

## Theatre in Conflict Zones Network TCZN

Antwerp,  
19 Sept 2024, 14h30-17h00



### List of Attendees (in alphabetical order by surname)

Cecile ALVAREZ GUILDEROTE (ITI Philippines); Anina JENDREYKO (ITI Switzerland); Jessica KAAHAWA (ITI Uganda); Ali MAHDI (ITI Sudan); Taeko NAGAI (ITI Japan); Kaori NAKAYAMA (ITI Japan); Luk NYS (Madame Fortuna Theatre); Roberta QUARTA (ITI Italy); Alexander STILLMARK (Secretary of TCZN).

Fabio Tolledi and Alexander Stillmark coordinated the meeting.

They advanced the proposal to create an online platform for artists living in conflict zones in order to give them support and visibility and to allow networking with other artists. This will be done carefully, considering the protection of the artists and guaranteeing their safety.

All the participants emphasized that dealing with theatre in conflict zones is a crucial activity for ITI, especially in this historical moment tragically marked by an increasing presence of conflicts. That is why we all should multiply our efforts to give support and opportunities to artists who are suffering from this condition and we should multiply our efforts to raise awareness on conflict contexts (not only armed conflicts).

The other important aspect is to increase theatre training activities with people who suffered the traumas of war, in order to activate processes of self-empowerment of traumatized people.

Some important concrete proposals were made that we want to draw to the attention of the ITI community:

- The creation of the above-mentioned online platform for theatre artists who live in conflict zones. This online platform can also serve as a platform where to include archive materials or contemporary ones about performances, interviews, and documents that can create a place of debate and confrontation on such dramatic and urgent topics. We invite ITI Centres to join and support this project proposition.
- The relaunch of the Ellen Stewart Award in connection with the promotion of theatre artists and companies who come from contexts of conflict and migration and to support theatre performances with a focus on such topics. Artists from all countries could participate by applying to a call. Related to the Ellen Stewart Award can be the delivery of a scholarship for young theatre artists to research such topics (also in the theatre archives of ITI).

Final stress to the importance of sharing materials on theatre-making in conflict zones and on conflict matters, as this is really at the core of the ITI mission.