

Ethics in Peace Operations



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The Centre for Military Ethics, King's College London

SERIES EDITOR

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Cover Photo: UN Photo #795042 by Harandane Dicko. The region of Menaka, located 1,500 km from Bamako in the northeast of Mali, experienced increasing insecurity as a result of attacks by terrorist groups and other armed groups. United Nations Police serving with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) carried out daily patrols in order to secure the civilian population. UN Police Officers from Chad serving with MINUSMA speak with the local population while on patrol in the region. 9 January 2019.

This course is co-branded with the express agreement of the Centre for Military Ethics, King's College London.

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Versions of this course offered in other languages may differ slightly from the primary English master copy. Translators make every effort to retain the integrity of the material.

Ethics in Peace Operations

Table of Contents

Foreword.....	ix
Preface.....	x
Method of Study.....	xiii
Lesson 1 Code of Conduct.....	14
Section 1.1 Guiding Principles for the UN Peacekeeper’s Code of Conduct.....	16
Section 1.2 The UN Code of Personal Conduct for Blue Helmets.....	19
Section 1.3 Consequences of Violations of the Code of Conduct.....	20
Lesson 2 Cultural Awareness.....	27
Section 2.1 Concept of Culture and its Importance.....	29
Section 2.2 Dangers.....	29
Section 2.3 Culture in Peace Operations.....	30
Section 2.4 Understanding Cultural Differences.....	30
Section 2.5 Building Cultural Awareness.....	31
Section 2.6 Cultural Property Protection.....	33
Lesson 3 Gender and Peace Operations.....	42
Section 3.1 Gender versus Sex.....	44

Section 3.2	Gender Analysis in Military Operations.....	45
Section 3.3	Gender Roles.....	46
Section 3.4	Gender Discrimination.....	47
Section 3.5	Gender and Human Rights.....	47
Section 3.6	The Impact of Conflict on Women.....	48
Section 3.7	Sexual Relations in Peace Operations and Protecting Gender Rights.....	49
Section 3.8	Women, Peace, and Security.....	50
Lesson 4	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Human Trafficking in Peace Operations.....	56
Section 4.1	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA).....	59
Section 4.2	Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.....	61
Section 4.3	Human Trafficking.....	62
Section 4.4	The Impact of SEA and Human Trafficking on Peace Operations.....	63
Section 4.5	UN Standards.....	64
Section 4.6	DPO Prevention of and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.....	65
Section 4.7	Responsibilities of Peace Operations Personnel.....	69
Lesson 5	Child Protection.....	74
Section 5.1	Understanding Child Protection.....	76
Section 5.2	The Rights of the Child.....	76
Section 5.3	CRC Guiding Principles.....	77
Section 5.4	The Consequences of Conflict on Children.....	77
Section 5.5	The UN and Child Protection in Peace Operations.....	82
Section 5.6	Who are Child Protection Advisers?.....	83

Lesson 6	Human Rights in Peace Operations.....	86
Section 6.1	What are Human Rights?.....	88
Section 6.2	The Legal Basis for Human Rights.....	90
Section 6.3	Human Rights and Host Countries.....	92
Section 6.4	International Humanitarian Law (IHL).....	95
Section 6.5	Examples of Human Rights Violations.....	96
Section 6.6	Applying Human Rights in a Peacekeeping Environment.....	98
Lesson 7	HIV/AIDS Awareness and UN Policies Guidelines.....	110
Section 7.1	Basic Facts about HIV/AIDS.....	112
Section 7.2	Exposure Risks of Contracting HIV.....	116
Section 7.3	Protection Against HIV.....	121
Section 7.4	HIV/AIDS and Peacekeeping.....	121
Lesson 8	UN Guidelines and Procedures on Discipline for Uniformed Peace Operations Forces.....	125
Section 8.1	Off-Duty Misconduct.....	127
Section 8.2	Consequences of Violations of UN Guidelines and Procedures on Discipline for Uniformed Peacekeepers.....	128
Section 8.3	Protecting Human Rights and Gender.....	130
Section 8.4	Legal Status of Peacekeepers and Jurisdiction for Violations.....	134
Section 8.5	Command Responsibility for Human Rights Discipline.....	137
Section 8.6	Loyalty Towards Comrades-in-Arms.....	139
Section 8.7	Uniformed Peacekeepers' Duty to Act.....	139
Section 8.8	Essential Principles on Human Rights Conduct.....	142
Appendix A:	List of Acronyms.....	151
Appendix B:	We Are United Nations Peacekeepers.....	154

Appendix C: Current Peacekeeping Missions.....	156
Appendix D: Secretary-General’s Bulletin on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (2003).....	157
Appendix E: United Nations Security Council Resolution 1539 (2004).....	158
Appendix F: Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948).....	159
Instructions for the End-of-Course Examination.....	160

Foreword

This course is the result of compiling existing manuals, courses, and official guidance that have addressed topics related to ethics across the full spectrum of peace operations. The authors have attempted to provide an overview and have considered perspectives concerning the major aspects of modern-day peacekeeping and peace support operations from an ethical perspective. This course is not intended to be an academic work or, even less so, a scientific one. Rather, it presents a general introduction to the basic ethical aspects of peace operations.

This text was written for a general audience. It adopts an approach to the material that seeks to be both universally applicable and free of any political agenda. It makes no claim to providing comprehensive coverage of all subject areas that make up the field of humanitarian assistance but instead refers the student to other references, organizations, and websites. In addition, this course should not be considered a technical reference work; it does not attempt to replace the excellent documents that have been produced over previous decades by various actors within the United Nations System and across international non-governmental organizations.

The intent of this course is to provide a basic overview and create an understanding of ethics in peace operations. Through the use of the case studies and practical examples, this compilation aims to be a guideline for peace support personnel in the field. It is our hope that the readers will share their thoughts and discuss with each other the issues raised in this course.

