



the auschwitz institute
for peace and reconciliation

2016 Annual Report





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Through education, training, and technical assistance, the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation supports States to develop or strengthen policies and practices for the prevention of genocide and other mass atrocities. AIPR also encourages and supports the cooperation of States through regional and international networks to advance prevention.

A photograph of a man in a dark jacket standing at the front of a room, gesturing towards a large brown board. He is addressing a group of people seated at tables. The room has large windows on the left and a clock on the wall.

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Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar



The Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention is one of the primary pillars of the programming organized by the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR). Operating continuously since 2008, the program is named after Raphael Lemkin (1900–1959), a Polish-Jewish lawyer who coined the term genocide - from the Greek *genos* (“family,” “tribe,” “race”) and the Latin *cide* (“killing”). Lemkin spearheaded the successful campaign in the United Nations for the ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in 1948.

Organized in partnership with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and the UN’s Joint Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect, each iteration of the program brings together twenty to twenty-five government officials from at least fifteen States ranging from at-risk, in crisis, and post conflict States, to donor countries and those inactive in the international human rights arena. The Lemkin Seminar welcomes participants who have professional responsibilities in relevant areas, including atrocity prevention, human rights, international criminal justice, among others.

The location of the Global Lemkin Seminar at the former German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau in Oświęcim, Poland, allows participants to immerse themselves, both emotionally and intellectually, in the topic of genocide.

Through the “power of place” offered by this unique locale, AIPR provides participants with the opportunity to make a personal investment in the material, resulting in an authentic and lasting commitment to the field of genocide prevention. The Auschwitz Institute has learned that the creation of this emotional connection is essential to maintaining its participants’ level of motivation long after they have returned home.

Through the Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar, AIPR is creating a community of government officials who are educated in the latest genocide prevention policy strategies and support each other in identifying best practices for dealing with the process of genocide. Together, they achieve an understanding of the process and are empowered with practical competencies to develop the means to prevent this phenomenon.

The Auschwitz Institute successfully held the 2016 edition of the Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar between Sunday, November 6 and Sunday, November 13 in Oświęcim and Krakow, Poland. This year, AIPR was honored to welcome 24 participants from countries around the world including Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Germany, Guatemala, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Morocco, Nepal, the Netherlands, Peru, Slovenia, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, Uruguay, and Zambia.

Latin American Programs



The Auschwitz Institute serves as the Technical Secretariat of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention. Launched in March 2012, the Latin American 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 United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, the Latin American Network “demonstrates how shared objectives and lessons learned from past experience may help States identify effective protection strategies.”

As Technical 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.

As part of a joint initiative by the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) and the International School of Public Policy on Human Rights at the MERCOSUR Institute of Public Policies on Human Rights (IPPDH), a new virtual meeting platform for alumni of the Raphael Lemkin Seminar for the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention was launched in April of 2016.

From July 26-29, the Raphael Lemkin Seminar for the Latin American Network took place in Montevideo, Uruguay. The multi-day training in Montevideo concluded the third cycle of bi-annual trainings which began in Poland in February of 2016, as agreed upon by the member states of the Network.

Alongside the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay, the Stanley Foundation, and the United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG), the Auschwitz Institute co-organized the VI Focal Points Meeting of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention on July 25, 2016 in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Organized in collaboration with the Faculty of Finances, Government, and International Relations of the Universidad Externado de Colombia, AIPR's Latin American Program convened a course on Early Warning Mechanisms and Public Policy for the Prevention of Mass Atrocities between September 14 and 17, 2016, in Bogota, Colombia. This course represented the first professional training initiative on the prevention of genocide and mass atrocities developed jointly with a university in the region.

On November 28 and 29, the Auschwitz Institute, the Office of the Ombudsman of Ecuador, the Stanley Foundation, and OSAPG, co-organized the VII Focal Points Meeting of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention in Quito, Ecuador.

Africa Programs



On March 3, 2016, our Africa Programs officially launched the Training Resource Manual for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention in the Great Lakes Region of Africa at an event in New York which was attended by over 35 members of civil society from New York and Washington DC and included representatives from a number of Permanent Missions to the United Nations from States in the Great Lakes Region.

In continuing with our engagement with the Tanzanian National Committee for the Prevention of Genocide (TNC), AIPR conducted the third in a series of trainings between March 15 and 17. This training seminar included 17 members of the Tanzanian National Committee who were joined by 11 international participants from throughout the region. These regional stakeholders were comprised of leaders from other States' National Committees for Genocide Prevention in addition to civil society organizations focused on prevention and peace building.

