Toolkit - Dynamics for face-to-face meetings

- *Case studies and group discussions*: Provide participants with real or hypothetical case studies related to communication challenges during wartime. Encourage them to analyze the situations and discuss the best communication strategies or approaches they would use in each scenario. Facilitate group discussions to share their perspectives and insights.

- *Decision-Making Simulation*: Create a simulated scenario where participants take on different roles and make decisions related to communication strategies during war. Provide them with limited resources, time constraints, and ethical dilemmas to consider. This activity allows participants to experience the challenges faced by decision-makers and encourages them to think critically about the consequences of their choices.

- *World Café*: Participatory group discussion method that creates a warm and inclusive atmosphere resembling a café setting. It involves setting up small tables with designated themes or questions and allowing participants to engage in focused conversations at each table. After a set time, participants rotate to different tables, carrying forward the ideas and insights from previous discussions.

- *Gallery Walk*: Prepare several large sheets of paper or poster boards with different discussion prompts or questions related to communication in times of war. Post them around the room, and divide participants into small groups. Each group starts at a different prompt and has a designated amount of time to discuss and provide their responses. Afterward, groups rotate to the next prompt and continue the discussion.

- *Role-playing exercises*: Divide participants into small groups and assign them different roles, such as a journalist, a soldier, a civilian, or a peace activist. Ask them to engage in role-playing scenarios where they must communicate and negotiate with each other while considering the challenges and constraints of war.

- *Collaborative Mapping*: Provide large sheets of paper or use a digital platform for participants to collectively create a visual map or timeline of communication challenges and developments during times of war. Encourage participants to add important events, technologies, or key figures, and to discuss their significance.

- *Scenario-based Problem Solving*: Present participants with realistic scenarios or case studies related to communication challenges during wartime. Divide them into groups and ask them to analyze the situation, identify the communication obstacles, and propose effective strategies or solutions. Encourage groups to present their findings and engage in a discussion about the different approaches.

- *Debates*: Organize structured debates on specific topics related to communication during war, such as the ethics of propaganda, the role of media in shaping public opinion, or the challenges of maintaining communication channels in conflict zones. Assign participants to different teams and allow them to research and present their arguments during the debate.

- *Creative storytelling*: Divide participants into smaller groups and ask them to create short stories, plays, or skits that revolve around communication challenges in times of war. Encourage them to think creatively and consider different perspectives. Afterward, have each group present their work and engage in a discussion about the communication themes explored in their storytelling.

- *Reflective journaling*: Provide participants with prompts or questions related to communication in times of war and ask them to spend a few minutes writing their thoughts and reflections in a personal journal. Later, you can encourage them to share their insights with a partner or in small groups to foster further discussion.

- *Fishbowl Discussion*: Set up an inner circle and an outer circle of chairs. Place a few participants in the inner circle to start the discussion while the remaining participants sit in the outer circle as observers. The inner circle participants engage in a conversation on a specific topic while the outer circle participants actively listen. After a set time, the roles switch, allowing the observers to join the discussion, and some of the initial participants move to the outer circle.

- *Think Tank*: Divide participants into small groups and assign each group a specific communication challenge related to war. Provide them with research materials, case studies, and relevant information. Ask the groups to brainstorm innovative solutions or strategies to address the challenge. Each group presents their ideas to the larger group, fostering discussion and the exchange of perspectives.

- *SWOT Analysis*: Give participants a specific communication-related issue or challenge related to war. Ask them to conduct a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis. Participants identify the strengths and weaknesses of current communication approaches, explore opportunities for improvement, and identify potential threats or obstacles.

- *Design Thinking*: Introduce participants to the design thinking process, which involves empathizing, defining, ideating, prototyping, and testing. Assign them a communication problem or challenge and guide them through the different stages of design thinking to develop innovative and user-centered solutions.

- *Case Analysis and Solution Proposal*: Provide participants with real or hypothetical case studies of communication challenges in times of war. Ask them to analyze the cases, identify the root causes of the challenges, and propose practical solutions. Encourage participants to consider various aspects, such as ethics, media literacy, technology, and diplomacy, in their proposed solutions.

Other inspirations
Toolbox
Facilitation tools for meetings and workshops
Design thinking skills

Dynamics about Communication

Case studies and group discussions: Provide participants with real or hypothetical case studies related to communication challenges during wartime. Encourage them to analyze the situations and discuss the best communication strategies or approaches they would use in each scenario. Facilitate group discussions to share their perspectives and insights.

Media-War cases
- Propaganda dissemination: Examining how different sides in a conflict use media to shape public opinion and gain support for their respective causes. Discussing cases where state-sponsored or biased media outlets intentionally spread misinformation or propaganda to manipulate public opinion during wartime.
    - Case study: e.g. Ukraine
- Censorship and media control: Analyzing instances where governments or armed groups manipulate or suppress media coverage to control narratives during wartime.
    - Case study: e.g. Myanmar
- Social media and citizen journalism: Exploring the impact of social media platforms and citizen journalism in shaping public perceptions and disseminating information during times of conflict.
    - Case study: e.g. Yemen
- War photography and iconic images: Examining the power of visual media, such as photographs, in capturing and communicating the human cost and realities of war.
    - Case study: e.g. Afghanistan
- Media coverage and international intervention: Analyzing how media coverage of conflicts influences international intervention, humanitarian efforts, and diplomatic actions.
    - Case study: e.g. Syria

Roles
- War correspondent/reporter
- Government spokesperson
- Military general
- Human rights activist
- Foreign correspondent covering the conflict
- Propaganda officer
- War photographer
- Citizen journalist/social media influencer
- Peace negotiator
- Local civilian affected by the war

Working groups 2 - Gallery walk with discussion groups

Gallery Walk: Prepare several large sheets of paper or poster boards with different discussion prompts or questions related to communication in times of war. Post them around the room, and divide participants into small groups. Each group starts at a different prompt and has a designated amount of time to discuss and provide their responses. Afterward, groups rotate to the next prompt and continue the discussion.