–The King's Centre for Military Ethics, 2019



Preface

The Nature of Today's Conflicts

The post-Cold War era has witnessed a new pattern of armed conflicts emerge. While conflicts continue to occur in many parts of the world and have increased in the last decade, they have mainly been of an internal nature, involving States and non-State actors, which include irregular forces, private militias, and guerrillas. They have often been rooted in ethnic tensions, fights for control over natural resources, the people's struggle to achieve freedom from oppression, social justice, and a democratic government. In some cases, conflicts have resulted in "failed States", where government institutions and the legal and political systems have collapsed, rendering the protection of human rights more difficult.

These conflicts are accompanied by massive humanitarian crises and large-scale violations of human rights. Civilians are deliberate targets of violence. Mass population displacement, the use of child soldiers, violence against ethnic and religious groups, gender-based and sexual violence, deliberate destruction of property and crops, and mutilations are some of the human rights violations that accompany contemporary conflicts. Thus, human rights violations are, at the same time, causes and consequences of conflicts.

Peace support operations prevent or contain conflict, restore peace, or support reconciliation and rebuilding in a post-conflict setting. There are five types of peace operations:

- **Conflict Prevention.** The key points of the different aspects of conflict prevention are as follows:
 - It involves the use of diplomatic measures or other tools to prevent inter-/intra-State tensions from turning into violent conflict;
 - It occurs before a conflict starts. It is generally a peaceful measure adapted to the particular source of the dispute or tension; and
 - It may include dialogue, mediation, enquiries into sources of disagreement, or confidence-building measures.

Depending on the situation, different conflict prevention measures may be taken by different parts of the UN and the international community, including regional organizations. One common conflict prevention measure is the use of the "good offices" of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to engage in dialogue with the different parties. The aim of this dialogue may be to decrease tension, mediate a disagreement, or help resolve the dispute.

- **Peacemaking.** The key points for peacemaking are as follows:
 - It involves measures to deal with existing conflicts;
 - It usually involves diplomatic action to bring hostile parties to a negotiated agreement; and
 - It may include direct activities by the UN to assist in negotiating a peace agreement, or it may mean that the UN facilitates peacemaking by peace negotiators or other regional or international actors, for instance, by providing neutral facilities for their negotiations or chairing sessions of the negotiations.

The Security Council may request the Secretary-General or other peacemakers, such as regional organizations, to take action. At the same time, the Secretary-General or regional organizations also have the power to initiate peacemaking, such as the use of “good offices” to assist in the resolution of the conflict. Peacemakers may also include envoys, governments, groups of States, regional organizations, or the UN itself. Peacemaking efforts may also be undertaken by unofficial and non-governmental groups, or by a prominent personality working independently.

- **Peace Enforcement.** This involves the application of a range of coercive measures including sanctions, blockades, or the use of military force under Security Council authorization. Aspects of peace enforcement include the following:
 - Coercive measures are taken only with the authorization of the Security Council when other measures have failed or are not feasible; and
 - The Security Council may authorize peace enforcement without the consent of conflicting parties if there is a threat to international peace or for humanitarian and protection purposes. This may occur in situations where civilians are suffering and there is no peace agreement in place, nor is there any peacemaking process which appears to be moving forward.

Peace enforcement is different from peacekeeping since there is no peace process in place or consent from the warring parties. However, Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations still provides the legal basis for such an operation or action. The UN itself does not generally engage in peace enforcement. When it is appropriate, the Security Council may use regional organizations for peace enforcement action, which must always be initiated after authorization of the Security Council.

Although the line between “robust” peacekeeping and peace enforcement may appear blurred at times, there are important differences between the two:

- Peace enforcement involves the use of military force, without the consent of the parties to the conflict, while robust peacekeeping has the consent of the host country; and
- Both require the authorization of the use of force by the Security Council.
- **Peacekeeping.** Military operations designed to preserve peace where fighting has halted, often to support the implementation of a ceasefire agreement or truce and to support diplomatic efforts to reach a long-term political settlement.
- **Peacebuilding.** Military actors conduct stability activities (often referred to as “stability operations”), usually in conjunction with or in support of non-military actors. These efforts often emphasize building or strengthening host State institutions to prevent conflict.

The peacekeeper and the mission area

Peacekeepers are powerful because they have money; mobility; force; and access to food, water, and other goods. This causes a power imbalance between the peacekeepers and the host population.

Wearing a uniform brings with it personal responsibility. Those wearing the uniform have a responsibility to the service for which they work to keep the peace in a dignified and civilized manner. They also have a responsibility to the public. The primary responsibilities of uniformed personnel are to

uphold the law, respect human rights, and set an example to society. Uniformed personnel are easily identified by the public because of the uniform they wear.

The uniform represents power and force; the person wearing it is usually respected and often feared. A person wearing a uniform usually also has more resources than the local population, especially in conflict zones. Because of the power and influence that goes along with wearing a uniform, the potential for abuse is present. This abuse can result in disrespect and even disgust for the person who is abusive. It also, by extension, brings disrespect to the service as a whole. Peacekeepers who abuse alcohol and indulge in sex for money while wearing a uniform also set a poor example to the public and other people in the service.

Most peacekeepers use this power to do good. The international presence can have a positive effect by initiating and supporting efforts to stop organized crime and improve the conditions of the local population, including groups that are particularly vulnerable to the effects of human rights violations. These vulnerable groups include women, children, minorities, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and the elderly. As they are unable to withstand the pressures of conflict effectively, they are easy prey for humiliation and physical abuse.

Some peacekeepers have, however, used their powerful situation to abuse vulnerable populations. They do this by using prostitutes, often including children; by spreading HIV/AIDS; by getting involved in or unknowingly encouraging organized crime involving prostitution and the trafficking of women; by abandoning children they have fathered; and by abandoning women who have been promised marriage or other benefits in exchange for a sexual relationship. This compounds the difficulties these communities face. Such behaviour is illegal and morally unacceptable, and the UN will not tolerate it.

The UN Core Values — integrity, professionalism, and respect for diversity — form the basis for this course. They are important principles and should not be underestimated.

Violations of UN values will result in a negative impact on the credibility of the UN.