On May 23, through our Africa Programs Director, Dr. Ashad Sentongo, AIPR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the East African Community (EAC), marking the culmination of over two years of consultations. The EAC is a regional organization with headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania and works to foster broader and more profound cooperation in political, social, and economic contexts

From November 14 through November 18, 2016, Dr. Sentongo conducted consultation meetings in Nairobi with members of the Kenyan National Committee and the Uwiano Platform for Peace to plan and recruit participants for a series of AIPR Training Seminars which took place in December of 2016, with future iterations taking place in February, March, and July of 2017. Participants mapped out stakeholders who would participate in the programs, discussed challenges in their capacity to contribute to the prevention of electoral violence as the country moves toward the 2017 General Election, and resolved to develop joint preventive programs and activities between the National Committee and Uwiano.

Also in December of 2016, AIPR conducted a regional seminar in Dar es Salaam in collaboration with the Tanzanian National Committee for the Prevention of Genocide (TNC). The seminar was attended by 30 participants, which included representatives from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Burundi, DRC, South Sudan and Sudan. The event was titled "Deepening the Institutionalization, Networking and Capacity Building of National Committees for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention" and focused on the development and implementation of genocide prevention projects at the national and the community level.

Mediterranean Basin Network



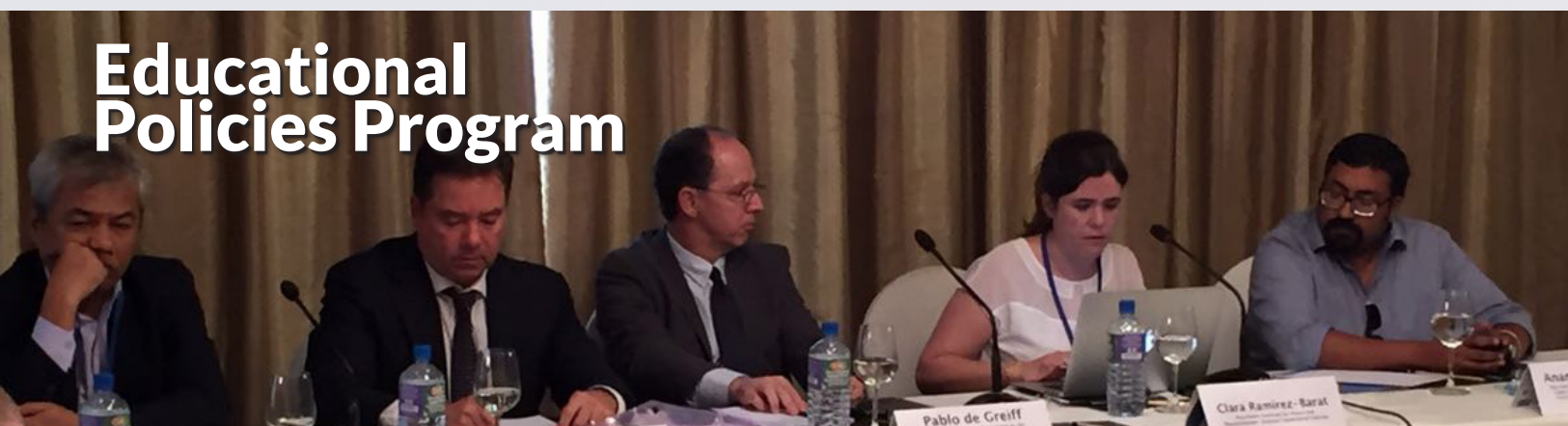
Over the previous year, AIPR has made significant progress toward the establishment of a Mediterranean Basin Network for Atrocity Crimes Prevention. After having finished the conceptualization of the Network, AIPR and our three Founding Partners, the Stanley Foundation, the UN Office of the Special Adviser on Genocide Prevention (OSAPG), and the Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH have begun the recruitment process for Leader States to increase the regional buy-in and accelerate the creation process of the Network.

As has been mentioned before, while the Mediterranean Basin Network will eventually grow to include all States bordering the Mediterranean Sea, the Network will be established in two phases. Phase 1 will include 11 States throughout the Balkans region including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, and Slovenia.

