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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.

The Civilian Dimension of Peacekeeping Operations

Students enrolled in courses with the Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI) include military personnel and police at national peacekeeping training centres and in the field, but they also include civilians who serve in peacekeeping and humanitarian relief operations. With the generous support of Global Affairs Canada's Peace and Stabilization Operations Programme, POTI provides unlimited free enrolments to all military and non-military personnel deployed on United Nations (UN), African Union (AU), and hybrid missions through E-Learning for Mission Staff (ELMS). With more than 14,000 civilians now serving with peace operations, all personnel integral to these missions can benefit from our curriculum.

Additionally, POTI offers the Individual E-Learning for Peacekeepers from Select Regions (IELP) programme to all military, police, and gendarmerie from Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and select South Asian nations. This includes individuals who may not be assigned to a class at a national peacekeeping training centre and nations that do not have their own national peacekeeping training centre. IELP is also available to civilian employees of the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of International Relations, and other government agencies involved in peacekeeping. These individuals are crucial to mission personnel deployment.

Building the civilian capacities of missions will continue to be a key goal for stakeholders in peace operations in the years to come, as civilians play increasingly vital roles in missions. Not only do civilian staff perform tasks related to peace operation mandates, but they also serve as the logistical backbone of administrative functions, such as finance. POTI is honoured to serve this population.



Women at a water point at protection of civilians site 1 in Juba, South Sudan. 8 May 2018. UN Photo #761263 by Nektarios Markogiannis.

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Mandela Washington Fellow Visits POTI

Mr. Clifford Akonteh, Executive Director of the Youth Alliance for Leadership and Development in Africa (YALDA), and National Coordinator of the Movement for Democracy, Development and Transparency (MDDT) Cameroon, visited the POTI offices on Friday, 20 July 2018. Mr. Akonteh is also a barrister at law at the Poubom and Partners Law Firm in Cameroon and an active POTI student. During his time at the office, he discussed his work with the Not Too Young to Vote Campaign and the impact e-learning has had on him and can have on other young people, emphasizing experience has taught him “knowledge is power”.

Mr. Akonteh travelled to Virginia as a recipient of a Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, the premier component of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), which is sponsored by the US State Department. Mr. Akonteh is one of 700 young African leaders chosen from among 64,000 applicants for a 2018 Fellowship.



Dr. Langholtz welcomes Mr. Akonteh to POTI on 20 July 2018.

POTI Presents at Tenth Annual Conference of ALCOPAZ

The tenth annual conference of the Latin American Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres (ALCOPAZ) took place in Lima, Peru, from 6–10 August 2018. Ms. Vanessa Anderson, Registrar and Chief of Institutional Relations at POTI, attended the event and presented on the Institute’s National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP) and IELP programmes. All ALCOPAZ members subscribe to NTCELP and use IELP.

This year’s theme was “Innovation and Integration for Capacity-Building in Complex Environments”, which focused on sharing challenges and solutions to strengthen training, including improving security in peace and humanitarian operations. ALCOPAZ had the honour of welcoming Lieutenant General Carlos Humberto Loitey, Military Adviser for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, who spoke about “Lessons Learned and Current Challenges within Peacekeeping Operations”.

Directors from national peacekeeping training centres from 10 Member States attended the meeting: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay. Representatives of observer Member States included: Canada, France, Germany, and the United States. POTI is the only nongovernmental organization (NGO) with observer member status. Other invitees included representatives from the Small Arms Survey, the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC), and the Igarapé Institute. Professor Ximena Jimenez, the author of the POTI course *Gender Perspectives in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations*, was also in attendance.



Ms. Vanessa Anderson, POTI’s Chief of Institutional Relations, presents information on POTI’s NTCELP programme at the tenth annual conference of ALCOPAZ, August 2018 in Lima, Peru

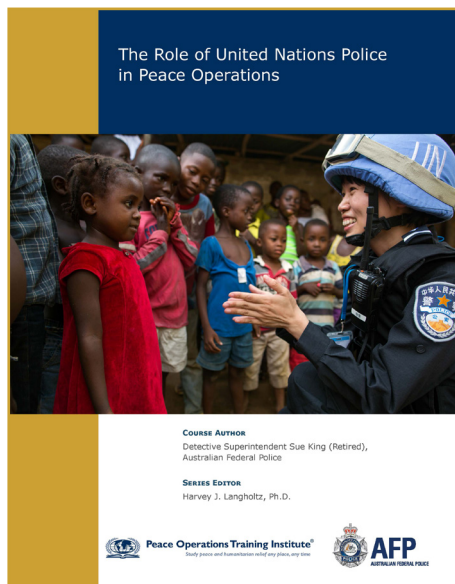
New Releases and Translations Expand POTI Curriculum

POTI strives to maintain a strong curriculum on peacekeeping and humanitarian relief. The Institute currently offers 29 English-language courses on a range of topics, including the protection of civilians, humanitarian relief operations, and logistics in peace operations. To better serve our students, POTI is pleased to announce several new additions to our curriculum.

