



Peace Operations Training Institute®

Study peace and humanitarian relief any place, any time

March 2025 Newsletter

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PELP Convenes to Discuss E-Learning on Peace Operations

The Partnership for E-Learning on Peace Operations (PELP) meets twice a year in New York to discuss e-learning for peace operations personnel. PELP is a forum of key Member States that provides aegis and oversight for e-learning on peace operations; it ensures the courses POTI provides serve the needs of the peace operations community. Since its inception in 2020, the number of Member States participating in PELP has grown, and suggestions from the group, such as course topics to add to the curriculum, have been implemented.

The most recent meeting was held on 22 January 2025 and was hosted and chaired by the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations. In addition to the Member States that send Military Advisers to represent their Permanent

Missions, the Department of Peace Operations Integrated Training Service, UN-Women, and the United Nations C4ISR Academy for Peace Operations (UNCAP) attended as observers.

Partnering training centres and their respective Military Advisers are also invited to attend on a rotating basis. In January, representatives from Ethiopia, Fiji, India, Malaysia, and Peru attended the meeting to provide feedback on POTI e-learning. The Institute appreciates their time, support, and valuable input.

POTI is grateful for the ongoing support and guidance this group provides and will continue to work to ensure the peace operations community's needs are met. The next PELP meeting will take place in July 2025.

New Releases and Updates

Several new releases are now available for POTI students.

The Institute released two translations of [*Security Sector Reform & Governance: Leadership Engagement*](#), in Spanish ([*Reforma y gobernanza del sector de la seguridad: participación de funciones líderes*](#)) and French (*Réforme et gouvernance du secteur de la sécurité : engagement des hauts responsables*). Based on the United Nations "CROSSROADS" guidance, this brief module aims to provide an overview of the basic principles underscoring the United Nations approach to security sector reform and governance (SSR&G).

POTI expanded its multimedia library with the release of an audiobook and an interactive module for [*Protection of Cultural Property: Online Course for the Military, Police, and Law Enforcement*](#). The course has also been translated into two languages, Spanish (*Protección de Bienes Culturales: Curso en línea para militares, policías y fuerzas del orden*) and French ([*Protection des biens culturels: Cours en ligne à l'intention des militaires, de la police et des forces de l'ordre*](#)). These offerings make this invaluable course more accessible to students with different language proficiencies and learning styles.

Additionally, an interactive module was released for [*Implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions on the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda in Africa*](#). Like all of the Institute's interactive modules, it is included with course registration.

In January, an update to [*Peacebuilding*](#) was released. The update includes recent developments and best practices, as well as three detailed, supplemental case studies examining UN peacebuilding in Sierra Leone.

Lastly, in February, the Institute released a French translation for [*Leading Within United Nations Peace Operations*](#) (*Diriger dans le cadre des opérations de paix des Nations Unies*). The course offers French-speaking students knowledge and guidance on the strategic, operational, and tactical activities of mission leaders.

The Institute looks forward to expanding its traditional and multimedia course offerings throughout 2025.

Peacebuilding



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POTI Connects with Partners at Annual Conferences

In 2024, POTI was honoured to engage with partners and peace operations stakeholders at multiple conferences, including the annual meetings of the Association of Asia-Pacific Peace Operation Training Centers (AAPTC), the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres (IAPTC), and the Latin American Association of Peace Operations Training Centres (ALCOPAZ).

The AAPTC conference was hosted by the Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operation Training (BIPSOT) in May. The POTI Chief of Content hosted a breakout session for training instructors, met with potential partners, and gathered feedback throughout the conference. The majority of participants were representatives from national peacekeeping training centres in the Asia-Pacific region. Thanks to new funding in 2024 from Global Affairs Canada's Peace and Stabilization



Operations Program, POTI is able to provide free training to these centres. Following the conference, POTI officially partnered with six centres in this region.

The IAPTC conference was hosted by the Centre for International Peace & Stability (CIPS) in Pakistan in November. The theme of the conference was "Adaptive Training Strategies for Evolving Peace Operations". POTI leadership met with partners throughout the conference and hosted a booth at the Ideas Bazaar, which facilitated connections and gave the Institute a chance to highlight its most recent developments.

POTI presented at the ALCOPAZ annual conference hosted by the Centro Conjunto para Operaciones de Paz de Chile (CECOPAC) in November. The conference theme was "Protection of Civilians with Emphasis on the Protection of Women and Children in Conflict Situations". The POTI Deputy Director presented information on POTI courses on the protection of civilians, child protection, and gender awareness, among others, and discussed the Institute's versatile training curriculum with Latin American partners. POTI is proud to partner with 16 national and regional peacekeeping training centres in Latin America, many of which have made POTI courses mandatory.

These events allow POTI to meet face-to-face with current and potential partners to discuss collaborations, possible synergies, and the state and future of peace operations. The Institute would like to thank the training centres that hosted the past year's conferences and is looking forward to more opportunities to collaborate in 2025.

New Women, Peace, and Security Webinar

The Institute's latest webinar on the implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda features Jen Wittwer, CSM, FCPHR. Drawing on her extensive experience in the military and peace operations, as well as her expertise as an international gender, peace, and security consultant, Wittwer highlights the critical importance of women's participation in the historically male-dominated field of peace operations. She also discusses the importance of e-learning that equips individuals with practical tools to apply a gender perspective in these contexts.

Captain (Ret.) Wittwer retired from the Australian Defence Force (ADF) in 2018 after a distinguished 37-year career. In 2013, she became the first ADF officer to deploy to Afghanistan as a gender adviser. Wittwer is also the author of *Against the Wind*, a book that explores how women can be their authentic selves in male-dominated professions. Currently pursuing a PhD in Gender, Peace, and Security at Monash University, Wittwer is a co-author of the Institute's course [Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peace Operations](#). She also contributed to the development of our three-course series, [Implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions on the WPS Agenda](#).

The full webinar is available here: <https://www.peaceopstraining.org/videos/556/wps-wittwer/>.



From the Desk of the Executive Director Ramona Taheri



Last year, POTI met the demand for nearly 96,000 course enrolments from students from 183 nations, a figure that has held steady throughout the past few years as peace operations have faced closures and diminished resources. In a very uncertain climate, we will continue to forge ahead to provide accessible e-learning for tens of thousands of current and potential peace operations and humanitarian relief operations personnel. Our mission has remained unchanged, and we are dedicated to ensuring our curriculum meets the needs of those serving on missions.

We are able to carry out this work only with the support of the Partnership for E-Learning on Peace Operations, a group of Member States that oversees our work. I would like to extend my deep gratitude to the Permanent Mission of Australia for hosting and chairing this group in 2025.

In this issue, you will find the Institute's recently released course updates, translations, audiobooks, and interactive modules. We hope that being able to choose the format and language of your studies makes learning more accessible and enjoyable.

It is our pleasure here at POTI to provide all of this to our students. We look forward to serving you during 2025 and beyond.

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



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All the major features of the POTI online classroom are available. Internet connection typically required.

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Women in peace operations are a key to peace. POTI encourages women to enrol and study our courses.