The structure of Phase 1 of the Network will be based on the establishment of National and/or Ministerial Focal Points, who will be charged with their respective government's or ministry's participation in the Network. The goals of Phase 1 of the Network include the implementation of an atrocity crimes prevention curriculum into specific areas of each country's mandatory training programs for public officials, as well as regional collaboration in the development of national initiatives on atrocity crimes prevention within Member States.

Beyond the educational component, each Member State will be tasked with the identification of areas within their governmental structures where programs on atrocity crimes prevention can be implemented. Phase 1 of this Network is envisaged to be the primary forum for cooperation in the region on the prevention of atrocity crimes. It will also actively work to promote its efforts globally, making its voice central on the international stage in the field of prevention. Furthermore, this objective will include institutional cooperation with other regional and sub-regional bodies such as the European Union, the African Union (which, in cooperation with AIPR, has established an African Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention) and the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, to which AIPR serves as Technical Secretariat.

Educational Policies Program



As the Educational Policies Program (EPP) celebrates its first year of existence, activities developed during 2016 have continued to focus on the implementation of the “Education for the Prevention of Mass Atrocities” project in Latin America, and the development of a series of research and networking activities looking, more broadly, into the longer term consolidation of the program.

With regards to the project in Latin America, in following with the implementation timetable that had been established, the Director of Educational Policies has been working with the Focal Points of El Salvador and Brazil towards the completion of activities devised for the first year. On July 12 and 13, AIPR organized the first consultation meeting of the project, in collaboration with the Salvadoran Ombudsman’s Office in San Salvador, El Salvador. The meeting included the participation of 35 representatives from the education community, civil society, and from various public institutions in El Salvador, as well as several observers from international organizations.

In Brazil, AIPR organized the first consultation meeting of the project in collaboration with the Ombudsman Office of the Public Ministry and the Special Secretary for Human Rights (Focal Points of the Latin American Network) on November 30, 2016. The event included the participation of around 45 representatives from the education community, civil society groups, and various

public institutions in Brazil, as well as several observers from the international community. The daylong meeting served to introduce the project, to contextualize its objectives in relation to the state of the education in Brazil, and to develop strategies for the successful development of the project. Importantly, and in comparison to El Salvador, the complexity of the Brazilian context (owing to its diverse demography and vast territory), will present a series of additional challenges and opportunities to the project that will need to be adequately identified, and accounted for, in its early stages.

Following the work that AIPR’s Latin American Program has done to support the preventive efforts of the Ombudsman’s Office of Ecuador, the Director of Educational Policies is working, in coordination with that office, on a proposal to develop an educational tool for teachers. Based on the report of the country’s 2010 Truth Commission, and building on educational activities developed by the Ombudsman’s Office (as part of their mandate to disseminate this report), this tool will serve to strengthen and foster the legacy of the Commission.

2016 Programs and Activities



January 7-9, 2016: AIPR co-organized a regional convening of ICGLR Regional and National Committees devoted to the prevention of genocide and mass atrocities in Kampala, Uganda.

January 26-29, 2016: AIPR's Executive Director and Director of Latin American Programs participated in high level meetings in São Paulo (Brazil) and Buenos Aires (Argentina).

February 3, 2016: AIPR co-hosted a panel discussion with the New York City Bar Association, which included the participation of representatives from the UN OSAPG, US Agency for International Development, and the US Department of Defense. The evening's conversation explored the work, importance, and composition of national mechanisms for the prevention of genocide.

February 14-21, 2016: The Third Cycle of the Raphael Lemkin Seminar for the Latin American Network was initiated in Oswiecim and Krakow, Poland. The event was held in collaboration with the UN OSAPG and with the support of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA).

March 3-4, 2016: AIPR partnered with the National September 11 Memorial & Museum, the National Museum of the American Indian, and Facing History and Ourselves to deliver a two-day educational seminar on identity, membership, and

"othering" to public school teachers in the New York City region.

March 3, 2016: The Auschwitz Institute's Africa Programs held a launch event for its Training Resource Manual for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention in the Great Lakes Region of Africa at White&Case LLP.

March 8, 2016: AIPR, in its role as Technical Secretariat of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, held a launch event for the 2015 Annual Report of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention at White&Case LLP.

March 15-17, 2016: The Auschwitz Institute, in partnership with the Tanzanian National Committee for the Prevention of Genocide (TNC), with support from the German Federal Foreign Office, carried out a training seminar for genocide and mass atrocity prevention in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

April 14, 2016: AIPR and the MERCOSUR Institute of Public Policies on Human Rights (IPPDH) co-launched a Virtual Meeting Space for use by the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention.

