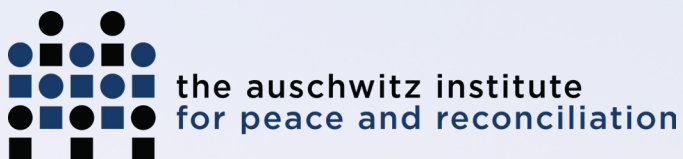


the auschwitz institute
for peace and reconciliation

2017 Annual Report





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2 West 45th Street, Suite 1602
New York, NY 10036
+1 (212) 575-2605
info@auschwitzinstitute.org
<http://www.auschwitzinstitute.org>

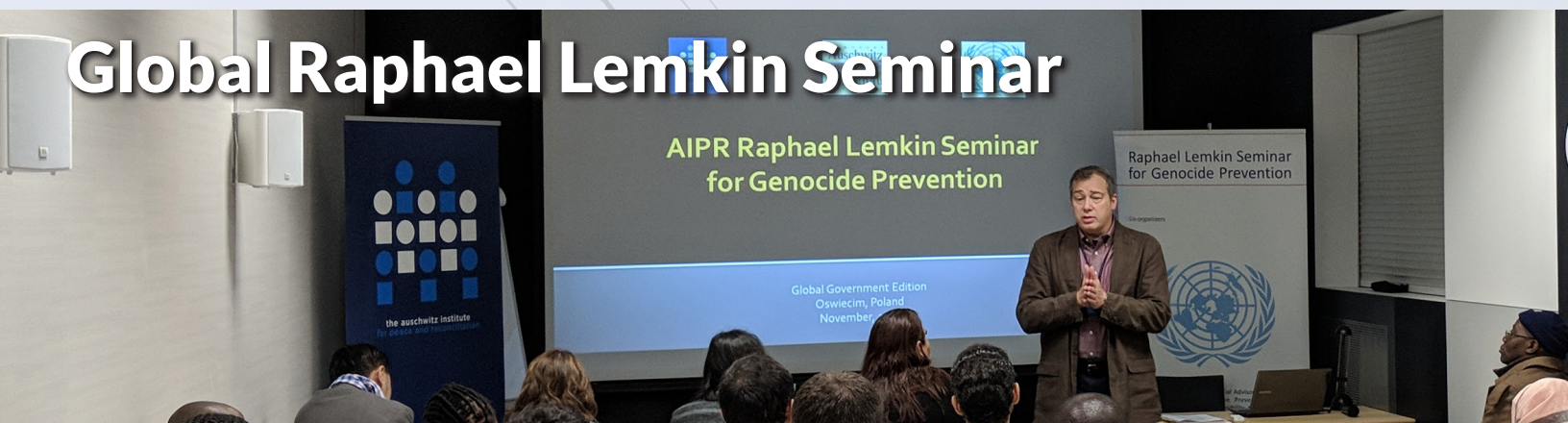
Through education, training, and technical assistance, the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) supports states to develop or strengthen policies and practices for the prevention of genocide and other mass atrocities. AIPR also encourages and supports the cooperation of states through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

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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, and 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 2017 edition of the Global Lemkin Seminar took place on November 12-19 and welcomed twenty-five participants from the following countries: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Morocco, Romania, Serbia, Indonesia, Argentina, Honduras, Colombia, South Korea, Uruguay, Montenegro, Brazil, Cambodia, Germany, Costa Rica, Chile, and Burma. This edition successfully added another distinguished and motivated group of individuals who are equipped to do effective preventive work to AIPR’s growing alumni network.

Latin American Program



For the Latin American Program, activities and programming opened on March 8-9, with AIPR participating in an event entitled “Mujeres Entretejiendo Territorios de Paz” (Women Weaving Peace Territories), organized by The Office of the Ombudsman of Colombia, along with UN Women, Javeriana University, the Embassy of Sweden to Colombia and the Ibero American Federation of the Ombudsman (FIO) in Bogotá.

