Community Engagement Guide
Respacing Global Collaboration for Peace



Foreword

We're excited to release of the **RESPACE Community Engagement Guide**, designed to help communities, peacebuilders, activists, educators, and policymakers use the RESPACE scenarios as powerful tools to shape strategic dialogues and collaborative actions towards peace.

Today, the RESPACE scenarios resonate more deeply than ever. The scenarios—Walls, Maze, Bridges, and Towers—are not predictions but compelling stories illuminating potential pathways for and conditions shaping global collaboration for peace. In times marked by escalating conflicts, geopolitical tensions, declining international cooperation, and rising grassroots movements worldwide, these scenarios offer insights into the possible implications of current dynamics and explore spaces for action and resistance for various actors.

This guide offers practical resources, including workshop templates, facilitation strategies, and dialogue prompts, empowering you to explore these futures actively. Use the scenarios to understand current global dynamics deeply, engage in meaningful dialogue, and strategise collective action towards sustainable peace.



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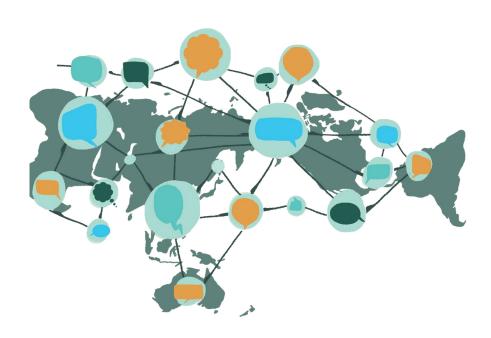
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Introducing the RESPACE Scenarios

The RESPACE scenarios are stories of imagined futures in which the potential for and nature of global collaboration for peace is shaped by different forces and dynamics manifesting around the world. They are not forecasts of what will happen or proposals or policy recommendations for what should happen. Rather, they explore possible developments that influence how collaboration for building peace worldwide could play out from 2024 to 2035.

Developed by a diverse group of individuals from across generations, geographies, professions, and cultural backgrounds, these scenarios draw on the collective experiences of civil society actors worldwide. United by a shared commitment to a more peaceful, just, and equitable world, the creators were inspired by the courage and resilience of people and movements striving for positive change.

The RESPACE scenarios aim to stimulate meaningful dialogue about the future of peacebuilding. By highlighting challenges and opportunities, they encourage fresh thinking, spark imagination, and foster collaboration among those dedicated to sustainable peace. In a time of uncertainty and rapid global change, these stories provide a starting point—a map to navigate possible futures. They invite all peacebuilding stakeholders to reflect, strategise, and reimagine how to work together across boundaries and perspectives to create a brighter, more peaceful future.



This Guide

This guide provides detailed tools and frameworks to help facilitate meaningful discussions and exchanges around the RESPACE scenarios. It is designed to spark reflective conversations about the future of global and translocal collaboration for peace, focusing on the opportunities, risks, and choices these futures present.

The guide includes the following resources:

- Tips on language and framing: Strategies for introducing the scenarios effectively to new audiences.
- Workshop templates: Sample agendas for 90-minute, 2-hour, 3-hour, and full-day workshops to structure formal engagements. Templates include suggested activities, discussion points, and timing to maximise impact.
- Informal discussion facilitation: Practical advice on engaging conversations in non-workshop settings, such as community meetings or informal gatherings.
- Resources: Links to publicly available RESPACE resources that can be used and adapted to support dialogue around the scenarios

This guide aims to empower individuals, organisations, and movements to reflect on these scenarios, make conscious and well-informed decisions, and take deliberate action to shape the future within their spheres of influence. It aims to inspire proactive engagement and collaborative solutions in response to the challenges and possibilities of tomorrow.

Before using any tools or templates, we recommend reviewing the four RESPACE scenarios in detail to ensure a solid understanding of their content. The full scenario report and a range of free, reproducible presentation materials are available on the project website: respacepeace.org.

