GLOBAL DIPLOMACY INITIATIVE
FALL 2023

REGISTER NOW!
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United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is the principal training arm of the UN system headquartered in Geneva with Offices in New York, Hiroshima and Port Harcourt. At the UN Headquarters in New York, and for the last 20 years, UNITAR New York has been the gateway to learning opportunities, with a vision of providing knowledge “on the UN, by the UN and for the UN”. It develops and delivers an average of 30 courses annually to thousands of members of the international community – diplomats, UN staff, and members of civil society (including NGOs) and the private sector. Its courses focus on:

- Developing technical knowledge of the UN system and its functioning.
- Building skills that are specific to multilateral diplomacy.
- Exchanging information and research in the form of Conferences (or series of Conferences) on areas of topical and immediate interest to negotiators at the UN.
UNITAR Global Diplomacy Initiative programme provides a rare opportunity for students to learn about diplomacy from diplomats themselves. Although there is no shortage of courses on global politics and policies, few (if any) provide this education in the context of first-hand experience – experience the United Nations is uniquely situated to provide.

Through this method students will gain an understanding of current global issues, and of the shaping of things to come - on the scene, as they happen. The instructors will be current and former UN ambassadors, diplomats and delegates, with material covering a range of global issues from the past, present and future. In keeping with the spirit of this “realworld” learning methodology, courses will blend classroom instruction with observation of UN General Assembly sessions and other UN forums. Students will develop a global political perspective through a first-hand look at the modern statecraft.

The understanding of global leadership provided by this programme is something few ever experience – a diplomatic education that is personal and in-depth. This breadth of understanding is complemented by its depth, so that even often overlooked aspects of leadership are considered by better understanding the lives of the leaders themselves.

Befitting the mindset of global diplomacy, students will be encouraged to think collaboratively, creatively and critically. These skills will be applied to various mechanisms of diplomacy, the media discourse and the responsibilities of being part of the global community, ultimately with the goal of developing more socially aware and politically active students. Spaces are limited, and a selection process will take place.

"A world in which individuals, institutions and organizations are equipped with the knowledge, skills and other capacities to overcome global challenges."

– UNITAR’s Vision
PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

UNITAR Global Diplomacy Initiative programme takes place on a term by term basis for Fall, or Spring. Participants should register for the term that fits best into their schedule. Cost of the programme is $2,000 per term and full payment must be received before the programme starts. If participant would like course credit, this must be arranged with participants individual colleges.

CLASS SCHEDULE

For the Spring Term, the course meets on Fridays from February to April; for the Fall Term, the course meets on Fridays from September to December one-on-one instructions with former Ambassadors, UN staff and Professors associated with UNITAR. Students are encouraged to attend various other events run by UNITAR as well as other UN Agencies to get hands on experience. These events take place during UN hours of 10am-5pm. EST.

Note: depending on global situation, the training will be implemented in a hybrid format.

PRACTICAL ONLINE AND IN-PERSON CLASSES THROUGH A VIDEO CONFERENCING TOOL
UNIT I: ACADEMIC

There will be over 20 hours of academic lectures. Students are expected to submit a final paper that can be either for an academic or non-academic purpose based on topics the participant has explored during the semester at the United Nations. Students will choose their professors based on their availability to support them in writing the final paper. Once professors approve the topic, length and format of the paper, the students can proceed submitting the final paper to both the professors and UNITAR. The use of the United Nations library (UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library) is highly encouraged as well as the assistance of the Professors of the programme.

ELECTIVE E-LEARNING COURSES

Participants have the opportunity to choose one out of four courses that align with their interests and career goals. These courses cover diverse subjects, such as sustainable development, international relations, humanitarian affairs, and peacekeeping operations. Each course is structured to provide a comprehensive and engaging learning experience, incorporating interactive modules, multimedia resources, and expert-led discussions. The flexibility of the e-learning format allows for self-paced study, making it convenient for learners to balance their studies with other commitments. UNITAR’s elective e-learning courses aim to expand participants expertise and contribute positively to addressing global challenges.

UNIT II: PRACTICAL

Participants should expect to spend thirty hours of attending meetings of the UNITAR Core Diplomatic Training that fits participant’s schedule and interest.

