Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation

"Our mission is to prevent genocide"



Photo: AIPR

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I am proud to present the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation's Annual Report for 2010. AIPR is a 501(c)(3) independent nongovernmental organization dedicated to the prevention of genocide and mass atrocities worldwide. We see the need for more effective measures to avoid genocidal situations. Our mission is to build an international community of governmental, nongovernmental, private, and academic actors to prevent the mass murder of innocent civilians.

Genocide is a complex, multifaceted issue and must be challenged through a comprehensive, multidimensional approach. The continuing atrocities of genocide throughout the 20th and 21st centuries demonstrate that our world lacks

the knowledge and the capacity to foster peace and social justice, to strengthen democratic values, and to promote international cooperation in preventing genocide. AIPR takes it as our duty to create this capacity, and to take an active approach to stopping genocide before it happens. Our customized, weeklong seminars, featuring world-renowned scholars and policy practitioners, are designed not only to educate future leaders and policymakers on the history of genocide and strategies for preventing it from multiple perspectives, but also to foster a community to support action for dealing with crisis situations as they arise. AIPR's programs create for the first time a community of policymakers, educators, and leaders who are both knowledgeable in and committed to genocide prevention.

The programs detailed in this report reflect the great strides AIPR has made in developing this international community, and the success our efforts have had in preventing and deterring future genocides. I believe wisdom is the ultimate good and wisdom flows from knowledge. The more we know about our past and about one another, the more good will come of our future.

Fred Schwartz

walker

The AIPR Team

Staff

Fred Schwartz
Founder and President



Interns

Mark Edwards
Operations

Tibi Galis
Executive Director



Adam Halbert Operations

Beata Schulman Program Director



Josh Kandell Operations

Amy Schwartz Program Officer



Jessica Lemire
Operations

Alex Zucker
Communications Officer



Mona Mizikovsky
Communications

Samantha Horn Legal and Operations Associate





Mission, History, Method

Mission

The Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation works to prevent genocide by building a worldwide community of policymakers with the tools and the commitment to address conflict before it turns into genocide.

Throughout history, genocide has caused the deaths of more human beings than all wars and murders combined. In light of the international community's failure to stop mass killing of innocent civilians in the 20th and 21st centuries, AIPR is building a network of genocide-sensitive policymakers, NGO advocates, and academic researchers with the knowledge and the capacity to cooperate across borders in building peace, advancing justice, and strengthening rule of law.

History

The concept of the Auschwitz Institute was first presented to the public at the January 2004 Stockholm International Forum, "Preventing Genocide: Threats and Responsibilities," receiving strong backing from government, academic, religious, and business leaders. The establishment of the AIPR was approved unanimously at the 2004 spring meeting of the International Auschwitz Council and the Auschwitz-Birkenau State

Museum. AIPR acquired legal status as a 501(c)(3) in 2007.





Method

The Raphael Lemkin Seminars for Genocide Prevention, run out of our offices in New York City and Poland, prevent genocide by fostering leadership in two areas:

- Government: bringing officials with leadership potential and a passion for democracy, rule of law, and human rights from ministries of justice and foreign affairs around the world to the Holocaust site of Auschwitz in Poland for one week of education and training in preventing genocide and violent conflict.
- Military: bringing officers with leadership potential from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to the Holocaust site of Auschwitz in Poland for one week of education and training in preventing mass atrocities and protecting civilians during military operations.

Facilitated by top scholars and policy practitioners, every Lemkin Seminar, whether civilian or military, features instruction in and discussion of genocide from the perspectives of history, politics, law, diplomacy, psychology, human rights, media policy, military policy, economics, and transitional justice.

Participants come away with a framework for understanding the problem, as well as tools to address the issue in their day-to-day work on the front lines of genocide prevention.

The experience of spending a week in Auschwitz studying and discussing genocide leaves an indelible impression, giving participants not only a heightened knowledge of the issue and the options for combating it, but a greater sense of urgency and commitment to their work.



