



11 October 2018

**Our reference**

FINCENT, LtSrGr Elena Ojala  
Phone: +358 299 540 200  
e-mail: elena.ojala@fincen.fi

**Our previous date**

**Our previous designation**

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**INVITATION TO APPLY**

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**NORDEFECO / United Nations Comprehensive  
Protection of Civilians Course  
18 - 22 February 2019  
at FINCENT in Helsinki, FINLAND**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

The Finnish Defence Forces International Centre (FINCENT) is an internationally distinguished centre that provides military crisis management training and education with over 40 years of expertise. The United Nations Comprehensive Protection of Civilians Course (UNCPOC) will be conducted **18 – 22 FEB 2019 at FINCENT** (Helsinki, Finland).

The United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1894 "Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict" in November 2009. In this resolution, the international community of states and all conflict parties were called upon to implement far-reaching measures to protect and support the civilian population. Now there is an internationally recognized need for exploring means to ensure safety and security of civilians in modern armed conflicts.

The content of the UNCPOC-course reflects a broad interpretation of protection, not only against physical violence but also to create the protective environment and the implementation of international law. Graduates of this course shall possess a comprehensive and critical understanding of the multiple dimensions and meanings of the protection of civilians in armed conflict. They can add value to national and international crisis management operations in their respective fields of responsibility.

## **2. UNITED NATIONS COMPREHENSIVE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS COURSE**

### **2.1 Purpose and Aim**

The aim of the course is to prepare students to understand the importance of the POC (Protection Of Civilians) and roles and responsibilities of different actors in PSO operations.



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The Course will comprehend peacekeeping personnel with

- The importance of POC for the peacekeeping mission and UN.
- The range of protection objectives, threats and actors.
- The planning of effective and relevant actions in order to protect vulnerable groups

The course will enhance the knowledge and critical understanding of the multiple dimensions and meanings of the protection of civilians in armed conflicts. The students are trained to understand the roles and responsibilities of military, police and civilian actors involved in protection work in United Nations peacekeeping operations. The participants are able to analyse the specific threats, needs and rights of the vulnerable groups and can develop effective strategies and measures to improve the situation of these groups and protect them from harm.

The Performance Objectives of the UNCPOC-course are

- a. **PO1 Comprehend the UN Integrated mission concept.**
  - Students will comprehend UN principles and UN POC concept. Students will be able to explain integrated mission concept, explain modern UN mission environment and challenges for mission POC strategy.
- b. **PO2 Comprehend the legal foundation of POC** in Peace Support Operations and will be able to identify the rights and obligations of peacekeepers in POC mission.
  - Students will be able to comprehend international laws which are applicable to POC principles. Students are able to explain mission mandate and main UN Security council resolutions.
- c. **PO3 Apply the POC Operational Concept** and use the POC planning principles including Tiers and Phases.
  - Students will be able to analyze key challenges associated with the protection of Civilians in complex environments. Students are able to classify and analyze mission POC threats. Students are able to prepare preliminary mission POC action plan. Students are able to illustrate the importance and modalities of operational level information sharing and public information efforts.

The course consists of theoretical lectures, case studies and sharing knowledge and experiences from the missions.



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### **3. PARTICIPATION**

#### **3.1. Student Criteria**

This Course has been designed for an operational level audience who has solid knowledge on the field mission organization and functioning, and how it interacts with mission Partners on the ground. For a tactical level audience (for example, Contingent and Battalion Commanders and Battalion staff), this subject is also highly relevant; however, Learning outcomes and content should be suited to the trainees' profile. Specific Participant Profile:

- Military – Battalion level and above
- Police – FPU Commanders and above
- Civilian – Heads of Substantive Sections and above

To be eligible to attend the course, nominees must fulfil the following criteria:

- Participants should be preferably senior level experts (civilians or civil administration and military personnel) that work in areas related to crisis management in the wider context or work currently in a crisis area or can be prospective participants in the future operations or missions.
- Experience in monitoring, mentoring and advising (MMA), training, planning, human rights, gender, child protection, training or Rule of Law is an advantage.
- Language proficiency: good comprehension of English.

Regarding the student criteria please be advised that the language testing is a national responsibility and no additional training or translation is provided. Designated Pre-course Papers has to be completed prior to the start of the Course.

#### **3.2. Security Clearance**

UNCLASSIFIED. Sending organizations are in charge of arranging the required permissions for a military person to enter Finnish territory and FINCENT (Request for Visit and Permit for a military person or unit for entering Finnish territory). Please consult your HQ or embassy for procedures. For FINCENT courses Security Clearance is not required.



