

2006

DIPLO

Annual Report

Published by DiploFoundation

Malta

DiploFoundation
4th Floor, Regional Building, Regional Road
Msida, MSD 13
Malta

Switzerland

DiploFoundation
Rue de Lausanne 56
CH-1202 Geneve
Switzerland

email

diplo@diplomacy.edu

website

www.diplomacy.edu

Designed by Sandra Grubic

Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. 2006 in Numbers	4
3. DiploEdu	4
3.1 2006 Statistics	6
3.2 Pedagogy, Policy and Procedures	7
3.3 Master of Arts/Postgraduate Diploma in Contemporary Diplomacy	7
3.4 Online Courses	12
3.5 Health Diplomacy Course	15
4. Internet Governance Capacity Building - Beyond Rhetoric	18
4.1 Context	18
4.2 The 2006 Internet Governance Capacity Building Programme	18
4.3 Policy Initiatives and Partnerships	19
4.4 Workshops and Awareness Building Activities	21
5. Other Events and Programmes	26
5.1 "Challenges for Foreign Ministries" Conference	26
5.2 "Online Learning in Diplomacy" Workshop	26
5.3 Roma Diplomacy	26
6. DiploBooks	30
7. DiploTools	31
8. Multimedia Development	33
9. Financial Report	34
10. Staff	36

1. Introduction

Last year was characterised by a substantial expansion of Diplo's activities. In almost every field, the volume of activities increased 30% to 40% in comparison to an already highly dynamic 2005. Parallel to increasing activities, Diplo continued to innovate in various areas, including software development, educational methodology and processes, and online research methodologies.

Education and Training

In 2006, Diplo faced the challenge of how to scale-up the number of courses and participants without compromising Diplo's learning methodology, characterised by a high level of interaction between lecturers and participants. The first step in addressing this challenge was to develop robust policy and technology structures. We codified and upgraded our educational policy to cover a wide variety of issues. Policy improvements included clarification of issues such as the responsibilities of lecturers and assistants, anti-plagiarism procedures, and the evaluation and organisation of research activities. A new course development scheme facilitates rapid involvement of new lecturers and a smooth transfer of skills in the development and conduct of online courses. On the technology side, the introduction of new evaluation features, reporting systems and modules for assignments strengthened the Learning Management System (LMS).

As result of these infrastructural developments, Diplo increased the number of courses offered, and at the same time, facilitated a significant increase in the level of interaction between lecturers and participants, and among participants. In addition to a large number of course participants from developing countries, we saw an increase in paying participants from developed countries. In 2006, we introduced three new online courses, and also our first course in French (Multilateral Diplomacy). In the area of accredited courses, delivered in cooperation with the University of Malta, we began offering an MA in Contemporary Diplomacy. Within our Postgraduate Diploma programme, the main innovation was a modular approach that provides participants with more flexibility in selecting courses.

Internet Governance

Following the conclusion of the WSIS-Tunis in November 2005, one of the main policy tasks for the global ICT community was to introduce the Internet Governance Forum. In February 2006, we hosted a conference in Malta on Internet Governance. It was the first follow-up event after Tunis that gathered many experts and policy-makers in the field of Internet Governance. Some preliminary policy conceptualisation on how to develop the Internet Governance Forum took place during the Malta conference.

In early March, our 2006 session of the Internet Governance Capacity Building Programme began, with 77 participants from developing countries. One of the main objectives of the 2006 programme was to provide a concrete example of a successful and functional capacity building programme. It was particularly important after the policy confusion around the concept of capacity building at the WSIS in Tunis. The programme members participated in various training, research and policy activities. A particular effort was made to involve them in the policy process. They attended various regional and international meetings. The most successful participants took part in the first Internet Governance Forum in Athens.

Diplo also delivered a few short courses for policy makers. One course, held in July of 2006 in Addis Abeba, trained African Internet Governance policy makers. Diplo's Internet Governance DVDs and booklets provided background material in numerous training activities in developing countries.

The growing public interest and awareness of Diplo's activities is strikingly illustrated by the 260% increase in Diplo website usage in 2006, compared to 2005. The number of page-views grew from 1 156 904 in 2005 to 3 005 587 in 2006.

Other Projects

The final event of the Roma Diplomacy Programme was held in Geneva in April 2006. Participants attended training workshops and visited various UN specialised agencies in Geneva. They also attended a Seminar on Roma Diplomacy held at the Graduate Institute of International Studies. The Roma Diplomacy programme concluded in June 2006.

In the second part of 2006, following a request from the Commonwealth Secretariat, Diplo started conceptualising and developing a new project on diplomacy of small states. The project will be implemented during 2007.

Events

Along with the two previously mentioned events – the Malta Conference on Internet Governance (February 2006) and the Geneva Seminar on Roma Diplomacy (April 2006) – Diplo organised a conference on Challenges for Foreign Ministries in Geneva (May/June 2006). Some 70 representatives of foreign ministries from 40 countries attended the conference. More than 20 papers will form a publication that will be issued in April 2007. Following the success of the conference, the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs invited Diplo to co-organise a follow-up conference to be held in June 2007 in Bangkok.

Software Development

In 2006, Diplo's software development team updated our learning management system (LMS) to make it compatible with FireFox browser. This development extends the possibility for user access from open-source software-powered computers (especially promising for developing countries), as well as for access using Apple computers. The functionality of the LMS was improved by introducing new features for lecturers and students.

In 2006, Diplo made substantial quantitative and qualitative growth. It was possible due to the high dedication and creativity of Diplo's staff. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts and commitment.

*Professor Dietrich Kappeler, President of the Board
Dr Jovan Kurbalija, Director of DiploFoundation*

2. 2006 in Numbers

2006 - DiploEdu in Numbers

369

Course Participants

from 107 countries

Male 205

Female 164

- Diplomats
- Civil servants
- NGO staff
- Academics
- Business people

Followed

16

Courses & Programmes

- Online courses
- Blended courses
- Online research

Spent

33760.32

hours

in Online Interaction

- Reading texts
- Discussing online
- Attending exams

Made

21886

Online Entries

Closest analogy
to question/comment
in physical classroom

369 Course Participants (Male 205 Female 164)

118 Diplomatic services

67 Civil society

47 Other government departments

40 Academia

38 International organisations

28 Business sector

19 Media

12 Others

3. DiploEdu

In 2006, Diplo implemented an expanded range of courses and programmes. We strengthened our learning methodology through the application of research findings. We established detailed policies for educational programmes and fine-tuned our procedures for online course development to share our tacit knowledge and ability. Our accomplishments included:

- offering three new online courses;
- offering the first online course in French;
- offering the Postgraduate Diploma in Contemporary Diplomacy in a new format allowing participants a choice of courses to study;
- enrolling two groups of students in our new Master of Arts in Contemporary Diplomacy;
- introducing a new face-to-face workshop structure focussed on practical skills for diplomacy.

3.1 2006 STATISTICS

During 2006, 369 participants enrolled in the 16 courses and programmes offered by Diplo. Table 3.1 provides details about each of the courses offered in 2006: the duration of the course, the number of participants, and, as an indication of the level of interaction, the number of hypertext annotations/links and research briefcase inputs made during the course.

