



Finnish Defence Forces International Centre

Action Officer

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FINCENT
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FINLAND

Date

29 April 2025

INVITATION TO APPLY

Peace Support Operations Cooperation Course (Tactical Level), PSOCC

Dates 29.9. – 10.10. 2025 at FINCENT, Helsinki, Finland
ePRIME Course no: FIN.2732.34

1 Introduction and background

Multidimensional UN Peace Support Operations consists of Civilian, Military and Police components working in cooperation to implement a UN Security Council mandate. The PSOCC course addresses the inherently complex internal cooperation needs between the three components as well as interaction with host nation and external actors.

The PSOCC course consist of three parts,

The first part is an online pre-study that needs to be completed prior to the 2-week residential part of the course.



Secondly, the first residential week at FINCENT will focus on the mission structure and the roles of the mission components as well as external actors in a conflict context. Additionally, key mission concepts such as Protection of Civilians and Women Peace and Security will be covered together with lectures on negotiation techniques, use of language assistant and report writing.

The third part is the second residential week and will focus on applying knowledge from the first week during practical negotiations.

2 Peace Support Operations Cooperation Course (PSOCC)

2.1 Purpose and Aim

The aim of the PSOCC is to prepare military, police and civilian personnel for coordination, cooperation and liaison tasks on a tactical level in Multidimensional Peace Support Operations led by UN. The student will develop and improve skills and knowledge to be able to work effectively in a multicultural environment and enhance interoperability within the peace support community. The course is suitable for personnel with or without previous PSO-experience.

2.2 Concept of the Course

PSOCC consists of interactive lectures, case studies, practical exercises and a final exercise covering the following topics:

- UN Integrated approach
- NATO comprehensive approach
- Interaction with different actors in a contemporary PSO environment
- Cross-cultural, political, social, religious and other factors prevailing in the mission areas
- Meeting and negotiation techniques
- Information gathering and reporting

2.3 Learning Objectives

Upon completion of the PSOCC the student should be able to:

- Describe UN integrated and NATO comprehensive approaches at tactical level.
- Comprehend the nature of operational interaction in a PSO.
- Comprehend the collaboration and coordination between different actors aiming for better liaison and information sharing within and between different organizations, civil society and authorities, at tactical level.



- Gain knowledge related to conflict crisis management, with emphasizes on gender awareness and cultural awareness and social media Awareness

3 Participation

3.1 Student Criteria

To be eligible to attend the PSOCC, nominees must fulfill the following criteria:

- Military officers/non-commissioned officers, such as liaison officers, staff officers, unit commanders etc. who need special skills for conducting negotiation, liaison, cooperation and coordination with different actors in a PSO environment.
 - Officer from OF-1 (2nd LT) to OF-4 (LTC),
 - Non-commissioned officers from OR-7 to OR-9.
- Police officers planning to apply for positions involving coordination and liaison with other international and local actors, such as Police Liaison Officers or Police Advisers.
- Civilians wanting to learn more concerning cooperation and coordination with military and police in a PSO environment.
- Language proficiency: Working level English language skill. Language testing is a national responsibility. The working language is English. No additional language training or translation is provided.
- Basic computer skills.
- No previous experience from a PSO is required.

3.2 RFV and Security Clearance

Request for Visit (RFV) or Permit for military staff or unit to enter Finnish territory is **NOT** needed. The classification of the course is UNCLASSIFIED. Security Clearance is not required for this course.

4 Application

FINCENT uses an online application system. The application can be found on the internet at: <https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/PSOCC2025>

The application link is open from 29th April to 8th August 2025.



All applications have to have a certificate of the applicant's **health insurance and/or travel coverage** attached in PDF, JPEG or TIF format.

It is compulsory to provide **two (2) additional files** attached with the application.

1. 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 a justification for the application, outlining the expected benefit for the student and the sending organization and order of priority if several applications are submitted. **If a subsidy is requested, the letter has to explain in detail what is required.**
2. Secondly, the application has to be accompanied with a **scanned colour 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, make sure you have all needed information and files when filling out the application.

All applications have to be submitted individually, group applications are not accepted.

All documents have to be written in English. Any letters or other documents in other languages will be disregarded.

5 Participants Selection

The final date for application is **8th August 2025**. Within two weeks after the application period has ended, FINCENT will inform the applicant whether they have been selected to the course or not.

Selected students will receive course confirmation letter including general information concerning travel arrangements, accommodations, clothing, schedule, etc.

6 Administration

6.1 Course fee

Students are charged with a course fee of 1560€. The course fee includes accommodation, meals at FINCENT, training, training material and welfare programs arranged by FINCENT.



Students from Finland are exempt from the course fee and receive the accommodation, meals, training, training material and welfare programme arranged by FINCENT free of charge.

6.2 Payment of the course fee

All payments should preferably be by a credit card (Visa, Visa Electron, Maestro or Master Card) at FINCENT when the course begins. Cash payment in Euro is also be accepted. Invoices are used according to the agreement between Finland and the respective nations (Nordic and EU countries only).

6.3 Student subsidies

Applicants can apply for subsidy from FINCENT covering all teaching, accommodation, meals and travel. Subsidies are not granted for EU citizens. A limited number of subsidized seats are available on written request in the official letter in para 4. Subsidy is granted by FINCENT on case-by-case basis and the decision will be announced to application in the course confirmation letter.

Subsidized participation includes roundtrip air travel to Helsinki, free teaching, teaching material and free accommodation, meals and transports outlined in para 6.4 – 6.6 below. FINCENT will not pay any salary, allowance, visa application fees, insurances, medical costs or extended stay in Finland.

6.4 Accommodation and meals

Accommodation for the students is provided in Santahamina at FINCENT premises (Santahamina building).

The daily meals (3 meals/day) are served according to the course programme at the dining hall in Santahamina on the National Defence University campus.

6.5 Transportation

Transportation to and from Helsinki airport will be offered to all students upon arrival and departure.

6.6 Social Events

FINCENT will host a mandatory Ice Breaker event on the first evening and a Closing Dinner on the last evening of the course. During the weekend there is no teaching and no events will be organized by FINCENT. Students are free to explore Helsinki by own means. Dress code for social events will be outlined in the course confirmation letter.



6.7 VISA application for approved students

Non-Finnish participants need a passport and may need a visa to enter Finland. It is the responsibility of the student or the sending organization to ensure required travel documents are valid and apply for the Visa well in advance. FINCENT will not cover any costs related to obtaining required documents.

FINCENT can provide a visa support letter upon request. Please see the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website for more information: [Visa to visit Finland - Ministry for Foreign Affairs \(um.fi\)](https://um.fi). Please note that you have to apply for the Visa in the nearest Finnish Embassy, even if it is situated in another country.

All Non-Finnish citizens are required to carry a valid passport to enter the Finnish Defence Forces premises and garrison area.

6.8 Pre-course material

Instructions for Pre-course self-study material will be sent directly to the accepted students during September. Time required for completing the Pre-course material is approximately one (1) day.

7 Contact and application

For further information, please contact FINCENT. Note that during the summer holiday season in July the email is not regularly monitored.

E-mail: studentadmin@fincen.fi

WELCOME to the Finnish Defence Forces International Centre!



Esa Pekka Vehkaoja
Colonel
FINCENT Commandant