There are three components to every Lemkin Seminar:

Education & Training: Over the course of each seminar, participants receive instruction in the history and

mechanisms of genocide, as well as the latest and most effective policies and strategies for preventing it. Modalities employed include lectures, discussions, and sharing of personal experiences from the field.



Follow-up & Networking: This is the most important outcome—the creation of a network of leaders committed to genocide prevention who can assist one another in assessing crisis situations as they arise. To foster this community, in April AIPR held a reunion for Lemkin alumni in Buenos Aires, co-organized with the government of Argentina.

Moreover, in September AIPR created 2PREVENT, a private online forum for Lemkin Seminar alumni to remain in touch with each other and stay up to date on the latest developments and news in genocide prevention.

Capacity Building: Sustainability is key to long-term impact. After the first Lemkin Seminar, in 2008, participants organized an informal group to monitor the political situation in Burundi—just one example of the kinds of creative

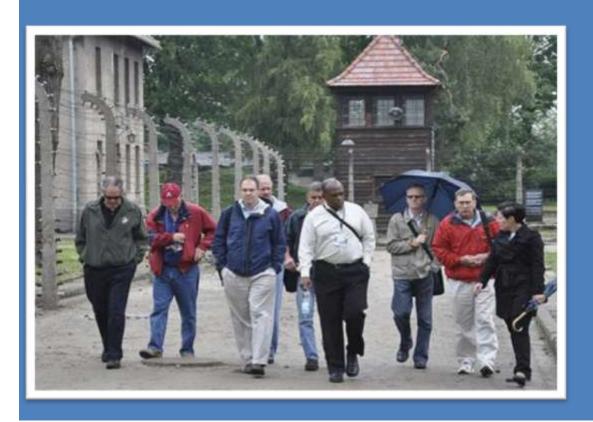


action the program seeks to catalyze. In 2009, three prizes of 2,000 euros each were offered as an incentive for seminar participants to

develop their own projects for the

prevention of violent conflict, the only requirement being that projects involve two or more countries. All these measures aim at building the capacity of governments—and individual officials—to take action, and to do so in a sustainable manner.

"This brings me to commend the work of AIPR, which for me is unparalleled, especially bringing individuals from different governments to have first-hand interaction with these issues and places and have an opportunity to share experiences, also in leading the way for us to develop a global understanding of wars, genocide, dictatorship, and repressive events that have occurred around the world." Memunatu Pratt, Professor, Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone,



by ordinary people." Tibi Galis. The biggest similarity with all genocides is that AIPR Executive Director committed

Passion for Prevention

"Memory, Justice, Truth, and Reparations as Tools for Genocide Prevention" | April 12–14, 2010, Buenos Aires

Organized jointly by the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation and the government of Argentina, the three-day conference "Memory, Justice, Truth, and Reparations as Tools for Genocide Prevention" brought together some of the world's most committed and effective opponents of genocide to usher in a new and promising approach to combating a problem as old as humanity itself.

The conference was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where some 30,000 people were "disappeared" by the military junta of the 1970s and '80s. Today, Argentina serves as an example of the societal healing and institutional rebuilding that can take place in the wake of decades of violent conflict.

Attending the conference were government officials from 40 countries, with an interest and specialization in human rights, genocide prevention, and transitional justice.

On April 14, AIPR President Fred Schwartz presented the Raphael Lemkin Prize to Carla Del Ponte and Juan E. Mendez in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the cause of genocide prevention. Ms. Del Ponte is former chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. She currently serves as Swiss ambassador to Argentina. Mr. Mendez was the UN's first Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, and current serves as President Emeritus of the International Center for Transitional Justice.

The conference empowered participants by promoting self-reflection, which in turn built a better understanding of their capacity to prevent genocide and promote justice. It equipped participants with insight into their individual areas of expertise in genocide prevention and transitional justice, and was an integral part in the ongoing effort to expand AIPR's growing community of genocide-sensitive policymakers who can actively support one another.

