The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) was established in 1963 as an autonomous body within the United Nations with the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of the work of the UN and its member states.

UNITAR designs and conducts close to 500 different training and knowledge sharing events per year for some 50,000 beneficiaries worldwide. Participants include diplomats, other government officials, non-governmental representatives, and other stakeholders.

At the heart of UNITAR, the Multilateral Diplomacy Programme Unit (MDPU) delivers training workshops to address the needs of these international actors. MDPU’s activities cover a wide range of domains, including training on the UN system and skills development.

As part of the training activities implemented during the summer months, UNITAR designed a 5-day field visit to Vienna, offering participants a full immersion into the United Nations' multilateral working environment there.

In line with UNITAR’s mandate, its main purpose is to enhance participants’ knowledge and skills in the area of international affairs and diplomacy. This will empower them to work more effectively and efficiently in any multilateral
In this follow-up training activity to the Immersion Programme at Geneva, UNITAR intends to equip participants with in-depth training in the areas of career development (with a particular focus on the United Nations) as well as leadership skills.

The Vienna edition is designed as a follow up programme to the Geneva Immersion Programme. It will provide an in-depth focus on career development in the United Nations as well as on leadership skills. Training workshops on these topics will provide a considerable part of the activity.

As the host of the United Nations' third main office in the world, the city of Vienna offers itself for a whole series of formative experiences. UNITAR hosts most of the activity in the modern Vienna International Centre (VIC) 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 programmes have included lectures from the following organizations:

- United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV)
- United Nations Office for Drugs and Crimes (UNODC)
- United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- International Organization of Migration (IOM)

**Career Development Sessions:**

UNITAR also provides 2-3 half-day 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:

- Getting an in-depth overview of the United Nations system and its internal functioning
- Writing your Personal History Form, CV and other application material in an effective manner
- Conducting competency-based interviews and clearing other hurdles to recruitment into the United Nations

**Training Workshops on Leadership Skills:**

As a second main theme of the Vienna Immersion Programme next to career development, UNITAR also offers 2-3 half-day sessions on how to hone your leadership skills. These sessions can include the following components:

- Conducting difficult conversations
- Clarifying different management and supervising styles
- Understanding the intercultural components of leadership

**Guided Tours and Cultural Activities**

Vienna 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 and allow participants to enjoy Vienna’s beauty and its culture and traditions.
Given the nature of the UN Immersion Programme´s Vienna edition as a follow-up programme to the previous Geneva edition, the methodology will primarily rest on face-to-face training workshops and to a lesser extent expert lectures and private guided tours.

The Immersion Programme 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.

UNITAR welcomes a variety of professional backgrounds as well as different degrees of experience among its participants. The Immersion Programme is therefore open to all actors related to international affairs wishing to build up knowledge and skills related to the United Nations or Vienna.

Participants can include public sector officials, private sector professionals and representatives from NGOs, think tanks or academia. Junior professionals and graduate students are equally welcome to apply.

In order to ensure the highest quality standards, registration will be closed after 30 participants. Allocation of slots will be on a first-come, first-served basis. At the end of the Immersion Programme, each participant will be awarded a UNITAR certificate of participation.

UNITAR will be responsible for the overall design, coordination and implementation of the Immersion Programme. It will liaise with participants on a regular basis prior to the activity's implementation in order to ensure a smooth and flawless organization for everyone involved.

The participants are responsible to purchase their own travel tickets to and from Vienna as well as to apply for visa to Austria. If the participant attends the Geneva edition beforehand, UNITAR can support the visa application to the Schengen area with an official visa invitation letter for the duration of both visits.

UNITAR will further sponsor a welcome dinner to participants, a welcome package including relevant material, entry tickets to sights and museums as well as the transportation cost during the activity. Please note that as of now, no scholarships are available to facilitate participation.