

# Lesson 2.3



## Human Rights

### Lesson at a Glance

#### Aim

To increase ability of peacekeeping personnel to address human rights in everyday tasks.

#### Relevance

- Human rights are a core pillar of the UN. Promotion and protection of Human rights are part of multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations mandates and structures.
- Peacekeeping personnel must be able to recognize human rights violations or abuses and respond appropriately.
- All personnel in peace operations have the responsibility to protect and promote human rights through their work.

#### Learning Outcomes

Learners will:

- Define human rights violations and human rights abuses
- Explain UN policies on human rights relevant to peacekeeping
- Identify and explain human rights-related roles in a mission
- Describe the coordination role of the human rights component
- List actions to take when human rights abuses and violations are observed

## Lesson Map

### Duration: 45 minutes total

20 minutes: presentation

25 minutes: interactive exchange or activity

<b>The Lesson</b>	Pages 3-23
Starting the Lesson	Intro Slides
Importance of Human Rights Protection	Slide 1
Human Rights, Security and Development	Slide 2
Violations and Abuses	Slides 3-4
UN Leads on Human Rights	Slide 5
Legal Framework	Slide 6
UN Policies on Human Rights	Slide 7
A Progressive Stance on Human Rights	Slide 8
Human Rights in Peacekeeping Operations	Slides 9-12
What Individual Peacekeeping Personnel Can Do	Slides 13-14
Summary	Page 22
<b>Learning Activity Options</b>	Pages 24-37
2.3.1 Human Rights – The Basics	Page 25
2.3.2 Human Rights “At Risk”	Page 31
2.3.3 How Human Rights Violations Occur	Page 36
<b>Learning Evaluation</b>	Pages 38-54

## The Lesson



### Starting the Lesson

Introduce the following (using the Introductory Slides):

- Lesson Topic
- Aim
- Relevance
- Learning Outcomes
- Lesson Overview



*Recap Human rights which were already defined and covered in Module 1, Lesson 1.5. A repetition of the thematic would be one option to bridge into the lesson.*

## The Importance of Human Rights Protection

### Slide 1



### The Importance of Human Rights Protection

- Human rights – a core pillar of the UN



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**Key Message:** Human rights are a core pillar of the UN.

The UN Charter commits to promoting universal respect for human rights.

Abuse and violation of human rights link to conflict, as both a cause and a result.

Success of UN peacekeeping depends on attention to human rights. The UN protects and promotes human rights to:

- Prevent conflicts
- Achieve and keep peace
- Help a country and people recover after conflict

The Security Council mandates most multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations to promote and protect human rights. Tasks are:

- Monitor and help investigate human rights violations
- Develop related capacity of national actors and institutions

All peacekeeping personnel share responsibility to protect and promote human rights through their work.

## Human Rights, Security and Development

### Slide 2



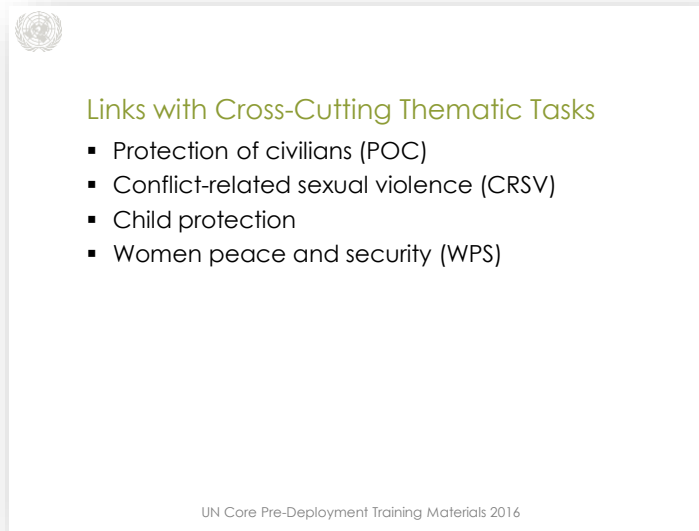
**Key Message:** Respect for human rights is a foundation for lasting peace and security. Development, security and human rights depend on each other.

**Human rights cut across all areas of UN work. They apply to peace and security, economic and social affairs, development cooperation and humanitarian assistance.**

Module 1 introduced the Security Council's five peace and security activities: conflict prevention, peace-making, peacekeeping, peace enforcement and peacebuilding. Human rights are part of them all.

The UN will not approve, support or recognize amnesties for war crimes, crimes against humanity or grave violations of human rights or international humanitarian law. Such amnesties may be in a peace agreement negotiated between a government and rebel groups.

**Slide 3**



**Key Message:** Lesson 2.1 introduced four “cross-cutting thematic tasks”. The Security Council includes these in most mandates for multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations:

- Protection of civilians (POC)
- Conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV)
- Protection of children
- Women, peace and security (WPS)


All link to human rights. Peacekeeping personnel have an obligation to a) protect and b) promote human rights, including for vulnerable groups.

## Violations and Abuses



*Brainstorm with participants the differences between human rights violation and abuse. Note key points to bridge into the lesson.*

### Slide 4

A presentation slide titled "Violations and Abuses" with a UN logo in the top left corner. It contains two bullet points defining human rights violations and abuses. At the bottom, it says "UN Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials 2016".

**Violations and Abuses**

- **Human rights violation:** action/inaction of state official or agent – police, soldier, judge, local administrator, parliamentarian
- **Human rights abuse:** committed by non-state actors – rebel groups, corporations, individuals

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**Key Message:** Abuses and violations of human rights are different.

### Violations

Human rights apply to every person. Who protects those rights? States are supposed to.

International human rights law and UN policies define state responsibilities to citizens. States have a duty to uphold people's human rights. Anyone in an official state capacity is a "duty-bearer" – police officers, soldiers, judges, local officials, government representatives.

When duty bearers ignore or act in ways that undermine people's human rights, they fail as duty-bearers. They violate human rights, or commit human rights violations.

Human rights violations are two types: action, or failure to act.

#### **Deliberate actions that result in human rights violations:**

- Arrest or detention by a police officer without a warrant or reasonable cause
- Torture of a detainee in police or military custody
- Rape of women and girls by soldiers
- Opening fire on peaceful demonstrators without cause, by police or military

**Lack of action that results in human rights violations:**

- A government not providing basic services to a group of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), e.g. food, water, adequate shelter
- A local Ministry of Education representative not taking measures so girls attend school

**Abuses**

The term “human rights abuse” is broader than “human rights violation”. Human rights abuses are infringements of rights by non-state actors: rebel groups, militias, corporations or individuals against each other.

Human rights abuses can only be committed by action.



## UN Leads on Human Rights

### Slide 5



**Key Message:** The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has lead responsibility in the UN system to promote and protect human rights. Its mandate comes from the UN General Assembly.

OHCHR has offices and centres in many countries and regions.

**The head of OHCHR is** the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The High Commissioner regularly comments on human rights in the world. S/he has authority to investigate cases and issue reports.

Different parts of the UN monitor how states comply with international human rights treaties. OHCHR supports that work. OHCHR also supports human rights components of peacekeeping missions in several countries.

An important part of the UN's human rights mechanism is the **Human Rights Council**. The Council is an inter-governmental body, with 47 UN Member States elected by the UN General Assembly. It meets at UN offices in Geneva.

The Human Rights Council:

- Strengthens promotion and protection of human rights
- Addresses and recommends action on human rights violations

## Legal Framework



Module 1 introduced international legal frameworks for human rights and humanitarian law. Recap with participants the three main parts of the legal framework that obligate UN peacekeeping to promote and protect human rights. Brainstorm specifics.

### Slide 6

**Legal Framework** for promotion and protection of Human Rights in UN PKO

- UN Charter
- The International Human Rights Law
- Security Council resolutions

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**Key Message:** The legal framework for promotion and protection of Human Rights in Peacekeeping Operations includes:

- UN Charter
- International Human Rights Law
- Security Council Resolutions

Security Council resolution 1894 (2009) on protection of civilians (POC) in armed conflict:

- Affirms the priority of mandated protection activities
- Emphasizes the importance of comprehensive protection strategies with accountability for violations

Effective implementation of a POC mandate requires timely and well-resourced human rights monitoring, advocacy and reporting.

