacity**
- \* **Promote mediation through advocacy**
- \* **Provide Consultancy Services**

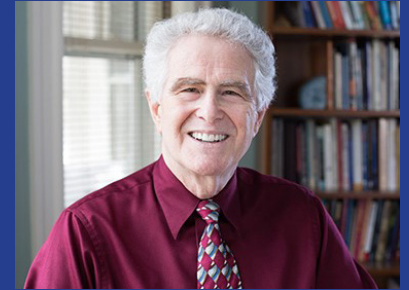


## Message From the Leadership

Our vision and mission continue to guide our work as we expand our reach into new communities, impacting thousands of lives globally through the ripple effect of our projects and initiatives, creating a more peace “able” world.



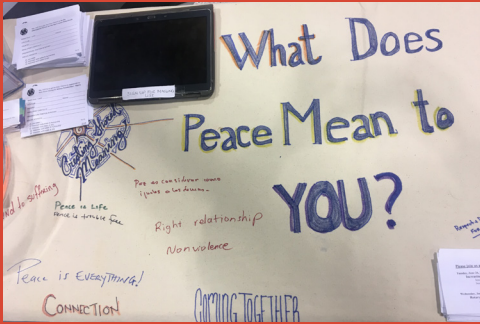
Over the past two years, MBBI teams of expert mediators have trained hundreds of peacebuilders in local projects and through our International Training Institute (ITI). They, in turn, have affected thousands of lives in their communities. We forged partnerships with Rotary International (RI), Washington & Jefferson College (PA), and the National Association For Community Mediation (NAFCM). We launched a monthly professional development webinar series and created the MBBI—Turkey Regional Group.



We have also maintained a sharp focus on engaging the MBBI community and formed the Resource Development Committee (RDC) to build our funding capacity and better engage our global community of peacebuilders. As MBBI receives ever-increasing requests for mediation services, we still need to do much better at diversifying and broadening our support to achieve sustainable growth that benefits communities worldwide. We ask that you take action to help sustain our critical work by joining us as a Peace Builder.

If you have been following MBBI since our 2006 inception, you know of our commitment to keeping the people affected by conflict at the heart of peacebuilding. Our small but dedicated staff, the forward-looking leadership, committed board, and strategic partners have enabled MBBI to deliver on its mission, touching thousands of lives worldwide, a significant impact that belies our size and resources. We hope you will join us in building peace together.

**Prabha Sankaranarayan, *President and CEO***  
**Dave Joseph, *Chair, Board of Directors***



## Partnering to Build Peace

In 2018, MBBI became a Service Partner of Rotary International (RI).

This ground-breaking partnership aims to bring community-based solutions to the prevention and transformation of violent conflict in communities around the world. It provides communities worldwide with locally-developed solutions that can help them prevent, resolve, and heal from conflicts.

Starting in 2013 with a working group, this partnership is the outgrowth of five years of collaborative efforts such as global grants, conferences, training Institutes, MOUs, and hundreds of club visits by MBBI members. MBBI now has two Rotarians on our board, Peace synergists on teams, Rotary Peace Fellows leading MBBI teams and a strong presence at every Peace Conference and Convention since 2014. The announcement of this service partnership enhances our efforts to build a peace able world through the 1.2 million members of RI.

Peace Conversations Facilitation Program (PCF) is one of the key programs designed for this partnership. Utilizing existing networks and resources to build conflict literacy and dialogue skills, Rotarians have become more effective peace-builders within their own clubs, communities, and districts, and have become leaders in promoting positive peace at home and abroad.

Click [here](#) for our guide to learn how YOU can become involved and engaged with a Rotary Partnership and how this partnership can help in your peacebuilding efforts.

For more information, contact us at [ripartner@mediatorsbeyondborders.org](mailto:ripartner@mediatorsbeyondborders.org).

**Mediators Beyond Borders International (MBBI) is honored to be a Service Partner of Rotary International (RI). This partnership seeks to increase the capacity of both organizations to help prevent and resolve conflicts, with the goal of eventually ending violent conflicts. Establishment of this Partnership has involved the work of many MBBI members and Rotarians.**



# Rotary



## Women In Mediation, The Growing Global Network

Supports the implementation of the UN Security Resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security and UN General Assembly Resolution 65/283 to strengthen the role of women in conflict transformation, peaceful dispute settlement, and conflict prevention. The [International Training Institute](#) (ITI) for each cohort emphasizes: **\*Capacity-building; \*Connecting and complementing; \*Women in mediation projects.**



Our trailblazing focus on enhancing the role of Women as Mediators and Peacebuilders has resulted in the development of an effective model that is now globally recognized. Over the last two years, members have contributed to policy development and advocacy that has impacted the selection of and training standards for women's mediation networks. **ITI trainees have launched or expanded more than 37 individual and joint projects in their home communities, reaching more than 30,000 people.** Click [here](#) to learn the countries and regions where our ITI cohorts came from. The [next ITI](#) is planned for five West African countries: Nigeria, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Ghana, and Benin.