Community Engagement Guidelines

The "Respacing Global Collaboration for Peace!" motto represents a common cause for all involved in the communication and engagement strategy, including but not limited to the RESPACE Scenario Team – the group of individuals who volunteered their time and expertise towards visioning and drafting the scenarios.

Our goal is to get many people talking and thinking about the future using the language of the scenarios. All voices and perspectives are welcome in these conversations.

Let's not be afraid to talk about the future.

What is the Conversation?

When introducing the scenarios—whether to colleagues, an existing network, or decision-makers in your local context or beyond—the core focus of the conversations remains consistent.

These conversations should explore:

- The multiple possible futures of global collaboration for peace leading up to 2035.
- The risks and opportunities these futures present.
- The impact of today's actions and inactions on shaping tomorrow.
- Everyone's role and agency in influencing the future.

While the scenarios serve as a foundation for these discussions, they are not the limit. Use them to spark broader conversations that go beyond the four developed scenarios, encouraging diverse perspectives and ideas.

A Springboard Approach

The scenarios are designed to act as a **springboard**—a launching point for dialogue, reflection, and action. They are not intended to prescribe outcomes but to propel the critical thinking and collaboration needed to drive meaningful change.

Once in the public domain, the scenarios are open for anyone to use. They can be integrated into existing initiatives, shared within networks, and adapted to fit diverse contexts. This includes creating derivative outputs such as videos, blog posts, artistic performances, or merchandise.

The intent is not for the RESPACE Team to oversee or control how the scenarios are used. Instead, the vision is for the scenarios to inspire and energise conversations and actions, recognising that we cannot predict where these discussions will lead or what ideas might spark. They are a shared resource, open to anyone who feels inspired to use them, whether to start new dialogues, integrate them into ongoing initiatives, or create something entirely unexpected.

Tips on Language & Framing

The Respace Peace Language

The RESPACE scenarios are designed with a cohesive and engaging identity to maximise their impact. Each scenario is paired with a name that creates a catchy, intuitive language, making them easy to recognise and share. This familiar repetition helps generate a "buzz," drawing attention and sparking curiosity.

Complementing this, the RESPACE Peace initiative has developed a distinct and consistent "Umbrella" visual identity featuring coordinated colour schemes, images, and icons. Each scenario is further distinguished by a unique symbol, ensuring clarity and making them immediately identifiable across various media. Together, these elements form a coherent framework that strengthens communication efforts. To maintain this clarity and momentum, the scenarios should always be presented as a unified set, emphasising their collective value and interconnectedness.

In the world of Walls, isolationism, authoritarianism, and nationalist priorities dominate, with governments focusing heavily on military defence and border control over diplomacy. In the world of Maze, reformist multilateralism gains momentum, focusing on structural reforms to outdated global governance systems. In the world of Bridges, a growing mindset of grassroots-driven solidarity and bottom-up collaboration prevails, pushing for inclusivity and shared humanity. In the world of Towers, regionalism and economic protectionism are driven by resistance to former colonial powers and expanding regional economic blocks.

Respace Messaging

Clear and consistent messaging is essential when introducing the RESPACE initiative and its scenarios.

The sequencing of the messaging is essential:

- 1. **Start with the initiative:** Introduce the RESPACE initiative, the RESPACE Team, and the concept of scenarios.
- 2. Then share the scenarios: Present the content of the scenarios in detail.

Clear and consistent messaging is essential when introducing the RESPACE initiative and its scenarios.

By first emphasising the initiative and the team behind it, you establish legitimacy and credibility. This foundation helps audiences connect with the scenarios, encouraging meaningful engagement and enabling them to see their role in shaping the possible futures.

The following core messages should be communicated at the beginning of any conversation about the scenarios to set the stage and provide context.

Key messages about the Respace Peace initiative

- The process is led and owned by the Respace Team, which brings together a diverse group of individuals tied into different knots and corners of the global and local peacebuilding system.
- CSP, Reos Partners and NEAR convened the team and served as facilitators.
- Funders had no influence over the content of the scenarios.