Table 3.1 2006 Courses: Registration Statistics

Course	Duration	Participants and Countries	Number of Annotations/Links
Multilateral Diplomacy 0602	10 weeks	18 participants from 11 countries	855
Diplomatic Theory and Practice 0602	10 weeks	24 participants from 20 countries	1491
Language and Diplomacy 0605	10 weeks	12 participants from 10 countries	467
Cyber Diplomacy 0605	10 weeks	14 participants from 10 countries	866
Bilateral Diplomacy 0607	10 weeks	19 participants from 12 countries	983
Internet Governance 0607	10 weeks	11 participants from 9 countries	771
Diplomatie multilatérale 0609	10 weeks	18 participants from 15 countries	1275
Bilateral Diplomacy 0609	10 weeks	8 participants from 8 countries	427
International Trade Relations and Diplomacy 0609	10 weeks	10 participants from 10 countries	508
Diplomatic Law: Privileges and Immunities 0611	10 weeks	13 participants from 12 countries	845
Multilateral Diplomacy 0611	10 weeks	13 participants from 12 countries	624
Health Diplomacy – Belgrade	16 weeks	25 participants from 1 country	-
Roma Diplomacy	32 weeks	25 participants from 12 countries	1888
PGD 2006	52 weeks	13 participants from 12 countries	-
Internet Governance Capacity Building Programme 06	16 weeks	77 participants from 59 countries	4662
Internet Governance Research Programme 06	13 weeks	51 participants from 41 countries	365 annotations + 569 research portal entries
MA 2006 A	24 weeks	11 participants from 11 countries	-
MA 2006 B	24 weeks	7 participants from 6 countries	-
TOTAL		369 participants from 107 countries*	16027 annotations and links 569 research portal entries

*Note – some participants enrolled in more than one course; this number reflects the total number of participant places, rather than the total number of unique individuals enrolled.

While a high proportion of our participants are practicing diplomats, enrolment is expanding to include participants from other sectors, in particular, from civil society. Table 3.2 shows the stakeholder composition of Diplo's 2006 courses. Enrolment of men and women in our courses and programmes is relatively equal, with 56% male participants and 44% female.

Table 3.2 2006 Courses: Stakeholder Composition

Stakeholder Group	Number of Participants	Percentage
Diplomatic service	118	32%
Civil society	67	18%
Other government departments	47	13%
Academia	40	11%
International organisations	38	10%
Business sector	28	8%
Media	19	5%
Other	12	3%
Total	369	

3.2 PEDAGOGY, POLICY AND PROCEDURES

In 2006, Diplo staff members conducted research into "Hypertext in Online Learning" and "Improving Participation in Culturally Diverse Online Learning Communities." We have started applying research findings to refine and improve our online learning methodology. Plans for the upcoming year include further discussion and application of this information, publication of papers on online learning and study and research on innovation in e-learning.

During the year, Diplo administrative staff established policy in areas including course refunds, examination re-sits, plagiarism, dissertation extensions, examination boards, and more. Establishing such policies is a challenging task because they must be in line with University of Malta standards, yet also take into account the particular needs of our students, who are typically working full time while studying, and located all around the world. We also established guidelines for selecting new course topics, and expanded on guidelines to assist new course authors in preparing materials. Another important step in 2006 was strengthening our cooperation with the University of Malta Faculty of Arts.

3.3 MASTER OF ARTS/POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN CONTEMPORARY DIPLOMACY

In 2006, Diplo began offering a new programme in cooperation with the University of Malta: the Master of Arts (MA) / Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) in Contemporary Diplomacy. Compared to the Postgraduate Diploma in Diplomacy of previous years, the programme was re-structured to allow participants to select from a number of study topics, rather than following a set programme. In the new structure, following an introductory workshop in Malta, the year is divided into five study sessions and at least two courses are offered during each session. This was made possible by integrating the PGD schedule with our online course scheme, meaning that the same courses were open to both degree and non-degree participants. Starting in February 2006, past and current PGD graduates were given the opportunity to obtain an MA by writing a dissertation over a six-month period.

PGD 2006

In 2006, Diplo ran its eighth Postgraduate Diploma programme, supported, as in the past, by scholarships from the Commonwealth Secretariat and by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation through its ongoing support for Diplo. Thirteen participants, all from different countries, took part in the 2006 PGD. The number of participants was lower than in previous years due to a reduction in scholarship support and to a late start of advertising (because of negotiating the new programme structure with the University of Malta). Table 3.3 shows the geographical distribution of participants.

As in previous years, the PGD programme employed a blended approach, consisting of a ten-day introductory workshop in Malta followed by attendance at five online courses of ten weeks each via the Internet. In 2006 the PGD workshop was re-structured to focus on building practical skills for diplomacy, and included lectures, practical exercises and simulations in the following areas:

- Negotiation Skills
- Media Skills
- Verbal Communication
- Diplomatic Reporting
- Protocol
- Language and Diplomacy
- Online Learning for Diplomacy
- Information Management
- Time Management

Participants also attended the International Conference on Internet Governance as part of workshop activities.

During the online phase, participants selected and registered for five of eight online courses on offer. Participation in online courses is via the Diplo online classroom, accessed over the Internet. Participants read lecture texts and make hypertext annotations, consult additional resources, take part in asynchronous discussion forums, attend online sessions using chat software, complete assignments and write final exams. The following online courses were offered to PGD participants in 2006:

- Diplomatic Theory and Practice
- Multilateral Diplomacy
- Cyber Diplomacy
- Language and Diplomacy
- Internet Governance
- Bilateral Diplomacy
- International Trade Relations and Diplomacy
- Diplomatic Law: Privileges and Immunities

Table 3.3

PGD 2006: Geographical Distribution

Europe	3
Africa	6
Caribbean	2
Asia-Pacific	1
South America	1

“I can now train younger diplomats who enter the diplomatic service with the knowledge and theoretical expertise that I have gained through the PGD programme. I definitely highly recommend this PGD programme to all who wish to equip themselves with the necessary knowledge for the 21st Century and beyond!”

Anne Namakau Mutelo
Namibia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

“The course was extremely fulfilling and beneficial to me and has prepared me even more for my new career path in the Diplomatic Service. Although challenged sometimes, I truly enjoyed all of the courses offered in the programme, they will all become very useful to me. The Bilateral and Multilateral courses in particular are very relevant to my daily assignment as a Foreign Service Officer. I fully recommend the course not only to Diplomats and Foreign Service Officers, but to individuals who are interested in expanding their knowledge and experience in a global environment.”

Sandra N. Poitier
The Bahamas, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

“For me, the PGD 2006 programme was a new and enriching experience. I won a double advantage with this programme: improving my English, and gaining skills in diplomatic theory and practice. I was impressed by the methodology and the content of the online courses. The programme was very fruitful for me and I become more efficient after it.”

Poussi Sawadogo
Burkina Faso, Diplomatic and International Relations Institute

PGD 2006 Participants at the International Conference on Internet Governance



Master of Arts 2006

The Master of Arts in Contemporary Diplomacy, accredited by the University of Malta, was offered for the first time in 2006. The programme is open to anyone who has successfully completed the Postgraduate Diploma in Diplomacy with DiploFoundation and the University of Malta in past years. The programme builds on study completed during the PGD phase, and involves six months of online study dedicated to preparing a dissertation in close contact with a supervisor.

The opportunity to complete an MA has proved very popular with PGD graduates. In 2006, we enrolled two groups of MA candidates (in total, 18 students), the first group starting in February and the second in October. Enrolment for 2007 promises to match this. Most of the first group have already presented their dissertations and completed the programme. Two of the candidates were awarded the highest results, “pass with distinction.” Table 3.4 shows some of the research topics selected by candidates in 2006.

