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Ajuntament de
Barcelona



Invitation to Course on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration in Barcelona, Spain, 17-28 November 2014

1. Background and scope

In countries emerging from violent conflict and/or serious political and social crises, a successful transition between conflict and peace is often dependent on the creation of a climate of confidence and security, which paves the way for a range of peacebuilding and recovery activities. The process of disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) is both an output of conflict resolution and a facilitator of peacebuilding.

DDR involves the standing down of parties to a conflict and the reintegration of ex-combatants into civilian life. It seeks to address the post-conflict security challenge that arises from ex-combatants being left without livelihoods or support networks, other than their former comrades, during that critical transition period. DDR is also often closely linked to security sector reform (SSR), such as police reform and army integration. Furthermore, DDR supports the economic and social reintegration of ex-combatants and their dependants, as well as children associated with fighting forces, so they can become stakeholders in peace. While much of a DDR programme will be focused on ex-combatants, the beneficiaries of the programme should ultimately be the wider community.

2. Aim

The aim of this senior/middle management course is to give the participants a comprehensive view on DDR in order to increase their understanding of programmes, projects and activities needed for a peaceful development. The course will combine experiences from different DDR programmes with theoretical views on the subject.

3. Course content

This course is to a large extent based on 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. 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:

Concepts, Policy and Strategy of IDDRS

- Concept of DDR
- UN approach and guiding principles
- Introduction to conflict analysis
- Stake-holders and partnerships

Operations, Programmes and Support

- Disarmament
- Demobilisation
- Social, political and economic reintegration
- Information campaigns

Structures and Processes

- Integrated DDR planning
- Mission and programme support
- National institutions for DDR
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Financing and budgeting

Cross-cutting issues and linkages

- Gender and DDR
- Children and DDR
- DDR and SSR
- DDR and Transitional Justice

Additional: Case studies; exercises; Operational Guide; and social activities

4. 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. The course also provides the participants with an opportunity to build an international professional network.

5. Venue

The course is jointly organised by the Barcelona International Peace Resource Centre and the Folke Bernadotte Academy, and will take place in Barcelona, Spain.

6. Costs

The course fee is 1 200 Euros. Included in this fee is the cost of accommodation during the course in a suitable hotel in single rooms as well as most meals, including daily refreshments and course materials. 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.

7. Application

Please send us your applications by 12 October. We receive many applications and in order to better evaluate yours, please include a short motivation note as to why you wish to attend this course. In addition, CV's are welcome.

Applicants are kindly requested to use our online application form (link below).
<http://www.fba.se/en/Training/Upcoming-courses/Application-form/>

8. Points of Contact

For further information please refer to www.bcnpeacecenter.cat and www.fba.se/en/Training or contact:

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