### Unifying Communities in Armenia

Through ITI, Gayane Astoyan “obtained skills how to develop strategy related to both organization and inter-communal, inter-cultural relations.” Following the ITI, she founded Identity and Worldview, a Youth-focused NGO in Gyumri, Armenia, to promote acceptance of cultures through dialogue and education. One of her current projects fosters dialogue between the communities in hosting countries and immigrants.

### Protecting Leadership in Colombia

After completing the first phase of ITI-Bogota in 2017, Paloma Martinez returned to her hometown and launched a new project. Alongside fostering youth leadership, Paloma recognized the need to protect current community leaders. With the support of a Movilizadorio, Paloma and her team established Colidérate, a technology application that allows at-risk community leaders to send out security alerts.



### Instilling Truth and Reconciliation in Indonesia

Raihal Fajri, participated in ITI-Jakarata, relished a chance to learn negotiation skills to effectively communicate with government leaders to execute the mandates of the AcehTRC. Raihal shares, “I learned strategies of how to be a good negotiator. Before I just knew how to be a facilitator, but now I know how to be a good negotiator.”



### ITI's Lasting Professional and Personal Influence in Ukraine

With skills from ITI, Elena Krasilshchik: Offers mediations to students in schools; Hosts mediation workshops with a women's group in her Jewish community; and Resolved problematic issues with her relatives, encouraged by the transformative power of mediation, building stronger relationships with her family.



The *Warriors to Peace Guardians* framework amplifies the voices of local women who during a Peace Caravan in 2009 said: “We are tired of being widows and losing our sons. Stop the conflict.”

— Dorina Prech, Team Member & Local Partner, Kenya Project

“Since WAVES started partnering with MBBi, we have been able to prevent or resolve conflicts in communities that we work. This was evident in the recent past election.”

— Hannah Yambasu, Trainer & Local Partner, Sierra Leone Project

## Capacity-building Beyond Borders

### Kenya

Supports the application and development of indigenous peace-building processes in pastoralist Kenya. [The Kenya Team](#) is currently implementing its *Warriors to Peace Guardians* framework. A key component of this framework is the Peace Guardians initiatives, a program that trains cadres of women, youth and elders as community-selected peace leaders, and connects them to a network of peace guardians across county lines.



The Service Partnership with Rotary International has led to a unique Global Grant which will add peace dividends in the form of livestock improvements as the ethnic groups work collaboratively.

**“I was among the first of Kenyans that were trained by MBBi and sent back into our communities to multiply the knowledge gained. We incorporated what we learned with our own traditional peacebuilding methods and mobilized 60 people from three communities... we trained them on intra-ethnic and inter-ethnic mediation and peacebuilding.”**

— Mary-Anne Lechoe, Local Trainer & Team Leader

### Sierra Leone

Equips women for political offices and empowers youth to strengthen their communities.

Since its inception, the [SL Team](#) has **trained thousands** of diverse stakeholders to promote dialogue and provide mediation skills in support of conflict prevention.

In 2018, **350 peacebuilders** were **intensively trained** by MBBi as **peace ambassadors** before the **national elections**. Inspired by an appeal for even more peace training, the team is now dedicated to empowering women and youth leaders. [The SL Team](#) continues to coach and support graduates as they apply their skills locally.



**“I discovered a lot of divide in my country, especially by color. The workshop was a wonderful experience. As a post-conflict nation, we must be thinking of co-existence.”**

— Ahmed Morlai Kamara, Local Trainer & Workshop Coordinator



## Southeast Asia

MBB Consulting facilitates trainings and consultations with communities and armed groups to enhance their knowledge of best practices and lessons learned from those who have gone through successful peace processes in [South and Southeast Asia](#) as well as other parts of the world.

In partnership with the State Islamic University Ar-Raniry, MBBI held its first [Youth Forum](#) to raise the Acehense youth's understanding of the crisis of the Muslim minority in Myanmar and develop a stronger conceptual basis for their actions.

With an invitation from the Truth and Reconciliation team, victims of the violence, and civil society organizations, MBBI leads community workshops and events that explore what community members want from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), discusses human rights, and trains about international best practice and lessons learned in other peace processes and TRC's.

## Colombia

[The Team](#) focused on the needs expressed by the participants to maximize each trainee's impact on their communities.

Graduates gained communication skills to approach, facilitate, and address difficult conversations and learned how to identify early-stage conflicts and manage the situations to avoid escalations.