Key messages about the scenarios and the drafting process

- The scenarios are not proposals or predictions or wishful thinking, they are plausible stories about what could happen in the future.
- The scenarios do not reflect the opinions of individual group members; they are a collective product.
- The transformative scenarios method has a long track record around the world, dating back to South Africa's transition from apartheid 30 years ago.

Key messages about the Respace Team

- The Team brings together a diversity of experiences with the global peacebuilding system. It is gender-balanced and includes different generations, geographical backgrounds, professions, and political perspectives.
- Each participant joins this process as an individual rather than as a representative of a specific institution or constituency.
- The team members each invested more than 120 hours of their time on a volunteer basis to work on the scenarios.

Community Engagement

The RESPACE scenarios provide a unique opportunity to engage diverse voices from around the world in reimagining the future of the global peacebuilding system. They highlight the opportunities, risks, and choices involved in shifting toward a system where civil society and local leadership are at its centre. Far from being a product with a singular message, the scenarios serve as a catalyst to inspire reflection, foster discussion, and ignite action.

Our goal is to spark a global conversation, amplified by diverse voices and perspectives, to drive strategic actions and deepen the dialogue around transforming the peacebuilding system. You can contribute to this effort by organising presentations, debates, meetings, and workshops and by sharing the scenarios widely through media and social networks.

You can help spread the word and engage people and communities in conversations related to respacing peace by:

- Organising a presentation and dialogue event
- Scheduling a briefing or discussion meeting for your colleagues, peers, or strategic partners
- · Reaching out to the media
- Writing articles, blog posts, or tweets related to the scenarios and their messages
- Mentioning the scenarios at existing conferences and seminars you are participating in
- Commenting on current political events in the context of the scenarios
- Follow Respace Peace on social media and share relevant items

Encouraging Engagement

Regardless of how you organise or facilitate conversations around the Respace Scenarios, encourage participants to stay engaged with the scenarios.

- Direct people to the RESPACE website for information about the initiative and use the messaging there.
- Encourage people to sign up on the RESPACE website to receive news and updates.

Organise a Workshop

Included below are tips for those interested in organising a formal event, discussion, or workshop around the scenarios. Included are sample agendas. Additional resources, including sample slide decks and visuals, can be found on the Respace website: repacepeace.org.

How to organise a presentation or dialogue event:

Define the objective of your event: As the event promoter, you need to clearly articulate the objective. Begin by considering the broader purpose of your event—are participants looking to reflect on key issues, strategise their program or approach, build coalitions, or explore new opportunities? Establishing this overarching goal will help shape the discussion. You can then use the overall scenario process objectives on page 4 as a starting point and tailor them to your event's specific needs. For example, you might frame the objective as: "Consider the implications of the scenarios for the xx sector."

Decide the date, time and location: Decide where and when the event will take place. The room should be large enough for people to spread out and preferably be equipped with a projector, a computer, flipcharts, and markers. We suggest scheduling a minimum of 1.5 hours for the event.

Identify and invite participations: Consider what the best composition of participants would be to reach your objective – e.g. more likeminded or rather diverse in perspectives. Create an invitation with the information on the date, time, venue, and objectives. Create a participant list and send the invitation. It's important to extend personalised invitations to the people you most want to attend.

Clarify roles: Define with your team who will facilitate the event, who will present the scenarios, and who will document the results and compile the attendee list.

Design the agenda: See the provided templates.

Document the event and share lessons learned: Take photos and make note of the key points discussed so you can share them on the project's social media pages.

Sample Agendas

Sample Agenda and Process Notes – 1.5 Hours

Sample Agenda and Process Notes – 2 Hours

Sample Agenda and Process Notes – 3.5 Hours (1/2 Day)

Sample Agenda and Process Notes – 7 Hours (Full Day)



