Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice
Geneva, Switzerland
8TH EDITION | 2023-2024
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Why Choose UNITAR’s Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice

Drawing on UNITAR’s experience of training leaders for 60 years, the 8th Edition of the Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice represents an unparalleled opportunity for diplomats and other key actors in the multilateral system to strengthen their capacities and knowledge in the practice of diplomacy. Participating in this UNITAR programme will expand the reach of their global networks, and also serve as an opportunity for diplomats and professionals to increase their career prospects, whilst learning from practitioners and with fellow participants from different cultures and worldviews.
UNITAR’s Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice is a programme tailored to prepare diplomats and other actors, including the private sector, to excel in creating effective solutions at the international level and scaling the challenges and new realities of the 21st century. The 8th edition (2023/2024) will take place from November 2023 to August 2024, with 8 Core Diplomatic Training (CDT) workshops delivered in Geneva, Switzerland. This edition will be held in-person, followed by the submission of a final research paper. Candidates participating in the Executive Diploma will have the possibility to attend all 8 workshops during this period.

All of the facts presented, processes explained, and people involved in the Executive Diploma gave me additional knowledge about the importance of the role of the UN, and diplomacy as a tool for success in that role. Thank you!

Ante Obad, Cardiologist

The workshops have given me practical knowledge about Multilateral Diplomacy and Negotiations, as well as enhanced my confidence in my field of work!

Williemena P. Appleton, Diplomat, Liberian Embassy in Berlin
General Information

Workshops
8 CDT workshops from November 2023 - August 2024 (English).

Modules
All modules will be held in-person at various venues in Geneva, Switzerland, over the course of 2 days each.

Duration
The estimated duration of the diploma is approximately 120 hours, with 95 hours of teaching and 25 for individual research.
Diploma Requirements

Core Diplomatic Training
Attend at least 6 of the 8 CDT workshops from November 2023 – August 2024.

Exercises
Engage in simulation exercises during the workshop, assessed by trainers according to the learning objectives of each workshop on a pass or fail basis.

e-Learning Courses
In special situations, participants who cannot attend 8 workshops either can take up to 2 of the e-Learning courses offered in the field of multilateral diplomacy instead of 2 CDT workshops.

Final Research
Submit a final research paper based on a topic related to multilateral diplomacy.
Target Audience

The primary target audience for the Executive Diploma is the international and diplomatic community in Geneva, and across the globe.

The Diploma is also open to other interested participants, such as practitioners in the international arena, including business persons, academics, entrepreneurs, trade officers and humanitarian workers.

UNITAR will select participants for the 8th Edition based on the applications received.

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor’s Degree;
- 2-3 years of relevant professional experience;
- Proficiency in English.

Individual Workshops

Participants who wish to attend individual workshops offered in this programme, without being awarded a diploma, are welcome to do so. More details can be found on www.unitar.org/cdt.

Please note that this Executive Diploma will not provide ECTS credits.
Programme Structure
1. Training Workshops

The programme includes 8 skills-based workshops, which will be cross-cutting and equip participants with knowledge and practical competences to enhance their expertise in multilateral settings, and enrich their professional performances.

(A list of activities envisioned for this edition can be found on pages 18-20.)

2. Networking

The Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice allows participants to connect with others in different sectors and from different geographic locations. Through a wide audience, participants can exchange views, experiences and backgrounds to widen their professional network.

3. Research Paper

The third requirement to obtain the Executive Diploma will be the submission of a research paper of between 3,000 and 5,000 words. For this requirement, participants must provide a more in-depth analysis and argumentation on a chosen theme covered in the course or related to multilateral diplomacy.

4. Modality

The Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice is a programme envisioned to take place through 8 in-person modules.
List of Workshops
Negotiation Skills and Techniques

The workshop will support you in the development of your knowledge of negotiation techniques, as well as your personal and professional skills. You will learn to define and understand the key elements and appropriate procedures in international negotiations, acquire and have the opportunity to practice new skills and strategies in negotiation, and will emerge confident to guide and advise colleagues as to best practices in dealing with complex negotiations.

Leadership Skills and Assertiveness

This training will enhance your understanding of theories and differing styles of leadership particularly in a cultural context, the importance and practice of effective communication skills, and strategies of strong leadership in times of crisis, decision-making and risk management. You will work on your own personality and leadership style, reflecting on ways to improve your assertiveness, self-awareness and interpersonal relationships.
Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination

This workshop will enhance your skills in communicating, consulting, planning, and nurturing professional relationships among others, with the objective to foster productive cooperation across organizations, governments, and other key actors. You will be trained to effectively employ dialogue and other facilitating skills across sectors in order to generate mutual benefits and a more efficient project delivery.

Effective Writing in Multilateral Diplomacy

During this training, you will learn how to use a comprehensive methodology and the appropriate tools to improve the recording and summarizing of conference results, negotiations, and meetings for stakeholders interested in their outcomes. Presentations and simulation exercises will strengthen skills needed to analyze internationally agreed instruments and the required national follow-up.

