Unitar Online Catalogue

# 11th Edition of UNITAR's Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice

Multilateral Diplomacy

Deadline: 16 Nov 2026

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| Type: | Other |
| Location: | Geneva, Switzerland |
| Date: | 19 Nov 2026 to 11 Jun 2027 (To be confirmed) |
| Duration: | 8 Months |
| Thematic Area: | Multilateral Diplomacy and Negotiation |
| Website: | http://www.unitar.org/cdt |
| Price: | $8,000.00 |
| Event Focal Point Email: | diplomacy@unitar.org |
| Contact Number: | +41 (0) 22 917 88 10 |

## BACKGROUND

The main component of the **Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice** is a series of 8 workshops, which fall within UNITAR's **Core Diplomatic Training (CDT)**.

The format of the programme consists of two-day executive-style training workshops, delivered face-to-face to diplomats and other beneficiaries so that

they can perform effectively in multilateral environments. The workshops take place at the Palais des Nations, UNITAR premises, or another venue in Geneva, Switzerland.

UNITAR has been delivering CDT courses since its inception in 1965 and the courses are traditionally considered the “core” training of the Institute. By definition, CDT implies training that is multilateral in character and offered in a multilateral context. All Member States and the United Nations, collectively, benefit from greater knowledge on how to operate in the multilateral setting and perform effectively and efficiently.

CDT covers training in international cooperation and multilateral diplomacy, and is aimed at enhancing the understanding of the United Nations system and its organs and procedures, strengthening the skills relevant to conferences and negotiations and supporting efforts to build a more effective multilateral system.

## EVENT OBJECTIVES

Each individual workshop will have a specific set of learning objectives, but the learning objectives of the diploma as a whole are as follows:

1. Develop a critical understanding of contemporary bilateral and multilateral diplomacy challenges;
2. Demonstrate a comprehensive, substantive and practical knowledge of the United Nations system, Digital Diplomacy, Diplomatic Protocol, Conference Diplomacy and Multilateral Negotiation, etc;
3. Critically evaluate strengths and weaknesses related to negotiation skills and techniques, drafting, negotiating and adopting UN resolutions, leadership skills, public speaking and communication;
4. Produce a research paper that extends beyond the theoretical content of a workshop and relates to participants’ professional work;
5. Perform efficiently and effectively in both bilateral and multilateral working environments with increased confidence.

## CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The 2026/2027 edition of the **Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice** programme will be made up of two main components:

**Training Workshops** – 8 skills-based workshops, which will aim to be cross-cutting and to equip participants with knowledge and practical competences to enhance their expertise in multilateral settings, and to enrich their professional performances. The topics envisioned for the next edition are:

- Effective Writing in Multilateral Diplomacy
- Negotiation Skills and Techniques
- Public Speaking and Presentation Skills
- Diplomatic Protocol and Etiquette
- Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination
- Conference Diplomacy and Multilateral Negotiations
- Leadership Skills and Assertiveness
- Digital Diplomacy and AI

**Research Paper** – The final requirement to obtain the Executive Diploma will be the submission of a research paper of between 3,000 and 5,000 words. For this requirement, participants must provide a more in-depth analysis and argumentation on a chosen theme covered in the course or related to multilateral diplomacy.

## METHODOLOGY

Participants are required to attend at least 6 of the 8 Core Diplomatic Training (CDT) workshops offered by UNITAR's Multilateral Diplomacy Programme (MDP) from November 2026 to June 2027;

In exceptional circumstances, it will be possible for participants who cannot attend 8 workshops to take up to 2 of MDPU's e-Learning courses instead of 2 CDT workshops;

Participants will engage in simulation exercises during the workshop, which trainers will assess in accordance with the learning objectives of each workshop on a pass or fail basis;

All participants will submit a final Research Paper based on the material covered in one of the workshops.

## TARGETED AUDIENCE

The primary target audience for the Executive Diploma is the diplomatic community in Geneva. Other interested participants (staff of international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, diplomatic academies and foreign service training institutions, as well as academics and private sector professionals) are encouraged to apply, and UNITAR will make a selection based on the applications it receives.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Insurance Waiver

By applying to the Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice, all participants confirm that they are aware that the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) does not insure participants for this programme. All participants are advised to arrange at their own expense insurance against sickness, accident, permanent or temporary disability, death and third party risk for the period of the meeting including travel time.

### Admission Requirements

The minimum requirements to be accepted for the Executive Diploma are the following:

1. Bachelor’s Degree;
2. 2-3 years of relevant professional experience;
3. Proficiency in English.

### Fee and Fee Reductions

The overall fee for a total of up to 8 workshops is USD 8,000. UNITAR is delighted to announce that a limited number of fellowships are offered to participants from low- and middle-income countries according to the World Bank Atlas Method. These applicants will be able to pay a discounted fee of respectively USD 3,000 (low income countries) or USD 5,000 (middle income countries). Please note that no other fellowships or discounts are available.

UNITAR will make a selection based on the applications it receives.

**Fellowship**

In the case of remaining availability, staff members of Permanent Missions in Geneva may be considered eligible to apply for our fellowship, granting participation in this workshop free of charge. For further information on the application procedure, please contact diplomacy [at] unitar.org (diplomacy[at]unitar[dot]org).

**Certificate**

Participants who have attended all the sessions will receive a certificate of participation.

**Networking Events**

As part of the Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice, participants will be invited to a welcome dinner at the beginning of the programme and a closing dinner at its conclusion. These events will provide informal settings to connect, establish and consolidate professional relationships, and strengthen their diplomatic networks throughout the programme.

The welcome dinner will offer an opportunity for participants to get to know one another and foster connections at the outset of their learning journey, while the closing dinner will mark the completion of the programme and provide a final opportunity to reflect on the experience and further consolidate professional relationships. Informal engagement, relationship-building, and high-level networking are integral to diplomatic practice and multilateral cooperation, rendering these events a valuable complement to the programme's formal learning activities.

**Other**

For more information, please write an email to diplomacy [at] unitar.org (diplomacy[at]unitar[dot]org) or call +41 (0) 22 917 88 10, or visit www.unitar.org/cdt.

All accepted participants will be informed by email.

**Disclaimer**: By submitting an application to this workshop, applicants acknowledge and confirm their commitment to upholding the principles and values of the United Nations and UNITAR. UNITAR maintains a zero-tolerance policy regarding conduct that is incompatible with its mission, including but not

limited to abuse of authority, sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, and all forms of discrimination. Participants selected for the workshop will be provided with UNITAR’s Code of Conduct and will be required to review, sign, and adhere to its provisions as a condition of participation.