

CHALLENGES TO SUSTAINING PEACE

MODULE III



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KEYWORDS

Security sector reform; disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration; governance; election processes; organisations' role in sustaining peace (OSCE, OTAN, UN DPO, AU).

ABSTRACT:

As once stated by Nelson Mandela, "Peace is not just the absence of conflict; peace is the creation of an environment where all can flourish, regardless of race, colour, creed, religion, gender, class, caste, or any other social markers of difference."

In a world of proliferating conflicts, sustaining peace has become a complex task that demands a comprehensive approach which includes an understanding of the political process, safety and security, rule of law and human rights, social services, core government functions, and economic revitalisation. Anchored in the acknowledgement that communities continue to function and resist in conflict situations, this course will focus on exploring the political and safety and security dimensions of peace processes (including elections; inclusive dialogue; reconciliation approaches; and conflict management at national and subnational levels; mine action; disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration; and security sector reform) as well as the role played by different international and regional organisations such as NATO, OSCE, AU.

Recognizing that conflicts are not a linear process and bringing in the vantage point of local communities, the course will discuss the role of humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding actors in conducting activities with a triple nexus approach before, during, and after conflict. As described in Secretary General's Report on Our Common Agenda, a prevention agenda linking peace and security, human rights, gender equality, and climate and development while also demonstrating an understanding of factors that exacerbate local grievances and instability is critical to sustaining peace.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Explore the relevance of the political and safety as well as security process for sustaining peace.
- Understand the role of different international and regional organisations in sustaining peace.
- Get familiarised with the UN policies sustaining peace (Our Common Agenda; Action for Peacekeeping, etc.)

LECTURERS:



Rafael Barbieri
Department of Peace
Operations,
United Nations



Charles Petrie
Former UN Assistant
Secretary General



Sébastien Coquoz
Elections and Conflict
Prevention
European External
Action Service,
(EEAS)



Hans Thorgren
Senior Advisor,
Folke Bernadotte Academy,
FBA



Mr. Stefan Aström
Head of DDR
Programme, Folke
Bernadotte Academy,
FBA



Fallckolm Cuenca
Head of Security Sector
Governance and Reform,
Folke Bernadotte Academy,
FBA

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

9-13 June 2025.

COURSE DURATION

40 hours.
8:30am-5:00pm 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, participants 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 organise their own accommodation. However, Helsinki España will inform selected participants of the different accommodation options available.

PAYMENTS

Individual courses must be paid in full.

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

In case of cancellation prior to the start date of the course, please note that we unfortunately cannot reimburse you. You will be able to participate in future courses with that course credit.

SCHOLARSHIPS

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

LECTURERS



MR. HANS THORGREN

INSTITUTION: FOLKE BERNADOTTE ACADEMY (FBA)
POSITION: SENIOR ADVISOR

Hans Thorgren is a Senior Advisor at the Department for Conflict Prevention at the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) in Sweden. He recently returned to FBA after serving as Political Counsellor at the Delegation of the European Union to Colombia. He was previously Head of the DDR Programme at FBA and the Swedish National Defence College. He has served with several UN peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions and has contributed to various international DDR initiatives, e.g. the Integrated DDR Standards (IDDRS) for the United Nations, the Stockholm Initiative on DDR (SIDDR) for the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and the establishment of the Integrated DDR Training Group (IDDRTG).



MR. STEFAN ÅSTRÖM

INSTITUTION: FOLKE BERNADOTTE ACADEMY (FBA)
POSITION: HEAD OF DDR PROGRAMME

Stefan Åström is currently working as Head of the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) program at the Folke Bernadotte Academy. Prior to this job, he worked at the OAS DDR Verification Mission in Colombia for more than 6 years, serving 4 years as Regional Office Coordinator at Headquarters.

Prior to that, he was an advisor to the Head of the Presidential Authority of "Red Solidaridad Social" in Colombia, regarding the sustainable return/reintegration of internally displaced persons. His previous experience includes working for UNDP in Colombia, UNHCR in Venezuela; CIMIC/SFOR in Bosnia; UN Military Observer, MINUGUA in Guatemala, and the Swedish Migration Board.

Stefan Åström holds a BA in Political Science and an MA in International Humanitarian Law.