Conference Diplomacy and Negotiating UN Resolutions

The training provides you with an opportunity to review the challenges of contemporary conference diplomacy, and will familiarize you with the structure and form of UN resolutions as well as improve your drafting skills. You will get to know the procedure and practices of decision making at the United Nations and process leading to the adoption of UN resolutions. At the end of the workshop, you will be able to analyze the dynamics in negotiation more effectively; improve preparation for and participation in negotiations; and identify the interplay of intercultural differences.
Diplomatic Protocol and Etiquette

This workshop aims to provide an overview of the United Nations and multilateral protocol practices to guide the practitioners who operate within the United Nations Headquarters and in field offices. You will gain a concrete understanding of specific protocol-related situations and the knowledge and capacities to take the right decisions considering a spectrum of possible protocol-related arrangements. At the end of this training, you will be able to organize a successful state visit, ceremony or social event, and avoid a possible “faux pas”.

Public Speaking and Presentation Skills

The overall objective of the workshop is to provide you with skills and knowledge in order to communicate effectively and confidently; in particular, when speaking in public and engaging in multilateral settings. You will have the opportunity to engage in simulated situations of public speaking and receive feedback from the group and the trainer. During the course, you will be presented with communication strategies, techniques and skills, as well as exercises to put theory into practice.

Digital Diplomacy and Cybersecurity

This workshop focuses on digital technology and e-diplomacy, analyzing both the incredible opportunities, and the many challenges and safety issues it brings to the daily work of diplomats. In addition, it also raises awareness of the importance of cybersecurity, international legal instruments, and national policies in addressing the threats related to cyberattacks and different types of interference in the internal affairs of a country.
Programme Facilitators
Learn from Selected Experts

The resource persons selected to deliver or moderate the Executive Diploma’s capacity building activities are experts in the fields of international relations, diplomatic practice and international law from academic and international circles - including practitioners from both within, and outside, the UN system.
Shaun Riordan is Director of the Chair for Diplomacy and Cyberspace of the European Institute for European Studies and a Senior Visiting Fellow of the Clingendael Institute. He obtained an MA Hons in Philosophy from the University of Cambridge and served in the British Diplomatic Service and in the UN, Counter-terrorism and Eastern Adriatic Departments in the Foreign Office. He teaches in various diplomatic academies and advises companies and governments on geopolitical risk analysis.

Michele Pekar is the Executive Director of Co-Dev, Inc. France and USA, a consulting firm specializing in negotiation and leadership skills. For over 19 years, she has taught courses and seminars in several academic institutions, international organizations, and in corporate executive training as a senior negotiation trainer. She has developed international strategy and partnerships for European institutions of higher education. She graduated from Harvard University.
Jérôme L’Host is a dedicated Senior Consultant based in Geneva and Moscow, working internationally with both Public and Private Sectors. Over the last sixteen years, he has delivered presentations and motivational speeches for numerous public and private entities. Mr L’Host has managed more than 40 large-scale international projects in more than 30 different countries.

Meritxell Martell is the founder & director of Merience, a consultancy company focused on environmental risk governance, analysis and development of communication and stakeholder engagement strategies in complex socio-technical and decision-making processes. With over 15 years of experience as an international consultant in such issues, she has successfully participated in and coordinated several European projects and is an expert consultant to many international organizations.
Ambassador Amr Aljowaily is an international civil servant, diplomat, academic and writer with 32 years of professional experience. He currently holds the post of Strategic Advisor to the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission (Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement) in Addis Ababa. Mr. Aljowaily has participated in numerous executive training activities, including the select Missions Leaders Course of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations.
UNITAR’s Work in Multilateral Diplomacy

At the heart of UNITAR, the Division for Multilateral Diplomacy strengthens the intergovernmental machinery of the UN and supports member states in overcoming global challenges related to multilateralism, international cooperation, peace and security, climate change, human rights, and science and technology.

The Division, comprising of the Multilateral Diplomacy Programme Unit and UNITAR’s New York Office, has supported diplomats since 1968, working closely with an increasing number of other partners to strengthen capacities of diplomats, government officials and major actors of the diplomatic sphere, empowering their participation in, and the efficiency of the multilateral system in New York, Geneva, and other cities where the UN maintains a significant presence.

I learned a broad suite of skills that are highly relevant for my work and career.

**Jouni Heiskanen, Director, University of Helsinki**

It was a great pleasure for me to participate in the Executive program. It gave me the opportunity to meet different cultures and to learn how my skills could be used in an international context.

**Anne Blanchard, Public Strategic Management Coach Fesens, LaRochelle**
Achievements

2022 Results and achievements for UNITAR’s training and capacity development programme in Multilateral Diplomacy

33821
Beneficiaries from governments, international organizations, private sector, academia, and civil society.

56% - 41% - 1.09%
Gender Balance

77%
Overall satisfaction rate for these events.

151
Events delivered through face-to-face, e-learning and blended methodologies.
Regional Breakdown of Beneficiaries of UNITAR’s Multilateral Diplomacy Events and Courses

- North America: 6%
- Latin America and the Caribbean: 16%
- Africa: 15%
- Middle East: 12%
- Europe: 24%
- Asia Pacific: 25%
Programme Fee and Price Reductions

UNITAR is pleased to announce that participants from least-developed and developing countries* are eligible for a limited number of fee reductions upon request. For more information contact us at diplomacy@unitar.org

* According to the World Bank Country Classification Method

The tuition covers:

• In-person, skilled-based workshops at various venues in Geneva (conditions allowing)
• Simulation exercises led by expert trainers
• Consultation on the final research paper by one of our expert trainers
• Networking opportunities with professionals in the multilateral diplomacy and other domains to widen your professional network