This event also served as a space for the presentation of the Spanish-language publication *The Role of the Ombudsman in Transitional Justice Processes*, which was made possible through the support of the Technical Secretariat of the FIO, PROFIO / GIZ and AIPR’s Latin American Program. The goal of this publication is to compile, for the first time in Latin America, information on the different actions and practices related to transitional justice processes that have been developed by various ombudsman institutions belonging to the FIO. In particular, it contains information on the experiences of Colombian Ombudsman’s Office, the Federal Citizens’ Rights Prosecutor’s Office, the Ecuadorian Ombudsman’s Office and the Guatemalan Human Rights Ombudsman.

On the evening of Tuesday, April 25, the Latin American Program, in its role as Technical Secretariat of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, held a launch event for the 2016 Annual Report of the Technical Secretariat of the Latin American Network at the Consulate General of Colombia in New York City. The event

welcomed representatives of several member countries of the Latin American Network, including Colombia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Uruguay, as well as other actors involved in the prevention of mass atrocities from UN Permanent Missions, civil society, and the private sector.

On May 4-7, 2017, the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation partnered with the BMW Foundation Herbert Quandt to convene the 9th BMW Foundation Global Table in Bogotá, Colombia. The event, titled “Responsibility, Trust and Reconciliation in Post-Conflict Societies,” brought participants together to work towards better identifying and analyzing factors that are critical to the success of peacebuilding efforts in societies that have emerged from a period of conflict.

Alongside the Stanley Foundation and the United Nations Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect (UN OSAPG), AIPR coorganized the VIII Focal Points Meeting of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention on October 16 and 17, 2017 in New York City. Convened on the occasion of the Network’s fifth anniversary, the VIII Focal Points Meeting maintained the usual dynamic of work and dialogue while it incorporated a spirit of assessment relative to the Network’s advances and the objective of providing visibility for the Network’s progress and accomplishments at the headquarters of the United Nations.

Africa Programs



Throughout 2017, AIPR's Africa Programs have continued to implement various programs in the form of training seminars, the provision of technical assistance, and networking to further expand the African Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention.

With regards to research and publication, between September of 2016 and January of 2017, AIPR conducted a baseline assessment to determine the status of, and approaches to, genocide and mass atrocities studies in Uganda, as well as in the Great Lakes Region more broadly. Based on the information generated by the study, the assessment concluded that a multidisciplinary approach should be taken to develop a 7-10 day academic program which would be made available to cross-sector beneficiary groups.

On February 23–24, in Naivasha, Kenya, AIPR facilitated a Strategic Planning Meeting for members of the Kenya National Committee (KNC), including representatives of the security sector, political sector, Uwiano Platform for Peace, and civil society organizations attended the meeting. During this consultation and planning meeting, participants held discussions, worked to adopt strategies, and better defined the roles of Committee members and partners.

In mid-March, AIPR's Africa Programs, in collaboration with the KNC, held a Benchmarking Meeting and Retreat in Kigali, Rwanda. The main goal of this activity was for the Committee to explore the manner in

which memorials function as learning spaces for the prevention of future violence and to establish linkages with specialized institutions and experts in Rwanda to support the committee's subsequent work at home.

AIPR also held a Thematic Training Seminar on Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention for the KNC on May 10 – 12, 2017 in Nakuru, Kenya. The training represented AIPR's first all-female instructor line-up. Training modules focused on elections and mass atrocity prevention, human rights and mass atrocity prevention, the Rule of Law and mass atrocity prevention, gender mainstreaming in prevention, transitional justice and downstream prevention, and memorialization.

Finally, in August, AIPR held a Regional Training Seminar coupled with a National Mechanisms Planning and Coordination Meeting in Kampala, Uganda with 16 members of the National Committees of Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, and Zambia. This meeting provided Committee members with an opportunity to discuss the status, challenges, and opportunities of their respective National Committees, develop priority areas within national action plans for the remainder of 2017 and 2018, and assign roles towards regional efforts to implement projects.

Educational Policies Program



Throughout 2017, the work of the Educational Policies Program (EPP) has continued to focus on the implementation of the Education for the Prevention of Mass Atrocities Project in Latin America. The Director of Educational Policies has equally continued to engage in a series of research and networking activities focused on promoting the broader aims of the Auschwitz Institute's educational policies work.