Conference Panelists

Victorio Taccetti, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Argentina

Eduardo Luis Duhalde, Secretary of Human Rights, Argentina

Fred Schwartz, President, Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation

Eduardo Acevedo Diaz, Department of Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Argentina

Daniel Feierstein, Director, Center for Genocide Studies, National University of Tres de Febrero

Victor Abramovich, President, Forensic Anthropology Team of Argentina

Alberto D'Alotto, Foreign Ministry Cabinet Chief, Argentina

Estela de Carlotto, President, Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo, Argentina

Patricia Tapata, Director, Memoria Abierta, Argentina

Eduardo Jozami, President, Haroldo Conti Cultural Center for Memory, Argentina Tibi Galis, Executive Director, Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation

Beatriz Contreras, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile

Maite de Souza Schmitz, Secretariat for Human Rights, Brazilian Presidency

Memunatu Pratt, Government Adviser, Sierra Leone

Natalia Luterstein, Department of Human Rights, Ministry of Justice, Argentina

Andrea Gualde, National Director, Legal Affairs, Secretariat of Human Rights, Argentina

Luis Alén, Undersecretary for Human Rights, Secretariat of Human Rights, Argentina

Daniel Rafecas, Federal Judge, Argentina

Carlos Rozanski, Federal Judge, Argentina

Pablo Parenti, Coordinator, Unit for the Coordination and Continuance of Cases for Human Rights Violations Under State Terrorism, Argentina

Tomas Borovinsky, Editor, Journal of Genocide Studies

Emmanuel Taub, Editor, Journal of Genocide Studies

Sulaymanah Kpukumu, Sierra Leone Permanent Mission to the UN

Conference Program

DAY ONE: MONDAY, APRIL 12

7:00 pm: Welcoming of Participants and Guest Experts

DAY TWO: TUESDAY, APRIL 13

8:30-9:00 am: Registration

9:00–10:30 am: Panel I: Latin American Experiences

Chair. Eduardo Acevedo Díaz, Department of Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Argentina

Speakers: Daniel Feierstein, Director, Center for Genocide Studies, National University of Tres de Febrero: "Logics of Genocidal Social Practices and Reorganization Models in Latin America"

Víctor Abramovich, former Second Vice-president, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights: "Responses of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Combating Impunity"

Luis Fonderbrider, President, Forensic Anthropology Team of Argentina: "Regional Cooperation with Respect to Identification of Disappearances in Cases of Massive and Systematic Violations of Human Rights"

10:30 am–1:00 pm: Visit to Space for the Memory and the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights

1:30-2:30 pm: Lunch

2:30–4:30 pm: Panel II: The Experience of Argentina: Truth and Memory

Chair: Alberto D'Alotto, Foreign Ministry Cabinet Chief, Argentina

Speakers: Estela de Carlotto, President, Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo, Argentina

Patricia Tapata, Director, Memoria Abierta, Argentina

Eduardo Jozami, President, Heroldo Conti Cultural Center for Memory, Argentina

4:45–6:45 pm: Working Session I: Creating an Effective Approach to Transitional Justice: Presentations by Alumnae of AIPR's Raphael Lemkin Seminars for Genocide Prevention Chair. AIPR Executive Director Tibi Galis

Speakers: Beatriz Contreras, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile

Maite de Souza Schmitz, Special Secretariat for Human Rights, Brazilian Presidency

Natalia Luterstein. Department of Human Rights, Ministry of Justice, Argentina

8:30 pm: Dinner

DAY THREE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

9:30–10:00 am: AIPR President Fred Schwartz presents First Annual Raphael Lemkin Prize to Juan E. Mendez, President Emeritus, International Center for Transitional Justice; former UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide

<u>10:30 am</u>–12:30 pm: Panel III: The Experience of Argentina: Justice and Reparations Chair: Andrea Gualde, National Director, Legal Affairs, Secretariat of Human Rights, Argentina

Speakers: Luis Alen, Undersecretary for Human Rights, Secretariat of Human Rights, Argentina

