



## About Peacekeeping

Peacekeeping is a calling that demands both personal dedication and sacrifice. Service in the cause of peace offers real opportunities to help peoples and countries recover from conflict, rebuild their societies, and enjoy the benefits of peace.

United Nations peace operations offer opportunities to make a difference, both in the world and in your own life. Working and living conditions in the field vary. If you serve in a peacekeeping or political mission, or in a humanitarian field operation, the country or region that you work and live in is likely to be emerging from conflict or an emergency situation where the conditions are more arduous; the infrastructure is weak and electricity and clean water are often in short supply. In addition, most peacekeeping, political or humanitarian missions are categorized as “non-family” duty stations, and therefore family members are unable to join the staff member at the relevant location.



## Civil Affairs

Civil Affairs Officers support most DPKO-led peacekeeping operations and are typically deployed to serve as the link between the UN mission, local authorities and communities. Civil Affairs comprises a network of approximately 700 international and national staff operating within the relevant mission mandate worldwide. Its overarching mandate is to provide conflict management support within the broader context of a mission’s “protection of civilians” responsibilities. In order to implement activities such as small scale, local level projects, Civil Affairs works with authorities and civil society at county and village level, together with the UN Country Team and cross-cutting mission components, to ensure effective implementation locally.



## Nature of our Work

Civil Affairs has a crucial role including cross-mission representation, monitoring and facilitation, capacity-building, conflict management and reconciliation at local and national levels. Officers seek opportunities to support and leverage the work of diverse stakeholders, particularly at the local level by helping to capitalize on existing resources and dynamics but may also encounter numerous challenges on the ground including insecurity and poor infrastructure. Key attributes include the capacity to facilitate and problem-solve. Civil Affairs activities contribute to the implementation of the mission mandate as a whole, and support the multidimensional aspects of UN peace operations.



## Working in the Field

United Nations peacekeeping and political missions have evolved over time to respond to different conflicts and changing political landscapes. Civilian peacekeepers work as administrators and engineers, police officers and legal experts, economists and electoral observers, specialists in civil affairs and gender, as well as experts in information technology and public information among other specialized functions. International positions have two categories, Professional and Higher and Field Service, which are distinguished by levels of responsibility as well as education and work experience requirements.



## Gender

The United Nations fosters gender equality and encourages applications from suitably qualified and experienced women across the full range of career opportunities particularly in the more “non-traditional” field careers such as Aviation, Logistics or Engineering.



## Education

Civil Affairs Officers typically have an advanced university degree (Master’s degree or equivalent) in social sciences, political science, international relations, public administration, anthropology, law, economics or related area.

English and French are the working languages of the United Nations. All Civil Affairs positions require fluency in oral and written English. Knowledge of a second official United Nations language particularly Arabic and French is an advantage.



## Related Careers

There are various career opportunities related to Civil Affairs, such as the following:

- **Chief of Staff**
- **Political Affairs**
- **Public Information**



## Helpful Links

- [careers.un.org](https://careers.un.org)
- [hr.un.org](https://hr.un.org)
- [inspira.un.org](https://inspira.un.org)
- [point.un.org](https://point.un.org)

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**Global Workforce**

Over time, the United Nations has increased its presence in locations all over the world. There are over 130 field offices, which include peacekeeping and political missions and humanitarian field operations, and they play an essential role in identifying, highlighting, and responding to emerging challenges. While the work may vary greatly, the one unifying factor is the opportunity to make a difference, both in the world and in your own life. Together with its partners, the UN is tasked with a variety of responsibilities, such as providing and coordinating humanitarian assistance; promoting and protecting human rights; promoting the wise stewardship of the global environment; assisting countries to combat the supply of illicit drugs, crime and corruption and; providing information on the Organization and its activities in the various locations in which it operates.

Missions Directed by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations\*




**UN Field Careers**

Before you navigate through the existing job opportunities available online, we strongly advise that you read carefully the description of each current UN operation through the links to the mission website.

Please apply for the positions that best match your expertise, qualifications, experience and aspirations. The necessary education background/training, experience and skills to perform a specific job are explained in the qualification section of each vacancy announcement.

If you are interested in working for Peacekeeping Operations, please send your resume to [Outreachforpeace@un.org](mailto:Outreachforpeace@un.org) and write "WRUD4P" in the subject line of your email.

\* Source: Map No. 4259 Rev. 20(E), Cartographic Section, Department of Field Support, UNITED NATIONS, April 2014

\*\* political mission  
Disclaimer: due to the mobile and dynamic nature of field careers, profilees may not necessarily feature in their current positions.

# What are you doing for peace?

Field Personnel Division,  
United Nations  
Department of Field Support

Every day offers a new learning experience.



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