Security Council mandates direct UN peacekeeping operations to:

- Take immediate and long-term action to protect and promote human rights
- Help people know, assert and claim their human rights
- Help State institutions and personnel do their duty on human rights

## UN Policies on Human Rights

### Slide 7



**Key Message:** UN policies guide work on human rights. Four main policies apply.

### Human Rights Up Front (HRuF)

The UN Secretary-General introduced “**Human Rights Up Front**” (HRuF) initiative in 2012. Its goal is for the UN to prevent and respond to large-scale violations of human rights or humanitarian law with early and effective action. HRuF builds on the Charter and UN resolutions. Human rights and POC need to be seen as a core responsibility across the UN. HRuF directs the UN system to work together to better address complex risks to people and Member States.

### UN Policy on Human Rights in United Nations Peace Operations and Political Missions

The 2011 policy covers peacekeeping. Four parts of the UN issued it jointly: DPKO, DPA, DFS and OHCHR. The policy guides integration of human rights in UN peacekeeping and political missions. Policy objectives are to:

- Address human rights dimensions of conflicts
- Build a foundation for lasting peace

Policy details include:

- HOM is responsible for upholding international human rights law
- Mission human rights components or OHCHR help and advise HOM
- OHCHR as lead provides expert guidance and support to HR components
- All peacekeepers need to understand and follow international law
- All peacekeeping tasks respect, promote and protect human rights

## UN Policy on Human Rights Screening of UN Personnel

The 2012 policy ensures only **individuals with the highest integrity serve with the UN**.

- Members States nominating or sending personnel to the UN are to screen them and certify none have committed crimes or violated international law
- Individuals who seek to serve with the UN are asked to confirm they have not committed crimes or violated international law
- The UN Secretariat manages an information exchange to screen candidates and nominees on human rights conduct

## The Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on United Nations Support to non-United Nations Security Forces

“Due diligence” means acting with a certain standard of care. The 2011 policy details measures all UN entities must take to ensure any support they provide to non-UN forces:

- Follows the UN Charter
- Meets responsibilities to respect, promote and encourage respect for international law

The policy covers international human rights law (IHRL) and international humanitarian law (IHL).



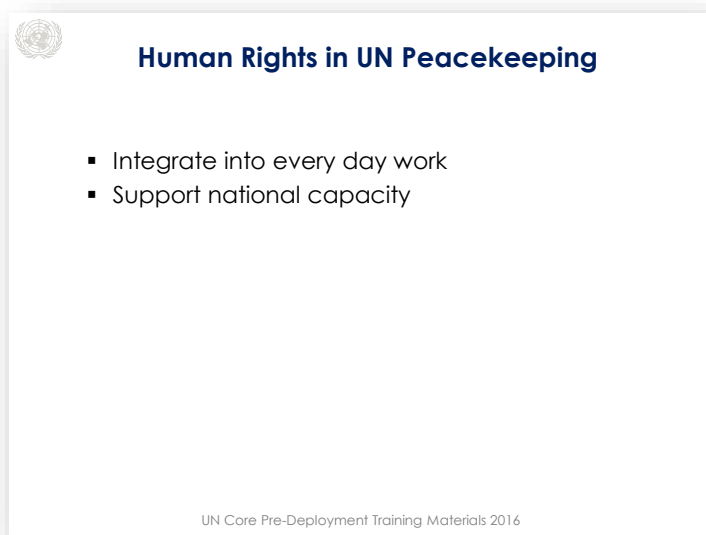
*Recap with participants key points about IHL and IHRL from Module 1.*

The Due Diligence Policy requires the UN to take these steps before supporting a non-UN entity:

- Assess risks of the entity receiving support committing grave violations of IHL, IHRL or refugee law
- Be transparent about the UN's legal obligations and principles
- Put in place a framework with procedures to monitor compliance
- Take action on grave violations

## A Progressive Stance on Human Rights

### Slide 8



**Key Message:** The UN directs a progressive stance on human rights. This applies to peacekeeping operations and to individual peacekeeping personnel.

Protecting and promoting human rights is everyone's responsibility. This requires:

- Integrating human rights into everyday work
- Supporting lasting human rights capacity

**Leaders, managers and commanders are responsible for knowing UN policies on human rights in peacekeeping.** It's their job to make sure all peacekeeping personnel:

- Recognize human rights violations and abuses
- Respond correctly – at a minimum, report

Conduct of peacekeeping personnel must follow human rights standards.

## Human Rights in Peacekeeping Operations

### Slide 9



**Key Message:** The Human Rights component of a mission advice and coordinates on human rights. The human rights unit is part of a mission's civilian component.

The Head of the Human Rights component advises the HOM. The component head represents the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the mission area. S/he reports to the HOM and the High Commissioner.

#### Core tasks of the human rights component are:

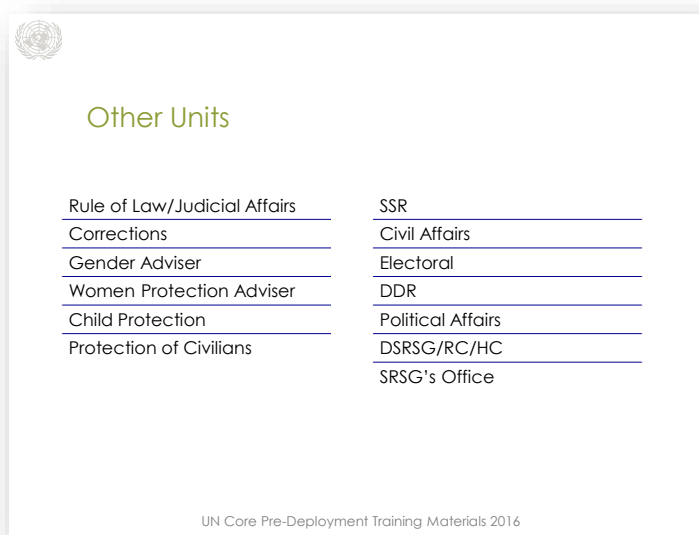
- **Monitor and investigate human rights violations and abuses**
- **Produce internal and public reports on human rights issues and activities**
  - Internal reports: for distribution and use only by the Human Rights Component, the peacekeeping operation or OHCHR
  - Public reports: shared with the public – host society, international partners and the media
- **Advocate and intervene on human rights issues** – from quiet diplomacy to public condemnation
- **Strengthen capacity of Government, civil society and national human rights institutions to protect human rights**
- **Coordinate human rights work, help integrate it** into core identity of the peacekeeping operation, UN Country Team (UNCT) and Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)

Human Rights officers carry out the mission's human rights mandate. They work with others to mainstream human rights.

Human rights teams on the ground work closely with other civilian and uniformed components. Priority partnerships are on:

- POC
- CRSV
- Violations against children
- Legal and judicial reform
- Security sector reform (SSR)
- Prison system reform

## Slide 10



**Key Message:** All parts of a mission contribute to human rights protection through daily tasks.

Some civilian offices work closely with the human rights component and integrate human rights in specifics of their work.

- **Rule of Law/Judicial:** Rule of Law/Judicial Affairs units help develop rule of law strategies and reform the justice system. Judicial affairs officers advise and train people in the national justice system and monitor justice developments. Rule of law makes enjoyment of human rights possible. It prevents violations and discrimination in the justice system and combats impunity.
- **Corrections:** The Corrections office deals with the prison system. They advise on policy and procedures to make things work better. These must be in line with international human rights standards on detention. Tasks include:
  - Rehabilitation of cells and prisons
  - Coaching and mentoring national corrections officers, including on proper treatment for detainees
  - Coordination with Human Rights components to monitor places of detention

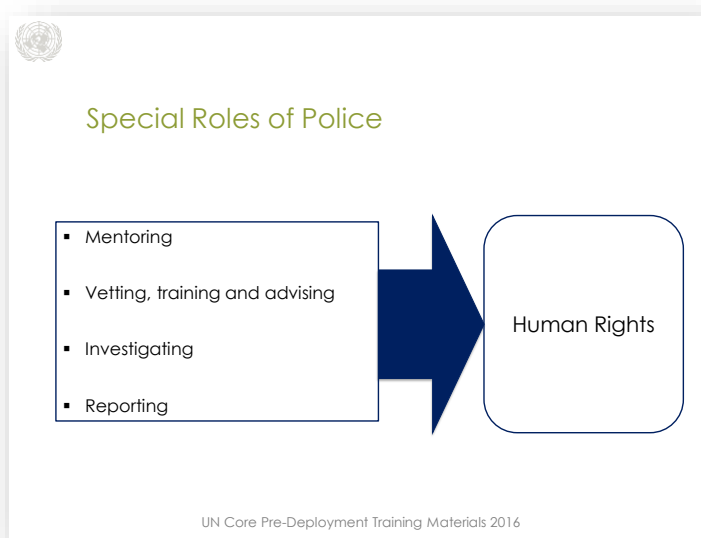
- **Gender Advisor:** Gender advisory teams support laws, policies, institutions and practices that safeguard equal rights of women and girls. They work with national partners to implement human rights treaties, fight discrimination and strengthen women's participation in society.
- **Women Protection Advisor:** This office dedicates capacity in peace missions to address CRSV.
- **Child Protection:** This unit identifies protection needs of children. It focuses on human rights challenges including children affected by armed conflict, sexual abuse, abductions, trafficking and child labour. Child protection officers monitor and report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, an international human rights instrument.
- **POC:** The POC office supports efforts to integrate POC across the work of the mission and national counterparts.