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#### **4. ADMINISTRATION**

All course applications have to be filled in the LYYTI -system. The application form can be found online at: [https://www.lyyti.in/Application\\_to\\_UNCPOC\\_2019\\_Course](https://www.lyyti.in/Application_to_UNCPOC_2019_Course). The application link is open until 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

It is compulsory for all non -EU applicants to provide two files attached with the application. Both files have to be in PDF, JPEG or TIF format. Firstly, the sending organization has to write an official request letter using the organization's formal style document including a stamp. The letter should include the reason for the application, an explanation of the expected benefit for the student and the sending organization, rank the students in order of preference (if more than one is applying) and whether subsidy is requested. If subsidy is requested, the letter has to explain in detail what is required.

Secondly, the application has to be accompanied with a coloured, scanned copy of the applicant's passport. The passport pages have to contain the picture, full name, nationality, date of birth, passport number and passport expiry date.

It is compulsory to fill all questions marked (\*) in the form. These include also the required files from all non-EU applicants. Please make sure that you have all needed information and files with you when you start filling the application. If a nation or organization wants to apply more than one seat, all online applications has to be done separately.

**All documents have to be written in English!** Please do not attach any letters or other documents in French, Arabic or other languages as they will be disregarded.

**Applications sent by individuals will not be processed by FINCENT.**

##### **a. Student Application procedure, payment and subsidies for Finnish students**

The application form should be filled before **10 December 2018**. FINCENT will reply to the participants with detailed information (including pre-course material) in due time before the course.

Students from Finland are exempt from paying the course fee and they receive the training, training material, board, lodging and welfare programme arranged by FINCENT free of charge.



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**b. Student application procedure, payment and subsidies for EU students**

The application form should be filled before **10 December 2018**. FINCENT will reply to the participants with detailed information (including pre-course material) in due time before the course.

Students are charged a course fee of 700 €. This includes the training, training material, board, lodging and welfare programmes arranged by FINCENT.

Subsidies are not usually granted.

**c. Student Application procedure, payment and subsidies for non EU students**

The application form should be filled before **10 December 2018**. FINCENT will reply to the participants with detailed information (including pre-course material) in due time before the course.

Students are charged a course fee of 700 €. This includes the training, training material, board, lodging and welfare programmes arranged by FINCENT.

The number of subsidies is very limited and subsidised student places are available for nations only upon a special request by the nominating nation. Whether subsidy is granted or not is decided on a case-by-case basis by FINCENT. The decision will be announced to the selected students in the course confirmation. Please note that even if FINCENT would grant a subsidy, FINCENT will never pay any salaries, daily allowances, visa application fees, insurances or anything extra that is not part of this course. Only in exceptional cases the flights might be paid by FINCENT.

**d. Payment of the course fee**

All payments must be paid in cash (Euros) or by a credit card (Visa or Master Card) at FINCENT when the course begins. Invoices are used according to the agreement between Finland and the respective nations (Nordic and EU countries only).

**e. VISA application for approved students**

Certain foreign nationalities need a passport and a visa to enter Finland. It is the responsibility of the student or the sending organisation to apply for the visa well in advance.



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If necessary, FINCENT can provide a visa support letter by request. Please see the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website for more information: [www.formin.fi](http://www.formin.fi). Please note that you have to apply for the Visa in the nearest Finnish Embassy, even if it is situated in another country.

**f. Accommodation and meals**

Accommodation for the students is provided in Santahamina at FINCENT premises (Santahamina Building). Accommodation in Santahamina is possible only from Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019. If any participant wishes to arrive to FINLAND before 17<sup>th</sup> or leave after 22<sup>nd</sup> February, participant or his/her sending organisation is responsible on booking and paying for a hotel.

The daily meals are served according to the course programme at the dining hall in Santahamina on the National Defence University campus. The first meal to be served will be breakfast on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February. The last meal to be served will be breakfast on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

**g. General**

The pre-course material will be available online for the approved students. General information concerning travel arrangements, accommodations, clothing, programme etc. will be included in the course confirmation.

## 5. CONTACT AND APPLICATION

**a. POC**

For further detailed information, please contact FINCENT.

e-mail	<a href="mailto:studentadmin@fincent.fi">studentadmin@fincent.fi</a>
Phone	<b>+358 2 99 540 200</b> (Course Director)

FINCENT  
Course Admin  
P.O. BOX 7 (Santahaminantie 2)  
FI-00861 Helsinki  
Finland



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**b. Application procedure**

The application form can be found on the internet at:  
[https://www.lyyti.in/Application\\_to\\_UNCPOC\\_2019\\_Course](https://www.lyyti.in/Application_to_UNCPOC_2019_Course)

The deadlines for applicants:

- **The deadline for Finnish applicants is no later than 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018**
- **The deadline for EU applicants is no later than 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018**
- **Non-EU applicants have to fill application with all requested attachments no later than 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

The POC and applicant will be notified at least 4 weeks before the course starts whether or not nominated student is admitted to the course. If admitted to the course, the student will receive a pre-course info indicating further details of the course.

