

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS AND INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

MODULE II



MODULE II. PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS AND INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

KEYWORDS

Centrality of protection; peacekeeping protection of civilians' mandate; responsibility to protect; international humanitarian law; human rights law; international criminal law; accountability mechanism; transitional justice; women, peace and security agenda; children and armed conflict mandate.

ABSTRACT:

Civilian populations bear the greatest burden of today's complex crisis. With the increase of armed conflicts, intercommunal violence, organized crime and other forms of violence, the concerns about human rights violations and abuses remain high. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis are also exacerbating conflict-related vulnerabilities such as food insecurity, fueling violence, escalating humanitarian crises, and therefore eroding civilians coping mechanisms.

In this context, protecting civilians remains not only an imperative but a collective responsibility of all parties and actors. These includes guaranteeing compliance with and promoting accountability for violations of international humanitarian law (IHL) and human rights law; providing humanitarian access; and delivering protection specifically to those who are most vulnerable, such as women and children during armed conflicts.

This course aims to enhance students' understanding of the responsibilities of parties to an armed conflict, of authorities towards their population, of the different humanitarian, development and peacekeeping actors to achieve protection outcomes that result in the reduction of risks and vulnerabilities, while enhancing the capacities of affected persons to deal with them. The course will explore both the theoretical frameworks and practical approaches to protect civilians, while exploring opportunities to overcome the challenges of attaining a collective protective outcome by actors with different protection mandates. Lastly, the course will consider human rights frameworks and mechanisms for holding states accountable for grave violations of rights and analyzing the extent to which victims of violations can seek redress for wrongs committed against them.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Understand the different concepts, principles and approaches of humanitarian, development and peacekeeping actors to protect civilians.
- Get familiarized with various legal frameworks that aim to protect vulnerable persons in armed conflict situations and beyond, such as international human rights law, international humanitarian law and refugee law.
- Learn about the role of different humanitarian actors, such as the ICRC.
- Identify monitoring and accountability mechanism and approaches to transitional justice.
- Become familiarized with children and armed conflict mandate; women, peace and security agenda; and UN conflict-related sexual violence and rule of law mandates.

LECTURERS:



María López
Expert in Peace
Missions and
Humanitarian Aid



Adam D. Dubin
Professor, Law School
Comillas Pontifical
University, Spain



Nele Verlinden
International
Committee of the Red
Cross (ICRC), Paris



Gregory Townsend
Senior Lecturer,
Hague University



Rafael Barbieri
Department of Peace
Operations,
United Nations

METHODOLOGY

The course uses a variety of methodologies, including lectures and presentations, debates, group work, practical and advanced role-playing sessions, outdoor activities and simulation exercises.

DIPLOMA:

Participants who successfully complete the course will obtain an official diploma from the International University Centre for Peace Missions of Helsinki España.

LOCATION

Alfaz del Pi, Alicante-Spain

DATE

5-9 June 2023

COURSE DURATION

40 hours
8:30am-6:30pm Monday to Friday

LANGUAGE

English

COST AND ENROLLMENT

1.200€ course fee
Meals and accommodation costs are NOT included.
Applicants are also responsible for their visa-related costs

VISA PROCESS

In order to start with the visa process, students must have paid all the course. Helsinki España will support participants with an invitation letter,

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

Registration Form must be sent to iucpm@helsinkiespana.org.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENT

University degree or equivalent professional training
Fluency in English: B2+
Strong interest in international affairs

ACCOMMODATION

Participants organize their own accommodation. However, Helsinki España will inform selected participants of the different accommodation options available.

PAYMENTS

-Individual courses must be paid in full.

-Students are responsible for the cost of bank transfers and currency exchange.

In case of cancellation prior to the start date of the course payments will not be refunded. Full or partial refunds will be considered deferred to the following course only under exceptional and properly justified circumstances.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Unfortunately, we cannot provide scholarships for this course. Participants (or their employer) must be able to cover the tuition fee.

LECTURERS



MS. MARÍA LÓPEZ

COUNTRY: SPAIN
INSTITUTION: INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT
POSITION: EXPERT IN PEACE MISSIONS AND HUMANITARIAN AID

Maria has a bachelor's degree in Law and a Masters' degree in Humanitarian Action and Management of NGOs from University of Deusto (Spain).

With more than 15 years of professional experience, Maria has worked in conflict settings with the UN Peacekeeping Mission in South Sudan and OSCE mission in Kosovo, and in development countries such as Namibia, India and Honduras.

Throughout her career she has worked closely with national governments and counterparts providing policy advice on topics such as durable solutions for displaced populations, combatting human trafficking and promoting disaster risk reduction among others.

Her vast experience working with UN agencies (UNESCO), donors (AECID), NGOs (ACTED) and academia (NOHA network) has contributed to her specialization on issues such as humanitarian inter-cluster coordination, protection of civilians and joint programming.

Her professional aspirations have brought her to promote the triple nexus approach linking humanitarian aid, development and peacebuilding by exploring the conceptual and practical challenges encountered.