Sample Agenda and Process Notes – 1.5 Hours

Time	Description	Materials
Oh00	Welcome & Opening Host welcomes participants and shares the events objectives. Host explains how the event will work.	N/A
0h10	Introduce the RESPACE scenarios What are the RESPACE scenarios? How were they created? Why RESPACE? Why now? RESPACE slide deck.	Adapt the provided slide deck. Alternatively, write out the relevant information on flip chart paper.
0h30	Share the RESPACE Scenarios The scenarios can be presented in any number of ways. A selection of methods are outlined on page 19. Pick a method that suits your group and the setting. Alternatively, build on these ideas using your creativity to develop your own unique approach.	Various
0h40	 Group Discussion Facilitate a discussion in plenary or at small tables followed by a plenary. What are some of the moments/events within the scenarios that stood out to you? What signs are we seeing that one or more of these scenarios are emerging today? What opportunities, risks, and choices do these scenarios present us? What's missing? 	Provide flip chart paper to small groups to write their answers out. Print copies of scenario summaries for participants to reference during the discussion.
1h20	Final Reflection Ask some or all the participants to share their response to the question, "What do I see now that I didn't see before?"	N/A
1h30	Close	

Sample Agenda and Process Notes – 2 Hours

Time	Description	Materials
0h00	Welcome & Opening	N/A
	Host welcomes participants and shares the event's objectives.	
	Host explains how the event will work.	
0h10	Preview	
	Ask each participant to consider, "If you could speak to a fortune teller, what question would you ask about the state of the world in 2035?"	
	Debrief options:	
	 Invite participants to pair up and share their questions with their partners. Invite a select number of volunteers to share their questions in plenary. 	
	 If your group is small, ask each person to say their name and their questions. 	
0h30	Introduce the RESPACE Scenarios	Adapt the provided
	• What are the RESPACE scenarios?	slide deck. Alternatively, write out the relevant
	How were they created?	information on flip chart
	Why RESPACE? Why now?	paper.
	RESPACE slide deck.	
0h45	Share the RESPACE Scenarios	Various
	The scenarios can be presented in any number of ways. A selection of methods are outlined on page 19. Pick a method that suits your group and the setting. Alternatively, build on these ideas using your creativity to develop your own unique approach.	
1h00	Group Discussion	Optional:
11100	 Facilitate a discussion in plenary or at small tables followed by a plenary. What are some of the moments/events in the scenarios that stood out to you? 	Provide flip chart paper to small groups to write
	 What signs are we seeing that one or more of these scenarios are emerging today? 	their answers out.Print copies of scenario summaries
	• What opportunities, risks, and choices do these scenarios present us?	for participants to
	 How would you change your actions or collaborations based on these unfolding scenarios?¹ 	reference during the discussion.
1h45	Final Reflection	N/A
	Ask same or all the participants to share their response to the question	
	Ask some or all the participants to share their response to the question, "What do I see now that I didn't see before?"	

 $^{^1}$ Participants may naturally focus on elements that perceive to be 'missing' from the scenarios. Note that the scenarios are not meant to be comprehensive (the future is too complex and full of possibility). The gaps themselves are meant to serve as catalysts for conversation.

Sample Agenda and Process Notes – 3.5 Hours (1/2 Day)

Time	Description	Materials
0h00	Welcome & Opening	N/A
	Host welcomes participants and shares the event's objectives.	
	Host explains how the event will work.	
0h10	Preview	
	Ask each participant to consider, "If you could speak to a fortune teller, what question would you ask about the state of the world in 2035?"	
	 Debrief options: Invite participants to pair up and share their questions with their partners. Invite a select number of volunteers to share their questions in plenary. 	
	 If your group is small, ask each person to say their name and their questions. 	
0h30	Introduce the RESPACE Scenarios	Adapt the provided
	What are the RESPACE scenarios?How were they created?Why RESPACE? Why now?	slide deck. Alternatively, write out the relevant information on flip chart paper.
	RESPACE slide deck.	
0h45	Present the RESPACE Scenarios	Various
	The scenarios can be presented in any number of ways. A selection of methods are outlined on page 19. Pick a method that suits your group and the setting. Alternatively, build on these ideas using your creativity to develop your own unique approach.	
1h15	Resonance	
	Invite participants to pair up and share initial reflections. Option to share one of the prompts below: How did the scenarios make you feel? Could this happen?	
	Facilitate a discussion in plenary or at small tables followed by a plenary.	
	What did the scenarios evoke for you?	
	 Was there a particular scenario or perhaps moment in one of the scenarios that stood out to you? Why? 	
	 What signs are we seeing that one or more of the scenarios are emerging? 	
	 How would you change your actions or collaborations based on these unfolding scenarios? 	