View a video introduction to this course at <https://www.peaceopstraining.org/videos/course/186/ethics-in-peace-operations-english-2019/>.

Method of Study

This self-paced course aims to give students flexibility in their approach to learning. The following steps are meant to provide motivation and guidance about some possible strategies and minimum expectations for completing this course successfully:

- Before you begin studying, first browse through the entire course. Notice the lesson and section titles to get an overall idea of what will be involved as you proceed.
 - The material is meant to be relevant and practical. Instead of memorizing individual details, strive to understand concepts and overall perspectives in regard to the United Nations system.
 - Set personal guidelines and benchmarks regarding how you want to schedule your time.
 - Study the lesson content and the learning objectives. At the beginning of each lesson, orient yourself to the main points. If possible, read the material twice to ensure maximum understanding and retention, and let time elapse between readings.
 - At the end of each lesson, take the End-of-Lesson Quiz. Clarify any missed questions by rereading the appropriate sections, and focus on retaining the correct information.
 - After you complete all of the lessons, prepare for the End-of-Course Examination by taking time to review the main points of each lesson. Then, when ready, log into your online student classroom and take the End-of-Course Examination in one sitting.
- » ***Access your online classroom at***
<www.peaceopstraining.org/users/user_login>
from virtually anywhere in the world.
- Your exam will be scored electronically. If you achieve a passing grade of 75 per cent or higher on the exam, you will be awarded a Certificate of Completion. If you score below 75 per cent, you will be given one opportunity to take a second version of the End-of-Course Examination.
 - A note about language: This course uses English spelling according to the standards of the Oxford English Dictionary (United Kingdom) and the United Nations Editorial Manual.

Key Features of Your Online Classroom »

- Access to all of your courses;
- A secure testing environment in which to complete your training;
- Access to additional training resources, including multimedia course supplements;
- The ability to download your Certificate of Completion for any completed course; and
- Forums where you can discuss relevant topics with the POTI community.

LESSON

1

Code of Conduct



UN Photo #55620 by UN.

Peacekeepers represent both the UN and their own countries.

In this lesson »

- Section 1.1 Guiding Principles for the UN Peacekeeper's Code of Conduct
- Section 1.2 The UN Code of Personal Conduct for Blue Helmets
- Section 1.3 Consequences of Violations of the Code of Conduct

Lesson Objectives »

- List and briefly discuss the UN code of conduct and standards of behaviour for service in field missions.
- Understand the code of conduct and the reasons for its existence, as well as its content including impartiality, integrity, respect, and loyalty.
- List the consequences of actions that fail to comply with the code of conduct.



Peacekeepers from Senegal serving with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) patrol sensitive areas in central Mali. Peacekeepers speak with the local population during the patrol in the villages of So (Bandiagara), Sadhia Pheul (Bankass), and Djominati (Bankass), outside of Mopti. 4 July 2019. UN Photo #814841 by Gema Cortes.

Introduction

Peacekeepers represent both the UN and their own countries. Their conduct, both positive and negative, affects the success of the whole mission. The UN embodies the aspirations of the people of the world for peace. In this context, the UN Charter requires all peacekeeping personnel to maintain the highest standards of integrity and conduct. Peacekeepers, whether military, police, or civilian, must comply with the guidelines on International Humanitarian Law for Forces Undertaking UN Peacekeeping Operations and all applicable portions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) as the fundamental basis of all their standards of action. There is a three-pronged strategy to address misconduct: prevention, enforcement of the UN Standards of Conduct, and remedial action.¹

1) United Nations, "Conduct in UN Field Missions". Available from: <<https://conduct.unmissions.org/>>.

Peacekeepers are present in the mission area to aid in the recovery from the trauma caused by conflict. As a result, they must consciously be prepared to accept social constraints in their public and private lives in order to do the work and to pursue the ideals of the UN. Peacekeepers are accorded certain privileges and immunities through agreements negotiated between the host country and the UN solely for the purpose of discharging peacekeeping duties. At a mission, expectations of the world community and the local population will be high, and the actions of peacekeepers must be correspondingly high. Therefore, their conduct and actions will be closely observed.

Section 1.1 Guiding Principles for the UN Peacekeeper’s Code of Conduct

The UN Core Pre-deployment Training Materials (CPTMs)² indicate three core values that are overarching to all UN activities: integrity, professionalism, and respect for diversity.³

» Integrity

- Demonstrate the values of the UN in daily activities and behaviours.
- Act without consideration of personal gain.
- Resist undue political pressure in decision making.
- Stand by decisions that are in the Organization’s interest, even if they are unpopular.
- Do not abuse power or authority.
- Take prompt action in cases of unprofessional or unethical behaviour.

» Professionalism

- Show pride in work and achievements.
- Demonstrate professional competence and mastery of subject matter.
- Be conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines, and achieving results. Be motivated by professional rather than personal concerns.
- Show persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges.
- Remain calm in stressful situations.

» Respect for Diversity

- Work effectively with people from all backgrounds.
- Treat all people with dignity and respect.
- Treat men and women equally.
- Show respect for and an understanding of diverse points of view, and demonstrate this understanding in daily work and decision making.
- Examine personal biases and behaviours to avoid stereotypical responses.
- Do not discriminate against any individual or group.

2) United Nations, “Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials”. Available from: <<https://research.un.org/revisedcptm2017>>.

3) United Nations, “Competencies for the Future”. Available from: <https://careers.un.org/lbw/attachments/competencies_booklet_en.pdf>.

The following four additional guiding principles summarize the core values of the UN in its task of maintaining international peace and security. Every peacekeeper must bear them in mind.

- **Impartiality:** Even-handedness. Not being favourable, preferential, or supportive of any group, person, or plan over another.
- **Loyalty:** Unqualified support. Fully and always supporting someone or something even when circumstances or others may challenge this support.
- **Integrity:** Trustworthiness and behaving in a professional manner, even when unobserved.
- **Respect:** Acting with compassion and consideration for diverse peoples and their views.