PERKS

Participants will receive access to United Nations online events and will be guided to access the organization’s resources including the materials from the UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library. Participants will also receive a UNITAR Global Diplomacy Initiative completion certificate as well as certificates from any other training attended upon finishing the programme and handing in the final paper.

EXTRACURRICULAR

Voluntary attendance to non-core-training events and side events will be highly encouraged based on participant’s interests in these topics.

REGISTRATION

To register for this course, prospective participants will have to register here and provide their Resume/CV as well as a cover letter describing why they are interested in this programme and how it would be beneficial to them.
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United Nations Institute for Training and Research
1963-2023

KNOWLEDGE TO LEAD
When the United Nations formed in 1945, the organizational structure was set and still operates today, although the roles the various bodies play have changed over time as the United Nations has added Member States and has expanded its global functions. At its founding in 1945, the UN had 51 Members; today UN Membership stands at 193, with two additional Observer States. This course will give a background on six primary committees of the United Nations, an overview of the Charter, the numerous specialized and technical agencies, which today carry out much of the work of the organization. The Charter established six principal organs of the United Nations: The General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat. The United Nations family, however, is much larger, encompassing 15 agencies and several programmes and bodies. Together, these six primary organs and the UN specialized, and technical agencies carry out a tremendous amount of work in the world. Though we may hear frequently about contentious or timely Security Council resolutions or dramatic speeches and moments in the General Assembly hall, much of the success and accomplishments of the United Nations is borne in the quiet, day-in-and-day-out work of diplomats and bureaucrats around the world.
This course examines the role of regional organizations in conflict resolution. Special attention is given to the specific and ever-evolving division of labor, based on comparative strengths and weaknesses, between the United Nations and regional organizations (i.e. AU, EU, NATO, CIS and OSCE) in tackling different conflicts (i.e. Kosovo, Ukraine, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Somalia, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Moldova and Macedonia).

The relevant policy and scholarly debate is centered on two main arguments. On one hand, it is argued that regional problems require regional solutions; while on the other hand, it is maintained that the regional engagement could be problematic on its own. The course aims at assisting the students in developing analytical skills for critically examining the capabilities and interests of different international organizations. To that end, the students will employ an interdisciplinary tool such as the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis, which facilitates a systematized approach towards the unit and system levels of analysis of international organizations.

Lecturer:
Dr. Angel Angelov

Course duration:
3-hours
This course will explore how the United Nations (UN) system has evolved in the last two decades, through the prism of its response to one of the biggest transnational challenges of our time: human mobility (‘migration’). With over 280 million migrants, record numbers of forcibly displaced, and the immigration legacy of most nation-states shaping their politics, demographics and cultural trends – the mobility of people has put the inter-governmental system to the test. It will also study the contemporary responses to mobility at various levels of government: city, state, and region with a particular focus on the 2015 migration crises and onward. The lectures will cover the following issues: global scope of phenomenon; historical contexts in world regions; legal developments at the global level; political factors influencing multilateral action; evolution in institutional governance at the UN; and emerging governance trends.

The objectives of this course will be to: gain a solid understanding of migration politics, and relevant normative and institutional frameworks; exercise analytical and problem-solving skills by assessing a specific migration or migration-related challenge and proposing options for how to address it; and practicing synthesizing information and delivering convincing policy recommendations.
This course is designed to help participants gain greater understanding of the political and constitutional role and responsibilities of the Security Council under the UN Charter and vis-à-vis the other organs of the United Nations’ system, to learn about the procedures and practice of the Security Council and discuss topical issues on which the Council is deliberating. Ultimately, the Responsibility to Protect principle reinforces sovereignty by helping states to meet their existing responsibilities. It offers fresh programmatic opportunities for the United Nations system to assist states in preventing the listed crimes and violations and in protecting affected populations through capacity building, early warning, and other preventive and protective measures, rather than simply waiting to respond if they fail.