Other civilian units contribute to human rights protection in peacekeeping.

- **Security Sector Reform (SSR):** Peacekeeping mission units that support SSR ensure that reforms reflect human rights norms and principles. Human rights are to be part of core training for new military forces and police services. Human rights are also part of SSR strategies that vet new forces and make security institutions accountable.
- **Civil Affairs:** Civil Affairs officers work with civil officials and public administrators. All advising and training of civilian officials must cover human rights principles and how these apply to running a state.
- **Electoral:** The right to vote and the right to be elected are two basic political rights. Electoral units ensure that people understand the electoral process and can register and vote without interference or discrimination. Special measures may help illiterate people claim electoral rights.
- **Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR):** DDR teams ensure that children and women get special protection during demobilization of military forces and armed groups. Children and women associated with armed forces, and female ex-combatants, get specific support in DDR programmes.
- **Political Affairs:** These units watch political developments in a country and advise mission leadership. They negotiate or renegotiate agreements between parties in conflict. In that critical role, they support inclusion of human rights. Political affairs officers work with human rights partners to prevent violations, using information they gather on potential disputes and conflicts.
- **The SRSG's Office:** The SRSG's/HOM's responsibilities include:
  - Upholding human rights in mandate implementation
  - Giving prominence to human rights in discussions and policy
  - Being a role model on human rights
  - Consistently showing the UN's and mission's commitment to human rights
  - Promoting human rights, protecting people from violations and abuses ensuring a timely mission response when they occur
- **DSRSG/RC/HC:** A DSRSG may be "triple-hatted". This means that the UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator roles are added to the DSRSG role (DSRSG/RC/HC). The **Humanitarian Coordinator (HC)** is responsible for managing UN humanitarian operations in a country.



## Slide 11



**Key Message:** Ensuring respect for human rights is central to UN Police work in peacekeeping.

The mandate of UN Police (UNPOL) is different for each mission.

- In some missions, UNPOL mentors the host country police services
- In more complex missions, mandates for UN Police cover training, advising and helping to establish and enhance host country police services
- Rarely, UN Police are responsible for law enforcement and policing

Across all areas of work, in all aspects of their work, the police must ensure compliance with international human rights standards. Four areas require different specifics.

- **Mentoring:** The Security Council often mandates UNPOL to mentor national police. Daily contact strengthens capacity to:
  - Arrest and detain: make sure arrests are legal, rights of arrested people are respected and detainees are registered and treated humanely
  - Ensure conditions of detention in police holding cells comply with UN minimum standards
  - Investigate and interrogate following legitimate purposes and respecting standard procedures
- **Vetting, training and advising:** This important role is part of SSR. UNPOL may help with vetting, training and advising a new or restructured local police service. These are perfect opportunities to make sure core training covers human rights, and all members of a new police force understand and can apply human rights principles. Human rights officers often work with UNPOL to train local police services on human rights and advise on vetting procedures.
- **Investigating:** Human rights teams may call on UNPOL expertise when investigating serious human rights violations. In some missions, UNPOL officers have been seconded to staff investigative teams in Human Rights components.

- **Reporting:** UNPOL usually works beside national police through the host country. The UN expects them and military peacekeepers to be the mission's "eyes and ears" on human rights. Peacekeeping personnel need to document all suspected human rights violations. Then they need to report to the human rights components and others with an interest (child protection, gender advisory team) for analysis and follow up.

## Slide 12



**Key Message:** Military peacekeeping personnel contribute in key ways to a mission's human rights mandate.

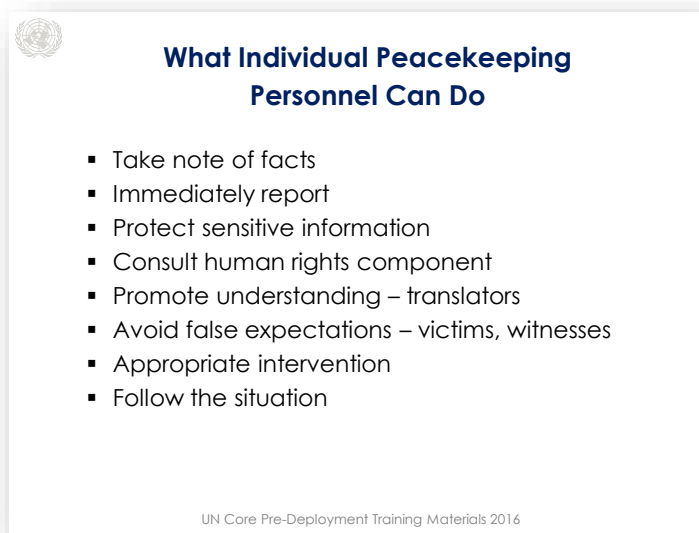
- **Safe environment:** military peacekeeping personnel provide a safe and secure environment, which constitutes an important factor to deter human rights violations and/or abuses. They patrol, control borders, set up checkpoints and cordons close to refugee/IDP (Internal Displaced Persons) camps.
- **Protection of Civilians:** in most peacekeeping missions military personnel are mandated to provide protection to civilians under threat of physical violence by using military force.
- **Human rights monitoring and reporting:** often larger than other components, with a wide operational presence, military peacekeeping personnel can observe and monitor armed groups and civilians. They can gather important information about human rights and note activity that can lead to violations. Human rights components analyse and respond to reports they receive from the military.
- **Supporting partners:** military peacekeeping personnel provide escorts, e.g. to humanitarian convoys, and share information with partners including human rights officers. They discuss challenges specific to an area, plan and make joint visits.
- **Reach and influence:** military peacekeeping personnel are in contact with different regular and irregular armed groups. They can take up human rights

issues with their counterparts, including local senior military personnel and leaders of armed groups. In some cases, they may have a direct role in training and reforming local armed forces. They can be role models for local armed forces, showing how law-abiding military personnel respect human rights of people they protect.

- **Reinforcement of mission credibility:** Military peacekeeping personnel help maintain credibility of a peacekeeping operation with local people and the international community. This contribution is enhanced when they protect human rights, prevent violations and set a standard for military conduct.

## What Individual Peacekeeping Personnel Can Do

### Slide 14



**Key Message:** If peacekeeping personnel see a human rights violation or abuse, they are to take action within their capabilities and limitations

Guidelines may include:

- **Make an appropriate intervention to stop violations or abuses, where the situation and mission mandate allow.** The type of intervention depends on your role and mission mandate. Military personnel may take direct military action to protect lives of civilians. UNPOL may intervene through police authorities. Always coordinate action with the human rights component. Human rights work is complex and sensitive. Maximum care is essential so peacekeeping personnel help instead of harm victims of human rights violations.
- **Take note of the facts,** if appropriate, take a picture, being sensitive to risk. Prepare a report following mission procedures. State the facts in the order you observed them. Include the date, time and place of the incident, name and position of the perpetrator, names and addresses of any witnesses and any other important details. List the specific articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that have been violated.
- **Immediately report through the chain of command or management structure and to the human rights component.** Always keep human rights offices and other relevant components informed about human rights problems.
- **Make sure that sensitive information** on identity of victims, witnesses or sources is not unduly disclosed. This applies to gathering information and reporting.

Revealing sensitive information can endanger safety and compromise confidentiality.

