

Lesson 2.4



Protection of Civilians

Lesson at a Glance

Aim

To detail duties of all peacekeeping personnel on protection of civilians (POC).

Relevance

- POC is a priority for the Security Council
- The UN expects all peacekeeping personnel to protect civilians from physical violence

POC is a mandated priority for most peacekeeping missions. Missions deploy to prevent, preempt or stop physical violence against civilians.

The Security Council:

- Gives POC priority in decisions about use of capacity and resources
- Asks missions with POC mandates to develop comprehensive strategies to protect civilians

Where the Security Council mandates POC, all peacekeeping personnel share responsibility. Protecting civilians requires effort from a whole mission. Each section contributes specific expertise. Military and police have a unique role in providing physical protection. Force is a last resort.

Learning Outcomes

Learners will:

- Explain POC in peacekeeping
- List examples on protection threats civilians face in armed conflict
- Explain how peacekeeping personnel carry out the POC mandate as part of the mission and as individual peacekeeping personnel
- Describe the range of protection partners that work alongside peacekeeping operations

Lesson Map

Duration: 45 minutes total

20 minutes: presentation

25 minutes: interactive exchange or activity

The Lesson	Pages 3-33
Starting the Lesson	Intro Slides
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The Lesson



Starting the Lesson

Introduce the following (using the Introductory Slides):

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

The Importance of Protecting Civilians

Slide 1



Importance of Protecting Civilians

- Harmed unintentionally
- Deliberate targets
- Women and children suffer disproportionately



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Key Message: People who participate in violent conflict increasingly target civilians. In response, the Security Council mandates most peacekeeping operations to protect civilians from violence.

The chaos of hostilities harms civilians. **They are also increasingly targeted deliberately.**

The Security Council has made protection of civilians (POC) a priority for missions.

Crimes of physical violence against civilians may be committed by:

- Members of armed groups, e.g. militia, rebels, extremists
- Security or defence forces of a host state
- Security or defence forces of invading states
- Multinational forces
- Bandits
- Terrorists

Women and children suffer disproportionately from violence in conflict and post-conflict settings. They have particular protection needs.

POC in Peacekeeping

Slide 2



Key Message: Protection is a broad idea. A dictionary definition is “being kept from harm, loss.” Active partners in peacekeeping define it differently. UN multidimensional peacekeeping operations use the following meanings of protection.

- **Rights-based approach:** It links protection to international law. A rights-based approach:
 - *“Encompass(es) all activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual, in accordance with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law.”*
- **Stabilization and peacebuilding as durable forms of protection:** The long view of protection has been a core part of UN peacekeeping from the beginning. The best way to protect civilians is by creating a secure, peaceful environment for life.
- **Physical protection from harm:** Protection from physical violence covers attack and the threat of attack. This visible, immediate protection is unique to peacekeeping.

The three approaches are closely connected: effective delivery on one supports achievement of the others.

- Physical protection from harm is mainly a responsibility of military peacekeeping personnel and police, especially FPU (Formed Police Units).
- Effective physical protection involves anticipating and reducing harm where vulnerable people are at risk. Two measures are effective human rights monitoring and proactive political engagement.

- Physical protection strengthens the “rights-based” approach and “end state” protection efforts. It reinforces perceived legitimacy of the mission and strengthens stabilization.

Protection is not solely a peacekeeping responsibility. A state duty is to protect its citizens. Different parts of a peacekeeping mission help a state re-establish that capacity. All definitions of protection apply to POC in peacekeeping. Partners coordinate so they can reinforce each other.

Slide 3



POC Mandate

- “All necessary means, up to and including the **use of deadly force**, aimed at preventing or responding to **threats of physical violence** against civilians, within capabilities and areas of operations, and without prejudice to the responsibility of the host government”.

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Key Message: The POC mandate in peacekeeping focuses on addressing threats of physical violence against civilians.

Security Council sanctions use of force by missions to protect civilians.

POC in UN Peacekeeping means:

“All necessary means, up to and including the use of deadly force, aimed at preventing or responding to threats of physical violence against civilians, within capabilities and areas of operations, and without prejudice to the responsibility of the host government.”

The UN stresses prevention as the most effective form of POC.

Each phrase in the definition contributes important meaning.

“Threats of physical violence”: all hostile acts or situations likely to cause death or serious bodily injury; all sexual violence, regardless of the source, including the host government.

“All necessary means”: different mandates authorize a mission to use: ***“all necessary means”***, “necessary action” or “all necessary measures” to protect civilians “under imminent threat”.

“Up to and including the use of deadly force (as a last resort)”: the principle at work is use of minimum force necessary to achieve an objective. Missions always weigh use of force carefully. Authorization to use force can be a deterrent. It reflects a full commitment from the international community.

“Within capabilities”: capabilities are abilities, powers, capacities. No peacekeeping force can address all protection threats. “Within capabilities” recognizes practical resource constraints and operational challenges.

“Without prejudice to the responsibility of the host government” highlights the primary responsibility sovereign governments have to protect civilians inside their borders. The presence of a peacekeeping mission does not reduce this responsibility.

POC is not an end goal for peacekeeping missions. It is a means to achieve the objective of helping host governments establish security and political stability.



Brainstorm with participants the meaning of “civilian”. Use key points noted to bridge into the rest of the lesson.

Slide 4



Civilian

- Any person who is not or is no longer directly participating in hostilities or other acts of violence



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Key Message: A civilian is someone not in the military. Expanded definition: any person not active in military or police, or in a belligerent group in a conflict. In international humanitarian law, “civilian” refers to any person not directly taking part in hostilities or other acts of violence.

An armed civilian may not be a combatant. Under International Humanitarian Law (IHL), civilians armed for self-defence or to protect property are entitled to protection if they are not part of hostilities. When civilian status is in doubt, a person is to be considered a civilian.

Missions strive to restore security for all civilians. Peacekeeping personnel pay special attention to protection needs of vulnerable people and groups. Those most likely to be targets of violence may include: **children, women, ethnic or religious minorities, refugees, internally displaced people, people with disabilities, wounded and the elderly.**

Slide 5



Threats

- An impending or potential physical violence against civilians
- Violations to right to life and physical integrity
- Actions by state or international security/military forces
- Mines, unexploded ordnance, improvised explosive devices

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Key Message: POC threats are any impending or potential physical violence against civilians. Peacekeeping personnel must try to prevent or mitigate any threats of violence to civilians, regardless of source.

Threats to civilians include:

- Real or potential **violations to the right to life and physical integrity by any party to the conflict**. Examples are attempts to:
 - Kill, torture or maim
 - Forcibly displace
 - Starve or pillage
 - Commit acts of sexual violence
 - Abduct or arbitrarily detain
 - Recruit and use children as soldiers
- Real or potential physical harm to civilians associated with **lawful actions by state or international security forces** as defined in IHL
- Real or potential physical harm to civilians from **mines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) or Improvised Explosive Devices (IED)**

Threats can come from state and non-state actors.

Challenging cases are where **state security forces are a threat to civilians**. Peacekeeping personnel have to use “all necessary means” to prevent or stop this threat. Robust military or police response may result in political fallout or insecurity for peacekeeping personnel. Missions build capacity and intent of host authorities to protect civilians. Only this results in a lasting protective environment. Partnerships with national authorities follow UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.

Slide 6



Vulnerability Factors

Individual/Community Factors:	Age, gender, sex, ethnicity, religion, political affiliation and social status
Environmental Factors:	Geographic location, level of urbanization, proximity and capacity of state authority in the area, level of infrastructure and communication
Access to Assistance:	Ability to access services and interact
Self-Sufficiency:	Existence of self-protection strategies, including early-warning capacities, self-defence capacities or other strategies

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Key Message: There are several factors which influence or affect the vulnerability of civilians.