Table 3.4 MA in Contemporary Diplomacy 2006: Research Topics

Name	Origin	Research Title
Valeriu Nicolae	Romania	The Role of Diplomacy in Achieving Representation and Participation for the Roma
Naim Dedusaj	Kosovo	“Paradiplomatic” Relations between the United States and Kosova: A Friendship between an Elephant and a Mouse
Miso Dokmanovic	Macedonia	The International and Legal Aspects of the Recognition of States: The Case of Macedonia
Olesya Grech	Malta	Virtual Diplomacy: Diplomacy of the Digital Age
Walton Salas Hamilton	Montserrat	Information Communication Technology (ICT) For Development – Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Perspectives
Nevena Ruzic	Serbia	Freedom of Expression on the Internet
Wassef Serhan	Lebanon	Diplomacy and the Arab-Israeli Peace Process: A Case Study of the Israeli Withdrawal from Lebanon – Failure of Diplomacy
Faten Sharaf	Palestine	Palestinian Economic Diplomacy: Planning for Statehood
Amela Sudzuka	Bosnia and Herzegovina	From Conflict Resolution towards State Building: The Role of the International Community and the European Union in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mayelline de Lara	Dominican Republic	Tourism Diplomacy in Developing States
Philip Donald Kargbo	Sierra Leone	The Role of Public Diplomacy in the Resolution of African Disputes: Case Study Sierra Leone
Antonis Sammoutis	Cyprus	Bilateral Relations between Germany and Cyprus (1960 – 1967)
Miriama Malielegaoi	Samoa	The Development of Samoa /New Zealand Relations and the Route to Samoa’s Economic and Political Development
Amr Aljowaily	Egypt	Designing the Developmental Dimensions of Follow Up and Implementation of UN Economic and Social Conferences: The Case the World Summit on Information Society
Unisa Sahid Kamara	Sierra Leone	Conflict Resolution and Peace Building: A Case of Sierra Leone

3.4 ONLINE COURSES

During 2006, Diplo offered eleven courses in a ten week, entirely online format. Ten of these courses were offered within our PGD framework, but also open to the public, while the eleventh was offered in French, as part of the Graduate Institute of International Studies' Diplomatic Studies Programme.

This year, all of our well-established courses were offered (Bilateral Diplomacy, Language and Diplomacy, International Trade Relations and Diplomacy, Multilateral Diplomacy, Internet Governance) in addition to several new courses: Diplomatic Theory and Practice, Cyber Diplomacy and Diplomatic Law: Privileges and Immunities. For the first time, we offered a course in French: Multilateral Diplomacy.

Diplomatic Theory and Practice

This course provides a clear account of the shape and functions of the world diplomatic system as it stands at the beginning of the 21st century: what it is, what it does and why it is important. The course aims to provide knowledge of the nature of diplomacy; when diplomacy is appropriate; the advantages and disadvantages of different diplomatic methods; and the lexicon of diplomacy. In general, a participant who has successfully completed this course should have a strong grasp of the nature of diplomacy conceived as a specialised professional activity developed over many centuries, and be able to defend its value with authority and enthusiasm.

The course was developed by Professor G.R. Berridge, based on his authoritative text *Diplomacy: Theory and Practice*. During this first session, Professor Berridge also ran the course, with the assistance of Haraldur Egilsson. The course proved to be popular: enrolment was at the maximum, with 24 participants from 20 countries. As a result, the level of interaction was particularly high and rich.

Diplomatic Theory and Practice Online Classroom

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the online classroom interface for the course 'Diplomatic Theory and Practice'. The browser is Internet Explorer, and the address bar shows the URL 'http://campus.diplo.edu/ins/Classes.asp?IDclass=42'. The page title is 'Diplomatic Theory and Practice 0602'. The main content area is titled 'Lecture 1 THE DIPLOMATIC MOMENT'. It includes a definition of diplomacy as a specialized activity and a paragraph discussing the Bolshevik seizure of power in Russia in October 1917, mentioning Leon Trotsky's role as People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs. A portrait of Leon Davidovich Trotsky is shown. Below the text, there are two numbered points: 1. Diplomacy is designed either to avoid, or act as an auxiliary to, force, propaganda, economic sanctions, and law. 2. Having said this, the distinction cannot be drawn too sharply, for what is sometimes called 'pure diplomacy' (argument without the means of pressure) is rarely successful. Of course, this does not prevent governments, from time to time, from expecting their diplomats to be able to achieve their ends by a combination of brilliant reasoning, elegant

Cyber Diplomacy

This course aims to provide practical examples of new skills and tasks that modern diplomats should apply in their daily work; as well, the course explores some of the possibilities offered by new technologies to improve diplomatic activities. The course also highlights some risks (and opportunities) of the tools and the information available. The course incorporates many of the materials previously delivered in the Information Technology and Diplomacy modules of the PGD, while adding depth in new topics such as the use of statistics in diplomatic work and tools to organise ideas and activities. In 2006, the course was offered to a group of 14 participants from 10 countries. The course was developed by Mr Stefano Baldi and Dr Jovan Kurbalija, and taught by Mr Stefano Baldi with the assistance of Dr Andrei Mikheyev.

Diplomatic Law: Privileges and Immunities

This course, developed and conducted by Dr Jovan Kurbalija with the assistance of Professor Dietrich Kappeler, introduces participants to diplomatic law in general, and to diplomatic privileges and immunities in particular. The course combines examination of modern developments in the theory and practice of diplomatic privileges and immunities with practical exercises based on advising a hypothetical diplomat, Victor Harlami, on matters related to privileges and immunities. The course was attended by 13 participants from 12 countries, including several alumni members who were pleased to have this new opportunity for study with Diplo.

Diplomatie multilatérale

Diplomatie multilatérale was offered as part of the Diplomatic Studies Programme of the Geneva Graduate Institute of International Studies. Similar to the previous edition organized in 2005 in conjunction with the Geneva Institute, the course was delivered via online learning and face-to-face meetings. The course was a major breakthrough in the traditional practice of Diplo since it was delivered entirely, for the first time, in French. This development opens new perspectives to the teaching of multilateral diplomacy, both because international organisations represent a multi-linguistic environment and because Diplo can now reach a much wider group of participants in Francophone countries, in particular those from Africa.

The course was preceded by intensive work on the part of the lecturing team (Dr Petru Dumitriu and Professor Dietrich Kappeler) in translating all course materials to French. The participants were junior and mid-career diplomats from Benin, Cameroon, Mali, Tunisia, Madagascar, Morocco, Haiti, Republic of Moldova, Cambodia, Vietnam, Rwanda, Kyrgyzstan, Sudan and Colombia. The response of the French-speaking participants was highly enthusiastic: the number of annotations per capita was 2.85 times the average of annotations made during the previous course offered as part of the Diplomatic Studies Programme, and 1.72 times the average of all Multilateral Diplomacy online courses. This course also offered the occasion to experiment successfully with new techniques to increase interaction, such as mini-assignments that were marked by the participants themselves.

Comments from participants in "Diplomatie multilatérale" (September-October 2006)

"Grâce à ces séminaires on-line nous avons une bonne expérience des on-line négociations et beaucoup des idées pour réfléchir!!!"

