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Peace Operations Training Institute adds civil-military coordination course to curriculum

The Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI) released a major update of its civil-military coordination course on 2 February 2017. *Civil-Military Coordination in Peace Operations* offers a broader, more adaptable, full-spectrum approach to mission and multi-agency coordination and transition management in United Nations-mandated peace operations. The course also links security to humanitarian assistance, development, and peacebuilding. A French version of the updated course was released on 17 March 2017.

The course is a natural progression from the previous courses, *Civil-Military Coordination* and *United Nations Civil-Military Coordination*. The 2017 edition incorporates best practices obtained from UN field missions, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations Integrated Training Service, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and many other sources. One of these sources is the *Handbook on Human Security: A Civil-Military-Police Curriculum*, available through the Peace Portal at <<https://www.peaceportal.org/documents/130617663/0/FINAL+HANDBOOK+November+30+1154.pdf>>.

The course is laid out in two informal parts. The first part explains the concepts and principles of civil-military coordination through the context of full-spectrum UN peace operations, paying particular attention to military support to humanitarian assistance and peacebuilding. The second part explores the practical application of these strategic ideas at the operational and tactical levels. These lessons pay particular attention to civil-military relations and transition management through civil assistance (including the protection of civilians and coordination with police) and joint analysis, planning, monitoring and evaluation, and project management. The final lesson is a review of civil-military coordination as an exercise in adaptive leadership and communication.

This course helps students gain a greater appreciation of how a UN peace operation works in the field; complements other POTI courses; and serves as a primer for scenario-based, table top exercise learning platforms tailored for specific audiences, missions, and circumstances.

For more information on this and other POTI courses, visit the POTI Peacekeeping Training Courses page at <<http://www.peaceopstraining.org/courses/>>.

POTI in 2016: By the numbers

123,388

Number of course enrolments

186

Countries represented by POTI students

47,280

Total active students enrolled

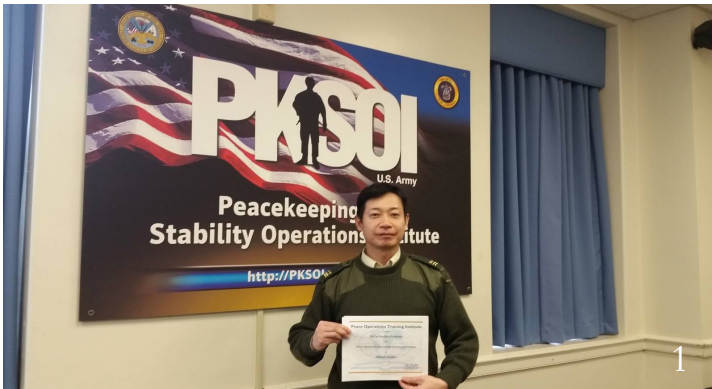


Photo 1: LTC Norihisa Urakami a POTI student from Japan, pictured holding his POST Certificate, met with POTI Registrar and Chief of Institutional Relations Vanessa Anderson during her tour of PKSOI in January 2017. Photo 2: Ms. Anderson (left) and CIMIC course co-author Colonel Christopher Holshek (retired) at USAHEC in Carlisle, Pennsylvania in January 2017.

POTI staff participate in joint working group on peace operations

In January, POTI Registrar and Chief of Institutional Relations, Vanessa Anderson, and course author Colonel Christopher Holshek (retired) participated in the Air Land Sea Application Centre's (ALSA) multi-service tactics, techniques, and procedures (MTTP) for peace operations joint working group. The event was held at the US Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC) in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The group worked to update a publication to provide a common operating framework for the US Army, Air Force, and Marines to integrate and execute peace operations. Ms. Anderson and Colonel Holshek provided expertise on training and e-learning on peacekeeping topics.

While at USAHEC, Ms. Anderson met LTC Norihisa Urakami, a POTI student from Japan. LTC Urakami currently serves as a Peace Operations Analyst at the US Army Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute (PKSOI). LTC Urakami earned a Peace Operations Specialized Training (POST) Certificate in Military Studies in 2016.

E-Learning for Mission Staff (ELMS)

ELMS provides all military personnel, police, and civilians serving on UN, African Union, and hybrid missions free access to 12 POTI courses. The courses available through ELMS provide a valuable opportunity for mission staff to enhance their knowledge on a variety of peacekeeping-related topics. ELMS was made possible by the generous support of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden during 2016.

During 2016, students representing 119 countries serving on 25 peacekeeping, political, assistance, and emergency response missions used this training opportunity. The three most popular courses were *Introduction to the UN System*, *Protection of Civilians*, and *Human Rights and Peacekeeping*.

Right photo: CIMIC activity in the Congregation of Sisters of Charity in Gonaïves (Haiti) by Major Alfredo, Argentina. "I have participated in five peacekeeping operations. The last great experience was in MINUSTAH as a Logistics Officer (Argentine Joint Battalion)." Major Alfredo completed 16 POTI courses during 2016.

All military personnel, police, and civilians serving on AU, UN, and hybrid missions qualify for free courses through ELMS.

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