

## UOC - UNITAR Master of International Affairs - Field Visit to Geneva

Multilateral Diplomacy

**Deadline: 13 Aug 2020**

Type:	Field Visit
Location:	Geneva, Switzerland
Date:	17 Aug 2020 to 21 Aug 2020
Duration of event:	5 Days
Programme Area:	Multilateral Diplomacy
Specific Target Audience:	No
Website:	<a href="http://www.unitar.org">http://www.unitar.org</a>
Price:	\$1,500.00
Event Focal Point Email:	<a href="mailto:mdp-elearning@unitar.org">mdp-elearning@unitar.org</a>
Event Focal Point Contact Number:	+41 (0)22 9178810

### BACKGROUND

UNITAR is an autonomous institution within the United Nations system with a mission to deliver innovative training and conduct research on knowledge systems to develop the capacities of its beneficiaries. As the training arm of the United Nations, UNITAR's mission is to develop capacities to enhance global decision-making and to support country level action for shaping a better future.

The Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) is an innovative university that offers people life-long learning to help them and society advance, while carrying out research into the knowledge society. Its educational model is based on personalization and accompanying students using e-Learning. From the UOC-UNITAR field visit, participants can expect the following:

- Attend lectures from policy practitioners and decision-makers
- Visit UN facilities in Geneva, including UNHCR, WTO and others
- Experience of a real UN conference at one of the UN facilities in Geneva
- Private Guided Tour of the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva (UNOG)
- Network with high-level officials, UN personnel and diplomats

### EVENT OBJECTIVES

As part of the *Online Master Programme in International Affairs and Diplomacy* and related qualifications, offered in

cooperation with the University Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), UNITAR designed a 5-day field visit to Geneva, Switzerland offering participants a full immersion into the city's multilateral working environment.

In line with UNITAR's mandate, its main purpose is to enhance participants' knowledge and skills related to international affairs and diplomacy. This will enable them to work more effectively and efficiently in any multilateral setting.

UNITAR lastly intends to strengthen the participants' conviction of the principles enshrined in the UN Charter, especially multilateralism. In the long term, this does not only result in participants' more favourable view on the organisation, but also in a higher willingness to cooperate across borders.

## CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Hosting 35 international organizations and more than 250 NGOs, the city Geneva offers itself for a whole series of potentially formative experiences. UNITAR hosts the activity in the historic Palace of Nations and provides a nuanced balance between the following different components:

### **Expert Lectures:**

UNITAR's professional network across Geneva allows it to organize a series of 1-2-hour expert lectures, in which participants can directly learn from UN personal or other high-level officials. Previous UOC-UNITAR field visits have included lectures from the following organizations:

- United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN in Geneva

### **Training Workshops:**

As its core activity and *raison d'être*, UNITAR provides several face-to-face workshops to the participants. Delivered by experts such as retired ambassadors, previous programmes have included the following workshops:

- Leadership and Negotiation Skills
- United Nations Resolution Writing
- Diplomatic Communication Skills

### **Multilateral Conferences:**

With its more than 10.000 conferences a year, the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) counts as one of the most active international conference centres in the world. UNITAR offers participants to attend such meetings and thereby experience multilateral negotiations first-hand:

- Human Rights Council
- United Nations Committee against Torture (UNCAT)
- United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

### **Guided Tours:**

Geneva is rich in historic buildings important to international affairs. Thanks to its access across the city, UNITAR can provide a series of private guided tours. Previous programmes have included tours through the following facilities:

- The United Nations' Palace of Nations (3-hours extensive private guided tour)
- The headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- The headquarters of the World Trade Organization (WTO)

### **Career Development Sessions:**

UNITAR also provides several 1-2 hour sessions on how to advance your professional career and find a solid footing in the world of international organizations. These sessions can include the following components:

- Information sessions on internships and other entry positions in the UN system

- Review of application material, including CV, motivation letter, PHP Form, LinkedIn profile
- Counselling on envisioned entrepreneurial projects related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

## METHODOLOGY

Given the complexity of Geneva's multilateral environment, UNITAR will cover a series of different thematic areas during the course of the Programme. These will include the United Nations, conference diplomacy, core diplomatic skills, humanitarian affairs, trade and commerce, sustainable development and other topics of interest.

The UOC-UNITAR field visit is designed to be highly interactive and participatory. Activities will include a high level of direct exposure to policy practitioners and diplomatic settings, thereby allowing participants to gain a thorough knowledge and understanding of the United Nations.

All of the activities will take place in the English language. Should there be any component such as a multilateral conference or an expert lecture not be available in English, UNITAR will ensure the participants will be provided with simultaneous interpretation.

## TARGETED AUDIENCE

**!!! Only students enrolled in UOC - UNITAR Master in International Affairs and Diplomacy and related qualifications can register for this activity. The field visit is also open to students enrolled in the UOC Master Programme in Human Rights, Democracy and Globalization. In case you are not enrolled in one of these programmes, kindly refer to the UN Immersion programme ([www.unitar.org/immersionprogramme](http://www.unitar.org/immersionprogramme)) !!!**

The field visit is intended for current and former students of the *UNITAR-UOC Online Master Programme in International Affairs and Diplomacy* as well as students of the *Postgraduate Certificate in Diplomatic Practice* and *Postgraduate Certificate in World Studies*. The field visit is also open to students enrolled in *UOC Master Programme in Human Rights, Democracy and Globalization*.

In order to ensure the highest standards in quality and implementation, the registration will be closed after 30 participants. At the end of the field visit, each participant will be awarded a UOC-UNITAR certificate of participation. They will also be asked to complete a feedback questionnaire to evaluate the success of the field visit in achieving the learning objectives.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

----- IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON COVID-19 -----  
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In light of the recent COVID-19 pandemic, UNITAR will assure the programme will be entirely conform to up-to-date health safety standards, including social distancing, hygiene measures and contact tracing. The programme's agenda may be subject to modifications in line with the most recent developments in this regard. For more information on travel to and from Switzerland, kindly read the most recent travel guidelines from Swiss Authorities.

Participants are responsible for complying with Swiss immigration and travel policies to enter the country. In addition, participants must have a health insurance plan that is valid in Switzerland and comply with Swiss health rules and recommendations during their stay in the country. Participants will also be responsible for their visa, accommodation, transportation and meals. UNITAR will only be responsible for the design and implementation of the activity.

In case that due to any COVID-19-related travel restrictions, participants registered for the field visit to Geneva are unable to travel to Switzerland this summer, it is possible for them to attend the United Nations Online Immersion Programme free of charge. In addition, their slot for the field visit to Geneva will be automatically transferred to the next edition in winter 2021, with no additional costs charged. For more information, kindly contact the UNITAR event focal point.

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