1h45	BREAK	
2h00	Implications	Optional:
	In this session invite participants to consider the implications of the scenarios for them as individuals, the organisations & networks they are a part of and the communities they belong to. The following steps and prompts were developed for a group of participants working with INGOs. Adapt them to suit the interests and needs of your	 Provide flip chart paper to small groups to write their answers out. Print copies of
	specific group.	scenario summaries for participants to reference during the discussion.
	Steps:	
	Divide participants into groups.	
	 Invite half the group to reflect on the implications of each scenario for INGOs. 	
	Invite the second half to reflect on sector-wide implications	
	 Debrief. Invite a volunteer from each group to share their reflections in plenary. 	
	Option to share one of the prompts below to help encourage discussion.	
	INGOs:	
	 What new skills or resources would your organisation/INGOs need to thrive in this future? 	
	 How might the strategies and operations of your organisation/INGOs need to change to remain relevant in these scenarios? 	
	Sector:	
	 How would this scenario impact the relationships between international actors and local civil society organisations? 	
	 In these futures, what mechanisms or platforms will be most important for fostering collaboration across different types of actors? 	
2h40	Opportunities	
	 Invite participants to identify opportunities for positive change² they see across all four scenarios. 	
	 Facilitate a discussion on what is needed to support this positive potential to grow. 	
	Optional discussion prompts:	
	 Are there areas where we can invest energy/resources/expertise? 	
	• Where do I (or we as a collective) have the power to influence the future?	
3h15	Final Reflection	N/A
	Ask some or all the participants to share their response to the question, "What do I see now that I didn't see before?"	
3h30	Close	

 $^{^2}$ A seemingly negative event, for example, the closing of state borders may also be an opportunity for positive change. In this example, the closing of borders could lead to an increased focus, and resolution of domestic challenges.

Sample Agenda and Process Notes – 7 Hours (Full Day)

Time	Description	Materials
0h00	Welcome & Opening	N/A
	Host welcomes participants and shares the event's objectives.	
	Host explains how the event will work.	
0h10	Preview	Post the prompt on a slide or flipchart.
	Ask each participant to consider, "If you could speak to a fortune teller, what question would you ask about the state of the world in 2035?"	
	Debrief options:	
	 Invite participants to pair up and share their questions with their partners. Invite a select number of volunteers to share their questions in plenary. 	
	 If your group is small, ask each person to say their name and their questions. 	
0h30	Introduce the RESPACE Scenarios	Adapt the provided
	What are the RESPACE scenarios?	slide deck. Alternatively, write out the relevant
	How were they created?	information on flip chart
	Why RESPACE? Why now?	paper.
	RESPACE slide deck.	
	Option: If members of the RESPACE team are present, invite them to share their motivation for joining RESPACE.	
1h45	Present the RESPACE Scenarios	Create 4 stations
	The scenarios can be presented in any number of ways. Pick a method that suits your group and setting.	around the room. Display one of the four RESPACE posters at each station. Provide each participant/group with a copy of the scenario scripts. ³
	A World Café format is outlined below. This approach takes time and is best suited to full-day workshops. Additional presentation methods are included on page 19.	
	1. Divide participants into four groups (1, 2, 3, 4), assigning each group to a different station with a scenario poster.	
	At each station, one group member reads the scenario script aloud while others listen and observe the poster.	
	3. After the reading, the group spends 8 minutes discussing:	
	What stood out to you about this scenario?	
	What feelings or thoughts does it evoke?	
	What signs suggest this scenario (or parts of it) may be emerging?4. Conclude the activity with a short break.	
	4. Conclude the activity with a short break.	

³ The scenario scripts are summaries of the full-length RESPACE scenarios and designed to be read aloud. See RESPACE Resources, page 19 for a link to the scripts.

