Concept of the Week
(PSIR Optional)

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Multi-Track Diplomacy

Multi-Track Diplomacy is a conceptual way to view the process of international peace-making as a living system.

Unlike realism which only looks at State and governments as legitimate forms of activities and communication in the international sphere, it follows the complex interdependence model which views global politics as a web of interconnected activities, individuals, institutions, and communities that operate together for a common goal: creating a more stable and peaceful world.

**Track One Diplomacy** is official government diplomacy whereby communication and interaction is between governments.

**Track Two Diplomacy** is the unofficial interaction and intervention of non-state actors (invented by former diplomat Joseph Montville).

**Tracks of Diplomacy**

- **Track 1** – Government, or peace-making through Diplomacy. This is the world of official diplomacy, policymaking, and peacebuilding as expressed through formal aspects of the governmental process.

- **Track 2** – Nongovernment/Professional, or Peace-making through Conflict Resolution. This is the realm of professional nongovernmental action attempting to analyse, prevent, resolve, and manage international conflicts by non-state actors.

- **Track 3** – Business, or Peace-making through Commerce. This is the field of business and its actual and potential effects on peacebuilding through the provision of economic opportunities, international friendship and understanding, informal channels of communication, and support for other peace-making activities.

- **Track 4** – Private Citizen, or Peace-making through Personal Involvement. This includes the various ways that individual citizens become involved in peace and development activities through citizen diplomacy, exchange programs, private voluntary organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and special-interest groups.

- **Track 5** – Research, Training, and Education, or peace making through Learning. This track includes three related worlds: research, as it is connected to university programs, think tanks, and special-interest research centres; training programs that seek to provide training in practitioner skills such as negotiation, mediation, conflict resolution, and third-party facilitation; and education, including kindergarten through PhD programs that cover various aspects of global or cross-cultural studies, peace and world order studies, and conflict analysis, management, and resolution.

- **Track 6** – Activism, or Peace-making through Advocacy. This track covers the field of peace and environmental activism on such issues as disarmament, human rights, social and economic justice, and advocacy of special-
interest groups regarding specific governmental policies.

- **Track 7 – Religion, or Peace-making through Faith in action.** This examines the beliefs and peace-oriented actions of spiritual and religious communities and such morality-based movements as pacifism, sanctuary, and nonviolence.

- **Track 8 – Funding, or Peace-making through Providing Resources.** This refers to the funding community—those foundations and individual philanthropists that provide the financial support for many of the activities undertaken by the other tracks.

- **Track 9 – Communications and the Media, or Peace-making through Information.** This is the realm of the voice of the people: how public opinion gets shaped and expressed by the media—print, film, video, radio, electronic systems, the arts.