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United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Unitar Online Catalogue

United Nations Geneva Immersion Programme - Premium Package - May Edition 2026

Multilateral Diplomacy

Deadline: 9 Apr 2026

Type:	Course
Location:	Geneva, Switzerland
Date:	13 Apr 2026 to 15 May 2026
Duration:	31 Days
Programme Area:	Multilateral Diplomacy
Website:	http://www.unitar.org/immersionprogramme
Price:	\$3,880.00
Event Focal Point Email:	multilateralism@unitar.org
Contact Number:	022 917 84 00

BACKGROUND

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) was established in 1963 as an autonomous body within the United Nations with the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of the work of the UN and its member states.

UNITAR designs and conducts close to 500 different training and knowledge sharing events per year for some 50,000 beneficiaries worldwide. Participants include diplomats, other government officials, non-governmental representatives, and other stakeholders.

At the heart of UNITAR, the Multilateral Diplomacy Programme Unit (MDPU) delivers training workshops to address the needs of these international actors. MDPU's activities cover a wide range of domains, including training on the UN system and skills development.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

UNITAR designed a blended program consisting of a 4-weeks e-Learning course followed by a 5-day field visit to Geneva, offering participants a full immersion into the United Nations' multilateral working environment.

In line with UNITAR's mandate, its main purpose is to enhance participants' knowledge and skills in the area of international affairs and diplomacy. This will empower them to work more effectively and efficiently in any multilateral setting.

UNITAR further intends to strengthen the participants' conviction of the principles enshrined in the UN Charter, especially multilateralism. It lastly aspires to give its participants access to UN institutions and personnel in order to gain valuable insights into future career opportunities.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The UN Geneva Immersion Programme serves to provide an overview of the United Nations. It will help participants build knowledge on international affairs, deliver training in core diplomatic skills and offer activities with Geneva-based agencies. At the end of the Immersion Programme, participants should be able to:

- Explain key components of the United Nations' system and its agencies
- Familiarize oneself with International Geneva as a city of multilateralism
- Apply core skills and techniques of common diplomatic practice
- Develop critical knowledge for careers in international organizations
- Adapt values and principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The UN Geneva Immersion Programme - Premium Package consists of two parts: (i) a 4-week preparatory e-Learning course, followed by (ii) a 5-day field visit to Geneva.

i) e-Learning course (13 April - 08 May 2026)

The e-learning course will be implemented on UNITAR's e-Learning platform. It comprises 4 different modules, can be studied in a self-paced manner and requires 6-8 hours of studying per week. The course includes weekly reading material, multimedia files as well as discussion boards exchanging views with fellow participants and UNITAR instructors.

- Module 1: The United Nations
- Module 2: Conference Diplomacy
- Module 3: Negotiation Skills
- Module 4: Cosmopolitan Communication

In addition, the preparatory e-Learning course will feature a series of 1.5 hour live-webinars and 3.5 hour e-workshops with UN experts. These will cover the above topics as well as Leadership Skills and UN Career Development. These live sessions will be implemented each week for a total of 4 hours per week on the platform Zoom.

ii) Field Visit to Geneva (11 - 15 May 2026)

Hosting 35 international organizations and more than 250 NGOs, the city of Geneva offers itself for a whole series of potentially formative experiences. UNITAR hosts most of the activity in the headquarters of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and provides a nuanced balance between the following different components:

Expert Lectures:

UNITAR's professional network across Geneva allows it to organize a series of 1-2-hour expert lectures, in which participants can directly learn from UN personnel or other high-level officials. Previous programmes have included lectures from the following organizations:

- United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- World Trade Organization (WTO)

Training Workshops:

As its core activity and raison d'être, UNITAR provides several face-to-face workshops to the participants. Delivered by experts such as retired ambassadors, previous programmes have included the following workshops:

- Negotiation Skills
- Public Speaking Skills
- Workshop on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Guided Tours:

Geneva is rich in historic buildings important to international affairs. Thanks to its access across the city, UNITAR can provide a series of private guided tours. Previous programmes have included tours through the following facilities:

- The United Nations' Palace of Nations
- The Museum of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- The Maison de la Paix, housing the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID)

Career Development Sessions:

UNITAR also provides several 1-2 hour sessions on how to advance your professional career and find a solid footing in the world of international organizations. These sessions can include the following components:

- Information session on internships and other entry positions in the UN system
- Training workshop on application to a UN job opening and interview skills in the UN context
- Review of application material, including CV, motivation letter, personal history form, Inspira profile, LinkedIn profile

METHODOLOGY

Given the complexity of Geneva's multilateral environment, UNITAR will cover a series of different thematic areas during the course of the Programme. These will include peace and security, human rights and humanitarian affairs, global health and well-being, trade and technology as well as the environment and sustainable

development.

The Immersion Programme is designed to be highly interactive and participatory. Activities will include a high level of direct exposure to policy practitioners and diplomatic settings, thereby allowing participants to gain thorough knowledge and understanding of the United Nations.

All of the activities will take place in the English language.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

UNITAR welcomes a variety of professional backgrounds as well as differing degrees of experience among its participants. The Immersion Programme is therefore open to all actors related to international affairs wishing to build up knowledge and skills related to the United Nations or International Geneva.

Participants can include public sector officials, private sector professionals and representatives from NGOs, think tanks or academia. Junior professionals and graduate students are equally welcome to apply.

In order to ensure the highest possible quality during the field visit, registration will be closed after 30 participants. Allocation of slots will be on a first-come, first-served basis. At the end of the Immersion Programme, participants will be awarded a UNITAR certificate of completion.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

The participants are responsible to purchase their own travel tickets to and from Geneva as well as to apply for a visa to Switzerland. UNITAR gladly supports this process with the help of official visa invitation letters.

For premium package participants, the accommodation in Geneva is included in the fee. UNITAR will provide 6 nights in a reputable mid-range hotel in close proximity to the United Nations institutions (check-in Sunday, 10 May 2026,

checkout Saturday, 16 May 2026).

UNITAR will further sponsor a welcome dinner to participants, a welcome package including relevant training materials, entry tickets to sights and museums as well as transportation costs during the activity. For scholarships inquiries, kindly send an email to: [multilateralism \[at\] unitar.org](mailto:multilateralism@unitar.org) ([multilateralism\[at\]unitar\[dot\]org](mailto:multilateralism@unitar.org))

Please read this before registration "*I understand that the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) does not insure participants in the above-described activity and I am advised to arrange at my own expense insurance against sickness, accident, permanent or temporary disability, death, and third-party risk for the period of the meeting, including travel time*"