



# Peace Operations Training Institute®

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NEWSLETTER MARCH 2016

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## POTI launches French translations of courses on military observers, peacekeeping, and international conflict resolution

The Peace Operations Training Institute is pleased to announce our newest courses in French.

*Le maintien de la paix et la résolution de conflits internationaux* is the French translation of our recently updated *Peacekeeping and International Conflict Resolution* course by Professor Tom Woodhouse. Dr. Woodhouse, founder of the Centre for Conflict Resolution at the University of Bradford, UK, covers the various mechanisms of peacekeeping and conflict resolution at the international level, as well as techniques and tools used in the field.

*Méthodes et techniques utilisées par les observateurs militaires de l'ONU dans le cadre d'une mission de maintien de la paix* is the French translation of our recently updated *Methods and Techniques for Serving on a Peacekeeping Mission as a UN Military Observer* course by Lieutenant Colonel Egil Nordli (retired) of Norway. In addition to being an accomplished military trainer, the author has extensive field experience as a senior military officer in international operations, including most recently his service as the Military Assistant to the Head of Mission in the United Nations Supervision Truce Organization (UNTSO) from 2009 to 2011.



Sign up for these courses and browse the full POTI curriculum by visiting [www.peaceopstraining.org](http://www.peaceopstraining.org).

## Protection of Civilians course update launch eyed for spring 2016

POTI is preparing to release an update to the *Protection of Civilians* course. The protection of civilians is now a recurring element of peacekeeping mandates. The course update will provide a historical perspective on this important aspect of peacekeeping, its early troubles in Rwanda and Bosnia, and more recent developments including case studies from the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic, and recent UN guidelines and policies on the protection of civilians.

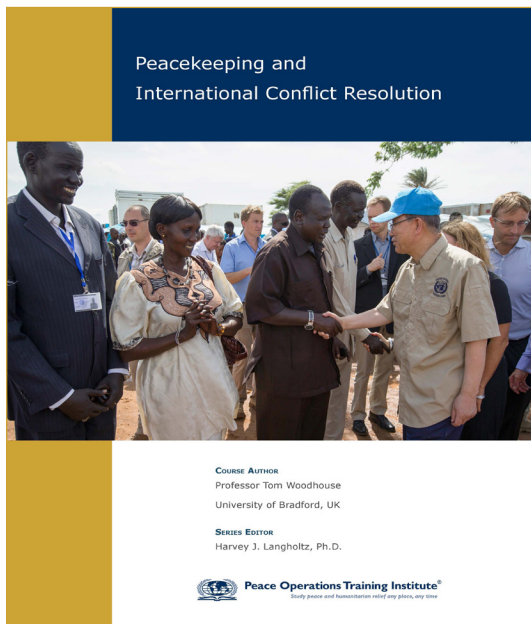
Course author Julian Harston is a retired Assistant Secretary-General to the United Nations who previously served as the Representative of the Secretary-General in Belgrade, Serbia in 2009, as well as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara from 2007 to 2009. Currently, Mr. Harston is an independent consultant on matters of international peace and security. He also lectures at the NATO School in Oberammergau, Germany and at the Polish Institute for Diplomacy in Warsaw.

The Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI) is an independent non-governmental organization (NGO) recognized by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt not-for-profit public charity based in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA. Visit us at [www.peaceopstraining.org](http://www.peaceopstraining.org).

# Webinar with Professor Tom Woodhouse, author of *Peacekeeping and International Conflict Resolution*, available online

On 10 March, Professor Tom Woodhouse, author of the *Peacekeeping and International Conflict Resolution* course, was the guest during a POTI webinar. Dr. Woodhouse answered questions that were submitted through the POTI Facebook Group by individuals from Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and the United States. You can watch the webinar in full and listen to Dr. Woodhouse discuss technology in peacekeeping, Boko Haram, peacekeeping in Sudan, the effectiveness of arms

embargoes, and the proliferation of arms in Africa by visiting <<http://www.peaceopstraining.org/videos/421/course-author-webinar-professor-tom-woodhouse/>>. During his closing remarks Professor Woodhouse stated he is “recklessly optimistic” about peacekeeping and that the results provided by peacekeeping missions are nothing short of laudable, especially given the resources that are allocated to these endeavours.



