

Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Promoting and Protecting Civil and Human Rights

US Edition, August 2019

Goals of the Seminar

- (1) To introduce participants to the concepts of genocide and mass atrocity, and the processes by which these crimes occur.
- (2) To instill in participants the values of promoting and protecting civil and human rights and examine the factors which put societies at risk for violating those rights.
- (3) To emphasize the ways in which the promotion and protection of civil and human rights by government officials and civil rights practitioners plays a role in the prevention of identity-based mass atrocities.
- (4) To apply those lessons to the challenges facing our participants today in a deeply divided society.

Overview of the Seminar

The Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) shares a national, and global, concern that the increasingly hostile environment of exclusion and social fragmentation in the U.S. is heightening the risk, and occurrence, of identity-based marginalization and violence. As history shows us, such threats to civil and human rights can, if unchecked, become part of an escalating process of destruction that may lead to identity-based mass atrocity. We wish to use the lessons learned from the field of atrocity prevention to help build capacity in our government and civil society partners to detect relevant risk factors for civil and human rights abuses, identify appropriate response tools to promote and protect those rights, and recognize the best practices to foster resiliency in targeted communities.

This course is offered to U.S. Government officials and civil rights practitioners who are engaging in atrocity prevention through the implementation of rule of law, policymaking, program development and advocacy. The Seminar welcomes roughly 20 participants, as well as an international teaching team including prominent academics, government officials, and other leading experts in the fields of atrocity prevention and civil and human rights protection.

The seminar, held on site of the former Nazi concentration and death camps at Auschwitz, utilizes the “power of place” to bring a heightened degree of awareness and sensitivity to previous genocides and the lessons from our past failures. At the same time, the seminar fosters an understanding of the responsibility of states to prevent atrocity and empowers our participants with the tools to act. Through an engaged pedagogy of small group exercises, case studies, simulations, guided discussions, and other active learning assignments, participants will develop a shared understanding of their collaborative role in preventing atrocity by promoting and protecting civil and human rights. The seminar will follow the Chatham House Rule in which participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

Summary of the Program

Monday, August 19 – Introductions and Context

- Official Opening of Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Promoting and Protecting Civil and Human Rights
- Introduction to the Concepts of Genocide, Atrocity Crimes, and Prevention
- The Holocaust: The Death of Democracy and the Rise of Nazism (1933-1939)
- Guided Study Visit: Auschwitz I

Tuesday, August 20 – Process and Place

- The Holocaust: The Final Solution as Process (1939-1945)
- Between Memory, Commemoration, and the Authentic Site: Auschwitz as a Reference Point for Contemporary Societies
- Background Briefing: Auschwitz II-Birkenau
- Guided Study Visit: Auschwitz II-Birkenau
- Survivor Art Exhibit: “The Labyrinth” by Marian Kolodziej
- Group Debriefing of Auschwitz Experience

Wednesday, August 21 – Identity-Based Marginalization and Violence

- Identity in Deeply Divided Societies
- Exercise: Understanding Personal and Social Identities
- Becoming Evil: The Psychology of How Ordinary People Commit Atrocities
- Protection Approaches: Prevention of Identity-Based Marginalization and Violence

Thursday, August 22 – Continuum of Atrocity Prevention: Upstream, Midstream, and Downstream

- Upstream Atrocity Prevention: Risk Factors in Deeply Divided Societies
 - Case Study: Representation of Native American Experiences in US History
 - Case Study: The Continuum of Black-White Race Relations in the U.S.
- Midstream Atrocity Prevention: Responding to Attacks on Civil and Human Rights
 - Case Study: Federal Hate Crimes and 2017 Statistics Report
- Downstream Atrocity Prevention: Rebuilding Deeply Divided Societies
 - Case Study: Trauma and Mental Health Legacies of Identity-Based Marginalization and Violence

Friday, August 23 – Genocide and Atrocity Prevention in Action

- Capstone Simulation: Promoting and Protecting Civil and Human Rights in the U.S.
- A Way Forward: Lessons Learned and Next Steps
- Closing Dinner and Certificate Distribution

Sunday, August 18

All Day Krakow Airport Pick-Ups – Morning and Afternoon

15:00 Late Lunch at Dialogue Centre
1. M. Kolbego St.
32-602 Oświęcim
<http://www.cdim.pl/en>

20:00 Dinner and Meet-and-Greet at Dialogue Centre

Monday, August 19 – Introductions and Context

7:00 Breakfast

7:45 Bus Departs Dialogue Centre for Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum Conference Room (Block 23)

8:15-8:45 Opening of Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Promoting and Protecting Human Rights

- Ms. Samantha Capicotto, Director of Policy and Planning, Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR)
- Mr. Andrzej Kacorzyk, Director, International Center for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust (ICEAH), Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
- Dr. James Waller, Cohen Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Keene State College and Director of Academic Programs, AIPR

8:45-10:15 Introduction to the Concepts of Genocide, Atrocity Crimes, and Prevention
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
Readings: (a) James Waller, "Transcending Fratricide: The Politics of Naming," from Srda Pavlovic and Marko Zivkovic (eds.), *Transcending Fratricide: Political Mythologies, Reconciliations, and the Uncertain Future in the Former Yugoslavia* (Germany: Nomos, 2013), pp. 31-49 and (b) UN Genocide Convention (1951).
Handout: Definitions of Genocide and Mass Atrocity Crimes
Take Home Resource: James Waller, *Confronting Evil: Engaging Our Responsibility to Prevent Genocide* (2016), Chapters 1-3.