The Institute released the course *The Role of United Nations Police in Peace Operations* on 6 July 2018. Developed in partnership with the Australian Federal Police, the course translates current UN Police policies into practical and clear guidance that will help UN Police perform their mandated tasks in the field. Course author Detective Superintendent Sue King of the Australian Federal Police (Retired) drafted the first-ever UN Security Council resolution on policing, which provides strategic direction and guidance on the role of UN Police in conflict-affected countries. Enrolment for the English-language edition is now free for all students.

POTI released the course *Leading Within United Nations Peace Operations* on 18 September 2018. This course is designed for those who may find themselves in leadership positions in UN peace operations, or for those wishing to understand the issues associated with leading peacekeeping missions and peace operations. Course author Major General Tim Ford, Australian Army (Retired), served as Head of Mission at the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization and as Military Adviser to the Secretary-General.

The Institute also released an update to *Operational Logistical Support of UN Peacekeeping Missions: Intermediate Course* on 13 September 2018. The course, written by Major Don Leslie, Canadian Forces (Retired), explores the practicalities the UN Global Field Support Strategy has on mission support, among other topics.



In addition to these new and updated courses, POTI is developing two new courses — *Peacebuilding* and *Protecting Women's Rights in Conflict and Peacekeeping* — which will be released in the coming months. POTI will also publish Spanish translations of *Humanitarian Relief Operations* and *Logistical Support to United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: An Introduction*, along with French translations of *The Role of United Nations Police in Peace Operations* and *Logistical Support to United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: An Introduction*.

Upcoming Courses

- Revised edition of *Leading Within United Nations Peace Operations*
- Updated edition of *Operational Logistical Support of UN Peacekeeping Missions: Intermediate Course*
- French and Spanish translations of *Logistical Support to United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: An Introduction*
- French translation of *The Role of United Nations Police in Peace Operations*



UN Photo #755595 by Isaac Billy.

Connect with Fellow Peacekeepers and POTI on Social Media

POTI students can communicate with more than 30,000 people interested in peace operations and humanitarian relief by engaging with the Institute through social media. POTI is active on Facebook, Twitter (@peaceoperations), and Flickr and regularly posts updates on new course offerings, current events, and peacekeeping. Our Twitter followers, Facebook group members, and those who “like” our Facebook page are the first people to receive POTI news; test their knowledge by answering questions taken from course quizzes; and share peacekeeping-related events, experiences, and photos. The POTI online community is full of people who share your interests — join or follow us today.



“I would ... like to acknowledge the wonderful work and assistance provided by POTI to TCCs like Fiji. I look forward to working closely with you and POTI, to further develop and enhance Fiji’s pre-deployment training”.

—P. LUVENI, Director
Peace Support
Operations, Fiji Military
Forces Headquarters

From the Desk of the Executive Director, Dr. Harvey Langholtz

2018 has been a dynamic year in peacekeeping, and in keeping with that, the Peace Operations Training Institute remains committed to providing continual access to self-paced e-learning to those in the service of peace.



Dr. Langholtz

While training peacekeepers continues to be the responsibility of each troop- and police-contributing country, POTI is constantly in contact with national peacekeeping training centres around the world that blend the Institute’s e-learning with their classroom instruction through NTCELP. With NTCELP, national training centres can increase their capacities without changing their instructional staff, and they can offer their students training on topics outside their curriculum. Global Affairs Canada’s Peace and Stabilization Operations Programme has allowed the availability of NTCELP to extend to nations in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and select South Asian nations; the Australian Department of Defence supports the availability of this programme in select nations of the Asia-Pacific region as well. Through NTCELP and other programmes POTI provides, more peacekeepers will receive vital training on gender equality, safety and security, human rights, the protection of civilians, principles and guidelines of UN peacekeeping operations, and other essential topics. This training will increase the pool of properly trained personnel and contribute to the success of peace operations.