

UNIT 5

DIPLOMATIC CAREER TRACKS

Vocabulary List

career track	to convey publicly
complex issue	to deliver messages in person
controversial case	to earn trust of the interlocutors
conventional views and stereotypes	to establish and maintain contacts
embassy officer	to gain insights from
front line	to grant awards to
high-level officials	to handle issues fully
host government	to handle human resources
merits and advantages	to handle interaction with domestic and foreign media
obligation under national and local laws	to have grace under pressure
relevant instrument	to investigate conditions
think-tank	to keep close touch with
tremendous contact work	to keep on top of all
transparency	to oversee technical stuff
value of one's diversity	to possess expertise experience
to advance national policy objectives	to presumably encounter with
to assign to	to promote educational and cultural exchange
to be at ease in the variety of environments	to promote free speech and transparency
to be bound to	to require close interaction with
to be in charge of	to shape and deliver the country's message
to chair numerous committees	to supervise local stuff
to conduct research via interview	to take privilege and responsibility

When registering to take a Foreign Service Officer Test, applicants are requested to make the first big decision in their Foreign Service career – the choice of career track. While all Foreign Service officers are technically termed “generalists” the choice of functional specialization will determine what type of work a Foreign Service officer will do most of his or her career.

The five “generalists” career tracks or “cones” as they were once officially and still commonly referred to are: Consular, Economic, Management, Political and Public

Diplomacy. Each career track is unique with its own merits and disadvantages. Conversing with Foreign Service Officers one can presumably encounter with some conventional views and stereotypes about each of the cones regarding one's own cone as "the superior". To define the appropriate career type potential FSOs are authorized to conduct their research preferably via interviews with officers currently employed in each career track of interest.

Consular Track. Consular officers tend to establish our communication with the world, taking both privilege and responsibility to decide who does and who does not get a visa. Consular officers are also on the front lines promoting responsible for all matters related to environment, science, technology, health and labour. They cooperate closely with US diplomats from Foreign Commercial Service and Foreign Agricultural Service, handling those issues fully at smaller posts where these departments may not be represented. Economic officers also consult the ambassador on all matters in their portfolio often writing speeches for embassy leadership or delivering them in person. Being involved in this career track requires a certain familiarity with economic, trade, business principles, even the best economic officers spend very little time crunching numbers. The best economic officers are supposed to possess technical expertise experience, analytical minds and excellent writing and people skills.

Management Track. Management officers run the embassies. Similar to managers in multinational firms, State Department management officers handle all of an embassy's human resources, budget and finance, real estate and property matters, in a multicultural, multilingual environment.

The management officer's objective is to provide the most appropriate service to colleagues – to ensure they have the relevant instruments to carry out the embassy's mission. Management officers oversee its technical staff providing the communication systems, regulate the activity of staff responsible for improving family member morale and chair numerous committees – from those ensuring mission resources being utilizes fairly among various government offices represented at the embassy, to those assigning housing to incoming officers and those granting awards to employees.

Being privy to almost everything that is related to the mission, the management officer is one of the ambassador's closest consultants, keeping the executive office informed on everything from morale issues to the embassy's obligations under national and local laws.

Political Track. Political work is what many expect when they think of diplomatic work. A political officer establishes and maintains contacts in the national and local governments and keeps in close touch with political parties, think-tanks, nongovernmental organizations, activists, journalists. His functions include delivering official messages (demarches) from the national government to local bodies and reporting the response to those messages. A political officer will use the insight gained from local contacts and experiences to inform on the variety of issues that may be of interest. Political officers do not just deliver a message to the host government but apply their skills of persuasion to motivate a government to take a certain action or support a definite policy strategy. A successful political officer analyzes trends and, using excellent written communications skills makes recommendations on opportunities to advance national policy objectives in a certain country or region. Political officers accompany ambassadors and other high-level officials to meetings taking notes and reporting negotiations. They serve as control officers for visiting officials and delegations, designing their agendas, accompanying them to meetings and managing logistics. Political officers advise the ambassador and deputy chief of mission – the embassy’s front line office – on whom to meet and what to negotiate. They should hold natural capacity to earn the trust of their interlocutors. They are at ease in a variety of environments from exchanging business cards at receptions and giving speeches at conferences to investigating conditions in refugee camps.