Since the adoption of the Responsibility to Protect in 2005, the United Nations Secretary-General has taken a series of steps to elaborate on the principle and guide its practical implementation. Member States have also regularly considered implementation of the principle during formal and informal meetings and the principle has been repeatedly referenced and reaffirmed in relevant United Nations resolutions. It will also introduce the Security Council Presidency and students will receive overviews of the political and legal frameworks. Security Council Sanctions and the Security Council Subsidiary Organs Branch, which assists the Security Council design, implement, and evaluates sanctions. Participants will also get an overview of the United Nation’s global political commitment of responsibility to protect (R2P) embodies a political commitment to end the worst forms of violence and persecution. It seeks to narrow the gap between Member States’ pre-existing obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law and the reality faced by populations at risk of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity.

**RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT (R2P)**

Lecturer:  
Dr. Jelena Pia-Comella

Course duration:  
3-hours
WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

Lecturer: Dr. Jelena Pia-Comella

Course duration: 3-hours

The course is conceived to showcase the Women, peace and security agenda (WPS) as a cross-cutting issue drawing linkages between the WPS agenda, the implementation of the responsibility to protect norm, international justice and the 2030 agenda. Designated to provide participants with an overview of the evolution of the Women peace and security agenda since the adoption of the landmark resolution of the UN Security Council 1325 in 2000, the course will focus on women’s leadership in peace and security, women’s participation in conflict prevention and resolution, women’s access to justice for sexual and gender-based violence in conflict. Current geopolitics such as countering violent extrem-ism and addressing masculinities and conflict dynamics will provide participants with an overview and analysis how these issues shape the current WPS agenda.
INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND DIPLOMACY

Lecturer: Dr. H.E. Dr Yuriy Sergeyev

Course duration: 3-hours

This course is to give students a broad understanding of international law upholding, law-enforcement and law-protecting practice and means, which results in the implementation of international judicial power based on the mechanisms, legal acts, norms and principles adopted by the international community primarily by UN. The role of the International Court of Justice, The International Criminal Court (ICC), Hybrid courts, Ad hoc courts, Tribunals will be observed. The issue of interrelations between “international justice, universal jurisdiction and a state judicial sovereignty” will be a core of theoretical discussions during the course. Students will be aquatinted with resolutions and decisions adopted by the UN General Assembly on items related to “international justice” and allocated to the Sixth (legal) Committee.
The Global Environmental Outlook is the UNEP’s most important publication. The last GEO report (GEO-6) presents a stark picture of the state of the environment and prospects for the future. The report states that unless we radically and urgently change our economies and our societies, we will not be able to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. “We are currently not on track to achieve any of the environmental dimensions of the SDGs. Failure to meet the SDGs will disproportionately affect young people around the world. Our planet’s resources are not infinite.” We share a vision for “the SDGs can only be realized with strong global partnerships and cooperation”; we recognize the world is “more interconnected than ever; improving access to technology and knowledge is an important way to share ideas and foster innovation.” (GEO-6 Executive Summary). The course will provide an overview of the multifaceted (multidisciplinary multi-organizational) approach to partnership with UNEP GEO-6, Science based Diplomacy and NASA GLOBE (the Global Learning and Observations to benefit the Environment Program, is a worldwide program that brings together students, teachers, scientists and citizens to promote science and learning about the environment).
UNEP GEO-6 FOR YOUTH, NASA GLOBE AND SCIENCE DIPLOMACY FOR GLOBAL STEM EDUCATION

Lecturer:
Ms. Larisa Shelkin & Dr. Michael Jabot

Course duration:
3-hours

"UNEP GEO-6 for Youth is a one-stop-shop for a young person to understand the state of the environment, what they can do every day to drive markets to adopt environmentally sustainable products and services and how to develop their skills and choose environmentally sustainable careers. The report provides background to help understand the issues, but most importantly shows how youth have the power to bring about transformative change for the environment" (GEO-6 for Youth).

NASA GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to benefit the Environment) Program, is a worldwide program (based on the bilateral agreement with more than 120 countries) that brings together students, teachers, scientists and citizens to promote science and learning about the environment. This course will provide an overview of the UNEP GEO-6 for Youth findings, NASA GLOBE protocols and the role of science-based diplomacy based on our strong belief none of SDGs goals can be achieved without global cooperation; the course will also provide you with recommendations on how to incorporate GEO-6 findings into the global STEM education curricula across all levels, to acquire science-based diplomacy skills and to prepare students for opportunities at experience-based learning across the globe."
This course will cover a historical overview and the international human rights framework; OHCHR’s mandate, working methods, thematic and country-related work; the structure and functioning of the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, the human rights treaty bodies, the work of the General Assembly, the Security Council and activities of other United Nations organs in relation to human rights, and the mainstreaming of human rights in development, humanitarian action and peace operations.