Daniel Rafecas, Federal Judge, Argentina

Carlos Rozanski, Federal Judge, Argentina

Pablo Parenti, Coordinator, Unit for the Coordination and Continuance of Cases for Human Rights Violations Under State Terrorism, Argentina

<u>12:30–1:30 pm</u>: AIPR President Fred Schwartz presents First Annual Raphael Lemkin Prize to Carla Del Ponte, Swiss Ambassador to Argentina; former chief prosecutor, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

1:00-2:00 pm: Lunch

<u>2:15–3:00 pm</u>: Presentation of *Revista de Estudios Sobre Genecidio* (*Journal of Genocide Studies*) Daniel Feierstein, Director, and Tomas Borovinsky and Emmanuel Taub, Editors

3:15–4:45 pm: Working Session II: Designing the Future of the Raphael Lemkin Community Chairs: Sulaymanah Kpukumu, Sierra Leone Permanent Mission to the UN Tibi Galis, AIPR Executive Director

4:45 pm: Closing Remarks







The biggest similarity with all genocides is that are committed by ordinary people."

AIPR Executive Director

Passion for Prevention



"Processes of Justice: The Argentine Experience" | October 7–8, 2010, New York, NY

This two-day conference focused on Argentina's reopening of trials in 2003 against those responsible for murder, torture, rape, abduction, and kidnapping during the 1976–83 "Dirty War."

The conference, held at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Manhattan, was organized jointly by the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation and the Argentinean Ministry of Justice, Security, and Human Rights.

Federal judges and prosecutors involved in the trials, and senior officials from the Secretariat of Human Rights, discussed Argentina's important and gripping process of seeking justice in the wake of mass human rights violations.

The conference was designed with a view to informing UN officials working in human rights about the atrocities of Argentina, as well as the effectiveness of its transitional justice mechanisms. Educating international diplomats on these issues is in line with AIPR's goal of building awareness and sensitivity to mass human rights atrocities, demonstrating the consequences of a lack of capacity to act, fostering understanding of states' responsibility to prevent genocide, and empowering participants to act while forming a network of future leaders who will remain in communication.

For a report on the conference, visit www.auschwitzinstitute.org/argoct2010.

Conference Participants

Kyra Hild, Adviser, Irish Permanent Mission to UN

Alexey Lynov, First Secretary, Russian Permanent Mission to UN

Ronald D. Godard, Senior Adviser on Western Hemisphere Affairs, U.S. Permanent Mission to UN

Werner-Ciprian Fugel, Vice Consul, Consulate General of Germany

Katrina Monsod, Counsellor,
Philippines Permanent Mission to UN

Hery Saripudin, Counsellor, Indonesian Permanent Mission to UN

Karel Komarek, Counsellor, Czech Permanent Mission to UN

Kai Kaarelson, First Secretary, Estonian Permanent Mission to UN

Takashi Takashima, Second Secretary, Japanese Permanent Mission to UN

Counsellor, Saint Lucia Permanent Mission to UN

Counsellor, Netherlands Permanent Mission to UN

Ana Suerdlick, doctoral student, Rutgers University

Clara Ramirez-Barat, Research Fellow, International Center for Transitional Justice

Conference Panelists

Andrea Gualde, Director, Legal Affairs, Secretariat of Human Rights

Eduardo Duhalde, Secretary for Human Rights

Luis Alen, Undersecretary for Human Rights

Sergio Torres, Judge, Federal Criminal Court

Daniel Rafecas, Judge, Federal Criminal Court

Pablo Yadarola, Secretary to Judge Torres

Carlos Rozanski, Judge, Federal Criminal Court

Eduardo Freiler, Judge, Federal Criminal Court of Appeals

Tibi Galis, Executive Director,
Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation

James Waller, Cohen Chair of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Keene State College

Sheri Rosenberg, Director, Program in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies; Director, Human Rights and Genocide Clinic; Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University

Francis Deng, UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide

Conference Program

DAY ONE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

<u>Session I:</u> The Argentine Process: A Historical Account Panelists: Andrea Gaulde, Eduardo Duhalde, Luis Alen