- **Always consult with the human rights component** on these issues.
- **If working with local translators, ensure their integrity and understanding about human rights**, plus basic skills in interviewing on difficult topics.
- **Avoid raising false expectations** with victims and witnesses. Be frank and consistent when explaining mandate and limits.
- **Continue to follow the situation.**

## Summary

### Human rights violations or abuses

- When duty bearers ignore or act in ways that undermine people's human rights, they fail as duty-bearers. They violate human rights, or commit human rights violations. Anyone in an official state capacity is a “duty-bearer” – police officers, soldiers, judges, local officials, government representatives.
- The term “human rights abuse” is broader than “human rights violation”. Human rights abuses are infringements of rights by non-state actors: rebel groups, militias, corporations or individuals against each other.

### UN policies on human rights relevant to peacekeeping

- UN Policy on Human Rights in United Nations Peace Operations and Political Missions (2011) provides guidance on how human rights shall be integrated into the activities of UN peace operations.
- UN Policy on Human Rights Screening of UN Personnel (2012) ensures that only individuals with the highest integrity serve with the UN, including respect for and commitment to human rights.
- The Due Diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces (2011) sets out measures that all UN entities must take in order to ensure that any support that they may provide to non-UN forces is consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the UN.

### Human rights-related roles in a mission

- Some civilian offices that work most closely with the human rights component in a mission are: rule of law or judicial affairs, corrections, gender, child protection, protection of civilians and women protection advisors.

### Coordination role of the human rights component

- The Human Rights component of the mission leads and coordinates the human rights work of the mission. Some of the core functions of the human rights component are:
  - Active monitoring and investigating of human rights violations and abuses
  - Producing internal and public reports on human rights issues and activities
  - Advocacy and intervention on human rights issues, which can range from quiet diplomacy to public condemnation
  - Strengthening the capacity of local actors (government, civil society,

national human rights institutions, etc.) to protect human rights

**Actions to take**

- If the situation and mandate allow, decide on and make an appropriate intervention to stop violations or abuses
- Continue to follow the situation

## Learning Activities

Detailed instructions for each learning activity may be found below. Here is an overview of learning activities for the instructor to choose from:

Number	Name	Methods	Time
2.3.1	Human Rights – the Basics	Review – Brainstorm	10 minutes
2.3.2	Human Rights “At Risk”	Brainstorm	15 minutes
2.3.3	How Human Rights Violations Occur	Discussion in plenary	15 minutes



## 2.3.1 Human Rights – the Basics

### Method

Review – brainstorm

### Purpose

To refresh recent learning and reinforce basics on human rights before covering detail on human rights and peacekeeping

### Time

10 – 15 minutes

### Preparation

- Reflect on Module 1 and specific places that covered human rights. Do the same with Lesson 2.1. See notes annexed to this learning activity. Highlight the points you want to reinforce with the group. Prepare a flip-chart with the relevant key words, to be a wall graphic through coverage of Modules 2 and 3. (Examples: references in the UN Charter and UDHR).
- Prepare a flip-chart sheet, whiteboard or blackboard to note key points brainstormed by the group.

### Instructions

1. Introduce the activity. Remind participants that human rights was an important theme through the first module. A review or recap will be useful before going into detail on protection of human rights.
2. Ask participants to brainstorm the *most important points about human rights* they remember from Module 1. Note points made, in an organized way (matching the flip-chart of key points you prepared.) With little time, do the exercise with the whole group. With more time, consider getting table groups to brainstorm before sharing.
3. Close the activity. Note that concepts introduced to this point are building blocks for the rest of CPTM 2015. Encourage participants to continue to review them.
4. Post the results from the brainstorming, and the flip-chart with key points on human rights, for reference in the next activity.

### Variations:

- Assign lessons from Module 1 and Lesson 2.1 to different groups. Assign review of the lesson as homework. Get each group to identify basic points

- about human rights and brief the rest of the group. Consider dividing the lessons with many related points between two groups.
- With experienced groups, base the brainstorm on *What new information did you learn about human rights so far?* Use the prepared list of key points to recap important information.

## **Support for Learning Activity 2.3.1 Human Rights – the Basics**

### **References to human rights in Module 1**

#### **1.1 United Nations Peacekeeping**

- Human rights abuses are one consequence of violent conflict (brainstorm).
- Part of the UN purpose as in the UN Charter is to promote and courage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Charter commits all Member States to promote, respect and follow human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.
- Specialised agencies, funds and programmes in the UN cover development, humanitarian and human rights.
- Security Council resolutions address human rights of women and children, groups usually most affected by conflict.

#### **1.2 Peace and Security Activities**

- Peacekeeping links to the UN's other security, development, humanitarian and human rights work.
- Examples of conflict prevention measures (Maldives) refers to coordinated messaging of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in good offices work by Department of Political Affairs.
- Examples of peacebuilding activities include supporting national human rights institutions.
- Human rights monitoring is a task assigned to a multidimensional peacekeeping operation by the Security Council.
- All components play important roles in early peacebuilding efforts. This includes security sector reform strengthening state ability to provide security with full respect for human rights.

#### **1.4 Legal Framework for UN Peacekeeping**

- Peacekeepers must not violate human rights or international humanitarian law.
- International human rights law protects human rights, one part of the rules and laws that govern UN peacekeeping operations.
- IHRL explicitly covers human rights of vulnerable groups. Vulnerable groups include women, children, refugees, internationally displaced persons, detainees, persons with disabilities, migrant workers, and the elderly.
- Mandates of UN peacekeeping operations include "to promote and protect human rights."

- Respecting and following international laws including on human rights has positive effects on peace.
- Human rights are universal and indivisible. No-one can take them away.
- The cornerstone of IHRL is the International Bill of Human Rights, with three parts: 1) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 2) Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; 3. Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- Examples of civil and political rights are rights to: life, freedom from torture, protection from discrimination, freedom of expression, a fair trial, not be enslaved.
- Examples of economic, social and cultural rights are rights to: join a trade union, education, food, housing and medical care, social security and work, equal pay for equal work.
- Other human rights treaties supplement the International Bill of Human Rights. They focus on specialized areas such as prevention of genocide, torture, protection of vulnerable groups, elimination of discrimination.

### **1.5 Security Council Mandates**

- Strategic Assessment brings together UN political, security, development, humanitarian and human rights entities.
- Technical Assessment Mission analyses and assesses circumstances on the ground – overall security, political, humanitarian, human rights and military.
- Rules of Engagement (ROE) and Directive on the Use of Force (DUF) must comply with international humanitarian and human rights law.
- Key benchmarks or indicators of peacekeeping success include
  - a) absence of violent conflict and large-scale abuses of human rights;
  - b) ability of national armed forces and police to provide security and maintain public order with civilian oversight and respect for human rights.
- The Liberian example of benchmarks for withdrawal included progress on the rule of law including protection and promotion of human rights.

### **1.6 How Peacekeeping Operations Work**

- The Senior Management Group exists in multidimensional missions. It usually includes the Mission Leadership Team and heads of civilian components: political affairs, human rights and public information.

### 1.7 Working as One in the Mission

- Military component has two main responsibilities, second being to strengthen the State's ability to provide security with full respect for rule of law and human rights.
- The military enables implementation of peace agreements, including human rights monitoring.
- Joint Protection Teams (JPTs) include staff from the Human Rights office as well as Civil Affairs, military and police, and several civilian units (DDR, Political affairs, JMAC, Gender units).
- Police collaborate closely with other components including human rights, and contribute support to mission mandates of protecting and promoting human rights.
- The Human Rights unit is a substantive civilian component. It protects human rights, empowers people to claim their human rights, and enables state institutions to fulfil related responsibilities.
- The Corrections unit builds capacity of national staff to manage a prison system, to international standards which include free of human rights violations.

### 1.8 Working with Mission Partners

- War occurs because of failure to attend to human needs, and lack of respect for human rights.

### Mandated Tasks of UN Peacekeeping Operations

*Points made above from Module 1 that appear in this lesson are not repeated.*

- Critical peacebuilding tasks mandated by the Security Council include protection and promotion of human rights.
- Grave human rights violations that occur during a conflict complicate efforts to achieve national reconciliation.
- Security Sector Reform is critical to addressing impunity for violations and abuses of human rights.
- The Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is an important part of the UN system.
- Rule of law promotes governance that is consistent with international human rights laws and standards. The host country is responsible for strong human rights institutions.
- Member States provide development assistance to recipient countries including on human rights.

- Human rights specialists in the human rights unit provide: a) information on human rights conditions in a country, and b) inputs on human rights principles and standards for police training curricula.
- Military and UNPOL help ensure that basic human rights are protected. During elections, particularly important ones are freedom of expression, and the right of association for peaceful demonstration.
- Poverty undermines human rights. Impact spans:
  - a) economic - the right to work and have an adequate income,
  - b) social - access to health care and education,
  - c) political - freedom of thought, expression and association,
  - d) cultural - to maintain one's cultural identity and be involved in a community's cultural life.

