

# INVITATION FOR APPLICATIONS

## 14<sup>th</sup> ESDC Course on the Comprehensive Protection of Civilians (also UN-certified)

08 – 12 NOVEMBER 2021

### Course Description

The UN Security Council Resolution 1894 calls upon the international community and conflict parties to implement far-reaching measures to protect and support civilian populations in situations of armed conflict. The content of this training course reflects a broad interpretation of



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protection, which goes beyond the provision of protection from physical violence but also includes the creation of larger protective environments and the implementation of activities which enhance the rights of individuals in accordance with international humanitarian law, human rights and refugee law.

The five-day training course prepares senior decision-makers of armed forces, police, political bodies and non-governmental organizations, as well as individual civilian experts involved in peacekeeping and/or international crisis management at the operational level for the challenges in protecting civilian populations in contexts of armed conflict.

Graduates of this course will be provided with a comprehensive understanding of the multiple dimensions and meanings of the protection of civilians. They will have enhanced knowledge of the actors and their roles and responsibilities in the subject matter and will be in position to identify options for coordination and synergies in the implementation of protection for civilians. They will be able to analyze the specific threats to and the needs and rights of different vulnerable groups of civilians affected by armed conflict to develop and implement context-sensitive, comprehensive, integrated strategies and measures to improve situation of civilians in armed conflict.

The course was developed in close cooperation between the Federal Ministry of Defence and the Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution and has furthermore been supported by the Federal Chancellery of the Republic of Austria, the Federal Ministry of Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs and the Federal Ministry of Interior. It confirms Austria's continuous effort to promote the protection of civilians in armed conflict. Since 2014, the training is part of the framework of the Academic Programme of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) and has furthermore been certified by the Integrated Training Service of the United Nations Department for Peace Operations.

The course takes place from 08 – 12 November 2021 and will be held in the online format. It will be hosted by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence and be implemented by the Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ASPR).

## Requirements for Participation

The course targets national and international experts and senior decision-makers of armed forces (from rank of Major/OF-3 and above), police (equivalent senior police officers and above), non-governmental/civilian organizations (heads of substantive sections and above), and political/civilian administration (heads of division/department and above) working with or in the context of peacekeeping operations in complex emergencies requiring the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

- For further information on the conditions and costs of participation please see Annex 1 Course Information.

## Application Procedure

Qualified candidates matching the set participants profile as outlined above are requested to fill the online application form and submit it **strictly by the deadline of 19 September 2021**.

The designated course Admission Board will select the course participants from the timely submitted applications while balancing affiliation, professional background, gender, nationality and working contexts in view to keep the intended course quality and standard.

Applicants are thereafter informed about the decision of the Admission Board within 2 weeks after the set application deadline.

- For applications, please use the online application form which is available over this link: [ESDC Course on the Comprehensive Protection of Civilians - ASPR](#).

## Attachments:

- Annex 1 Course Information
- Annex 2 Tentative Programme Overview

# Additional Information – Online Course on CPOC

## 1. Conditions of Participation

### a. Expected Participant's Profile

This course is set at the operational level and targets **national and international mid- to senior level experts and decision-makers** of armed forces (from rank of Major/OF-3 and above), police (equivalent levels of senior police officers), United Nations Missions and Agencies, International and Regional Organisations and staff from non-governmental/civilian organisations (UN professional level P3 and above or equivalent in other organisations, head of substantive section and above), and the political/civilian administration (senior staff, head of division/department and above) who are working in the context of or with peacekeeping operations in complex emergencies requiring the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

The course is a specialisation course and participants are expected to bring basic knowledge of and/or experience of work in peace support operations, kindly note that it explicitly is **not an induction course**.

It is furthermore **not open for academic researchers or university students**, but reserved for practitioners and experts only, as explained above.

### b. Expected Preparations and Technical Equipment and Set Up for Participation

Participants are required to complete selected e-Learning modules in the preparatory phase preceding the residential part of this course. The timely completion of these eLearning modules is a precondition for receiving the course certificate.

To keep the daily live transmission via video conferencing at an acceptable minimum, part of the course modules are made available over recordings and can be done over self-paced preparatory learning in advance of the course or as daily preparations during the course. Participants are therefore expected to complete preparatory learning for each course day in advance of each daily session, which may take up to 4-5 hours a day in addition to the video conferencing. This requires a reliable internet connection of **min. 1,5 Mbit/s to 3 Mbit/s over HSDPA/3,5 G** and a computer/laptop with video/audio equipment or a separate bluetooth headphone set to be able to participate and use all online tools made available. The participation to the course furthermore requires a suitable, quiet learning environment that allows the participant and his/her fellow participants to concentrate.

The course timings are set in Austrian local time and adapted to suit the widest possible participation through time zones. Participants are requested to be present for the whole video conferencing time and also for the required after hour work assignments such as group work for the final exercise. The course organisation cannot make exceptions for participants in far-away time zones.

### c. Course Language & Expected Attendance

The course language is English, and participants must be fully proficient in English to be able to engage in discussions and fully benefit from the training.

Course participants must be present online during the time of the live video conferencing and fully participate to all other course elements, as per the programme. It is highly recommended that

participants are released from any other duties during the course time to allow the necessary learning in a very intense and fully packed week. The course programme does not allow for any additional commitments during the course. Absence during the course may result in disqualification from the course diploma.

