

# TRAINING COURSE ON HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING AND REPORTING IN UNITED NATIONS FIELD OPERATIONS

**SEPTEMBER 28 – OCTOBER 02, 2020 - BARCELONA - SPAIN**

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Barcelona International Peace Centre (BIPC) and 2Gedar-PeaceOps and Development Network are pleased to announce the Intensive Training Course on Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting in United Nations Field Operations, to be held in Barcelona, Spain, from September 28 to October 2, 2020.

### Overview

Recent decades witnessed a considerable increase in the number of United Nations presence in the field, either for post-conflict reconstruction, or with preventive and confidence-building functions and a corresponding increase in the number of United Nations personnel employed in the field. A growing number of United Nations field operations established in recent years, under either the coordination of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) or other United Nations auspices such as UN peace and political missions, have included a human rights mandate. This intensification of field work is one of the most significant developments in the area of human rights protection and promotion over the past two decades.

While the mandate of these field operations has varied, a major task they have been required to perform has been monitoring and reporting the human rights situation in the country of operation. Human rights work — whether of a monitoring or a promotional nature — has become a specialized profession which requires adequate preparation, specific technical skills and significant substantive knowledge in order to be effectively conducted. Human rights officers are being employed in the field on an unprecedented scale as a result of the recognition that human rights components provide a constructive contribution to the work of field operations. It is in this context, that the development of methodology for the effective conduct of human rights monitoring has been a central focus of work of OHCHR for several years. A number of tools and methodologies have been developed to consolidate the United Nations experience in the area of human rights monitoring.

This training course aims to spread the knowledge and experience acquired to entities and individuals without access to OHCHR internal training opportunities. It is hoped that governments, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as human rights practitioners hoping to join United Nations human rights operations will find it a useful contribution to their work and career development opportunities.

### Objectives

This international training course will allow participants to understand the theory and practice of human rights monitoring and reporting. With case studies, interactive exercises and experience sharing, participants will expand their HR knowledge and skills to be better equipped to face the challenges of developing and implementing effective HR strategies.

The training course aims to familiarize participants with the structures and methodologies in place to monitor and report on human rights issues and assist in the development and implementation of appropriate

programmes from a very practical perspective. Specifically, it also aims to prepare participants for the recruitment processes as Human Rights Officers with the UN Secretariat and field missions.

The overall objectives of the course are therefore to:

- Provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting practice in the field;
- Receive extensive materials and practical guidance and insights from highly experienced current and former senior human rights officers;
- Provide participants with effective tools in a highly specialised area of UN practice;
- Prepare candidates for recruitment as Human Rights Officers with DPKO; and provide guidance for those seeking engagement with UN Agencies, Funds & Programmes, and OHCHR; and
- Provide an opportunity for candidates to network and develop mentoring relationships with current and former practitioners within the United Nations.

### Methodology

The course focuses on the technical aspects of the work of HR officers and other fundamental skills that Officers should apply in the field. The course format includes a combination of lectures, small group discussions, practical exercises and peer exchange of experiences.

It comprises practical exercises based in three different Missions around 5 thematic areas: (1) The Concept of Monitoring and reporting in field operations; (2) Legal Dimensions; (3) Operational Concepts; (4) Implementation; and (5) Lessons Learned. Case studies will focus on three (3) different Mission environments that will capture the widely different circumstances in which HR Officers need to operate.

Participants will be provided in advance with extensive range of documents and materials which they will be expected to become generally familiar with prior to their attendance to the course. The course itself will focus on the practical elements of the applicability of these materials to actual field practice.

### For whom is this course?

The course is designed to benefit candidates wishing to become Human Rights Officers with United Nations Field Operations, and would be of interest to staff members in international entities, UN AFPs, INGOs and corporations operating in Protection activities and programmes, officers in Ministries of Foreign Affairs dealing with UN portfolios, police officers contemplating peacekeeping and observation missions as part of their pre-deployment training, research institutes, other international organisations and donors supporting field missions.

Generally, participants will be expected and will be given priority to enroll if they hold degree/s qualifying for entry into the UN Civil Service; will be fully conversant with written and spoken English at a professional working level. Candidates not meeting all these criteria may be accepted at the discretion of the organizers and subject to availability of places.

### Trainers

The course will be led by [Meriam Ghalni](#), and [Manuel Calzada](#). [Meriam](#) is currently the Director of the Human Rights Office with UNSOM, the UN Mission in Somalia, and has a long trajectory in POC and Human Rights with the UN. [Manuel](#) is currently the Chief Legal Officer with UNSOS, the UN Support Office in Somalia and previously held similar positions in Sudan, Afghanistan, Liberia, and Kosovo.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** It is expected that [Fernand de Varennes](#), Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Minorities and a world authority in Human Rights academic circles will be able to join us for an address session during the week (read more <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Minorities/SRMinorities/Pages/FernandDeVarennes.aspx>)

#### Dates & location

From September 28 to October 2, 2020 at Sant Felip Neri House in Barcelona, Spain. It will start at 9:00 on Monday and end around 15:30 on Friday.

#### Language & cost

The course will be taught in English. The course fee is 2000 Euros. This fee includes course materials, refreshments, and lunch. It does not include the cost of traveling to/from Barcelona, visa, accommodation, insurance, and other meals, such as dinner.

Please note that this course requires a minimum number of participants. Unfortunately, the organizers cannot provide any scholarships or waivers for the course fees. We can provide logistical assistance and letters in support of participants' visa applications upon request.

Payment arrangement information will be included in acceptance letters. Upon registration, the organizers will provide information about different accommodation options, including within the venue where the course will take place.

#### How to Apply

The application deadline is the 24th of August 2020, but acceptance onto the course will be granted on a rolling basis. To apply for the course, please submit your current Curriculum Vitae and the completed application form to Eva Lopez, course coordinator, at [info@bcnpeacecenter.org](mailto:info@bcnpeacecenter.org). Please see the enclosed application form for further details. Alternatively, it can be downloaded [here](#). If you have any questions about the application process, program, or logistics, please contact Eva.

#### About Us

The [Barcelona International Peace Center \(BIPC\)](#) is the outcome of an initiative to promote the culture of peace through dialogue, awareness-raising, and training in crisis management and conflict resolution. Created in 2009, the BIPC is the only center of its kind in Spain. Its work is inspired by the philosophy of centers around the world specializing in crisis management and peace operations. The BIPC's main activity is an international specialised training program designed to meet the extensive learning needs of civilian personnel and to equip them with the skills they need to engage in field operations around the world. The center offers a range of training courses aimed at professionals working in peacebuilding, complex crisis management, and humanitarian affairs. – [www.bcnpeacecenter.org](http://www.bcnpeacecenter.org)

[2GEDAR PeaceOps & Development Network](#) designs and presents specialist, practical and hands-on training programs in peacekeeping, peacebuilding and public development sectors. Our courses aim to prepare participants for the realities of actual field needs. Our courses and presentations seek to provide the required skills to successfully face entrance examinations and interview requirements into United Nations and UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes, each course focused on a very specific area of practice and occupational group. Specialized courses are also designed for pre-deployment training of peacekeeping missions' troop and police contingents. Practice areas include political, legal affairs, protection, emergency response, security, intelligence, mission support and logistics, human rights, rule of law, civil affairs, gender, ethics and SEA, human resources, and internal justice processes. -[www.2gedar.com](http://www.2gedar.com)