"Notre contact virtuel avec vous a été un fructueuse et enrichissante expérience."

"Cette session en ligne était très enrichissante j'ai beaucoup appris."

"Vos réflexions et conclusions ont été très riches en instructions..."

Diplomatie multilatérale online classroom, showing a participant profile

The screenshot displays the 'Diplomatie multilatérale' online classroom interface. The main content area is divided into three columns: 'Lecturers, Coordinators', 'Students', and a 'User Information' window. The 'Lecturers, Coordinators' column lists names and countries such as Switzerland, Belgium, Serbia, Romania, Romania, Switzerland, Switzerland, and China. The 'Students' column lists names and countries including Romania, Cameroon, Madagascar, Cameroon, Benin, Mali, Benin, Haiti, Haiti, Colombie, Rwanda, Vietnam, Morocco, Morocco, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Cambodia, Mali, Tunisia, and Sudan. The 'User Information' window is open over a participant profile, showing a photo and text: 'Je me beaucoup mon travail. Le travail du Ministère des Affaires étrangères est intéressant et j'utilise avec plaisir cette possibilité pour l'argumentation du degré de professionnalisme. En avenir je veux être une des diplomates les plus professionnels du Kirghizstan, et activement présenter et protéger les intérêts de mon pays dans la communauté mondiale.' Below the text is a 'Visitor Locations' map with a 'Click here to see' link. The interface also features a sidebar with a syllabus, a top navigation bar with 'Assignments | Resources | Meetings | Reports | Preferences | Contact | Send Email | Help | Logout', and a Windows taskbar at the bottom showing the date '7 Mar 2007 11:41 GMT' and various open applications.

3.5 HEALTH DIPLOMACY COURSE

Health Diplomacy was the last in a series of courses organised by Diplo and the Diplomatic Academy in Belgrade with the support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. In this course, Diplo tried to link traditional diplomatic studies with international health issues. The course had number of objectives:

- to include participants from diverse backgrounds in a multistakeholder approach to understanding the international aspects of health care;
- to facilitate awareness building in Serbia of international health care;
- to increase participant understanding of the multilateral processes involved with health crises and issues, and their relationships with national and regional health policies;
- to link the field of diplomatic studies with health issues.

The Health Diplomacy course included several unique features:

- a methodology combining knowledge acquisition and skills transfer;
- a focus on international aspects of health;
- a multistakeholder approach involving various actors in the training phase;
- an organisation of the course into three phases (Belgrade - online phase - Geneva).

The course began with an introductory workshop in Belgrade, which included 26 participants from the government, academic, NGO, media and private sectors. During the online research phase, supervisors guided the participants throughout the research process, which resulted in the development of a series of portals on issues selected by the participants:

- Substance Abuse as a Public Health Issue
- Natural Disasters - International Cooperation in Prevention and Alleviation of Consequences
- Private/Public Mix in Health Care
- Health Tourism in Serbia - The Significant Role of Diplomacy
- Complying with International Standards in Food Safety
- Health of Ageing Populations and Its Economic and Political Impact
- Cardiovascular Diseases as a Phenomenon of Non-Communicable Epidemiological Threat
- Influence of Diplomacy and International Interventions on National Health System Reforms and Health Policy Building
- Gender, Women and Health
- Road Safety: Prevention, Essential Surgical Care - International Collaboration
- The Growing Mental Health Epidemics
- Consequences of NATO Bombing on the Environment

Based on performance during the introductory workshop and the online phase, twelve of the best participants were selected to take part in the Geneva Phase. The Geneva Phase involved study visits to selected international organisations and to relevant non-governmental humanitarian and health organisations such as the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC), Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF), and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Federation. In addition, participants attended the first Geneva Forum - Towards Global Access to Health.

Introductory Workshop in Belgrade



Health Diplomacy Group in Geneva



Graduation Ceremony



“I have profited a great deal from the Course. I have met interesting, bright, educated people and I have been given the opportunity to listen and to be heard in various fora and organizations. I have learned a new way in using the Web, which was quite a challenge.”

Vesna Dadic Zivojinovic
Institute of Public Health

“Course participants benefit in numerous ways: increase knowledge and share professional experiences and information; being introduced to new research model and gain new internet skills; have insight view of work and activities of major international health actors; make valuable contacts, useful for their career goals. Networking in the health field, new ideas and experience gained from this course can be beneficial for the country as well, considering government efforts to reform national health system in the process towards EU.”

Sanja Dimic MD, MSc
Medical Faculty, University of Belgrade

“I believe courses such as this one can prove to be extremely beneficial for the country since many of the activities relating to the health sector are in Serbia greatly influenced and to a large extent driven by external actors. Networking in the area of health with better articulation of national interests and coordination of efforts within the national health system reform could facilitate the accession process towards the EU.”

Oliver Baclic, MD, MSc
Medical Faculty, University of Belgrade

“Personally, this was unique experience, completely different from traditional approach to research, that I am used to. It is more creative, allows easier gain of information throughout research and permanent possibility to innovate and up-date. Also, mentor has insight view during every phase of portal development (research), which diminishes influence of time-consuming mentor to student consultations on time progress of research. I would like to see that research principle prevail over the traditional one.”

Sanja Dimic, MD, MSc
Medical Faculty, University of Belgrade

4. Internet Governance Capacity Building – Beyond Rhetorics

4.1. CONTEXT

Capacity building has become a cliché in international diplomatic parlance. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) was no exception to this trend. For example, in the WSIS-Tunis final document the term capacity building was mentioned thirteen times. With words, as with any other inflation, the inflated object is devalued and, accordingly, capacity building has lost its substantive meaning.

In addition, at the WSIS-Tunis Summit capacity building became part of the final diplomatic bargaining. Capacity building was pushed by some developed countries into the forefront of the Internet Governance debate. In the debate, some developing countries, potential recipients of assistance, raised concerns that an exclusive focus on capacity building would divert attention from other Internet Governance issues such as interconnection charges and management of the Internet core resources. Even after the conclusion of the WSIS, the concept of capacity building remained open to different interpretations.

In spite of these limitations, capacity building remains one field where real “win-win” solutions are possible. It is in the interest of both developed and developing countries to have capable institutions and individuals in developing countries who can ensure the development of Internet policy and regulations.

In response to these considerations, during 2006 Diplo's objective in regard to capacity building was to give real meaning to the concept. We used three main approaches. First, we organised the Internet Governance Capacity Building Programme (IG CBP), which has involved more than 126 participants from developing countries in various training, research and fellowship activities over two years. Second, on the policy level we contributed towards keeping capacity building on the global policy agenda. Our contributions were supported by numerous partnerships and collaborations that Diplo developed with individuals and institutions worldwide. Third, we contributed to numerous short courses and supported various awareness-building activities in the field of Internet Governance.

4.2. THE 2006 INTERNET GOVERNANCE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME (IG CBP)

The IG CBP consisted of an online course, research projects, and a fellowship scheme. The online course lasted fourteen weeks between April and June 2006. From 455 applicants, we selected 77 participants and placed them into six regional groups. The online course covered a wide variety of issues including the management of core Internet resources, jurisdiction on the Internet, intellectual property, multilingualism, and development of the Internet infrastructure. Over 4600 hypertext annotations (comments, questions, responses) were made by participants during the course. An extensive online exchange was also facilitated through forums and blogs.

