



Peace Operations Training Institute

Study peace and humanitarian relief any place, any time

Newsletter March 2020

Our thanks to the member nations of the Partnership for E-Learning on Peace Operations (PELP) for providing the support that makes e-learning on peace operations possible:



Australia



Canada



Denmark



Netherlands



United Kingdom

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.

With COVID-19 forcing cancellation of training at some national peacekeeping training centres, POTI adds additional free online courses with unlimited enrolments until 1 June 2020

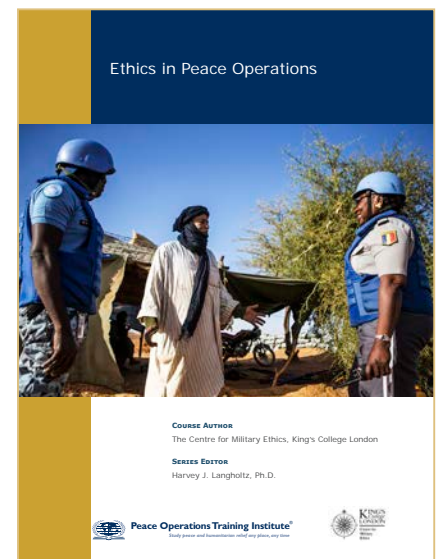
Most national peacekeeping training centres already blend POTI e-learning into their classroom curriculum, but in order to serve a larger population during the COVID-19 pandemic, POTI has added five additional free online courses to the seven already available. POTI will remain fully functional during this period to meet the increased demand and serve peacekeepers worldwide as we defeat COVID-19.

- *Introduction to the UN System: Orientation for Serving on a UN Field Mission*, by Mr. Julian Harston, Assistant Secretary-General to the United Nations (Retired)
- *Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peacekeeping*, by Jennifer Wittwer, CSM, in association with Megan Bastick, DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance
- *Humanitarian Relief Operations*, by Lieutenant Colonel René Wagemans (Retired), Belgian Army
- *Civic-Military Coordination in Peace Operations*, by Christopher Holshek, Colonel (Retired) US Army Civil Affairs and Cedric de Coning, ACCORD/NUPI
- *Leading Within United Nations Peace Operations*, by Major General Tim Ford, Australian Forces (Retired), former Military Adviser to the UN Secretary-General

New course, *Ethics in Peace Operations*, released

The Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI) is pleased to announce the release of its newest course, *Ethics in Peace Operations*. The course was developed by King's College London's Centre for Military Ethics and presents a general introduction to the ethical aspects of peace operations. The UN Core Values of integrity, professionalism, and respect for diversity form the basis for this course. Through the use of the case studies and practical examples, this textbook outlines the guidelines for peace support personnel in the field. Topics include the Code of Conduct; cultural awareness; gender and peace operations; sexual exploitation and abuse; human trafficking; child protection; human rights in peace operations; HIV/AIDS Awareness; and UN guidelines and procedures on discipline for uniformed peace operations forces. The course incorporates recent reforms within the UN System and offers an increased focus on gender perspectives in peace operations.

This course is co-branded with the express agreement of the Centre for Military Ethics, King's College London. We thank the Centre for Military Ethics for their work and support in developing this course. POTI extends special thanks to Dr. David Whetham and Ms. Whitney Grespin of the Centre for Military Ethics at King's College London and Travis Templeton for their contributions. To find out more about this course and to enrol, visit the *Ethics in Peace Operations* page on the POTI website: <<https://www.peaceopstraining.org/courses/ethics-in-peace-operations-english-2019/>>.