Public Diplomacy Track. Public diplomacy (PD) officers are the public relations professionals. They shape and deliver the country’s message to the world; handle interaction with domestic and foreign media, explain a state’s history and culture specificity, as well as the value of its diversity to foreign audiences promoting educational and cultural exchange. This career track involves tremendous contact work: meeting with and developing close ties to foreign journalists, government officials, educators, nongovernmental organizations, think-tanks and those in the arts.

Public diplomacy work also requires close interaction with colleagues and knowledge of all the issues they handle – from political strategies and economic programs to a controversial consular case or a complex legal issue being considered by the management section. The PD officer must keep on top of it all in order to explain it to press and public.

PD officers usually get management experience early on. They are responsible for programmatic budgets and often supervise significant numbers of local staff. Information officers, or those PD officers in charge of press affairs, work closely with

journalists, acting as a source of information, and promoting free speech and transparency.

Public diplomacy officers advise the ambassador and other embassy leaders on what to convey publicly and when to convey it. They must have excellent foreign-language and public speaking skills. They are bound to enjoy the spotlight and have grace under pressure.

(after Kelly Adams-Smith

https://www.afsa.org/sites/default/files/Portals/0/iuse_career_tracks.pdf)

Exercise 1. Find in the text the English for:

мультикультурне та багатомовне середовище	зберігати витримку у напруженій ситуації
ймовірно зіштовхнутися	очолювати численні комітети
зобов'язання згідно з національними та місцевими законами	підтримувати тісні зв'язки
належний засіб; відповідний документ	вивчати стан справ
мозковий центр	бути відповідальним за
передавати інформацію особисто	бути в курсі всіх справ
здобути довіру співрозмовників	контролювати технічний персонал
значна робота з налагодження контактів	мати експертний досвід
прозорість, відкритість	кар'єра
цінність розмаїття	складне питання
сприяти досягненню цілей національної політики	суперечлива справа
призначати	усталені погляди та стереотипи
вільно почуватися у різних ситуаціях	працівник посольства
бути зобов'язаним	передова
проводити дослідження шляхом інтерв'ю	високопосадовці
відкрито повідомити, оприлюднити інформацію	уряд, що приймає
встановлювати та підтримувати контакти	достоїнства і переваги
збагнути суть	сприяти культурним та освітнім обмінам
винагороджувати	сприяти свободі слова та
ретельно розглядати питання	відкритості вимагати тісної
здійснювати управління кадрами	взаємодії сформувати та
	оприлюднити позицію країни
	керувати місцевим персоналом
	користуватися привілеями та брати
	на себе відповідальність

Exercise 2. Fill in the gaps using the following collocations.

to have an obligation	to handle issues fully
merits and disadvantages	think-tank
to possess expertise experience	to chair a committee
to deliver an official message	embassy officer
take privilege and responsibility	relevant instrument

1. Members selected to join the international delegation ___ of representing each and every member of the National Committee throughout the year.
2. The Commission of the European Communities shall ___ and provide the secretariat on behalf of the European Community.
3. Board members should ___ leadership skills, and have an understanding of local health issues, needs and priorities.
4. It is premature ___ now, as the Commission is not convinced that the necessary preparatory measures have been put in place.
5. The given process included progressive secularization of world politics, the development of the principles and ___ of international law, as well as the generation of international governmental organizations.
6. We need to talk about systemic violence, not only in terms of legislation but in terms of setting clear, comprehensive, holistic strategies where we work across departments to ensure that we ___.
7. In that context, the delegation of the Republic of Korea expressed the view that the secretariat should reassess ___ of each candidate city through field trips and submit a revised road map and report for the consideration of member countries.
8. The Community and the Member States should ___ to ensure that the commercial and intellectual property rights of the national manufacturers are protected.
9. All of our missions around the world have been in regular contact with ___ of many countries keeping them informed of developments and pressing for a resumption of trade.
10. The aim is to establish a highly-positioned ___ structure able to address various issues on the national development agenda in a professional, objective and timely manner.

Exercise 3. Paraphrase the highlighted expressions using the phrases from the Vocabulary list.

1. Rights & Democracy would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your *remarkably essential communication activity* and commitment to the defence and promotion of human rights.