**“Coaching is a process to give people a moment to reflect on their strengths and choices and think how to gain awareness and to be more effective and successful.”**

— Catalina Chaux-Echeverri, Team Leader, Colombia Project

## Liberia

In 2017, with UNDP funding, MBBI was asked by Messengers of Peace (MOP) to support a training for youth leaders from the 15 counties of Liberia.

On Election Day, these youth participated in a network of phone banks to report and manage minor conflicts as they arose in local neighborhoods throughout the country. These youth proudly played a key role in Liberia's first peaceful, democratic transition of power in almost 80 years.



## Consulting Beyond Borders

### MBB Consulting

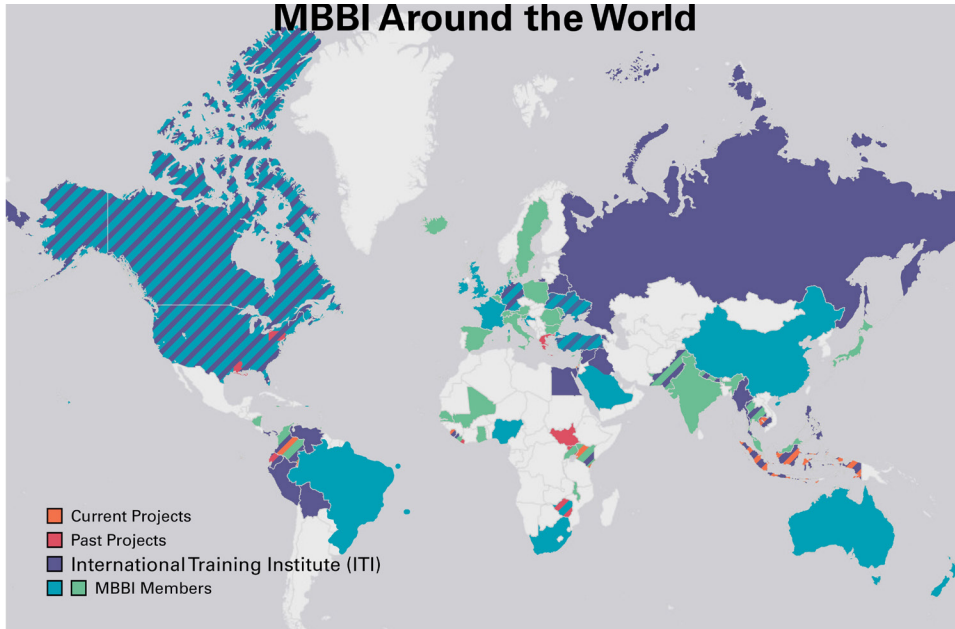
A fee-for-service division, [MBB Consulting](#) (MBBC) provides conflict management and stakeholder engagement services to companies, organizations, and governments in three ways— between companies and communities, inside organizations, and among governments and societies.

#### MBBC's Collaborative Conflict Management Services include:

- \* Situation and Organization Assessments
- \* Ex-enti Assessment and Collaboration Tool
- \* Dispute System Design
- \* Mediation & Facilitation
- \* Organizational Ombuds Services
- \* Training



## MBBI Around the World



### 2017-18 Peacebuilding Impact

Worked on 10+ projects, plans, and actions with the support of



**200+**  
Volunteers



**\$4,582,890**  
Pro Bono Services



**22,449+**  
Volunteer Hours



**\$5,039,936** Total  
Support & Revenue

“MBBI provides a valuable insight into the peacebuilding and conflict resolution field. Meeting people who have decades of experience certainly provides a clear sense of what it’s like to have a career in the peacebuilding field.”

“Taking part in planning and participating in community dialogue provided me the opportunity to practice my conflict resolution skills and challenge myself with new ideas and perspectives.”

– MBBI Volunteers

“Climate Change is imbued with peace and mediation. This is truly a global initiative and must focus on widespread language that legitimizes the policy change that must occur for our planet to thrive.”

– Tom Fiutak, Team Member, CCPP

## Advocating Beyond Borders

### Climate Change Policy

Advocates at UN climate change talks for the use of mediation in climate change disputes worldwide. The Climate Change Policy Project (CCPP) has been an Official Observer Organization for Talks & Conference of the Parties (COP).



Coinciding with the Conference of the Parties (COP 24), the [CCPP Team](#), in partnership with the Arbitration and Mediation Center at Krakow Chamber of Commerce & Industry, conducted a workshop on *Mediating Climate Change and Other Environmental Issues* in Krakow, Poland.