**WELCOME to the Finnish Defence Forces International Centre!**

  
Jukka-Pekka SCHRODERUS  
Commander  
CO FINCENT



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**Mailing list:**

Danish Armed Forces Operational Command, Denmark  
Danish Defence Personnel Organisation, NATO & INTOPS Branch, Denmark  
Norwegian Defence Personnel Agency, Norway  
Norwegian Defence International Centre, NODEFIC, Norway  
Swedish Armed Forces HQ, Sweden  
Swedish Armed Forces International Centre, SWEDINT  
Eastern Africa Standby Forces Secretariat, EASF Secretariat

Embassy of Afghanistan (Norway)  
Embassy of Albania (Sweden)  
Embassy of Algeria (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Angola (Sweden)  
Embassy of Argentina (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Australia (Sweden)  
Embassy of Austria (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Azerbaijan (Sweden)  
Embassy of Bangladesh (Sweden)  
Embassy of Belgium (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Benin (Denmark)  
Embassy of Bolivia (Sweden)  
Embassy of Bosnia-Herzegovina (Sweden)  
Embassy of Botswana (Sweden)  
Embassy of Brazil (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Bulgaria (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Canada (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Cape Verde (Germany)  
Embassy of Chile (Helsinki)  
Embassy of China (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Colombia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Costa Rica (Norway)  
Embassy of Côte d'Ivoire (Denmark)  
Embassy of Croatia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Cyprus (Helsinki)  
Embassy of the Czech Republic (Helsinki)  
Embassy of the Dominican Republic (Sweden)  
Embassy of Ecuador (Sweden)  
Embassy of Egypt (Helsinki)  
Embassy of El Salvador (Sweden)  
Embassy of Eritrea (Sweden)  
Embassy of Estonia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of France (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Georgia (Sweden)  
Embassy of Germany (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Ghana (Denmark)  
Embassy of Greece (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Guatemala (Sweden)  
Embassy of Honduras (Belgium)



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Embassy of Hungary (Helsinki)  
Embassy of India (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Indonesia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Iran (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Iraq (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Ireland (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Israel (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Iceland (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Italy (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Japan (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Jordan (Germany)  
Embassy of the Republic of Korea (Helsinki)  
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Embassy of Latvia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Lebanon (Sweden)  
Embassy of Liberia (Germany)  
Embassy of Libya (Sweden)  
Embassy of Lithuania (Helsinki)  
Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (Denmark)  
Embassy of Macedonia\* (Sweden) \* Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)  
Embassy of Malaysia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of the Republic of Mali (Germany)  
Embassy of Malta/Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Malta (Malta)  
Embassy of Mexico (Helsinki)  
Embassy of the Republic of Moldova (Sweden)  
Embassy of Mongolia (Sweden)  
Embassy of Montenegro (Germany)  
Embassy of Morocco (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Mozambique (Sweden)  
Embassy of Namibia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Nepal (Denmark)  
Embassy of the Netherlands (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Nicaragua (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Niger (Denmark)  
Embassy of Nigeria (Sweden)  
Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman (Germany)  
Embassy of Pakistan (Sweden)  
Embassy of Peru (Helsinki)  
Embassy of the Philippines (Norway)  
Embassy of Poland (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Portugal (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Romania (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Russia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Saudi Arabia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Serbia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Slovakia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Slovenia (Denmark)  
Embassy of South Africa (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Spain (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Sri Lanka (Sweden)



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Embassy of Switzerland (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Syria (Sweden)  
Embassy of Tajikistan (Germany)  
Embassy of Tanzania (Sweden)  
Embassy of Thailand (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Tunisia (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Turkey (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Turkmenistan (United Kingdom)  
Embassy of Ukraine (Helsinki)  
Embassy of the United Arab Emirates (Sweden)  
Embassy of the United Kingdom (Helsinki)  
Embassy of the United States (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Uruguay (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Venezuela (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Vietnam (Helsinki)  
Embassy of Yemen (Germany)  
Embassy of Zambia (Sweden)

Permanent Mission of Finland to the UN, New York, USA  
Distribution to SHAPE and other PLT and NMRs,  
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### **Info**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland  
Ministry of Defence, Finland  
Technical Advisor (PSO Training), Nordic Advisory and Coordination Staff – Eastern Africa

Defence Command Finland, J1/J5, P.O. Box 919, FI-00131 HELSINKI, Finland  
Army Command Finland, G1, P.O. BOX 145 FI-50101 MIKKELI, Finland

Finnish Defence Forces Subordinate Establishments (PVAH)

### **Internal FINCENT**

FINCENT personnel