MR. GREGORY TOWNSEND

COUNTRY: THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS
INSTITUTION: HAGUE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
POSITION: SENIOR LECTURER

Gregory Townsend currently works as a lecturer at The Hague University of Applied Sciences. He develops and teaches courses in international criminal law, tutors law students and supervises theses.

He has worked for the International Residual Mechanism of the UN Criminal Tribunals and the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) as Head of the Tribunals Support Services Section and Senior Legal Officer, where he undertook various functions, such as witness protection and legal assistance.

He has also worked as a trial lawyer at the ICTY and the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and as head of office and senior legal officer at the Special Court for Sierra Leone. Gregory Townsend managed a 106-person office and supported the Taylor trial. He also provided legal and administrative advice.



MS. NELE VERLINDEN

COUNTRY: BRUSSELS
INSTITUTION: INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED
CROSS (ICRC), PARIS
POSITION: LEGAL ADVISOR

Dr. Nele is an expert in international law, she has experience working in Law in different locations. She graduated in law at KU Leuven University in 2009, and also holds a Master of Laws from KU Leuven University and the University of Toulouse.

In 2012 she completed with a Summa Cum Laude her Master of Laws in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law from the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights. Two years ago, she completed her PhD becoming a doctor on International Law from the KU University.

Since 2012, she has worked at different times for the International Committee of the Red Cross, among her different functions: legal associate, consultant and legal advisor. In addition, she worked for some months as a legal advisor for the Belgian Ministry of Justice and as a lecturer at the University of Leuven. Since May, she has been legal advisor to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Paris.



MR. ADAM DUBIN

COUNTRY: UNITED STATES
INSTITUTION: COMILLAS PONTIFICAL UNIVERSITY
POSITION: PROFESSOR OF LAW

Prof. Dr. Adam Dubin is an Assistant Professor of Law at Comillas Pontifical University in Madrid, Spain, where he teaches subjects related to human rights, development and Sub Saharan Africa. He is also the Director of an LL.M. program in International and European Business Law at this University and an Adjunct Professor of Development Studies and Comparative U.S. and European Human Rights at New York University (Madrid). Adam's scholarship explores the intersection between development and human rights.

Adam has served as a Visiting Professor of Comparative Human Rights Law at Nirma University (Gujarat, India), National University of West Bengal (Kolkata), where he was an Indian Government Scholar (GIAN Program), the University of Strasbourg (France), the University of International Business and Economics & Chinese University of Politics and Law, both in Beijing, China and the Catholic University of Porto (Portugal). He currently holds two Senior Visiting Research Positions in Human Rights, one at the University of Johannesburg and the other at South West University of Politics and Law in south-central China.

Prior to coming to Spain and entering academia, Adam was a Legal Fellow in the United Nations in Cambodia and also worked for the Human Rights Law Network in New Delhi, India, where he assisted in litigation concerning child trafficking and other human rights violations.

Adam holds a Bachelor's Degree in Literature and Political Science from the University of Vermont (U.S.A), a Master's Degree in Development Policy from the University of Manchester (England), a Juris Doctorate from Pace University in New York, a PhD in Law from la Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain) and is currently studying for an LL.D. in African Child Rights at the University of Western Cape (South Africa).



MR. RAFAEL BARBIERI

COUNTRY: URUGUAY

INSTITUTION: DEPARTMENT OF PEACE OPERATIONS,
UNITED NATIONS

POSITION: TEAM LEADER OF THE MEMBER STATES
SUPPORT TEAM IN THE INTEGRATED TRAINING SERVICE

Mr Rafael Barbieri is currently the Deputy Team Leader of the Member States support team in the Integrated Training Service of the United Nations Department of Peace Operations (UNDPO). Rafael's team oversees the development and delivery of UN Peacekeeping mandatory and recommended pre-deployment training materials.

Rafael has more than 30 years of progressively responsible experience in training and education and more than 25 years of experience in Peacekeeping training. He has served in the UN Secretariat for 17 consecutive years.

Previously, Rafael has served for almost three decades in the army, mainly in the Special Forces. He graduated from the Military Academy as an Infantry officer in 1985 and from the War College as Staff Officer in 2000. He commanded the deployment of troops in UNTAC (Cambodia) in 1993 and MONUC (DRC) from 2002 to 2003. Rafael has been the Director of the Uruguayan Peace Operations Training Centre from 2003 to 2005.

After he retired from the army in 2008, Rafael was recruited by the United Nations as a civilian staff member, serving both at HQ and the field. Rafael served as chief of training in 2012 in UNSMIS, Syria. Rafael oversees the development and dissemination of key UN Specialized Training Materials (STM), including the UN Military Units; the Comprehensive Protection of Civilians; the UN Senior National Planners Programme; and Intelligence in Peacekeeping. During his assignment in the Secretariat, Rafael has led numerous training programmes and advised Member States on how to contribute to peacekeeping operations.

Rafael holds a master's degree in military science and two university degrees in system analysis and computer engineering. He was a professor at the University in Uruguay from 1999 to 2002 in project management and computer science.

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS:



ICRC

