



COLUMBIA | SIPA

Kent Global Leadership Program on Conflict Resolution

2026

KENT GLOBAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

CONFLICT RESOLUTION SUMMER TRAINING

JUNE 1-5, 2026

International Affairs Building
420 West 118th Street
New York, NY 10027

www.sipa.columbia.edu/kent-program
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ABOUT THE TRAINING:

The training centers around an **in-depth simulation and a case study**, which are augmented by **high-level panels** featuring senior officials from governments and international organizations, CEOs of major corporations, and leaders of prominent NGOs. As a distinctive feature of the training, the simulation will bring to the world of diplomacy some of the methods used in business schools. Last year's simulation and case study centered around the training's overarching theme of **Early Warning: The Race to Forecast Conflict in an Era of Rapid Change**. The simulation took the form of a Peace Summit in Geneva, asking participants to come together as political, military, business, and civil society stakeholders to address a persistent conflict between two countries at differing levels of technological sophistication. The crisis was triggered by disinformation and cyber-attacks related to a migration pattern which threatens to upend the ethnic balance in both countries.

Recordings of sessions from last year's summer training are available [here](#)

ABOUT THE KENT PROGRAM:

The Kent Global Leadership Program on Conflict Resolution is the product of a fortunate encounter:

- The **School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA)**, whose approach to education is to combine the academic rigor and innovative spirit of Columbia University with the policy focus of practitioners who bring to the classroom the experience and challenges of a changing world. The history of the school is intimately linked to the United Nations – its founding dean, Andrew Cordier, had been a close adviser of Dag Hammarskjöld – and whose student body, coming from more than 70 countries, reflects that international outlook; and
- A generous donor, **Muhtar Kent, retired Chairman and CEO of The Coca-Cola Company**, who throughout his career has demonstrated a deep commitment to international cooperation and a conviction that business has a particular responsibility in helping build peaceful societies.

The Kent Program has the ambition to help prepare the next generation of global practitioners for the increasingly complex challenges posed by contemporary conflict. In addition to an annual summer training for promising young diplomats, the Kent Program sponsors on-campus events and workshops during the academic year, a visiting professorship, fellowships for outstanding SIPA graduate students, and original research in conflict and peacebuilding.



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