

*Пряха А., курсант ННІ № 1
Національної академії
внутрішніх справ
Консультант з мови: Скриник
М.В.*

THE UN PEACEKEEPING TRAINING STRATEGY

Three main phases of peacekeeping training are identified in the UN strategy: 1. Pre-Deployment Training (PDT): refers to generic, specialized, and, where appropriate, mission-specific peacekeeping training that is based on UN standards and takes place prior to deployment to a DPKO-led mission. This training is delivered by member states to military and police personnel/units in their home country and by the Integrated Training Service (ITS) for civilian personnel. 2. Induction Training: refers to training that is delivered to DPKO/DFS headquarters staff upon arrival at UN headquarters in New York or mission-specific training that is delivered in a DPKO-led mission. This may include generic and specialized training, including training for military police and civilian personnel. 3. Ongoing Training: refers to any training or learning activity for peacekeeping personnel (military, police, or civilian) undertaken during their assignment at headquarters or in the field subsequent to induction training. While each type of training is important, pre-deployment training is foundational.

Ideally, members of UN peacekeeping operations should be deployed only once they have received comprehensive preparation, so that they can be fully operational and ready to face their assignments from day one. Induction and ongoing training have limitations given the other competing tasks that need to be performed during a deployment.

Post -deployment training can only fill mission- or context-specific gaps ex-post facto. It is likely to have only limited impact absent extensive and appropriate training prior to the deployment. Another relevant distinction in the training strategy concerns the three main components of peacekeeping operations: military, police, and civilian. Each component requires a different training approach, not only to take account of the diverse nature of their respective functions, but also in light of the different recruitment and deployment modalities.

Usually, civilian personnel are recruited individually through a system of vacancies and selection processes. This allows the UN—at least in principle—to ensure that the selected individuals have the requisite skills and experience needed for the role they are to fulfill. In contrast, most of the military are recruited collectively as formed units (infantry battalion, engineering company, etc.).

Police contributions use both methods, as more than half are recruited and deployed in large units, called Formed Police Units (FPUs), while the rest are selected in smaller units or individually. Another significant difference in the selection of civilian, as opposed to uniformed peacekeepers, is that the former apply mainly in their personal capacity, while the latter apply through their national authorities (usually, Ministry of Defense for the military and Interior/Justice Ministry for the police). As a consequence, the latter have normally gone through a pre-selection and vetting process. Among uniformed personnel, a special category—in terms of training requirements—is that of UN military observers (UNMOs), whose tasks and training needs are better defined than those of other uniformed personnel.

In fact, UN guidelines on the training of UNMOs were released as early as 1997. UNMOs are military officers assigned to serve with the United Nations or other international organizations on a loan basis by governments of contributing countries. The guidelines assume that “many of the skills required of a military observer are taught or developed during the normal course of a military officer’s career.” In addition, sending countries are expected

to conduct specific national-level preparation and training for their UNMO personnel.

Ukraine's participation in international peace operations is governed by the 1999 Law of Ukraine on Participation in International Operations in Support of Peace and Security. The law stipulates that Ukraine can participate in three types of operations:

- 1) peace operations undertaken by the UN, OSCE, and other regional organizations;
- 2) UN-authorized operations; and
- 3) Multinational high-readiness forces.

The law details the process of approving Ukraine's participation in such operations. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in consultation with the Ministry of Defense, presents a proposal to the National Security and Defense Council. If the Council decides affirmatively, the proposal is forwarded to the president. If the president approves the deployment, a draft law is introduced in the parliament, which grants the ultimate authorization. The consideration of the draft is treated as a matter of priority. The government reports annually to the parliament on Ukraine's participation in international peace operations.

The Strategy for International Peacekeeping Activity of Ukraine defines four main areas in which improvements should be made: 1) increasing the quality of peacekeeping contributions (speeding up decision-making on deployments; improving command and coordination; training military and civilian specialists; procuring the necessary equipment; systematizing lessons learned); 2) enhancing the attractiveness of international service among the military (increasing salaries; providing better medical and psychological care; introducing additional welfare benefits for service-members and their families); 3) promoting Ukraine's interests during the planning and execution of operations (strengthening cooperation with secretariats of international organizations; increasing the number of Ukrainians in DPKO/DFS and among mission leadership); and 4) involving Ukrainian companies in post-conflict reconstruction.

Participation in UN peacekeeping operations is also attractive for individual personnel, especially helicopter pilots, whose salary during international deployments is five times the army average and ten times the country average.

List of references:

1. How Peacekeeping Policy Gets Made: Navigating Intergovernmental Processes at the UN / [Электронный ресурс]. - Режим доступа: <http://www.providingforpeacekeeping.org>
2. Specialized Police Teams / [Электронный ресурс]. - Режим доступа: <https://police.un.org>