



the auschwitz institute  
for peace and reconciliation

# 2018 Annual Report





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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.

On November 11-17, the Auschwitz Institute organized the 2018 Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for the Prevention of Genocide in Oświęcim and Krakow, Poland. This year’s seminar involved the participation of 21 attendees from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Montenegro, The Netherlands, Romania, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, the U.S., Uganda, Uruguay, and Vietnam, alongside 6 fellows-in-residence, 4 observers, as well as AIPR staff and instructors.



# Latin American Program



As part of commitments adopted by the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, the first national- regional seminar entitled “Regional Perspectives on Mass Atrocity Prevention” was organized by AIPR, the Stanley Foundation, and the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico for members of the country’s armed and security forces. The seminar took place in Mexico City on February 15 and 16 and included 92 local participants and 11 regional participants designated by Network Focal Points.

Alongside the Office of the Ombudsman of Colombia and in collaboration with the Embassy of Sweden in Colombia, the United Nations Development Programme, and the United Nations Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect (OSAPG), AIPR’s Latin American Program co-organized its first national seminar on tools for atrocity prevention and early warning systems, which took place in Bogotá, Colombia on March 14-15. With a total of 30 participants from diverse state institutions including the Office of the Ombudsman, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense, the Attorney-General’s Office, and the National Army, among others, the seminar had a specific focus on the recently established Early Warning System of Colombia.

On May 31-June 1, AIPR joined with The Stanley Foundation and the UN OSAPG to organize a seminar-workshop in Guatemala City entitled “Genocide and Mass Atrocity

Prevention and the Protection of Groups in Situations of Vulnerability: Displaced Peoples and Migrants in Latin America.”

On the evening of August 16, the Auschwitz Institute celebrated the official presentation of its regional office in Buenos Aires, Argentina with a high-level event entitled “AIPR in Argentina: Building Bridges for Prevention,” held on the evening of August 16.

During the fourth quarter of 2018, AIPR, The Stanley Foundation and OSAPG (external partners of the Latin American Network), co-organized two activities within the framework of the agenda of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention. On October 25-26, the Human Rights office of the Ministry of Defense of Bolivia hosted the second national-level seminar with a regional scope entitled “The Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocity and Protection of Indigenous Populations in Latin America.”

Following this program, on November 8-9, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic hosted the IX Focal Points Meeting of the Latin American Network. The latest edition of the annual meeting served as an opportunity to continue promoting collaborative efforts between member countries of the Network, reflecting on current challenges, introducing new themes and lines of work for the 2019 agenda.





# Africa Programs

Over the course of 2018, AIPR's Africa Programs have continued to carry out activities to strengthen and further expand the African Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention. In addition to ongoing efforts aimed at broadening the Auschwitz Institute's institutional relationships in the Kampala area, several significant activities and institutional reforms were made in 2018.

In June, AIPR officially established the Africa Programs Board, which will act in an advisory capacity. Justice Lydia Mugambe, Justice Jamila Mohammed, and Felistas Mushi currently serve as board members. Additionally, the Africa Programs staff have finalized a Memorandum of Understanding with the Makerere University Department of Religion and Peace and is finalizing a concept note for short courses for civil servants, parliamentarians, and civil society leaders. Efforts to develop a framework with the AUC Political Affairs Department – in line with the existing ICGLR Protocol – are ongoing, as well.

On April 24-26, 2018, AIPR collaborated with the Secretariat of the East African Community (EAC) to organize a training seminar entitled "Learning from Experiences: Practical Approaches to Building State Capacity to Prevent Genocide and Mass Atrocities," in Kigali, Rwanda. The event was carried out in cooperation with the National Commission for the Fight Against Genocide (CNLG), which acted in the capacity of the seminar's local host. Participants included EAC Policy Officers and representatives from

Member States including Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda.

The seminar was comprised of a day and a half of modules on concepts introducing participants to genocide and mass atrocity prevention, the role of early warning and early response, transitional justice, downstream prevention, and the institutionalization of prevention mechanisms. In order to experience the "power of place" present in Rwanda, participants spent a full day of the seminar touring three different genocide memorial sites: Kigali Genocide Memorial Center, the Campaign Against Genocide Museum in the Rwanda Parliamentary building, and the Nyanza School Genocide Memorial.