2h00	BREAK	
2h30	Implications	Optional:
	In this session invite participants to consider the implications of the scenarios for them as individuals, the organisations & networks they are a part of, and the communities they belong to.	Provide each group with copies of the <u>scenario</u> <u>summaries</u> , <u>scenario</u> <u>scripts</u> and/or link to a
	The steps and prompts below were developed for a group of participants representing civil society organisations and networks from West Africa. Adapt them to suit the interests and needs of your specific group.	copy of the <u>full report;</u> a copy of the questions; and a flipchart and
	Steps:	markers to note down their reflections.
	 Divide participants into four groups. Assign each group a scenario. In their groups, participants discuss the following prompts. 	
	 Regroup participants in plenary and ask each group to share highlights from their discussions. 	
	 Main prompt: Considering the scenario in front of you, if it happened, what impact would it have on you, your organisation and the groups you belong to? 	
	Sub-questions:	
	Who – are you collaborating with? Who are your partners? Your allies? Are you a part of a network(s)?	
	How – are you collaborating? Communicating? Locally? Regionally? Cross border?	
	What – what issues are you working on? What are the most important/ pressing issues? What is bringing people together?	
	Resources – how are you resourcing your work? Who are supporters? Abundance vs. scarcity?	
	Wellbeing – do you feel safe? Are you secure? Do you have the space to operate openly? What is the state of peace & security?	
3h00	LUNCH	
4h00	Warm-up	RESPACE scenario cards
	Facilitate a brief activity to re-engage participants.	
	Example: Spread the RESPACE scenario cards ⁴ on a table. Invite participants to select a card that features an element of the scenarios that stood out to them. Participants return to seats and share the card they chose and why.	
		<u> </u>

⁴The RESPACE scenario cards are playing cards featuring illustrations taken from the RESPACE posters. See RESPACE Resources, page 19 for a link to the cards.

4h15	Opportunities	Flipchart
	In this session, invite participants to identify promising elements across the four scenarios and consider how they, as individuals and a collective, can build on this potential.	Markers
	Divide participants into new groups.	
	 In their small groups, participants consider the scenarios as a set (all four scenarios together) and discuss the questions below. 	
	Ask participants to note their responses on a flip chart.	
	Regroup participants in plenary and ask each group to share highlights from their discussions.	
	Discussion questions:	
	What promising elements or opportunities can you see emerging?	
	 What do you see as the most important forces influencing how you collaborate for peace globally? 	
	 How can you leverage your individual and collective strengths to build or strengthen equitable spaces and infrastructures for global/translocal collaboration? 	
5h15	BREAK	
5h45	Socialising & Using the Scenarios	N/A
	In plenary, participants share their thoughts on how the scenarios can be further socialised and used moving forward.	
	Discussion questions:	
	 How can you see yourselves using the scenarios and engaging with the RESPACE initiative to foster collaboration? 	
	How would you like the RESPACE team to use the scenarios to broaden their impact?	
6h30	Final Reflection	N/A
	As a final closing activity invite participants to reflect on the following question: What do I see now that I didn't see before?	
	Form a closing circle and invite participants to share their reflections one	
	by one. Alternatively, open the floor for anyone who wishes to share in the plenary.	

Presenting the RESPACE Scenarios

The RESPACE scenarios can be shared in many ways, depending on your setting, audience, and objectives. The approach you choose should align with what works best for your context:

- Setting: Consider whether the environment is formal or informal, structured or flexible, or if you have limited or extended time.
- Audience: Tailor your method to the group—whether they are familiar or new to you, a large or small group, and familiar with the themes discussed in the scenarios.
- Objectives: Define what you hope to achieve. Are you aiming to spark curiosity, encourage collaboration, or gather ideas on how the scenarios can create impact?

Encourage participants to review the complete scenarios in the RESPACE report before or after your session to deepen their understanding. Providing a link to the report or written summaries ensures participants can refer to the material during or after discussions.