Regarding the Education Project in Latin America, Dr. Clara Ramírez Barat, the Program Director, has continued work in El Salvador and Brazil. In El Salvador, two national consultants were hired in August to develop the contents and strategies of an “educational toolbox”. In December, they were joined by a third consultant—an international expert on Citizenship and Holocaust Education based in Mexico City—who will be participating in the validation process of the toolbox and contributing to its contents.

AIPR has also been working closely with partners in the Ministry of Education and the Ombudsman Office to ensure adequate efforts are made to complete and disseminate the educator's toolkit, one of the primary project outputs. To consolidate this relationship, a third-party MoU was signed by AIPR, the Ministry of Education, and the Ombudsman's Office in November of 2017.

In Brazil, a project consultant was hired to develop the methodology that will be tested as a pilot in four secondary schools in Sao Paulo and Brasilia through 2018. To advance in the implementation of the project, AIPR signed a Protocol of Accession with the Secretariat of Education of the State of Sao Paulo in November of 2017 and also carried out a series of survey visits to several educational centers in Brasilia. AIPR has also met with Brasilia's State Secretary of Education and agreed to develop a similar formal agreement to the one that had been established in Sao Paulo.

Dr. Ramírez Barat was invited to introduce the work of AIPR, highlighting the Education for the Prevention of Mass Atrocities project, to the UNESCO Latin American Network on Education about the Holocaust at their third Focal Point Meeting, which was held in Buenos Aires in September. Also in September, Dr. Ramírez Barat travelled to Bosnia to participate in the Peace Week, held by the Centar za Izgradnju Mira (CIM - Center for Peacebuilding) which gathered around 50 peacemakers from around the country.

Finally, Dr. Ramírez Barat participated as an invited speaker in a regional workshop entitled “Transitional Justice and Educational Policies for Memory,” organised by the Georg Eckert Institute and the Instituto Colombo Alemán Para la Paz (CAPAZ) in Bogotá, Colombia.

A photograph showing a man in a purple shirt standing at the front of a room, gesturing while speaking to a group of people seated at desks. A large screen on the left displays a presentation slide titled "Research Questions" with bullet points. The room has a textured wall and a projector screen.

Mediterranean Basin Network

The consolidation and operationalization of the Mediterranean Basin Network for Atrocity Crimes Prevention continues, following some very productive developments. Leveraging the experience gained through establishing the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, the Auschwitz Institute has been recruiting Leader States to help develop the Network. These Leader States will assist in the recruitment of other States in the region, the development of the agenda for the launch meeting, and the execution of this event.

In partnership with the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Romanian Diplomatic Institute, the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation recently held a National Training Seminar for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocity in Bucharest. Taking place on October 12-13, the event represented AIPR's first national-level training seminar in Romania and welcomed 25 participants drawn from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Justice, Defense, Education, as well as personnel from the Office of the Military Prosecutor and relevant academic institutes.

The objective of the seminar was to provide guidance on how atrocity prevention policy is connected to the work of State officials and the role they play in supporting such programs. To accomplish this, participants were introduced to the concepts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, and the processes by which they occur. Attendees were

equipped with the practical competencies necessary for the prevention of atrocities and given an opportunity to examine the emergent norm of the Responsibility to Protect as it relates to state sovereignty. Finally, the attendees participated in an activity which examined the construction of a national structure of state officials for atrocity prevention as well as regional cooperation and network building.

The seminar was marked by active engagement from the participants who brought a wide range of diverse perspectives and expertise from their different ministries and institutions. AIPR is currently working with our Romanian partners to develop more targeted future trainings for government ministries, as well as to institutionalize their national and regional tools for atrocity prevention within the framework of the Mediterranean Basin Network.

Outside of Romania, the Auschwitz Institute is working with partnered states in the region to finalize arrangements for the announcement of additional Leader States. This will be a primary focus of AIPR's work in 2018.

Finally, AIPR looks forward to continuing to develop plans for the Mediterranean Basin Network's official launch meeting, which is slated for early 2019.

Seminar for US Law Enforcement



On Thursday, April 20 and Friday, April 21, 2017, the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) held the inaugural National Seminar for Law Enforcement on Civil and Human Rights Protection in Atlanta, Georgia. The event, co-organized by the National Center for Civil and Human Rights and the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), welcomed 20 police officers from departments across the eastern U.S. to the National Center for a two-day training seminar.