## 2.3.2 Human Rights “At Risk”

### Method

Brainstorming and group discussion

### Purpose

To identify human rights frequently at risk in conflict, ones that require urgent attention by peacekeepers

To familiarize participants who know the mission of deployment with key human rights issues in the host country

### Time

15 minutes

### Preparation

- **Mission of deployment known:** use the most recent human rights report from the UN Secretary-General and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has reports on human rights in peacekeeping at <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/Pages/PeaceMissionsIndex.aspx>. That page also has a link to details on the work of individual human rights components of UN peace missions. Source is the OHCHR Management Plan 2014-2017 ([OHCHR Management Plan 2014-2017](#)).
- Prepare flip-charts sheets, blackboard or white board to note points from brainstorming.

### Instructions

1. Introduce the activity. Note that it builds on results of Learning Activity 2.2.1 Human Rights – the Basics. This exercise narrows the focus from general human rights to ones important to peacekeepers.
2. Get participants to brainstorm some examples of how conflict may affect human rights. Refer to the posted results from brainstorming on the effects of violent conflict.
3. Note points as participants make them.
4. Half-way through available time, ask which human rights listed are most at risk in conflict and post-conflict situations. Use a coloured pen to underline or circle these. See if group members agree.

5. Using participants' examples, expand or explain definitions of key human rights. See supporting notes annexed.
6. Close the activity, moving into the lesson.

### **Variations**

- Where participants know the mission of deployment, hand out excerpts from relevant human rights reports the day before the exercise. Get table groups or the full group to brainstorm human rights of priority concern in the Host country.



## Support for Learning Activity 2.3.2 Human Rights at Risk

### Definitions of key human rights at risk in conflict or post-conflict contexts

\*\* selected examples, not complete lists of each type of right

#### CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

##### Right to life

- the State is obliged to protect people from arbitrary or random killings
- this includes by state officials or due to war, genocide or mass violence
- the State has a special duty to prevent death of persons under arrest
- a person under 18 years of age may not be sentenced to death

##### Right to be free from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment

- torture is defined as:
  - a) acts of public officials that
  - b) intentionally inflict severe physical or mental pain or suffering
  - c) in order to fulfill a certain purpose such as
  - d) the extortion of information or a confession or
  - e) punishment or intimidation of a person.

##### Right not to be enslaved

- international human rights law forbids slavery
- slavery is any act related to acquiring, exchanging, trading or selling another person

##### Right to be protected from arbitrary arrest and detention

- public officials may not confine anyone in a prison or detention center without a valid and legal reason
- such acts are arbitrary when they:
  - a) are *not based on law*,
  - b) *fail to respect legal procedures*,
  - c) are *discriminatory or without fair cause*.

### **Right to a fair trial – due process of law**

- “due process of law” means that a person accused of a crime has the right to trial in court with minimum guarantees

### **Right not to be trafficked**

- Prohibitions on human trafficking cover
  - a) threat,
  - b) use of force,
  - c) coercion,
  - d) abduction,
  - e) fraud
  - f) deception, or
  - g) abuse of power to recruit, transport, or harbour people to exploit them

### **Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion**

- worship, observe, practice and teach the religion or belief of choice

### **Right to freedom of expression**

- the freedom to seek, give and receive information and ideas

### **Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association**

- come together to collectively express, promote and defend shared ideas
- prepare, conduct or take part in a peaceful assembly or demonstration

## **ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS**

### **Right to food**

- enough food to sustain a person

### **Right to water**

- water for life

### **Right to housing**

- housing or shelter

### **Right to education**

- often disrupted during conflict

### **Right to health**

- compromised during conflict

### **COVERED IN BOTH INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS – Civil and Political Rights; Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

### **Right to be free from discrimination**

- enshrines the principle of equality for all human beings
- recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and both covenants – throughout the International Bill for Human Rights
- particularly relevant for groups historically discriminated against and vulnerable, often a root cause of violent conflict
- specifics expanded in other international treaties – on racial discrimination, discrimination against women, discrimination against people with disabilities

**Prohibition of violence against women** (defined as all forms of physical, sexual and psychological violence whether occurring in the community, in the family (domestic violence), or committed by public officials).

### 2.3.3 How Human Rights Violations Occur

#### Method

Group work (table or full group)

#### Purpose

Explore two main ways that human rights violations occur, with examples

#### Time

15 – 20 minutes

Introduce activity	2 minutes
Table groups	8 minutes
Reports	4 – 6 minutes
Close	2 minutes

#### Preparation

- Post results from brainstorming on human rights to this point. Make sure they are visible to all. Consider a) preparing a slide with brainstorming results so you can project them, b) preparing a handout with results of brainstorming to hand out to table groups.
- Prepare a flip-chart sheet or slide with two columns and use these headings:
  - Deliberate Actions Against Human Rights
  - Nothing/Too Little Done to Avoid Violations

#### Instructions

1. Introduce the activity. Explain that human rights violations happen in two main ways – deliberate violations, and not doing enough to avoid violations ("omission"). Officials, state institutions, members of a rebel group, or corporations may be responsible.
2. Task table groups to organize human rights violations identified so far into one of the two columns.
3. For report-back, invite a group to identify one example and move to the next group. Note the points made, in the correct column. Continue rounds of table groups with single points until groups are done. Prompt the full group to add more examples – see support below.

#### Variations

- Do the exercise with the full group.
- With a small training group, get participants to write examples on post-it notes and place them in the correct column.

### **Support for Learning Activity 2.3.3 How Human Rights Violations Occur**

#### **Deliberate actions that result in a human rights violation**

- Arrest or detention by a police officer without an arrest warrant or reasonable cause
- Torture of a detainee while in police or military custody
- Rape and sexual violence by soldiers
- Bribe-taking by a judge
- Keeping villagers in jail until they pay their debts
- Open fire against peaceful demonstrators without cause, by police or military

#### **Human rights violations that occur because of a lack of action or omission**

- Not taking immediate action to provide basic rights and services such as food, water, and adequate shelter to a group of IDPs – a failure by State or Government
- Not taking measures to enable girls to attend the same schools as boys - a failure by a Ministry of Education

## Evaluation

**Notes on Use:** Types of learning evaluation questions are:

- 1) Narrative
- 2) Fill in the blank/sentence completion
- 3) True-False

Combine in different ways for pre-assessment and post-assessment. Each evaluation type covers different content. No sub-set covers all learning outcomes. Make sure you include learning evaluation questions for each learning outcome when you combine them.

Three main uses of evaluation questions are: a) informally ask the whole group, b) semi-formally assign to small groups or c) formally give to individuals for written responses.

Other suggestions for evaluating learning follow the table.

Evaluation Questions for Lesson 2.3	
Questions	Answers
<b>Narrative</b> <i>Note: Frame narrative evaluations as questions, requests or directions</i>	
1. Explain how human rights are part of multi-dimensional peacekeeping.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• human rights are a core pillar of the UN – protecting and promoting them are essential in all UN work</li> <li>• the UN Charter commits to promoting universal respect for human rights</li> <li>• peace operations, design, plans and structures integrate human rights</li> <li>• SC mandates direct peacekeeping operations to:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) monitor human rights violations, and</li> <li>b) strengthen national capacity to do so</li> </ol> </li> <li>• the UN holds all peacekeepers responsible for upholding, protecting and promoting human rights through the work</li> </ul>
2. The UN protects and promotes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prevents conflicts</li> </ul>

human rights in peacekeeping because success depends on it. Give three specific ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• achieves and keeps peace</li> <li>• helps a country and people recover after conflict</li> </ul>
3. The Security Council directs most multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations to do what on human rights?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. monitor and help investigate human rights violations (observe, report)</li> <li>2. develop related capacity of national actors and institutions (national capacity)</li> </ol> <p>People may say “protect and promote”. Probe for specifics that relate to two parallel themes in mandates.</p> <p>Later in the lesson, and in a question below, the two themes are expanded to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. take immediate and long-term action to protect and promote human rights</li> <li>2. help people know, assert and claim their human rights</li> <li>3. help State institutions and personnel do their duty on human rights</li> </ol>
4. What connections exist between development, security and human rights?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they depend on each other</li> <li>• one can't exist without the others</li> <li>• human rights underpins security and development</li> </ul>
5. Promoting and protecting human rights involves a relationship between two parties: use human rights language to name the two parts of that relationship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rights-holders</li> <li>• duty-bearers</li> </ul> <p>People are rights-holders. Representatives of the state are duty-bearers.</p>
6. The UN does not approve, recognize or support three types of international crimes that involve human rights. Name them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• amnesties for war crimes</li> <li>• crimes against humanity</li> <li>• grave violations of human rights or international humanitarian law</li> </ul>
7. Explain and give examples of a “duty-bearer” on human rights.	<p>A duty-bearer is anyone in an official state capacity, embodying the state duty to uphold all citizens' human rights. Examples are: soldiers, police officers, judges, local officials, government representatives.</p>