The second component of the IG CBP was research projects focused on six research areas chosen for their relevance to the main themes of the first Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Athens. Researchers conducted online research with the supervision of the research team leaders and external experts.

A number of research papers were reviewed and chosen to be presented at the IGF Athens meeting.

- The Network Neutrality Debate and Development
(Romina Bocache, Argentina; Andrei Mikheyev, Russia; Virginia Paque, Venezuela)
- Promoting e-Commerce in Developing Countries
(Guilherme Alberto Almeida de Almeida, Brazil; Alfonso Avila, Mexico; Violeta Boncanoska, Macedonia; Marsha Guthrie, Jamaica)

- Multilingualism: The Communication Bridge
(Raquel Aguirre Valencia, Mexico; Qusai Al-Shatti, Kuwait)
- The Role of Teachers in Access to Knowledge in Developing Countries
(Veronica Cretu, Moldova; Priyanthi Daluwatte, Sri Lanka)
- Telecom Infrastructure Development Recommendations for Developing Countries
(Nityesh Bhatt, India; Biljana Glisovic, Serbia; Hanane Boujemi, Morocco;
Mwende Njiraini, Kenya)

The last component of the IG CBP was a fellowship scheme, which included attendance of a group of fifteen participants at the first IGF meeting held in Athens (October 30 - November 2, 2006). This event was the culmination of nine months of activities for IG CBP participants. They participated in various workshops and discussions held over the four days of the IGF and presented their research projects. Participants had the chance to meet leading policy makers, including “the father of the Internet”, Vint Cerf, who spent 90 minutes in discussion with them. They also attended a simulation negotiation exercise with Dr John Hemery, where they learned how to chair meetings and negotiate effectively.

4.3. POLICY INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Only a few months after the WSIS in Tunis, Diplo organised the first follow-up activity, an international conference on Internet Governance.

The International Conference on Internet Governance: The Way Forward (10-12 February 2006)

The conference was the first event aimed at discussing how to establish the IGF. Over 40 participants representing governments, civil society, business, academia, and international organisations attended, following the multistakeholder approach promoted throughout the WSIS process.

In parallel with the conference, we organised the first meeting of the Internet Governance Capacity Building Initiative aimed at bringing together all institutions and individuals interested in Internet Governance capacity building. The participants at the meeting agreed to establish a loose partnership framework with predominantly ad-hoc bilateral arrangements.

Diplo also addressed the frequently mentioned need to provide a mapping in the field of Internet Governance capacity building by developing an IG Directory. With more than 300 entries, it is a comprehensive directory of institutions and individuals involved in Internet Governance capacity building. It is available at <http://www.diplomacy.edu/ig/directory>.

In recognition of Diplo’s role in the field of Internet Governance capacity building, Dr Jovan Kurbalija was appointed the Special Advisor on Capacity Building to the Chairman of the IGF.

Diplo developed extensive partnerships and collaborations with leading institutions and individuals in the field of Internet Governance including the Secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum, ICANN, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, APNIC, and the Global Knowledge Partnership.



"I think that this course is a very good opportunity, especially for people in developing countries, to broadly empower themselves in questions related to internet governance."

Jimmy Bruce, Haiti



"The exposure and experience I have gained so far through these programmes are so immense that I am now in a position to understand not only IG issues but also global issues pertaining to commerce and development."

Loide Shilongo Shikwambi, Namibia



"I have found the input to be very stimulating, and both participants and leaders to have an excellent level of knowledge and communication skills"

Virginia Paque, Venezuela



"The discussion platforms work well and the course material is well written and complemented by relevant references to support additional reading."

Valerie Gordon, Jamaica



"I was totally astonished with the academic, intellectual, fruitful, and excellent cooperation among and between the Diplo team and participants and other organisations and institutions at the IGF."

Alfonso Avila, Mexico



"The Pacific people must survive the technological age by learning about current issues through online learning with students from all over the world. Diplo's online learning tools provide a step further for our people and it is a strategy for those the Pacific people to help bridge the digital divide and the barriers of distance."

Gisa Fuatai Purcell, Samoa

4.4. WORKSHOPS AND AWARENESS BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Regional and national initiatives are essential for development of Internet Governance expert communities. To that end, we have supported and facilitated national and regional activities in close partnership with leading local or regional partners. Most of the training activities were “just-in-time” learning programmes aimed at preparation for the IGF in Athens.

National Awareness Building Workshop on Internet Governance Cairo, 18 September 2006

The National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA) of Egypt organised a national awareness-building workshop on Internet Governance. Representatives of the ICT industry, governments, academia, and the non-governmental sector attended the event. Diplo placed particular emphasis on the need for national coordination for addressing highly complex technical, legal, and diplomatic Internet Governance issues.

Africa on the Road to Athens Cairo, 18 – 21 September 2006

Diplo participated in the African Preparatory Meeting on Internet Governance entitled “Africa on the Road to Athens,” a collaborative effort with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and ICANN. Geared for policymakers and ICT experts, Diplo concentrated on assisting African stakeholders to understand the broad questions and issues surrounding Internet Governance and its implications for Africa.

Training Course on Internet Governance for African Policy-Makers Addis Ababa, 2 – 6 July 2006

Diplo was one of the supporting organisations with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa for a training course on Internet Governance for African policy-makers. Approximately thirty-five stakeholders participated in this capacity building activity to address Internet Governance and ICT for development issues at national, regional, and international levels. A special focus for the participants was to prepare for the IGF in Athens.

ICT4D Conference - Understanding the Information Society: Leveraging ICT for Better Governance and MDGs Tallin, 4-5 December 2006

This conference was organised by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Asia Pacific Development Information Programme, the Open Society Institute, and the eGovernance Academy (eGA) Tallin. The event consisted of two inter-related meetings where more than 60 UNDP and Open Society officers attended from the Euro-Asia region. The meeting allowed leading experts to present varying views on critical policies and practices often found behind such broad terms as “Information Society” and “Digital Revolution” and the implications ICT has on UNDP work. Dr Kurbalija delivered a presentation on “Internet Governance: What is That and Why Such a Heated Debate?” It was well received and helped the participants better to understand the issues surrounding Internet Governance and its implications for development work.

Use of Internet Governance Booklets and DVDs for Awareness Building

Throughout 2006, Diplo has continued to concentrate on the dissemination of Internet Governance materials, awareness-raising activities, and support of communities of Internet Governance expertise worldwide. The main demand was for Diplo's Internet Governance booklet and DVD. The following individuals and institutions used our Internet Governance materials for their workshops and seminars:

Abdoulie Sowe, Gambia	Pablo Accousto, ISOC Uruguay
Luc Faubert, ISOC Canada	Global Knowledge Partnership, Malaysia
Abi Jagun, University of Manchester	Philippe Batreau, ISOC France
Mwende Njiraini, UK	John Walubengo, Kenya
Ahmed Salman, Bangladesh	Pierre Ouedraogo, Francophonie, France
Ni Lar Thein, Myanmar	Khaled Koubaa, Tunisia
CTU Meeting, Grenada	Ulemu Nyasulu, Malawi
Nikhil Agarwal, India	Latungika Loide Shilongo-Shikwambi, Namibia
Gbenga Sesan, Nigeria	Valerie Gordon, Jamaica

4.5. OTHER EVENTS

Listed below are various conferences where Diplo sponsored the attendance of developing country participants. Participants were selected based on a high level of academic excellence and potential to benefit from greater involvement with the international community as they address various Internet Governance issues at international, regional, and national levels.