For the Auschwitz Institute, the event served as an opportunity to use lessons learned from extensive work in the international realm of atrocity prevention in order to help build capacity within our law enforcement partners in the U.S. to detect relevant risk factors for identity-based marginalization and violence, identify appropriate response tools, and recognize best practices to foster resiliency in targeted communities. The unique purview and setting of the National Center for Civil and Human Rights contributed to a constructive learning environment, allowing participants to fully immerse themselves into the topics and themes covered during the event.

The seminar was carried out with three principal goals in mind: first, the program worked to familiarize participants with the concepts of genocide and other mass atrocities and examine the factors which put societies at risk for these crimes. Second, it emphasized the ways in which the protection of human and civil rights by law enforcement

plays a role in the prevention of mass atrocities. Finally, the seminar worked to assess the role law enforcement can play in the prevention of mass atrocities and to apply those lessons to the challenges facing police today in serving multicultural communities.

In addition to core AIPR curricular modules such as Dr. James Waller's "Becoming Evil" presentation, the seminar included modules led by the FBI, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Department of Justice. The program also featured a Keynote Address by Mr. Charles H. Ramsey, former Philadelphia Police Commissioner and Co-Chair of President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing and a presentation by Dr. Cedric L. Alexander, the current Deputy Mayor of the City of Rochester, New York who also served on President Obama's Task Force alongside Mr. Ramsey.

As a component of the training, seminar participants were given a comprehensive guided tour of the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, including its permanent exhibits on the movements for American Civil Rights and Global Human Rights. This was followed by a debriefing session for attendees, held immediately following the tour, giving them a chance to reflect on what they saw and experienced, as well as contextualizing the content of the exhibitions within the seminar's broader goals.

Online Education Initiative

The Auschwitz Ins

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Lemkin Seminar in Poland or taken a p

Assignments

Discussions

Pages


Courses



The Auschwitz Institute's Online Education Initiative is a new program that began in December of 2016 with the aim of providing additional educational and training opportunities to AIPR partners in two regions: the Great Lakes Region of East Africa and Latin America.

The Auschwitz Institute is dedicated to developing online courses with a high degree of interactivity and collaborative exercises. AIPR also strives to engage with an array of learning styles by providing written, audiovisual, and creative learning exercises. While online courses will never be able to replicate the "power of place" that is essential to AIPR's pedagogical model, a focus on direct participant engagement and the development of practical skills will be maintained.

From January 2017 to September 2017, AIPR engaged in a nine-month development process, during which Canvas LMS was chosen as the online platform to host these courses. AIPR developed the material for the introductory course, Foundations in Mass Atrocity Prevention, in-house and has since contracted additional experts, both to serve as instructors for this course and to develop future courses.

In October of 2017, the Online Education Program in East Africa was launched. The course included twenty participants from four different countries in the region, representing both state institutions and civil society organizations in the region – with each having a role for which atrocity prevention is a focus.

Looking to the future, the Online Education Initiative has begun planning for 2018. During the first half of the year, AIPR plans to offer five online courses: two in Latin America and three in East Africa. This includes the first Latin American offering of "Foundations in Mass Atrocity Prevention" is scheduled for early 2018 with participation to come from a wide variety of countries in the region including Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico.

Equally, planning is underway to offer East African participants an opportunity to take a new course on Early Warning, which is being developed in-house. The Early Warning course is planned to commence in the late spring period, followed by a course on Memory and Memorialization. For their part, Latin American participants will be offered a course on Indigenous Rights and Prevention in mid-2018. This course is being developed and taught by Dr. Mónica Mazariegos, a Lemkin Seminar Instructor from Guatemala.

For all of these new courses, initial calls for enrollment have resulted in an overwhelming amount of interest. AIPR has received more than two times the number of applications than each online course can accommodate, demonstrating significant continued interest in this type of programming. AIPR's Online Education Initiative hopes to maintain these successes as the prevention community continues to grow in these two regions and around the world.

2017 Programs and Activities



January 20, 2017: AIPR held a meeting with Zambian government officials at the Office of the Great Lakes in Lusaka to discuss establishment of the Zambia National Committee.