<p>8. Duty-bearers can fail to uphold people's rights in two ways. Explain and give examples of each.</p>	<p>Duty-bearers can <i>act</i> in ways that violate rights, or they can <i>neglect</i> or <i>ignore</i> rights.</p> <p><b>Deliberate actions that result in violations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrest or detention by a police officer without a warrant or reasonable cause</li> <li>• Torture of a detainee in police or military custody</li> <li>• Rape of women and girls by soldiers</li> <li>• Bribe-taking by judges, jailing villagers until they pay debts</li> <li>• Opening fire on peaceful demonstrators without cause, by police or military</li> </ul> <p><b>Lack of action that results in violations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Government failing to provide basic services to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): food, water, adequate shelter</li> <li>• A local Ministry of Education representative not taking measures so girls attend school</li> </ul>
<p>9. What are the four other cross-cutting thematic tasks linked to human rights?</p>	<p>Protection of civilians (POC) Addressing conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) Protection of children Protection of women's rights through the women peace and security agenda (WPS)</p>
<p>10. Describe the Human Rights Council and its work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• inter-governmental body</li> <li>• 47 UN Member States</li> <li>• elected by the UN General Assembly</li> <li>• meets in UN offices in Geneva</li> <li>• strengthens promotion and protection of human rights</li> <li>• addresses and recommends action on human rights violations</li> </ul>
<p>11. Who has authority to investigate cases of reported human rights violations and issue reports?</p>	<p>The High Commissioner for Human Rights, the head of OHCHR.</p>
<p>12. What are three main parts of the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN Charter</li> </ul>



international legal framework for human rights?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International human rights law</li> <li>• Security Council Mandates</li> </ul>
13. Security Council mandates direct UN peacekeeping operations in three specific areas on human rights. Name them.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. take immediate and long-term action to protect and promote human rights</li> <li>2. help people know, assert and claim their human rights</li> <li>3. help State institutions and personnel do their duty on human rights</li> </ol>
14. Explain the connection between human rights and protection of civilians in peacekeeping mandates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Security Council Resolution 1894 (2009) on protection of civilian in armed conflict <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- affirms priority of protection work</li> <li>- emphasizes importance of comprehensive protection strategies, with accountability for human rights violations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• effective implementation of a POC mandate depends on timely, well-resourced human rights monitoring, advocacy and reporting</li> </ul>
15. Four UN policies guide human rights work in peacekeeping. Name and note year approved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Human Rights Up Front</i> 2012</li> <li>• <i>UN Policy on Human Rights in United Nations Peace Operations and Political Missions</i> 2011</li> <li>• <i>UN Policy on Human Rights Screening of UN Personnel</i> 2012</li> <li>• <i>Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on United Nations Support to non-United Nations Security Forces</i> 2011</li> </ul> <p>Policy names don't have to be fully accurate, but they should capture key words.</p>
16. In what two ways does <i>Human Rights Up Front</i> stress early and effective action to prevent and respond to large-scale violations of human rights or humanitarian law?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• human rights and protection of civilians need to be seen as core responsibility, across the UN</li> <li>• complex risks to people and Member States need every part of the UN system working</li> </ul>

	<p>together HRuF reinvigorates principles in the UN Charter, international law and many resolutions.</p>
17. Which four parts of the UN issued the <i>UN Policy on Human Rights in UN Peace Operations and Political Missions</i> , in 2011?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPKO</li> <li>• DPA</li> <li>• DFS</li> <li>• OHCHR</li> </ul> <p>The policy covers peacekeeping. The UN entities that issued it are ones with direct responsibilities for peacekeeping and human rights.</p>
18. The <i>UN Policy on Human Rights in UN Peace Operations and Political Missions (2011)</i> assigns two key responsibilities to all peacekeepers. Name them.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. understand and follow international law, especially on human rights</li> <li>2. respect, promote and protect human rights</li> </ol> <p>This extended and integrated responsibility means the work is not just the job of senior leadership or a human rights unit – all peacekeepers share it.</p>
19. What three specifics does the <i>UN Policy on Human Rights Screening of UN Personnel</i> cover?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Member States nominating or sending personnel to the UN are to screen them and certify none have committed crimes or violated international law</li> <li>b) Individuals who seek to serve with the UN are asked to confirm they have not committed crimes or violated international law</li> <li>c) The UN Secretariat manages an information exchange to screen candidates and nominees on human rights conduct</li> </ol>
20. What does it mean for the UN to direct a progressive stance on human rights?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• protecting and promoting human rights is everyone's responsibility</li> <li>• all peacekeepers need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- understand human rights and know human rights law</li> <li>- integrate human rights into everyday work</li> <li>- recognize human rights violations and abuses, and respond, report</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- support lasting human rights capacity of national partners including local people</li> </ul>
21. Who is responsible for ensuring all staff know UN policies on human rights in peacekeeping?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• leaders, managers, commanders</li> <li>• HOM and mission leadership</li> <li>• staff themselves</li> </ul> <p>It's a shared responsibility, but the UN holds leaders, managers and commanders responsible.</p>
22. Detail core tasks of the human rights unit in a peacekeeping operation.	<p><b>General:</b> Carry out the mission's human rights mandate, advising the HOM</p> <p><b>Specifics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor and investigate human rights violations and abuses</li> <li>• Produce internal and public reports on human rights issues and activities             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Internal reports: for distribution and use only by the Human Rights unit, the peacekeeping operation or OHCHR</li> <li>- Public reports: shared with the public – host society, international partners, and the media</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Advocate and intervene on human rights issues – from quiet diplomacy to public condemnation</li> <li>• Strengthen capacity of Government, civil society and national human rights institutions to protect human rights</li> <li>• Coordinate human rights work</li> <li>• Help integrate human rights work into the core identity of the operation, UNCT and HCT</li> </ul>
23. Name at least three priority partnerships for a mission's Human Rights unit.	<p><b>Other cross-cutting thematic tasks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• protection of civilians</li> <li>• conflict-related sexual violence</li> <li>• violations against children</li> </ul> <p><b>Rule of law and security sector reform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• legal and judicial reform</li> <li>• security sector reform</li> <li>• prison system reform</li> </ul>

	Try to make sure people name at least one in each group.
<p>24. The following civilian offices work closely with the human rights unit, and integrate human rights into their work. Give examples for each.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rule of Law / Judicial Affairs</li> <li>• Corrections</li> <li>• Gender</li> <li>• Women Protection</li> <li>• Child Protection</li> <li>• Protection of Civilians</li> </ul>	<p><b>Rule of Law/Judicial Affairs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• help develop rule of law strategies and reform the justice system</li> <li>• officers advise and train people in the national justice system and monitor justice developments</li> <li>• rule of law:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- makes enjoyment of human rights possible</li> <li>- prevents violations and discrimination in the justice system</li> <li>- combats impunity</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Corrections</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deal with the prison system</li> <li>• advise on policy and procedures to make things work better</li> <li>• must be in line with international human rights standards on detention</li> <li>• tasks include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- rehabilitation of cells and prisons</li> <li>- coaching and mentoring national corrections officers, including on proper treatment for detainees</li> <li>- coordination with Human Rights units to monitor places of detention</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Gender Advisor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support laws, policies, institutions and practices that safeguard equal rights of women and girls</li> <li>• work with national partners to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- implement human rights treaties</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- fight discrimination</li> <li>- strengthen women's participation in society</li> </ul> <p><b>Women Protection Advisor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dedicates capacity in peace missions to address conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), serious human rights violation</li> </ul> <p><b>Child Protection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identifies protection needs of children</li> <li>• focuses on human rights challenges including children affected by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- armed conflict</li> <li>- sexual abuse</li> <li>- abductions</li> <li>- trafficking</li> <li>- child labour</li> </ul> </li> <li>• monitor and report on Convention on the Rights of the Child, international human rights instrument</li> </ul> <p><b>Protection of Civilians</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supports efforts to integrate protection of civilians across the work of mission and national counterparts</li> </ul>
<p>25. The following civilian units contribute to human rights protection in peacekeeping. Give examples for each.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSR</li> <li>• Civil Affairs</li> <li>• Electoral</li> <li>• DDR</li> <li>• Political Affairs</li> <li>• SRSG's Office</li> <li>• DSRSG/RC/HC's Office</li> </ul>	<p><b>Security Sector Reform (SSR)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure reforms reflect human rights norms and principles</li> <li>• human rights are to be part of core training for new military forces and police services</li> <li>• human rights are also part of SSR strategies that vet new forces and make security institutions accountable</li> </ul> <p><b>Civil Affairs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• work with civil officials and public</li> </ul>

