

COURSE SYLLABUS

Parliamentary Diplomacy Taking Diplomatic Opportunities through Parliamentary Routes

Global Diplomatic Forum E-learning Course



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Disclaimer and Acknowledgements

Please familiarise yourself carefully with the Disclaimer and Acknowledgements documents made available on this course's platform prior to commencing the course for more information about the terms and conditions of use of the Global Diplomatic Forum on-line learning environment and acknowledgement of those organisations and associated experts for their authorisation to use text, audio and visual transcripts, webcasts and photographic imagery.

Course Presentation

The Parliamentary Diplomacy online Course is a comprehensive introduction to parliamentary diplomacy principles and practice provided by the Global Diplomatic Forum. The course combines theoretical lectures, and practical workshops. The course has been developed and delivered by world leading experts and engage institutional leaders who share their experience and expertise with the delegates.

The course follows latest trends for diplomatic education and aims to train the next generation of diplomatic leaders to succeed in the 21st Century diplomatic environment.

The Online Course trains diplomats beyond the conceptual understanding of parliamentary diplomacy to develop and implement strategies with tangible impact on the delivery of their objectives. Participants will be prepared to take diplomatic opportunities presented via parliamentary routes.

Our Parliamentary Diplomacy course will introduce and enhance participants' understanding of the main aspects of the theme, thus providing them with competitive edge and necessary foundations to effectively navigate the changing diplomatic environment.

Developed and delivered by leading experts who will share their expertise and experiences with participants in an engaging platform, the course follows the latest trends for diplomatic education and aims to train the next generation of diplomatic leaders to succeed in a 21st century diplomatic environment.

The format of the online course in Parliamentary Diplomacy consists of a comprehensive set of online modules available to diplomats, parliamentarians and trainee diplomats. The topics within the course will correspond directly to the pillars of Parliamentary Diplomacy concept, therefore providing recipients with the most recent theoretical and practical knowledge in the area.

The Online Course in parliamentary Diplomacy is a practical course that covers topics focusing on different aspects, stakeholders, channels and practices that constitutes the framework of Parliamentary Diplomacy. The course aims at enhancing practitioners skills in a globalised and interdependent issues as well as to strengthen the skills relevant to operating within a changing world.

Course Outline and Contents

Module 1:

Introduction to Parliamentary Diplomacy: Origins, definitions, forms and functions
(Week 1)

1. History and Evolution (From Conflict to Contact)
2. Forms, Functions and Tools of Parliamentary Diplomacy
3. Digitalisation and Covid 19
4. Influence and impact
5. Case Study : The European Parliament and Mediation

Module 2:

International institutions of Parliamentary Diplomacy

1. Parliamentary institutional Framework
2. Inter-parliamentary work and its impact on diplomacy
3. Understanding through practical cases international institutions of parliamentary diplomacy
4. International institutions of Parliamentary Diplomacy

Module 3:

Opportunities and the way forward for Parliamentary Diplomacy

(Week 3)

1. Best Practices and Good Examples
2. How Parliamentary Diplomacy can advance further
3. Opportunities for diplomacy to make impact

The Course Outcome

- Understanding the framework of parliamentary diplomacy
- Learning the practice of parliamentary diplomacy from practitioners and via real life case studies
- Grasping the process of Identifying diplomatic opportunities through parliamentary routes
- Acquiring an In-depth knowledge of relating parliamentary work to diplomacy and global affairs
- Developing transferable knowledge and skills necessary to advance to every field
- Enhancing career advancement opportunities with up-to-date skills and knowledge

Learning Objectives

Module	Learning objectives At the end of each module, the participants will be able to:
Module 1 (week 1) <i>Introduction to Parliamentary Diplomacy: Origins, definitions, forms and functions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the practical framework of parliamentary diplomacy and its evolution • Relating parliamentary diplomacy to international relations theories • Garnering the knowledge needed to define the core thematic concepts within parliamentary diplomacy • Acquiring a toolbox of best practices on how to achieve diplomatic results via parliamentary routes
Module 2 (week 2) International institutions of Parliamentary Diplomacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grasping the Parliamentary institutional Framework • understanding Inter-parliamentary work and its impact on diplomacy • Sense the concept through practical cases international institutions of parliamentary diplomacy
Module 3 (week 3) Opportunities and the way forward for Parliamentary Diplomacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grasping the best Practices and Good Examples • Identifying how Parliamentary Diplomacy can advance further • Pointing Opportunities for parliamentary diplomacy to make an impact

Methodology

The course will be delivered via the e-Learning platform [FutureLearn](#) (instructions on using this platform will be emailed to you with course invitation to the platform). This didactic tool will allow the students to view the course contents and thus achieve the course's learning objectives through a self-paced learning routine supported by various multimedia content (hosted and linked videos and podcasts), optional and required readings, discussion boards, assessments, and a wealth of other materials. Designed to fit the busy schedules of full-time professionals specifically to diplomatic personnel, participants will acquire knowledge through multi-faceted methodology comprising traditional reading materials, external sources of information in form of videos and podcasts, interactive discussion board allowing for communication with other participants and experts alike and webinars with guest lecturers.

