

Code of Conduct for Conflict Avoidance:

A Path to Social Cohesion in Lebanon

Introduction:

This Code of Conduct is designed to foster conflict avoidance and promote social cohesion in Lebanon through the lens of transitional justice. Grounded in the principles of accountability, reconciliation, inclusivity, education, empathy, and understanding, the code emphasizes respect and collaboration as essential components for a harmonious and unified society.

Principles:

Respect for Diversity:

- Embrace and celebrate Lebanon's rich cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity.
- Recognize and respect the rights and identities of all individuals and communities.

Dialogue and Communication:

- Encourage open and constructive dialogue among different groups.
- Promote effective communication as a means to address grievances and misunderstandings.

Inclusivity:

- Advocate for inclusive policies that ensure the participation and representation of all communities in decision-making processes.
- Foster a sense of belonging for every individual, irrespective of their background.

Transparency and Accountability:

- Uphold transparency in governance and public institutions.

- Hold individuals and institutions accountable for actions that undermine social cohesion.

Empowering Youth:

- Invest in educational programs that promote tolerance, critical thinking, and conflict resolution skills.
- Create opportunities for youth engagement in civic activities to empower them as agents of positive change.

Education and Awareness Programs:

- Implement educational programs that focus on conflict resolution, transitional justice concepts, and the importance of diversity.
- Raise awareness about the consequences of conflict and the benefits of fostering social cohesion.

Empathy and Understanding:

- Encourage empathy and understanding through initiatives that highlight shared humanity and interconnectedness.
- Promote narratives that emphasize common values and experiences, fostering a sense of unity.

Promoting Inclusivity and Social Cohesion:

- Support initiatives that actively promote inclusivity, such as community events, forums, and collaborative projects.
- Implement policies that address social inequalities and promote a sense of shared identity and purpose.

Guidelines:

Conflict Resolution Mechanisms:

- Establish accessible and impartial mechanisms for conflict resolution at local and national levels, incorporating transitional justice principles.
- Encourage the use of mediation and dialogue in resolving disputes.

Civic Education Programs:

- Implement civic education programs that emphasize the importance of diversity, human rights, and tolerance, integrating transitional justice concepts.
- Include transitional justice concepts in educational curricula to foster a culture of accountability.

Community-Building Initiatives:

- Support initiatives that bring communities together for collaborative projects, cultural events, and shared experiences.
- Promote joint economic ventures that create opportunities for cooperation and mutual benefit, guided by principles of transitional justice.

Media Responsibility:

- Encourage responsible journalism that avoids sensationalism and misinformation, respecting transitional justice principles.
- Support media initiatives that promote dialogue, understanding, and unity in the context of transitional justice.

Reconciliation Efforts:

- Facilitate truth and reconciliation processes that acknowledge historical grievances and promote healing, aligning with transitional justice objectives.
- Provide support for community-led reconciliation initiatives that bridge divides, informed by transitional justice principles.

Conclusion: By adhering to this comprehensive Code of Conduct, individuals, communities, and institutions commit to the principles of conflict avoidance, social cohesion, transitional justice, education, empathy, and inclusivity. Through collective efforts, we strive to build a Lebanon where diversity is celebrated, grievances are addressed, and unity prevails.