



Peace Operations Training Institute®

Study peace and humanitarian relief any place, any time

January 2012

New for 2012:

Monthly Webinars with POTI course authors!

Plan to join us the fourth Wednesday of each month as course authors present short lectures and answer questions submitted by current students of peacekeeping. The webinars are open to all, details will be posted on the POTI homepage, Facebook pages, and Twitter feeds.

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Webinar 25 January with Major General (Ret.) Tim Ford, AO



Join us 25 January at 11 a.m. UTC/GMT for a webinar with Major General (Retired) Tim Ford from Australia. Maj. Gen. Ford will answer questions about his course *Commanding United Nations Peacekeeping Operations* and discuss relevant issues facing UN peacekeepers in the field today.

Questions may be submitted prior to the webinar via email to questions@peaceopstraining.org or may be submitted during the webinar through your Ustream account. (Set up a Ustream account [here](#)). Please include a few personal details with your question, such as your name, your nationality, and your current position or post. Maj. Gen. Ford and we at POTI would like to know more about you!

Major General Ford has served in a wide variety of Defence command, staff, and training appointments. He was promoted to Major General in 1996 to assume command of Australia's 1st Division. From 1998 until 2002, he served in a number of high-ranking United Nations peacekeeping appointments including Head of Mission of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) in Jerusalem, and Chief Military Adviser in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations at UN Headquarters. Since retiring in 2003 Maj. Gen. Ford has undertaken a wide range of projects for the Australian Government, the United Nations, the African Union, and other International Organizations as a mentor, adviser and consultant on international peace and security issues.

POTI Welcomes New Course Author Jessica C. Lawrence



We are pleased to welcome Jessica C. Lawrence to the POTI family. Jessica is the author of the soon-to-be-released course, *Human Rights*.

Jessica is a 2003 graduate of American University in Washington, D.C., where she earned two degrees: a BA in International Development and a BA in Environmental Policy. In 2007, she earned her JD from the University of Georgia School of Law in Athens, Ga.

She has held researcher/analyst posts for several organizations, including the European Environmental Bureau, the Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology, the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre, and the New Zealand Human Rights Commission, and has served as a consultant and visiting professor for the University of Peace in 2009–2010.

In addition to international human rights law, Jessica's areas of expertise include international trade law, European internal market law, free movement of goods, and international environmental law.

Getting to Know You

Introduce yourself to the POTI community by submitting a short autobiography to the **Student Spotlight**.

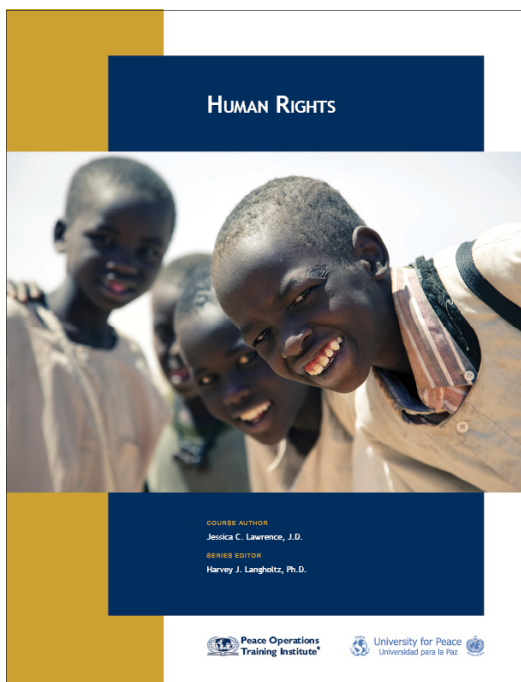
Share your photos by using the 'Quick Link' in your classroom to the POTI photostream on **Flickr**.

Voice an opinion about a peacekeeping, security or humanitarian topic of your choice by submitting a post via the 'Quick Link' in your classroom to **Commentaries**.

OR

Read and comment on what others have posted in the **Student Spotlight, Flickr, and Commentaries** sections. Make 2012 the year you connect with others at POTI!