January 30-February 1, 2017: Dr. Clara Ramírez Barat traveled to Croatia as part of the EUROCLIO's Dealing with the Past Project (DwP) to conduct a study visit about how the difficult past is taught in schools around the country.

February 23, 2017: Dr. Jim Waller was invited to deliver a lecture on Becoming Evil: How Ordinary People Commit Genocide and Mass Killing at the American University in Paris.

February 23-25, 2017: AIPR held planning meetings in Naivasha, Kenya to generate detailed action plans for the Kenya National Committee.

March 8-9, 2017: AIPR participated in the launch of the publication "The Role of the Ombudsman in Transitional Justice Processes" in Bogota, Colombia.

March 15, 2017: AIPR held a consultation meeting, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education of El Salvador, with 29 teachers related to the Education for Prevention of Mass Atrocities Project in Latin America.

March 16, 2017: AIPR held a second consultation meeting for the Education for

Prevention of Mass Atrocities Project in Latin America in El Salvador.

March 19-24, 2017: AIPR led the Kenya National Committee on a "Benchmarking Tour and Retreat" in Rwanda with the goal of gathering the experiences of Rwandan civil society and government actors about methods for memorializing past atrocities.

March 21, 2017: Dr. James Waller gave a talk to students of Boston University on the prevention of genocide and mass atrocities.

March 21, 2017: AIPR, in its role as Technical Secretariat of the Latin American Network, presented the 2016 Annual Report of the Latin American Network to UN Permanent Missions and members of civil society in New York.

March 23-24, 2017: The Auschwitz Institute held a pilot training seminar for US NGOs working to defend the rights of marginalized communities at Metropolitan State University in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota.

April 4, 2017: Dr. Clara Ramírez Barat gave a lecture on "Education and Social Transformation," to students of the Geneva Academy's Spring School on Transitional Justice, Memory and Culture.

April 20-21, 2017: The pilot edition of the National Seminar for Law Enforcement on Civil and Human Rights took place in

2017 Programs and Activities



Atlanta, GA.

April 24, 2017: Dr. Ramírez Barat participated as guest speaker in the biannual EU Human Rights coordination meeting held by the European Union Delegation in Brasilia, Brazil and held a consultation meeting for the Education Project in Latin America with members of civil society and educators in Sao Paulo.

May 4-7, 2017: AIPR sponsored and participated in the BMW Foundation Global Table: Responsibility, Trust and Reconciliation in Post Conflict Societies, held in Bogotá, Colombia.

June 4-11, 2017: The Raphael Lemkin Seminar for the Latin American Network took place, welcoming representatives of Network member states to Poland for the week-long event.

June 18-21, 2017: AIPR contributed to, and participated in, a Global Diplomacy Lab Incubator entitled “An Urgent Challenge for Global Diplomacy: Forging Innovative Partnerships with Regional Networks for Local Atrocity Prevention” in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

June 25-28, 2017: AIPR co-hosted a summer institute at Kean University in New Jersey entitled “Large-Scale Violence and its Aftermaths,” consisting of conference-style presentations, discussion panels, and two days of working groups.

July 9-13, 2017: Several members of AIPR participated in the 13th Meeting of the International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS) at the University of Queensland, in Australia.

August 5, 2017: AIPR organized a consultation meeting under the Education for Prevention of Mass Atrocities Project in Latin America with secondary school students and teachers in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

August 22-25, 2017: An AIPR Regional Training Seminar was conducted on “Deepening the Institutionalization, Networking, and Capacity Building of National Committees for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention” in Kampala, Uganda.

August 28, 2017: AIPR held the first meeting of the Brazilian Working Group of the Education for Prevention of Mass Atrocities Project in Latin America in Brazil.

September 6, 2017: AIPR gave a statement as a civil society organization at the annual Informal Interactive Dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

September 13-14, 2017: Dr. Ramirez Barat participated in the focal points meeting of the UNESCO Latin American Network on Education about the Holocaust, which was held in Buenos Aires.

2017 Programs and Activities



September 15-22, 2017: AIPR participated in the Centar za Izgradnju Mira's Peace Week in Sanski Most (Bosnia and Herzegovina), which gathered around 50 peacebuilders from all over the country.