April 19, 2016: Dr. James Waller delivered a keynote address at the 2016 Fort Leavenworth Ethics Symposium at the Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

2016 Programs and Activities



April 22, 2016: Dr. Waller delivered his lecture entitled “Becoming Evil – How Ordinary People Commit Genocide and Mass Killing” to an audience comprised of members from the US intelligence community at the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C.

April 23, 2016: AIPR’s New York Liaison for Africa Programs, Jack Mayerhofer, gave a presentation entitled “A Regional Approach to Prevention: The Role of Regional Networks in Africa and Latin America for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention” at the Joint Service Academy Mass Atrocity Prevention Symposium in Washington, D.C.

April 27, 2016: Alongside the Mexican Intersecretarial Commission for International Humanitarian Law (CIDIH Mexico) and in collaboration with the UN OSAPG, AIPR held a seminar entitled “Tools for the Education of Armed and Security Forces with a Focus on Prevention” in Mexico City.

May 4, 2016: AIPR held a launch event for the 2016 edition of its Booklet on National Mechanisms for the Prevention of Genocide and other Atrocity Crimes at White & Case LLP in New York. The second entry in the annual series, this year’s publication is titled “Durable Solutions to Challenges in Effective Prevention”.

May 5, 2016: Dr. Waller delivered an address to over 600 students at The Taft School in Watertown, Connecticut as the Yom HaShoah Morning Meeting Speaker, discussing themes related to how we remember the Holocaust.

May 23, 2016: AIPR completed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on the Prevention of Genocide and other Mass Atrocities with the East African Community (EAC), which provides a framework for collaborative work between two organizations.

June 22-25, 2016: AIPR held its 3rd Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention Alumni Meeting in Venice, Italy.

July 12-13, 2016: AIPR participated in the first consultation meeting on the educational project entitled “Education, Human Rights, and Prevention” in San Salvador, El Salvador.

July 19-20, 2016: AIPR participated in the first “Seminar-Workshop on the Prevention of Genocide” in Bolivia, which was organized by the Ministry of Autonomies of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

July 25, 2016: AIPR, as Technical Secretariat of the Latin American Network, participated in the VI Focal Points Meeting of the Network in Montevideo, Uruguay.



2016 Programs and Activities

July 26-29, 2016: The Third Cycle of the Raphael Lemkin Seminar for the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention concluded with a weeklong program in Montevideo, Uruguay.

September 14-17, 2016: AI PR co-organized the Course on Early Warning Mechanisms and Public Policy for the Prevention of Mass Atrocities with the Universidad Externado de Colombia in Bogota, Colombia.

September 14, 2016: AI PR co-hosted an interactive roundtable discussion at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York alongside the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the UN and the Fundación Internacional Baltasar Garzón (FIBGAR) entitled “Universal Jurisdiction: From Nuremberg to Our Days”.

September 16-21, 2016: AI PR participated in the 7th annual International Peace Week, held by the Center for Peacebuilding (CIM) in Sanski Most, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

September 19-21, 2016: AI PR participated in an international seminar entitled “The Importance of the Creation of Spaces of Memory within the Process of Intangible Reparations”, which was organized by the Ecuadorian Ministry of Culture and Patrimony and the Office of the Ombudsman of Ecuador in Quito.

September 26-28, 2016: AI PR’s Latin American program staff participated in the first meeting of the Latin American Civil Society Organizations Network, held in Buenos Aires, organized by the Stanley Foundation and CRIES.

September 29, 2016: Dr. Waller gave remarks and answered audience questions at an event at Columbia University in New York marking the launch of his latest book: *Confronting Evil: Engaging our Responsibility to Prevent Genocide*.

October 3 and 4, 2016: AI PR co-organized the First Dialogue for Latin American Parliamentarians, entitled “Strengthening Strategies for Prevention”, alongside the Stanley Foundation in Cartagena, Colombia.

October 20-22, 2016: Alongside Columbia University, AI PR co-organized the International Workshop on Historical Dialogues and Mass Atrocity Prevention with the support of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

November 6-13, 2016: AI PR held its annual Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention in Oswiecim and Krakow, Poland.

November 28-29: The Latin American Program coordinated the organization of the VII Focal Points Meeting of the Latin American Network, which will take place in Quito, Ecuador.

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