e-Learning Portfolio on Diplomacy
Who we are
Training professionals

With over 50 years of experience, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) delivers more than 400 training activities per year, reaching out to 30,000 professionals worldwide.

At the heart of UNITAR, the Multilateral Diplomacy Programme (MDP) is a leading provider of online training in global and strategic challenges for professionals within and outside of the United Nations.

Why us
Decades of experience and innovation

Our courses have been developed to suit specific needs in the areas of Core Diplomatic Skills Development, Environmental Diplomacy, Human Rights Diplomacy and the UN System.

Being at the forefront of the international arena we bring together people from all professional areas facilitating the creation of and knowledge exchange and networks.

We have developed extensive experience in designing and implementing professional training courses for decision-makers that shape our world today.

The UNITAR Multilateral Diplomacy Programme
“We strive to inspire global thinking and effective multilateralism with our training. In an everchanging world we seek to deliver innovative courses while developing the capacities of our beneficiaries.

e-Learning provides specific advantages for geographically and time constrained individuals to obtain invaluable information for their day to day operations and future projects. Our courses will provide you with expertise and knowledge that will create a lasting impact on your professional and personal development.

Start learning with us today!”
Our e-Learning courses

Our services

**Suiting your needs**

**Annual Schedule of open Online Courses**
We provide nearly 20 e-Learning courses annually for a variety of highly demanded topics.

**On Request Customized Courses/Platforms/Discussion Boards**
UNITAR can design and build tailor-made online platforms as well as facilitate online courses, simulation exercises, webinars and discussion boards on our UNITAR’s Virtual Learning Environment.

Our courses

**Inspiring your excellence**

All courses can be provided in English, French, or Spanish. They last between two to eight weeks. The average workload for a course is 5 - 8 study hours per week.

The course will consist of compulsory and optional reading material to teach the basics of the subject-matter, links to additional books, articles, documents, websites, quizzes and case studies at the end of each module in addition to moderated discussion boards.

Our trainers

**Learn from the best**

Courses are moderated by senior international experts and professionals working at agencies in the UN system, local and regional experts from government ministries, intergovernmental organizations, universities and non-governmental organizations.
Areas of training

6  United Nations System Basics

10 International Human Rights

12 Skills Development

16 Environmental Diplomacy
Representatives of governments and from other actors such as international and non-governmental organizations must be able to understand and often work with UN agencies in order to achieve their objectives and advance their interests. As an increasingly globalized world continues to underline the importance of multilateral dialogue and cooperation in confronting this century’s challenges, the UN will remain a central forum for progressing ideas and a platform for action.
**Introduction to the United Nations System**

As an increasingly globalized world continues to underline the importance of multilateral dialogue and cooperation in confronting this century’s challenges, the UN will remain a central forum for progressing ideas and a platform for action.

The course aims to provide an overview of United Nations as well as a historical, political, and analytical framework for liaising more effectively with UN representatives and staff. Interactive online exercises will help participants finish the course with a concrete understanding of the UN system’s structure and functioning. You will learn to:

- Define the UN system’s structure and function;
- Explain UN’s principal organs and their development;
- Identify current and salient issues relevant to the UN;
- Explain a history of the UN system and its predecessors.

**Multilateral Conferences and Diplomacy**

While diplomats remain at the centre of diplomacy, government officials assigned to ministries and agencies, as well as staff of intergovernmental organizations and NGOs, are increasingly finding themselves in the role of the multilateral conference delegate.

This course will help participants enhance their performance as conference delegates, whether representing governments, organizations, NGOs, or other institutions. As a result, they will contribute to the overall efficiency and productiveness of conferences. You will learn to:

- Identify how conferences unfold;
- Name the rules of procedure and their value in advancing delegate objectives;
- Explain the importance of informal consultations;
- Use appropriate language;
- Detect and incorporate other delegations’ strategies.

**ECBCheck is an e-Learning programme certification developed from a community of over 20 affiliated organisations, among them renowned universities, GIZ, WHO and ILO ITC.**
United Nations Protocol

The UN and its related bodies, agencies and programmes convene thousands of formal and informal, official and unofficial, meetings and conferences each year. The course will provide you with an overview of UN and multilateral protocol practices to guide the protocol practitioners who operate within the UN at its Headquarters as well as in its numerous field offices throughout the world. You will learn to:

- Identify recognized and accepted practices in international protocol;
- Define UN guidelines on diplomatic courtesy and order of precedence of United Nations senior officials;
- Organize the visits of the Secretary-General and other United Nations dignitaries according to United Nations protocol practices;
- List specificities of protocol and etiquette at UN headquarters and in offices in the field;
- Organize/participate in social occasions based on established diplomatic norms;
- React to commonly experienced protocol-related situations.