An assessment of vulnerabilities aims to identify communities at risk. It analyses individual, community and environmental factors. A vulnerability assessment also considers presence and capacity of different forms of protection.

Individual and Community Factors: These include age, gender, sex, ethnicity, religion, political affiliation and social status.

Environmental factors: Vulnerability may increase for internally displaced or refugees. People far from state protection may also be more vulnerable to violence. Environmental factors include location:

- Presence of state authority in the area
- Levels of urbanization and infrastructure (roads, wells, communication)

Access to Assistance: Can people access services? Do they interact with outsiders? Possible obstacles are language barriers, relative freedom of movement and possible social or political barriers to communication with outsiders.

Self-Sufficiency: Communities have their own self-protection strategies. Examples are early-warning, self-defence or flight when under attack. UN support needs to reinforce and strengthen these.

Slide 7



Key Message: The POC mandate focuses on threats of physical violence to civilians. It is narrower than:

- Human rights
- Humanitarian protection
- The responsibility to protect (R2P)

The POC mandate is **complementary to, but not identical with, a mission's mandate to promote and protect human rights**. Human rights go beyond the scope of POC mandates in peacekeeping, which focus on threats of physical violence. The promotion and protection of human rights includes a wide range of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

Humanitarian protection, as defined by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, **encompasses all activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of all individuals in accordance with international law** – international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law – regardless of their age, gender, social, ethnic, national, religious or other background.

The POC and the **responsibility to protect (R2P)** share some legal and conceptual foundations, **but they should be viewed as distinct**. The responsibility to protect is aimed at addressing mass atrocities and endorses, as a last resort, intervention by the international community, going beyond the principles of peacekeeping, including the principle of consent of the host state.

The POC mandate reinforces mission mandates to promote and protect human rights. It also complements mandates on cross-cutting thematic tasks:

- **Child protection**
- **Conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV)**
- **Women, peace and security**

Legal Framework for POC



Module 1 introduced the legal framework for peacekeeping. Remind participants of that coverage. The same international laws apply to POC. Brainstorm as a recap.

Slide 8

A slide titled "Legal Framework" with a UN logo in the top left corner. It contains a bulleted list of five items: UN Charter, International Humanitarian Law, International Human Rights Law, International Refugee Law, and Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Below the list are five small images representing the covers of these legal instruments: the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949, the Geneva Convention for the Refugees of 1951, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. At the bottom of the slide, it reads "UN Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials 2016".

Legal Framework

- UN Charter
- International Humanitarian Law
- International Human Rights Law
- International Refugee Law
- Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

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Key Message: International law obligates UN peacekeeping operations to protect civilians in conflict.

The legal framework:

- UN Charter
- International Humanitarian Law (IHL)
- International Human Rights Law (IHRL)
- Refugee Law
- Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

Slide 9

The slide is titled "Legal Framework" and features the United Nations logo in the top left corner. It contains a bulleted list of four items: Security Council resolutions, ROE and DUF, SOFA between UN and host country, and National laws. In the bottom right corner, there is a small thumbnail image of a document. At the bottom center of the slide, the text "UN Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials 2016" is visible.

Key Message: The Security Council has passed many resolutions that condemn targeting of civilians in armed conflict. It has passed many more on respect for international humanitarian, refugee and human rights law.

Security Council resolutions that direct peacekeeping mandates to better address POC in armed conflict are:

- **SCRs 1674 and 1738 (2006)**
- **SCR 1820 (2008)**
- **SCR 1894 (2009)**
- **SCRs 1998 and 2015 (2011)**

POC has been a Security Council agenda item since 1999. The Security Council gave the UN Assistance Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) a specific POC mandate. It reflected growing concern about conflict's negative impact on civilians.

National laws of the host nation can further guide implementation of POC mandates.

DPKO/DFS Policy on POC

Slide 10



The slide features the UN logo in the top left corner. The title 'DPKO/DFS Policy on POC' is centered at the top in blue. Below it, the section 'Guiding Principles' is highlighted in green. A list of ten principles follows, each preceded by a blue square bullet point. At the bottom, the text 'UN Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials 2016' is displayed in a small font.

DPKO/DFS Policy on POC

Guiding Principles

- Primary responsibility of host government
- Grounded in international law
- Whole of mission approach
- Priority mandate
- Cooperation with humanitarian actors
- Obligation of peacekeeping personnel
- Community-based approach
- Impartiality
- Gender perspective and child protection concerns

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Key Message: In 2015, DPKO/DFS set policy on implementing POC mandates: DPKO/DFS Policy on POC (2015).

Guiding principles

The policy sets out in guiding principles.

1. **Primary responsibility of host governments:** The host state always has primary responsibility to protect civilians inside its borders. This responsibility does not change when a peacekeeping mission deploys with a POC mandate.
2. **Grounded in international law:** POC mandates show the global community's commitment to prevent violations of international law.
3. **Whole of mission:** The whole mission is to implement a POC mandate. This "whole of mission" approach needs coordination between military, police and civilians. The UN expects all peacekeeping personnel to protect civilians.
4. **Priority mandate:** A POC mandate means POC is a priority for resources and capacity. Decisions at strategic, operational and tactical levels must constantly assess priority threats and address them.
5. **Cooperation with humanitarian actors:** UN humanitarian agencies and NGOs support POC in many ways. Close and systematic coordination with these actors and full respect for humanitarian principles are essential for peacekeeping personnel.
6. **Obligation of peacekeeping personnel:** Sometimes states don't fulfil their responsibility to protect. Sometimes government forces are the threat. Peacekeeping personnel are authorized and obligated to act, within capability and area of deployment.
7. **Community-based approach:** A mission plans to protect civilians with a local community. UN goals are to support and empower local people and

communities in their relationships with the state. With community contact, peacekeeping personnel need to be mindful of risk and avoid community exposure to any risk or harm through contact.

8. **Impartiality:** Basic principles of peacekeeping always apply. All mission work is to be impartial. Key measures include:
 - Staying in touch with the community
 - Consulting with the community
 - Tracking community views
 - Sensitizing on mandate and activities
 - Managing public information, i.e. peacekeepers refer questions to the PIO
 - Being steadily unbiased, neutral, fair
9. **Gender perspective:** A gender perspective means tailoring all actions to specific needs of women and girls, men and boys. It also means addressing the unequal impact of conflict and post-conflict, with girls and women suffering most.
10. **Child protection concerns:** Missions need to address child protection concerns.

DPKO/DFS Operational Concept on POC

Slide 11

The slide features the United Nations logo in the top left corner. The title 'DPKO/DFS Operational Concept on POC' is centered at the top. Below it, the heading 'Three Tiers' is displayed in green. A bulleted list follows, detailing the three tiers. At the bottom, the text 'UN Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials 2016' is visible.

- **Tier I:** Protection through dialogue and engagement
- **Tier II:** Provision of physical protection
- **Tier III:** Establishment of a protective environment

Key Message: The operational concept helps missions organize for POC. It creates shared understanding.