In the following portion of this section, each principle is explained and accompanied by relevant “Dos and Don’ts” to guide peacekeepers. Some of these guidelines will often apply to more than one principle.

Impartiality

The impartial and objective pursuit of the mission’s mandate, regardless of provocation and challenge, is essential to preserving the legitimacy of the operation and the consent and cooperation of conflicting parties. The effort to maintain impartiality, however, must not promote inaction — impartiality is not the same as being neutral or trying to please both sides despite one or more parties breaking the rules. On the contrary, peacekeepers must discharge their tasks firmly and objectively without fear or favour. Importantly, neither side should gain an unfair advantage as a result of the activities of a peace operation.

» Do

- Remain impartial at all times.
- Understand the mission mandate and any subsidiary directives and operational instructions.

» Don’t

- Take any action that might jeopardize the mission.
- Make any unauthorized communications to external agencies, including making unauthorized press statements.
- Improperly disclose or use information gained through your employment.

Integrity

Personal integrity will establish both credibility and authority for the UN peacekeeper. It is essential for the establishment of trust with the host population and as an expression of commitment to the achievement of the mission mandate. Integrity involves behaving professionally at all times, whether or not you are under observation.

» Do

- Conduct yourself in a professional and disciplined manner.
- Support and encourage proper conduct.
- Maintain proper dress at all times.

- Properly account for all money and property assigned to you.
- Care for all UN equipment placed in your charge.
- » Don't
- Undertake in some form of misconduct, even of a minor nature.
 - Misconduct includes any act, omission, or negligence that violates human rights; UN values; mission standard operating procedures (SOPs) or directives; or any other applicable rules, regulations, or administrative instructions.

Respect

Within a UN peacekeeping mission, there will usually be a wide diversity of nationalities, races, religions, and cultural backgrounds. Part of the strength of the UN lies in this diversity, and some cultures and behaviours may be vastly different from your own. Treat all people with dignity and respect. Show respect and understanding of diverse points of view, and demonstrate this understanding in your daily work. Examine your own biases and prejudices, and avoid stereotypical attitudes. Also, exercise restraint at all times in the expression of personal views.

- » Do
 - Respect the environment of the host country.
 - Treat the inhabitants of the host country with respect, courtesy, and consideration.
 - Support and aid the sick and weak.
 - Respect all other peacekeepers regardless of rank, ethnic or national origin, race, or gender.
- » Don't
 - Be abusive or uncivil to any member of the public.
 - Commit any act that could result in suffering for the local population.

Loyalty

Remain loyal to the values, objectives, and goals of the UN and the mission mandate. You are in the mission to serve the interests of the UN and the international community. Do not pursue any national or personal agenda. Stand by decisions that are in the interests of the UN even if they are unpopular or different from your personal interests. If you are in a decision making position, resist undue political pressure from any faction or government. The sole consideration for all your actions and decisions is the interest of the UN.

- » Do
 - Dedicate yourself to achieving the goals of the UN in the mission regardless of your personal views.

- » Don't
 - Discredit the UN or your country through improper personal conduct, failure to perform your duties, or abuse of your positions as peacekeepers.



The 2017 CPTMs state that three principles underpin UN standards of conduct:


1. Highest standards of efficiency, competence, and integrity
2. Zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)
3. Accountability of those in command or authority who fail to enforce standards of conduct

The UN standards of conduct are principles for all peacekeeping personnel.

Section 1.2 The UN Code of Personal Conduct for Blue Helmets

The following 10 rules summarize the “Dos and Don’ts” associated with the three guiding principles. Each peacekeeper is issued one card as a reminder of his or her personal code of conduct. Read it frequently and do not violate the code. There will be serious personal consequences for you and possibly for the UN mission if you do. This card is supported by the “We are United Nations Peacekeepers” card, which is listed in Appendix B and sets out the “Dos and Don’ts” in a recognizable format.



**TEN RULES
CODE OF PERSONAL CONDUCT
FOR BLUE HELMETS**

- 1** Dress, think, talk, act and behave in a manner befitting the dignity of a disciplined, caring, considerate, mature, respected and trusted soldier, displaying the highest integrity and impartiality. Have pride in your position as a peace-keeper and do not abuse or misuse your authority.
- 2** Respect the law of the land of the host country, their local culture, traditions, customs and practices.
- 3** Treat the inhabitants of the host country with respect, courtesy and consideration. You are there as a guest to help them and in so doing will be welcomed with admiration. Neither solicit or accept any material reward, honor or gift.
- 4** Do not indulge in immoral acts of sexual, physical or psychological abuse or exploitation of the local population or United Nations staff, especially women and children.

- 5** Respect and regard the human rights of all. Support and aid the infirm, sick and weak. Do not act in revenge or with malice, in particular when dealing with prisoners, detainees or people in your custody.
- 6** Properly care for and account for all United Nations money, vehicles, equipment and property assigned to you and do not trade or barter with them to seek personal benefits.
- 7** Show military courtesy and pay appropriate compliments to all members of the mission, including other United Nations contingents regardless of their creed, gender, rank or origin.
- 8** Show respect for and promote the environment, including the flora and fauna, of the host country.
- 9** Do not engage in excessive consumption of alcohol or any consumption or trafficking of drugs.
- 10** Exercise the utmost discretion in handling confidential information and matters of official business which can put lives into danger or soil the image of the United Nations.

Section 1.3 Consequences of Violations of the Code of Conduct

Certain privileges and immunities are granted to peacekeepers by the Secretary-General for the performance of their official duties and in the interest of the UN. They are not for the personal benefit of peacekeepers. Depending on your category (formed military contingent, military observer/civilian police, civilian), the immunities and privileges apply in different ways. However, regardless of application, you are still liable to disciplinary action and, in serious cases, criminal proceedings for violations of the code of conduct.

As an individual (and depending on your category), you are also liable to suffer various consequences for your misconduct. The consequences will also depend on the severity of your offence or misconduct, and all categories build on the same three principles of the UN standards of conduct as outlined in the 2017 CPTMs.