New Course Available February 2012: *Human Rights*

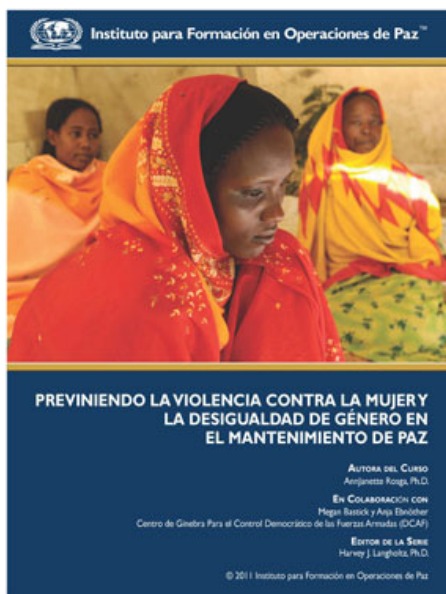


The newest course in the POTI curriculum, which was developed in cooperation with the UN mandated University for Peace, is *Human Rights*. *Human Rights* will be released for enrolment 3 February. This course is a comprehensive historical overview of the theory and practice of human rights, a term used to describe rights and entitlements that inherently belong to every human being. Although all human beings are entitled to these rights equally, history has shown that all people do not enjoy the same protection of their rights at all times. This course explores the different kinds of human rights, the various international and regional documents necessary to protect and enforce them, and the historical difficulties and conflicts that have occurred in spite of, and often *because of*, human rights. It includes extensive discussions on the development of the various human

rights treaties and enforcement mechanisms, the special protection given to vulnerable groups, human rights during armed conflict, and current debates involving human rights, such as the use of technology either to promote or restrict human rights, and the increasing international significance of stateless actors like transnational corporations and terrorist groups. Fifteen lessons, 344 pages.

How much money is budgeted for UN peacekeeping?

The budget for UN Peacekeeping operations for the fiscal year 1 July 2011-30 June 2012 is about \$7.06 billion [UN Document A/C.5/65/19].



Spanish Translation of the Course *Prevention of Violence Against Women* Released

On 6 January the Spanish translation of the course *Prevention of Violence Against Women and Gender Inequities in Peacekeeping* became available for enrolment.

POTI's Course Content Department strives to equip students with the most current information as quickly as possible. Visit the website regularly to keep abreast of the latest changes in POTI's curriculum.

Looking Back and Looking Ahead,



Harvey J Langhotz, PhD
Executive Director, POTI

Greetings. I am pleased to extend New Year's good wishes to our students, friends, and supporters worldwide. I wish you all the best for 2012.

During 2011, the Peace Operations Training Institute was able to serve the peacekeeping community with 103,365 enrolments to students representing 165 nations, making this the fourth year in a row we have exceeded 100,000 enrolments. We added two new courses and we also released four course revisions and five new translations, giving us 22 courses in English, 19 in French, 19 in Spanish, 4 in Portuguese, and 3 in Arabic.

2011 also saw the initiation of our webinar programme in which students have an opportunity to interact live with course authors. We are planning a full schedule of webinars for 2012. For more on our webinars, and all our other video resources, please see http://www.peaceopstraining.org/e-learning/course_extras.

I am also pleased to look back on the direct exchanges we have had with our colleagues in peacekeeping training. Ms. Lauren Butt had constructive discussions with our counterparts in London and Oslo. Ms. Farida Sawadogo gave an invited presentation at a conference in Paris on peacekeeping for Francophones, hosted by the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie. The Chair of our Board of Directors, Major General Tim Ford, briefed the Military and Police Advisory Committee in New York. And I was pleased to be an invited speaker at the official launch of our two courses focused on SCR 1325, hosted by UN Women at UN Headquarters. You may view an archived version of that web broadcast at <http://www.unmultimedia.org/tv/webcast/2011/10/panel-discussion-and-launch-of-the-e-learning.html>.

But most of all we were, and continue to be, pleased to hear directly from our students. They ask questions, provide feedback, make suggestions, and they thank our staff for the courses we provide. You can read some of their own statements here in this newsletter, and also view the photos and videos they have posted.

As I look ahead to 2012, I see additional courses, soon to be released, on *Human Rights*, *The Protection of Civilians*, and *Security for UN Peacekeepers*. I see continued expansion of our use of videos and webinars as part of our outreach to students, and the continued exploration of new methods for bringing high-quality training to UN peacekeepers worldwide as economically as possible.

I repeat my thanks to all the members of our POTI community for your participation and for making 2011 another successful year. I look forward to working with you during 2012 in the service of peace.

Visit the [POTI Testimonials](#) page where you can listen and watch Lt Carolina Céspedes Benavente of Chile talk about the importance of the new course SCR1325 (2000) in Latin America and the Caribbean.