2. The Council carried out a relatively extensive revision of the text of the proposal in order *to comprehensively consider the questions* of particular concern to the Member States.
3. The implementation of the programme should be done in an international environment conducive to contacts fostering, but the Government of Guinea-Bissau must continue *to earn the confidence of communication partners*.
4. If UNESCO is an organization committed to "peace" and to "common welfare", the question remains: can UNESCO *apparently face* "peace" and "common welfare" issues?
5. The GATS preamble also provides for the right of Members to regulate the supply of services in order to meet and *promote domestic policy goals*.
6. Close cooperation, coordination and dialogue between the Commission and the member-states *demand close reciprocal contact* with the sectors responsible for the implementation of the EU policies.
7. As we have initiated, we *foster communication* among non-governmental organizations of South-East European countries.
8. Our communication team aims *to transmit information openly* in ways that encourage decision makers to promote the state's position in the international organizations and world arena.
9. Legal aid clients may be intimidated by domestic court proceedings and do not *feel comfortable in situations* when requesting services in the official language of the minority.
10. This series is organised with the support of its member national political foundations and *strategy and decision issuing groups* in their respective countries.

Exercise 4. Match the words or phrases with their definitions.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. instrument | a. subject that often discussed or argued about |
| 2. merit | b. an ability to understand or recognize easily |
| 3. environment | c. c. a planned series of actions for achieving smth |
| 4. controversial issue | d. something that is used to get a particular result |
| 5. obligation | e. people and things that are around, general situation |
| 6. strategy | f. a moral or legal duty to do smth |
| 7. insight | g. a group responsible for working out decisions |
| 8. supervise | h. an advantage or good feature of |
| 9. track | i. a course of action or thought |
| 10. think-tank | j. to be in charge of, check |

Exercise 5. Comment on the meaning of the following notions.

conventional views and stereotypes

grace under pressure

controversial issue

national policy objectives

multicultural and multilingual

think-tank

environment

relevant instrument

Exercise 6. Agree or disagree with the following statements.

1. Political work involves two main areas: cultivating contacts and writing cables.
2. Only political officers become ambassadors.
3. Consular officers make judgments about foreign nationals who want to travel to the country.
4. Consular officers spend their days stamping passports and issuing visas.
5. Economic officers must bring an in-depth knowledge of quantitative economics into the Foreign Service
6. Management officers do boring and routine work.
7. Management officer is in charge of everything from finance, real estate management, human resources, IT, possibly a medical clinic, embassy morale, and countless other areas.
8. Public diplomacy officers only monitor news media and organize cultural performances in foreign countries.
9. Public diplomacy officers engage and network with the full range of host national society and government to shape the public message and perceptions about the country.
10. Public diplomacy officers maintain contacts with key people who influence public opinion.

Exercise 7. Complete the sentences using the text as well as your own ideas.

1. Consular officers tend to ...
2. A political officer establishes ...
3. Being privy to almost everything that is related to mission, the management officer ...
4. Political officers do not just deliver ...
5. Public diplomacy officers are ...

Exercise. 8. Comment on the meaning of the following words and fill in the gaps with the appropriate form of the word.

• **apply (to / for) – comply (with) - imply**

1. These ideas sound reasonable but they are difficult ___ under the current conditions.
2. Failure to ___ the WTO regulations will result in imposing stricter international sanctions.
3. Reccommitments ___ an administrative procedure that also involves the headquarters of the UN Security Council.
4. When a request is rejected because it fails ___ the required procedures or formalities, the applicant shall be informed of the rejection as quickly as possible.
5. This was not a question in the survey, but the overall survey results ___ that people are not yet able to fully use such services to their advantage.

• **maintain – attain – retain – sustain**

1. In helping free and independent nations ___ their freedom, the United States will be giving effect to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
2. This is a forum which above all needs political leadership if we wish ___ the opportunities that are opening up before us.
3. States ___ the right to determine who enters their country, so long as their policies are consistent with international human rights norms.
4. On the economic front, this informal European Council should examine how to meet the short-term challenges, press ahead with the necessary structural changes to secure recovery and ___ future growth and job creation.
5. The Commonwealth is not a power bloc. It is held together largely by shared values and International Relations by the desire ___ this voluntary link with Britain and with other Commonwealth states
6. In spite of various attempts by the Presidency to present compromise proposals in order to meet delegations' concerns, it was not possible, at this stage, ___ the qualified majority.

Exercise 9. Note the difference between the following synonyms and fill in the gaps.