	<p>administrators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all advising and training of civilian officials must cover human rights principles, how these apply to running a State</li> </ul> <p><b>Electoral</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure that people understand the electoral process, can register and vote without interference or discrimination</li> <li>• special measures may help illiterate people claim electoral rights</li> </ul> <p><b>Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure that children and women get special protection during demobilisation of military forces and armed groups</li> <li>• ensure children and women associated with armed forces, and female ex-combatants, get specific support in DDR programmes</li> </ul> <p><b>Political Affairs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• watch political developments in a country and advise mission leadership</li> <li>• negotiate or renegotiate agreements between parties in conflict</li> <li>• in that critical role, support inclusion of human rights</li> <li>• work with human rights partners to prevent violations, using information they gather on potential disputes and conflicts</li> </ul> <p><b>SRSB's Office</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• responsibilities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- upholding human rights in mandate implementation</li> <li>- giving prominence to human rights in discussions and policy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- being a role model on human rights</li> <li>- consistently showing the UN's and mission's commitment to human rights</li> <li>- promoting human rights, protecting people from violations and abuses, and ensuring a timely mission response when they occur</li> </ul> <p><b>DSRSG/RC/HC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• may be "triple-hatted", adding UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator roles to DSRSG role</li> <li>• responsible for ensuring human rights are integrating into the functions</li> </ul>
<p>26. What four areas of UN Police work require specific attention to compliance with international human rights standards? Name and give examples.</p>	<p><b>Mentoring:</b> The Security Council often mandates UN Police to mentor national police. Daily contact strengthens capacity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- arrest and detain: make sure arrests are legal, rights of arrested people are respected, detainees are registered and treated humanely</li> <li>- ensure conditions of detention in police holding cells comply with UN minimum standards</li> <li>- investigate and interrogate, following legitimate purposes and respecting standard procedures</li> </ul> <p><b>Vetting, training and advising:</b> This important role is part of security sector reform.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN Police may help with vetting, training and advising a new or restructured local police service</li> <li>• perfect opportunities to make sure core training covers human rights, and all members of a new police</li> </ul>

	<p>force understand and can apply human rights principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>human rights officers often work with UN Police to train local police services on human rights and advise on vetting procedures</li> </ul> <p><b>Investigating:</b> Human rights teams may call on UN Police expertise when investigating serious human rights violations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>in some missions, UNPOL officers have been seconded to staff investigative teams in Human Rights units</li> </ul> <p><b>Reporting:</b> UN Police usually work beside national police through the host country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UN expects UNPOL and military peacekeepers to be mission “eyes and ears” on human rights</li> <li>Peacekeepers need to document all suspected human rights violations</li> <li>Then they need to report to the human rights components and others with an interest (child protection, gender advisory team) for analysis and follow up.</li> </ul>
<p>27. Describe key ways in which military peacekeepers contribute to a mission's human rights mandate.</p>	<p><b>Physical protection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>military peacekeepers provide protection, often armed protection</li> <li>they patrol, control borders, set up checkpoints and cordons close to refugee/IDP camps and in conflict areas</li> <li>peacekeepers' armed presence can be an important deterrent to human rights violations</li> </ul>



	<p><b>Human rights monitoring and reporting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• large components with wide presence, military peacekeepers can observe and monitor armed groups and civilians</li> <li>• they can gather important information about human rights and note activity that can lead to violations</li> <li>• Human rights units analyse and respond to reports they receive from the military.</li> </ul> <p><b>Supporting partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• military peacekeepers provide escorts, e.g. to humanitarian convoys, and share information with partners including human rights officers</li> <li>• they discuss challenges specific to an area, plan and make joint visits</li> </ul> <p><b>Reach and influence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• military peacekeepers are in contact with different regular and irregular armed groups</li> <li>• they can take up human rights issues with their counterparts, including local senior military personnel and leaders of armed groups</li> <li>• they may have a direct role in training and reforming local armed forces</li> <li>• they can be role models for local armed forces, showing how a law-abiding military respects human rights of people they protect</li> </ul> <p><b>Reinforcement of mission credibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• military peacekeepers help maintain credibility of a peacekeeping operation with</li> </ul>
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	<p>local people and the international community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• this contribution is enhanced when they: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- protect human rights</li> <li>- prevent violations</li> <li>- set standards for military conduct</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
28. What are the guidelines to peacekeepers on actions if they see a human rights violation?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Note the facts.</b> Take a picture in urgent situations, being sensitive to risks. Prepare a report.</li> <li>2. <b>Report immediately, up the chain of command.</b> Always keep Human Rights officers informed, other relevant components.</li> <li>3. <b>Protect sensitive information</b> on identity of victims, sources, witnesses. Maintain confidentiality.</li> <li>4. <b>Consult with human rights unit,</b> always.</li> <li>5. <b>Ensure that local translators understand human rights and act professionally.</b></li> <li>6. <b>Avoid raising false expectations</b> with victims and witnesses. Be frank, explain mandate and limits.</li> <li>7. <b>Intervene appropriately to stop abuse, where situation and mission mandate allow.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Military personnel may take direct military action to protect lives of civilians.</li> <li>• UNPOL may intervene through police authorities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>8. <b>Follow the situation.</b> For military, repeat patrols and observation.</li> </ol>
<b>Fill in the Blanks</b>	
1. Peacekeepers must be able to recognize human rights _____, and respond.	Violations, or abuses
2. _____ shares responsibility to protect and promote human rights.	Every peacekeeper Every UN staff person Every person
3. _____ are part of all five of the UN's peace and security tools: conflict prevention, peace-making,	Human rights

peacekeeping, peace enforcement and peacebuilding.	
4. _____ are supposed to protect the human rights of every person.	States – all nation states UN Member States  All Member States of the UN accept the UN Charter and have signed major human rights agreements and conventions.
5. Two types of human rights violations are _____, and _____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action</li> <li>• Failure to act</li> </ul>
6. _____ and _____ define state responsibilities to citizens – they have a duty to uphold people's human rights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• international human rights law</li> <li>• UN policies</li> </ul>
7. Human rights _____ are broader than human rights _____.	Abuses are broader than violations
8. _____ has lead responsibility in the UN for promoting and protecting human rights.	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) People may say the Secretary-General – only in the sense that he has over-all responsibility: on human rights, the General Assembly has assigned lead responsibility to OHCHR.
9. The _____ regularly comments on human rights in the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Commissioner for Human Rights, head of OHCHR</li> <li>• also has authority to investigate cases, issue reports</li> </ul>
10. The goal of _____ is to prevent and respond to large-scale violations of human rights or humanitarian law with early and effective action.	<i>Human Rights Up Front (HRuF)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• human rights and protection of civilians need to be seen as core responsibility, across the UN</li> <li>• complex risks to people and Member States need every part of the UN system working together</li> </ul>
11. Two main policy objectives of the <i>UN Policy on Human Rights in UN Peace Operations and Political Missions (2011)</i> are _____, _____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• address human rights dimensions of conflicts</li> <li>• build a foundation for lasting peace (→strengthening mission and peacekeepers' understanding of international law and shared tasks including respect, promote, protect human rights)</li> </ul>
12. OHCHR provides _____ to the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• expert guidance</li> </ul>