The course content and materials will be available online (see Course Outline and Contents section for more details). The course is divided into 6 modules

All four modules contain the same structural elements:

- Contents
- Learning Objectives
- Lesson Material (text, video, documents, and lexicon terms)
- Assessment
- Discussion Board

Grading Policy and Course Completion

Students are eligible for a course certificate upon successful course completion. Successful completion requires:

- **At least 70% passing grade on EACH of the four module-based assessments** (7 out of 10 questions answered correctly); you may take each assessment **three times** (questions will be randomly drawn from a predefined question bank and therefore the content of assessment will change with each attempt);

Before moving to the next module, you should:

- (a) carefully go through all of the core module texts,
- (b) take the module-based assessments, and
- (c) participate in the weekly Discussion Board forums. (optional)

(d) you will be also encouraged to read/view/listen to the optional external links to further develop your knowledge on the given module’s topic (e.g. links to articles, webinars, podcasts or websites and additional documents).

Global Diplomatic Forum's e-learning Committee is responsible for the final decision regarding certificates in consultation with the module leaders (experts). Global Diplomatic Forum reserves the right to award certificates of completion only to those participants who will be deemed “eligible” through the aforementioned pre-requisites. Global Diplomatic Forum urges all participants to take a clear note of the above requirements. Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Global Diplomatic Forum Team.

Study Planning

Below table provides guidance on which parts of the course are deemed mandatory.

Activity	Mandatory
Interactive Course	Yes
External Links and Readings	No, though highly recommended
Module Assessments	Yes
Discussion Forums	Yes

The distinctive feature of this learning course is that it is an entirely **online based** learning experience. As such it can not only be accessed from any part of the world but also at any point of time (within allocated availability period specified above in the Course Outline and Contents section) thus creating a true self-paced learning environment. Upon start of the course, training materials will be gradually made available to you through Global Diplomatic Forum’s partner portal - FutureLearn. The course contents will also provide links to external web resources such as references, documents and multimedia.

The Global Diplomatic Forum’s team will be at your disposal to provide guidance and help you participate and **contribute actively** to the discussion forums, which are an important learning opportunity of this course. You will also be able to communicate with the course manager who will moderate the discussion board as well as answer module related questions (through both the posts on the Discussion Board and e-mail).

The online training provides numerous **advantages** over traditional learning methods. Particularly it allows for:

- the adjustment of the schedule and pace of your learning according to your specific requirements
- complete freedom in choice of the study location - as long as you are able to access internet connected computer
- expanding your network through engaging in discussion with fellow participants and module leaders
- having lectures with the world's leading experts

Online courses require more self-discipline and pro-active preparation in order to successfully meet the course's requirements and learning objectives.

Another important characteristic of the online course that needs to be duly noted is that it is asynchronous. What that effectively means is that the interaction between course participants and module leaders will take place intermittently and may incur a time delay – thus it is imperative to establish a course study routine that suits best individual work schedule, family commitments, internet connection speed, etc.

Learning Content

The complete set of modules and respective course materials **will be made available instantaneously on the FutureLearn portal. Modules and materials will be released on a weekly basis and will become available to participants regardless of successful completion of previous module and passing the assessment.** Learning materials are organised as follows:

The course material constitutes the core mandatory learning activity. The various module lessons contain main course text as well as links to external websites (e.g. with relevant articles, publications etc.) documentation, videos and podcasts, questions and case studies. All modules have few lectures with the module leader and a guest lecturer. The course and individual module contents have been designed to be accessible and approachable by wide demographic of participants, regardless of their level of knowledge on the topic providing opportunity to both acquire the basics and further elaborate on existing expertise.

Technical Support

For any technical issue or coordination matter, you may contact the Global Diplomatic Forum Team by sending a message through the FutureLearn platform.

You may also contact us by email. Email support is available 24/7. Given the global scope of the course emails will be answered within 24 hours.

Global Diplomatic Forum Team

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