Session II: The Investigation of Crimes Committed under State Terrorism

Panelists: Andrea Gaulde Eduardo Duhalde, Luis Alen

Session III: The Prosecution of State Terrorism

Panelists: Sergio Torres, Daniel Rafecas, Pablo Yadarola

DAY TWO: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

Session IV: Legal Characterization of the Crimes

Panelists: Carlos Rozanski, Daniel Rafecas, Eduardo Freiler

Session V: Genocide Prevention Today

Panelists: Tibi Galis, James Waller, Sheri Rosenberg, Francis Deng



Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York City

The biggest similarity with all genocides is that are committed by ordinary people." Tibi Galis,

Passion for

Prevention



Raphael Lemkin Genocide Prevention Seminar for Fort Leavenworth Command and General Staff College: "Mass Atrocity Prevention in Military Practice," September 19–26, 2010, Auschwitz, Poland

This seven-day seminar provided an intensive focus on the history and prevention of genocide, with a special focus on military response and policy options for preventing mass atrocities. Instruction employed interactive learning modalities, including lectures, seminars, facilitated discussion groups, and sharing of personal experiences from the field.

The organizers were the Raphael Lemkin Center for the Prevention of Genocide (AIPR) and the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, with the support of the United States Department of Defense.

The goals of this seminar were designed with a view to implementing the recommendations of the 2008 Genocide Prevention Task Force report, specifically in the fields of early warning and risk assessment, early prevention and pre-crisis engagement, and employing military options.

Educating U.S. Army officers from the Fort Leavenworth Command and General Staff College, the program builds heightened awareness and sensitivity to previous genocides, to show the consequences of a lack of capacity to act, to foster an understanding of the responsibility of states and the military to prevent genocide, to empower the special role of participants to act and to form a network of alumni who will remain in communication.

The workshop empowered participants by promoting self-reflection and reinforcing understanding of each person's capacity to prevent genocide. Attendees also worked in groups to help them acquire knowledge through interaction with others. Finally, the seminar gave participants insight into their individual areas of expertise in genocide prevention.

Participants in the seminar were nominated by their instructors at Fort Leavenworth CGSC and selected on the basis of their intellectual capacity, leadership skills, and passion for human rights.

Seminar Participants

Major Christopher Barker

Major Jennifer Bower

Major Leland Brown

Major Shane F. Finn

Lieutenant Commander Michael N. Goad

Major Brian M. Hansen

Major Raquel M. Inman

Major Gary T. Johnson

Major Grace H. Kim

Lieutenant Commander Karl W. Kraut

Major Chris Lane

Major Ed D. Mangahas

Major May L. Nicholson

Major Jack Parker

Major Michael O. Perry

Major Shane A. Roach

Major Ginnette Ruth

Major Jeffrey A. Salem

Major R. Eric Schmidt

Major Gregory Stroud

Major Jeffrey D. Struecker

Major Amber J. Williams

Major John S. Woo

Major Jonathan S. Zimmer

Dr. Charles E. Heller, Professor, CGSC

Dept. of Command and Leadership

Kevin E. Gentzler, Assistant Professor,

CGSC Dept. of Command and Leadership

Seminar Instructors

James Waller, Cohen Chair of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Keene State College, New Hampshire; AIPR Affiliated Scholar

Alicja Bialecka, International Center for Education on Auschwitz and the Holocaust

Max Kelly, Curriculum Coordinator

Michael Newton, Professor of the Practice of Law, Vanderbilt University law School

Susan Benesch, Senior Fellow, World Policy Institute

Alison Giffen, Research Fellow and Deputy Director, Future Peace Operations Program, Henry L. Stimson Center

Tibi Galis, AIPR Executive Director

John Langlois, Kenya Country Representative, Office of Transition Initiatives, USAID