**About the Author:** Professor Tom Woodhouse held the Adam Curle Chair in Conflict Resolution at the University of Bradford from 1999-2012. He founded the Centre for Conflict Resolution at the University of Bradford in 1990. He has been attached to the Department of Peace Studies since its formation in 1974, when he was appointed as a Research Assistant to the founding professor, Adam Curle. Woodhouse retired from the post in October 2012 and currently is an emeritus professor at the University of Bradford.

**Course Reviews:** ★★★★★ (4.85 average)

"I couldn't get enough of studying because this course is very interesting and practical. The case studies helped a lot."

Submitted by: Koketso Makgarietja Patience Manku, South Africa

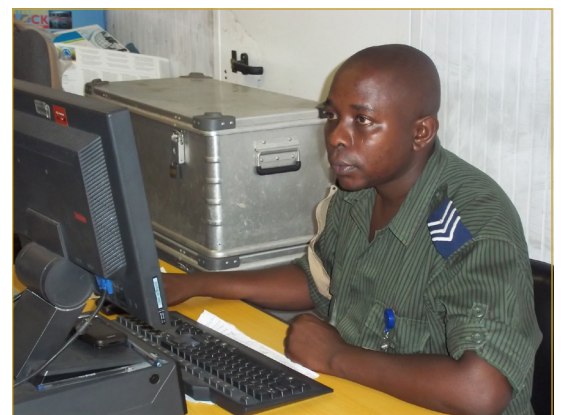
"The author tackled basic concepts in peacekeeping and conflict resolution in an easy-to-understand manner. His style of linking peacekeeping concepts to conflict resolution was awesome."

Submitted by: Mwaba Makasa, Zambia

## E-Learning study tips for adult students

(Adapted from '7 Online Study Tips for Adult Students' by Karleia Steiner: <<http://blog.learningadvisor.com/7-online-study-tips-for-adult-students/>>)

1. **Develop a consistent study schedule.** It's best to treat your POTI classes as though they were live classes. Choose a time that's convenient for you to study and then stick to that schedule.
2. **Take advantage of interactive tools.** You can communicate with course authors through your POTI account and with support staff through the POTI Help Desk. Make sure you make good use of these tools.
3. **Connect with other students.** Use the POTI Facebook group to connect with other students. It can be useful for your academic success. Just as you can form study groups in person, you can do the same online.
4. **Keep your study materials organized.** It's important to keep track of your study materials. Create a system that works for you, and make sure you keep everything neatly organized.
5. **Find your ideal study environment.** You can take e-learning courses almost anywhere. Choose the location that helps you focus and feel the most motivated. This may be indoors or outdoors, in a public place or in private.
6. **Incorporate offline study tactics.** While the internet is very useful for studying, you can also benefit by using traditional study techniques. You can also benefit by writing certain material down and using flash cards.



"Preparing for the next day"  
submitted by Rodgers Chikuse, Zambia

# POTI Director of African Programmes explains POTI training to students and staff at Mali's peacekeeping training centre

Ms. Farida Sawadogo, POTI Director of African Programmes, was a guest speaker at the School of Peacekeeping Alioune Blondin Beye (EMPABB) in Bamako, Mali from 15-17 March. EMPABB is a National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP) partner with POTI, and the students and staff enjoy full access to the POTI curriculum.

Ms. Sawadogo's presentation was held in an amphitheatre and was attended by current classroom students and staff. The presentation, which was given in English and French,

focused on an overview of the POTI curriculum along with the course enrolment and completion processes. Attendees of the presentation voiced their enthusiasm for the self-paced, on demand curriculum and their intention to sign up for POTI courses as a complement to their studies at EMPABB.

Ms. Sawadogo was glad to have the opportunity to have an onsite visit at EMPABB where she was impressed with the facilities, staff, and students.



Above left, right: audience during the POTI presentation; middle: entrance sign to EMPABB

## National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP) now in use at the Training Centre for Peacekeeping Operations (CENCOPAZ, Colombia), the School of International Missions and Integral Action (ESMAI, Colombia), and the Nigerian Army Peacekeeping Centre (NAPKC)

We are pleased to welcome personnel and students from CENCOPAZ, ESMAI, and NAPKC. Their training centres are the newest NTCELP training partners. These centres join other institutions in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, and South America, where the POTI training platform is in widespread use. NTCELP allows institutions to provide their students with unlimited free enrollments in the full POTI curriculum. This technological advance in training, which results in a blended learning experience for students, supplements traditional training methods and was welcomed by the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34) in its 2016 report.