Objectives:

- Expand understanding of the role of The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights at UN.
- Enhance knowledge of Human Rights instruments in multilateral diplomacy and the application
- Strengthen understanding of legal underpinnings of the UN

The class will discuss the general threat landscape that our planet is currently faced with. It is based on two key international institutions and their data base as the main sources for the analysis. The first one is the UN and the second one is the World Economic Forum.

1. The UN celebrated the organization’s 75th anniversary 2 years ago by an overview of the so-called Sustainable Development Goals adopted 5 years earlier, when all United Nations Member States signed up to a set of solutions for the biggest global challenges. The 17 interlinked goals
are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all as they address these global challenges, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice.

2. The second source is provided by the Davos based World Economic Forum, which releases reports each year about the interrelation between and among global threats, and why they are relevant. Their most recent report, the Global Risks Report 2022 will be compared briefly with the two previous ones, published in 2020 and 2021.

The common denominator in both sources is that they put the emphasis on the COVID-19 pandemic, which has demonstrated that no institution or individual alone can address the economic, environmental, social, security, and technological challenges of our complex, interdependent world. The pandemic has accelerated those systemic changes that were already apparent before its global onslaught. The fault lines that emerged in 2020, appear by now as critical crossroads, and the time to rebuild trust and to make crucial choices is fast approaching, as the need to reset priorities and the urgency to reform systems grow stronger around the globe.

The topics we are going to discuss present what appears to be a dark future if we fail to act on these impending crises. The goal should be to compile the most accurate and relevant information as it pertains to the global issues, so that nation states around the world can work together diplomatically, to build upon agreements that focus on preventing such catastrophes and crises. All the challenges we are faced with, and the required solutions would highlight the indispensable role of multilateral diplomacy.
NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND GLOBAL SECURITY

Lecturer: H.E. Mr. Laszlo Molnar
Course duration: 3-hours

The class will discuss the politics of nuclear weapons, the role of nuclear weapons in global security. It will familiarize the students with the types and effects of nuclear arms through several topics, including the history and future of nuclear strategy, the control and reduction of nuclear weapons, and the issues of nuclear proliferation.

We will start with a historical overview of the development of nuclear weapons, in focus with the Cold War and the nuclear arms race, as well as the evolution of the nuclear weapons technology.

We will continue with discussing the international regime on nuclear weapons, in focus with The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its review process. A strong emphasis will be placed on explaining the “quid pro quo” between the two distinct categories of the NPT member states, i.e. the nuclear weapons states and the non-nuclear weapon states, explaining also the two main categories of security assurances. Other organizations to be discussed in detail will be The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization and The International Atomic Energy Agency, with focus on the scope of safeguards and the right for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. We will examine different international and regional initiatives for nuclear disarmament and for curbing the proliferation of nuclear arsenals.

The political and strategic implications of nuclear weapons will be considered, in focus with the role of nuclear weapons in national security and nuclear deterrence. The relationship between the nuclear weapons and global power dynamics, as well as the overall impact of the nuclear weapons on international relations will be analyzed. Other related topics on our agenda will be the risk of nuclear weapon proliferation and terrorism, the environmental consequences of nuclear weapons and the cybersecurity aspects of ensuring control over nuclear capabilities and facilities, both in military terms and in relation to the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Finally, we will evaluate on potential future directions for research and policy in this area.
Background

This course will provide nuanced understandings on the international discourse, agendas, and the diverse environments that underlie the foundation for the multilateral negotiations on the United Nations level. The course will cover both case studies and in-depth interpretations on the various UN regulations. We will study the evolution from the original UN Charter articles to the development of today’s Sustainable Development Goals. Under the lead of SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), the course will include case studies involving security, environmental, economic issues. The programme will offer students an exclusive access to the UN documentary A Call for Peace and we will examine a wide array of research and studies on the topics of peacebuilding and peacekeeping process.

