



## Group vs. Team

*When a group becomes a team, everything is different: constructive communication, building trust and development together!" (Stania/Schnell)*

Making teams out of groups is a huge challenge! When people work with teams it is quite useful to have some fundamental knowledge about group theories. This makes it easier to understand, facilitate and develop those teams.

### Group vs. Team

When looking at a team you can ask yourself the following questions: which kind of group is this?

Is a group always a team and is a team equal to a group?

Even though plenty of definitions exist, there is one thing they all have in common:

**A team is always a type of group, but not every group is a team!**

### Group: What does the term mean?

The term *'group'* can be understood as a basic word for all kind of crowds. You can call it a group when three or more people interact with each other. There are different types of groups like troops, squads, communities, teams, etc.

### Team: What does the term mean?

The term *'team'* describes a specific type of group. Every team member knows who and how many people are in the team. Teams have shared rules and norms. Teams strive for the same goal which can be reached by using the combined knowledge and action of the team-members.

Source/Literature:

**STAHL**, Eberhard (2010): Dynamik in Gruppen. Handbuch der Gruppenleitung. 2. Auflage. Beltz Verlag. Weinheim.

**LANGMAACK**, Barbara; **BRAUNE-KRICKAU**, Michael (2010): Wie die Gruppe laufen lernt. Anregungen zum Planen und Leiten von Gruppen. Ein praktisches Lehrbuch. 7., vollständig überarbeitete Auflage. Beltz-Verlag. Weinheim.