

The Conference for International Holocaust Education Newsletter

Summer 2016



Edition 2

First Round of Country Project Implementation

The spring was very busy for CIHE country teams. Four out of ten Holocaust and genocide education country projects were implemented, and we have heard excellent news about their success. We are excited to see projects conceived at the conference in September 2015 come to fruition. During the conference we asked teams to design country-specific projects to ensure the permanence of Holocaust memory in the following ways:



- Increase the visibility, impact, and productivity of Holocaust studies and raise the level of Holocaust discourse, and the legitimacy of the Holocaust in places with anti-Semitism and denial
- Promote the study of the Holocaust and genocide, including teacher training, resource evaluation, curricula development, and textbook integration
- Foster intra-and international networks of educators to discuss challenges and collaborate on Holocaust and genocide education projects that foster sustainable communities of educators

At the core of CIHE's pedagogical aims is the commitment to trust participants to develop projects that address the culture, context, and history of their specific country situations. The creativity and innovation that teams undertook to make projects relevant and accessible to their different audiences is amazing.

More country projects will be implemented in the coming month:

Chile—July 2016
Mexico—August 2016
Rwanda—September 2016

Country Profiles for completed Holocaust and genocide education begin on page 4.

COUNTRY TEAM UPDATES AND EVENTS



The Chile Team reports that they are working collaboratively with project partners to present a joint training seminar for teachers on the Holocaust and human rights using methods and activities learned during CIHE, such as the timeline activity. They will complete their upcoming country project this summer in schools and sites around Santiago.



The Rwanda Team recently completed a training seminar for 110 teachers from four provinces (pictured left). The seminar provided introductory training on Holocaust history with a particular focus on the story of Anne Frank as a teaching tool. Another seminar will take place in summer with 40 teachers from the south. In the fall, a select group of teachers will be asked back to participate in further training on Holocaust and genocide education at the Kigali Genocide Memorial. The event will also

include Museum guides.

In March, **The Turkey Team** participated in the commemoration of Holocaust Remembrance Day. Supported in part by the Anne Frank House, the event featured the Vice President of Turkey's International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Delegation, the Consul General of the Netherlands, and Jewish Community Representatives. The event included a panel discussion with Dr. Corry Guttstadt, author of *The Jews, Turkey, and the Holocaust*. Dr. Guttstadt was a scholar in the Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2008 and in 2013.

The Lithuania Team shared news of a successful round table held at the Jewish Library in Vilnius entitled *The Problem of Integration of the Holocaust into the Collective Memory* (pictured right). The event featured leading historians and psychologists talking about Holocaust memory, representation, and education. The audience included members of Parliament, leaders of local organizations, Holocaust survivors, and many others. The team will write an article and continue to hold seminars on the topic.

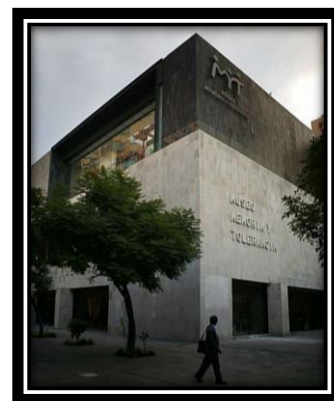


Members of **The Korea Team** participated in an event led by the UNESCO Asia Pacific Center of Education for International Understanding (APCIEU), which included Holocaust education in a new seminar on Global Citizenship Education (GCED), reaching education stakeholders from 26 countries. More information on the UNESCO GCED initiative can be found on page 11.



The Hungary Team, teachers, and students met with Hungarian Holocaust survivor **Éva Fahidi** in her home to talk about history, education, and memory (pictured left). These students worked with materials from the *Some Were Neighbors* exhibition from the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. Ms. Fahidi was also on hand to participate in other events for the Hungary team project including working with students as they develop their own Holocaust exhibitions. More information about the Hungary Team project is in the Country Profile on page 4.