• **convey – transfer – communicate**

1. The US Secretary of State intended ___ a robust attitude towards political action using taken-for-granted geographical templates such as the ‘axis of evil’ and ‘outposts of tyranny’.

2. These incidents seriously jeopardise the peace process and openly flout elementary principles of international law. Thus, the EU member-states will have to create and ___ the main principles of integration process to the applicants.
3. The instrument also bans the production, development, stockpiling, and ___ of chemical weapons, and enables the newly established Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to monitor chemical plants and industrial sites around the world.
4. As such the chief public health officer will have the legislative authority to ___ directly with Canadians, provide them with information on public health matters and to prepare and publish reports on any public health issues.

• **obligation – duty – commitment**

1. Citizens have a(n) ___ to assist the state in defence of the community against external attack, as there is clear ___ to defend and uphold the constitution and enforce the laws.
2. The EU has also expressed a strong ___ to deepening its engagement with Moldova, so as to help the country restore stability, continue democratic reforms, work for national reconciliation and create prosperity for its people.
3. One may also be asked to consider how to go about making and justifying moral claim (such as ‘we have a ___ to eradicate poverty in the developing world’) in the face of a claim to the contrary.
4. Undoubtedly the most serious flaw in the Non-Proliferation Treaty lies in its failure to ensure that the US and other nuclear weapons states live up to their ___ to seek to end the nuclear arms race.

Exercise 10. Choose the appropriate derivative.

• **response – respond – responding – responsive – responsible**

1. Realism was the beginning of a political science of international relations and a necessary ___ to the utopianism, or wishful thinking.
2. Successive peace settlements clearly ___ to this antihegemonic principle punctuate the history of modern international politics.
3. When in 1935 the League failed again ___ to aggression (this time in the face of the Italian invasion of Ethiopia) the fate of the experiment was sealed.
4. The Government of Sudan has been ___ for gross violations of human rights against the black African population of the region.
5. While mobility helped to make the United Nations more flexible and ___ and to foster staff development, it should not lead to a loss of specialized knowledge within the Organization.

6. If world politics is anarchical then the idea that we should design international institutions ___ to a real harmony of interests that underlay the obvious disharmony of national interest is absurd.

Exercise 11. Translate the sentences.

1. Формуючи порядок денний конференції, необхідно враховувати стратегії впливу ЗМІ на громадян у часи соціальної напруги та повною мірою усвідомлювати складність усіх суперечливих питань.
2. Для майбутніх працівників дипломатичного корпусу важливо брати участь у міжнародних програмах освітніх обмінів, здобувати великий досвід співпраці з представниками інших культур, щоб у подальшому вільно почуватися у багатомовному та мультикультурному середовищі.
3. Працівники посольства є мозковим центром дипломатичного представництва, тому вони повинні бути в курсі всіх справ, налагоджувати тісну та плідну взаємодію з національними та іноземними ЗМІ, щоб належно представляти політику країни на міжнародній арені.
4. Політична стратегія – це заходи, що застосовуються спільнотами та окремими громадянами, з метою формування державної політики та участі в управлінні державними справами на будь-якому рівні політичної влади – місцевому чи загальнонаціональному.
5. Єдність ЄС полягає в розмаїтті мультикультурного та багатомовного середовища, яке створюють члени цього політичного об'єднання.
6. У процесі проведення міжнародних форумів високого рівня уряд, що приймає, формує міжнародний порядок денний та має можливість уповні висловити позицію своєї країни стосовно суперечливих питань.
7. Недотримання норм внутрішнього та міжнародного законодавства призведе до того, що стратегічним галузям країни доведеться зіштовхнутися з проблемами, для вирішення яких потрібно буде досягнути тісної взаємодії між представниками влади та бізнесу.
8. Дотримання принципів свободи висловлювання та відкритості, а також врахування не лише усталених поглядів та стереотипів дозволить налагоджувати контакти для культурних та освітніх обмінів.
9. Побудова громадянського суспільства передбачає, передовсім, налагодження та підтримання тісних контактів громадян з офіційними особами, які відповідають за розгляд та вирішення складних питань суспільного життя.
10. Сприяння свободі думки та висловлювань, а також досягнення прозорості у вирішенні політичних проблем та веденні бізнесу з іноземними партнерами

все ще залишаються питаннями порядку денного, до вирішення яких повинна долучитись і відкрита дипломатія.

Exercise 12. Fill in the gaps with preposition(s).