Differing definitions of misconduct

- » For Civilian Personnel:⁴
 - Failure by a staff member to comply with his/her obligations under the UN Charter, Staff Regulations and Rules, or other relevant administrative issuances.
 - Failure by a staff member to observe the standards of conduct expected of an international civil servant.
- » For Members of National Contingents and Military Staff Officers:
 - Misconduct means any act or omission that is a violation of UN standards of conduct, mission-specific rules and regulations, or the obligations towards national and local laws and regulations in accordance with the status of forces agreement (SOFA) where the impact is outside the national contingent.
 - Serious Misconduct is misconduct, including criminal acts, that results in or is likely to result in serious loss, damage, or injury to an individual or to a mission. Sexual exploitation and abuse constitute serious misconduct.
- » For UN Police and military observers (UNMOs):
 - Minor Misconduct is any act, omission or negligence that is a violation of mission SOPs, directives, or any other applicable rules, regulations, or administrative instructions, but which does not result in or is not likely to result in major damage or injury to an individual or the mission.
 - Serious Misconduct is any act, omission, or negligence, including criminal acts, that is a violation of mission SOPs, directives, or any other applicable rules, regulations, or administrative instructions, that results in or is likely to result in serious damage or injury to an individual or to the mission.

Categories of misconduct

Category I – Serious Misconduct offences are high risk, complex matters and serious criminal cases.

4) United Nations, "Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations" (ST/SGB/2018/1). Available from: <<https://hr.un.org/handbook/staff-rules>>.

Independent, professionally trained and experienced investigators best handle inquiries into Category I matters. For military contingents, their national authorities are responsible for handling investigations. Category I cases include:

- Serious or complex fraud;
- Embezzlement or other financial malfeasance;
- Breach of confidentiality;
- SEA;
- Other serious criminal acts or activity;
- Conflicts of interest;
- Gross mismanagement;
- Waste of substantial resources;
- All cases involving risk of loss of life to staff or to others, including witnesses; and
- Substantial violation of UN regulations, rules, or administrative issuances.

Category II – Misconduct offences are lower-risk cases.

The classification does not reflect the extreme distress such misconduct causes to victims. Mission structures usually handle inquiries into Category II matters. These include:

- Minor theft and traffic offences (e.g. speeding);
- Sexual and other work-related harassment;
- Contract disputes;
- Office management disputes;
- Basic misuse of equipment or staff;
- Basic mismanagement issues;
- Infractions of regulations, rules, or administrative issuances; and
- Simple entitlement fraud.

Consequences

Depending on the level of the misconduct, staff may find themselves subject to one or more of the following consequences:

- **Internal Disciplinary Action.** Staff may be subject to disciplinary action by a superior officer or supervisor. This may include a verbal or written censure, a reprimand, and/or retraining in a skill area. Military peacekeepers may be subject to the code of military discipline by the Member State that is responsible for taking disciplinary and/or criminal action, resulting in fines, detention, repatriation, or dismissal.
- **Repatriation/Termination of Contract.** They may be repatriated to their home country on the



Sweden is one of the major troop contributors to MINUSMA, with a battalion of 252 military personnel, including 25 women. A Swedish peacekeeper on patrol in Timbuktu. 11 October 2018. UN Photo #782275 by Harandane Dicko.

recommendation of the Force Commander or the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG). For a civilian peacekeeper, this may lead to termination of their contract with the UN. No misconduct, however attractive it may seem, is worth the loss of one's good reputation, job, or career prospects.

- **Criminal Proceedings.** In very serious cases of misconduct, especially where the laws of the host country have been broken, peacekeepers may find themselves facing criminal proceedings in the host country. The immunities and privileges that individuals have as UN peacekeepers do not in any way permit them to break the established laws of the land.
- **Financial Liability.** In cases of negligent damage or loss of UN property, peacekeepers may be liable to bear the financial cost of replacement. This money may be sought from them personally or their national contingent, which may, in turn, take disciplinary action to recover the money from their salary.

The following two case studies highlight different breaches of the code of conduct and their implications. Each consists of a short scenario, a series of questions, and notes.

Case Study 1 – “A Little Money on the Side” »

During a peacekeeping mission, two peacekeepers decided to “make a little money on the side” by buying alcohol cheaply from the UN post exchange (PX) shop and selling it to the locals for profit. The two peacekeepers knew that alcohol was expensive in local shops, so there would be a ready market for their trade.

In a short time, word spread around the local community that alcohol was on sale at one particular UN position, and business boomed for the two soldiers. In order to secure more stock and to avoid raising the suspicions of the PX staff, the two soldiers encouraged other peacekeepers to buy alcohol on their behalf in return for a share of the profits. Sales continued to grow until word of the operation reached local shopkeepers and civic leaders. They complained to the mission headquarters, which acted swiftly to close the illegal operation and discipline those involved, but not before several articles had appeared in the local press creating adverse publicity about the corrupt and unprincipled behaviour of the UN.

Questions to consider

1. Do you see any violations of the code of conduct in this story?
2. Were these soldiers doing anything wrong? If so, what?
3. What consequences do you think their activities will have on:
 - » a. The community?

- » b. The other UN troops at the position?
 - » c. The relations between UN troops and the local community?
 - » d. The image of the UN and the country that these troops came from?
4. Do you think the behaviour of the soldiers poses any danger to themselves and their colleagues?
 5. What appropriate disciplinary action do you think should be taken against these soldiers?
 6. What other measures can be put in place to prevent this type of behaviour?

Analysis and discussion of the case study

This case study is intended to draw attention to the temptations of participating in the black market. The peacekeepers would have been aware that most items in the PX shop are specially priced or discounted and are not intended for resale, and they should not have utilized this concession for personal gain. Their actions caused friction with the local community (albeit not with those locals who were buying the alcohol), and more importantly, it seriously discredited the position and standing of the UN and its field mission.

Faheza Binti Ali, a peacekeeper from Malaysia serving with the United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon (UNIFIL), poses for a photo after being awarded a UN medal. 6 March 2019. UN Photo #800033 by Pasqual Gorriz.