The Mexico Team reports that they have secured financial support from the US Embassy in Mexico City for their project implementation. They are hard at work planning their conference on the themes of resistance and resilience, which will take place in August 2016 at the Museum of Memory and Tolerance in Mexico City (pictured right) and Iberoamericana University. They will specifically focus on activities related to teacher training, revising the training manual, and devising a plan to bring the art of a Holocaust survivor to the University. The team also reports that they are working with the *Mexican Journal of Political and Social Sciences* (from the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, UNAM), which will publish a journal focused specifically on the Holocaust due out this fall.



The Morocco Team reports many successful outcomes in the planning of their upcoming conference on Jewish Heritage in Morocco. The team has received an International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), as well as grants from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and the US Embassy. They are also partnering with a number of other national and international organizations, including the Moroccan National Council for Human Rights, The Alliance of Moroccan Jews in Israel, and the Moroccan National Archive (pictured left). They are also working to coordinate with US and other international scholars to make this a truly international conference. Due to the comprehensive nature of their work, their project will take place in early 2017.

The Namibia Team continues to work on the development of their exhibition on the Herero-Nama genocide, which serves as a complement to their earlier traveling exhibition on the Holocaust. In addition to researching the historical context, the team is also training graduate students in history to help guide the exhibitions once they begin travelling to schools throughout the country. One of the members of the team returned to the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in spring to do more research on the project, which is discussed in more detail on page 11 of the newsletter.



Country Profile: HUNGARY



(l to r) Szabolcs Virágh, Katalin Kalláy,
Zsuzsanna Kozák, Péter Aradi

COUNTRY PROJECT: To engage with students around the country and discuss the concepts of collaboration and complicity found in the Museum's *Some Were Neighbors* exhibition. This element of the project will include the development of student exhibitions related to the Holocaust and social responsibility in Hungary. The project will also hold public events to raise awareness about the Holocaust and contemporary issues in Hungarian society.

"There are some legacies of dictatorship in Hungary which often make Holocaust-related events controversial or not easily accepted." –Hungarian Participant

The Hungary Country Team completed several milestones in their ongoing, multi-pronged project using resources from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's new exhibition *Some Were Neighbors: Collaboration and Complicity in the Holocaust*. The team has undertaken work with many different audiences as part of their year-long project, including teachers, students, and the general public. The Hungary project includes a variety of partners, including the Ministry of Human Capacity and the Chair of the Hungarian National Commission for UNESCO.



The first milestone was a mobile, student-made art exhibit consisting of art pieces and 3D installations from over 200 students in six Hungarian educational institutions. The exhibition was presented at a culminating event in the Embassy of Canada in Hungary in April, which included a half-day workshop where teachers involved in the project explained the relevance of the students' work in the context of their own institutions, as well as in the context of issues of discrimination in present day Hungary.



Special courses were also offered to train students in guiding the exhibition so that, at each site, visitors were guided by students of the host institution. Since the opening, the art exhibition has travelled to two other educational

institutions where it was received with great interest. It will continue to travel throughout Hungary. The exhibit was presented under the patronage of UNESCO and has received considerable media coverage, including from the *Voice of America*.

The team also held seminars with teachers and school psychologists to discuss teaching about the Holocaust in Hungary.



The Hungarian project is ongoing. If you are interested in learning more about the project, please contact Zsuzsanna Kozák at zsuzsanna.kozak@visualworld.org

The India Country Team

completed their project using academic discourse to promote discussions about the Holocaust and Holocaust education in India. The team organized an academic conference at O.P. Jindal

University in Sonapat entitled *Mass Violence and Memory*. The conference selected 38 papers from almost 100 submissions on topics related to memory, genocide, mass violence, the politics of representation, and history. There was a special focus on Holocaust education with scholars from around the world and India discussing educational case studies.



education around the world.