Developed by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), this course will guide us through an introductory framework on how to engage and evaluate attempts at preventive diplomacy and multilateral negotiation, while deepening our understanding of their chronology and evolution within the United Nations.

Using exclusive interviews and resources on preventive diplomacy involving key actors and video materials from UNITARs face to face International Conference “Strengthening Preventive Diplomacy & Multilateral Negotiation”. They will guide us through case studies and to target specific goals, including: SDG Goal 3 – good health and well-being, SDG Goal 6- clean water and sanitation, SDG Goal 5- gender equality, SDG Goal 8 – decent work and economic growth. SDG Goal 16 – peace, justice and strong institutions.
Learning Outcomes

• Deepen participants’ knowledge and understanding on the connections between mechanisms of preventive diplomacy, multilateral negotiation, and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in particular SDG 16;

• Equip participants with a wide range of preventive diplomacy tools provided by global experts and high-level officials and representatives working in the fields including: negotiation and multilateralism, international politics, social justice, economic and environmental development;

• Provide participants with the means of addressing structural causes of conflict, and early warning and preventive mechanisms, gleaned through real experiences of experts and practitioners of multilateral negotiation for peaceful settlement;

• Illustrate and deconstruct pertinent case studies relating to the implementation of specific goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as efforts of establishing durable and sustainable peace;

• Draw practices in preventive diplomacy and dispute settlement from the regional panel discussions, thus engaging diverse perspectives of global experts and practitioners from the European and Latin American regions, and understanding the nuances of the diverging social, economic, and political contexts in which they operate.
Background

This course will guide us through an introductory framework on how to engage and set up partnerships. Interviews with and presentations by UN delegates, business representatives and academics will introduce us to case studies and concrete examples to target specific goals, including inclusive economic growth for poverty eradication; water and sanitation; food security and nutrition; gender considerations; and the protection of refugees and vulnerable migrants.

Objectives

The main objective of the course is to bring together UN agencies, national governments, academia, civil society and business to address the challenges of poverty. The Conference will be organized for UN delegates, UN staff, the private sector, international financial institutions, top academics and practitioners working on relevant issues, business associations, and relevant civil society representatives. The goal of the conference is to add a sustaining and longer-term outlet from which to engage with constituents, leading to greater learning, exploration of possibilities for partnerships, and development of a Community of Practice – where government officials have a standing resource from which to engage further with the business sector.

Register Here:
https://event.unitar.org/full-catalog/e-learning-course-business-2030-agenda-working-together-towards-sustainable-future-1
Learning Outcomes

This course will provide you with an understanding of why the United Nations and the business community are vital to each other to obtain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this course, we will learn about the 17 SDGs, why they matter for business, and why the UN and governments need businesses to successfully implement them. The main learning objectives are for participants to:

- Understand the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Develop insight into why engaging business in the delivery of the SDGs is crucial for the UN and governments
- Learn why getting involved in the implementation of the SDGs is beneficial for businesses
- Acquire the tools and the framework to engage (as) business as a partner in sustainable development through case studies, including good practices and lessons learned
HARNESSING CLIMATE & SDGS SYNERGIES

Background

This eLearning course is developed by UNITAR, UNDESA and UNFCCC and builds on outcomes of the Climate and SDGs synergies conference in 2019 and online consultations in 2020-2021 on this topic. The course consists of three parts, which are briefly described below:

- Part I: The Global Challenges: Poverty and Inequality, Climate Change, and the Pandemic
- Part II: The Universally Agreed Global Vision: Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement
- Part III: Need to increase the level of ambition on climate change

Objectives

The main objective of the course is to bring together UN agencies, national governments, academia, civil society and business to address the challenges of poverty. The Conference will be organized for UN delegates, UN staff, the private sector, international financial institutions, top academics and practitioners working on relevant issues, business associations, and relevant civil society representatives. The goal of the conference is to add a sustaining and longer-term outlet from which to engage with constituents, leading to greater learning, exploration of possibilities for partnerships, and development of a Community of Practice – where government officials have a standing resource from which to engage further with the business sector.

