



# Participant Reviews of IPDTC Programmes & Training Courses

[www.patrir.ro/training](http://www.patrir.ro/training)

IPDTC's training programmes are highly participatory, interactive and custom-designed to ensure participants are able to implement the results and outcomes of their programmes in their work. Having provided training to more than 3,500 policymakers and leaders from UN agencies, government ministries, international and national NGOs and grassroots organisations, IPDTC's courses are designed to directly assist those working in the field to improve the quality of their operations and programming. Many of IPDTC's alumni have shared their experiences with us through feedback compiled in this document. See our 2016 calendar [online](#) or on page 8 of this brochure.



*"The two PATRIR courses I attended gave me a deeper insight in many of the complex issues regarding peacebuilding and peacekeeping. More especially, they enabled me to understand why peacebuilding could be effective in one context but ineffective in another. The experience after Cluj-Napoca makes me conclude that the relevance of PATRIR trainings is best appreciated when one returns to the field. My regards to the entire PATRIR team, hoping that I shall one day make it again to Cluj-Napoca!"*

Walters T T Samah, PhD  
Civil Affairs Officer, OIC  
Head, Parliamentary  
Support & Liaison Office  
UN Stabilisation Mission in  
Haiti



*"The PATRIR training was valuable on both the professional and personal levels, interacting with other peacebuilders reaffirmed my belief not only that I was doing something meaningful and true to my principles but also a career that I am passionate about. The vibrant dialogue, friendships nurtured and anecdotes from personal experiences from the field were an eye opener but most of all the precious few days of training gave me the chance to put my thoughts to paper in a way that I had never done before. What made this experience so valuable was that whether peacebuilding was seen from a donor lens or through the eyes of a participant from a country experiencing conflict or in a post-conflict context we all found common ground in a 'safe space' with warm hosts from PATRIR".*

Lana Captan Ghandour  
UNDP, Lebanon







## IPDTC Participant Reviews, 2016



*"I became more aware of the impact of a joined up approach and this increased my own capacity to work in this sector more effectively. I believe that the reflective aspect of the programme encouraged more progressive ways of thinking and was a positive development in encouraging thinking outside the box."*



**Mary Montague**  
Executive Director, TIDES Training  
Northern Ireland

*"IPDTC actually opened up a whole new world for me. I never realised that "we the development workers" can have such an impact on peace or on conflict. IPDTC made it very clear and I am proud and privileged to be part of this group. I also enjoyed very much all the sharing with the participants from the world over. I also had a great opportunity of self reflection, self realisation and internalisation of PEACE as skill, means and goal. Overall, it was a very enriching, empowering and inspiring experience. I can proudly say: yes, I can make a difference."*

**Sushma Bajracharya**  
GIZ  
Kathmandu, Nepal



Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

*"Here I am, writing this feedback three months after the training ended and the inspiration and enthusiasm is still lasting. You, PATRIR team, really have the skill of encouraging people to think more widely and more deeply about the issues we discussed during the training. My stay in Cluj really changed my thoughts and understanding of peacebuilding activities very thoroughly. Now I know what I had done well before the training and what I should do to succeed. I really appreciate all you have done for us and hope soon we will make you proud for having us at the training."*



**Nino Tlashadze**  
Human Rights Centre  
Georgia





"For anyone who is really intending to make use of practical knowledge that could be professionally reflected in his or her work, they have to seek an opportunity to attend one or two of the high quality trainings of the International Peace and Development Training Centre. I experience daily the feeling that I chose the right place. I have acquired high sensitivity to conflict since the training and found it extremely useful in my day to day activities. Much more importantly, the value is felt greater day after day. My profession is mainly about responding and reporting on violence. This requires that I work closely with other sections, working in advocating violence prevention and disseminating a culture of peace and peacebuilding. As a UN staff, the training was a milestone for my future work in peace building and conflict transformation. The organisational level and quality of the training is very high. I also like the continual follow up of the impact of the training on the participants work. This is very much appreciated. I admire the full knowledge and experience of the trainers with their subjects."