As an outcome of this pedagogical conversation, members of the team are working on a guidebook for teaching and learning about the Holocaust in the Indian context. Members of the India team were also instrumental editing a special *Contemporary Review of East* (published by Holocaust Education, due out in September written by several teams: *Holocaust Past, Present, and Education in a Country History: Facing the with Rescuer Stories in Conceptual and Methodological Clues for Approaching the Connections Between Mexico and the Holocaust: Separate or Interconnected Histories?; & Teaching the Holocaust and Genocide in Rwanda*.



in designing and volume of the *the Middle SAGE*) devoted to Within the volume, 2016, are articles CIHE country *Education in Turkey: Future; Holocaust Without Holocaust Burdensome Past South Korea;*

If you are interested in learning more about the India project, please contact Navras Aafreedi at Aafreedi@gmail.com.

Country Profile: INDIA



(l to r) Navras Aafreedi, Rohee Dasgupta, Kumaraswamy PR

COUNTRY PROJECT: To convene an international conference on mass atrocity at Jindal University with a special focus on Holocaust education in India. As part of the project, there will also be events at university campuses around India on the topic of the Holocaust, including a Jewish film festival, lectures, and a performance of the only play in Hindi written about the Holocaust.

"[Society] is generally unaware of the Holocaust, and there are even a few students who have admiration for Hitler." – Indian Participant

Country Profile: LITHUANIA



(l to r) Rita Juškevičienė, Roma Diktaraitė,
Ingrida Vilkiene, Žilvinas Beliauskas

COUNTRY PROJECT: To engage students in local research about Lithuanian Holocaust rescuers in order to stress the ability of citizens to make positive choices in difficult circumstances. The project also includes teacher training workshops on the Holocaust and genocide using Museum materials translated into Lithuanian, as well as a Jewish film festival held for teachers and students at the Jewish Library.

“The people who raise topics about collaboration, bystanders, and participation in the mass murders of the Jews are not popular because they raise uncomfortable and complicated questions.” – Lithuanian Participant

The Lithuania Country Team

completed several elements of their ongoing project to use film to prompt discussions about the Holocaust in Lithuania. They have hosted film screenings for teachers and students at the Jewish Library in Vilnius, and they have organized teacher training seminars around the country with the Occupation Commission and other local institutions and schools. They continue to invite students and educators to the Library to discuss *Uncle Chatzkel*, a film about Chatzkel Lemchen, a leading Lithuanian intellectual imprisoned with his family in the Kaunas (Kovno) ghetto, where his two sons were murdered.



The team has also partnered in their work with libraries, schools, and museums in the cities of Jonava, Joniškis, Kaunas, Pabradė, Utena and Žagarė. In Joniškis, the director of a local museum is sponsoring a scriptwriting festival for students to learn about Holocaust history. In Utena, students are compiling information about Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese consul in Lithuania during the war who saved 6000 Lithuanian Jews.



The team also encourages teachers to promote discussions about the actions of Lithuanian citizens during the war. To encourage critical thinking about citizenship, the team asked schools around the country to have students research stories of Jewish rescue in Lithuania. The aim of this project is to highlight how individual actions can make a difference in society. Schools have until the end of June to compile their stories.

One of the leading Lithuanian language news sites, Bernadinai.lt carried an article about the work of the Lithuanian team to promote it around the country.

The Lithuanian project is ongoing. If you are interested in learning more about the project, please contact Ingrida Vilkiene at i.vilkiene@lrv.lt.

WISLA 12.10.
ŽYDŲ GELBĖTOJŲ ISTORIJOJ. TAPK BALTUOJŲ ISTORIJOJ. METRAŠTININKUI!



Švietimas apie Holokaustą kitais
Vidutini žydu, metęsi iš Lietuvos baltus, "Tęsiauklės kovojančių" sovietų
susijusių reikšmių, nusišalimo (iš Lietuvos perėjė) švietimo ir kultūros istorijos

The Turkey Country Team completed key elements of their project using seminars, survivor testimony, and films to raise awareness about the Holocaust in Turkey. In April, the team hosted a day-long event at Bilkent University in Ankara entitled *Discussing the Holocaust in Turkey: Memory, Awareness and Education*. The main aim was to discuss perceptions and memory of the Holocaust, as well as the goals and challenges of Holocaust education in Turkey.



