

# Introduction to Peace Operations

## Background

Peacekeeping is one of the many tools employed by the United Nations and other international organizations to help address diverse threats to international peace and security. Since its inception, peacekeeping has contributed to preventing and managing violent conflict between and within States and to the support of national actors in protecting and building peace after conflict. Today, with over 116,000 personnel deployed in 15 missions, the scale of the United Nations' involvement in peacekeeping operations is unprecedented and the diversity of mission mandates has the diversity of mission mandates requires the UN to deliver on an ever-increasing number of tasks.

## Event Objectives

The goal of this course is to review the organization of peacekeeping operations by providing an overview of the framework in which they are developed, studying their overall structure, and discussing the roles and responsibilities of the different actors involved.

## Learning objectives

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Define the framework of UN peacekeeping operations;
- Explain the procedures for the establishment of a UN peacekeeping operation;
- Analyze the key factors that enable the effective implementation of an operation's mandate;
- Summarize key standards of conduct and discipline for UN peacekeepers.

## Content and Structure

The course is composed of four modules, with each module taking one week:

- **Module 1:** Overview of a UN peacekeeping operation
- **Module 2:** Establishment and functioning of a UN peace operation
- **Module 3:** Effective mandate implementation
- **Module 4:** Standards and values of UN peacekeepers

## Methodology

The key concepts of each module are introduced by lessons, videos and case studies. These concepts are then applied through the scenario-based activities.

The scenarios are based on real-life situations which allow participants to work on challenges they are likely to face in their workplace. To facilitate collective knowledge construction and experience sharing among the different components of peace operations (military, civilian and police) several discussions are organized in each module.

Taking advantage of the opportunities of technology-enhanced learning, the learning materials are presented through various media, such as text, graphs, images and video material, which contribute to better retention and enhance the learning process.

Facilitators guide participants through this process, delivering and conveying information, clarifying doubts and supporting participants through different activities.