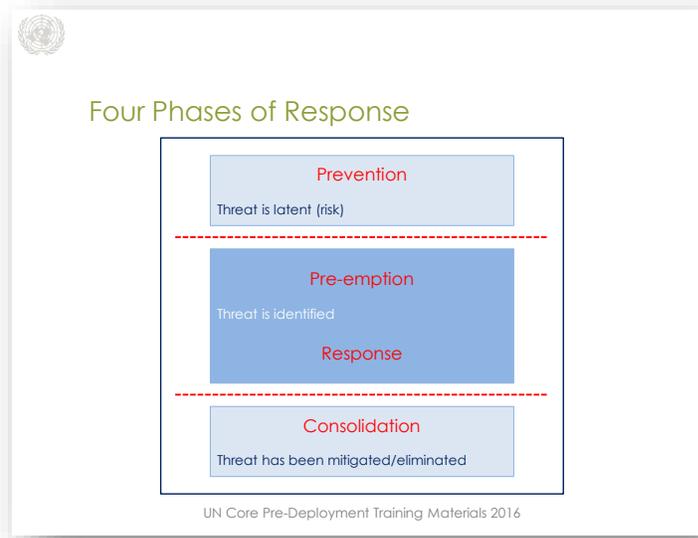
Missions work on three tiers at the same time. The tiers reinforce each other in addressing protection tasks in SC mandates.

Tier I: Protection through dialogue and engagement: Dialogue is with perpetrators or possible perpetrators. Conflict resolution and mediation are between parties to a conflict. A mission may use "good offices" to persuade a government and others to intervene to protect civilians. Public information and reporting on POC also support the mandate.

Tier II: Provision of physical protection: Military and police show or use force to prevent, deter and respond where physical violence threatens civilians. Substantive sections help guide objectives and conduct of military and police operations. Mission units work together in joint POC planning and coordination structures.

Tier III: Establishment of a protective environment: Medium- and long-term peacebuilding objectives drive work on Tier III. The UN Country Team is a key partner with resources and programmes.

Slide 12



Key Message: Four phases of response guide POC work across three tiers:

- Prevention
- Pre-emption
- Response
- Consolidation

The UN's goal is to eliminate threats or mitigate associated risks to civilians. The phases are not necessarily sequential. A mission may initiate activities associated with different phases at the same time.

Prevention is the main objective of POC. Prevention phase work is in areas with no clear threat to civilians. Tasks are mostly Tier III, building a protective environment. Examples:

- Human rights monitoring
- Conflict mitigation
- Ensuring a visible presence by UN military and police
- Community engagement, early warning and alert

Pre-emption phase: the mission knows likely threats and anticipates attacks against civilians. To "pre-empt" means acting before something happens, to prevent it. Pre-emptive work continues, especially in areas under threat. Examples:

- Public information and advocacy campaigns
- Credible deterrence actions by the military and police

Response occurs when physical violence against civilians is obvious. Mission aim is to stop aggressors from conducting hostile acts. Political, legal and security responses apply. The mission and host authorities coordinate response. Examples:

- Further political engagement with parties to the conflict
- Provision of direct physical POC

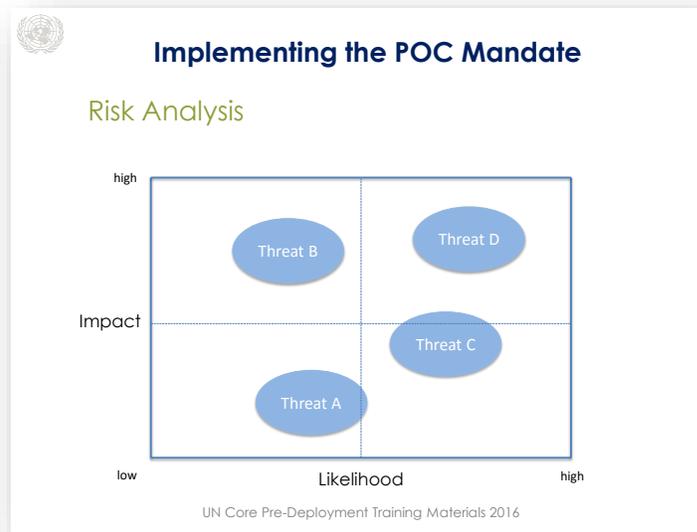
Consolidation work is possible when violence against civilians has subsided. Consolidation needs stabilization, peacebuilding. Partners are active, UNCT and non-UN. Support and close coordination with host authorities is consistent through all phases.

Examples:

- Help implement peace agreements
- Help with reintegration of ex-combatants

Implementing the POC Mandate

Slide 13



Key Message: Peacekeeping personnel need to remove threats to civilians. Missions conduct regular threat assessments and risk analysis to anticipate and prevent violence before it occurs, or at a minimum mitigate impact on civilians.

Threat assessment and risk analysis needs to be deep, forward-looking and gender-sensitive. Thorough response planning follows.

Regular threat assessments:

- Consider larger **political and security dynamics**
- Analyse **intent** and **capacity** for violence of possible perpetrators
- Assess the **opportunity** for a threat to happen: time, location, terrain and weather all influence opportunity for a perpetrator to inflict violence

A threat continues to be a threat until reliable intelligence and analysis confirm no more capacity or intent to act on threats.

A POC “risk” has two main parts:

1. The probability or likelihood that violence will occur
2. Real or potential impact of violence on civilians

Risk levels are high, medium or low. Risk assessment considers:

1. Threats in relation to vulnerability of a civilian population
2. Presence, capacity and intent of protection actors

The risk of physical violence increases the longer a threat exists unaddressed.

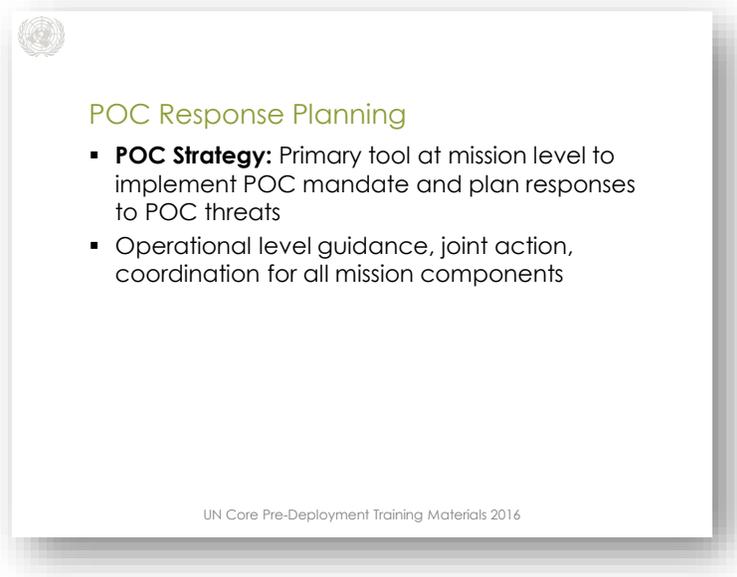
Peacekeeping has limited resources. Peacekeeping personnel **prioritize** threats that pose the highest level of risk to civilians. “Priority risks”:

- Are most *likely*
- Would have greatest *impact*

All missions must conduct joint analyses to identify and set priorities on risks to civilians in a **POC Risk Assessment**.

Prioritization is part of planning. The greatest and most likely risks to civilians get priority for action and resources.

Slide 14



Key Message: Peacekeeping personnel need to be ready to respond on POC. A POC strategy is the main mission planning tool to:

- Carry out the POC mandate
- Plan mission response to POC threats

A POC strategy details how a mission will fulfil its POC mandate. It guides all mission units in drafting work plans and orders.

The mission-wide POC Strategy ensures joint and coordinated civilian-police-military action. It maps **coordination** between mission units and other partners.

Host states are responsible to protect civilians. Mission's protection efforts need to improve and support host government capacity. The Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces (A/67/775 (2013)) applies.