Register Here:
https://event.unitar.org/full-catalog/e-learning-course-harnessing-climate-sdgs-synergies
Learning Outcomes

This course will provide you with an understanding of why the United Nations and the business community are vital to each other to obtain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this course, we will learn about the 17 SDGs, why they matter for business, and why the UN and governments need businesses to successfully implement them.

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• Develop insight into why engaging business in the delivery of the SDGs is crucial for the UN and governments
• Learn why getting involved in the implementation of the SDGs is beneficial for businesses
• Acquire the tools and the framework to engage (as) business as a partner in sustainable development through case studies, including good practices and lessons learned
Background

The turn of the century has resulted in many changes. One might have believed that the advances in the 20th century were supposed to offer us a better society. Human beings have envisioned a healthier relation among ourselves, the society that we are living in, and the planet that we are living on. This E-learning class demonstrates the importance of joining efforts, more necessary than ever, to integrate sustainability into our society. The proposal to continuously strive for a more sustainable world, and to bring social, environmental and economic dimensions together, offers a window of hope for generations to come.

The course is organized to analyze first, the definition of sustainability, and how to integrate it into various working fields; secondly, the course covered a selected areas of work to further demonstrate the importance of the 2030 Agenda and the interconnection between all the thematic areas; thirdly, the course included the analysis of different actors who participate actively in the implementation of SDGs; the course concluded its sessions with the proposal of measuring SDGs achievement, explaining communication strategies, and public diplomacy.

- Module 1. Introduction
- Module 2. Acknowledging inequalities
- Module 3. Protecting environmental resources
- Module 4. Gender
- Module 5. Peaceful and inclusive societies
- Module 6. Public and private partnerships
- Module 7. Actors for sustainability
- Module 8. Tools for achieving sustainability

Register Here:
https://event.unitar.org/full-catalog/e-learning-registration-concept-sustainability
Course objectives

- Professional Training for people working on sustainable development in private sector, civil society or public institutions.
- To contribute to Agenda 2030 implementation.
- To promote research, training and activities related to sustainability.
- Open the window for specific training tools and research activities on sustainable development.

Learning Outcomes

- Knowledge and training on sustainability criteria to evaluate each of the sustainability areas: economic, social and environmental.
- Concentrate studies in fields included in each of the sustainability areas.
- To understand policies, strategies and models for sustainability in different settings (private sector companies, public institutions and civil society organizations).
- Build and develop skills and competencies to design and implement sustainability strategies.
FEBRUARY - APRIL
SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER

BRIEFING ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS TO UN ORGANS SEMINARS WITH YALE UNIVERSITY WORKSHOP ON DRAFTING UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS

- ECOSOC Orientation Course
- Elections in the United Nations (with United Nations High Level Officials)
- Columbia Law School Series on Multilateral Negotiation Fall Series (with Director of the Mediation Clinic at Columbia Law School)

UNITED NATIONS ONLINE EVENTS

- Youth Summit
- The ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up
- Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)
Dr. Colleen Thouez

Senior fellow at the New School’s Zolberg Institute

Dr. Thouez is a senior fellow at the New School’s Zolberg Institute, where she directs the Global Cities portfolio, and is senior visiting fellow at SciencesPo Paris, where she advises French cities, and the Africa-Europe Mayors Dialogue on Growth and Solidarity. Previously, Dr. Thouez served as the inaugural director of the Welcoming and Inclusive Cities Division at the Open Society Foundations (OSF), where she conceived the Mayors Migration Council (MMC) and its Global Cities Fund for Pandemic Relief (2019), the Africa-Europe Mayors Dialogue (2020), and the University Alliance for Refugees and At-Risk Migrants (2018). Before joining OSF, for 17 years, she held leadership positions at the United Nations in the dual fields of adult education and international migration. As the Head of the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the UN’s main training arm in New York, she was responsible for the training of 3,000 government delegates annually on all aspects of international law and the UN. She has also driven advances in migration governance serving as special advisor to the late Sir Peter Sutherland, the first director of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the UN Secretary-General’s representative on migration until 2018. She continues to advise national governments, municipal governments, regional bodies, and UNHCR, IOM, the World Bank, amongst others. Her most recent academic publications are “New power configurations: city mobilization and policy change” (2022) in Global Networks; and “Cities as emergent international actors in the field of migration” (2020), Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations.