Inside this Issue

UK Land Warfare Centre newest NTCELP partner, p. 2

Recognizing the women authors at POTI, p.3

Enrolments by women increase in 2019, p. 3

Recognizing the women authors at POTI, p. 3

Email from a student, Major Adam Alkali, p.4

From the desk of the Executive Director, Dr. Harvey Langholtz, p. 4



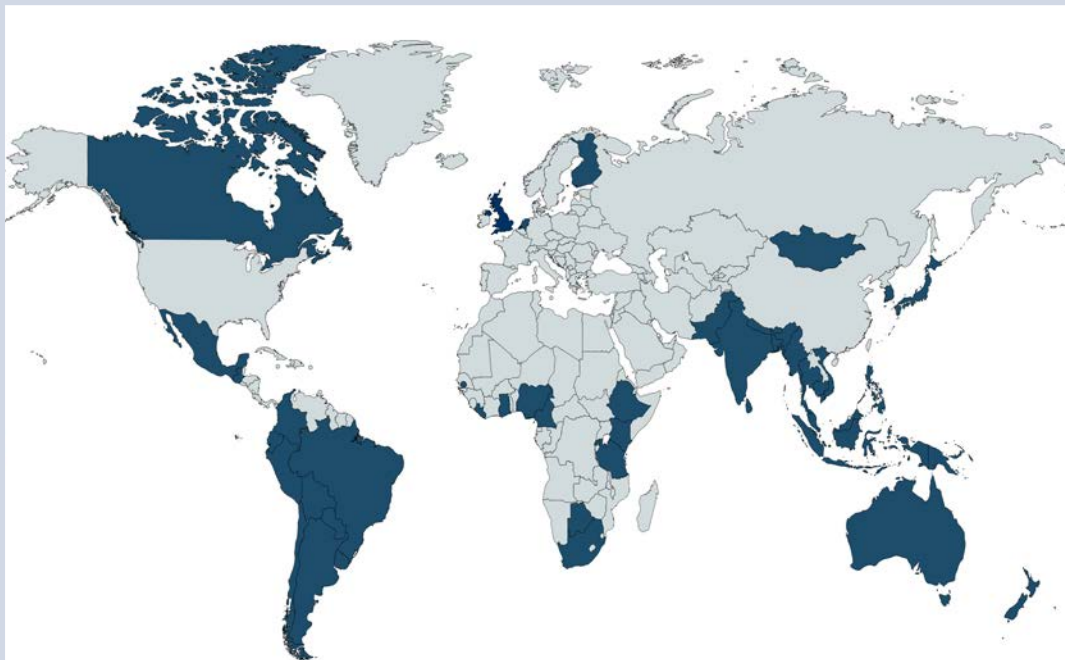
United Kingdom Land Warfare Centre (UKLWC) newest National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP) partner

POTI is pleased to welcome the United Kingdom Land Warfare Center (UKLWC) as the Institute's newest training partner in the National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP) programme. The role of the Land Warfare Centre (LWC) is to drive the agile adaptation of the UK's Field Army to deliver success on operations. It is tasked with delivering trained soldiers to the Field Army, as well as training and validating Field Army units on exercises where they will achieve their required levels of warfighting readiness. The LWC also trains and validates units and individual augmentees for deployment on specific operations overseas, including UN peacekeeping operations.

With this new partnership, UKLWC joins national peacekeeping training centres in Africa, the Americas, Europe, and Asia and the Pacific that subscribe to NTCELP. By partnering with POTI, centres can provide their classroom students with a blended learning curriculum. Centres use the e-learning courses for a variety of purposes: as prerequisites or primers for classroom courses, as enhancements to the existing curriculum, and as continuing education after formal training at the centre is complete. Students earn a personalized Certificate of Completion jointly issued by the participating centre and POTI upon successful completion of each course.



Map of countries served by the National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP)



Each year International Women's Day is observed on 8 March. Women's History Month is observed each year during March in Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Recognizing the women authors at POTI

POTI is fortunate to offer courses authored by five women who contribute to the success of the Institute. We would like to extend our appreciation to Dr. Jessica C. Lawrence, Ph.D., J.D., of the United States, author of *Human Rights*; Professor Ximena Jiménez of Chile, author of *Gender Perspectives in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations*; Captain (Retired) Jennifer Wittwer, CSM and Megan Bastick, LL. M., both of Australia, co-authors of *Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peacekeeping*; and Detective Superintendent (Retired) Sue King of Australia, author of *The Role of United Nations Police in Peace Operations*. The Institute encourages all students to enrol in these courses.

Human Rights course review:

"This is one of the best courses I have studied at your training institute. For someone to know the rights they are entitle [sic] to is a great achievement and to use these rights to help others that don't know their own rights in a crisis or situation is another way of creating peace in the world."

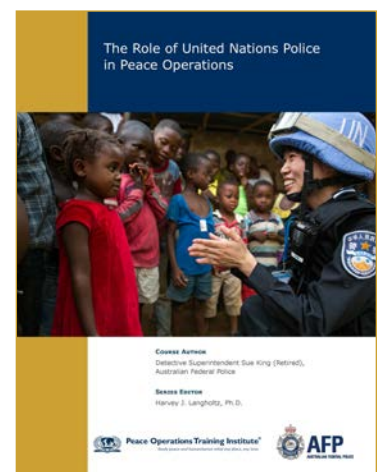
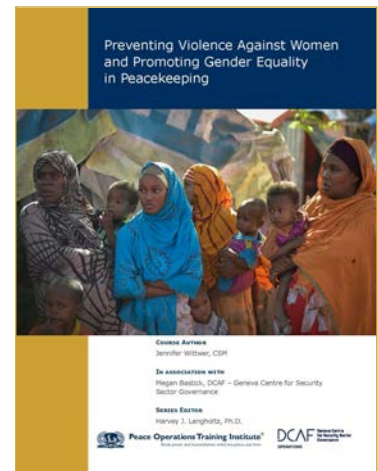
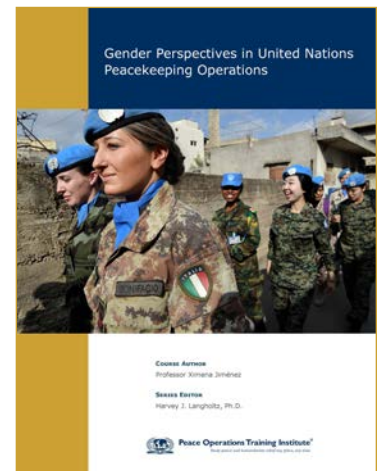


