

Call for Editorial Board Members for the Fourth UNITAR International Research Conference (4UIRC)

Educating for Futures | 18–19 November 2026 | UN House Brussels, Belgium and Online

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) invites Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from qualified scholars and practitioners to serve on the Editorial Board of the special edited research volume developed in connection with the 4th UNITAR International Research Conference (4UIRC).

1. About the Special Volume:

The special volume, titled: Educating for Futures – Empowering Individuals and Institutions for Human Security, Peace, and Sustainable Development, will bring together high-quality, peer-reviewed research and applied scholarship emerging from the 4UIRC. The volume aims to advance interdisciplinary, policy-relevant, and practice-oriented contributions that explore how education, training, and applied research can support innovation, resilience, and transformation in the context of human security, peace, and sustainable development.

2. Purpose of the Editorial Board:

The Editorial Board is established to provide scholarly leadership, peer-review oversight, and thematic guidance throughout the development of the special volume. The Board supports the 4UIRC Editorial Coordination Team in ensuring academic integrity, analytical coherence, policy relevance, and alignment with internationally recognised publishing standards and United Nations publications requirements.

Editorial Board members serve in an independent scholarly capacity.

3. Key Responsibilities:

Editorial Board members are expected to:

- Contribute to shaping the editorial vision, thematic scope, and structure of the volume;
- Participate in the review and selection of abstracts;
- Serve as peer reviewers for submitted manuscripts;
- Provide timely, objective, and constructive scholarly assessments;
- Advise on scholarly quality, relevance, diversity, and research ethics;
- Uphold confidentiality and ethical standards, including the declaration and management of conflicts of interest;
- Support coherence, rigour, and integration across contributions;
- Engage respectfully and professionally in all editorial activities.

4. Profile of Candidates:

Applicants should demonstrate:

- Recognised subject-matter expertise aligned with one or more themes of the 4UIRC, including education for futures, human security, peace, sustainable development, digital transformation, climate resilience, youth leadership, or systems transformation;
- Demonstrated research and publication experience;
- Familiarity with peer-review and academic editorial processes;

- Experience or engagement in multilateral, policy, education, or UN-related contexts;
- Commitment to academic integrity, inclusivity, and ethical research practices.

UNITAR strongly encourages applications that contribute to regional, disciplinary, and gender diversity.

5. Dual Roles and Conflict of Interest

It is standard practice in edited research volumes for Editorial Board members to also contribute manuscripts. Where an Editorial Board member submits a manuscript:

- They will be fully recused from all handling, review coordination, discussion, and decision-making related to their submission;
- The manuscript will be subject to the same double-blind peer-review procedures and acceptance criteria as all other contributions.

All conflicts of interest must be disclosed and documented.

6. Modality and Duration

- Membership on the Editorial Board is voluntary and non-remunerated;
- Editorial work will be conducted primarily through virtual meetings, written consultations, and structured peer-review assignments;
- Membership applies for the duration of the development, review, and completion of the 4UIRC special volume, unless otherwise concluded by UNITAR.

Editorial Board members are not considered staff members, consultants, or representatives of UNITAR or the United Nations.

7. How to Apply

Interested candidates are invited to submit an Expression of Interest by completing the [application form](#) and providing all requested information, including:

- Personal and professional details;
- A brief statement of motivation and relevant expertise;
- A short bio, highlighting research, publication, and editorial or peer-review experience;
- An indication of thematic areas of interest aligned with the 4UIRC.

Only complete applications submitted through the [designated form](#) will be considered. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

8. Institutional Oversight

The Editorial Board will operate under the coordination of the 4UIRC Editorial Coordination Team, which will manage editorial workflows, anonymisation, reviewer assignment, documentation, and institutional clearance.

The editorial process is led by:

- **Editor-in-Chief:** Dr Jon-Hans Coetzer (Jon-Hans.COETZER@unitar.org)

And supported by:

- **Editorial Coordinator:** Alexandra Severino (Alexandra.SEVERINO@unitar.org)
 - **Creative Editor and Outreach Support Focal:** Ana Moreira (Ana.MOREIRA@unitar.org)
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