H.E. Dr. Yuriy Sergeyev

Senior fellow at the New School’s Zolberg Institute

Senior Fellow and Lecturer at MacMillan Centre for International and Area Studies, European Studies Council, Yale University. Ambassador Yuriy Sergeyev is a former Ukrainian diplomat and politician, having served as the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations from 2007 to 2016 and Bahamas (2008-2015); as Ukrainian Ambassador to France and UNESCO “2003-2007”; to Greece, and Albania (1997-2000). He held various posts in the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Director of Information Department (1992-1994); Chef de Cabinet (1994-1996); First Deputy Minister (2001); State Secretary (2001-2003). Before joining diplomatic service of Ukraine in 1992, Yuriy Sergeyev for 12 years worked in the academic sphere as assistant professor, associate professor, professor at Kiev State University (Ukraine); at UNESCO guided Polytechnical Institute in the Republic of Mali (1983-1986); and at the Scientific board of the Institute of Eastern Studies “Paris-Sorbonne IV” (France). He has a PhD degree from the Institute of Linguistics of Ukrainian Academy of Science (1987). Yuriy Sergeyev holds a rank of Ambassador of Ukraine (2000). He is a Grand Officer of the State Order of Ukraine “For Merit” (2006).
Mr. Suazo is a career diplomat and former Ambassador who served as Deputy Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations in New York.

During his tour of duty in the United Nations for 27 years, Mr. Suazo served as Chair of two of the Main Committees of the General Assembly. In 2002, he chaired the Second Committee on Economic and Financial issues during the 57th session of the General Assembly (throughout this session, the Office of Finance for Development was created in the United Nations Secretariat, following the Monterrey Conference on Financing for Development); and in 2008, he chaired the First Committee on Disarmament and International Security during the 63rd session of the General Assembly.

Mr. Suazo has served as representative of Honduras in the Security Council 1995-1996 as political coordinator and after as an Advisor in the Public Administration Division at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA); ex officio member at the United Nations Foundation Executive Board; Deputy Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Honduras; and Minister Counsellor in the Embassy of Honduras in Managua, Nicaragua.

Mr. Suazo has published several articles on the United Nations matters and two books related to Honduras’ history and its participation in the Organization as a funder member. The first one is entitled “Our History- Honduras in the United Nations 1945-2005” and it was published on the 60th Anniversary of the United Nations (2005) and the second one, “We the People" in 2013. Mr. Suazo is working in his third publication. In 2015, he was awarded with the title of “Commedatore of the Republic of Italy” which is a high distinction given by the Italian President and offered by the President of the Chamber of the Parliament.

Mr. Suazo received in April 2023 the National Order of Merit “Don José Falcón” to Ambassador Marco Suazo, given his dedicated work at the helm of UNITAR New York office and his fundamental role in strengthening the capacities of countries in the region, especially Paraguay.

Graduated with a degree in Social Science and Jurisprudence at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras (UNAH), Mr. Suazo completed his postgraduate studies at the University of Florence (Italy), “Cessare Alfieri Faculty, and earned a degree in International Relations and Law. He has completed other academic courses and seminars on public international law, international negotiations, economic integration, human rights, and peacekeeping.
He is specialized in the work of the UN Security Council, with a particular focus on agenda items related to Europe and the Middle East. Dr. Angelov was recently elected as a Bureau member of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee for the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly. Dr. Angelov has been a visiting professor at several universities in Europe and North America where he teaches courses on different aspects of the work of the UN. He holds various academic degrees in political science, international security and regional studies from the University of Geneva, the University of Bologna and the University of Athens. Dr. Angelov was awarded numerous research grants, contributed to over 100 international conferences and workshops on foreign policy and has published more than 40 academic and media articles and book chapters. He is a member of editorial boards of a peer-reviewed journal and contributes to different think tanks.