Submitted By: Bolaji Lydia Abosede, Nigeria

Enrolments by women increase in 2019

Enrolments by women in POTI courses rose from 17,280 in 2018 to 20,519 in 2019, an increase of 18.7%. The number of women creating accounts with POTI also increased during 2019. The Institute is encouraged by these enrolment statistics, which strongly indicate that an increasing number of women are undertaking e-learning on peacekeeping. These increases suggest that POTI has been successful in its work to promote the fifth United Nations Sustainable Development Goal: Gender Equality. POTI will continue encouraging women to enrol in courses and recruiting female authors to contribute to its curriculum.

POTI supports Sustainable Development Goal 5 — "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" — by partnering with the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) in distributing a suite of courses promoting the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda. These three courses, offered free of charge to all, cover the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions (SCRs) on the WPS agenda in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Each course highlights the challenges and priorities distinct to its regional focus and examines the roles of regional and subregional organizations in supporting the national implementation of the SCRs. POTI recorded a 25% increase in enrolments from women in its WPS course suite, from 2,959 in 2018 to 3,689 in 2019.



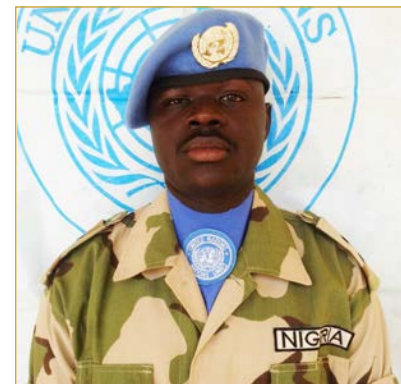
Email from a student, Major Adam Alkali

We are always thankful when we receive emails from our students at the Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI). It is wonderful to be able to put faces to names and to read the feedback from our most important resource. If you would like to provide feedback about the curriculum or your student experience, please send an email to <help@peaceopstraining.org>. We would love to hear from you.

The following is an excerpt from an email we recently received from Major Adam Alkali of Nigeria.

“POTI studies have undoubtedly improved my general knowledge on different facets of peace operations training. It has broadened my understanding of certain topics like gender, the UN system, military studies etc. I joined the e-learning some years back, and the journey has been so exciting and beneficial in my career as a peacekeeper as well as my military career. Impressive too, was the introduction of Peace Operations Specialized Training Certificate (POST Cert) programme where I concentrated on the aspect of military studies. As an instructor at the Peacekeeping Centre in Nigeria, the courses were of immense value as they enhanced my professional competence. I also had the privilege of undergoing peace operations courses at home in Nigeria and in Kenya. Both schools are partners of POTI, and I enrolled for some courses and earned certificates in collaboration with the respective centres.

The method of delivery and quality of materials, I found to be ideal, easy and self-explanatory. This is a great consideration by POTI as we the students are of varying level of understanding and education. Suffice to state that the current method fits all and sundry. POTI is indeed doing a great job, and I know the future holds even better. I thank the POTI team so very much. God bless.”



Major Adam Alkali, Nigeria

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



Dr. Langholtz

These are not easy times. Of course, no time is an easy time in a community of institutions and individuals dedicated to bringing peace and relief to troubled regions. But the global COVID-19 pandemic has made our work even harder. This is why my colleagues and I at POTI have ramped up our efforts to provide the peacekeeping training community with expanded programmes at no cost.

Peacekeeping will not take a pause for the pandemic, and peacekeeping training cannot pause either as military peacekeepers, police, and civilians are preparing to relieve some of the 100,000 who have been serving on missions for six months and longer. However, travel bans and bans on gatherings have caused the cancellation of classes at some of the national peacekeeping training centres that train personnel for deployment on missions.

Even before the pandemic, over 40 national peacekeeping training centres blended POTI e-learning into their on-site training programmes through the National Training Centre E-Learning Platform. NTCELP has always been a resource-multiplier that increased the capacity of national peacekeeping training centres and enabled them to provide more training to more students with existing staff. E-learning will never be a full substitute for classroom training or field exercises, but with training centres now being forced by COVID-19 to cancel some class convenings, e-learning on peacekeeping provided by POTI can at least partly fill the training gap.

Over 98% of POTI e-learning is already provided at no cost to the student through the National Training Centre E-Learning Platform, E-Learning for Mission Staff, Mission Leadership in Peace Operations, with UN Women, and in other free programmes. But during the COVID-19 pandemic, POTI will make our 12 most-demanded courses free to all individuals and to any institution not already participating.

The institutions and people devoted to the training of peacekeepers are a closely knit community. It is our honour here at POTI to serve with our partners in this endeavour, especially during these difficult times.