

Trainer



Marietta Gädeke

Lilit Kommunikation, Mainz

Marietta Gädeke is a communication trainer, coach, and moderator with extensive experience in the fields of difficult conversations, strategic communication, and intercultural awareness.

She supports individuals in communicating clearly, confidently, and effectively, even in highly demanding situations.

A core focus of her work is intercultural communication, with specialized expertise in regional focuses including the UK, France, Israel, Turkey, and the Arab world. Having established the company Eisso Shoes in Turkey, she possesses first-hand experience with the realities of intercultural coordination in a corporate context. Consequently, she does not teach intercultural communication in the form of abstract concepts, but rather as a tangible skill to identify misunderstandings, resolve tension, and maintain agency even in complex situations.

Difficult Conversations in Intercultural Environments: Identifying Misunderstandings, Resolving Tension, Communicating Confidently

Objective

Participants learn to lead difficult conversations in intercultural contexts with clarity, respect, and assertiveness. The goal is to develop confidence when dealing with misunderstandings, friction, and conflicts arising from diverse communication and conflict styles, while strengthening skills that enable sustainable solutions.

Description

Wherever people with different cultural backgrounds work together, friction can arise. Misunderstandings, unspoken expectations, and differing preferences regarding directness, hierarchy, and commitment can strain conversations and escalate conflicts.

The focus here is on typical real-world challenges:

- Irritating communication styles
- Team tension
- Critical feedback
- Balancing clarity and respect

Moving beyond country stereotypes, participants learn to subtly assess these complex situations, consciously manage their own impact, and maintain confidence and agency even in complex intercultural settings.

Participants will

- analyze intercultural misunderstandings and tension in conversations,
- reflect on their own communication style and impact within a cultural context,
- address difficult topics, irritations, and conflicts clearly and respectfully,
- professionally handle varying expectations regarding directness, criticism, and collaboration,
- maintain agency even in difficult situations and foster a constructive dialogue.

Methodology

The workshop is designed to be highly practical, interactive, and transfer oriented. Brief input sessions alternate with reflection, group discussion, case studies, practice exercises, and conversation simulations. The focus is on everyday professional situations, typical friction points, and specific strategies. Feedback supports individual development.

Conditions

A willingness to actively participate in exercises and reflection processes, and to share personal intercultural experiences. No specific prior knowledge is required.

Organizational Information

Language / Format	English / On Campus
Target group	Doctoral Candidates at all stages and Postdocs (R2/R3) from all faculties
Date	Tuesday, 19 January 2027, 10:00 – 17:00
Registration	For registration click here