English

4 weeks

600 USD

Public Diplomacy in a Multipolar World

Public diplomacy, and its sister concept, soft power, dominate much of the current academic debate about 21st century diplomacy. The course aims to provide diplomats and public officials with an idea of the strategic significance of public diplomacy in the past and future. Project steps of campaigns, media relations and other public diplomacy tools are analysed, discussed and summarised in a very practice oriented manner. You will learn to:

- Define and discuss the basic concepts of public diplomacy and how its practice is evolving;
- Explain the distinction between public diplomacy and related activities such as nation branding, propaganda, cultural relations, public relations and lobbying;
- Demonstrate knowledge of the skills and techniques required by public diplomacy practitioners vis-à-vis the media and other stakeholders;
- Design strategic media plans and public diplomacy campaigns by using modern and conventional public diplomacy tools.

English

4 weeks

600 USD

The Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions

The creation of Economic and Social Councils or other similar institutions responded to a dual purpose: activating economic and social stakeholders towards reconstruction and development as well as building a democratic environment favourable to a genuine social dialogue. The course aims to raise the awareness on the importance of civil society’s expression and on the need to devise mechanisms for a permanent relationship at national and international level. You will learn to:

- Illustrate ESC’s history in the world, the characteristics of their functioning and their working methods;
- Explain the dynamics of the current movements resulting in the proliferation of Economic and Social Councils around the world;
- Analyse the relationship between ESC’s as the voice of civil society, NGO’s and public authorities.

French

4 weeks

600 USD
Introduction to the United Nations System and its Protocol

It is essential for representatives from international and non-governmental organizations to be able to act in a professional manner in the multilateral environment.

The course has two main objectives:

- Provide an overview of the structure and the functioning of the United Nations and its principal organs and examine in detail the protocol practices in the multilateral environment, especially those related to the United Nations offices, its headquarters and its field offices worldwide. You will learn to:

  ✓ Analyze the functioning of the United Nations, including its main organs;
  ✓ Organize visits of the Secretary General and other UN dignitaries according to the UN protocol;
  ✓ Organize and participate in social events according to set diplomatic standards;
  ✓ Manage ordinary protocol situations.

“UNITAR provides a unique platform for the participants to face the challenges posed in the international aspects of the private, public and non-profit sectors”

Ms. Alice Hecht
UNITAR trainer and Former Chief of Protocol of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General

French
4 weeks
600 USD
Since its inception, the United Nations system has built a strong commitment to promoting and protecting Human Rights around the world. While many advances have been made, human rights remain a crucial part of multilateral negotiations.
United Nations and International Human Rights Protection

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and UNITAR have designed this course to enhance capacities of international actors to more comprehensively and effectively integrate human rights into their work. Participants will build shared experiences outside their direct engagement with the Human Rights Council and other mechanisms. You will learn to:

- Explain the nature and scope, and an overview of the contents, of States’ obligations under international human rights law applicable at the national level;
- Describe the human rights principles in the work of the United Nations, OHCHR’s mandate and working methods, thematic and country-related work;
- Identify the architecture and function of the Human Rights Council;
- Explain a State’s engagement with the Universal Periodic Review, special procedures and human rights treaty monitoring bodies;
- Define how national protection systems can be strengthened, including national human rights institutions, through national human rights action plans, human rights training and education.

“Human rights education is much more than a lesson in schools or a theme for a day; it is a process to equip people with the tools they need to live lives of security and dignity.”

Kofi Annan
Former Secretary-General of the United Nations
In a rapidly changing global environment government representatives, actors from international and non-governmental organizations as well as private sector specialists need to steadily develop their skills in order to find new and innovative solutions to different challenges.
Mediation Skills

By improving one’s mediation skills and developing an understanding of the UN’s role in the mediation process, diplomats will be better equipped to prevent and manage international disputes. The course will offer insights into the mediation process, assess the process of gaining entry into a mediation initiative and examine the early and later stages of mediation. In particular, it will touch upon the importance of re-framing, active listening and communication when trying to generate options and crafting an agreement that is acceptable to all the parties. You will learn to:

✓ Define mediation;
✓ Explain the UN’s role in international mediation;
✓ Develop mediation skills which can be utilised in international diplomacy;
✓ Discuss the mediation process;
✓ Analyze the political, diplomatic and cultural dimensions of mediation.