10:15-10:30 Coffee Break

10:30-12:00 The Holocaust: The Death of Democracy and the Rise of Nazism (1933-1939)
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
Reading: "Historical Overview," from Donald Niewyk and Francis Nicosia, *The Columbia Guide to the Holocaust* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000), pp. 3-9.
Handout: Nazi Party Platform (1920)

- 12:15-13:00** Lunch Break – Imperiale Hotel
- 13:15-16:15** Guided Study Visit: Auschwitz I (smaller groups)
Guides from Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Reading: “Auschwitz,” from Adrian Weale’s *Army of Evil: A History of the SS* (New York: Penguin, 2010), pp. 366-397.
- 16:30** Bus Departs from Auschwitz I for Dialogue Centre
- 18:45** Bus Departs Dialogue Centre for Stara Poczta Restaurant
- 19:00** Dinner at Stara Poczta Restaurant in Galicja Hotel
- 21:00** Bus Returns to Dialogue Centre

Tuesday, August 20 – Process and Place

- 7:00** Breakfast
- 7:45** Bus Departs Dialogue Centre for Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum Conference Room (Block 23)
- 8:15-9:45** The Holocaust: The Final Solution as Process (1939-1945)
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
Reading: “Historical Overview,” from Donald Niewyk and Francis Nicosia, (New York, NY: Columbia University Press, 2000) *The Columbia Guide to the Holocaust*, pp. 9-41.
- 9:45-10:00** Coffee Break
- 10:00-11:15** Between Memory, Commemoration and the Authentic Site: Auschwitz as a Reference Point for Contemporary Societies
Dr. Alicja Bialecka, Representative for the New Main Exhibition, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Readings: Selections from *The Holocaust: Voices of Scholars*, edited by Jolanta Ambrosewic-Jacobs (Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, 2009).
- 11:15-11:45** Background Briefing: Auschwitz II-Birkenau
Dr. Piotr Setkiewicz, Chief Historian, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
- 11:45** Bus Returns to Dialogue Centre
- 12:00-12:45** Lunch Break – Dialogue Centre
- 12:45** Bus Departs from Dialogue Centre to Auschwitz II-Birkenau

- 13:00-16:15** Guided Study Visit: Auschwitz II-Birkenau (smaller groups)
Reading: Selection from Primo Levi's *If This Is a Man (Survival in Auschwitz)*, translated by Stuart Woolf (1959), pp. 19-27.
- 16:30** Bus Departs Auschwitz II-Birkenau for St. Maximilian Kolbe Centre at the Franciscan Monastery in Harmež
Survivor Art Exhibit: "The Labyrinth" by Marian Kolodziej
<https://stv.tv/news/features/1399601-auschwitz-artist-survivor-paints-horror-of-nazi-death-camp/>
- 17:15** Bus Returns to Dialogue Centre
- 18:00** Dinner – Dialogue Centre
- 19:00** Group Debriefing of Auschwitz Experience
 Dialogue Centre – 3rd Floor Meeting Room
Facilitator: Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
Reading: Orlando Crowcroft, "Did Poland Take Part in the Holocaust? New Claims Contradict Law That Makes It Illegal to Blame the Country," *Newsweek* (April 26, 2018)

Wednesday, August 21 – Identity-Based Marginalization and Violence

- 7:30** Breakfast – Dialogue Centre
- 8:30-9:00** Welcome to the Centre for Dialogue and Prayer
 Father Jan Nowak, Director, Centre for Dialogue and Prayer and Ms. Gosia Waligora, Officer for Polish Affairs, AIPR
- 9:00-10:30** Identity in Deeply Divided Societies
 Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
Reading: "The Characteristics of Deeply Divided Societies," from Adrian Guelke, *Politics in Deeply Divided Societies* (2012), pp. 13-32
- 10:30-10:45** Coffee Break
- 10:45-12:15** Exercise: Understanding Personal and Social Identities
 Mr. Vahidin Omanovic, Center for Peacebuilding (Sanski Most, BiH)
- 12:15-13:00** Lunch Break – Dialogue Centre