“Young people are inheriting the problems created by prior generations and it’s terrible that we are leaving this legacy to them, but the passion, energy, and commitment that CCPP sees among younger generations on this issue is inspiring. We need to help them develop the skills to do peacebuilding on climate change and other environmental issues.”

– Joe Siegel, CCPP Team Member

"We want our work to be authentic. Rather than coming in and saying what we think should happen, we want to see what the needs and interests of the diaspora community are and if they match with what [we] could offer."

— Brad Roth, Chair, MBBI—New York

"Mediation presents me with a platform to advocate the causes of neglected groups. It enables me to amplify their voices at all levels."

— Estera Borcsa, Chair, MBBI—Los Angeles

## Connecting Beyond Borders

### Regional & Working Groups

MBBI [Regional Groups](#) provide a venue for MBBI members to meet in person or connect virtually with other members and the organization at large. Current MBBI Regional Groups include MBBI—[Los Angeles](#), MBBI—[New York](#), MBBI—[Canada](#), and MBBI—[Turkey](#).

MBBI [Working Groups](#) provide a venue for MBBI members to advocate for and engage with specific issues. Current MBBI Working Groups include the MBBI—[Rotary](#) Working Group, the [United Nations Multilateral](#) Working Group, and [Child & Youth Alternate Dispute Resolution](#) Working Group.

The [United Nations Multilateral](#) Working Group through its Action Groups—Sustainable Development Goals, Global Compact, and the Commission on the Status of Women—has: Co-created the 2018 NGO Major Group Position Paper, High-Level Political Forum and NGO Major Group Concept Note; an NGO Toolbox to Enhance Implementation of the 2030 Agenda Towards Sustainable and Resilient Communities.

"MBBI makes me feel so connected. On the ground, we train and empower women to mediate and speak with various players in their communities. We don't find solutions for them. Our approach is empowering them. This is the ideology that is going to take the world forward. Joining MBBI felt like going home."

— Archana Medhekar, MBBI—Canada Member

### Monthly Webinars

In 2018, MBBI addressed critical issues, tackled complex questions, and provided the space for the peacebuilding community to further engage in the matters of today in a series of web-based conversations.

Further, our webinars offer an opportunity for peacebuilders to connect, learn, and share their insight and experiences.



Over the course of 2017-18, our webinars attracted more than 1,290 participants. We invite you to attend and be part of the conversation.

#### 2017-18 Webinar Series included:

- \* **Politics of Conflicts and the Conflicts of Politics**
- \* **Israel-Palestine; Hotel Everest Dialogue** (with Creators & Actors)
- \* **What Does A Feminist Foreign Policy Look Like?**
- \* **Without Forgiveness, Wounds Cannot Heal** ([Part I](#) & [Part II](#))
- \* **Transforming Police & Community Relations**
- \* **Inter-cultural Skills in Conflict Resolution**
- \* **Differences, Relations, and Dynamics!** ([Gender Perspective](#))
- \* **Designing Preventative Systems for Chronic Social, Economic, and Political Conflicts**

For more information on how to present through MBBI or to access past webinars, visit our [News & Events](#) page or contact us at [info@mediatorsbeyondborders.org](mailto:info@mediatorsbeyondborders.org).





## Peace Leaders Thank You!

We would like to thank and honor our unsung heroes who contribute thousands of hours simply because they care: The leaders, team members, and partners of our Projects; Regional and Working Group leaders, members, and affiliates; Committee members and supporters; and our recently formed, Internship Task Force.



We would also like to thank and honor our administrative volunteers and interns without whom we could not do this important work. These are the individuals whose contributions help translate our commitments into actions.



And as we continue to do the necessary work, we will always remember and honor the memory of great Peace Builders like Vicki Jan Isler who continued to invest her time in building peace with hope, even during her last hour at the hospital.



For more information on how to become involved and for internship and volunteer opportunities, please visit our [Join Us](#) page or contact us at [info@mediatorsbeyondborders.org](mailto:info@mediatorsbeyondborders.org).

## Join our Peacebuilding

A growing number of international requests reach MBBI for partnerships, services, and projects. **Help us build our capacity to say “yes” to these requests and continue the important work.**

In 2018, MBBI formed the [Resource Development Committee](#) to better engage members and supporters who have both, the capacity to make major gifts and the motivation to support our work.

Are you or someone you know a prospect who meets the above qualifications? We would love to hear from you!

Rotary International, with whom we have a formal working partnership has joined in this effort. As have our Regional Groups in the US and globally, embodying the notion of “stronger together,” a motto in which I very much believe.

### Please consider:

- \* [Joining us](#) as a *Peace Builder*
- \* [Renewing your membership](#)
- \* [Becoming an Ambassador](#)

Looking forward to collaborating with you!

**Courtney Bourns,**  
*Board Member & RDC Chair*