Additionally, AIPR's Academic Program Officer for Africa, Dr. Ashley Greene, and the Director of Africa Programs, Dr. Ashad Sentongo, have collaborated on the development of an academic article entitled "Assessing National Mechanisms for Atrocity Prevention in Africa's Great Lakes Region" for the Journal of Peacebuilding and Development. The article has been accepted by the journal's editorial team and is slated for publication in 2019.



# Educational Policies Program



Throughout 2018, the work of the Educational Policies Program (EPP) has continued to focus on its work with the Latin American Network Focal Points of Brazil and El Salvador, as well as a group of national stakeholders in both countries, on a project entitled “Education for the Prevention of Mass Atrocities.” Efforts carried out as part of this project have focused on concluding the two ongoing educational initiatives in each country.

In Brazil, the EPP reached an agreement with seven public secondary schools in February—five in São Paulo and two in Brasília—to implement the pilot project, called “Citizenship and Democracy in School,” and finalize the first version of the methodological booklet designed to guide teachers through the process. By the end of the scholastic year, six out of the seven pilot schools will have finalized their portions of the project.

Initial feedback from teachers has been extremely positive, especially in regard to the impact that the project is having on students. As the project is expected to expand into a second phase, the team is working on evaluating initial results and putting together a promotional video that will feature partners, students, and teachers talking about the initiative.

On October 2-5, the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) co-organized the Second International Meeting on Peace Culture: Education, Memory and Human Rights in San Salvador alongside the

Salvadoran Ministry of Education and the Instituto Nacional de Formación Docente (INFOD – National Institute for Teacher Training). The event welcomed more than 100 international and Salvadoran participants for discussions on the relationship between education, memory, and human rights as well as considerations related to social science curricular reform efforts currently underway in El Salvador.

At the event, Dr. Ramírez Barat and Dr. Georgina Hernández – one of AIPR’s consultants for the project – officially presented the completed Educational Toolbox on Citizenship, Memory and Peace Culture. Representing a two-year collaborative effort between AIPR and the Salvadoran Office of the Ombudsman and Ministry of Education, the 270-page Educational Toolkit provides an innovative and participative methodological framework for promoting critical reflection about the recent past within the El Salvador’s educational system.

Following the public debut of the Educational Toolkit, 1,200 copies were produced and distributed among teachers and partners in El Salvador, with a digital version being made available for free download online. AIPR is currently working with the Ministry of Education and the Office of the Ombudsman to design a dissemination strategy, accompanied by a campaign for teacher training on the materials throughout the country.



# Mediterranean Basin Network



Progress in the establishment of the Mediterranean Basin Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (MBN) has continued throughout 2018 with both the organization of national-level programs as well as work towards the development of the Network's official launch meeting. In this context, many of the significant advances that occurred in 2018 were accomplished in conjunction with one of the Leader States of the MBN: Romania.

To date, AIPR's work with Romania has developed along two main axes, one with the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" Police Training Academy in Bucharest and the other with country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Public Ministry. From May 10–11, AIPR organized a two-day training with the Academy that provided guidance to the faculty on how to teach students about genocide and mass atrocity prevention.

Following the success of the seminar, AIPR and the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" Academy signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which established a formal collaborative work plan for the future. This plan includes provisions for future trainings, the development of a standardized mandatory curriculum on mass atrocity prevention for all future trainees, the organization of academic conferences, and the creation of a dedicated center for genocide studies at the Academy.

Similarly, AIPR's work with the Foreign and Public Ministries developed out of the inaugural inter-ministerial training seminar on

genocide prevention that AIPR organized in October of 2017.

On September 27, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Public Ministry of Romania jointly launched the National Network for Genocide Prevention and Multidisciplinary Research into Mass Graves. The National Network, which is housed in the Public Ministry, represents an important achievement for Romania's development of a national mechanism for atrocity crimes prevention, as well as an indication of their commitment to leadership within the nascent MBN.