Slide 15

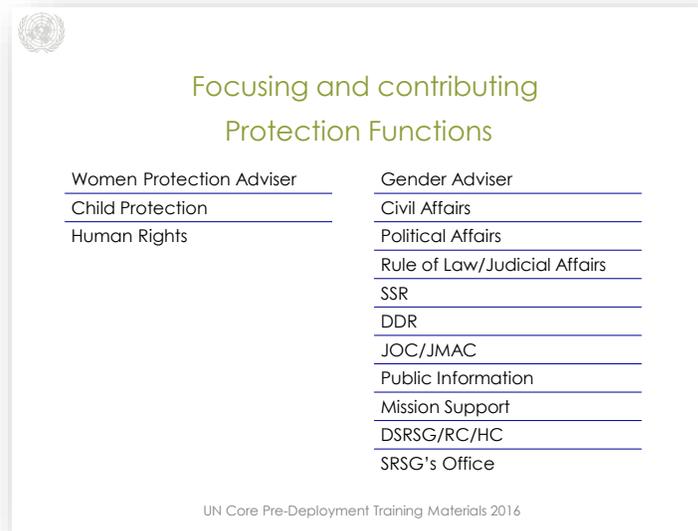


Key Message: A mission Protection Adviser advises and coordinates mission wide POC work.

Senior POC Advisor

- Senior POC advisors are **responsible for internal coordination on effective protection. They ensure a single POC response across all parts of a mission.**
- The Senior POC Adviser **supports and advises mission leadership on the POC mandate.** This role involves advice, coordination, monitoring and reporting.
- In some missions, small teams support the Senior POC Advisor:
 - Lead development and regular review of a POC strategy
 - Set up POC reporting
 - Develop a training strategy based on assessed needs
 - Coordinate POC planning
 - Ensure all mission units integrate POC work

Slide 16



Key Message: All parts of a mission contribute to POC in daily work. Some units have a particular protection focus.

Units that Focus on POC

Women Protection Advisers (WPAs) address CRSV.

Child Protection Advisers (CPAs) help fulfil the child protection mandate.

Human Rights (HR) units have a critical role on POC mandates. They monitor, advocate and report on human rights and strengthen accountability.

Units which contribute to POC

Civil Affairs (CA) does most grassroots POC work. CA officers:

- Collect valuable early warning information
- Support local POC abilities
- Address inter-communal violence through local mediation and conflict resolution

CA officers may have Community Liaison Assistants.

Political Affairs units contribute insights on peace processes and high-level developments that affect security on the ground.

Rule of Law and DDR units are critical partners for POC because of their security work and capacity building of national partners.

Gender advisory units play a particular role in strengthening the larger protective environment for civilians. The offices promote gender-sensitive approaches to mandate implementation and more widely, empowerment of women and girls.

JOC and JMAC are important partners. They provide and analyse information that informs core POC work. They help identify POC threats and violations. Integrated mission analysis and reporting support timely mission responses.

Public Information supports POC through outreach and spread of messages to local people.

Mission support units are necessary to successful POC to prioritize mission resources and capacity.

The HOM/SRSG: The UN Security Council directs HOMs to make POC a priority. (Draft Strategic Framework, S/RES/1674, and S/RES/1894).

The DSRSG/RC/HC is Humanitarian Coordinator (HC). That role is responsible for UN humanitarian operations in a country.

Slide 17



Key Message: Armed personnel are crucial to POC.

Physical Protection: The military has lead responsibility to provide physical protection. This is Tier 2 of the POC Operational Concept. Formed Police Units may help.

Pro-active Approach: A pro-active approach on POC is effective for police and military. This means actively controlling events and addressing threats before they are critical, not just reacting. **Military and police can prevent and pre-empt harm to civilians through defensive and stabilizing operations:**

- **Deterrent positions and cordons**
- **Checkpoints and patrols**

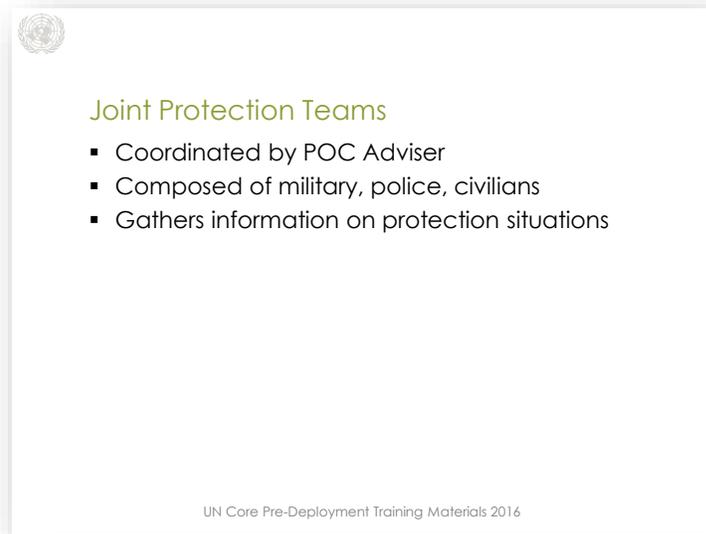
These build public confidence. A pro-active approach also considers special needs such as those of refugees, IDPs, women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities.

Monitoring and reporting: Military and police **monitor and report** POC threats and violations. They are a mission's "eyes and ears". Both share information with units that have a protection focus.

- Military peacekeeping personnel have a wide presence. They can watch and record actions of armed groups and civilians.
- UN Police usually work alongside national police throughout the host country and are on the ground in communities.
- Both military and police gather information for the JOC and JMAC, which use it for integrated mission reporting, analysis and response. Essential information includes:
 - **Locations of armed forces and groups**

- **Demographics of members, reported by age and sex**
- **Weapons stocks**
- **Politics and conflict at national and local levels**

Slide 18



Key Message: Joint Protection Teams (JPTs) are an important mission-wide tool:

- Typically coordinated by the POC Adviser
- With staff from military, police and civilian substantive sections
- Part of mission effort to manage information on protection situations
- Missions deploy JPTs to priority locations from the POC Threat Matrix

JPT has people from:

- Joint Human Rights Office
- Civil Affairs
- Child Protection
- Political Affairs
- JOC and JMAC
- Women Protection Advisers

Protection Partners

Slide 19



Key Message: The host state government always has primary responsibility to protect civilians inside its borders.

Local communities: Communities have survival strategies. Interventions by peacekeeping personnel need to strengthen local protection capacity, starting with assessment.

UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees): Staff work in host communities and refugee or IDP sites. They help with legal, material and physical protection and minimize potential threats of violence to displaced people. They also try to provide at least a minimum of shelter, food, water and medical care to refugees.

OHCHR (Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights): OHCHR promotes and protects human rights. It integrates human rights into UN country engagement, including peace operations. OHCHR works with DPKO and DFS on human rights in peacekeeping operations. It guides and supports implementation of human rights mandates.

UNOCHA (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs): Mobilizes funds and coordinates humanitarian action with partners to:

- Alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies
- Advocate for the rights of people in need
- Promote readiness and prevention
- Facilitate lasting solutions

UNICEF (UN Children’s Fund): Engages in child protection, preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse. UNICEF monitors and reports on IHL and human rights violations of children in conflict.

ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross): The guardian of IHL, International Humanitarian Law. ICRC mission is: “...*protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence, and to provide them with assistance.*” (ICRC Protection Policy, p. 1)

Parallel forces: The Security Council may approve deployment of forces from a single government or regional organizations. Examples are the Central African Republic and Mali. Parallel forces can deploy more quickly than the UN, so are often able to quell spiraling violence before a UN peacekeeping mission arrives.

