

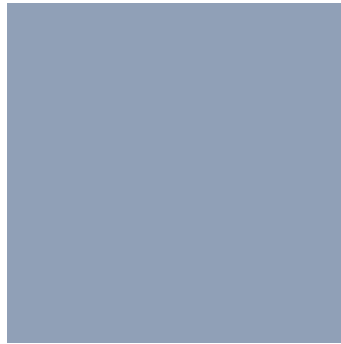
the auschwitz institute
for peace and reconciliation

Annual Report | *2014*



We are Building a World that Prevents Genocide and other Mass Atrocities

Through education and technical assistance, the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation supports states in developing and strengthening national mechanisms for the prevention of genocide and other mass atrocities. The Auschwitz Institute also encourages state cooperation for the prevention of genocide and other mass atrocities through regional and international efforts.



More than six decades after the Holocaust, genocide and other mass atrocities remain a threat to world peace and security. Effective genocide and mass atrocity prevention requires a multi-dimensional approach to **education**.

The Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention, Global Edition, is our main educational program. This weeklong seminar is grounded in the belief that preventing genocide and mass atrocities is an achievable goal. There are ways to recognize genocide's signs and symptoms, and viable options exist to prevent it. Seminars are offered to government officials and led by global leaders in the field of genocide prevention. It is held on the site of the former German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in Oswiecim, Poland, a location that amplifies the tragic lessons of history. The seminar brings a heightened degree of awareness to previous genocides and our past failures to prevent them, while at the same time, fosters an understanding of the responsibility of states to prevent genocide. In this way, we empower our participants with the tools to act. Following each seminar, participants and their institutions become part of our alumni community and we offer ongoing technical assistance for capacity building towards genocide prevention at the national and regional levels. To date, more than 200 government officials from over 60 countries have attended the Lemkin Seminar, and we've featured nearly 100 instructors from around the globe, including prominent professors, government officials, and United Nations representatives.

Together, we are building a world that prevents genocide and other mass atrocities.

Latin American Programs: The Auschwitz Institute helps Latin American governments put mass atrocity prevention into practice



“We know that genocide and atrocity crimes are processes that develop over time. As such, we can prevent them

if there is political will to do so. Each historical experience is unique, and mechanisms for prevention of atrocity crimes need to be tailored to the specificities of each regional and national context. But there is also much to share, within the region and with the wider world. I can candidly assure you that the motivation and achievements of the **Latin American Network** are already resonating worldwide.”

- Adama Dieng, UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide

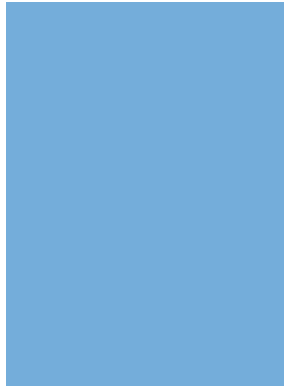
The Auschwitz Institute serves as **Secretariat of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention**. Launched in March 2012, the Network is the world’s leading initiative fostering capacity building and policy development in this field, with the participation of 18 states from the region: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. According to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the Network **“demonstrates how shared objectives and lessons learned from past experience may help States identify effective protection strategies.”**

The Network provides a space for the exchange of best practices for public officials. Among its goals, the Network aims to institutionalize a culture of genocide prevention throughout Latin America’s governments, which can serve as an example to be followed in other regions worldwide. As Secretariat, the Auschwitz Institute supports all participating institutions of member states of the Network by co-organizing training seminars and by assisting in the development of a unified national policy on genocide prevention.

Red Latinoamericana
para la Prevención
del Genocidio y
Atrocidades Masivas



African Programs: The Auschwitz Institute offers advice for policy development inspired by local conditions and practices across Africa



The Auschwitz Institute believes that decades of political instability and armed conflicts in Africa are best solved by investing in genocide and mass atrocity prevention mechanisms. In February 2013, AIPR and the African Union Commission signed a Memorandum of Understanding towards building regional and sub-regional programs in genocide and mass atrocity prevention. Today, we are directly working with individual practitioners, regional organizations, and national mechanisms on genocide and mass atrocity prevention capacity building across Africa. In order to promote and widen the spectrum of timely interventions, effective humanitarian assistance, and increase monitoring of at-risk states within the AUC community — all with the goal of preventing genocide and mass atrocities — AIPR's African Programs operate on **three core principles**:

1. Practical and in-depth training on genocide and mass atrocity prevention for focal points and other actors within AUC Member States by experienced instructors.
2. Development of national action plans and infrastructural elements for prevention-specific policy formulation and implementation to meet self-identified needs for democracy, human rights, election management and governance, as necessary conditions for genocide and mass atrocity prevention.
3. Regular consultations with civil society, national, regional, and sub-regional actors to assess our programs' cooperative aspects and effectiveness, ensuring that individual states are the driving force under the supervision of the African Union Commission.