Case Study 2 – “Are These the Sort of People the UN Sends to Help Us?” »

There is a bar that is very popular with peacekeepers. A group of peacekeepers are spending a night out at this bar. They have been there for about three hours, and from the loudness of their conversation and their laughter, it appears they have been drinking quite a bit. Other patrons of the bar are not looking too pleased, but nobody has requested that the peacekeepers keep their noise down.

The trouble starts when one of the peacekeepers, while trying to stand up, stumbles and knocks the drinks off the next table. Four local young men who have also been in the bar for some time occupy that table. One of the local young men demands that the peacekeeper pays for his drink and the broken glass and compensate him for his wet clothes. The peacekeepers disagree, and a loud argument begins. Other patrons join the argument, and one local young man pushes a peacekeeper. The peacekeeper retaliates with a punch, and a fight starts in the bar. More bottles and glasses get broken and tables and chairs pushed aside. One peacekeeper has blood gushing from the side of his head. Another has a swollen lip and a torn shirt.

Other peacekeepers arrive and assist in restoring order. They also persuade the drunken peacekeepers to leave the bar. As they leave, one local was heard to say, “Are these the sort of people the UN sends to help us?”

Questions to consider

1. What violations of the code of conduct, if any, have occurred?
2. What were the basic causes of the bar fight?
3. How could this situation have been prevented?
4. To what dangers, if any, did the situation expose the peacekeepers?
5. How could this situation affect the credibility of the UN mission?

Analysis and discussion of the case study

This case study is primarily intended to draw attention to the inherent dangers of peacekeepers' excessive indulgence in alcohol, especially in public places. There are also lessons to be drawn from the local's comment on how such conduct affects the credibility of the UN mission in a wider sense.

Even though peacekeepers may not be prevented by regulations from patronizing public bars in the host country, their conduct while they are there is under the keen observation of the host population. Drunkenness and indulgence in drugs usually lead to the lowering of one's guard and clouds judgement. In public places within the host country, it is important that peacekeepers exhibit the highest standards.

End-of-Lesson Quiz »

1. **The four principles of the code of conduct are _____.**
 - A. impartiality, integrity, respect, and loyalty
 - B. integrity, professionalism, respect for diversity, and loyalty
 - C. impartiality, commitment, respect, and loyalty
 - D. impartiality, diversity, integrity, and respect
2. **Which of the following is TRUE regarding minor misconduct?**
 - A. It is not a violation of mission SOPs
 - B. It does not reflect badly on the mission
 - C. It can cause extreme distress to victims
 - D. It includes serious or complex fraud
3. **Consequences of misconduct do NOT include which of the following?**
 - A. Criminal proceedings
 - B. Financial liability
 - C. Internal disciplinary action
 - D. Prison under UN custody
4. **Behaving professionally at all times whether or not you are under observation refers to which one of the following principles?**
 - A. Impartiality
 - B. Integrity
 - C. Respect
 - D. Loyalty
5. **Treating the inhabitants of the host country with courtesy and consideration and providing aid to the sick and weak are examples of which one of the following principles?**
 - A. Impartiality
 - B. Integrity
 - C. Respect
 - D. Loyalty
6. **An example of serious misconduct is _____.**
 - A. harassment, including sexual harassment
 - B. breach of confidentiality
 - C. embezzlement or other financial malfeasance
 - D. all of the above
7. **Impartiality refers to _____.**
 - A. honesty
 - B. even-handedness
 - C. acceptance of others' ways
 - D. unqualified support
8. **Peacekeepers should _____ the values, objectives, and goals of the UN and the mission mandate.**
 - A. remain loyal to
 - B. reject
 - C. try to change
 - D. completely ignore
9. **A written censure, a reprimand, and retraining in a skill area are all examples of what type of consequence?**
 - A. Internal disciplinary action
 - B. Criminal proceedings
 - C. Repatriation or termination of contract
 - D. Financial liability
10. **Which of the following is NOT an example of the concept of "professionalism"?**
 - A. Show pride in work and achievements
 - B. Demonstrate professional competence and mastery of subject matter
 - C. Ignore misconduct by your comrades
 - D. Be conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines, and achieving results

Answer Key provided on the next page.

End-of-Lesson Quiz »

Answer Key »

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. B
5. C
6. D
7. B
8. A
9. A
10. C

Appendix A: List of Acronyms

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ART	antiretroviral therapy
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
CAT	Committee Against Torture
CCPR	Human Rights Committee
CDT	Conduct and Discipline Teams
CED	Committee on Enforced Disappearances
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CIVPOL	civilian police
CMW	Committee on Migrant Workers
CONOPS	concept of operations
CP	Command Post
CPA	Child Protection Advisers
CPTM	UN Core Pre-deployment Training Materials
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRPD	Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CRSV	conflict-related sexual violence
DDR	disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration
DOS	Department of Operational Support
DPKO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations
DPO	Department of Peace Operations
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
FHQ	Force Head Quarters
GBV	gender-based violence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HOM	head of mission
HQ	higher headquarters
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross

ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
IDP	internally displaced persons
IHL	International Humanitarian Law
ILO	International Labour Organization
KABP	knowledge-attitude-belief-practice
MC	movement control
MINUSCA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic
MINUSMA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
MONUSCO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
MOU	memorandum of understanding
MRM	monitoring and reporting mechanism
MTS	Misconduct Tracking System
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCO	non-commissioned officer
NGO	non-governmental organization
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OIOS	UN Office of Internal Oversight Services
OPAC	The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict
PCO	Personnel Conduct Officer
POC	Protection of Civilians
PKO	peacekeeping operation
PSYOP	psychological operation
PX	post exchange
ROE	rules of engagement
SC	Security Council
SCR	Security Council resolution
SEA	sexual exploitation and abuse
SG	Secretary-General

