



EXECUTIVE DIPLOMA

Governance Resilience and Recovery - Syria

Strengthening Leadership for Syria's Future

The DPP Syria – Governance, Resilience and Recovery (DPP–GRR) is a specialised executive education programme designed for Syrian professionals based in Syria working on governance, resilience, development, institutional reform and recovery. Combining regional learning in Syria, workplace-based applied research and leadership training in Geneva, the programme aims to strengthen the capacities of a new generation of Syrian professionals contributing to inclusive and sustainable recovery processes in post-conflict settings.

Objectives

The Governance Resilience and Recovery programme will enable you to:

- Strengthen leadership, governance and institutional reform capacities in fragile and conflict-affected contexts
- Support inclusive, conflict-sensitive and gender-responsive recovery approaches
- Develop practical and policy-oriented skills through applied research and workplace-based learning
- Promote social cohesion, accountability and citizen-centred governance
- Support local economic recovery, entrepreneurship and sustainable development initiatives
- Strengthen cooperation and dialogue between public institutions, civil society, academia and the private sector
- Foster a long-term Community of Practice connecting Syrian professionals and institutions working on recovery and resilience

INFORMATION

FEE	Full scholarships are awarded to eligible participants selected for the programme
APPLICATION DEADLINE	22 June 2026
DATES	See exact dates on the website
FORMAT	Module 1: in Damascus & online Module 2: at workplace Module 3: in Geneva

DEGREES AWARDED

→ **Diploma of Advanced Studies in Development Policies and Practices - Governance, Resilience and Recovery (30 ECTS)**

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

- Syrian nationals based in Syria holding or aspiring to hold leadership positions within public institutions, local administrations, international organisations, NGOs, academic institutions and the broader civil society sector involved in governance, resilience and recovery processes
- Syrian professionals from the private sector seeking to strengthen their knowledge and practical expertise in governance, institutional recovery, entrepreneurship, local economic development and sustainable recovery in fragile and conflict-affected contexts
- Mid-career professionals engaged in public service delivery, social cohesion, humanitarian and development programming, institutional reform, policy development and community-based recovery initiatives in Syria
- English proficiency is required

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PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Module 1

Syria regional hub

Participants begin with an online introductory component developed in collaboration with Damascus University, followed by an intensive in-person module delivered in Damascus at the Syrian Diplomatic Institute.

The module focuses on governance, development, institutional recovery, resilience, social cohesion, human security and inclusive service delivery in post-conflict and complex contexts. It also strengthens participants' transversal and methodological skills, including critical thinking, analytical capacity, strategic decision-making and problem-solving in complex environments.

Module 2

Workplace-based Learning

Participants return to their professional environments to develop a practice-based professional thesis linked to a concrete governance, resilience or recovery challenge within their institution or community. They receive continuous mentoring, academic supervision and access to specialised online thematic courses.

Module 3

Geneva

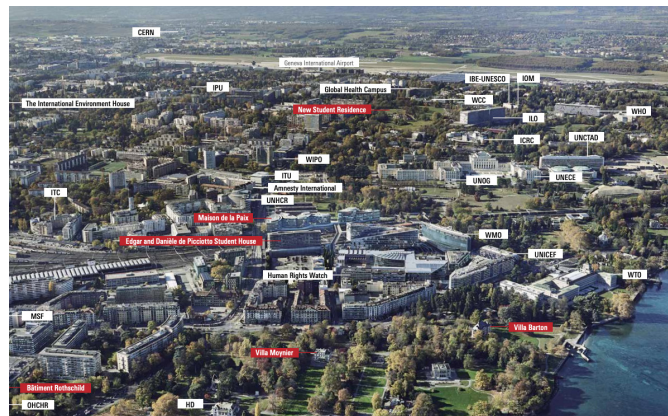
The final module takes place in Geneva and focuses on leadership, negotiation, strategic management and international policy engagement. Participants present and defend their professional papers while interacting with international organisations, Swiss institutions and Geneva-based policy actors.



Programme Director Alexandre Dormeier Freire

Dr. Alexandre Dormeier Freire is a sociologist of education, senior lecturer and holds the position of Director of the Executive Programmes in Development Policies and Practices (DPP), and Conflict and Fragility Management (DPP-CFM). He is a faculty associate of the Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP). He has extensive professional experience in managing research projects and executive training programmes in the Global South.

Geneva Graduate Institute



A well-established reputation

The Geneva Graduate Institute is an institution of research and postgraduate education dedicated to the study of world affairs since 1927. Over the past ten years, the Institute's Executive Education has trained over 4,000 professionals.

International Geneva

Centrally-located in Geneva, the Institute's Executive Education Programme attracts a unique mix of participants from all sectors, countries and positions. Join the Institute's network of over 20,000 alumnae-i and benefit from a unique platform for inspiring exchanges and networking opportunities.

Design your own learning journey

The Geneva Graduate Institute is an institution of higher education, accredited by the Swiss government to deliver degrees - fully recognised academic credentials. The Governance, Resilience and Recovery programme can be taken as part of the Executive Master in International Relations (60 ECTS). The personalised and modular MAS is designed to empower professionals to become knowledgeable and efficient in their engagement with today's complex global affairs.

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