Business, Conflict & Peace

swisspeace

Business, Conflict & Peace Course

Course Topic

Businesses are often seen as the 'bad guys' in conflict-affected contexts. However, the roles businesses play in such environments are more complex. While some companies have been accused of committing human rights violations and exacerbating conflicts, others have been commended for advocating a peaceful resolution to conflict or actively engaging in international peace initiatives. One factor that heavily influences the way in which businesses operate in conflict contexts is their relationship to other actors like home states, host states, rebel groups, other businesses and NGOs.

Composed of online assignments and a 5-day on-site training, this course provides:
– Insights into international policies and multistakeholder initiatives on the role of business in peacebuilding and human rights
– Theoretical and empirical reflections on how businesses can promote peace but risk exacerbating conflict
– An overview of how state, civil society and private sector actors can support developing companies' due diligence processes

Course methodologies include simulation exercises, expert inputs, peer exchange, skills training, case studies and reflection.

Faculty

Leading scholars and experienced practitioners facilitate this course. Visit the Academy's website for the current faculty list.

Target Audience

This course is designed for practitioners and academics interested in bridging their experiences with current academic insights and practical knowledge on Business, Conflict and Peace.

Dates and Venue

The 5-day on-site phase of the course will take place in October 2014 at the swisspeace Academy in Basel, Switzerland. The registration deadline is 31 July 2014.

Degree

Successful participants are awarded a Confirmation of Participation. This course (5 ECTS) can be taken as one module of the Master of Advanced Studies in Peace & Conflict Transformation program (60 ECTS) offered by swisspeace and the University of Basel.

Contact

Please visit academy.swisspeace.ch or contact cas@swisspeace.ch for more information.

Host

swisspeace is a practice-oriented peace research institute that strives to build civilian peacebuilding capacities of Swiss and international actors by conducting research on violent conflicts and their peaceful transformation, offering training, consultancies and space for exchange of experiences.

Photo: Rebel fighters assemble their pullback in a market place in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. REUTERS / Goran Tomasevic, 2012