UN Peacekeeping Operations Course 2018

From 3rd September to 14th September 2018, the Bundeswehr Command and Staff College in Hamburg will conduct a two-week training block focusing on UN Peacekeeping Operations. In this training, there are additional slots for up to 60 civilian participants (from NGOs, ministries, international organizations, students, etc.). For the military participants, this training phase is part of the two-year General/Admiral Staff Officer Course at the college. For civilian participants, it is a separate and stand-alone course, for which they will receive a certificate. During the training phase, the students will acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to perform key functions in the Headquarters of a UN Peacekeeping Mission.

The basic knowledge required for this purpose, is summarized in a reader of approx. 100 pages, which the course participants will receive approximately 4 weeks prior to the phase of compulsory attendance in September. The participants will need to acquire this basic knowledge by way of self-study. The reader covers the following aspects:

- **Background knowledge about peacekeeping** (the UN-System and its organs, definition and development of the peacekeeping concept, multidimensional peacekeeping, the Security Council mandate, legal aspects etc.).
- **Structures** (structure and organization of the DPKO in the UN Secretariat, structure and organization of a UN Peacekeeping Mission, HQ structures etc.).
- **Components of UN Peacekeeping Operations** (Political Affairs, Civil Affairs, Military, Police, Humanitarian/Development, DDR, Mine Action Service, Public Information, Field Support, etc.).
- **Tasks and functions in the context of Peacekeeping** (Protection of Civilians, DDR, SSR, Rule of Law, Reconstruction and Early recovery etc.).
- **Principles in UN peacekeeping** (local ownership, code of conduct, gender mainstream, etc.).
- **Further topics related to UN Peacekeeping Operations** (force generation, rules of engagement, funding of UN Peacekeeping Operations, responsibilities of the different actors in Peacekeeping Operations, etc.).

The two-week course (phase of attendance) is subdivided into a one-week input phase and a one-week map exercise (role-play).

On the one hand, the input phase is intended to deepen the participants' understanding of Peacekeeping Operations and to bring the theoretical knowledge from the reader to life. Experts with a wealth of practical experience from different areas of Peacekeeping will give briefings and presentations in the plenum to help deepen the basic knowledge acquired from the reader. Among these experts, there will be representatives of the Department of peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and of humanitarian organizations as well as former and current holders of the positions of Special representative of the Secretary General (SRSG), Force Commander (FC), Police Commissioner (PC), Resident Coordinator (RC), etc. in UN Peacekeeping
Operations. The objective is to illustrate and complement the basic knowledge of the reader with practical experiences.

On the other hand, this phase aims to create the necessary skills so that the students may confidently play their roles in the map exercise. In elective seminars (covering four afternoons), the course participants will develop confidence of action with regard to the roles they will assume in the map exercise. In these seminars, every student will have the opportunity to prepare for a specific role (Political Affairs, Civil Affairs, OCHA, Development, DDR, UNPOL, Mission Support, Public Information, etc.).

In the second week, the work in a HQ of a multidimensional Peacekeeping Operations will be simulated in a map exercise/role play. In this context, the participants will plan all aspects of an operation from scratch, including all necessary sub-elements (political roadmap, humanitarian action plan, development concept, military concept of operation, support concept etc.). Particular focus will be placed on the integrated planning process and the share of information within the exercise HQ.

The course language is English. Participation in the course and accommodation at the college are free of charge. The course is also open to international students.