1. Set up the Room: Arrange the room with 5 different stations or points along the walls, each labeled with one of the discussed topics. Place a sheet of paper next to each station to allow participants to write their thoughts and ideas.
2. Form Small Groups: Divide the participants into smaller groups. Assign a starting station for each group, but they will eventually rotate to all the other stations.
3. Begin the Gallery Walk: Start the activity by having the groups move to their assigned starting stations. Instruct them to begin their discussions and encourage active participation from all group members.
4. Rotate Stations: After 8-10 minutes, sound a signal to indicate that it's time to rotate. Each group should move to the next station in a clockwise direction.
5. Repeat Discussions: At each new station, participants should read the thoughts and ideas written by the previous group and build upon them. Encourage them to discuss and expand upon the topic with fresh insights.
6. Plenary: The facilitators of each group will then present a collective synthesis of the ideas discussed across the stations.

Station themes - mix between EU proposals and personal awareness

- Media Education : How can we learn a critical thinking to combat misinformation and disinformation during times of war?
- Ethical Journalism: What measures should the European Union implement to encourage ethical journalism practices and responsible reporting in conflict zones? this seems too me too difficult.
- Information Integrity: How can the European Union address the issue of information integrity, including fake news and propaganda, to ensure accurate and reliable reporting during times of war?
- Digital Disinformation: What strategies should everybody develop to counter digital disinformation that aim to manipulate public opinion during conflicts?
- Conflict Reporting: How can the European Union support and protect journalists reporting from war zones to ensure the delivery of accurate and unbiased information to the public?
- Media Regulation: Which persons or institutions should make a balance between freedom of expression and preventing the spread of harmful or misleading information during times of war?
- Role of Social Media: How can we react when social media platforms spread misinformation, hate speech, and incitement to violence during conflicts?
- Access to Information: What initiatives should the European Union undertake to ensure access to reliable information for affected populations and promote transparency in reporting during war?
- Media as a Peacebuilding Tool: how should media report on war processes   to be a tool for peacebuilding, reconciliation, and promoting dialogue in conflict-affected regions?
- International Media Cooperation: What strategies should the European Union adopt to foster international media cooperation and information-sharing to address the challenges of reporting on conflicts and countering disinformation? I think this could be too difficult.

Working groups 3 - SWOT analysis

SWOT Analysis: Give participants a specific communication-related issue or challenge related to war. Ask them to conduct a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis. Participants identify the strengths and weaknesses of current

communication approaches, explore opportunities for improvement, and identify potential threats or obstacles.

Define the Focus: Clearly define the focus of the SWOT analysis. In this case, it would be the intersection of media, war, information, ecology, and European Union proposals.

1. Form Small Groups: Divide participants into small groups. Each group should have a facilitator to guide the discussion.
2. Explain SWOT Analysis: Provide a brief explanation of the SWOT framework, highlighting its four components: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.
3. Introduce the Themes: Present the theme that the group will analyze using the SWOT framework. Explain each theme briefly to ensure participants understand the context.
4. Conduct Group Discussions: Instruct each group to discuss their assigned theme and collectively identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats related to that theme.
5. Record the SWOT Analysis: Each group should record their SWOT analysis on diagram.

6. Plenary: The facilitators of each group will then present the findings and key insights from each theme's SWOT analysis.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS

Subject to be analyzed with the SWOT tool.

- Media Engagement and Awareness: media engagement and awareness campaigns related to communication issues and the European Union's proposals.
- Environmental Reporting: media coverage and reporting on environmental damages war brings including the role of journalism in raising awareness and driving action.

- war Technologies and Innovation: adoption and promotion of war technologies and sophisticated arms
- Eco-friendly Policies and Regulations: European Union's policies and regulations concerning ecology, media, war, and information, considering their effectiveness in promoting sustainable practices.
- Peace Activism and Advocacy: media representation and coverage of environmental activism and advocacy, as well as their impact on shaping public opinion and policy-making.
- Disinformation and peace building: disinformation campaigns and distorsions that undermine peace initiatives.
- Citizen Engagement and Participation: media platforms and strategies that facilitate citizen engagement, participation, and collaboration in communication decision-making processes.
- Social media   Education: education initiatives and media literacy programs, considering their potential to empower individuals and foster informed action for peacebuilding measures.
- Collaborative Efforts and Partnerships: collaborations and partnerships between media organizations, peace activists, and the European Union to drive collective action and achieve peace goals.
- Policy Implementation and Enforcement: implementation and enforcement of ecological policies proposed by the European Union, considering challenges such as resistance, lack of resources, or ineffective monitoring.