Overcoming Negotiation Deadlocks

The challenge of renewed multilateralism is closely linked to the ability of the international community to foster truly productive negotiation processes in a rapidly evolving global context. The course will be led by a number of prominent academics and aims to equip participants with the conceptual knowledge and practical tools to efficiently overcome deadlocks in negotiations and successfully negotiate towards beneficial outcomes. You will learn to:

✓ Distinguish different approaches to negotiations, incl. distributive and integrative negotiations;
✓ Better detect ‘psychological traps’ in complex situations;
✓ Employ a comprehensive tool box for various negotiation situations and stages, incl. preparation, conduct and closure of negotiation;
✓ Identify the most effective strategies in specific situations, based on learning experience, case analysis and practitioners’ feedback and advice.

Chairing International Conferences

The value of this course is not only to provide information, skills and guidance to delegates who may be appointed or elected to chair meetings, it is also important for all delegates to understand what the chairman is doing, and why he or she is doing it.

We will equip course participants with the knowledge and skills to successfully chair a meeting or international conference, as well as understand and work with whomever is appointed. You will learn to:

✓ Communicate an appreciation for the role of presiding officers;
✓ Use acquired skills and knowledge to efficiently chair meetings;
✓ Determine what preparations are appropriate as meeting chair;
✓ Identify common chairman mistakes and give best practice strategies;
✓ Support and cooperate with the chairman.
Bilateral and Multilateral Negotiation

In the context of the development of contractual relations, negotiation has taken a leading role as a decision-making and regulation process. To carry out their missions, actors and authorized officials, experts, diplomats and consultants are required to have increasingly broad and technical skills. The objective of the course is to provide tools adapted for specific contexts and to offer general orientations to be applied in unforeseen situations. You will learn to:

- Define negotiations’ dynamics in bilateral and multilateral environments;
- Apply negotiation skills to a large range of situations, including the unexpected ones;
- Improve their institutions’ communication and the mechanisms of conflict management;
- Explain the key concepts of negotiation;
- Define the characteristics of successful negotiated goals.

Cosmopolitan Communication: Connecting across Diplomats, Business Leaders and Civil Society Actors

Nowadays, as a result of the globalization process, individuals and organizations constantly need to be developing their intercultural competences in order to operate effectively in a multilateral setting and avoid barriers and prejudices in negotiation and mediation processes. The course will reinforce the knowledge on the process of communication, explore cultural awareness and understand the differences in communication among various cultures. You will learn to:

- Describe the different types of communication
- Identify the tools for effective intercultural communication
- Explain intergroup relations and their development
- Describe intercultural understandings in interpersonal communication

Cultural Diplomacy and Multilateralism

In a world where power tends to shift from military capacity to state influence without coercitive ways, cultural diplomacy is becoming more and more crucial to understand and, furthermore, to master.

This course will focus primarily on the concept of soft power and how to use cultural diplomacy to enhance it. It will also give insight on how the different countries around the world are acting and what are the main issues today regarding cultural diplomacy. You will learn to:

- Define the lineaments of the concept of soft power;
- Appraise the importance of Cultural Diplomacy as a tool to increase State influence;
- Explain the main issues facing the world regarding cultural diplomacy;
- Distinguish the different policies led around the world at national and multilateral level.

French
- 4 weeks
- 600 USD

English
- 4 weeks
- 600 USD

English
- 3 weeks
- 500 USD
Drafting and Adopting United Nations Resolutions

Resolutions constitute a fundamental outcome of meetings within the United Nations principal organs. A diplomat or representative new to any multilateral posting must be able to manage the specialized nature and volume of work involved in such UN meetings, especially the processes of drafting. This course will allow participants to build the requisite knowledge and skills to draft and adopt UN resolutions. A detailed study of the content, structure and processes involved in passing resolutions will reinforce an understanding of decision-making at the UN. You will learn to:

- Draft the preamble and operative parts of a resolution;
- Explain the structure of UN resolutions and the functions specific to its constituent parts;
- Identify and describe the various phases and evolution of a resolution text before adoption;
- Recognize the status and category of any UN document based on the numbering system.

“UNITAR is in a unique position to support international decision makers by deepening their understanding and strengthening their skills to advance their development agendas.”