7th meeting of the ICANN Studienkreis

Diplo associates Vladimir Radunovic from Serbia, Veronica Cretu from Moldova, and Andrei Mikheyev from Russia made a presentation on Internet development in the countries of Eastern Europe.

PacINET 2006

Three associates from Diplo attended PacINET 2006 held in Apia, Samoa from 21 to 26 August. Gisa Fuatai Purcell, an IG CBP alumni member and advisor from the Samoa National ICT Committee, made a presentation entitled "Bridging the Barriers of Distance: Online Learning with Diplo Foundation." She generated a great deal of interest with her presentation about Diplo's capacity building activities.

eGovIndia 2006 Conference

Former participants of Diplo's Capacity Building Programme, Nikhil Agarwal, Dhruwad Mathur, and Priyanthi Dalwatte, attended this year's eGov meeting in New Delhi, India.

EGENI 2006

Eva Tanner, Diplo's Project Development Manager, attended the 5th European Global Event on Domain Names and Address Systems on Internet (EGENI) in Paris, France. At the conference, Eva met with representatives from various French-speaking organisations who would like to adapt the IG CBP into French. A consortium of partners is being developed and discussions are underway as to the coordination and funding necessary to begin developing the capacity building programme specifically for French speaking countries.

GAID - Kuala Lumpur

Diplo supported the participation of Nikhil Agarwal and Gisa Fuatai Purcell in the recent United Nation launch of the Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development (GAID) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

GIGANet Dresden

A total of 52 scholars from 30 countries, representing more than 40 academic institutions from around the world, met from 15 to 18 June 2006, in Kurort Rathen, Germany, to discuss a global research agenda on Internet Governance. Diplo sponsored the attendance of two Diplo Internet Governance specialists from developing countries to attend the event, Seiiti Arata from the University of Sao Paulo and Mwende Njiraini from the University of Aberdeen. Both made presentations on the relevance of Internet Governance research for developing countries.

IGCBP Team and Participants with Vint Cerf, IGF Athens 2006



Diplo Rapporteur Team at the Internet Governance Forum in Athens



Diplo Associates with Viviane Reding, EU Information Society and Media Commissioner



IGCBP Participants, IGF Athens 2006



IGCBP Team and Participants, IGF Athens 2006



Internet Governance Forum, Athens 2006



Participants at the International Conference on Internet Governance: The Way Forward (Malta, 10-12 February 2006)



5. Other Events and Programmes

5.1 “CHALLENGES FOR FOREIGN MINISTRIES” CONFERENCE (GENEVA, MAY 31-JUNE 1, 2006)

In May-June 2006, Diplo hosted a two-day international conference on “Challenges for Foreign Ministries: Managing Diplomatic Networks and Optimising Value” in Geneva. The conference drew 70 participants from 40 countries; 30 foreign ministries were represented and a total of 24 papers were presented in nine sessions. The Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, co-sponsored the conference.

The conference addressed the need for foreign ministries actively to engage in a complex process of change and adaptation in a volatile and unpredictable international environment. Discussion ranged from the needs of foreign ministries, to organisational issues and the main functions of ministries (multilateral affairs, consular activities, negotiations). Conference papers and proceedings will be published as a book in spring 2007. Inspired by this conference, the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs has invited Diplo to co-organise a conference on “Foreign Ministries: Adaptation to a Changing World” in Bangkok (14-15 June 2007).

Papers presented and a summary of the proceedings are available on the conference website at <http://www.diplomacy.edu/Conferences/MFA>.

Further information on the upcoming event (“Foreign Ministries: Adaptation to a Changing World,” Bangkok, 14-15 June 2007) is available at <http://www.diplomacy.edu/Conferences/MFA2007>.

5.2 “ONLINE LEARNING IN DIPLOMACY” WORKSHOP (GENEVA, MAY 29-30, 2006)

The Ministries of Foreign Affairs conference in Geneva was preceded by a two-day workshop on online learning in diplomacy, attended mainly by representatives of foreign ministries in charge of education and training. The workshop focussed on the sharing of experience in online learning for diplomatic services and offered practical guidance for the introduction of effective, learned-centred and relevant online learning programmes for diplomats. Workshop participants benefited from Diplo’s experience in this field.

5.3 ROMA DIPLOMACY (JULY 2005 – JUNE 2006)

In 2006, our year-long Roma Diplomacy programme, conducted in cooperation with the European Roma Information Office (ERIO) and involving 25 young Roma activists mainly from Central and Eastern Europe, came to an end. This programme aimed:

- to create a strong group of Roma “public diplomats” with the ability to bridge the gap between the Roma civil society and governments/EU institutions;
- to create and build on existing Roma rights networks, so that activists can use diplomatic channels for a rapid and appropriate response to challenges facing Roma;
- to facilitate the sharing of research and experience of Roma and human rights activists with a focus on diplomacy, through ICT tools and a collaborative online platform;
- to build practical capacity among Roma rights activists through participation in conferences and internships in EU institutions, international organisations and non-governmental organisations;
- to form the basis of a Roma “think tank” which can inform and steer the process of Roma social inclusion in a united Europe;
- to build awareness of Roma rights issues on local, national and international levels through academic dialogue, research and the dissemination of information.

Roma Diplomacy participants at a Geneva study visit (April 2006)



Presenters at the Roma Diplomacy Seminar (Geneva, April 2006)



The project included a year long capacity building educational programme including skills training and academic study of diplomacy and human rights advocacy-related topics (August 2005 to February 2006); individual and collaborative research projects on topics related to Roma rights and diplomacy (March 2006 – June 2006); creation of an online knowledge sharing platform for Roma rights activists (April – June 2006); conference scholarships, visits and internships in EU institutions, international organisations and non-governmental organisations for programme participants (throughout 2005 – 2006); and conferences with leading experts in the field and a publication on Roma rights and diplomacy with the aim of awareness building (2005 and 2006).

This annual report focuses on activities which took place in 2006.
A full final report for the Roma Diplomacy programme is available at
<http://textus.diplomacy.edu/textusbin/env/scripts/Pool/GetBin.asp?IDPool=1157>.

“The creation of a highly qualified, articulate group of European Roma with diplomatic skills is not a challenge for the European Union - it is for us a very useful asset in our efforts to deal with that challenge of Roma inequality and social exclusion.”

Mr Vladimir Spidla
EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities
(from the closing address at Diplo's Conference on Roma Diplomacy)

“I have improved my communication skills and developed ability how to manage myself in different situations when there is need to find solution and to work with people with different background. I learnt how to express correctly different approaches in dialogues and negotiations.”

Asmet Elezovski, Macedonia (Roma Diplomacy Participant)

“I have applied the skills and knowledge acquired within the course really many times. And it is not just a single act – it is a model of behaviour.”

Teodora Krumova, Bulgaria (Roma Diplomacy Participant)

“The Roma diplomacy programme provides an innovative approach in the form of long-term capacity building for the best of Roma community at this moment, the young (new) generation of Roma activists. Having in mind past experience and perspectives of forthcoming policies, the programme provides networking (the missing component to the Roma movement at large), academic highlight of Roma issues, and promotion of students as well as lobbying opportunities through arranged meetings within the workshops. After the successful start-up of the programme in Bucharest, shaping out of the vision of the team, the program provide us knowledge, skills and challenge of taking the ownership of the forthcoming processes.”