1. Therefore it is appropriate to help them to overcome the difficulties they might encounter ... such retroactive implementation ... these norms ... their national legislation.
2. ... addition, the commission produced over 40 background and research papers ... a wide range ... subjects and organized public policy forums and roundtables, including three international roundtables ... London, Paris and Washington in order to gain insight ... countries facing policy challenges similar ... our own.
3. What are non-monetary aspects ... New Media content creation? Availability, willingness to go a bit further if needed than the obligations ... your service agreement without asking to review the agreement, being a dynamic contributor ... the project team and making sure that the team succeeds, grace ... pressure and good interpersonal skills are some ... the non-monetary aspects that increase your value in your clients' eyes.
4. Assignment ... the Contract does not relieve the Contractor ... any obligation ... the Contract and it does not impose any liability ... Canada.
5. We keep ... top ... all the latest developments and examine them closely to determine what's flash ... the pan and what's here to stay.
6. It can be used ... ease ... a variety ... environments, especially the emergency situations ... local level, requiring taking immediate measures, all ... the strictest security.
7. The Ontario Summit is an important event, and I do wish I could have attended to, not only so that I could deliver my remarks ... person, but so that I could listen ... the various discussions that will take place ... the course ... the next two days.
8. We are both proud ... honour to earn the trust ... the Dutch government," said Anko Blokzijl, chairman ... the non-executive board ... Sagem Identification.
9. Such participation ... country programming and follow- up could be facilitated ... the establishment ... UNCTAD within country focal points, which should be ... close touch ... UN Resident Coordinators.
10. The Parties reaffirm their commitment ... existing obligations ... international law regarding migration matters to ensure respect ... human rights and to eliminate all forms ... discrimination based particularly ... origin, sex, race, language and religion.

Exercise 13. Make up collocations combining words from boxes A and B and C, prepare a brief report using them.

A

issue	commitment	mission	environment	nature
question	instrument	insights	insight	work
contacts	communication	view	strategy	touch
government	conditions	line	character	message
problem	objectives	charge	interview	
interaction	case	research	official	
stuff	matter	experience	transparency	

B

relevant	controversial	tremendous	complex	close
front	host	multicultural	political	high-level

C

to establish	to deliver	to convey	to promote	to gain
to shape	to chair	to maintain	to supervise	to oversee
to support	to possess	to investigate	to be	to support
to conduct	to develop	to carry out	to be involved	to handle

Exercise 14. Discuss the following statements.

1. A diplomat is a person who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you actually look forward to the trip.

Caskie Stinnett

2. No statement should be believed because it is made by an authority.

Robert A. Heinlein

3. Never hate your enemies. It affects your judgement.

M. Puzo. "The Godfather"

Exercise 15. Debate circuit.

Political Science and Diplomatic Science form totally unrelated spheres of knowledge

Points for:

- In the US students majoring in the Political Science will focus their studies on the US government, branches of government, types of government, political history, political process, political theory, legislation, policy, economics, etc.

- Political Science graduates continue to take a deeper look at government, whereas those students majoring in diplomacy take that core knowledge and apply it to the world at large.
- Diplomatic Science students may have a greater chance of working abroad depending upon the focus of their study.
- Students majoring in diplomacy study foreign policy, different types of government, various nations, inter-governmental organizations such as the United Nations (UN), supra-national organizations.

Points against:

- Political and Diplomatic Science both fall under the category of the Social Sciences.
- Most researchers consider Political Science as an umbrella term that consists of various branches such as Comparative Politics, Diplomatic Science, Public Policy, and Political Philosophy.
- Political Science and Diplomatic Science programmes have a great deal in common. Political Science focuses on all aspects of government while Diplomatic Science applies that core knowledge to the world stage.
- The overwhelming number of topics available allows the focus of university programmes offered to students of Diplomatic Science to vary from outer space policy to environmental issues.
- While each branch can be considered separate academic areas of study, there is no denying that the core concepts of Political Science can be found within both branches. Often when beginning any university programme with a focus on politics you will first learn the basics of Political Science

Exercise 16. Make a presentation.

1. Benefits and challenges of being a diplomat.
2. Outstanding foreign / Ukrainian diplomats.
3. Diplomatic ranks.

Exercise 17. Write an essay.

1. Misconceptions people have about the diplomatic career.
2. Key competences of diplomats.

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