SOFA	Status of Forces Agreement
SOP	standard operating procedures
SPLA	Sudan People's Liberation Army
SPT	Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture
SRSG	Special Representative to the Secretary-General
SSR	security sector reform
STI	sexually transmitted infection
TCC	troop-contributing country
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNAMA	United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNHOC	United Nations Humanitarian Operations Centre
UNHQ	United Nations Headquarters
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNIOGBIS	United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau
UNMIK	United Nations Mission in Kosovo
UNMISS	United Nations Mission in South Sudan
UNMO	United Nations military observers
UNOCI	United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOE	United Nations-owned equipment
UNPKO	United Nations Peacekeeping Operation
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council resolution
UNSMIL	United Nations Support Mission in Libya
UNSOM	United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

Appendix B: We Are United Nations Peacekeepers

- The United Nations Organization embodies the aspirations of all the people of the world for peace. In this context, the United Nations Charter requires that all personnel must maintain the highest standards of integrity and conduct.
- We will comply with the Guidelines on International Humanitarian Law for Forces Undertaking United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and the applicable portions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the fundamental basis of our standards.
- We, as peacekeepers, represent the United Nations and are present in the country to help it recover from the trauma of a conflict. As a result, we must consciously be prepared to accept special constraints in our public and private lives in order to do the work and to pursue the ideals of the United Nations Organisation.
- We will be accorded certain privileges and immunities arranged through agreements negotiated between the United Nations and the host country solely for the purpose of discharging our peacekeeping duties. Expectations of the world community and the local population will be high, and our actions, behaviour, and speech will be closely monitored.

We will always:

- Conduct ourselves in a professional and disciplined manner, at all times;
- Dedicate ourselves to achieving the goals of the United Nations;
- Understand the mandate and mission and comply with their provisions;
- Respect the environment of the host country;
- Respect local customs and practices through awareness and respect for the culture, religion, traditions, and gender issues;
- Treat the inhabitants of the host country with respect, courtesy, and consideration;
- Act with impartiality, integrity, and tact;
- Support and aid the infirm, sick, and weak;
- Obey our United Nations superiors and respect the chain of command;
- Respect all other peacekeeping members of the mission regardless of status, rank, ethnic or national origin, race, gender, or creed;
- Support and encourage proper conduct among our fellow peacekeepers;
- Maintain proper dress and personal deportment at all times;
- Properly account for all money and property assigned to us as members of the mission; and
- Care for all United Nations equipment placed in our care.

We will never:

- Bring discredit upon the United Nations, or our nations through improper personal conduct, failure to perform our duties or abuse of our positions as peacekeepers;
- Take any action that might jeopardise the mission;

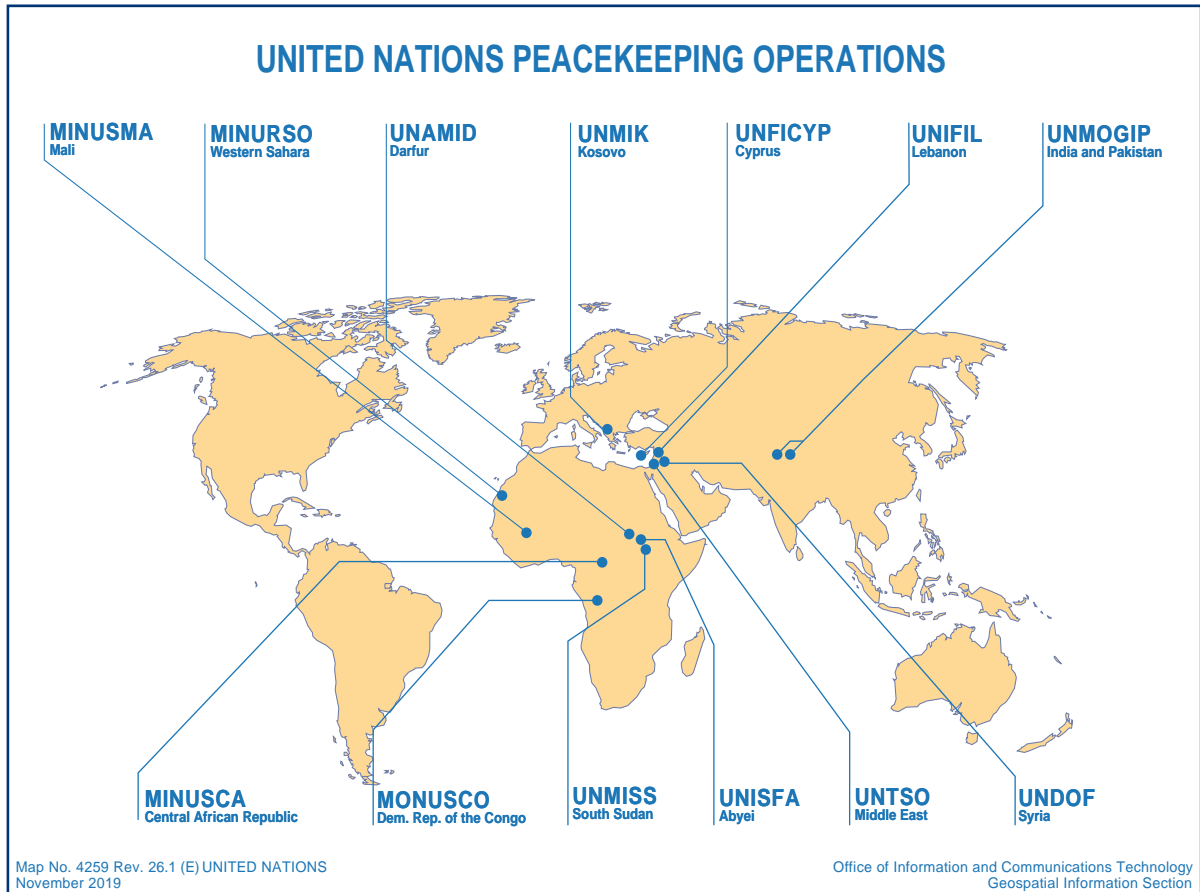
-
- Abuse alcohol, use drugs, or traffic in drugs;
 - Make unauthorised communications to external agencies, including unauthorised press statements;
 - Improperly disclose or use information gained through our employment;
 - Use unnecessary violence or threaten anyone in custody;
 - Commit any act that could result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to members of the local population, especially women and children;
 - Become involved in sexual liaisons which could affect our impartiality, or the well-being of others;
 - Be abusive or uncivil to any member of the public;
 - Wilfully damage or misuse any United Nations property or equipment;
 - Use a vehicle improperly or without authorisation;
 - Collect unauthorised souvenirs;
 - Participate in any illegal activities, corrupt or improper practices; or
 - Attempt to use our positions for personal advantage, to make false claims or accept benefits to which we are not entitled.