Zeljko Jovanovic, Serbia (Roma Diplomacy Participant)

Research Projects

As the final stage of the programme, each participant worked with a supervisor to research a topic both relevant to Roma rights and diplomacy and of personal interest and relevance to their work. As a final outcome, participants were asked to write academic paper of around 5000 words. Papers of appropriate quality will be published in the "Roma Diplomacy" volume.

Geneva Workshop and Seminar

Based on programme results and availability, 16 participants attended the Geneva workshop and seminar. The Geneva workshop focussed on visits to the UN and other international organisations located in Geneva (OHCHR, WHO, ILO, IOM) and seminars which helped participants understand and make the most of their contacts with these institutions. During each visit, organisation officials presented the work of their organisation, particularly in regards to Roma, responded to questions and engaged in discussion with participants.

The last two days of the visit were dedicated to a public seminar hosted by the Graduate Institute of International Studies on Roma Diplomacy: Virtual Diplomacy for a Virtual Nation. Working together in a round table environment, Roma rights activists, academics, and members of the Geneva international community concerned with human rights and related issues mapped out the main elements of Roma Diplomacy, a form of non-state representation aimed at developing policy partnerships. Seminar participants explored the possibilities and limits of Roma Diplomacy and its relation to classical diplomacy. The seminar addressed the policy gap that exists in communication between Roma communities and decision makers at the European, national and local levels. Throughout the programme, Roma Diplomacy participants shared their experiences and presented the results of their research.

Knowledge Sharing Platform

One of the concrete and long-lasting results of the educational programme and research is an online platform for knowledge sharing among Roma rights activists, with a focus on diplomacy. This platform offers a "toolkit" for human rights advocacy (databases, communication tools) and an online space for sharing resources and knowledge, and collaborating on common projects. It also provides a focal point for continued contact within the network established through the programme.

Roma Diplomacy Publication

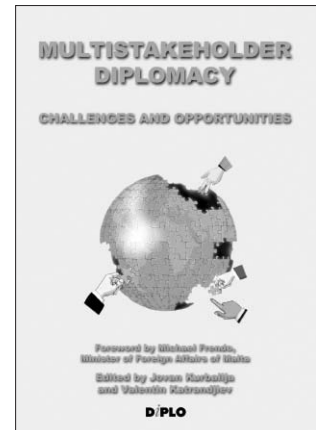
The project will lead to the publication of a collection of papers on Roma Diplomacy. The book will include papers presented at both the Brussels conference and the Geneva seminar, and research prepared by Roma Diplomacy participants as part of their programme requirements. We hope that this publication will be of interest and use for Roma rights activists and the diplomatic community, particularly diplomats involved in human rights issues.

6. DiploBooks

Multistakeholder Diplomacy - Challenges and Opportunities

Edited by Jovan Kurbalija and Valentin Katrandjiev
2006, DiploFoundation
Paperback, 226 pages
ISBN 99932-53-16-2

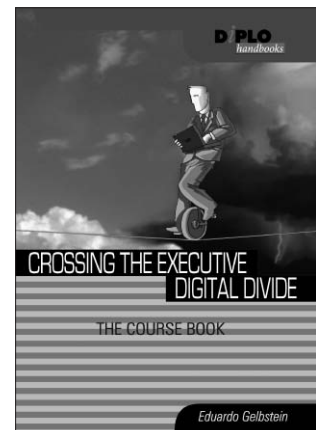
This collection of papers from the Diplo February 2005 conference in Malta and from research interns in our Multistakeholder Diplomacy Internship Programme analyses the characteristics and mechanisms of the multistakeholder model and its applicability to modern diplomacy, international negotiations, development of the Information Society, and the Internet Governance system. The publication will provide decision-makers in the diplomacy, ICT, corporate business, and international organisation fields with useful tools and skills to operate, both at national and international levels, in a highly diverse and dynamic environment involving governmental officials and a wide range of non-state representatives. This book will be of interest to practicing diplomats and students of diplomacy and international relations, and also to those working in cooperation with ministries of foreign affairs: staff of non-governmental organisations, the business sector and academia.



Crossing the Executive Digital Divide

Eduardo Gelbstein
2006, DiploFoundation
Paperback, 335 pages
ISBN 99932-53-17-0

Information and communications technologies (ICT) have become critical in business, government, manufacturing, critical infrastructures, academia, and, literally, everywhere else, yet, despite the large sums of money involved, ICT remains the least well understood function in an organisation. Perhaps not surprisingly, the track record of ICT is mixed. It can be so successful that owners are widely regarded as leaders in their field or it can be a source of concern because of delays, higher than expected costs, disappointing performance, and exposures to risk. Even worse, many situations can only be described as failures. One common factor emerges from the success stories: executives and their ICT people work together for the benefit of their organisation. These jargon-free publications focus on the main issues relevant to decision and policy makers and discuss what executives can do to participate successfully in the Information Age and achieve successful, sustainable outcomes. *Crossing the Executive Digital Divide* is available in two formats: a short, booklet form (part of our Information Society Library series) for those who wish to read about main concepts and strategies, and as a longer book for those who wish for more in-depth examination of the issues.



7. DiploTools

In 2006, Diplo continued to develop and maintain a software and information toolkit to support online activities. Our focus remains on an agile and effective approach that enables rapid adaptation to the changing requirements and the global information landscape. In 2006, most of our efforts were directed towards strengthening the online learning environment, improving accessibility and harnessing selected new opportunities offered by innovations in information and communications technology.

Particularly encouraging were informal reviews of our learning environment by several experts in the field of online learning, who praised the quality and usability of our platform. Although informal, this feedback served as objective confirmation of our decision to maintain in-house development as the best way to support our teaching methodology. Nonetheless, we continue to review and compare our platform with new products emerging on the market (particularly open-source applications) and to re-assess our strategic choices in regard to our technical platform.

Online Learning Environment

One of our main achievements in 2006 was making our online learning environment accessible to many more potential students than in the past. A significant technical improvement enabled access to the online learning environment from different computer platforms. Through full compatibility with Firefox browser, the online environment can now be accessed by students and faculty members using non-Windows computers. While changes are hardly noticeable to those using the Microsoft Windows platform, it expands the reach of Diplo courses to users with various Linux-powered computers, as well as to those using Apple Macintosh. Since the Linux operating system is open source and free, it is particularly interesting for participants from low-income countries, where it is increasingly gaining in popularity.

Other updates include further improvements to the assessment procedures and better repositories for course resource collections that can be shared and re-used between different classes. Hypertext usability was also improved, with more updates planned for the first half of 2007. Other plans for 2007 include further usability improvements, a new course-wide search function and extending personalisation capabilities of the environment.

Diplo Website and Content Management System

Our website has grown over the last few years to include vast amounts of information. At the same time, the focus of our activities has gradually evolved. The present website structure and navigation flows are no longer sufficient to provide quick and easy access to desired information for website visitors. Considering the importance of the website as the entry point for Diplo's activities, in 2006 we began re-engineering our main website. The goal is to serve Diplo audiences better, with clear structure and easy access to information – a challenge that we share with most of the web population today. This work has three main aspects: new information and navigation structure, major content update and automation of content management. The latter is achieved through a simple content management software system (SCM), based on the core information management tool we have used over the years, reshaped for the new purpose in 2006.



