

ABOUT GDL

The Global Diplomacy Lab (GDL) is a participatory, member-driven and inclusive platform seeking innovative diplomatic solutions that go beyond traditional politics. With the support of partners from both the private and public sector, GDL members work all over the world on self-initiated, collaborative projects involving a range of complex and diverse topics in the realm of diplomacy.

SELECTION AND DECISION MAKING PROCESS

KEY ACTORS

LEADING PARTNERS

They are institutions that enable the operational foundation for the GDL by bringing their networks, (financial) resources, skills and knowledge as well as active support.



In addition to Leading Partners, customised partnership models reflect the diversity and variety of potential cooperation with the GDL.

The ADVISORY COUNCIL

(AC) is the primary decision-making entity of the GDL. It is composed of one representative of each partner institution, the EAC, the Dean and the Secretariat. The AC meets at least twice a year and is tasked to conceptualise and shape the future of the platform. Core responsibilities are:

- Selection of the new members by vote.
- Selection of established members to participate in working groups through standard anonymous voting process.
- Decisions on community development through voting and deliberation.

The DEAN

(Dirk Brengelmann) is a mentor for the members and brings his experience to the table in the AC as well as in Labs and Events.

Located at the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin, the

GDL SECRETARIAT

is tasked with the frictionless and ongoing cooperation between all actors. It focuses on the creation and incubation of opportunities for its members and partners and, coordinates and monitors all ongoing processes. It acts as sparring partner and institutional memory of the GDL, takes on administrative tasks and ensures that standards and guidelines are complied with.

MEMBERS

are distinguished members of society who engage with urgent problems in their respective fields, recruited exclusively from the networks of the GDL Leading Partners.

Member-driven means that the network is self-managed. Members create, steer and implement. This concept implies commonality, self-regulation and horizontality.

Members can also take on an active role in finding and establishing new partners for the GDL.

COLLABORATION AND THE WORK IN COMMITTEES

EAC

Interests of GDL members vis-à-vis other actors are primarily represented by four Elected Members of the Advisory Council (EAC). EAC are selected for a two year long term through general voting on application basis and are tasked with decision-making privileges on behalf of the Members, as well as responsibilities.

TASK TEAMS

Two Task Teams consisting of two members each further the GDL's cause regarding impact and financial sustainability. They advise their fellow members on how to create more impact in line with the GDL Impact Tree as well as on fundraising for Labs and Activities.

LABS

Labs are not only the heart and soul, but also the signature format of the GDL. In order to promote multi-stakeholder partnerships, the Labs serve as the nucleus of the network. It's an event, where new and established members come together facing the year's challenge through various cutting-edge methods and to work out potential solutions.

GDL activities

are usually the events that are either organised by the GDL only or to which GDL members are invited as experts or guests without the need for the GDL Secretariat to actively engage in the organisational process.

Private-Public Partnership

The GDL works in several ways with local capacities:

- **Hosts** are persons or organisations, selected from within the network, responsible for establishing local partnerships, exploring the logistical possibilities on the ground, and identifying the potential **Challenge Holder**, before and during a Lab
- **Challenge Holders** are institutions that provide the challenge for the year's curriculum, while a challenge is defined to be a problem or a set of problems that infringes the Challenge Holder's ability to work or that responds to local needs of the community
- **GDL members** often team-up with **Local Partners** alongside the expert advisors to gain the full picture of the scope that the challenge presents and hence, produce comprehensive outcomes together.