MR. RAFAEL BARBIERI

INSTITUTION: DEPARTMENT OF PEACE OPERATIONS,
UNITED NATIONS
POSITION: TEAM LEADER OF THE MEMBER STATES SUPPORT
TEAM IN THE INTEGRATED TRAINING SERVICE

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 mandatory and recommended pre-deployment training materials for UN Peacekeeping.

Mr. Barbieri 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, Mr. Barbieri served in the army for almost three decades, 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 Cambodia (UNTAC) in 1993 and in DCR (MONUC) from 2002 to 2003. Rafael was the Director of the Uruguayan Peace Operations Training Centre from 2003 to 2005.

After he retired from the army in 2008, Mr. Barbieri was recruited by the United Nations as a civilian staff member, serving both at HQ and in the field. He served as chief of training in 2012 in Syria (UNSMIS). Rafael oversees the development and dissemination of key UN Specialised 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.

He 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.



MR. SÉBASTIEN COQUOZ

INSTITUTION: EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE
POSITION: ELECTIONS AND CONFLICT PREVENTION
POLICY OFFICER

Sébastien Coquoz joined the EEAS's Conflict Prevention and Mediation Support Division in 2021, deployed by the Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding. He is the focal point for conflict analysis and prevention in South-East Asia and coordinates electoral violence risk assessments, internal capacity building and policy advice to EEAS hierarchy and colleagues at headquarters and in Delegations on electoral violence/conflict prevention and mediation support in countries at risk of electoral violence. He is also responsible for Atrocity Prevention/Responsibility to Protect (R2P), Human Rights and collaboration with the UN within the Division's Conflict Prevention Team.

Prior to that, he was the Peace, Elections and Democracy Adviser at the Peace and Human Rights Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, where he coordinated the Swiss approach to conflict prevention and resolution in electoral, constitutional, and parliamentary processes. He worked in Colombia from 2013 to 2018, as human rights officer and then head of a field office at OHCHR and as programme officer at the Norwegian Refugee Council's Latin America office. He also worked on diplomatic affairs, mine action, human rights and money laundering in Peru, Switzerland, Norway and Indonesia. He studied International and European Law and Human Rights.



MR. CHARLES PETRIE

INSTITUTION: INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT
POSITION: FORMER UN ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL

Sir Charles Petrie Bt, OBE is currently an independent consultant, specialising in human security. He holds a degree in International Affairs and Art History from the American College in Paris and a MBA from INSEAD. He has close to 30 years of experience working in conflict and famine settings, some of it with Médecins Sans Frontières and much of it with the UN system. From mid-2003 to the end of 2007, he was the UN representative in Myanmar. At the end of 2007, he was expelled from the country by the military for supporting the monks of the Saffron Revolution. Charles resigned from the UN at the end of 2010 as the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General for Burundi.

After leaving the UN, Charles was the special policy advisor to the President of Somalia, based in Villa Somalia Mogadishu (03/2011 - 09/2012). Subsequently and upon the new Myanmar government's invitation, he coordinated a mechanism set up to facilitate the discussions between the Government and the Ethnic Armed Groups (02/2012 - 03/2015). In March 2012, he was tasked by the UN Secretary-General to lead an internal review of the UN's actions in Sri Lanka during the last phase of the conflict. In the first half of 2015, he was designated as a member of a group of experts commissioned by the UN Secretary General to review the UN's Peacebuilding Architecture.

In August 2021, Charles published a book entitled "The Triumph of Evil", which relates the story of an attempt to hold a former UN official accountable for his alleged involvement in the murder of thirty-two people, including UN colleagues, during the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

He was named Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2014 New Year's Honours list for services to international peace, security and human rights. Upon his request, he received the award in Mogadishu.



MR. FALLCKOLM CUENCA

INSTITUTION: FOLKE BERNADOTTE ACADEMY (FBA)
POSITION: HEAD OF SECURITY SECTOR GOVERNANCE
AND REFORM

Fallckolm is currently working at FBA with Rule of Law and Governance with a specific focus on Governance of the Security Sector. He has previously worked in diverse context such as Afghanistan, Colombia, Myanmar, Senegal, and most recently in Moldova to mention a few. His academic background is in International Relations and International Law.

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS:



FBA



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