UN Peacekeeping: 16 Missions on 4 Continents

The UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO) currently heads up 15 peacekeeping operations and one special political mission (UNAMA). These 16 missions are deployed on four continents. The UNDPKO lead missions are as follows:

Africa

- UNMISS, United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan
- UNISFA, United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei
- MONUSCO, UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- UNAMID, African Union–UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur
- UNOCI, UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
- UNMIL, UN Mission in Liberia
- MINURSO, UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

Americas

- MINUSTAH, UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti

Asia and the Pacific

- UNMIT, UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste
- UNMOGIP, UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan
- UNAMA, UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (special political mission)

Europe

- UNFICYP, UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
- UNMIK, UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

Middle East

- UNDOF, UN Disengagement Observer Force
- UNIFIL, United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
- UNTSO, UN Truce Supervision Organization

Student Spotlight: Meet Ali Orou Sourou Abdel-Aziz

My name is ALI OROU Sourou Abdel-Aziz. I was born in January 25th, 1982 in Zogbodomè, Republic of Benin (West-Africa). I am married and father of a little boy named Zidane Rayan. I am a *Company Executive Officer* of BENIN Armed Forces Paratroopers Battalion and my next temporary assignment will be as a *Training Officer* at Benin National Officer Academy (ENO).

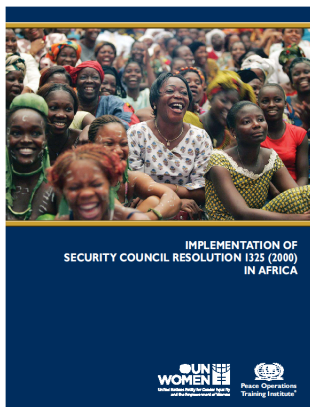


I joined Benin Armed Forces as an Air Force specialist in 2002 and graduated from the *French Air Force Non-commissioned Officer Academy* of Rochefort (Charente-Maritime) in 2004. I served at Cotonou Air Base until 2006 and earned various qualifications in the field of avionics (aeronautical electronics). Then I was successful with the *Benin National Officer Academy of Toffo's* selection test, graduated as a Second-Lieutenant in 2008 and was promoted to First-Lieutenant (current rank) in 2009 after completing the *Officer Leader Course* at Benin Higher Military Training Academy (ENSA) of

Porto-Novo. I am also a graduate of *Lackland AFB Defense Language Institute*, San Antonio, USA (August 2009 and July 2010) and a graduate of the *Maneuver Captains Career Course 3-10 Class*, Fort Benning, Columbus, GA, USA (December 2010). During my career I have participated in various training related to peacekeeping such as the French-founded *African Peacekeeping Skills Reinforcement (RECAMP)* and the US-founded *African Contingency Training Assistance (ACOTA)* program. Besides these career-related achievements I am currently close to finishing a *Bachelor Degree in Corporate Communication* at "Fondation Universitaire Mercure", Brussels, Belgium and I am looking forward earning a *Masters Degree in Peace and Security Studies*. I currently hold a *French/English Translator Certification* from the Oregon-based *Global Translation Institute* and work as a freelance translator during my "idle times". From July 2011 to January 2012 I served as a Beninese peacekeeper at the *United Nation Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO)*.



Lieutenant Ali Orou is pictured above (left to right) performing the duty of Conducting Officer and Interpreter/Translator of the MONUSCO Force Commander at Kalémie in November 2011, with the Benin Battalion at a MONUSCO operational base in September 2011, and behind the left shoulder of former US President Jimmy Carter during a Field Training Program devoted to International Peace and Understanding at Plains, Georgia, USA in 2009.



Student Feedback: Implementation of SCR 1325 (2000) in Africa & Latin American and the Caribbean:

"This course should be a *MUST* for all peacekeepers all over the world."

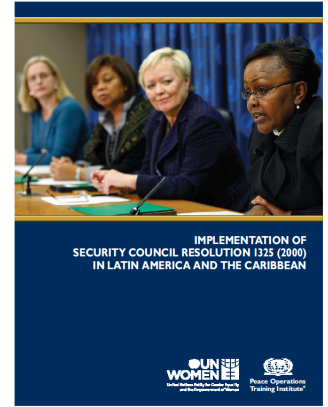
-J. K., Sierra Leone

"The course is useful for potential UN peacekeepers to be better informed on the basics, especially on gender issues."

-Dickson C., Nigeria

"Everything in the course is beneficial."

-Ilfise L., Haiti



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