

# UPEACE WEEKLY SUMMARY



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**Pictured:** Vice Rector Juan Carlos Sainz-Borgo, Department Chair Karen Acosta, and Program Coordinator Gabriela Montero with award recipients.

## UPEACE Awards Specialization Diplomas for the Master's in Environment, Development, and Peace

In a heartfelt ceremony last weekend at the University for Peace's main campus in San José, Costa Rica, UPEACE officials proudly awarded Specialization Diplomas to the latest cohort of the Master's Degree in Environment, Development, and Peace, conducted in Spanish.

The event was presided over by UPEACE Vice Rector Dr. Juan Carlos Sainz-Borgo, alongside Karen Acosta, Chair of the Department of Regional Studies, and Gabriela Montero, Program Coordinator, who proudly presented the diplomas to the graduates.

This significant occasion celebrated the culmination of an intensive academic journey, equipping participants with essential tools to tackle contemporary environmental and social challenges. As specialists in Environment, Development, and Peace, these graduates are now ready to spearhead initiatives aimed at creating more just, sustainable, and peaceful societies. Next stop: their master's degree!

[About this M.A.](#)



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## UPEACE Centre for Executive Education Wraps Up Successful In-Person Course on Intercultural Communication and Collaboration



**Pictured:** Participants in the Intercultural Communication and Collaboration course alongside CEE representatives and facilitator Lindsey K.

The UPEACE Centre for Executive Education successfully hosted the latest edition of the Intercultural Communication and Collaboration course, led by Lindsey K. over two full days at the University for Peace main campus in San José, Costa Rica.

This engaging and highly interactive workshop brought together a diverse group of leaders and professionals who delved into key topics such as cultural awareness, inclusive communication, ethnocentric attitudes, and the nuances of verbal and nonverbal communication through dynamic, collaborative activities.

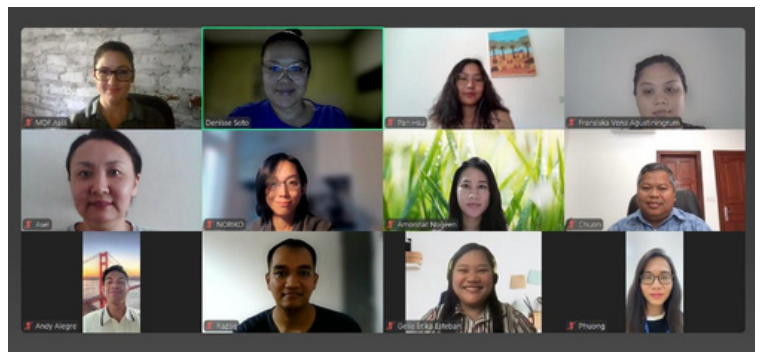
Participants experienced a blend of theory, introspection, and peer learning, fostering a safe space for dialogue and the practice of essential skills needed to lead with empathy and effectiveness in multicultural environments. By the end of the course, attendees received a certificate along with valuable tools to enhance mutual understanding and collaboration in both their professional and personal lives.

[More about the course](#)

## Second Edition of Professional Training Courses for Alumni of the Asian Peacebuilders Scholarship Program Comes to a Successful Close

The University for Peace celebrated the successful completion of the second edition of professional training courses for alumni of the recently-concluded Asian Peacebuilders Scholarship (APS) program – financed for over a decade by The Nippon Foundation – an initiative designed to enhance the skills of individuals dedicated to peacebuilding in their communities and regions.

This virtual get-together welcomed 20 alumni from various Asian countries, who engaged in a rich learning experience centered on three key areas essential for fieldwork: project proposal formulation, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.



**Pictured:** APS Alumni joined UPEACE Alumni Relations Officer Denise Soto for the second edition of professional training courses aimed at this specific population.



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## UPEACE and League of Arab States Forge Historic MoU in Geneva to Advance Peace and Coexistence



**Pictured:** Ambassador David Fernandez-Puyana (UPEACE), Ambassador Bayoudh (League of Arab States), and Ambassador Abdullah (Kingdom of Bahrain) during the signing of the MoU at UN headquarters in Geneva.

In a historic ceremony at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva, Ambassador David Fernandez-Puyana, Permanent Observer of the University for Peace to the UN in Geneva, and Ambassador Bayoudh, representative of the League of Arab States, signed a Memorandum of Understanding, marking the beginning of a new era of strategic cooperation. The signing was supported by Ambassador Abdullah of the Kingdom of Bahrain, President of the Council of Arab Ambassadors.

This agreement paves the way for the development of new programs aimed at promoting peace, coexistence, and interregional dialogue, with a particular focus on the Middle East. The initiatives will seek to strengthen understanding and create effective cooperation spaces between the parties, grounded in the principle that dialogue is essential for peaceful conflict resolution and sustainable development.

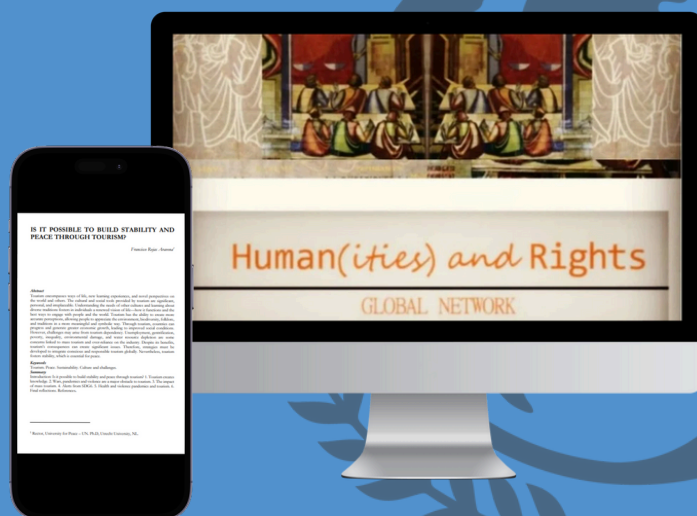
## Interested in exploring critical perspectives on pressing global issues?

UPEACE Rector Dr. Francisco Rojas and Vice Rector Dr. Juan Carlos Sainz-Borgo have contributed to the latest volume of the University of Salamanca's *Humanities and Rights Global Network Journal* with their articles "Is it possible to build stability and peace through tourism?" and "The School of Salamanca with special reference to the right to peace"

[Rector's Article](#)



[Vice Rector's Article](#)



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