Ideas for Sharing the RESPACE Scenarios:

Here are some suggestions for using the publicly available resources at: <u>respacepeace.org</u>. Feel free to adapt these ideas to meet your needs:

- Scenario Summaries: Present the short scenario summaries from the RESPACE slide deck.
- Scripts and Visuals: Have facilitators read the RESPACE scripts aloud while displaying the slide deck as a visual. Enhance engagement by pairing each scenario with a fitting soundtrack.
- Videos: Play the RESPACE scenario videos for participants.
- Poster Walk: Display the RESPACE scenario posters around the room. Invite participants to walk around and observe, using prompts to focus on key features.
- Station Rotation: Divide participants into four groups, assigning each group to a scenario poster. At each station, one member reads the scenario script aloud while others observe and listen. Rotate groups through all four posters.
- **Story Creation:** Spread the RESPACE scenario cards on a flat surface and invite participants to create their own stories using the cards. Use this activity as a segue to present each scenario.
- Reaction Handouts: Provide participants with a handout to capture their initial reactions. A sample handout is available on the RESPACE website.

Discussion Guide

It is not necessary to convene a formal workshop to share the RESPACE scenarios. Informal spaces can be just as effective in sparking reflective thinking and meaningful discussion. The questions below can be used as prompts to guide informal conversations around the scenarios after they have been shared. A selection of dialogue formats is included to inspire you to think of tried and tested and new and interesting ways to facilitate with your communities and networks.

Discussion Questions

Individual:

- What feelings does the set of scenarios evoke for you?
- What worries you about these futures?

Collective:

- What feelings do these scenarios evoke?
- What stands out to us as interesting or thought-provoking about the RESPACE scenarios?
- What signs are we seeing that suggest one or more of these scenarios may be emerging?
- What's missing?
- What do we see as the most significant forces shaping how we collaborate locally and trans-locally for peace?
- What are the most critical levers for influencing the future of the global peacebuilding system?
- What do we see as the highest potential for sustainable global collaboration for peace in 2035?
- What is this group's collective ability to realise this potential?
- What actionable ideas can we generate to influence the future of global collaboration for peace positively?
- Is there something that you see now that you didn't see before?



⁵ It is important to remind participants that the RESPACE Scenarios are not meant to be comprehensive, by identifying gaps and why these missing pieces are important participants bring these issues into the conversation. In this way the Scenarios are dynamic.

Discussion Formats

Circle Process: a dialogue format where participants sit in a physical circle and share equally without hierarchy. A talking piece is sometimes used to ensure each voice is heard.

Invite participants to arrange their chairs in a circle and present a question to the group. Ask participants to share their reflections, either sequentially, moving around the circle or when they feel ready. Aim to hear from everyone. Encourage participants to listen attentively and speak with intention.

Small Groups: a simple structure for dialogue where participants divide into smaller groups to exchange ideas.

If your participant group is large, it can be helpful to transition out of plenary into small groups. You may have each group the same question to discuss or assign different questions to each group. At the end of the allotted time, participants come back to plenary and share highlights from their discussions.

Fishbowl: a dialogue format where a small group in an inner circle discusses a topic while others observe from an outer circle. Midway, the circles swap, allowing observers to respond and build on the dialogue. This format encourages active listening and balanced participation.

Arrange chairs in two concentric circles. Explain that the inner circle (fishbowl) is for active participants, and the outer circle is for observers. Only those in the fishbowl may speak. Begin the discussion with a prompt for the inner circle. Halfway through, rotate participants between the circles. Conclude with a group reflection, inviting everyone to share insights or key takeaways.

Paired Walking: a dialogue format where two participants engage in conversation while walking together. Walking can help shift stagnant energy and unlock new ideas, while the intimacy of a one-on-one conversation encourages deep sharing.

Pair up participants and provide a prompt or topic for conversation. Pairs discuss the question or topic while walking. After a set amount of time, pairs regroup. Conclude with a group reflection, inviting pairs to share highlights from the conversations.

RESPACE Resources

RESPACE Posters

RESPACE Videos (coming soon)

RESPACE Scripts

RESPACE Slide Deck

RESPACE Scenario Summaries

RESPACE Playing Cards