Ambassador Shola J. Omorogie
UNITAR trainer and Former Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Guinea-Bissau

English

4 weeks

600 USD
Environmental Diplomacy

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of 21st century diplomacy and international governance. Taking into account the role of different stakeholders and communities, the world is faced with a demand for specialized knowledge and skills to address environmental challenges. There is a need to equip individuals with concrete tools and personal capacities to address these challenges in the context of green diplomacy.
Climate Change Diplomacy: Negotiating Effectively Under UNFCCC

This online course will develop participants’ understanding of the climate change policy framework, by building an appreciation of the science, causes and impacts of climate change, the history of the policy making process and the UNFCCC framework, and will consider the challenges currently facing diplomats and decision makers. You will learn to:

- Describe climate change science and the observed and projected impacts of climate change;
- Track and explain the international climate change policy framework, including the climate change negotiations to date under the UNFCCC;
- Define both climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Analyze international considerations for climate change decision-making;
- Appraise the key issues in the ongoing international climate change negotiations and how to build and move forward from the outcomes of COPs.

Negotiating Climate Change Finance

This course aims to provide the skills and knowledge needed for participation in multilateral negotiations, in particular in the context of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). You will learn to:

- Analyze the key objectives and structure of the negotiations on climate change under the UNFCCC;
- Appreciate the pertinent role of finance in policy making for mitigating and adapting to climate change;
- Consider and critically assess the instruments of international climate change finance;
- Acknowledge and analyse the key challenges on the road to Warsaw and beyond, with respect to climate change finance;
- Develop skills and knowledge necessary to overcome negotiation deadlocks with respect to these challenges in multilateral fora.

Green Diplomacy

This course aims to support the overall integration of environmental considerations into key diplomacy tracks by considering the substantive issues in question, understanding the gaps in existing policy frameworks and ongoing multilateral negotiations, and equipping negotiators with concrete tools and resources for advancing their environmental priorities in these respective decision-making processes. You will learn to:

- Assess the linkages between environmental sustainability and international diplomacy;
- Appreciate the political challenges that often frustrate efforts to internalize environmental sustainability concerns into multilateral diplomacy;
- Develop concrete solutions for integrating environmental sustainability challenges into the key multilateral diplomacy negotiation tracks.
Climate Change Adaptation, Loss and Damage

This online course aims to facilitate international negotiations, public sector work, and diplomatic engagement in relation to climate change impacts and adaptation measures through an enhanced understanding of its science, the international policy framework, and the key negotiation issues pertinent to the UNFCCC process. You will learn to:

- Discuss climate change science and the observed and projected impacts of climate change;
- Track and explain the international adaptation, loss and damage policy framework, in particular the negotiations under the UNFCCC;
- Define and understand adaptation, loss and damage from climate change impacts and its links to mitigation;
- Appreciate international considerations for climate change decision-making;
- Appraise the key issues in the ongoing international climate change negotiations, and how to build and move forward from the outcomes of the COPs.

Introduction to Water Diplomacy

The course provides knowledge resources, circumstantial experiences, and a cadre of tools to stakeholders aiming to enhance their ability to assess, prevent, and respond to the tensions arising from situations of water scarcity and mismanagement worldwide. You will learn to:

- Describe major contemporary stressors influencing freshwater availability and their impact on achieving national security goals;
- Identify water’s potential for conflict and identify some of the world’s main water “hotspots”;
- Recognize water’s cooperation potential and the benefits to be drawn from collaborative transboundary water management between state actors;
- Analyze how diplomatic methods based on dialogue may be used towards mutually-beneficial problem-to-solution processes;
- Define the importance and structure of transnational water management institutions in their role to consolidate and sustain the benefits of cooperation around water.

English

5 weeks

800 USD

English

4 weeks

600 USD
How to register

1
Create a user account and pick your course

- To create an account, go to www.unitar.org/event/user/register
- Once your user account is created, go to www.unitar.org/event/thematic-areas/strengthen-multilateralism to find your course
- Select your course and click “add to cart”
- Go to your shopping cart in the top right corner and click “proceed to checkout”

2
Pay online

- On the billing page, add your credit card or bank details.
- You will be sent an invoice by email. Upon receipt of your payment, we will send you an email confirming your registration.

3
Get your login details

- A few days before the beginning of the course, you will receive your login details to access our e-Learning platform.
“Through self-paced multimedia learning content, group discussions and advice from senior experts our e-Learning courses will provide you with the skills and knowledge needed to achieve better results and create more impact on your organization’s work.”

Nikhil Seth
UN Assistant Secretary-General
Executive Director, UNITAR

Multilateral Diplomacy Programme

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