Erin Weir, Senior Advocate for Peacekeeping, Refugees International

Lieutenant-General Jonathon Riley, Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, Royal Welch Fusiliers in Gorazde (1995); Commander UK Joint Task Force, Sierra Leone (2000-2001); Director-General and Master of the Armories

Alexander Mayer-Rieckh, International Security Sector Advisory Team (ISSAT) of the Geneva Center for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

Seminar Program

DAY ONE: SUNDAY, SEPT. 19

Morning and Afternoon: Arrival in Krakow;

travel to Oswiecim; check-in at hotel

15.30: Lunch

19.40: Buses to Stara Poczta restaurant

20.00: Opening dinner

DAY TWO: MONDAY, SEPT. 20

7.00-7.30: Breakfast

<u>7.45–8.30</u>: Tibi Galis, Max Kelly: "Introduction to Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention <u>8.30–9.30</u>: James Waller: "Introduction to Concept of Genocide"

9.40-11.10: James Waller: "Mass Atrocity by

Conventional Forces" 11.10–12.15: Lunch

12.30–14.20: Guided Study Visit of Auschwitz I 14.30–15.30: Alicja Bialecka: "Between Memory and Commemoration: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum as a Unique Site for Historical and

Civic Education"

15.30-16.30: James Waller: "Case Study:

Holocaust" 18.00: Dinner

DAY THREE: TUESDAY, SEPT. 21

7.30-8.00: Breakfast

8.00–8.30: CGSC Review (participants only) 8.45–10.15: James Waller: "Social Psychology"

10.30–12.00: James Waller: "Case Study: Rwanda"

12.00-12.50: Lunch

13.00-14.30: Max Kelly: "Mass Atrocity by

Unconventional/Irregular Forces"

14.45-16.15: Michael Newton: "International and

National Legal Issues for U.S. Action"

17.15: Tour of Auschwitz Jewish Center | Susan Benesch: "Incitement to Genocide: How to Protect Freedom of Expression While Inhibiting Incendiary Speech"

19.00: Dinner

DAY FOUR: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22

7.30-8.00: Breakfast

8.00–8.30: CGSC Review (participants only)

8.45-11.30: Guided Study Visit of Birkenau

11.45: Word from Fred Schwartz, AIPR President and Founder

and Founder

12.15–13.00: Lunch

<u>13.00–14.30</u>: Allison Giffen: "Intergovernmental Organizations Involved in Prevention/Response"

14.40–16.10: Max Kelly: "UN Peacekeeping Operations for Prevention and Response" 16.10–17.30: Max Kelly: "Case Study: Darfur" 18.00: Dinner

DAY FIVE: THURSDAY, SEPT. 23

7.30-8.00: Breakfast

8.00–8.30: CGSC Review (participants only) 8.45–10.15: Tibi Galis: "Early Warning at the

Operational and Tactical Levels"

10.30-12.00: Michael Newton: "U.S. Preventative

action in Phases 0 and 1" 12.00–13.00: Lunch

13.00–14.30: John Langlois: "Grassroots Conflict

Prevention"

<u>14.45–16.15</u>: John Langlois: "Media and Info Operations in Prevention and Response"

18.00: Dinner

DAY SIX: FRIDAY, SEPT. 24

7.30-8.00: Breakfast

8.00-8.30: CGSC Review (participants only)

8.45–10.15: Erin Weir: "Working with Humanitarian Actors"

10.30–12.00: Alison Giffen: "Working with Local Actors in Stability Operations: Civilians, Civil

Society, and the Host Nation"

12.00-13.00: Lunch

13.00–14.30: Max Kelly: "Military Action to Prevent/Halt Mass Atrocities: Challenges and Principles"

14.40–16.10: Max Kelly: "Case Study: Sierra Leone"

18.15: Dinner

DAY SEVEN: SATURDAY, SEPT. 25

<u>7.00–7.30</u>: Breakfast <u>7.45:</u> Travel to Krakow

10.00-10.30: CGSC Review (participants only)

