Unitar Online Catalogue

United Nations Protocol 2026 - Spring Edition

Multilateral Diplomacy

Deadline: 15 May 2026

Type:	Course
Location:	Web-based
Date:	18 May 2026 to 14 Jun 2026
Duration:	4 Weeks
Thematic Area:	Peace, Security, Law and Multilateral Diplomacy, , Multilateral Diplomacy and Negotiation
Website:	https://unitar.org/sustainable-development-goals/multilateral-diplomacy/our-por...
Price:	$600.00
Event Focal Point Email:	mdp-elearning@unitar.org
Contact Number:	+41 (0) 22 917 8810

BACKGROUND

The United Nations and its related bodies, agencies and programmes convene thousands of formal and informal, official and unofficial, meetings and conferences each year. Representatives of governments and from other bodies such as international and non- governmental organizations must be able to

professionally operate in a multilateral environment, whether for a work-related social or conference event setting. Understanding and studying the informal and formal rules of this community enables the diplomat and professional to more effectively do his or her job. In this context, diplomatic protocol remains a basic necessity of a diplomatic representative or professional.

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) has developed the e- Learning course United Nations Protocol to increase awareness and understanding of the mechanics and practice of diplomatic relations at United Nations Headquarters and regional offices, by extension facilitating peaceful relations among Member States.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

This e-Learning course aims to provide an overview of United Nations and multilateral protocol practices to guide the protocol practitioners who operate within the Offices of the United Nations at its Headquarters as well as in its numerous field Offices throughout the world. With the help of interactive online exercises, participants will finish the course with a concrete understanding of specific protocol-related situations.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

- Identify recognized and accepted practices in international protocol, define UN guidelines on diplomatic courtesy and order of precedence of United Nations senior officials.
- Organize the visits of the Secretary-General and other United Nations dignitaries and participate in social occasions based on established diplomatic norms.
- List specificities of protocol and etiquette at UN headquarters and in offices in the field.
- React to commonly experienced protocol-related situations.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The course will be split into three modules:

- Module 1: Protocol at the United Nations (2 weeks)
- Module 2: Protocol in ceremonies and social occasions (1 week)
- Module 3: Experience-Sharing between participants and the moderator (1 week)

And include the following content:

- Introduction to the Protocol at the United Nations
- The UN Relationship with the Host Countries
- The Tenure of the Permanent Representative
- Order of Precedence and Official Visits
- Forms of Address
- Protocol in the Field
- Protocol in Social Occasions
- Diplomatic Interaction

METHODOLOGY

This online course is moderated by senior international experts, asynchronous, and places emphasis on online discussions and self-paced learning. The participants will be primarily responsible for their own learning over the four-week span of the course. The course will consist of the following components:

- Compulsory and optional reading material, intended to teach the basic concepts and principles of the lesson's subject-matter;
- External links to additional books, articles, documents, and websites related to the lessons;
- Quizzes and case studies at the end of each module. To be eligible for the course certificate, a passing grade of 80% on both quizzes and case studies is required;
- A Community Discussion Board will be available for participants to post questions or comments visible to the instructor and other participants. This discussion board will be moderated by the course director and UNITAR

Estimated learning time: minimum of 30 hours;

Participants will be eligible to receive a certificate after the successful completion of the course.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

The course targets staff of the United Nations, mid to senior-level government officers in ministries, as well as staff of other intergovernmental / nongovernmental organizations. It also targets entry-level and mid-career diplomats working in a multilateral setting. Private sector specialists and students whose work or studies are related to this subject are also encouraged to apply.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We highly recommend credit card payments.

Registration will be closed as soon as the course is full and your place will be secured once your payment is confirmed.

For more information, please consult the UNITAR Multilateral Diplomacy Programme website or contact mdp-elearning [at] unitar.org (mdp-elearning[at]unitar[dot]org)

General Requirements

- Good command of the English language.

Technical Requirements

UNITAR recommends the following as a minimum in hardware and software to take our e-Learning courses. Please consult your Network Administrator or Systems person to ensure that you have the following:

- Platform: Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT, ME, XP or superior; MacOS 9 or MacOS X; Linux
- Hardware: 64 MB of RAM, 1 GB of free disk space
- Software:
    - Adobe Acrobat Reader
    - Adobe Flash Player
    - Microsoft Office (Windows or Mac) or Open Office
- Browser: Internet Explorer 7 or higher ; it works better with Firefox 3.6 or higher

Note that JavaScript, Cookies and Pop-ups must be enabled