



Knowledge to lead

e-Course on the Law of Treaties

7 November to 4 December 2011

Background

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) has over 40 years experience in the delivery of training in the field of international law. To better respond to the numerous requests for innovative training, UNITAR is complementing its face-to-face training activities with internet-based ones. Thus, since 2003, UNITAR has been successfully delivering e-learning courses through its Internet Platform.

The International Law of Treaties is a set of international principles and rules regulating the conclusion procedure of treaties, as well as the issues of operation, amendments and modifications, termination, suspension and invalidity of treaties. For those involved in drafting, negotiation and conclusion of international treaties, a sound knowledge of the Law of Treaties is indispensable. Moreover, efficient implementation and application of international legal norms is impossible without knowing the essentials of the International Law of Treaties.

UNITAR's e-Course on the Law of Treaties is designed to cover both the theoretical and the practical aspects, starting with the basic notions, sources, subjects, principles, and scope of application of conventions forming the base of the Law of Treaties.

The Course provides a detailed study of all stages of the treaty-making process; entry into force and operation of treaties, including careful examination of the issues of revision, amendment and modification, reservation, interpretation, termination, suspension and invalidity of treaties. Within the Course, a number of international law cases settled by international courts will be reviewed and discussed, as well as the main treaties, resolutions and other international legal instruments of particular importance.

The e-Course on the Law of Treaties allows participants the flexibility to combine their learning activities with work responsibilities and to benefit from a high-quality course on international law at a low cost. Furthermore, participants also enjoy the flexibility of being trained at their own pace with full access to the Course anywhere and anytime.

Course Goal

The overall goal of this e-Course is to provide participants with the fundamental theoretical and practical knowledge of the key issues of the International Law of Treaties, as well as a comprehensive understanding of the provisions of the universal conventions as the sources of International Law of Treaties and to develop critical skills of analysis and interpretation of cases regarding contemporary practice.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the course participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate profound understanding of the key issues of International Law of Treaties, including knowledge of the important provisions of the universal conventions forming the base of International Law of Treaties;
- Identify and apply the rules and procedures of International Law of Treaties to practical cases, find the relevant sources of law and build legal arguments;
- Analyze and interpret international judicial decisions and opinions in the area of International Law of Treaties;
- Apply theoretical knowledge and practical skills to their professional activities in fields related to the Law of treaties for example, preparation of a draft of a treaty, or participation in the negotiations and international conferences on the elaboration and adoption of an international treaty.



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Course Content

The Course consists of the following modules:

Module 1: The basic notions, sources, and principles of the Law of Treaties

Module 2: The stages of conclusion of treaties

Module 3: The operation, modifications, termination and suspension of treaties

Module 4: The invalidity and interpretation of treaties

Organization and Methodology

The e-Course on the Law of Treaties will be conducted in English and delivered over 4 weeks starting on Monday, 7 November 2011. Each one of the four modules is to be completed within a week. The successful completion of the Course requires four weeks of committed study, with an average study-time of 8 hours per week.

The Course will be given through UNITAR's virtual platform. The learning activities are based on sound adult learning pedagogical principles and designed specifically for professionals working full-time. These activities include self-assessment activities, case studies, discussion forums, practical assignments, quizzes, etc.

The course moderators will guide participants in their learning process and answer their questions. In addition, UNITAR's staff will provide them with technical support on how to use the learning tools available on UNITAR's platform.

In order to assure interactive exchange as well as provide participants with personalized learning assistance, the number of participants per moderator will not exceed 50.

Participants who successfully complete the four modules of the e-Course on the Law of Treaties will receive a **Certificate of Completion issued by UNITAR.**

Course Moderators

The course moderators selected by UNITAR are experts in international law from academic and international circles, including practitioners from both within and outside the United Nations system.

Target Audience

The course aims to respond to the needs of a variety of legal practitioners: government officers dealing with issues of treaty-making, diplomats, judges/magistrates, law professors and researchers, members of bar associations, NGO representatives, lawyers in private practice and advanced students in the fields of law, international relations or other associated fields.

Course Fees and Registration

A fee is charged for taking the e-Course on the Law of Treaties. However, **partial fellowships** are available in the form of reduced fees aimed at participants from least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Please consult the following link: <http://www.unitar.org/ilp/> in order to know the exact fee amount per country.

Interested individuals can register directly for the Course at: <http://www.unitar.org/ilp/>

The deadline for registration is 28 October 2011.

Contact

For more detailed information about the course, please visit UNITAR International Law Programme's website <http://www.unitar.org/ilp/> or contact Ms. Monica Nunez by email at monica.nunez@unitar.org

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