In response to a request that AIPR provide a series of trainings specifically oriented towards its members whose first thematic area of work will be the forensic investigation of possible historical mass graves, the launch of the National Network was accompanied by a two-day introductory training seminar. The seminar provided members of the National Network with the fundamental skills and knowledge to carry out its mandate. As such, the curriculum was centered specifically on issues of transitional justice, memorialization, and the investigation of mass graves at both the national and regional level.



# Seminar for US Law Enforcement



On Thursday, April 12 and Friday, April 13, the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation held the second annual edition of the National Seminar for Law Enforcement on Promoting and Protecting Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta, Georgia. In collaboration with the National Center for Civil and Human Rights (National Center) and the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, AIPR welcomed 24 participating police officers from departments across the United States to the National Center for the two-day training.

The National Seminar for Law Enforcement on Promoting and Protecting Civil and Human Rights is premised on an understanding that threats to civil and human rights can, if unchecked, become part of an escalating process of destruction that may lead to mass atrocity. With this in mind, the seminar curriculum was designed to promote three specific objectives:

First, the program worked to instill in participants the value of promoting and protecting civil and human rights and of examining the factors which put societies at risk for violating those rights.

Second, it highlighted the ways in which the promotion and protection of civil and human rights by law enforcement plays a specific and important role in the prevention of mass atrocities.

Third, it explored the application of lessons learned through the previous two objectives to the challenges faced by police today in

serving multicultural communities in a deeply divided society.

Modules presented on the seminar's first day covered the protection of fundamental rights in deeply divided societies, the promotion and protection of those rights in post-atrocity refugee and immigrant communities, and perpetrator psychology, in addition to a guided tour of the National Center itself. The modules presented during the second day of the event followed a keynote address by Dr. Cedric L. Alexander, Deputy Mayor of Rochester, NY, and focused on implicit bias in policing and federal color of law and hate crimes legislation.

The 2018 National Seminar for Law Enforcement on Promoting and Protecting Civil and Human Rights built on the foundations laid by the pilot edition, with the participant evaluations from the previous year playing a fundamental role in the continued development of the curriculum. The growth of the program was also evident in the expanded number of participating police precincts across the country, enhancing the seminar's interactive modules through increased diversity of perspectives and experiences.

The Auschwitz Institute notes the success of the seminar, commends the commitment displayed by attending officers, and looks forward to continuing to grow the initiative in 2019.





## Governance

- Regime Type

The Auschwitz Institute's Online Education Initiative is a 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.

During the first half of 2018, the Auschwitz Institute offered two online courses in Latin America: Foundations in Mass Atrocity Prevention and Indigenous Rights and the Prevention of Mass Atrocities, and three in East Africa: Foundations in Mass Atrocity Prevention; Early Warning and Prevention; and Collective Memory, Memorialization, and Prevention.

In the autumn of 2018, AIPR offered four online education courses – two for each of the focus regions. An additional iteration of the popular Foundations in Mass Atrocity Prevention course was offered in both Latin America and Africa, as well as a new course dedicated to a relevant topic in genocide and mass atrocity prevention in the respective region.

AIPR's Latin American colleagues and partners were offered a course on Migration, Refugees, and the Prevention of Mass Atrocities. This was carried out as a response to the high level of specific requests for further training that responds to the ongoing refugee crises that have emerged, especially as a result of growing violence in Venezuela and Central America.

In Africa, AIPR is introducing a new course on the Role of Non-State Actors in Mass Atrocity Prevention. This course will examine the importance of, and strategies for, involving local and tribal leaders, religious leaders, civil society organizations, and women in the design and implementation of atrocity prevention policies and practices.

Every course offered by AIPR during 2018 has continued the precedent set the previous year by featuring full enrollment at the outset, with at least twenty participants each. While the Online Education Initiative has expanded in its second full year of existence, demand has continued to outpace capacity. Furthermore, each of the courses offered featured outstanding retention rates, which exceeded 70% on average, far exceeding industry standards for online education.



# 2018 Programs and Activities



**January-February, 2018:** The second iteration of the online Foundations in Atrocity Prevention course was launched for Africa and Latin America, running through March of 2018.