**Anwar Gubara**  
Protection Officer, Protection of Civilians  
UNMIS Khartoum, Sudan



"IPDTC offers high quality training that meets the training needs of professionals working for peace. The professionalism and charisma of the trainers adds value, along with the emphasis on the expertise of participants. The training is valuable to all professionals working for peace including knowledge, tools and understanding of key actors in the field. In Cluj, the trainings were well organised and had a localised approach that emphasised making professionals feeling at home in the city."

"What to say about this wonderful experience? Apart from the training which was excellent (quality of content and quality of trainers), it was a rich human experience. As a new worker in international cooperation and more specifically in peacebuilding, it was a great opportunity to meet with experienced peace workers, and it was a much richer experience to meet with so many interesting and wonderful people. Thanks again for this opportunity and I am sure that your future participants will think the PCTR training a valuable one!"

**Erica Belanger**  
Co-Director, Forum  
for Youth Advocacy  
United Kingdom



**Camille Chatelain**  
IOM Moldova



"As a peace and conflict studies graduate student, the PCTR not only reinforced many of the concepts I have been learning, but added valuable insights and perspectives from professionals working to bring lasting peace to violent conflicts around the globe. The courses offered by PATRIR are indispensable for both students and experienced professionals alike."



Mark S. Cogan  
Communications Consultant  
UNOPS  
Jordan



"I believe that shared experience of these one to two weeks training, brainstorming, and vivid, open-minded discussions not only broadened horizons of the participants, but also equipped with new strength and energy all those people committed to contribute – due to their own efforts – to making our globe, one's region, one's country a safer and happier place to live."

Natalya Belitser,  
Researcher  
Pylyp Orlyk Institute for  
Democracy  
Ukraine



PYLYP  
ORLYK  
Institute  
for Democracy

"The training has been an excellent opportunity to introduce participants into the peacebuilding large scope and exercise on how to strategically think, adopt a holistic approach and analyse the multi-level steps and dimensions of engaging in peacebuilding. It also helped to build substantively on peacebuilding concepts and the framework for operational work: the ground for more specific contextual aspects in peacebuilding programming."



Angeles Martinez  
Danish Refugee Council  
Spain



## IPDTC Participant Reviews, 2016

"I am feeling more confident when talking about armed conflicts and peace building in different settings and recognise that more knowledge gives more confidence in believing in positive changes and searching for them in every day life. I have increased interest in learning in this area. I have also increased confidence in dialoguing and interest in finding about that. A strong wish for contributing to peace building."

Annette Giertsen  
Senior Adviser  
Save The Children  
Norway



Save the Children

"I have been working in the field of Peace Building and Conflict Sensitivity for more than two years, but after participating in the Systemic Peacebuilding course in UK I really learned to do peacebuilding in a systematic way and to improve the quality of the work that I do! Also, the programme gave me an opportunity to learn from other participants what they do and how they work to promote peace in their contexts. During the course through the facilitators and friends, I regained the motivation to work for peace, which I had lost due to the situation in Sri Lanka. I came back to Sri Lanka with hope! Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity."

World Vision

Dilshan Annaraj  
Programme Coordinator  
World Vision  
Sri Lanka



"Just came across this three-word sentence 'Learning is digesting' and couldn't resist sending you this email to tell you that day after day I am realising how important the DPP training has been to me. I also realised the importance of giving time for things to sink in. The training has given me great tools that I am using in my daily work in designing peacebuilding projects, or in reporting to donors, etc. I am now, more than ever before, able to grasp complex ideas and concepts and able to represent them or convey them in a much clearer fashion. Best part, I am able to enjoy my work even more, especially when I get to tweak, twist and bend some of the existing tools, or represent them in nice big wall sized visuals, or sometimes create some of my own basic models. Thank you!!"