As part of AIPR's mission to strengthen national mechanisms devoted to genocide and mass atrocity prevention, our African Program co-organized from October 14 – 16, 2014, a three-day training of Tanzania's National Committee for the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity and all forms of Discrimination (TNC). This seminar was the second in our series of trainings for the TNC and focused specifically on the prevention of election and resource-based violence. The training took place in Dar es Salaam and was attended by more than forty Tanzanian government officials from the TNC and civil society leaders.

AIPR Events, Seminars and Conferences | 2014

February 12: Ashad Sentongo delivers lecture, “Power-Sharing and Ethnic Conflict: Options of State Stability in South Sudan,” at Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) event in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. FES is a non-profit German political foundation committed to the advancement of public policy issues, with branch offices in over 90 countries.

February 20: James Waller delivers keynote, “The Dead End of Demonization,” at Understanding Atrocities conference at Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

March 3: AIPR co-organizes with Costa Rican government a seminar in San Jose on tools for genocide and mass atrocity prevention for Costa Rican officials with responsibilities in the areas of human rights and international humanitarian law.

March 5: Samantha Capicotto highlights the Latin American Network at side-event to the 25th regular session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland.

March 6: Tibi Galis participates panel, “Towards a Community of Commitment and Practice,” at the Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC) meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica.

March 19 – 21: AIPR co-organizes with the Tanzanian government a seminar in Dar es Salaam on genocide and mass atrocity prevention for 20 government and civil society leaders.

April 8: Eugenia Carbone participates in the Prevention of Genocide and Other Mass Atrocities conference, a training organized by the *Carabineros de Chile*, the uniformed Chilean national police force and gendarmerie.

April 1: James Waller delivers lecture, “Becoming Evil,” at Sonoma State University, California, as part of the university’s 2014 Holocaust and Genocide Lecture Series.



April 4: James Waller delivers lecture at Shawnigan Lake School’s Holocaust and Genocide Symposium in British Columbia, Canada.

April 10: James Waller delivers lecture, “Becoming Evil,” at Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, at event co-sponsored by Facing History and Ourselves.

April 23-24: AIPR co-organizes seminar in Mexico City, Mexico, on tools for genocide and mass atrocity prevention—the first-ever training conducted for Mexican government officials specifically on the prevention of genocide and mass atrocities.



AIPR Events, Seminars and Conferences | 2014



April 26: James Waller delivers keynote, “Towards Remembrance, Unification, and Renewal,” at Notre Dame University remembrance ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda.

April 30: James Waller delivers lecture, “Becoming Evil,” at the University of New Hampshire.

May 30: Ashad Sentongo participates in colloquium on dialogue for mass atrocity prevention in Budapest, Hungary.

June 12 – 13: AIPR participates in Global R2P Focal Points meeting in Gaborone, Botswana.

June 16: AIPR coordinates Latin American Network Focal Points Meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

June 17 - 20: AIPR organizes the Raphael Lemkin Seminar, Latin American Network edition, Cycle I, Part II, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

June 26: AIPR organizes launch event for the Raphael Lemkin Seminar for National Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, an initiative to develop a genocide and mass atrocity curriculum for institutions of higher education in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

July 24: James Waller outlines how ordinary people can commit genocide at Facing History and Ourselves workshop for educators in Brookline, Massachusetts.

August 13 – 14: Ashad Sentongo facilitates a meeting of Uganda’s National Committee on the Prevention of Genocide that examined the ethnic Bakonzo and Bemba clashes in Kasese District of Western Uganda.

September 25: Eugenia Carbone participated in a meeting with the Coordinator of the Latin American Network on Sites of Memory and the Director of the Museum of Memory and Human Rights of Chile to explore future cooperation and joint work within the region.

August 27 – 29: Eugenia Carbone participates in launch of a National Initiative for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities in Paraguay.

September 16 -18: Eugenia Carbone and the Focal Point of El Salvador participate in El Salvador’s first national workshop on the prevention of genocide and mass atrocities, titled, “Massive Violations of Human Rights and Genocide: the Role of Civil Society Organizations in El Salvador.”