10.30-12.00: Planning Exercise

12.00-13.00: Lunch

13.00-16.00: Planning Exercise

18.00: Keynote Address: Lt. Gen. Jonathon Riley 20.00: Dinner/Reception with U.S. Consul General

DAY EIGHT: SUNDAY, SEPT. 26

7.30-8.00: Breakfast

8.00–8.30: CGSC Review (participants only) 8.40–9.40: John Langlois: "Re-establishing

Governance"

9.40–10.40: Alexander Mayer-Rieckh: "Security Sector Reform"

11.00–12.30: Alexander Mayer-Rieckh: "Transitional Justice in the Wake of Mass Atrocities"
12.30: Free time in Krakow



Participants in "Mass Atrocity Prevention and Military Practice:" Majors at the Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas

AIPR in the News

"Genocide Prevention: On the Air and On the Ground" (The Daily Tell; Jan. 15, 2010)

The Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation launches its mission of genocide prevention into the New Year with two upcoming events.

Next Friday, Jan. 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., AIPR director Tibi Galis will be on the WBAI radio show "Ethics on the Air" to talk about the inspiring success of AIPR's most recent genocide prevention training, held in Auschwitz, Poland. He will also take calls from listeners. Tune in live at 99.5 FM, or on the Web at stream.wbai.org.

"Interview with Tibi Galis, Director of AIPR" (Foreign Policy Association War Crimes Blog; April 28, 2010)

Q: What policy changes would the AIPR like to see take place in the furtherance of genocide prevention?

A: "AIPR does not recommend specific policies to be adopted at a broad level—the challenges are too different. AIPR hopes to serve as a catalyst to inspire change and provide resources for local responses that are community-specific. We try to work with governments to help them find courses of action that will work for them. Last week we signed our first agreement with Sierra Leone to train officials on an ongoing basis. Genocide prevention is a process, and we facilitate that process."

"Bringing the Peace Back to West Africa: Interview with Memunatu Pratt" (Helo magazine; May 18, 2010)

Q: We learned you had an opportunity to visit Holocaust sites in Poland recently with the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation, and then met again with other government leaders who went on the trip recently in Argentina. What was the most surprising thing for you at Auschwitz?

A: "The most surprising thing was to actually come face to face with the realities of Nazi atrocities. Further was the extent to which the state was used as an instrument of organising the Holocaust. [. . .] This brings me to commend the work of AIPR, which for me is unparalleled, especially bringing individuals from different governments to have firsthand interaction with these issues and places and have an opportunity to share experiences, also in leading the way for us to develop a global understanding of wars, genocide, dictatorship, and repressive events that have occurred around the world."

"You Cannot Learn This Anywhere Else in the World" (Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum; Oct. 5, 2010)

"I think that being at Auschwitz and Birkenau adds weight to education about genocide," Jeff Struecker, one of the participants, said. "You cannot learn this anywhere else in the world. We are able to see this place from up close and learn about what had happened here. I think that an American soldier is not able to grasp the enormity and the gravity of those events without coming to a place like this."

"Visiting this site makes me think differently about the issue of genocide and the importance of prevention," Michael Perry, a participant of the seminar, said. "I hope that everyone who visits Auschwitz leaves this place realizing how fragile human life is, and is mindful of the fact that societies, if we are not careful, can destroy human lives for their own interests," Jeff Struecker added.



Supporting Organizations



U.S. Department of State I www.state.gov



Front Line Fund, Tom Lantos Foundation for Human Rights and Justice | www.lantosfoundation.org



U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth | www.cgsc.edu

Partner Organizations



Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum I www.auschwitz.org/pl



United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide I www.un.org/preventgenocide/advise



Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland I www.uj.edu.pl



Auschwitz Jewish Center | www.ajcf.org



Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School I www.pon.harvard.edu



U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth | www.cgsc.edu



Argentina Ministry of Justice, Security and Human Rights I www.jus.gov.ar



'Our mission is to prevent genocide'

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AIPR Instructor James Waller, September 2010,
Raphael Lemkin Genocide Prevention Seminar
for Fort Leavenworth Command and General Staff College