Jean-Paul Chami  
Program Manager  
Peacebuilding & Conflict Transformation Specialist and Trainer  
Forum for Development, Culture & Dialogue (FD CD)  
Lebanon



*"I just wanted to pass along my thanks and appreciation to the entire team. It was such a pleasant and hospitable environment from pick ups at the train station to fruit kabobs during breaks and to getting assistance from an intern on how to find my hotel! Always service with a smile as well. Keep up the great work."*

*The training was the best I've attended and I love PATRIR's approach to the field of peacebuilding. Although they were long days, the sessions were always interesting and kept us engaged and I felt like I could keep on going all night. I can really see how the training has evolved and improvements made over the years because it was excellent from beginning to end."*



Terry Chemij  
Fellowship for African Relief  
Canada



*"I found the course to be expertly taught and efficiently administered. The content was germane and perfectly designed to be of immediate utility to the practitioner and theorist alike."*



Stabilisation Unit

Lieutenant Colonel Justin Holt  
Stabilisation Unit  
United Kingdom



*"Under your leadership, the five-day training and follow-up technical assistance provided to UN staff from the region was highly appreciated by all those attending. Besides acquainting them with the latest tools and methodologies, the programme was an opportunity for participants with different backgrounds and responsibilities within the UN system to develop a clear and common understanding of what preventative diplomacy and advanced mediation entail, both conceptually as well as specific to UNIFIL's requirements in south Lebanon."*

Milos Strugar  
Director of Political and Civil  
Affairs, UNIFIL  
Lebanon



"May I suggest all who love peace - to participate. Frankly, it was one of the best experiences that I had with trainings."

— Hunaidi Pasuli, Course Participant

**PATRIR**

**IPDTC**  
International  
Peace and Development  
Training Centre



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## 2016 Training Courses

Programme Title	Location	Dates	Training Fees		Course Description
			OECD	Non-OECD	
<b>Transformative Negotiation Skills (TNS)</b>	Cluj-Napoca, Romania	25 - 29.4.2016	EUR 845	EUR 595	<i>TNS</i> is designed to provide an advanced understanding of systematic negotiation processes as well as various up to date techniques that can enable successful negotiation.
<b>Designing Peacebuilding Programmes (DPP)</b>	Cluj-Napoca, Romania	16 - 20.5.2016	EUR 845	EUR 595	<i>DPP</i> helps agencies, organisations and practitioners working in conflict and post-war contexts to improve the quality, effectiveness and sustainable impact of their programmes.
<b>Critical Competencies for Peacebuilding Practitioners (CCPP)</b>	Cluj-Napoca, Romania	20 - 24.6.2016	EUR 845	EUR 595	<i>CCPP</i> trains participants in core peacebuilding competencies and builds core skill sets for how to do effective peacebuilding in difficult and challenging conflict contexts.
<b>Peace Practitioners Intensive (PPI)</b>	Carpathian Mountains	19 - 26.9.2016	EUR 1,445	EUR 995	The <i>PPI</i> retreat is designed specifically to help those in the field learn skills and tools for self-care, well-being and how to do peacebuilding healthily to contribute to real change in their contexts. It provides deep skills training with space for reflection, breathing and personal and professional growth.
<b>Making Early Warning, Prevention &amp; Peacebuilding Work (MPPW)</b>	Cluj-Napoca, Romania	17 - 21.10.2016	EUR 845	EUR 595	<i>MPPW</i> assists governments and agencies in the field to draw upon the cutting-edge and lessons learned in developing effective early warning & prevention systems.
<b>ELP: Making Peace Processes Work</b>	London, UK	14 - 16.11.2016	GBP 349		<i>Making Peace Processes Work</i> is designed for leaders working with mediation, negotiation, dialogue and peacemaking to improve skills in mediation & peace processes and to identify strategies and measures to improve their processes.
<b>ELP: Overcoming Violent Extremism</b>	London, UK	17 - 19.11.2016	GBP 349		<i>Overcoming Violent Extremism</i> is a practical programme designed to address the drivers, causes and dynamics of radicalisation, violent extremism and terrorism.

\*This year, discounts are available for all IPDTC courses. Please see the full course brochure or individual course outlines for more information at [www.patrir.ro/training](http://www.patrir.ro/training). Please contact IPDTC at [training@patrir.ro](mailto:training@patrir.ro) with any questions.



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