

**Networking Coexistence & Related Fields at the Meta-level
April 6-7, Brandeis University**

KEY INFORMATION

Meeting Location

Levine Ross Room, Hassenfield Conference Center
Brandeis University

Accommodation

Doubletree Guest Suites
Waltham

Contact Information

Kristin Williams
Program Coordinator, Coexistence International
Office Number: (781) - 736 – 5017

Participants

Participants include leading practitioners, researchers, policy makers and donors from the core of the coexistence/conflict resolution field AND leaders from related fields including development, governance, human rights, refugee and IDP, transitional justice and the arts.

Purpose and Expected Outcomes

To reflect on commonalities and differences in values and practices across these fields in their work towards the creation of societies characterized by respectful, equitable relationships across difference.

To explore the current state of the relationships between those working at the core of the field and those working in related fields.

Upon completion of this meeting, participants will have identified:

- Concrete recommendations for strengthening complementarity in their work and for building bridges across disciplines.
- Action steps for strengthening the coexistence field and for promoting greater integration of its values and approaches into other disciplines.
- Priorities for CI in its work.

Facilitator

Chris Kingsley, Senior Program Associate
Center for Youth and Communities
The Heller School for Social Policy and Management
Brandeis University

Thursday, April 6, 3:00 – 7:00, Levine Ross Room, Hasenfield Conference Center

- 3:00 – 3:15 Call to Order (Chris Kingsley)
Welcome (Mari Fitzduff)
- 3:15 – 4:45 Introductions: Who are we? Why are we here? (Sanam Anderlini)
- What brings you to this work? How do you define your work?
 - What are examples of linkages and bridging moments in your work?
 - What have you learned from these moments?
- 4:45 – 5:30 Presentation on CI Vision and Mission, Context and Meeting Goals (Jessica Berns)
- Questions and Comments
- 5:30 – 5:45 Break
- 5:45 – 7:00 Clarifying Differences: Mapping Values, Behaviors and Limits of Collaboration
Barometer of Difference Exercise and Discussion (Cynthia Cohen)
- 7:00 Announcement of Dinner Plans (Chris Kingsley)
- 7: 15 Depart Brandeis for Group Dinner

Friday, April 7, 8:00 – 4:00, Levine Ross Room, Hassenfield Conference Center

Please plan to arrive at 8:00 for a breakfast buffet and an 8:30 meeting start time.

- 8:00 – 8:30 Buffet Breakfast
- 8:30 – 8:45 Welcome Back and Agenda for the Day (Chris Kingsley)
- 8:45 – 9:30 Following up the *Barometer of Difference* (Chris Kingsley and Cynthia Cohen)
- Where is the common ground in our work?
 - What are the values and vision we share?
 - Are these values, vision and approaches understood and integrated into our various fields?
- 9:30 - 10:15 Small Group Discussions

CI believes that collaboration and complementarity across existing fields is important. On the one hand, we all bring to this effort an array of assets, skills, and strengths that can be tapped. On the other hand, we must recognize that achieving complementarity presents challenges.

In small groups, participants will address several questions exploring collaboration between the coexistence field and a particular related field, such as human rights, democracy, development, the arts.

- What resources and possibilities already exist that could support collaboration between coexistence and other, specific fields?
 - What are the obstacles to a complementary approach? Challenges?
 - What are the barriers to collaboration across fields?
 - What issues, other than those addressed in the Barometer, impede complementarity?
- 10:15 – 11:30 Reporting Back and Discussion
- What are the opportunities and challenges to collaboration between fields?
- 11:30 – 11:45 Break
- 11:45 – 12:45 How Can Challenges to Complementarity be Overcome: Generating and Categorizing Action Steps (Chris Kingsley)
- What needs to be done to strengthen the coexistence field?
 - What actions might be taken to strengthen interdisciplinary collaborations and address the challenges?
- 12:45 – 1:30 Lunch
- 1:30 – 2:15 Prioritizing Action Steps
- Are there existing resources and opportunities to build on?
 - Which of the identified action items is most pressing?
 - Which is most catalytic?
 - Are any of these steps already underway?
 - Is there a logical sequence to implementing the action steps?
- 2:15 – 3:30 What will be the Added Value? How Can CI Contribute?
- Given previous experiences and discussions, how can CI contribute and add value to move the coexistence field forward?
 - Can we recommend clear priorities for CI's work?
- 3:30 – 4:00 Close Out (Chris Kingsley, Jessica Berns)
- Reflecting on the gathering