**February 7, 2018:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Working Group for the EPP's education project was held in Brasilia, in collaboration with the Brazilian Office of the Ombudsman and National Secretary of Citizenship.

**February 14-16, 2018:** AIPR, The Stanley Foundation, UN OSAPG, and Mexico's Secretary of Foreign Affairs organized a training seminar for more than 100 officials of national armed forces in Mexico City.

**February 27-28, 2018:** AIPR participated in a workshop on regional responses to the crisis in Venezuela, organized by The Stanley Foundation and CRIES in Colombia.

**March, 2018:** AIPR began an online course on Early Warning for African participants, which ran through April of 2018.

**March 13, 2018:** AIPR participated in a side-event organized by the Office of the Ombudsman of Colombia on the importance of genocide and atrocity crimes prevention which featured more than 200 attendees.

**March 14-15, 2018:** A two-day seminar focused on early warning systems was co-organized by AIPR's Latin American Program and the Office of the Ombudsman in Colombia.

**March 21-24, 2018:** AIPR organized a training seminar in São Paulo with the participation of instructors in schools that will

be working on the EPP project over the 2018 scholastic year.

**April, 2018:** AIPR initiated new online courses on Indigenous Rights for Latin American participants.

**April 11-13, 2018:** The 2018 edition of AIPR's National Seminar for Law Enforcement on Promoting and Protecting Civil and Human Rights took place in Atlanta, Georgia.

**April 16, 2018:** AIPR, along with the UN OSAPG, participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York.

**April 24-26, 2018:** AIPR collaborated with the Secretariat of the East African Community on a training seminar entitled "Learning from Experiences: Practical Approaches to Building State Capacity to Prevent Genocide and Mass Atrocities," in Kigali, Rwanda.

**April 26, 2018:** AIPR and The Stanley Foundation held a Policy Discussion Salon Dinner which also served as the launch event for the 5-Year Report of the Latin American Network as well as the Network's Impact Evaluation Report.

**May, 2018:** AIPR launched an online course on Collective Memory, Memorialization and Prevention for African participants.

**May 9-16, 2018:** In collaboration with the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the UN, AIPR organized a series of panel discussion events which featured members of the UN International Law Commission and other experts on the topic of universal jurisdiction.



# 2018 Programs and Activities



**May 10–11, 2018:** A National Training Seminar was held in Romania, in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior and the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Police Academy.

**May 15, 2018:** AIPR launched the 2018 edition of its Booklet on National Mechanisms for the Prevention of Genocide and Other Atrocity Crimes.

**May 31–June 1, 2018:** AIPR organized a seminar in Guatemala, focusing on migration and following up on the concepts presented during the previous seminar held in December of 2017.

**June 6, 2018:** A one-day forum held within the Meeting of Human Rights High Authorities in Paraguay was co-organized by AIPR, Paraguay’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and MERCOSUR’s Institute for Public Policy in Human Rights.

**June 16, 2018:** Dr. Clara Ramírez Barat gave a talk on human rights and the fight against intolerance at an educational training on democracy, education and human rights organized by the Paulo Freire Institute in São Paulo.

**June 25–27, 2018:** AIPR, the Asia Pacific Centre for R2P, Mahidol University, the Stanley Foundation organized an introductory three-day training for Executive and Legislative Officials from ASEAN Member States.

**July 1–4, 2018:** Dr. Clara Ramírez Barat participated in the Global Summit on Democracy and Education, organized by Facing History and Ourselves in Northern Ireland.

**July, 2018:** The volume *Transitional Justice and Education. Engaging Children and Youth in Justice and Peacebuilding through Educational Media, Curricula and Outreach*, co-edited by Dr. Ramírez Barat, was released.

**August 16, 2018:** AIPR held a launch event to celebrate the official opening of its new regional office in Buenos Aires.

**September 27–28, 2018:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Public Ministry of Romania jointly launched the National Network for Genocide Prevention and Multidisciplinary Research into Mass Graves with an accompanying AIPR training seminar.

**October 2, 2018:** In partnership with the BMW Group, the Social Science Research Council, and the Stanley Foundation, AIPR organized a roundtable discussion on the role of the private sector in the prevention of atrocities.

