In an increasingly interconnected, globalized and complex world, where the importance of multilateral dialogue and cooperation is ever growing, the demand for training and capacity development in the field of international affairs and diplomacy is constantly rising. In this regard, the establishment of this on-line Post-Graduate Certificate in World Studies between the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the Open University of Catalonia (UOC) holds great significance.

This PG Certificate is designed to be perfectly suited to the needs of students and professionals interested in both developing their understanding of international affairs, as well as strengthening their capacities in the field of regional studies. This PG Certificate will allow diplomats, government officials, students and other stakeholders to upgrade their studies and knowledge combining the best of university education and UN executive training.

The Post-Graduate Certificate in World Studies will enable you to strengthen your performance in multilateral settings, to foster your understanding of regional politics and to leverage your career perspectives by connecting with high-level representatives, diplomats, academics, and other experts.
At the end of the Programme, students should be able to:

- Develop a critical understanding of key issues and concepts in world affairs
- Demonstrate a comprehensive, substantive and practical knowledge of international relations and diplomacy
- Develop analytical skills and critical thinking
- Improve research and drafting skills

To receive the PG Certificate in World Studies, issued by the UOC in partnership with UNITAR, students must complete the following courses equivalent to 32 ECTS in no more than two years.

UNITAR COURSES
• Introduction to the UN System
• Field visit to Geneva (Optional)

UOC COURSES
• International Law and Institutions
• International Relations System and Theories
• International Political Economy
• European Union in World Politics
• Latin America in World Politics
• Eastern Asia in World Politics
• Africa in World Politics
• Middle East in World Politics

Students will also have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the very heart of diplomacy. An optional field trip to Geneva will be organized for those who wish to gain expertise as well as skills in the domain of multilateral diplomacy.

The Post-Graduate Certificate in World Studies is a UOC Certified Post-Graduate Certificate, awarded according to the rules and regulations set by the Spanish education system. Giving its specificity, it does not give general access to Doctoral studies (Ph.D. and similar). Validation of credits for access to such programmes can be requested from competent institutions. For more information, students should contact mdp-elearning@unitar.org.

UNITAR and UOC have developed an extensive expertise in the delivery of online programmes. Using Internet as a medium, students, diplomats, practitioners and scholars are brought together in a unique virtual learning environment designed to valorize experiential and collaborative learning.

Distinctive features of the PG Certificate include:
• Full online delivery, allowing for a flexible schedule designed to fit the specific needs of working professionals;
• Student-centered approach, in which the learner and the learning experience at the core of the programme;
• Leading-edge insights into prevailing theories and practices;
• Lifelong learning approach, in which the workplace is used as the main learning environment;
• Multi-cultural pedagogy, particularly attentive at the diversity of paradigms, perceptions and intellectual traditions;
• Multi-disciplinary approach.
The Programme is aimed at diplomats as well as staff of governmental and non-governmental organizations. Additionally, the PG Certificate is open to graduate students, young researchers and other academics interested in gaining a thorough understanding of diplomacy and international relations and acquiring soft skills to thrive in their careers.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND REGISTRATION PROCESS

In order to be considered for this PG Certificate, candidates must be fluent in English, possess a valid passport or national identity cards and have completed an undergraduate degree.

Students who successfully complete the Programme and are unable to offer proof that they hold an official university degree will be issued a university extension diploma with the programme’s name.

During the registration process please upload the following documents:

- a copy of your CV
- a copy of your bachelor degree certificate
- motivation letter

After reception of these documents, your application will be carefully considered. In case your application is successful, UNITAR will send you an acceptance email. Once your confirmation is received, UOC will send you another link by which you can complete your official registration with UOC and proceed with the payment. Later on, UOC will contact you again and ask you to please provide the following document:

-Copy of passport

ADMISSION PROCESS

Admission is granted on a rolling basis. However, early application is recommended given the limited number of places on the programme.

Admission is valid for two intakes, the intake the candidate applies for and the following.

DURATION

The PG can be completed in 1 year (full-time) or two years (part-time).

WITHDRAWAL

Students may request to withdraw from the PG Certificate without any penalty or need for justification within the timeframe of fourteen (14) days counting from the date they are officially informed by e-mail of the enrolment in the programme.

Students shall request to withdraw from the PG Certificate through UOC’s established channels (https://www.uoc.edu/estudiant/portal/guia/en/index.html) and send back the learning resources (if applicable) to the established address. The costs of sending the learning materials shall be paid by the student.

After this period of time, withdrawing from the PG Certificate does not exempt the student to keep up with the payment plan agreed with UOC.

TUITION FEES

The tuition fees are 3,838 EUR. Accepted students will be contacted by UOC so they can proceed with the payment.