



# HONORARY CONSULS SPECIAL PROGRAM

## EXECUTIVE DIPLOMA & PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE

The **United Nations Institute for Training and Research** and the **IUHEI Crans Montana Institute** aim to highlight the eminent role of Honorary Consuls in the diplomatic life and provide them, beyond an in-depth technical knowledge of their rights and duties, with the tools of a (1) real professional efficiency and the means for acquiring a (2) prestigious social recognition.

They therefore propose a specialized and high level capacity building program for **Honorary Consuls** associated to the issuance of an **OFFICIAL DIPLOMA** and **PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE**.

The Consular institution is sometimes viewed by practitioners alike as the poor sibling of diplomacy. That is totally ignoring the huge potential of consular instruments which offer multiple perspectives on the subject of diplomatic representation and the exercise of state sovereignty.

In this vein, the use of Honorary Consuls for selected bilateral relationships provides fresh insights into the study of international relations and diplomacy, particularly for small states.

This program will particularly help honorary consuls to discover how they can extend the bilateral diplomatic representation of their country often limited due to the constrained resources, enhance both its brand and international relevance and play an important role in its international economic relations.

Indeed, honorary consuls can contribute decisively to the international image of their country far beyond the classical functions of visa issuance and citizen services as example !

These extended functions encompass efforts notably in the public, social, economic and cultural diplomacy domains and such opportunities will help to make the role of the Honorary Consul more visible locally and to position him as a respected and essential actor in the public life and business.

# PROGRAM

## THE HONORARY CONSUL AND THE GLOBAL DIPLOMATIC CHESSBOARD

- Introduction to International Law and Multilateral Diplomacy
- The laws governing diplomatic and consular relations: the April 24, 1963 Vienna Convention
- Diplomatic vs Consular relations
- The historic development of Honorary Consuls. Goodwill agents of their government
- The Status of Honorary Consuls in International Law

## THE HONORARY CONSUL AT WORK

### A. *THE PERSONAL STATUS OF THE HONORARY CONSUL*

- General practice of Diplomatic and Consular Privileges and Immunities
- Specific Privileges and Immunities of the Honorary Consul
- The documents of legitimation
- The use of a diplomatic passport
- The fiscal status of the Honorary Consul
- The fiscal status of the Consular premises
- The right to collect duties and taxes relating to Consular activities
- The inviolability of official correspondence and archives

### B. *THE HONORARY CONSUL, REPRESENTATIVE OF ITS NATIONAL AUTHORITIES*

- Special Protocol for Honorary Consuls
- Ceremonies and social occasions
- The use of the national flag and coat of arms (consulate, private residence and official cars)

### C. *THE HONORARY CONSUL AND HIS PERSONAL IMAGE*

- The Contemporary role of Honorary Consuls
- How to improve it ?
- Improving the role and social recognition of the Honorary Consul

## THE WORK OF THE HONORARY CONSUL

- Role and Responsibilities of the Honorary Consul
- Role of the Honorary Consul during times of crisis
- The laws governing the work of the Honorary Consul
- Honorary Consuls' best practices
- Anti-Bribery and Corruption

## **THE HONORARY CONSUL PROMOTING THE IMAGE OF HIS COUNTRY**

- Unlimited opportunities exist to create awareness about the Honorary Consul's country
- Main fields of activity : representation, development of economic, social, cultural and educational relations
- Replacing a diplomatic corps when absent
- Open and free discussion with experienced Honorary Consuls

## **ASSISTANCE TO CITIZENS**

- The case of people unable or who cannot reasonably be expected to assume their own interests - temporary financial distress
- Loss of passport or identity card – establishment of provisional travel documents
- The case of illness or accident
- Assistance in case of death
- Deprivation of liberty: assisting and informing the imprisoned person about his rights of defense, ensuring that the right to humane conditions of detention, procedural guarantees and the rights of defense are respected

## **THE HONORARY CONSUL'S DIPLOMATIC ROLE**

- The relationship of the Honorary Consul with his own national diplomatic agents
- The diplomatic missions of the Honorary Consul
- The relations of the Honorary Consul with foreign diplomatic missions and networks

## **SPECIAL ISSUES**

- The relations of the Honorary Consul with other Honorary Consuls
- Local associations of Honorary Consuls
- National coordination networks of Honorary Consuls

# METHODOLOGY

Each module consists of pre-recorded lectures by experts and live sessions with heads of state, members of government, skilled diplomats and serving Honorary Consuls.

Participants can navigate through at their own pace and in their own time for maximum flexibility and learning comfort. Live sessions allow the exchange between participants and between participants and experts.

At the end of each Module workshop will be held consisting of 3 hours

## **COURSES ON A 3 MONTHS PERIOD**

11 sessions of 2 hours each

6 workshop of 3 hours each

THE HONORARY CONSUL  
AND THE GLOBAL DIPLOMATIC CHESSBOARD

**2 sessions of 2 hours each**

**1 workshop of 3 hours**

THE HONORARY CONSUL AT WORK

**3 sessions of 2 hours each**

**1 workshop of 3 hours**

THE WORK OF THE HONORARY CONSUL

**2 sessions of 2 hours each**

**1 workshop of 3 hours**

THE HONORARY CONSUL  
PROMOTING THE IMAGE OF HIS COUNTRY

**1 session of 2 hours**

**1 workshop of 3 hours**

THE HONORARY CONSUL'S DIPLOMATIC ROLE

**1 session of 2 hours**

**1 workshop of 3 hours**

ASSISTANCE TO CITIZENS

**2 session of 2 hours each**

**1 workshop of 3 hours**

SPECIAL ISSUES

**1 session of 2 hours**

*THE OFFICIAL DIPLOMA IS PRESENTED UPON THE COMPLETION  
OF THE PROGRAM*

## **OPTIONAL AND SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR THE LAUREATES IN ADDITION TO THE PROGRAM**

- **Graduation Ceremony in Geneva with the participation of top UN Officials with the official presentation of the diploma**

An exceptional opportunity to network and get acquainted with senior diplomats from around the world and high level civil servants of International Organizations among them UNO, UNCTAD, WHO etc headquartered in Geneva



- **Four day face to face retreat in the resort of Crans-Montana (Valais-Switzerland) gathering Honorary Consuls around a number of selected top international VIPs**

Thanks to the Crans Montana Forum and the IUHEI Crns Montana Institute, a number of selected key Government Officials will be invited to exchange and network with the Honorary Consuls graduated

- **Three day seminar in Brussels (Belgium) chaired by an European Commissioner with official visits and meetings at the European Institutions among them the European Commission and the European Parliament**

A unique experience allowing to discover the European mechanisms and network with the key decision makers of Brussels.