Unitar Online Catalogue

Online Professional Diploma in Skills for the Future and Employability 2027

Multilateral Diplomacy

Deadline: 10 Jan 2027

Type:	Course
Location:	Web-based
Date:	11 Jan 2027 to 19 Apr 2027
Duration:	3 Months
Thematic Area:	Peace, Security, Law and Multilateral Diplomacy, , Multilateral Diplomacy and Negotiation
Website:	https://unitar.org/sustainable-development-goals/multilateral-diplomacy/our-por...
Price:	$2,300.00
Event Focal Point Email:	mdp-elearning@unitar.org
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BACKGROUND

With the rise of everyday use of artificial intelligence (AI) and rapid advancements in technology, it is vital to understand what is needed in the current and future job market to ensure employability. In line with the Pact for

the Future and UN 2.0, this programme responds to the need for inclusive, future-ready capacity-building. It supports individuals in navigating uncertainty through futures thinking, strategic foresight, innovation, digital transformation and lifelong learning. Diplomats, UN employees and those working in areas related to government, international affairs, and diplomacy are understanding now more than ever the need to reskill and upskill to most effectively do their work within the changing landscape.

The World Economic Forum (WEF)'s "The Future of Jobs Report 2025" projects that by 2030, 170 million jobs will be created, however 92 million jobs will be displaced. The report highlights a shift toward tech-intensive, human-centred, and sustainability-focused competencies. Top rising technical skills include AI and big data, networks and cybersecurity, and technology literacy. Alongside technical skills, the report also predicts that honing certain soft skills will lead to higher employability as well. These include analytical thinking, creativity, resilience, flexibility, leadership, social influence, curiosity, and lifelong learning. These findings reinforce the growing need for tech-intensive and human-centred competencies, as highlighted in UN 2.0's quintet of change.

The *Online Professional Diploma in Skills for the Future and Employability* offers flexible and inclusive learning pathways through micro-credentials, aligning with the UN's emphasis on scalable and transferable skills development. Participants will be taught by UNITAR's in-house experts, comprised of high-level academic experts and practitioners.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

This programme aims to develop and strengthen participants' capacities and skills to best prepare them for the future of the job market and increase employability for a longstanding and successful international career. By engaging in evidence-based and forward-thinking learning ecosystems to gain both technical expertise and human-centred skills, participants will be able to stay competitive in an evolving job market.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completing the Professional Diploma, participants should be able to:

- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the global trends shaping the future job market, including digital transformation and innovation, and their impact on employability;
- Develop essential technical skills;
- Strengthen crucial soft skills such as leadership, creativity, and informed decision-making utilizing futures thinking;
- Apply new and existing skills like strategic foresight and evidence-based planning, and integrate behavioral insights to support inclusive and future-ready decision-making in diverse professional contexts.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The *Online Professional Diploma in Skills for the Future and Employability* is comprised of 6 live e-workshops (3 focused on technical skills and 3 focused on human-centred skills), also offered individually as micro-credentials. To be awarded the Online Professional Diploma certificate, participants are required to successfully complete all 6 of the e-workshops, attend an obligatory introductory e-workshop, and submit a final dissertation.

All e-workshops are scheduled to take place on Fridays at 3:30pm CET. The introductory e-workshop is scheduled to be held on Monday, 11 January 2027 at 3:30pm CET.

The e-workshops* available to participants are:

- Technical Skills
  - Digital Literacy and AI for Evidence-Based Decision Making (15 January 2027)
  - AI and Digital Governance (29 January 2027)
  - Cybersecurity and Digital Risk Resilience (12 February 2027)
- Human-Centred Skills
  - Human-Centred Leadership (26 February 2027)
  - Problem-solving through Systems and Creative Thinking (12 March 2027)
  - Applying Strategic Foresight to Address Global Uncertainty (2 April 2027)

The respective e-workshops will be up to 3 hours long each, conducted via the platform Zoom and will be facilitated by an expert on the topic. The material presented in the e-workshop will be interactive and assignments will be given for participants to further advance their knowledge.

The final requirement to obtain the Online Professional Diploma will be the submission of a research paper of between 3,000 and 5,000 words.

**e-workshops listed are subject to change*

METHODOLOGY

The Professional Diploma is entirely online. E-workshops are moderated by senior international experts and place an emphasis on online discussions and interactive learning. The moderators selected by UNITAR are experts in the relevant fields and regularly teach within the framework of UNITAR's Division for Multilateral Diplomacy.

Activities include direct engagement with top experts to explore and discuss key topics, as well as opportunities to exchange knowledge and experiences with fellow participants. All activities are conducted in an engaging virtual environment designed to foster collaboration, peer learning, and practical application.

This approach ensures that participants not only gain substantive knowledge, but also develop relevant, real-world skills and expand their professional networks across a global community of practitioners.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

The Online Professional Diploma is designed for government officials, diplomats, private sector specialists, practitioners in the international arena, academics, students or any interested participants who are seeking to adapt to evolving global dynamics and strengthen employability through agility, innovation and data-driven strategic thinking.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Kindly note that the programme will only take place if the minimum number of participants has been reached.

If you register for the Online Professional Diploma, you are not required to register for the individual e-workshops.

UNITAR is a non-accrediting institution, and as such, diplomas that may be awarded by UNITAR carry no accreditation recognition.

Admission requirements

There are no specific admission requirements. Participants who wish to enroll in individual e-workshops without being awarded the Professional Diploma can still do so.

General requirements

- Have a good command of the English language
- Be computer literate

Technical requirements

UNITAR recommends the following as a minimum in hardware and software to take our e-workshops. Please consult your Network Administrator or Systems person to ensure that you have the following:
- Platform: Windows 10 or 11; MacOS 10.15 Catalina, 11 Big Sur, and 12 Monterey; Linux
- Software: Zoom, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Microsoft Office (Windows or Mac) or Open Office
- Browser: Microsoft Edge; Safari; Google Chrome; t works better with Firefox 3.6 or higher. Note that JavaScript, Cookies and Pop-ups must be enabled.

Basic system requirements:

1. Stable internet connection
2. Speakers and a microphone
3. A webcam or HD webcam
4. Or, a HD cam or HD camcorder with video capture card

Payment information

We highly recommend credit card payments. UNITAR offers a 25% off discount for groups of 10 or more.

For more information, please contact mdp-elearning [at] unitar.org (mdp-elearning[at]unitar[dot]org)