

Bridging Divided Societies On Reconciliation

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| <p>Basic principles</p> | <p>Begin early, when attitudes are most receptive to change and challenge.</p> <p>Stick to the commitment, and deal with the hard issues: they will only get harder with time.</p> <p>Give it sufficient time: it cannot be rushed.</p> <p>Be transparent about the goals, the difficulties, the time span and the resources.</p> | |
| <p>Reconciliation process is ...</p> | <p>Finding a way to live that permits a vision for the future</p> <p>The (re)building of relationships</p> <p>Coming to terms with past acts and enemies</p> <p>A society-wide, long-term process of deep change</p> <p>A process of acknowledging, remembering and learning from the past</p> <p>Voluntary and cannot be imposed</p> | |
| <p>Reconciliation process is not ...</p> | <p>An excuse for impunity</p> <p>Only and individual process</p> <p>An imposition to/alternative to truth or justice</p> <p>A quick answer</p> <p>A religious concept</p> <p>Perfect peace</p> <p>An excuse to forget</p> <p>A matter of merely forgiving</p> | |
| <p>Instruments</p> | <p>Healing</p> | <p>Truth-telling</p> |
| <p>Peaceful coexistence</p> <p>Trust</p> <p>Empathy</p> <p>A culture and practice of democracy</p> | | |
| <p>Restorative Justice</p> | | <p>Reparation</p> |

Source and further reference: *International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, Reconciliation After Violent Conflict A Handbook,*
http://www.idea.int/publications/reconciliation/upload/reconciliation_full.pdf