### How NTCELP Works:

National training centres utilizing NTCELP place a link on their website that directs students to their centre-specific POTI landing page. The landing page contains a welcome message from either the centre's director or POTI and a sign up link which enables students to quickly establish a POTI user account. Upon successful completion of courses through this programme, students earn Certificates of Completion, which are jointly issued by both institutions and feature both logos.

### Example of NTCELP certificate:





# Sponsors and students key to continued success of ELAP

The E-Learning for African Peacekeepers (ELAP) programme provides access to the entire POTI curriculum free of charge to peacekeepers from all African countries: military personnel, gendarmerie, and police officers. ELAP began in 2005, and the response from these POTI students has been overwhelmingly positive. We receive positive feedback and words of appreciation about the programme each week through email, course feedback forms, and social media. As of 31 December 2015, more than 74,500 ELAP students had generated more than 530,000 enrolments. ELAP has been made possible through the generosity and financial support of several countries during recent years: Australia, Canada, Finland, the Netherlands, Sweden, and

the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom has also provided funding for the Monitoring and Evaluation of ELAP. The results are irrefutable — ELAP helps increase the skills of African peacekeepers and brings training on peace support, humanitarian relief, and stability operations to thousands of individuals each year. Many ELAP students do not have access to other professional development training.

Thank you to each and every sponsor and student who works for a more peaceful world through the funding and utilization of ELAP.

## Get the free POTI App on your phone or tablet

Whether you use an iOS or an Android device, the POTI student classroom is available through our app. After setting up an account and enrolling in courses online, the POTI app allows you to accomplish many tasks quickly from your mobile device. You can download courses and read them offline, update profile information, answer pretest questions, and submit End-of-Course Examinations as well as

POST Certificate Examinations. Users are also able to download Certificates of Completion and POST Certificates.


The app can give you an easier way to access, read through, and complete courses. POTI remains committed to making our course materials easily accessible, especially for our students currently deployed on peacekeeping and humanitarian relief missions.



### How to get the app for Android phones and tablets:

Visit <[www.peaceopstraining.org/app/android/](http://www.peaceopstraining.org/app/android/)>.

Click on the Google Play logo: 

Once on the POTI app page in the Google Play online store, click on the Install box: 

### How to get the app for iOS (Apple) phones and tablets:

Visit <[www.peaceopstraining.org/app/ios/](http://www.peaceopstraining.org/app/ios/)>.

Click on the AppStore logo: 

When you arrive on the POTI app page in the AppStore, click on the download cloud: 



Dr. Langholtz

## From the desk of the Executive Director, Dr. Harvey Langholtz

*It is my pleasure four times each year to review the activities of our POTI students, partner institutions, and POTI staff as outlined in our Quarterly Newsletter.*

*Francoophone students constitute over 20 per cent of POTI enrolments, and we were pleased to recently release updates to *Le maintien de la paix et la résolution de conflits internationaux* and *Méthodes et techniques utilisées par les observateurs militaires de l'ONU dans le cadre d'une mission de maintien de la paix*. Additionally, POTI will soon provide an update to the English version of our Protection of Civilians course written by Julian Harston, former SRSG at MINURSO.*

*I was pleased to speak with Professor Tom Woodhouse during a webinar about his course *Peacekeeping and International Conflict Resolution*. During the webinar, he summarized the contents of the course, and students from around the world submitted questions, which he answered in detail. This webinar has been archived along with all POTI webinars and can be viewed through the POTI website.*

*It takes a special level of dedication and focus to complete an online course, as the student must provide the structure and motivation normally provided by the teacher in a classroom course. The tips listed in this newsletter will assist POTI students in achieving success in their e-learning.*

*It is our honour here at POTI to work with our institutional partners worldwide through the National Training Centre E-Learning Platform, which allows national peacekeeping training centres and other institutions to blend POTI e-learning with their own classroom courses. We are also proud to continue our E-Learning for African Peacekeepers Programme, which provides peacekeepers from all African countries access to all of our courses free of charge. It is our privilege here at POTI to work with every institutional partner and every individual student worldwide as we provide e-learning to enhance the readiness of peacekeepers to succeed in their missions.*