#### **d. Certificate**

Successful participants are rewarded with an official ESDC certificate at the end of the course residential phase, ie. in the case of the online version the video conferencing section. The certificate will only be granted if the pre-residential e-learning and the residential phase have both been completed successfully.

## **2. Course Cost**

The ESDC Courses are a capacity building measure by EU member states for their personnel working in or being deployed to CSDP missions. According to the agreement by the EU member states, the following cost sharing arrangement has been decided: The country where the ESDC course takes place is the course host and covers all course-related issues while the sending member states cover the cost for the participants they send.

**There are no course costs for participants since the course is held in the online format. Member states and sending entities are expected to support the participant with the necessary technical equipment and release the participant from other duties for the time of the course.**

## **3. Selection Criteria**

A Course Admission Board, consisting of subject matter experts strives to select a highly qualified group of participants to ensure the set course standard. The selection process considers a balance in professional and organisational backgrounds, age, nationality and gender.

***Qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply!***

Since the slots are limited to 30 participants, only the best qualified candidates can be admitted. The selection of the Admission Board is final and cannot be challenged.

## **4. How to submit the Application**

For the application, please use the link on the ASPR website [ESDC Course on the Comprehensive Protection of Civilians - ASPR](#) and submit it **until 19 September 2021**.

Please note that all information provided on the form will be kept strictly internal and shared only with the partners organising the course under the EU Data Protection Regulations.

We do not need any additional documentation, such as diplomas or a complete CV.

## 15th ESDC CPOC COURSE 08 - 12 November 2021 (online) (also UN certified)

# TENTATIVE PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Time	Monday 08 November	Tuesday 09 November	Wednesday 10 November	Thursday 11 November	Friday 12 November
<b>Recorded! To be prepared for the day</b>	<i>e-Learning to be completed!</i>	<b>8 CPOC IN THE CONTEXT OF NATO</b> NATO Dominik Horn	<b>7 LEGAL FRAMEWORKS OF UN PSO</b> AUT MOD Ursula Hann	<b>9 CPOC OF HUMANITARIAN ACTORS</b> ASPR Susanne J. Brezina	
		<b>4 CPOC IN EU CRISIS MNGT and CDSP</b> ASPR Susanne J. Brezina	<b>13 CR GBSV AND CPOC</b> UNPOL SPC Amod Gurung	<b>10 CPOC for REFUGEES AND IDPS</b> TRANSCULTURAL Melita Sunjic	
		<b>12 CHILD PROTECTION AND CPOC</b> UN OHCHR Jan Hessbruegge	<b>5 CONFLICT MAPPING</b> Marshall W. Conley	<b>16 RECOVERY STRATEGIES &amp; CPOC</b> ASPR Susanne J. Brezina	<i>11:00 Submission Deadline for Group Work results</i>
<b>11-12</b>		<b>Introduction to the Day &amp; practical recap Exercise (module 4, Carana Ex)</b>	<b>Introduction to the Day &amp; practical recap Exercise (modules 7 and 5)</b>	<b>Introduction to the Day &amp; practical recap Exercise (modules 9,10, 16)</b>	<i>Trainers prepare for Final Ex Presentation &amp; Closing</i>
<b>12:30-13</b>		<b>Q &amp; A on Child Protection (module 12)</b>	<b>Q &amp; A on CR GBSV (module 13)</b>	<b>Preparation for Final Ex</b>	
<b>13-14</b>		<b>6 HUMAN RIGHTS AND IHL</b> UN OHCHR Jan Hessbruegge	<b>15 PROTECTION ROLE OF THE POLICE</b> UNPOL SPC Amod Gurung	<b>17 THREAT ANALYSIS AND RISK ASSESSMENT</b> LtGen rtd Jasbir Singh Lidder	<b>20 FINAL EXERCISE</b> Comparison of Results and Feedback Round
<b>14-15</b>	<b>Official Opening Course Introduction</b>	<b>3 CPOC IN THE CONTEXT OF UN PSO</b> LtGen rtd Jasbir Singh Lidder	<b>14 PROTECTION ROLE OF THE MILITARY</b> LtGen rtd Jasbir Singh Lidder	<b>18 CPOC IMPLEMENTATION</b> LtGen rtd Jasbir Singh Lidder	<b>21 Q&amp;A and Wrap Up</b>
<b>15-16</b>	<b>1 INTRODUCTION TO THE CONCEPT OF CPOC</b> UN DPO ITS Expert tbc	<b>Q&amp;A, Daily Wrap up</b>	<b>Q&amp;A, Daily Wrap up</b>	<b>19 Q &amp; A</b> All Trainers	<b>Official Closing</b>
<b>16-17</b>	<b>2 CPOC IN THE CONTEXT OF UN PSO</b> UN DPO ITS Expert tbc			<i>Start of Final Exercise Group Work</i>	
<b>16-16.30</b>	<b>Q&amp;A, Daily Wrap up</b>				

NB: Timings are local time in Austria at the course dates, i.e. UTC+1 – every module includes a 5 min break at the end, starting time of each module is accurate