We realise that the consequences of failure to act within these guidelines may:

- Erode confidence and trust in the United Nations;
- Jeopardise the achievement of the mission; and
- Jeopardise our status and security as peacekeepers.

Source: United Nations. *Report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group on the 2007 resumed session**, A/61/19 (part III), 11 June 2007. <<https://conduct.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/keydoc8.pdf>>.

Appendix C: Current Peacekeeping Missions



UN Peacekeeping Map from the UN Cartographic Section, November 2019: <www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/dpko/P_K_O.pdf>.

- » ***Looking for statistics or other data about peacekeeping around the world today? Visit the UN Peacekeeping resource page for the most up-to-date information about current peacekeeping operations and other UN missions:
<<https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/resources>>.***

Appendix D: Secretary-General's Bulletin on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (2003)

United Nations

ST/SGB/2003/13

**Secretariat**

9 October 2003

Secretary-General's Bulletin**Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse**

The Secretary-General, for the purpose of preventing and addressing cases of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, and taking into consideration General Assembly resolution 57/306 of 15 April 2003, "Investigation into sexual exploitation of refugees by aid workers in West Africa", promulgates the following in consultation with Executive Heads of separately administered organs and programmes of the United Nations:

Section 1**Definitions**

For the purposes of the present bulletin, the term "sexual exploitation" means any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another. Similarly, the term "sexual abuse" means the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.

Section 2**Scope of application**

2.1 The present bulletin shall apply to all staff of the United Nations, including staff of separately administered organs and programmes of the United Nations.

2.2 United Nations forces conducting operations under United Nations command and control are prohibited from committing acts of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, and have a particular duty of care towards women and children, pursuant to section 7 of Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/1999/13, entitled "Observance by United Nations forces of international humanitarian law".

2.3 Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/253, entitled "Promotion of equal treatment of men and women in the Secretariat and prevention of sexual harassment", and the related administrative instruction¹ set forth policies and procedures for handling cases of sexual harassment in the Secretariat of the United Nations. Separately administered organs and programmes of the United Nations have promulgated similar policies and procedures.

¹ Currently ST/AI/379, entitled "Procedures for dealing with sexual harassment".

Further Reading >>

To read the entire document, visit: <<https://undocs.org/ST/SGB/2003/13>>.

Appendix E: United Nations Security Council Resolution 1539 (2004)

United Nations

S/RES/1539 (2004)



Security Council

Distr.: General

22 April 2004

Resolution 1539 (2004)

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 4948th meeting,
on 22 April 2004**

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its resolutions 1261 (1999) of 25 August 1999, 1314 (2000) of 11 August 2000, 1379 (2001) of 20 November 2001, and 1460 (2003) of 30 January 2003 which provide a comprehensive framework for addressing the protection of children affected by armed conflict,

Recalling its resolution 1308 (2000) on the responsibility of the Security Council in the maintenance of peace and security: HIV/AIDS and International Peacekeeping Operations and its resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security,

While noting the advances made for the protection of children affected by armed conflict, particularly in the areas of advocacy and the development of norms and standards, *remaining deeply concerned* over the lack of overall progress on the ground, where parties to conflict continue to violate with impunity the relevant provisions of applicable international law relating to the rights and protection of children in armed conflict,

Recalling the responsibilities of States to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other egregious crimes perpetrated against children,

Reiterating its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and, in this connection, its commitment to address the widespread impact of armed conflict on children,

Underlining the importance of the full, safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and goods and the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all children affected by armed conflict,

Noting the fact that the conscription or enlistment of children under the age of 15 or using them to participate actively in hostilities in both international and non-international armed conflict is classified as a war crime by the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and *noting also* that the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict requires States parties to set a minimum age of 18 for compulsory recruitment and participation in hostilities and to raise the minimum age for

Further Reading »

To read the entire document, visit: <[https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1539\(2004\)](https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1539(2004))>.

Appendix F: Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

| Preamble

Universal Declaration of Human Rights



Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,

Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,

| Universal Declaration of Human Rights |

1

Further Reading >>

To read the entire document, visit: [<https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>](https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/).

Instructions for the End-of-Course Examination

Format and Material

The End-of-Course Examination is a multiple-choice exam that is accessed from the Online Classroom. Most exams have 50 questions. Each question gives the student four choices (A, B, C, and D), and only one is the correct answer. The exam covers material from all lessons of the course and may also include information found in the annexes and appendices. Video content will not be tested.

- » ***Access the exam from your Online Classroom by visiting <www.peaceopstraining.org/users/courses/> and clicking the title of this course. Once you arrive at the course page, click the red "Start Exam" button.***

Time Limit

There is no time limit for the exam. This allows the student to read and study the questions carefully and to consult the course text. Furthermore, if the student cannot complete the exam in one sitting, he or she may save the exam and come back to it without being graded. The "Save" button is located at the bottom of the exam, next to the "Submit my answers" button. Clicking on the "Submit my answers" button will end the exam.

Passing Grade

To pass the exam, a score of 75 per cent or better is required. An electronic Certificate of Completion will be awarded to those who have passed the exam. A score of less than 75 per cent is a failing grade, and students who have received a failing grade will be provided with a second, alternate version of the exam, which may also be completed without a time limit. Students who pass the second exam will be awarded a Certificate of Completion.

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