Larisa is the author of the Global STEM Classroom® - a globally connected teaching and learning model. She develops and runs collaborative Global STEM programs with schools and universities in Massachusetts and around the world. Before that, Larisa held executive positions in academia and STEM multinational corporations (WPI, WIT, Tufts University; TYCO Electronics Global Corporation). Larisa was a Fellow for Education Policy, Rennie Center for Educational Research and Policy & Institute for Education Leadership (IEL), Washington, DC (Class 2015); Larisa is a Fellow Global Diplomacy Initiative at UN Institute of Research and Training (Class 2021). She is a NASA GLOBE educator, NASA GLOBE International Science Network member, NASA GLOBE International Virtual Symposium judge and NASA GLOBE US Student Research Symposium leadership group member. Larisa served as a Chair of Society for Women Engineers National Multicultural Committee – including leading SWE NASA Space Camp program, SWE Motorola Multicultural National Awards, SWE The Boeing Company Multicultural National Awards. Larisa is a frequent speaker at many professional associations’ conferences. Larisa Schelkin holds a BS and MS in Petroleum Engineering & MS in Computer Science. Before moving to Boston, she and her family lived in India, Africa, and Russia.
Ms. Jelena Pia-Comella has 25 years of experience in international relations and a deep knowledge of the United Nations system. Starting her career in 1996 as a diplomat representing Andorra at the United Nations, she was part of the team that created foreign policy of her country. She participated in the Conferences and negotiations that set new standards in international human rights and international humanitarian law such as the Rome Statute and the Responsibility to Protect norm. Ms. Pia-Comella was appointed Deputy Permanent Representative of Andorra to the United Nations in 2002 and served as chargé d’affaires a.i./Chief of Mission to Canada and the United States from 2001 to 2007. She shifted her career to transfer her knowledge and skills to the service of activism. She was a consultant for the Center for Women’s Global Leadership and Women’s Environment and Development Organization to coordinate the Gender Equality Architecture Reform Campaign (GEAR) which led to the creation of UNWomen. She was the Deputy Executive Director of the World Federalist Movement – Institute for Global Policy (WFM- IGP) setting the strategy and overseeing the work of the Organization including the secretariats of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect and the Coalition for the International Criminal Court. Ms. Pia-Comella served as adviser on gender, peace, and security issues for the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie from June 2019 to August 2021. Ms. Pia-Comella is currently consulting with the Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC) as Managing Coordinator of GAAMAC’s Support Office; adjunct lecturer at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and faculty member of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).
Dr. Laszlo Molnar is a Senior Lecturer of Clinical Practice of New Jersey City University at the Department of Professional Security Studies, focusing on international security. He is Tom and Ruth Sharkey Distinguished Visiting Scholar of the School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University. He holds a Ph.D. in International Relations, studied at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and at the Harvard Kennedy School. He holds a certificate on The International Negotiation Process from the Harvard Negotiation Project and was Resident Fellow of the Institute for East-West Security Studies, New York. Ambassador Molnar served as a career diplomat with the Hungarian foreign service for two decades, held various positions in the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the highest rank of State Secretary. He was Consul General and then Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations in New York. He represented Hungary in the Security Council (1992-93). His international diplomatic assignments related mainly to international security and nuclear nonproliferation, he was Chair or Vice-Chair of the NPT Review Process in Geneva and New York (2002-2005). He was Executive Director of Cisco with responsibilities in government affairs, business development and cybersecurity. He was a consultant of the Paris-based Cybersecurity Advisors Network and a board member of the International Mediation Institute. He received The Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary.

Dr. Michael Jabot is a SUNY Distinguished Professor of Science Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at The State University of New York at Fredonia. Dr. Jabot is the Director of the Institute for Research in Science Teaching, a US GLOBE partner and represents the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Region on the NASA GLOBE US Partner Forum. He is a recipient of the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research as well as being recognized for excellence from numerous professional organizations.
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Executive Career Coach who earned her Advanced Diploma in Career Coaching from New York University (NYU). She is the Creator/Host of The Global Advocate Career Podcast and Co-Founder/President, WorldCeres Inc. an international consultancy focused on Career Coaching, Soft Skills Training and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Her areas of specialization include transitional and outplacement coaching, career development for high school and college graduates, personal branding for professionals at all levels, leadership development, media training, and motivational speaking. With extensive experience in US government, international affairs and international education; Ms. Clarke-Ceres is very familiar with various workplace dynamics.