

**THE Dialogue  
Book**

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**KAI  
ALHANEN**

# The Dialogue Book

Translated by Helena Lehti



**The** **KAI ALHANEN**  
**Dialogue Book**

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Dedicated to my colleagues  
Elina, Janne and Marja-Liisa.



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# The essentials of dialogue



**Dialogue** is a survival skill of the human race. It is based on our ability to share our experiences of the world around us, of others and ourselves. Through speaking we communicate our daily thoughts and feelings, express our wonders, direct everyday actions, teach children to understand the world around them, argue and reconcile.

**The Dialogue Book** is related to the dialogical approach developed in Finland over the past 30 to 40 years which has then spread around the world. It covers a range of practices for educational, social and care work, as well as for work communities, teams and management of organizations.

**The book outlines** the principles of dialogue and describes in practical terms the facilitation of dialogical conversation and the role of the facilitator.

**KAI ALHANEN** IS A RESEARCHER IN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY AND THE LEADER OF DIALOGUE ACADEMY. FOR OVER 20 YEARS, HE HAS BEEN DEVELOPING DIALOGICAL PRACTICES AND IS ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED TRAINERS OF THE APPROACH IN FINLAND AND INTERNATIONALLY. HE HAS PUBLISHED BOOKS ON MICHEL FOUCAULT AND JOHN DEWEY, AS WELL AS ON THE PHILOSOPHY DIALOGUE. ADDITIONALLY, HE HAS INTRODUCED INNOVATIVE DIALOGUE CONCEPTS LIKE TIMEOUT AND NATIONAL DIALOGUES, WHICH HAVE GAINED WIDESPREAD RECOGNITION.

