



Week 1
18 to 22
Jan 2021

Connecting backgrounds, competencies and interests.

We will invest our dedicated time in getting to know a diverse group of UN-CMCoord stakeholders. Learning at our own pace has a lot of advantages. The course management team will discuss how to keep all of us on track and how we can use the digital learning environment effectively, based on individual needs.

A dedicated space in the virtual OSOCC (<https://vosocc.unocha.org>) and real-time file sharing through a collaborative platform will support developing new competencies. We will also introduce the “choose-your-own-story” approach and connect similar contexts from the very beginning. Together, we will discover the opportunities of peer-supported learning.

Week 2
25 to 29
Jan 2021

Exploring the normative framework of humanitarian civil-military coordination.

With the support of subject-matter experts, we will look at civil-military coordination from a humanitarian and peace & security perspective. We expect the training audience to relate policy and guidance to practical field experience. Front-line coordinators will bring their testimonies to the debate.

OCHA’s Geneva-based Civil-Military Coordination Service (CMCS) has been designated the focal point in the UN system for the development of global UN-CMCoord guidance. It supports relevant field and headquarter-level activities through the development of institutional strategies to enhance the capacity and preparedness of national and international partners.

Week 3
1 to 5
Feb 2021

Analysing the civil-military coordination environment in present conflict and peace settings.

Being new in a civil-military coordination role, an experienced practitioner, or a leader in this field, we all need a reliable operational picture to make informed decisions. An elaborate assessment process, together with critical thinking, will help us to reach common ground among humanitarian and peace & security actors. Analysis as a continuous process belongs to our day-to-day work.

There are many tools available within the humanitarian community and beyond for analytical purposes. Besides the UN-CMCoord assessment process, we will also explore Military Peacekeeping Intelligence (MPKI). Although MPKI focuses on different objectives, the tools and procedures are similar to the humanitarian community, for instance, stakeholder mapping. The MPKI Handbook is one resource we will discuss in this module.



Week 4
8 to 12
Feb 2021

Managing assets and mitigating known and unknown implications of humanitarian civil-military coordination.

We all want to achieve something during our deployment, in particular as a domestic or foreign military actor. In this module, we will discuss how we can achieve something together for the benefit of an effective humanitarian response. Coordinators must actively identify and connect the comparative advantage of humanitarian and peace & security actors. The discussion will help us to overcome some of the constraints attached to the use of our resources.

The gaps in humanitarian response are often in the realm of logistics, transportation, engineering, medical/health, communication, and information management. The pandemic outbreak early 2020 and the subsequent response demonstrated the added value of each and every actor. For instance, the logistics of a massive vaccination campaign in 2021 will heavily depend on domestic military forces.

Week 5
15 to 19
Feb 2021

Performing humanitarian civil-military coordination in hard-to-reach areas.

The growing disregard for the humanitarian ethos traps entire populations in inhospitable conditions. The risk to turn humanitarian action into a military operation is always there when accessing communities in need. Reflecting on your 'story', we will carefully analyse with who, whether and how to interact. Besides the legal circumstances, we will debate a broad range of considerations, including the use of armed escorts.

There are also some day-to-day obstacles to overcome. For instance, thousands of aid workers are waiting for months to receive entry visas. The terrain and weather conditions block us from accessing the people in need of assistance. Cultural norms and customs are difficult to incorporate into effective response plans, etc.

Week 6
22 to 26
Feb 2021

Protecting and assisting with respect for each other's mandate and operating procedures.

In the final module of the digitally connected learning, we will discover the complementarity of protective action from a humanitarian, military, and peacekeeping perspective. Unfortunately, many of the unintended consequences of helping people in need, derive from a lack of dialogue in preparing for the response. We often harmonize our action too late, when actors are either reluctant or no longer willing to take corrective actions.

At this stage of the learning journey, we should be clear about the added value of UN-CMCoord competencies in support of the protection outcomes. We will connect the training audience with front-line protection specialists from the humanitarian and peace & security community.

In addition to the weekly-summaries, the course will end with an accumulation of good practices from the peer-supported and CMCS-moderated digital training event.