The event began with a screening of the film *Watchers of the Sky*, a documentary film directed by Edet Bilzberg about the “forgotten life” of Raphael Lemkin. Following this screening, a panel of academic experts contextualized the Holocaust in the Turkish case and then asked participants to think about the state of human rights and genocide more generally.



Participants also engaged with educational resources from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, including the Photo Narrative and the Timeline Activity. Both of these activities use historical evidence to prompt critical thinking about developing an educational

narrative about World War II and the Holocaust.

The event was concluded with testimony given by Alfred Münzer, a survivor with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. He participated in the conference via skype, telling his story of rescue by an Indonesian family in the Netherlands.



The Turkish project is ongoing and will host another seminar in fall, which includes support from the United States Embassy. If you are interested in learning more about the project, please contact Christine Beresniová at CBeresniova@ushmm.org.

Country Profile: TURKEY



(l to r) İlker Aytürk, Pinar Dost-Niyego,
Asena Günel

COUNTRY PROJECT: To implement two seminars for university students in Istanbul and Ankara to discuss the history of the Holocaust and other contemporary genocides. The project will also raise awareness about human rights, the Holocaust, and genocide more broadly by screening a documentary about the Holocaust in a public venue. A panel discussion will follow the film screening.

“I believe in the potential of Holocaust education to contribute to maintaining mutual understanding and respect among people who belong to different social groups.” –Turkish Participant

NANCY NICHOLLS, CHILE

Nancy participated in a discussion about the book *Searching for María Edwards* by María Angélica Puga at an event organized by Columbia Global Center Latinoamerica.

María Edwards is the only Chilean Righteous Amongst the Nations. She

saved several Jewish children in Paris during Second World

War. The event took place on January 27, 2016, International Holocaust Remembrance Day.



Community Updates

NAVRAS AAFREEDI, INDIA

Navras participated in a panel discussion at the American Jewish Committee (AJC) Annual Conference in Washington, DC in June 2016. The topic of the panel was *The Changing Role of Holocaust Education and Remembrance: A Means to Combat Anti-Semitism and Create International Awareness?* Also on the

panel were

Mike Abramowitz, Director of the Levine Institute for Holocaust

Education at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and Karel Fracapane, Senior Project Officer at UNESCO and a key organizer of the CIHE conference.



ROHEE DASGUPTA, INDIA & ZSUZSANNA KOZÁK, HUNGARY



In February 2016, CIHE's Rohee Das Gupta (India) and Zsuzsanna Kozak (Hungary)

participated in the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) *International Conference for Education about the Holocaust*

hosted by the University of

Teacher Education in Lucerne, Switzerland. Rohee and Zsuzsanna presented on Holocaust education projects in their respective countries.



MUSEUM UPDATES

After nearly 16 years with the Museum, **Arthur Berger**, senior advisor for International Programs, will retire. Many of you will remember Arthur's invaluable work connecting leaders in the international diplomatic committee to the conference. We are grateful for his ongoing support of CIHE and we wish him the best.



After a year of working as contract staff for CIHE, **Christine Beresniova** has joined the US Holocaust Memorial Museum full time as a Program Coordinator in the Levine Institute for Holocaust Education. In addition to CIHE, she will also work on domestic programs for educators. You can contact Christine at cberesniova@ushmm.org

Professional Development Focus Communities of Practice

Have you ever found that you learn best by doing? Educational researcher Etienne Wenger (2004) noticed that people learn on a daily basis by doing things together as a group, but this kind of informal learning is rarely given the same kind of attention as formal classroom learning. Discontented with approaches to formal classroom learning that view learners solely as individuals, Wenger undertook research on how people learn values, skills, and dispositions as members of specific professional communities. Wenger has aptly named this kind of learning *communities of practice*.