Non-governmental and civil society organizations: These partners help protect civilians. They deliver humanitarian aid, monitor and report on human rights abuses and help reform judicial institutions.

Slide 20



Coordination

National Authorities:	Political engagements; security sector reform programmes; targeted advocacy; joint operations or joint patrolling
Local Communities:	Dialogue with local population; mission-wide community engagement cooperation mechanisms such as Joint Protection Teams, Community Liaison Assistants, Community Alert Networks, localized protection strategies
Humanitarian Community:	Protection Cluster led by UNHCR
Parallel Forces	Information sharing and operational planning on a case-by-case basis, including HOM exchanges and working-level cooperation

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Key Message: Peacekeeping operations coordinate and cooperate with partners on POC.

National authorities: A mission cooperates with national authorities across the three tiers of the Operational Concept. Specific means include through:

- **Political engagements**
- **Security sector reform (SSR)**
- **Targeted advocacy**

Joint operations or joint patrols are important tools that also help build national capacity. The Human Rights Due Diligence Policy applies.

Local communities: regular contact and conversation with **people from local communities is critical to effective POC**. Threats are local. Missions rely on community links to identify and understand threats and local protection ability. All mission units engage with communities. A **mission-wide strategy for community engagement** maps contact. It focuses on protection through:

- Joint Protection Teams
- Community Liaison Assistants
- Community Alert Networks
- Local protection strategies

Humanitarian community: The **Protection Cluster** coordinates peacekeeping missions and the humanitarian community. **Led globally by UNHCR**, the cluster includes UN agencies and NGOs. Members meet regularly to:

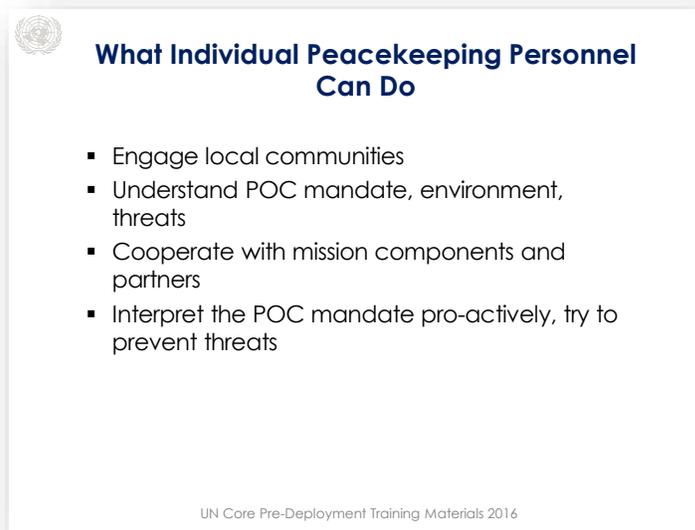
- Share information
- Discuss key POC issues and humanitarian protection strategies
- Plan protection activities

Peacekeeping personnel and humanitarians coordinate on POC through the **Protection Cluster**.

Parallel forces: Where peacekeeping missions deploy alongside parallel forces, coordination and cooperation are critical. Mandates and capacities differ. Minimum coordination is information sharing and planning. Coordination is **case-by-case**. It usually includes **HOM exchanges and working level cooperation through Force Headquarters, JMAC and other uniformed and civilian units**.

What Individual Peacekeeping Personnel Can Do

Slide 21



The slide features the UN logo in the top left corner. The title is "What Individual Peacekeeping Personnel Can Do". Below the title is a bulleted list of four items. At the bottom of the slide, it reads "UN Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials 2016".

- Engage local communities
- Understand POC mandate, environment, threats
- Cooperate with mission components and partners
- Interpret the POC mandate pro-actively, try to prevent threats

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Key Message: All UN peacekeeping personnel have a duty to protect civilians. Peacekeeping personnel need to be ready to:

- Take action to prevent threats
- Respond when they see potential and real threats

The UN expects all peacekeepers to:

- Follow UN code of conduct and mission ROE/DUF
- Engage with local communities, respectfully and sensitively
- Understand the mission's POC mandate, environment and primary threats to civilians
- Assess POC threats in one's area of work continuously and be alert to any signs of physical violence against civilians
- Understand how all work feeds into the mission's broader POC approach
- Interpret the POC mandate pro-actively, try to prevent threats
- Cooperate with all mission and non-mission partners on POC

Summary

POC in UN Peacekeeping

- UN multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations use the following means of protection:
 - Rights-based approach: links protection to international law. A rights-based approach “encompass(es) all activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual, in accordance with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law”.
 - Stabilization and peacebuilding as durable forms of protection: the long view of protection has been a core part of UN peacekeeping from the beginning. The best way to protect civilians is by creating a secure, peaceful environment for life.
 - Physical protection from harm: protection from physical violence covers attack and the threat of attack. This visible, immediate protection is unique to peacekeeping.
- The three approaches are closely connected: effective delivery on one supports achievement of the others.
- Physical protection from harm is mainly a responsibility of military peacekeeping personnel and police, especially FPU. The POC mandate in peacekeeping focuses on addressing the gravest threats of physical violence against civilians.

Protection threats civilians face in armed conflict

- “Threats of physical violence”: all hostile acts or situations likely to cause death or serious bodily injury; all sexual violence, regardless of the source, including the host government.
- Threats to civilians include:
 - Real or potential violations to the right to life and physical integrity by any party to the conflict
 - Real or potential physical harm to civilians associated with lawful actions by state or international security forces as defined in IHL
 - Real or potential physical harm to civilians from mines, unexploded ordinance (UXO) or improvised explosive devices (IED)

How peacekeeping personnel carry out the POC mandate as part of the mission and as individual peacekeeping personnel

- All substantive units contribute to analysis of conflict drivers and POC threats. They support mission leaders in public messaging, mediation, advocacy and political action. This support is at national and local levels. They implement the POC strategy.

- Individual peacekeeping personnel must:
 - Follow international and local laws
 - Behave professionally
 - Respect local culture and people
 - Engage local communities
 - Understand POC mandate, environment, threats
 - Cooperate with mission components and partners

The range of protection partners that work alongside peacekeeping operations

- The host state government, which always has primary responsibility to protect civilians inside its borders
- Local communities
- UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees)
- OHCHR (Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights)
- UNOCHA (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs)
- UNICEF (UN Children's Fund)
- ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross)
- Parallel forces
- Non-governmental and civil society organizations

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.

Evaluation Questions for Lesson 2.4	
Questions	Answers
<p>Narrative</p> <p><i>Note: Frame narrative evaluations as questions, requests or directions</i></p>	
<p>1. Explain how the nature of violent conflict has changed in the last two decades.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who initiate violent conflict increasingly target civilians. • Abduction of children and deliberate use of children as soldiers have increased. • Use of conflict-related sexual violence as a deliberate weapon of war has emerged as an international peace and security threat. • International agreements are increasingly ignored - Geneva Conventions, international humanitarian law • Terrorism and civil war have increased, as more familiar conflicts between two states have declined. <p>Any of the examples explain why the Security Council has made protection of civilians a priority for missions.</p>
<p>2. Different groups may commit crimes of physical violence against civilians.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • members of armed groups, e.g. militia, rebels, extremists