October, 2017: The "Foundations in Atrocity Prevention" online course for Africa launched, which ran through December of 2017.

October 12-13, 2017: A National Training Seminar for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocity in was held Bucharest, Romania. The event represented AIPR's first national-level training seminar in the country.

October 16-17, 2017: The VIII Focal Points Meeting of the Latin American Network for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities was held in New York.

October 16, 2017: AIPR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with El Salvador's Office of the Ombudsman and Ministry of Education to better coordinate the work of the ongoing Education Project.

October 30-November 1, 2017: Dr. Ramírez Barat participated as an invited speaker in a regional workshop entitled "Transitional Justice and Educational Policies of Memory," in Bogotá, Colombia.

November 9, 2017: AIPR launched a Policy Paper for Prevention, entitled *A Shifting Paradigm: Social media and the changing*

nature of conflict and conflict response.

November 12-19, 2017: The 2017 edition of AIPR's Global Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention took place in Poland.

November 13, 2017: AIPR signed a Protocol of Accession with the Secretary of Education of the State of Sao Paulo to coordinate work that will be carried out in schools as part of the EPP.

December 7-8, 2017: A national seminar entitled "Tools for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention" was organized by AIPR, in partnership with the Guatemalan Vice Ministry for Violence and Crime Prevention and the UN OSAPG.

December 11, 2017: A half-day public event on Memory and Education was held at the Universidad de El Salvador by AIPR, in collaboration with the national Ministry of Education, and Office of the Ombudsman.

December 12, 2017: The 3rd Meeting of the Working Group of the AIPR Education Project was held in San Salvador, in collaboration with the Salvadoran Office of the Ombudsman and Ministry of Education.

December 13, 2017: Dr. Ramírez Barat delivered a talk on "The Promotion of Historical Memory as Education Policy" at an event organized by the Universidad de El Salvador.

AIPR Global Staff



Dr. Tibi Galis

Executive Director
tibi.galis@auschwitzinstitute.org

Gabriel Pino

Executive Assistant
gabriel.pino@auschwitzinstitute.org

Samantha Capicotto

Director of Policy and Planning
Program Director, Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar
samantha.capicotto@auschwitzinstitute.org

Joanna Oko

Assistant to the Director of Policy and Planning
joanna.oko@auschwitzinstitute.org

Jack Mayerhofer

Chief of Staff
jack.mayerhofer@auschwitzinstitute.org

Stephanie Alvarez

Latin American Programs Coordinator
stephanie.alvarez@auschwitzinstitute.org

Diana Mantilla

Latin American Programs Liaison - New York
diana.mantilla@auschwitzinstitute.org

Brittany O'Neill

Director of Development and Board Relations
brittany.oneill@auschwitzinstitute.org

Rob Scharf

Director of Communications
New York Programs Coordinator
rob.scharf@auschwitzinstitute.org

Gosia Waligora

Officer for Polish Affairs
gosia.waligora@auschwitzinstitute.org

Maria Eugenia Carbone

Director of Latin America Programs
eugenia.carbone@auschwitzinstitute.org

Andrea Gualde

Senior Adviser for Latin America Programs
andrea.gualde@auschwitzinstitute.org

Dr. Clara Ramírez-Barat

Director of Educational Policies Program
clara.ramirez@auschwitzinstitute.org

Dr. Ashad Sentongo

Director of Africa Programs
ashad.sentongo@auschwitzinstitute.org

Claire Williams

Africa Programs Liaison, New York Office
claire.williams@auschwitzinstitute.org

Laila Igitego

Programs Assistant, Africa Programs
laila.igitego@auschwitzinstitute.org

Dr. James Waller

Director of Academic Programs
james.waller@auschwitzinstitute.org

Dr. Kerry Whigham

Academic Programs Officer, Online Education
kerry.whigham@auschwitzinstitute.org

Dr. Ashley Greene

Academic Programs Officer, Africa
ashley.greene@auschwitzinstitute.org

Tatiana Gos

Academic Programs Officer, Latin America
tatiana.gos@auschwitzinstitute.org

Hannah Waller

Academic Programs Coordinator
hannah.waller@auschwitzinstitute.org

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