Members of the Rwanda team, the Korea team, the Hungary team, and the Chile Team participate in a group activity

CIHE applies the idea of **communities of practice** to Holocaust education and the creation of sustainable educator communities. Country team projects are one

way we encourage individuals to work together toward a shared purpose.



Members of the Rwanda team and the Lithuania team work in the photo archives of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum

Wenger argues that informal learning done through practice “on-the-job” can impart complex values, ideologies, and sensibilities about one’s place in the world. In fact, Wenger argues that learning by doing (practice) is more readily internalized by individuals because their success depends upon their **contributions to the community** via skills and personal accountability to other members of the group. When people work together toward a shared enterprise (goal or activity) they more easily adopt the lessons they are learning; these can include learning new skills, problem solving in relation to other community members, or social values associated with belonging to a group.

Want to know more about the process?

Check out the article *Communities of Practice: A Brief Introduction* by Etienne Wenger (1994) posted on the CIHE Website:

<https://ushmmcihe.wordpress.com/additional-resources/>



USING MUSEUM RESOURCES FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is the central repository in the United States for the study of the Holocaust. As part of the Museum mission broadly, and the Levine mission more specifically, the staff of CIHE are committed to supporting participants with ongoing consultation and advice. Over the last few months, several CIHE 2015 participants returned to the Museum to take advantage of archives, exhibitions and staff expertise directly related to the success of their country projects.

In April 2015, Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa returned to the Museum from Namibia as part of her country team's work designing a traveling Museum exhibition and Education Ministry training seminars about the Holocaust and the Herero-Nama genocide. Nehoa was able to consult with exhibitions and education staff about methods for engaging diverse audiences, as well as visit the Smithsonian Institution Travelling Exhibition Service (SITES) and the Nassau Country Holocaust Museum, which has an exhibit on the Herero-Nama genocide.



Pinar and Nehoa discuss their country projects while waiting for a Days of Remembrance event to begin.

During this same time, Pinar Dost-Niyego from Turkey was invited by Museum leadership as a special guest at the Museum's annual *Days of Remembrance* Tribute Dinner. During the dinner she spoke on a panel about the state of Holocaust education, research, and commemoration in Turkey.



Alejandra and Yael participate in an interview at the Museum discussing their country projects

In May 2016, Alejandra Morales Stekel from Chile and Yael Siman from Mexico returned to the Museum for a week to work in the archives and consult on a joint project they are conducting with a grant from the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). Alejandra and Yael responded to the IHRA call for proposals mentioned in the last CIHE newsletter to propose cross-country Holocaust education projects. Their IHRA project will take place in 2017 and will continue the momentum begun during their

respective CIHE country projects in 2016. This joint project will also be presented to representatives from nine Ministries of Education at the next meeting of the UNESCO Latin American Network for Education on the Holocaust.

Photo Gallery



Zsuzsanna Kozák (r) uses Museum archive photos with Hungarian Holocaust Survivor **Éva Fahidi (l)** during a seminar with teachers and students.



Aimable Mpayimana works with teachers from four provinces in Rwanda on methods for teaching the Holocaust.



İlker Aytürk, Pinar Dost-Niyego, and Asena Günal work with university students during a seminar on the Holocaust and Turkey.



GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION, THE HOLOCAUST, AND UNESCO

Global Citizenship Education (GCED) aims to empower learners to assume active roles to face and resolve global challenges and to become proactive contributors to a more peaceful, tolerant, inclusive and secure world.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [HTTP://EN.UNESCO.ORG/GCED](http://en.unesco.org/gced)

We would like to thank the country teams for their continued dedication to Holocaust and genocide education. We would also like to thank the project partners and donors who make CIHE possible.

For more information on the joint work of the Museum and UNESCO please contact Karel Fracapane at kfracapane@unesco.org or Peter Fredlake at pfredlake@ushmm.org
