

FACE-TO-FACE

02 NOV 2026 - 05 NOV 2026

Navigating Middle East Dynamics: Politics, Engagement and UN Relations

Governance and Human Rights
Stakeholder engagement and partnerships
Sustainable development and the SDGs

**LANGUAGE**
English**DURATION**
3.5 days**ENROLL BY**
12 Oct 2026**PRICE**
3,000 USD**LOCATION**
New York (US)**TARGET**
Everyone **CONTACT** academicpartnerships@unssc.org

The programme “Navigating Middle East Dynamics: Politics, Engagement and UN Relations”, developed in collaboration between UNSSC and the American University of Beirut (AUB), is a specialized course designed to equip professionals in the multilateral system, policy-related fields, and the United Nations (UN) system with a deep understanding of the region’s political, social, and historical complexities to facilitate their engagement with the region through global policy, diplomacy and / or multilateral platforms.

The course will provide participants with a hands-on learning experience to equip them with the tools and insights needed for a successful process of understanding, allowing them to create strategic policy-making in the region. Its core design is focused on strengthening critical thinking and strategic decision-making while reinforcing professional values.

Introduction

The course “Navigating Middle East Dynamics: Politics, Engagement and UN Relations” responds to the increasing need for professionals to develop a nuanced understanding of the region. It focuses on governance structures, strategic orientation, regional geopolitical landscapes, and security and humanitarian issues.

Through a thoughtfully crafted curriculum that incorporates historical analysis, political dynamics, cultural insights, and institutional frameworks, participants will gain the knowledge and skills necessary for effective and pertinent engagement in the Middle East, as well as critical insights into its evolving dynamics.

By integrating **academic rigour**, **practical training**, and **insights from** professionals, this programme ensures that participants leave with **applicable skills** and a **deepened understanding** of the Middle East, ready to make a more meaningful impact in their professional roles. It further cultivates a critical awareness of the role of practitioners operating at a distance from or in the field, equipping participants to navigate the complexities of remote engagement while remaining attentive to local realities.

Upon successful completion, participants will be issued a joint certificate by UNSSC and AUB’s Global Engagement Initiative.

Objectives

By the end of the course, participants will:

- Develop a deep and applicable understanding of key issues shaping the region.
- Develop analytical and strategic decision-making skills to navigate policy, cultural, diplomatic and humanitarian challenges in the region.
- Reinforce professional values essential for effective regional engagement.
- Understand how UN engagement is shaped at headquarters and across the system, and the role of UN institutions in the Middle East.

Course methodology

This face-to-face course combines inputs and presentations by professors, policymakers, and practitioners from renowned universities and international organisations through a structured curriculum that balances foundational knowledge with hands-on application. Participants will apply their learning through experiential learning methodologies such as case studies, team and peer discussions, panels and other participatory and innovative learning methods.

Course contents

The programme addresses a wide array of topics, including state development, modern governance, conflict dynamics, geopolitical power struggles, and the impact of international actors in the region, including the UN.

The course will cover the following themes:

- Strategic orientation from New York: the Middle East from a global perspective.
- Power, society and legitimacy: how authority actually works in the region.
- Conflict systems and crisis governance: multilateral action under pressure.
- Civil society, gender and humanitarian intervention in the region.
- Forward strategy and networking: from understanding to action.

Target audience

This programme is tailored for professionals in the multilateral system, policy-related fields, and the UN system engaging with the region through global policy, diplomacy and / or multilateral platforms, particularly within the UN system.

Cost of participation

\$3.000,00 USD.