



Women's Leadership for Peace Emerging Leaders Course Geneva 2026

Peace

Deadline: 15 Feb 2026

Type:	Course
Location:	Geneva, Switzerland
Date:	12 Oct 2026 to 16 Oct 2026
Duration:	5 Days
Programme Area:	Peace Security and Diplomacy, , Peacemaking and Conflict Prevention, , Peacekeeping
Website:	https://unitar.org/sustainable-development-goals/peace/our-portfolio/womens-emp...
Price:	\$2,550.00
Event Focal Point Email:	sheleads4peace@unitar.org

BACKGROUND

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is excited to offer the 2025 edition of the **Women's Leadership for Peace Emerging Leaders Course**, a five-day training tailored for women with 7–15 years of professional experience. Designed for emerging leaders in the peace and security field, this

programme provides an opportunity to refine your leadership approach, expand your career trajectory, and engage directly with senior women leaders in Geneva's network of UN and humanitarian organizations.

This course is for professionals ready to take their leadership to the next level. Whether you've managed projects, guided teams, or contributed to complex global initiatives, the programme equips you with advanced skills and perspectives to achieve your personal and professional goals.

Through experiential learning and reflective exercises, participants will explore contemporary leadership and security challenges while working toward self-identified objectives. UNITAR's evidence-based methodologies create a supportive environment where participants can collaborate, share lessons learned, and apply practical skills to real-world contexts.

Beyond the training itself, the course fosters a sense of community and connection. Peer-to-peer learning, intergenerational dialogue, and discussions with accomplished guest speakers provide a platform for exchanging insights on topics such as peacebuilding, career development, wellbeing, and resilience. Participants will leave with a strengthened professional network and a renewed sense of purpose as leaders and contributors to global peace.

Join us this fall for this unique opportunity to enhance your leadership potential, build your professional and personal network, and advance your impact in the peace and security field!

EVENT OBJECTIVES

Through the overall objectives of the Emerging Leaders Course, participants will be able to:

- Reconnect with what it means to be a woman leader for peace.
- Acquire knowledge, mindset, and tools needed to successfully transition into a leadership role.
- Hone their own leadership style and situate their passions, strength and unique contributions in the broader peace and security field.
- Develop a personal action plan towards advancing individual leadership objectives.
- Demonstrate a unique insight into the broader sustaining peace ecosystem and what it takes to advance to leadership in this field.

- Build relationships with other participants and guest speakers, which will provide a network of support beyond the programme.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Track 1: Effective Leadership for Peace

Focused on inner development, this track will be a personal leadership journey, supporting participants in (re-) aligning their leadership style with their values and the unique contribution they would like to make in this world. Participants will also have an opportunity to revisit their strengths and areas of growth in relation to their leadership profile. Jointly with their peers, participants will furthermore challenge ideas of gendered leadership, examine structural barriers towards equal participation, and will define opportunities to advance women's leadership within the peace and security field at a global level. As a takeaway from the course, participants will create a personal plan for achieving their leadership goals through concrete actions.

Track 2: Experience Sharing: Learning from Trailblazers

A key component of the course will be comprised of interactions with women leaders, including in senior leadership positions, who have built a career in the fields of peace and security as well as humanitarian action. This intergenerational aspect will be an opportunity for participants to exchange and discuss with fellow women, sharing their lived experience, challenges and success as they advance their own professional and personal goals. Through experience sharing with these women in leadership positions, participants will get inspired and gain insights on the possible next steps they can take in their career as well as the obstacles and opportunities they might come across while doing so.

Track 3: Refining Career Objectives and Pathways

Through visits and exchanges with professionals, representing different organizations within International Geneva, participants will be better placed to situate and refine their career ambitions in the broader peace and security field while also gaining a deeper understanding of what is required for obtaining managerial and leadership positions within these contexts. Complemented by conversations with practitioners from the field, this will allow participants to better reevaluate and focus the next steps in their career in a way that this aligns with their strengths, ambitions and passion.

METHODOLOGY

UNITAR employs a diverse range of pedagogical approaches to enhance learning and foster meaningful behavioral change. The **Emerging Leaders Course** is rooted in experiential learning, self-reflection, experience sharing, and peer-to-peer exchange, creating a dynamic and interactive learning environment. Participants are encouraged to critically engage with course material, share their lived experiences, and apply lessons learned to real-world challenges. The programme fosters a safe and inclusive space where emerging women leaders can challenge assumptions, develop new perspectives, and build a strong network of women leaders. Through facilitated discussions, case studies, reflection exercises and collaborative activities, participants strengthen their leadership skills while deepening their understanding of themselves and their role within the peace and security field.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

The target audience for this course is **(self-identifying) women**, who are established in a career linked to peace and security or are interested in transitioning into this field. It is suggested that participants should be emerging leaders or mid-level managers with **7-15 years of experience**.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

UNITAR will be responsible for the overall design, coordination and implementation of the Women's Leadership for Peace Emerging Leaders Programme. It will liaise with participants on a regular basis prior to the activity's implementation in order to ensure a smooth and flawless organisation for everyone involved..

The participants are responsible for purchasing their own travel tickets to and from Geneva, booking accommodation, as well as applying for a visa to Switzerland (if required).

Women's Leadership for Peace Emerging Leaders Programme FAQs

1. What is included in the cost of the programme?

- A world-class training programme led by experts from the world of peace and multilateralism, tailored to the specific needs and interests of the target audience
- Presentations from practitioners and thought leaders in the field of peace and security;
- Visit to selected international organizations in the wider field of peace and security in international Geneva;
- A personal leadership journal and tailored learning resources;
- Opportunities for intergenerational exchange with women trailblazers;
- Access to an international professional network of strong women working towards the common goal of greater women's leadership;
- Guidance and advice from professionals on how to navigate taking the next steps in a career in the wider peace and security field;
- Lunch and coffee breaks on course days;
- A UNITAR certification

2. How much time will be spent on each track of the Women's Leadership for Peace Emerging Leaders Programme?

While the tracks of the Women's Leadership for Peace Emerging Leaders Programme will overlap and build on one another, the approximate breakdown is as follows:

Track one: Effective Leadership for Peace – 50%

Track two: Experience Sharing: Learning from Trailblazers – 30%

Track Three: Refining Career Objectives and Pathways – 20%

3. How much professional experience should I have to apply to the programme?

The Women's Leadership for Peace Emerging Leaders Programme is designed for (self-identifying) women, who are established in a career linked to peace and security or are interested in working more in this field. It is suggested that participants should be emerging leaders or mid-level managers with 7-15 years of experience. If you are unsure about whether you fit the profile, do not hesitate to reach out before applying.

4. Where will I be staying during the programme?

Accommodations are not included in the cost of the course. Participants will be responsible for booking their own accommodation. Upon request, UNITAR will provide a list of suggested hotels and hostels for participants to reference.

5. Are there any scholarships available?

Unfortunately, at this moment UNITAR is unable to offer any scholarships for the programme. We hope to be able to provide them in the future. Should they become available, scholarship opportunities will be published on the event page.

6. If accepted, I will need a letter to support my visa application for Switzerland, will UNITAR provide one?

Yes, UNITAR will provide a visa support letter. Applicants are responsible for the visa application process. In exceptional cases UNITAR can support with the visa application process. This needs to be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

7. Will I get a certificate at the end of the course?

Yes, all participants who attend at least 80% of the course will receive a United Nations certification.