8. Multimedia Development

During 2006, the main task of the multimedia team was the improvement of current multimedia features and software applications. We released the second edition of the Internet Governance DVD, with appreciably improved film and software quality. We established the multimedia archive, which increases availability of edited films and streams. In correlation with the VideoVault application, it offers a complete view of video recordings from conferences, lectures, seminars, forums and courses conducted by Diplo or where Diplo participated.

The multimedia team has begun applying new 3D visualisation web-based techniques in the Virtual Embassy test project. The Virtual Embassy contains departments with information about procedures and services, similar to those of a real embassy.

A new challenge lies in wait for the multimedia team in 2007: we will join the Second Life virtual world with the aim of promoting our ideas, courses and methods. In addition, over the year we will place some of our videos on the YouTube website, allowing millions of web surfers to reach our films.

VideoVault - Management of Diplo's Video Materials



9. Financial Report

BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY

As at 31 December 2006

	2006		2005	
	Chf	Chf	Chf	Chf
Assets				
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets		50,690		57,867
Current assets				
Debtors	160,935		186,241	
Cash and bank balances	<u>811,013</u>		<u>691,912</u>	
	<u>971,948</u>		<u>878,153</u>	
Current liabilities				
Funds received in advance	669,823		644,566	
Other creditors	<u>52,772</u>		<u>55,120</u>	
	<u>722,595</u>		<u>699,686</u>	
Net current assets		<u>249,353</u>		<u>178,467</u>
Net assets		<u>300,043</u>		<u>236,334</u>
Funds				
Founders' fund		37,190		37,190
Capital assets fund		50,691		57,867
General fund		<u>212,162</u>		<u>141,277</u>
Total funds		<u>300,043</u>		<u>236,334</u>

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT SUMMARY

For the year ended 31 December 2006

	2006	2005
	Chf	Chf
Income		
Main sponsors	1,618,67	1,485,099
Courses and other income	<u>313,554</u>	<u>448,783</u>
	<u>1,932,192</u>	<u>1,933,882</u>
Capital assets fund	<u>(56,304)</u>	<u>(31,756)</u>
Total operating income	<u>1,875,887</u>	<u>1,902,126</u>
Expenditure - Courses, conferences and projects		
Salaries, lectures and other fees	724,162	655,118
Accommodation and travel costs	257,648	295,808
Other expenses	152,206	179,942
Promotion expenses	47,565	32,730
Administration and support expenses		
Salaries and professional fees	373,251	433,547
Accommodation and travel costs	35,919	23,963
Printing and publication costs	20,380	22,100
Rent and other office expenses	123,085	116,416
Other operating expenses	114,711	110,384
Finance costs	<u>19,555</u>	<u>12,968</u>
Total operating expenditure	<u>1,868,482</u>	<u>1,882,975</u>
Net surplus for the year	<u>7,405</u>	<u>19,152</u>

The Summary Financial Report on page 34 represents an extract from the audited financial statements of DiploFoundation for the year ending on 31 December 2006. The auditors' report for these financial statements is shown below:

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

To the Board of Administrators of the DiploFoundation.

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 11. As described in the statement of director's responsibilities on page 2, these financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's Director. Our responsibility is to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on these financial statements and to report our opinion to you.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Foundation as at 31 December 2006 and of its surplus, its changes in equity and its cash flows for the year ended on that date. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Degiorgio, Scerri & Co
Certified Public Accountants
"Suite 7" Rainbow Court
Hriereb Road. Msida.
Malta

19 March 2007

Core Funding and Project Support:

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta

Additional Funding for Courses and Projects:

Commonwealth Secretariat
Open Society institute
Norwegian Post and Telecommunications authority
Global Knowledge Partnership
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

10. Staff

Board of Directors

[Dietrich Kappeler](#)

President of DiploFoundation

[Victor Camilleri](#)

Vice President

(Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations - New York)

[Saviour Borg](#)

(Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations - Geneva)

[Walter Fust](#)

(Director General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation)

[Andre Liebich](#)

(Professor, International History and Politics, Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva)

[Joseph Pirotta](#)

(Head of International Relations, Faculty of Arts, University of Malta)

Management

[Jovan Kurbalija](#)

Director

[Dejan Dincic](#)

Information Architect/Technical Director

[Hannah Slavik](#)

Educational Programs Director

Staff

[Carmina Angelone](#)

Administrative Assistant, Geneva office

[Martin Aquilina](#)

Accountant (part time)

[Yasmeen Ariff](#)

Internet Governance Coordinator

[Miodrag Badnjar](#)

Administrative Coordinator for Belgrade office

[Patrick Borg](#)

IG Administration and Support (part time)

[Sylvana Bugeja](#)

Administrator

[Mariejo Duc](#)

Project Coordinator (part time)

[Ljupco Gjorgjinski](#)

Diplomacy of Small States project coordinator (part time)

[Jelena Jakovljevic](#)

Web Coordination and Design

[Bodin Jovanovic](#)

Flash Developer (part time)

[Arvin Kamberi](#)

Video Editor (part time)

[Valentin Katrandjiev](#)

Knowledge Management Project Coordinator

[Branislav Kurbalija](#)

Multimedia Software Developer

[Zoran Kracunovic](#)

Software Developer (part time)

[Nikola Krstic](#)

Chief of Staff for Belgrade office, Software Developer

[Mina Mudric](#)

Administrator and Course Coordinator

[Tanja Nikolic](#)

Admissions (part time)

[Marko Pecenkovic](#)

DTP and Web Design Assistant (part time)

[Mladen Radakovic](#)

3D Animation and Modelling (part time)

[Vladimir Radunovic](#)

IGCBP Coordinator (part time)

[Carmel Romano](#)

IT Systems Engineer

[Andrej Skrinjaric](#)

Research, Course and Training Assistant (part time)

[Eva Tanner](#)

Project Development Coordinator (part time)

[Vladimir Veljasevic](#)

Illustrator, Graphic Designer (part time)

Faculty

[Stefano Baldi](#) (Italy)

[Geoff Berridge](#) (UK)

[Petru Dumitriu](#) (Romania)

[Haraldur Egilsson](#) (Iceland)

[Eduardo Gelbstein](#) (France)

[Dietrich Kappeler](#) (Switzerland)

[Jovan Kurbalija](#) (Switzerland)

[Aldo Matteucci](#) (Switzerland)

[Andrei Mikheyev](#) (Russia)

[Kishan Rana](#) (India)

[Alex Sceberras Trigona](#) (Malta)

[Biljana Scott](#) (UK)

[Tracy Winters Evans](#) (Trinidad and Tobago)

Tutors (Internet Governance Capacity Building Programmes)

[Seiiti Arata](#) (Brazil)

[Veronica Cretu](#) (Moldova)

[Marsha Guthrie](#) (Barbados)

[Dhrupad Mathur](#) (India)

[Andrei Mikheyev](#) (Russia)

[Mwende Njiraini](#) (Kenya)

DiploFoundation

Malta

DiploFoundation
4th Floor, Regional Building, Regional Road
Msida, MSD 13
Malta
Tel +356 21 333 323
Fax +356 21 315 574

Geneva

DiploFoundation
Rue de Lausanne 56
CH-1202 Geneve
Switzerland
Tel +41 22 741 0420
Fax +41 22 731 1663

email

diplo@diplomacy.edu

website

www.diplomacy.edu