AIPR Events, Seminars and Conferences | 2014



September 22: James Waller delivers lecture on genocide prevention policy and advocacy at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts.

September 29: Tibi Galis delivers module on tools for genocide and mass atrocity prevention at the annual assembly of the Iberoamerican Federation of Ombudsmen (FIO) in Mexico City, Mexico.

October 3: Eugenia Carbone and Samantha Capicotto outline the aims and accomplishments of the Latin American Network at the annual assembly of FIO in Mexico City, Mexico.

October 8 – 10: Eugenia Carbone delivered modules at the Augusto Ramirez Ocampo Course in International Humanitarian Law at the Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

October 12 – 19: Raphael Lemkin Seminar, Latin American edition, Cycle II, Part I, in Poland.

October 14 – 16: AIPR facilitated training of Tanzania's National Committee for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities, with a focus on the prevention of resource and election-based violence.

October 24: Eugenia Carbone helped facilitate the first videoconference between the governments of Honduras and Argentina specifically on the topic of prevention.

October 28 – 30: Eugenia Carbone participated in a workshop organized by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Peru related to the use of force with a focus on prevention.

October 29: Mike Otterman and Jack Mayerhofer participated in panel discussion, "Confronting Mass Atrocities in the 21st Century," at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

October 30 – 31: AIPR co-organized memory and memorialization workshops for New York City educators, downtown museums and cultural institutions with the National Museum of the American Indian – New York and Facing History and Ourselves.

November 5: AIPR facilitated an assembly at The Spence School in New York City titled, "Preventing the Next Genocide: Learning from the Past."

November 9: James Waller delivered lecture at the Neuberger Holocaust Education Center in Toronto, Canada.

November 16 – 23: AIPR held Raphael Lemkin Seminar, Global edition, in Poland.

December 4: The third Latin American Network Focal Points took place in Panama.

December 11: AIPR co-organized a forum for parliamentarians from governments across the globe to discuss R2P's second pillar.



Profiles in Prevention: Leaders on the front lines of genocide and mass atrocity prevention—trained by the Auschwitz Institute



“The Lemkin Seminars, in which various government officials have participated, have positively influenced our work at the Ministry... As a consequence of the training received, the Inter-Ministerial Committee is proud to have included the topic of mass atrocity prevention in the 2013 and 2014 editions of its Annual Specialized Course on International Humanitarian Law, which is open to participation by all actors of society.”
- **Mariana Salazar Alborno**, *Director for International Humanitarian Law in the Legal Advisory of Mexico’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

“Crime prevention, or genocide prevention for that matter, is a shared responsibility. Everyone has a role to play. A factor that can bring about genocide is the failing of government structures. Effective work in genocide prevention should start with strong government structures that adhere to the rule of law and have deep respect for human rights.” - **Lucas Kusima**, *Lemkin Seminar alumni and Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Tanzania Police*



“The ‘power of the place’ experience in Auschwitz is unique, although tough, but once you have passed through it, it is impossible not to feel you have to do something towards genocide and mass atrocities prevention. After the seminar, you will feel a personal responsibility to prevention that will stay with you your whole life, not only as a public officer, but as a human being.” - **Cecilia Meirovich**, *Secretary of Embassy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Argentina*

“My participation in the Lemkin Seminar in November 2012 made me realize that the issues of mass atrocity prevention and the protection of civilians in conflict are very closely related... Prevention is the key word.” - **Masni Eriza**, *Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the UN in New York*

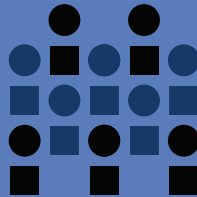


“Through the ‘power of place,’ the Raphael Lemkin Seminar in Poland was a meaningful experience that helped me to better understand a terrible reality, one that can be repeated everywhere and whenever, no matter how developed we believe we are. However, it also gave me the hope that it is possible to prevent genocide, thanks to knowledge and actions as powerful tools.” - **Analucia Jacome Quelal**, *Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the UN in Geneva*

“The knowledge and experience of the Raphael Lemkin Seminar in Poland, but also the genocide prevention capacity building seminars in Tanzania that the National Committee for Prevention of Genocide organized in collaboration with AIPR, have inspired me so much.”
- **Secretary of Tanzania’s National Committee on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, War Crimes, Crimes against Humanity, and all Forms of Discrimination**



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