- 13:15-15:00** Becoming Evil: The Psychology of How Ordinary People Commit Atrocities
 Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
Readings: (a) James Waller, "The Ordinarity of Extraordinary Evil: The Making of Perpetrators of Genocide and Mass Killing," from Olaf Jensen and Claus-Christian W. Szejnmann (eds.), *Ordinary People as Mass Murderers: Perpetrators in Comparative Perspective* (UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008), pp. 145-164 and (b) excerpt from Jean Hatzfeld's *Machete Season: The Killers in Rwanda Speak* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2003), pp. 21-27, 36-40.
Handout: The Interrogation of Erna Petri (19 September 1961).
- 15:00-15:15** Coffee Break
- 15:15-16:45** Protection Approaches: Prevention of Identity-Based Marginalization and Violence
 Dr. Kate Ferguson, Co-Executive Director, Head of Research and Policy, Protection Approaches (UK)
Reading: Protection Approaches, "A Gathering Storm: Assessing Risks of Identity-Based Violence in Britain" (2019).
- 16:45-17:00** Capstone Simulation Assignments and Capstone Simulation Guidelines (for Friday morning)
- 19:00** Bus Departs Dialogue Centre for La Rossa Restaurant
- 19:30** Pub Dinner – La Rossa Restaurant
- 21:00** Early Bus Returns to Dialogue Centre
- 23:00** Late and Final Bus Returns to Dialogue Centre

Thursday, August 22 – Continuum of Atrocity Prevention: Upstream, Midstream, and Downstream

- 7:30** Breakfast – Dialogue Centre
- 8:30-8:45** Upstream Atrocity Prevention: Risk Factors in Deeply Divided Societies
 Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
Handout: "Risk Factors Summary"
Take Home Resource: James Waller, *Confronting Evil: Engaging Our Responsibility to Prevent Genocide* (2016), Chapter 4.
- 8:45-10:15** Case Study: Representation of Native American Experiences in US History
 Dr. Kerri Malloy, Native American Studies, Humboldt State University
Reading: Walter R. Echo-Hawk, "A Context for Understanding Native American Issues" (2010).
- 10:15-10:30** Coffee Break

- 10:30-12:00** Case Study: The Continuum of Black-White Race Relations in the U.S.
Ms. Dina Bailey, Director of Methodology and Practice, International Coalition of Sites of Conscience
Reading: Maria Krysan, "Prejudice, Politics, and Public Opinion: Understanding the Sources of Racial Policy Attitude," *Annual Review of Sociology* (2000), 135-168.
- 12:00-12:45** Lunch Break – Dialogue Centre
- 13:00-13:15** Midstream Atrocity Prevention: Responding to Attacks on Civil and Human Rights
Handout: "Compartments of Preventive Response Tools"
Take Home Resource: James Waller, *Confronting Evil: Engaging Our Responsibility to Prevent Genocide* (2016), Chapter 5.
- 13:15-14:45** Case Study: Federal Hate Crimes and 2017 Statistics Report
Ms. Nakia Ellis, Intelligence Analyst, Public Corruption/Civil Rights Intelligence Unit, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Mr. Kyle Roberts, Supervisory Special Agent, Civil Rights Unit, FBI
Readings: Three selections from the FBI's *Uniform Crime Report*, "Hate Crime Statistics, 2017" (released Fall 2018).
- 14:45-15:00** Coffee Break
- 15:00-15:15** Downstream Atrocity Prevention: Rebuilding Deeply Divided Societies
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
Take Home Resource: James Waller, *Confronting Evil: Engaging Our Responsibility to Prevent Genocide* (2016), Chapter 6 and Conclusion.
- 15:15-16:45** Trauma and Mental Health Legacies of Identity-Based Marginalization and Violence
Prof. Peter McBride, Post-Conflict Mental Health Specialist (Northern Ireland)
Reading: "The Scale of Conflict-Related Trauma in Northern Ireland" (2018).
- 16:45-17:00** Wrap-Up and Closing Announcements
- 18:00** Dinner – Dialogue Centre

Friday, August 23 – Genocide and Atrocity Prevention in Action

- 7:30** Breakfast – Dialogue Centre
- 8:30-10:30** Capstone Simulation: Promoting and Protecting Civil & Human Rights in the US
Facilitators: Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR and Dr. Tibi Galis, Executive Director, AIPR
Reading: US Capstone Simulation Briefing
- 10:30-11:30** Capstone Simulation Debriefing

- 11:30-12:15** Lunch Break – Dialogue Centre
- 12:30-14:00** A Way Forward: Lessons Learned and Next Steps
Facilitators: Ms. Samantha Capicotto, Director of Policy and Planning, AIPR, and Mr. Jack Mayerhofer, Chief of Staff, AIPR
Reading: *National Mechanisms for the Prevention of Genocide and Other Atrocity Crimes: Integration Into the State Architecture for Prevention* (AIPR, 2018) pp. 5-22.
- 14:00-14:15** Coffee Break
- 14:15-15:00** Seminar Wrap-Up, Introduction to Alumni Network, Fellowship Program, Online Education, and Group Photo
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR, Dr. Tibi Galis, Executive Director, AIPR, Ms. Samantha Capicotto, Director of Policy and Planning, AIPR, and Mr. Jack Mayerhofer, Chief of Staff, AIPR
- 17:30** Bus Departs Dialogue Centre for Portobello Ristorante
- 18:00** Closing Dinner and Certificate Distribution
Portobello Ristorante
<http://www.portobello-ristorante.pl/>

Saturday, August 24

- AM** Participants check out and leave for return home.

“Human rights are universal and indivisible. Human freedom is also indivisible; if it is denied to anyone in the world, it is therefore denied, indirectly, to all people. This is why we cannot remain silent in the face of evil or violence; silence merely encourages them.”

– Vaclav Havel