<p>Name at least three.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • security or defence forces of a host state • security or defence forces of invading states • multinational forces • bandits • terrorists
<p>3. Three approaches underpin the UN definitions of protection for multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations. Name and explain connections between them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights-based approach, linked to international law (source: Inter-Agency Standing Committee, IASC, which coordinates humanitarian assistance) • Long-term approach, emphasizing stabilization and peace-building as durable forms of protection • Visible, immediate protection – physical protection from harm, protection from attack and the threat of attack <p>Connections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they are closely connected • effective delivery on one supports achievement of the others • effective physical protection strengthens the rights-based approach and long-term durable solutions; • visible, immediate protection strengthens stabilization, and positively affects the perceived legitimacy of a mission
<p>4. Explain the specific meaning of each underlined phrase in the definition of POC for UN peacekeeping. <u>“All necessary means, up to and including the use of deadly force, aimed at preventing or responding to threats of physical violence against civilians, within capabilities and areas of operations, and without prejudice to the responsibility of the host government.”</u></p>	<p>“Threats of physical violence”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all hostile acts or situations likely to cause death or serious bodily injury • all sexual violence, regardless of source, including host government <p>“All necessary means”. Different mandates authorize use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “all necessary means” • “necessary action” or • “all necessary measures”

	<p>to protect civilians “under imminent threat”.</p> <p>“Up to and including the use of deadly force (as a last resort)”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • principle at work is use of minimum force necessary to achieve an objective • missions always weigh use of force carefully • authorization to use force can be a deterrent • reflects full commitment from the international community <p>“Within capabilities”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • abilities, powers, capacities • no peacekeeping force can address all protection threats • recognizes practical resource constraints and operational challenges <p>“Without prejudice to the responsibility of the host government”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sovereign governments have primary responsibility to protect civilians inside their borders • presence of a peacekeeping mission does not reduce this responsibility
<p>5. Explain differences between protection of civilians (POC) and responsibility to protect (R2P).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they cover different priorities • R2P goes beyond principles of peacekeeping to focus on extreme threats • principle of consent of a host state applies in peacekeeping, does not apply in R2P
<p>6. What vulnerable groups may be targets of violence and require special protection measures?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children • Women • Ethnic minorities • Religious minorities • Refugees • IDPs • People with disabilities • Wounded people • Elderly people

<p>7. Name five <u>basic parts</u> of the legal framework for POC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Charter • International Humanitarian Law • International Human Rights Law • Refugee Law • Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
<p>8. Expand the five basic parts named in question 7 with five <u>specifics</u> of the legal framework for POC that apply in peacekeeping.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security Council Resolutions (2 in 2006, 1 in 2008, 1 in 2009, 2 in 2011) • Security Council mandates • ROE for military, DUF for police • SOFA between UN and host country • National laws of host country
<p>9. How does the UN expect peacekeeping operations without a POC mandate to protect civilians?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offer refuge to civilians in peacekeeping bases • monitor human rights violations • advocate with potential perpetrators • deter violence by being present, visible
<p>10. What DPKO-DFS policy covers implementation of POC mandates?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPKO-DFS Policy on POC (2015).
<p>11. What principles in DPKO-DFS policy guide POC in peacekeeping?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • primary responsibility of host governments • grounded in international law • whole of mission • priority mandate • cooperation with humanitarian actors • obligation of peacekeepers • community-based approach • impartiality • gender perspective – tailoring actions to specific needs of males and females • child protection concerns
<p>12. What does POC being a priority mandate mean?</p>	<p>It doesn't just mean it is important. It means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it gets priority for resources, mission capacity • decisions at strategic, operational and tactical levels must constantly assess threats and address them

<p>13. Explain what a community-based approach means for POC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> missions plan to protect civilians with a local community, not separate from it UN goals are to support and empower local people and communities in their relationships with the state peacekeepers need to be mindful of risk, avoid community exposure to any risk or harm through contact
<p>14. What are three tiers in the DPKO-DFS operational concept on POC? Describe the work in each tier.</p>	<p>Tier I: Protection through dialogue and engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> dialogue is with perpetrators or possible perpetrators conflict resolution and mediation are between parties to a conflict mission may use "good offices" to persuade a government and others to intervene to protect civilians public information and reporting on POC also support the mandate <p>Tier II: Provision of physical protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> military and police show or use force to prevent, deter, and respond where physical violence threatens civilians substantive sections help guide objectives and conduct of military and police operations mission units work together in joint POC planning and coordination structures. <p>Tier III: Establishment of a protective environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> medium and long-term peacebuilding objectives drive work on Tier III UN Country Team is a key partner, with resources and programmes
<p>15. What four phases guide POC work? Name and explain, with examples.</p>	<p>Prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> main objective of POC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevention phase work is in areas with no clear threat to civilians • tasks are mostly Tier III, building a protective environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - human rights monitoring - conflict mitigation - ensuring a visible presence by UN military and police - community engagement, early warning and alert <p>Pre-emption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mission knows likely threats and anticipates attacks against civilians • pre-emptive work continues, especially in areas under threat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public information and advocacy campaigns, - credible deterrence actions by the military and police. <p>Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • occurs when physical violence against civilians is obvious • mission aim is to at stop aggressors from conducting hostile acts • political, legal and security responses apply • mission and host authorities coordinate response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - further political engagement with parties to the conflict, - provision of direct physical protection to civilians. <p>Consolidation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • possible when violence against civilians has subsided • consolidation needs stabilization, peace-building • partners are active, UNCT and non-UN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - help implement peace agreements, - help with re-integration of ex-combatants.
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<p>16. What do missions identify for early warning analysis and alerts?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indicators • information sources • processes • resources • capabilities
<p>17. Name three types of threats to civilians.</p>	<p>Real or potential:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. violations of right to life and physical integrity, by any party to the conflict 2. physical harm to civilians associated with lawful actions by state or international security forces as defined in IHL 3. harm to civilians from mines, unexploded ordinance (UXO) or IEDs
<p>18. Explain why threats to civilians from state security forces are challenging.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • peacekeepers have to use “all necessary means” to prevent or stop this threat • robust military or police response may result in political fallout or insecurity for peacekeepers • response may affect mission efforts to build capacity and intent of host authorities to protect civilians
<p>19. POC responses consider motivation and intent behind violence. Name two general types and give examples.</p>	<p>Opportunity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • violations fuelled by opportunity are indiscriminate violent acts resulting from lack of law and order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - looting - illegal taxation - sexual violence including rape - forced recruitment, and - forced labour <p>Strategic aims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • violence that targets individuals or communities may further perpetrators’ strategic aims • those aims may be political,

	<p>economic, religious or military</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - targeting ethnic, racial, sexual, religious or political groups - targeting people from specific communities or geographic regions - ethnic cleansing and genocide - forced displacement to control land and people - violence to humiliate rival political or military authorities - violence to make opponents less legitimate - conflict related sexual violence as a tactic of war <p>Two types happen together.</p>
<p>20. What do regular threat assessments consider?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • larger political and security dynamics • intent and capacity for violence of possible perpetrators • opportunity for a threat to happen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - time, location, terrain, weather - all influence opportunity for a perpetrator to inflict violence
<p>21. What are five long-lasting consequences of social violence and violent conflict?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • family separation • community fracture • displacement • reduced access to services and care • absence of health, education, water, sanitation services
<p>22. Describe what a vulnerability assessment considers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communities at risk • individual, community and environmental factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual and community: age, gender, sex, ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, social status - Environmental: location,