HOM and human rights units in missions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• technical advice</li> <li>• support</li> </ul> OHCHR leads on human rights in the UN and globally.
13. The UN Secretariat manages an information exchange to screen candidates and nominees on ____.	Human rights conduct
14. Before the UN supports a non-UN entity, the Due Diligence Policy requires the UN to ____, ____, ____ and ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assess risks of the entity receiving support committing grave violations of IHL, IHRL or refugee law</li> <li>• be transparent about the UN's legal obligations and principles</li> <li>• put in place a framework with procedures to monitor compliance</li> <li>• take action on grave violations.</li> </ul> The Due Diligence Policy is <i>Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on United Nations Support to non-United Nations Security Forces</i> .
15. The Human Rights unit of a mission ____ and ____ on human rights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• leads</li> <li>• coordinates</li> </ul> They work with others to mainstream human rights.
16. The UN expects ____ and ____ to be a mission's "eyes and ears" on human rights.	UN Police Military component
17. All peacekeepers have a duty to follow international law in ____ and ____ conduct.	Official and personal conduct Work and private life
18. Peacekeepers are to include these points in any report on human rights violation.	The facts, in the order observed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• date</li> <li>• time</li> <li>• place</li> <li>• incident</li> <li>• name of perpetrator</li> <li>• position of perpetrator</li> <li>• names and addresses of any witnesses</li> <li>• any other important details</li> <li>• specific articles of Universal Declaration of Human Rights that have been violated</li> </ul>
<b>True False</b>	
1. Human rights violations and abuse	<b>True</b>

are both a cause and a result of conflict.	
2. Human rights violations are the same as abuses.	<p><b>False</b></p> <p>Those who have an official duty to protect people's human rights commit human rights <u>violations</u> – duty-bearers: police officers, soldiers, judges, local officials, government representatives.</p> <p>Human rights <u>abuses</u> are broader than violations. They are infringements of rights by non-state actors: rebel groups, militias, corporations, or individuals against each other.</p>
3. All peacekeepers are obliged to protect and promote human rights, including for vulnerable groups.	<b>True</b>
4. OHCHR monitors how States comply with international human rights treaties.	<p><b>False</b></p> <p>Different parts of the UN monitor State compliance – e.g. Human Rights Council. OHCHR supports that work.</p>
5. OHCHR supports human rights units of peacekeeping missions in several countries.	<b>True</b>
6. The High Commissioner of Human Rights introduced <i>Human Rights Up Front</i> in 2012.	<p><b>False</b></p> <p>The Secretary-General introduced <i>Human Rights Up Front</i> – stressing the importance the whole UN places on the human rights theme, from the UN Charter and resolutions to current policy.</p>
7. In peacekeeping and political missions, the mission human rights units and OHCHR are responsible for upholding international human rights law.	<p><b>False</b></p> <p>The HOM has that responsibility, in line with the <i>UN Policy on Human Rights in UN Peace Operations and Political Missions 2011</i>.</p> <p>The human rights units or OHCHR help and advise the HOM.</p>
8. Member States who nominate or send personnel to the UN are to screen them, and certify that none have committed crimes or violated international law.	<p><b>True</b></p> <p><i>UN Policy on Human Rights Screening of UN Personnel, 2012</i></p>
9. The <i>Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on UN Support to non-UN Security Forces (2011)</i> covers	<p><b>True</b></p> <p>The policy details what Member States need to do to ensure support to non-UN</p>

international human rights law and international humanitarian law.	forces follows the UN Charter and meets international legal responsibilities.
10. The human rights mandate of a mission is mainly the responsibility of the human rights unit and the HOM.	<b>False</b> All peacekeepers need to know mission mandate including on human rights, and help implement it. All UN policies stress this.
11. The head of a mission's human rights unit represents the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the mission area.	<b>True</b> The person in that post reports to both: a) the HOM b) the High Commissioner. Main role is to advise the HOM.
12. Human rights unit in missions work mainly with other civilian components.	<b>False</b> The Human Rights unit works with all civilian and uniformed components. Missions are to mainstream human rights, integrate it into everyone's work.
13. Each peacekeeping mission sets its own guidelines on how peacekeepers are to respond if they see a human rights violation.	<b>False</b> Guidelines are in the lesson. They apply to all peacekeeping operations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• take note of facts</li> <li>• report</li> <li>• protect sensitive information</li> <li>• consult with human rights unit</li> <li>• ensure professionalism of translators</li> <li>• avoid raising false expectations</li> <li>• intervene to stop abuse, where conditions permit (situation, mission mandate)</li> <li>• follow the situation</li> </ul> Each mission will have specific <i>procedures</i> for peacekeepers to follow, but the <i>guidelines</i> apply broadly.
14. Human rights are a common standard of conduct and achievement.	<b>True</b>

### More ways to evaluate learning

**Evaluation Using Real Examples.** Consider finding and using real examples for evaluating learning of this lesson.

## Commonly Asked Questions and Key Words

Key Words or phrases for this lesson:

Key Word or Phrase	Definition
<b>Human rights violation</b>	International human rights law and UN policies define state responsibilities to citizens. States have a duty to uphold people's human rights. Anyone in an official state capacity is a "duty-bearer" – police officers, soldiers, judges, local officials, government representatives. When duty bearers ignore or act in ways that undermine people's human rights, they fail as duty-bearers. They violate human rights, or commit human rights violations.
<b>Human rights abuse</b>	The term "human rights abuse" is broader than "human rights violation". Human rights abuses are infringements of rights by non-state actors: rebel groups, militias, corporations, or individuals against each other.
<b>Human rights</b>	"Human rights" are rights inherent to all human beings, whatever our nationality, residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status. We are all equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination.

Commonly asked questions from participants:

Possible Questions	Possible Responses
What is the difference between a human rights officer and a humanitarian affairs officer?	<p>A UN human rights officer works to promote and protect human rights in accordance with international human rights law outlined in Module 1. She or he will therefore deal with the human rights of all persons.</p> <p>A humanitarian affairs officer, when part of a UN peacekeeping operation, generally works to support the Humanitarian Coordinator and acts as a liaison between the humanitarian community and the peacekeeping operation to ensure that humanitarian assistance is provided in accordance with international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles. Humanitarian affairs officers work to ensure the rights of civilians, non-combatants, prisoners of war and all categories of persons protected by international humanitarian law.</p>

## Reference Materials

Below are materials which are a) referenced in this lesson, and b) required reading for instructor preparations:

- Charter of the United Nations
- United Nations Peacekeeping Operations Principles and Guidelines (also known as the Capstone Doctrine)
- Review peacekeeping mission mandates
- 1949 The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols  
<https://www.icrc.org/eng/war-and-law/treaties-customary-law/geneva-conventions/overview-geneva-conventions.htm>
- International Bill of Human Rights  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/InternationalLaw.aspx>
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
<http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>
- Human Rights Up Front (HRuF) Initiative
- UN Policy on Human Rights in United Nations Peace Operations and Political Missions, 2011
- UN Policy on Human Rights Screening of UN Personnel, 2012
- The Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on United Nations Support to non-United Nations Security Forces, 2011

## Additional Resources

### UN Information

The website for UN peacekeeping: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/>

Original Security Council Resolutions on peacekeeping mission mandates:

<http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/resolutions/>

(You must know the start year, country and resolution reference details for the mission you wish to search for. For this information, identify the name of the mission using the following links: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/current.shtml>; <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/past.shtml> )

### UN Documents

UN documents can be found on: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/index.html>  
(Search by document symbol, e.g. A/63/100)



## **DPKO and DFS Guidance**

The repository for all official DPKO and DFS guidance is the Policy and Practice Database: [ppdb.un.org](http://ppdb.un.org) (only accessible from the UN network). Official peacekeeping guidance documents are also accessible through the Peacekeeping Resource Hub: <http://research.un.org/en/peacekeeping-community>  
Instructors are encouraged to check for the latest guidance.

## **UN Films**

UN films can be found on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/unitednations>

## **Additional Information**

Human rights information on the situation in a country from the website of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR):  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/Pages/HumanRightsintheWorld.aspx>

Latest human rights reports issued by the UN Secretary-General, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and to identify key human rights violations:  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/Pages/PeaceMissionsIndex.aspx>  
(Click on the appropriate link for countries with peace operations).

Country-specific information on the international humanitarian response:  
<http://www.reliefweb.int>

OHCHR, The Core International Human Rights Treaties:  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/PublicationsResources/Pages/ReferenceMaterial.aspx>

OHCHR, New Core International Human Rights Treaties:  
<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/newCoreTreatiesen.pdf>

The PIP provides information on the mission and the local context:  
<http://peacekeepingresourcehub.unlb.org>

## **Additional Training Resources**

For additional information or support on human rights aspects of this lesson, instructors can contact the Methodology, Education and Training Unit of the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva at [Metu@ohchr.org](mailto:Metu@ohchr.org)