



## **Invitation to Course on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration in Barcelona, Spain, 7 to 18 November 2022**

### **Background and scope**

Following violent conflict or serious political and social crisis, a successful post-conflict transition is key in the peacebuilding and reconciliation process. Within this post-conflict transition, the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of former combatants (DDR) is instrumental, seeking to increase security levels locally and nationally, but also enabling those associated with armed groups to (re)join mainstream society following the end of conflict.

Contemporary challenges and developments within the field have challenged the traditional use of DDR as a post-conflict tool. Responding to these challenges, the United Nations Inter-Agency Working Group on DDR has initiated a revision of the Integrated DDR Standards (IDDRS) for the standards to better suit contemporary challenges of peacebuilding environments. Considering this revision, the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) revised its global course on DDR, which was re-launched in November 2019 in Stockholm. A third round of the course will be completed between the 7th and 18th of November 2022 in Barcelona, Spain, in collaboration with the Barcelona International Peace Center (BIPC).

### **Aim**

The course aims at deepening participants' understanding and knowledge of the role of integrated DDR processes and related interventions during post-conflict transitions and peacebuilding and stabilization initiatives during ongoing conflict. After completing the course, the participants are expected to be able to:

- Discuss the conceptual evolution of DDR
- Analyze the differences between national DDR initiatives and UN-led integrated DDR processes
- Explain key components and activities of an integrated DDR process
- Connect and distinguish integrated DDR processes to other peacebuilding, or stabilization, interventions
- Apply and combine different elements of integrated DDR processes to differing conflict- and post-conflict settings
- Plan and assess context specific, differentiated and evidence based integrated DDR processes

## Course content

This course is to a large extent based on the revised version of the UN Integrated DDR Standards (IDDRS) for guiding principles, preconditions, core strategies and approaches for undertaking integrated DDR. It outlines preconditions necessary for the success and sustainability of DDR programmes. It also provides guidance on key strategies and approaches to DDR programmes and operations such as community-based reintegration and security aspects. Furthermore, the course includes discussions on mandates as well as on the international legal framework within which integrated DDR programmes operate.

The course covers four general themes with underlying specifics:

<u>Concepts, Policy and Strategy of IDDRS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Concept of DDR</li><li>- UN approach and guiding principles</li><li>- Introduction to conflict analysis</li><li>- Stakeholders and partnerships</li></ul>	<u>Operations, Programmes and Support</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Disarmament</li><li>- Demobilisation</li><li>- Social, political, and economic reintegration</li><li>- Local Peacebuilding</li><li>- Public Information</li></ul>
<u>Structures and Processes</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Integrated DDR planning</li><li>- Mission and programme support</li><li>- National institutions for DDR</li><li>- Monitoring and evaluation</li><li>- Finance and budgeting</li></ul>	<u>Cross-cutting issues and linkages</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Gender and DDR</li><li>- Youth, Children and DDR</li><li>- SSR and DDR</li><li>- Transitional Justice and DDR</li><li>- Organized Crime and DDR</li><li>- DDR and Violent Extremism</li></ul>

## Participants

The participants are expected to have a basic knowledge of Peace Support Operations and a need or strong interest to learn about DDR. Invited participants are civil servants, diplomats, police, military personnel, academics, and representatives from International and Non-Governmental Organisations. To fully contribute to the development of the course, participants are expected to actively engage with trainers, the course material, and with other participants.

As the course is taught fully in **English**, fluency is a requirement.

## Methodology

The course adopts an interactive, learner-centered pedagogical approach combining presentations, discussions, group work and scenario-based exercises. Individual and group-based reflections are incorporated to support knowledge sharing and promote the learning experience. With facilitators and participants of multiple professional and geographic backgrounds, this course offers a dynamic and synergetic learning environment with extensive networking and peer-learning opportunities.

## Venue

The course is jointly organised by the Barcelona International Peace Center and the Folke Bernadotte Academy, and will take place in Barcelona, Spain. The training venue is a beautiful 19th century house that has hosted convents for many years. It is conveniently located minutes away from Barcelona's city center.

## On COVID-19 and safety precautions

In the light of the current pandemic, FBA and BIPC will monitor the health advisory information provided by the Spanish Authorities and act accordingly. Participants are also required to:

- On demand, display proof of existing and valid health and travel insurances
- Comply with the Spanish Authorities COVID19 prevention requirements for foreign travelers entering Spain (Please see <https://www.spth.gob.es/> )
- Assure that they are free from Covid-19 related symptoms before traveling and immediately report to the course management symptoms that might arise during the duration of the course
- Act responsibility once in Barcelona by following current restrictions and guidelines communicated by the Spanish Authorities

Please keep this in mind when applying for the course as neither FBA nor BIPC assume responsibility for the actions of individual participants, neither of them has the possibility to grant financial assistance in the eventuality of a participant's worsened health. In addition, FBA and BIPC encourage all applicants to keep updated with current developments which may come to affect their travel arrangements to and from Barcelona.

## Costs

The course fee is 2 500 Euros. Included in this fee is the cost of accommodation during the course in a suitable hotel in single rooms as well as lunch and daily refreshments. A couple of course-related social activities are also included in the course fee. Further and updated information will be provided in the logistical note sent out to the participants of the course.

Payment arrangements will be described in the acceptance letters. A limited number of scholarships can – in exceptional cases – be offered, covering parts of these expenses, for qualified participants who otherwise would not be able to attend.

## Application

Please send us your digital applications via the provided link no later than September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Please follow the format of the digital form. We receive many applications and to better evaluate yours, please include a short motivation note as to why you wish to attend this course. In addition, please attach your CV.

[To apply, click here.](#)

## Points of Contact

For further information please refer to <https://fba.se/en/how-we-work/courses/> and <http://www.bcnpeacecenter.org/> or contact:

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