	<p>presence of state authority in area, levels of urbanization, roads, wells, communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presence and capacity of different forms of protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - access to assistance - self-sufficiency – community's own self-protection strategies, early warning, self-defence, flight
23. What are the two main parts of a <u>POC risk</u> ?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • probability or likelihood violence will occur • real or potential impact of violence on civilians
24. What are two main parts of a <u>POC risk assessment</u> ?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • threats because of a civilian group's vulnerability • presence, capacity and intent of protection actors
25. POC mandates challenge missions and peacekeepers. Name seven specific challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited equipment and capacity, shortages • Vast territories, difficult terrains • Expectations management • Language, culture • Unconventional threats – mines, suicide attacks • Being a target • Consent of host government
26. What tools do peacekeeping missions give personnel to overcome challenges?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POC strategies and operational plans • close cooperation with other actors – coordinated approach • proactive approach • linking all mission tasks to a POC mandate • clarity of purpose and accurate understanding of one's own role in POC
27. How are priority POC risks determined?	<p>Priority risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • most <i>likely</i> • would have <i>greatest impact</i>
28. Explain a POC strategy and its importance to a mission.	<p>POC strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prepares a peacekeeping mission to respond to POC • main mission tool to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - carry out POC mandate

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - plan mission response to POC threats • details specific steps and guides all mission units in drafting work plans and orders • ensures joint and coordinated civilian-police-military action • maps coordination a) between mission units, b) between mission and other partners
<p>29. How are SMG (Senior Management Group on Protection) and the POC Working Group: a) the same, and b) different?</p>	<p>Same</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are both platforms where peacekeepers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - discuss protection concerns - anticipate and mitigate harm - coordinate suitable, timely responses <p>Different</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMG - strategic decision-making group. • POC WG - working level forum, coordinates POC implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - planning, reporting - information management - early warning - response design - public information
<p>30. Describe role and responsibilities of Senior POC Advisor, POC teams, and POC Working Group.</p>	<p>Senior POC Advisor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • responsible for internal coordination on effective protection • ensure a single POC response across all parts of a mission • supports and advises mission leadership on POC mandate • advice, coordination, monitoring and reporting <p>POC Teams</p> <p>In some missions, small teams support the Senior POC Advisor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lead development and regular review of a POC strategy • set up POC reporting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop a training strategy, based on assessed needs • coordinate POC planning • ensure all mission units integrate POC work <p>POC Working Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • missions typically set up a POC Working Group, to coordinate POC analysis and response • senior POC Advisor chairs the POC Working Group • all relevant units attend
<p>31. Explain the contributions to POC of other mission units.</p>	<p>Women Protection Advisers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • address CRSV <p>Child Protection Advisers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help fulfil child protection mandate <p>Human Rights Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • critical role in POC • monitor, advocate, report on human rights • strengthen accountability <p>Civil Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • most grassroots POC work • collect valuable early warning information • support local POC ability • address inter-communal violence through local mediation and conflict resolution <p>Political Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • insights on peace processes and high level developments that affect security on the ground <p>Rule of Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • critical partner – security work and capacity building of national partners <p>DDR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • critical partner – security work and capacity building of national partners <p>Gender Advisers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthen protective

	<p>environment for civilians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote gender-sensitive approaches to mandate implementation and empowerment of women and girls <p>JOC and JMAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide and analyse information that informs core POC work • help identify POC threats and violations • support timely mission responses through integrated mission analysis and reporting <p>Public Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supports POC through outreach, spread of consistent messages to local people <p>Mission Support Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • necessary to successful POC, to prioritize mission resources and capacity <p>Mission Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accountable on POC • HOM – SC directs HOM to make POC a priority • DSRS/RC/HC – supports coordination on POC, peacekeepers and humanitarians (Protection Cluster) <p>Uniformed Personnel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • military and police, crucial to POC • military leads in provision of physical protection (Tier 2 of Operational Concept); armed police and FPU help • pro-active approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - active control of events - address threats before they are critical, not just reacting - defensive and stabilizing operations: deterrent positions and cordons,
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> checkpoints and patrols <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - considers special needs of refugees, IDPs, women, children, elderly, people with disabilities • build public confidence • monitor and report POC threats and violations – a mission's "eyes and ears" • share information with units with protection focus
<p>32. Expand with specifics how military and police are a mission's "eyes and ears" on POC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military peacekeepers have a wide presence, can watch and record actions of armed groups and civilians. • UN Police usually work alongside national police throughout the host country, and are on the ground in communities. • Both military and police gather information for the JOC and JMAC, which use it for integrated mission reporting, analysis and response. Essential information includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - locations of armed forces and groups - demographics of members reported by age and sex - weapons stocks - politics and conflict at national and local levels
<p>33. What are Joint Protection Teams and how do they work?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an important mission-wide tool • part of mission effort to manage information on protection situations • missions deploy JPTs to priority locations – POC Threat Matrix identifies • typically coordinated by POC Adviser • with staff from military, police, civilian substantive units

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human Rights - Civil Affairs - Child Protection - Political Affairs - JOC and JMAC - Women Protection Advisers
<p>34. Who are the main non-mission partners in POC? Name and give examples of contributions.</p>	<p>Host State Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • always has primary responsibility to protect civilians within its borders <p>Local communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interventions by peacekeepers need to strengthen existing survival strategies <p>UNHCR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • staff work in host communities, refugee and IDP camps • help with legal, material, physical protection • minimize potential threats of violence to displaced people • try to provide minimum of shelter, food, water and medical care to refugees <p>OHCHR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotes and protects human rights • integrates human rights into UN country engagement, including peace operations • works with DPKO and DFS on human rights in peacekeeping operations • guides and supports implementation of human rights mandates <p>UNOCHA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • leads on coordination of humanitarian affairs • mobilizes funds and coordinates humanitarian work with partners to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - alleviate human suffering in disaster and emergency - advocate for rights of people in need

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promote readiness and prevention - facilitate lasting solutions <p>UNICEF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • leads on children, engages in child protection • prevents and responds to violence against children, exploitation and abuse • monitors and reports on IHL and human rights violations of children in conflict <p>ICRC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • guardian of IHL • mission to protect lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict, other violent situations, and provide them with help <p>Parallel Forces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • can deploy more quickly than the UN • able to quell spiralling violence before UN operation arrives • when SC approves deployment of parallel force <p>NGOs and Civil Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help protect civilians • deliver humanitarian aid • monitor and report on human rights abuses • help reform judicial institutions
<p>35. Explain how a UN peacekeeping mission coordinates and cooperates with four key non-mission protection actors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national authorities • local communities • humanitarian community • parallel forces 	<p>National authorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mission cooperates with national authorities across three tiers of the Operational Concept • specific means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - political engagements, - security sector reform, and - targeted advocacy • Joint operations or joint patrols are important tools that also help build national capacity <p>Local communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regular contact and conversation with people from local communities is critical to effective

	<p>POC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • missions rely on community links to identify and understand threats and local protection ability • all mission units engage with communities • mission-wide strategy for engagement maps contact, focuses on protection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint Protection Teams - Community Liaison Assistants - Community Alert Networks - Local protection strategies <p>Humanitarian community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection Cluster coordinates peacekeeping missions and the humanitarian community • led globally by UNHCR, the cluster includes UN agencies and NGOs. Members meet regularly to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - share information - discuss key POC issues and humanitarian protection strategies - plan protection activities • POC clusters typically set up two sub-clusters, on SGBV (CRSV) and Child Protection <p>Parallel forces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where peacekeeping missions deploy alongside parallel forces, coordination and cooperation are critical • minimum coordination is information sharing and planning • coordination is case-by-case • usually includes Head of Mission exchanges and working level cooperation through Force Headquarters, JMAC, other uniformed and civilian units
<p>36. UN expectations of all peacekeepers on POC span ten main points in the lesson. Name them all.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. follow international and local laws 2. behave professionally 3. know and follow UN code of conduct and mission ROE/DUF

