

Master's Degree and Related Qualifications in Lifelong Learning in Conflict, Peace and Security

GENERAL INFORMATION

WHAT IS THE MA IN LIFELONG LEARNING IN CONFLICT, PEACE AND SECURITY?

The Master in Lifelong Learning in Conflict, Peace, and Security provides a unique opportunity to explore the complexities of conflicts and develop innovative strategies for their management, resolution, and transformation. Guided by world-leading academics and practitioners, the programme combines cutting-edge research with real-world expertise to equip participants with the skills needed to navigate today's global challenges.

Offered in partnership with [Universitat Oberta de Catalunya \(UOC\)](#), this programme brings a comprehensive analytical toolkit, firsthand field insights, and specialised expertise. It is designed for professionals working in international, regional, governmental, or nongovernmental organisations operating in conflict-prone settings, as well as for graduate students, researchers, and academics seeking to deepen their understanding of conflict dynamics.

WHEN DOES THE PROGRAMME START (2026)?

- Spring (Specialization & Expert Diplomas): Application Deadline: 13 February, Start: 11 March 2026.
- Fall (MA, Specialization & Expert Diplomas): Application Deadline: 21 September; Start: 13 October 2026.



Nicolau Miguel

Programme Officer, Financial Services Volunteer Corps (FSVC)

GRADUATE HIGHLIGHT

This master's programme equipped me with the right tools, techniques, and academic knowledge, which helped me conduct research linked to my daily work. Throughout the course, we addressed real-life conflict scenarios and proposed solutions from an academic perspective. In my case, my research focused on "The role of the African private sector in addressing the root causes of conflict: An Economic perspective."

Over the duration of the programme, we analysed the war in Ukraine, the violent conflicts in Afghanistan, the efforts of the United Nations Security Council resolutions for global peace and development, inclusion, and the role of women in peacekeeping missions.

This course has had a massive impact on my life as it gave me a comprehensive understanding, in a more practical perspective, that peace creates conditions for democracy, transparency, promotion of the rule of law, and a low level of corruption, because of positive peace. Today, I now better understand that positive peace creates space for development in all the key sectors of a nation.

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WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THIS PROGRAMME?

- **Comprehensive Understanding of Conflict:** Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of conflict theories, diverse approaches, and the complexities inherent in contemporary conflicts.
- **Analysis and Strategic Planning:** Acquire analytical skills to assess conflict situations and develop strategic plans for peaceful interventions, focusing on conflict prevention and resolution.
- **Non-violent Intervention Techniques:** Master techniques and strategies for intelligent, non-violent intervention in conflict scenarios, aiming to mitigate escalation and promote peaceful outcomes.
- **Development of Intervention Programmes:** Access and utilize information and knowledge to design effective intervention programmes, seeking specific, positive solutions to conflict dynamics.
- **Leadership in Negotiation and Mediation:** Lead and facilitate negotiation and mediation processes with proficiency, promoting dialogue, consensus building, and sustainable peace agreements.
- **Transformative Communication Skills:** Employ advanced communication techniques to proactively prevent conflicts and effectively resolve existing ones, fostering constructive dialogue and mutual understanding.

COURSE DETAILS

WHAT IS THE MODE OF DELIVERY?

The programme is delivered **fully online, in english and asynchronously**. This means that interaction with professors and fellow students occurs intermittently with a time delay, allowing you to set your own pace within the time frame and deadlines of each course. There are no live teaching sessions, offering flexibility with no time constraints.

WHAT IS THE DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME?

The programme spans two years and is structured as a part-time course. At UOC, an ECTS credit is equivalent to 25 hours of student work. Depending on the number of ECTS credits, the duration of lifelong learning programmes ranges from 1 month to 2 years, approximately:

- **Lifelong Learning Master's Degree:** 2 years.
- **Specialisation Diploma:** 1 year.
- **Expert Diploma:** 1 semester (6 months).
- **Postgraduate Course:** between 1 and 6 months.

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CURRICULUM

WHAT ARE THE CORE MODULES FOR THE MA AWARD?

The Master's in Conflict, Peace, and Security is awarded upon the successful completion of the modules listed below (60 ECTS).

- 3 ECTS: **Conflict Analysis**
- 3 ECTS: **Conflict Resolution**
- 3 ECTS: **Introduction to Peace Operations and History of PO (Peace Operations)**
- 4 ECTS: **Philosophy of Peace and Non-Violence**
- 3 ECTS: **Media, Conflict and Peace Building**
- 4 ECTS: **Game Theory**
- 3 ECTS: **Human Security**
- 4 ECTS: **Research Methods**
- 4 ECTS: **Economy, Environment and Migration**
- 4 ECTS: **The Intercultural / Ethnic Conflict and Diversity Management**
- 3 ECTS: **Corruption, Conflict and Security**
- 4 ECTS: **Prevention and Transformation of Conflict**
- 4 ECTS: **Mandate Evaluation, Leadership and Strategic Planning**
- 2 ECTS: **Gender Matters**
- 4 ECTS: **Crisis Management**
- 8 ECTS: **Final Master Project**

EXIT AWARDS AND CERTIFICATION

ARE OTHER POSSIBLE EXIT AWARDS IN THE LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME?

Yes, learners may alternatively opt for any of our shorter academic programmes:

- 30 ECTS: Specialization Diploma in Armed Conflict
- 31 ECTS: Specialization Diploma in Crisis Management and Strategic Planning
- 14 ECTS: Expert Diploma in Intercultural Conflict Management
- 13 ECTS: Expert Diploma in Conflict, Peace and Gender
- 15 ECTS: Expert Diploma in Strategic Conflict Management
- 14 ECTS: Expert Diploma in Human Security and Peace Operations

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APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

WHAT IS THE APPLICATION DEADLINE?

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and there are two different cohorts every year (Fall and Spring). Not all awards are open on both cohorts. The full master's degree only opens in the Fall cohorts.

- **The Spring edition start:** 11 March 2026, please apply by 13 February 2026.
- **The Fall edition start:** 13 October 2026, please apply by 21 September 2026.

The applications received after the final deadline will be evaluated.

WHAT ARE THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

Please visit the [programme webpage](#) to review all programme entry requirements.

HOW CAN I APPLY?

You must apply online and complete all required fields and uploads prior to submission on the application forms below:

Opening in Spring 2026:

- [Specialization Diploma in Armed Conflict](#)
- [Specialization Diploma in Crisis Management and Strategic Planning](#)
- [Expert Diploma in Intercultural Conflict Management](#)

Opening in Fall 2026:

- [Master in Lifelong Learning in Conflict, Peace and Security](#)
- [Specialization Diploma in Armed Conflict](#)
- [Specialization Diploma in Crisis Management and Strategic Planning](#)
- [Expert Diploma in Conflict, Peace and Gender](#)
- [Expert Diploma in Strategic Conflict Management](#)
- [Expert Diploma in Human Security and Peace Operations](#)

The programme coordinator is available to help students during the application process. Learners are encouraged to email any questions to conflictology@unitar.org.

FEES AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

WHAT IS THE TUITION FEE FOR THE PROGRAMME?

The tuition fees are applicable upon completion of enrolment and are subject to annual revisions. They vary depending on the chosen qualification:

- Master in Lifelong Learning in Conflict, Peace, and Security: **7,410 € (EUR)**
- Specialization Diploma: **4,445 € (EUR)**
- Expert Diploma: **1,975 € (EUR)**

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ARE FLEXIBLE PAYMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE?

Yes, flexible payment options are available, learners can pay the tuition fees in instalments. For detailed information on costs and payment options, please visit the UOC's website section on [payment options](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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