**October 2–5, 2018:** AIPR co-organized a four-day international seminar on Education, Memory and Human Rights with the Ministry of Education of El Salvador.

**October 3, 2–18:** Dr. Clara Ramírez Barat participated in Agenda Ciudadana, a one-hour TV show on national public television in El Salvador.

**October 11, 2018:** AIPR was invited by the Argentine Prosecutor General’s Office to carry out a workshop on genocide prevention within an international seminar on discrimination and justice.

**October 11–12, 2018:** AIPR organized an Experts Meeting on the Prevention of Conflict



# 2018 Programs and Activities



Related Atrocity Crimes hosted by White & Case in New York that featured contributions by 18 international experts.

**October 25-26, 2018:** The second edition of AIPR's national seminar with a regional approach, held in La Paz, Bolivia, welcomed 25 participants including representatives from national and regional institutions.

**November 8-9, 2018:** The IX Focal Points Meeting of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention was held in the Dominican Republic.

**November 11-18, 2018:** AIPR held the Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention in Poland.

**November 14, 2018:** Jack Mayerhofer was invited to speak on behalf of AIPR to the US Congress Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission on the role of government and legislators in atrocity prevention.

**November 28-30, 2018:** AIPR co-organized a conference-workshop event at Lehman College in the Bronx entitled "Atrocity Prevention in the Americas: Gender Violence, Citizen Security and the Role of the Police."

**December 4, 2018:** Tibi Galis and Jack Mayerhofer presented a policy brief entitled "Making 'Never Again' a Reality – What Germany Can Contribute during Its Next Term in the Security Council toward Preventing Mass Atrocities," at an event hosted by White & Case.

**December 6-7, 2018:** Dr. Clara Ramírez Barat was invited to participate in an expert meeting titled "Practical Experiences of Domestic Reparations Programmes" in Geneva.

**December 10, 2018:** The Permanent Mission of Poland to the UN invited Samantha Capicotto to address current and future UN Security Council Members on upstream atrocity prevention at an Arria Formula Meeting in New York.

**December 10, 2018:** Alongside the German Embassy, AIPR's Buenos Aires office held a screening of a documentary on Benjamin Ferencz and his role as Chief Prosecutor during the Nuremberg Trials.

**December 12, 2018:** Alongside the National Institution of Human Rights of Uruguay, AIPR held a workshop on spaces and tools for memory and memorialization and their relation to atrocity prevention.

**December 13, 2018:** AIPR, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina and the Center of Promotion of Human Rights of UNESCO [CIPDH] in Argentina hosted a panel for the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Genocide Convention.

**December 17, 2018:** AIPR's EPP organized a meeting in São Paulo with teachers and state level partners to discuss impact of the project and way forward.



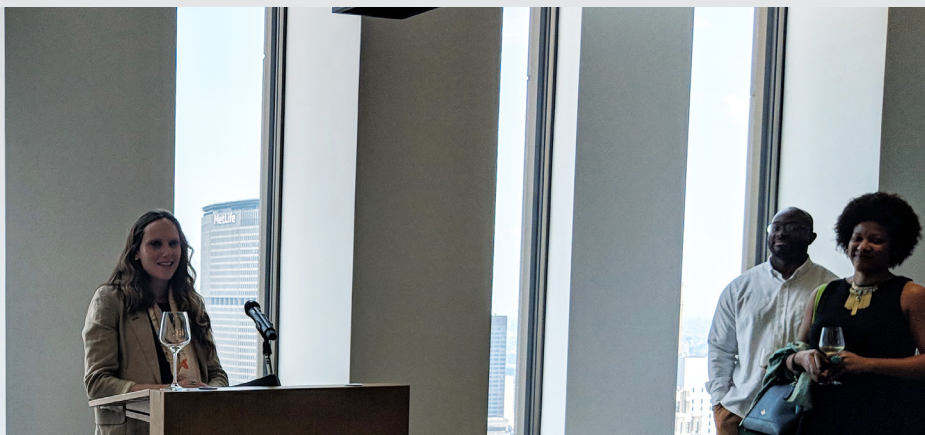
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