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. respect local culture and people 5. engage with local communities respectfully and sensitively 6. understand the mission's POC mandate, environment and primary threats to civilians 7. assess POC threats in one's area of work continuously, and be alert to any signs of physical violence against civilians 8. understand how all work feeds into the mission's broader POC approach 9. interpret the POC mandate proactively, try to prevent threats 10. cooperate with all mission and non-mission partners on POC
Fill in the Blanks	
1. Protection of civilians is a Security Council _____.	Priority
2. The UN expects all peacekeepers to protect civilians from _____.	Physical violence People may answer: violations of human rights.
3. Where the Security Council mandates protection of civilians, all peacekeepers _____.	Share responsibility
4. Protecting civilians requires effort from a _____ mission.	Whole
5. ____ and ____ suffer disproportionately from violence in conflict and post-conflict settings.	Women and children
6. Effective physical protection anticipates and reduces harm to vulnerable people at risk, through ____ and ____.	Effective human rights monitoring Proactive political engagement – inclusion
7. A _____ duty is protect citizens.	State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protection is not solely a peacekeeping responsibility • a mission helps a state re-establish protection capacity
8. The Security Council _____ use of force by missions to protect civilians.	Sanctions, or mandates
9. Most effective protection is _____.	Prevention
10. A POC mandate complements or reinforces mandates for:	Cross-cutting thematic tasks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • child protection

_____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conflict-related sexual violence • women, peace and security
11. A civilian is _____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • someone not in the military • any person not active in military, police or belligerent group in a conflict • in IHL, any person not directly taking part in hostilities or other acts of violence
12. When civilian status is in doubt, a person is to be considered _____.	Civilian – not a combatant.
13. Between 1999 and 2015, the Security Council mandated __ missions to protect civilians.	Ten
14. The Security Council first gave a POC mandate to _____, in 1999.	UN Assistance Mission in Sierra Leone – UNAMSIL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reflected growing concern about conflict's negative impact on civilians
15. National _____ can further guide implementation of POC mandates.	National laws
16. All UN peacekeepers have the right to _____ from imminent threat of physical violence.	Defend themselves – including with deadly force
17. With the UN, _____ and _____ support POC in many ways.	Humanitarian actors NGOs Peacekeeping essentials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • close, systematic cooperation • full respect for humanitarian principles
18. According to the DPKO-DFS Policy on POC, _____ phases guide work across _____ tiers.	Four phases Three tiers
19. Thorough _____ follows threat and risk assessment.	Response planning
20. _____ to civilians can come from state or non-state actors.	Threats
21. Partnerships with national authorities follow UN Human Rights _____ Policy.	Due Diligence
22. Conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) as a tactic of war may be for these purposes: _____, _____, _____ or _____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • punish opponents • control territory • humiliate opposite forces • impregnate women of a particular ethnic or racial group with children

	of their enemies
23. CRSV may part of _____.	Genocide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • also may constitute an international crime, like war crimes and crimes against humanity
24. _____ makes a person susceptible to hurt or harm.	Vulnerability
25. Violence has _____ effects and _____ consequences.	Immediate effects Long-term consequences
26. An assessment of vulnerabilities generally aims to identify _____.	Communities at risk People may provide more specific answers. See question 22 in Narrative Responses. The key word in this question is "generally". The important point to stress is that assessments focus on communities and groups, not individuals.
27. POC risk levels are _____, _____ and _____.	High, medium and low
28. A _____ leads and coordinates POC work.	Mission protection unit
29. The Security Council directs _____ to make POC a priority.	Heads of Missions, HOM
30. POC roles and responsibilities are detailed in a mission's _____.	Comprehensive POC strategy
31. All peacekeepers need to be ready to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) _____ to prevent threats, and b) _____ when they see potential and real threats. 	Take action to prevent threats Respond when they see potential and real threats
True False	
1. All civilians have the same protection needs.	False Women, children and other vulnerable groups have special protection needs – elderly, disabled.
2. Physical protection from harm is mainly a responsibility of military peacekeepers and police, especially FPUs.	True
3. The POC mandate in peacekeeping focuses on all threats of physical violence against civilians.	False The POC mandate focuses on the gravest threats. No mission has the resources to address all threats.
4. Protection of civilians is not an end	True

goal for peacekeeping missions.	It is a means to achieve the objective of helping host governments establish security and political stability.
5. POC is narrower than human rights, humanitarian protection, and responsibility to protect (R2P).	True
6. An armed civilian is always treated as a combatant.	False An armed civilian may not be a combatant. According to IHL, civilians armed for self-defence or to protect property are entitled to protection, if they are not part of hostilities. When civilian status is uncertain, a person is considered civilian.
7. Attention to responsibility for protection of civilians in armed conflict is a new focus for the UN.	False <ul style="list-style-type: none"> responsibility to protect civilians in armed conflict has been part of the UN ethic and experience since its founding in 1945 recent UN and SC attention highlights rising need to respond to changing nature of violent conflict – POC has been a Security Council agenda item since 1999
8. The UN expects peacekeeping missions without an explicit POC mandate to still protect civilians.	True <ul style="list-style-type: none"> offer refuge monitor human rights violations advocate with potential perpetrators deter violence by being present, visible
9. Special authorization is needed for all use of deadly force by peacekeepers.	False All UN peacekeepers have the right to defend themselves from imminent threats of physical violence. Right to use force in self-defence, including deadly force <ul style="list-style-type: none"> applies to civilians, military, police requires no special authorization
10. Missions work on one tier of the POC operational concept at a time.	False Missions work on all three tiers at the same time – they reinforce each other in addressing protection. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dialogue and engagement Provision of physical protection

	3. Establishment of protection environment
11. The four phases that guide POC work are not necessarily sequential.	True A mission may initiate activities associated with different phases at the same time.
12. Through four POC phases, support and close coordination with host authorities is consistent.	True
13. Missions conduct regular threat and risk assessments to anticipate and prevent violence before it occurs, or at least to mitigate impact on civilians.	True <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consider political and security dynamics • analyse intent and capacity for violence of potential perpetrators • assess opportunity for threat to happen
14. A threat identified through regular assessment is analysed as a threat for the life of a mission.	False <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a threat continues to be a threat until reliable intelligence and analysis confirms no more capacity or intent to act on it
15. The risk of physical violence increases the longer a threat exists unaddressed.	True
16. POC planning and coordination is done mainly at the tactical level.	False POC planning and coordination has to happen across all three levels of peacekeeping – strategic, operational, tactical. This ensures coordination with humanitarians.

Commonly Asked Questions and Key Words

Key Words or phrases for this lesson:

Key Word or Phrase	Definition
Civilian	A civilian is someone not in the military. Expanded definition: any person not active in military or police, or in a belligerent group in a conflict. In international humanitarian law, 'civilian' refers to any person not directly taking part in hostilities or other acts of violence.

Commonly asked questions from participants:

Possible Questions	Possible Responses
What is the "Responsibility to protect"?	<p>In September 2005, the UN General Assembly held a high-level meeting or summit. Heads of states agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each state has primary responsibility to prevent and protect its people from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing; • The international community has responsibility to help states; • The international community should use diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means to protect populations from these crimes. When a state fails to protect its people or does protect criminals, the international community must take stronger measures including collective use of force. Legal reference is Chapter VII of the UN Charter. <p>"Responsibility to protect" is known as R2P, or RtoP. R2P goes beyond principles of peacekeeping to focus on extreme threats. The principle of consent of the host state, which applies in peacekeeping, does not apply to R2P.</p> <p>Protection of civilians (POC) and responsibility to protect (R2P) cover different priorities.</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/>
- Security Council resolution 1674 (2006) on Protection of Civilians (S/RES/1674)

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 (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.asp>

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