Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation
“Our mission is to prevent genocide”
Our Mission and Our Work

The Auschwitz Institute launched its programs in 2008 with the mission of building a worldwide network of policymakers with the professional tools and the personal commitment to prevent genocide.

Today, we are the U.S. government’s chief nonprofit partner in education and training for genocide and mass atrocity prevention, and civil society partner to the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect for education and training to UN member-states.

Our core program for fostering genocide prevention leadership is the Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention, a one-week program held on the Holocaust site of Auschwitz in Poland, in cooperation with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.

Each Lemkin Seminar has 20 to 25 participants, identified through their country’s ambassador to the UN or their government’s executive branch. Instructors are drawn from organizations worldwide, including scholars, policy practitioners, UN staff, and experts in genocide prevention and human rights. The topics covered include:

- history
- psychology
- diplomacy, mediation, and negotiations
- international law and human rights
- early warning
- military tactics, operations, strategy, and doctrine
- Responsibility to Protect
- economics
- media and communications
- transitional justice

The Lemkin Seminar Global Government edition, co-organized with the UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, educates justice, defense, foreign affairs, and human rights officials about the causes of genocide and the policy approaches and tools available to prevent it.

The Lemkin Seminar U.S. Military edition, operated in 2010 and 2011, educated officers from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff at Fort Leavenworth about the causes of genocide and protecting civilians and preventing mass atrocities in military operations. Currently we are engaged with the U.S. military in building its capacity to support the work of the U.S. government’s Atrocities Prevention Board.

In spring 2012 the Auschwitz Institute launched the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, with 18 states throughout Central and South America. As of January 2013, the network has generated 10 national initiatives for the training of officials and formulation of policy for genocide and mass atrocity prevention. In addition to these domestic projects, the first Lemkin Seminar for Latin America will be held in Auschwitz in June 2013.

Based on this same model, we are developing a similar program with the African Union Commission, including the establishment of an annual seminar and an intergovernmental network adapted to the needs of the region.
The goal of both these regional programs is to create a regional network of policymakers, sensitized to early warning signs of genocide and empowered with the tools to respond in a timely manner.

The 2PREVENT Network

To further our mission of building a worldwide network of leaders committed to prevention of genocide, in September 2010 we launched 2PREVENT, a private online forum for Lemkin Seminar alumni and instructors, allowing government policymakers, military officers, and scholars to candidly discuss the latest developments in genocide and mass atrocities and their efforts to combat it. In this way, the Auschwitz Institute is fostering a new generation of leaders who have not only the policy tools to prevent genocide, but also the personal and professional support and political will they need to do so.

As of January 2013, a total of 60 states have taken part in the Auschwitz Institute’s programs. Our 250-plus alumni, who represent the world’s first government-to-government network for genocide prevention, are now using the lessons they have learned with us to build their states’ capacity to save lives.

Also part of this network are the scholars and practitioners from around the world who serve as Lemkin Seminar instructors. They deepen their knowledge through their interaction with policymakers, building a bridge between the academic and practicing worlds that is crucial to advancing policy.

Highlights in 2012


May 27-June 3: Auschwitz Institute holds Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention, Global Government edition, with 22 participants from 15 countries and three regional and sub-regional organizations.

June 12: Auschwitz Institute Executive Director Tibi Galis delivers talk at Carnegie Council for Ethics on International Affairs on “What Does It Mean to Prevent Genocide?”

October 25: Of the 18 countries taking part in the Latin American Network, 14 have already established focal points to coordinate training and policy on genocide and mass atrocity prevention, and 10 have national initiatives underway to educate officials and develop policy measures.

November 11-18: Auschwitz Institute holds Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention, Global Government edition, with 21 participants from 14 countries and two sub-regional organizations.
Agenda for Planning Meeting:
Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention
March 29-30, 2012, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Thursday March 29th (ESMA):

10:00 – 12:00  ESMA Tour (for those participants not attending MERCOSUR meeting)

12:30 – 2:00  Welcome Lunch (Organized by Secretariat)

2:00 – 2:20  Opening Remarks (by Secretariat of Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice of Argentina, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina, and AIPR)

3 Discussion Sessions: OPEN SESSIONS

2:30 – 3:30  1. Goals / Objectives of Network

3:30 – 4:30  2. Structure / Actions of Network

4:30 – 5:30  3. Presentation by African Observers – Institutional Capacity for Similar Initiatives in Regions of Africa

6:00  Bus from ESMA to Dinner

8:00 – 10:00  Dinner at La Brigada Parilla (Organized by AIPR)

Friday March 30th (Argentina MFA):

4 Discussion Sessions: CLOSED SESSIONS

9:00 – 10:00  1. Discussion of Proposed Educational Curriculum – Presented by Dr. James Waller and Dr. Daniel Feierstein

10:00 – 10:15  Coffee Break & Presentation of Book: Intervención Humanitaria y Responsabilidad de Proteger, by Ricardo Arredondo

10:15 – 11:00  2. Example of Instructional Module – Presented by Dr. James Waller

9:00 – 10:00  1. Discussion of Proposed Educational Curriculum – Presented by Dr. James Waller and Dr. Daniel Feierstein

10:00 – 10:15  Coffee Break
2. Example of Instructional Module – Presented by Dr. James Waller

3. Comments / Remarks on Curriculum by Participating Institutions

Lunch (Organized by Argentina MFA)

4. Funding / Support of Network

Closing Remarks (Argentina MFA & AIPR)

Closing Dinner – Jardin Escondido (Organized by AIPR)
AIPR Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention

Sunday, May 27

Krakow Airport Pick-Ups – Morning and Afternoon

Monday, May 28 – History and Context

8:30-9:00 Official Opening and Participant Introductions
Tibi Galis, Executive Director, Auschwitz Institute for Peace and
Reconciliation (AIPR); Andrzej Kacorzyk, Acting Deputy Director for Education,
Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum; Dr. James Waller, Keene State College

9:00-10:15 Introduction to the Concepts of Genocide and Mass Atrocities
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College
Reading: UN Genocide Convention (1951)
Handout: Definitions of Genocide and Mass Atrocity Crimes

10:30-Noon Introduction to Genocide Prevention
Tibi Galis, Executive Director of AIPR
Reading: Gregory Stanton, “The 8 Stages of Genocide” (1998)

13:30-14:45 The Holocaust: Failure of a Political System (1933–1939)
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College
Reading: “Historical Overview,” from Donald Niewyk and Francis Nicosia, The
pp. 3–9.

15:00-17:30 Guided Study Visit of Auschwitz I (smaller groups)
Guides from Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Reading: “Auschwitz,” from Walter Laqueur’s (ed.) The Holocaust

19:00 Official Opening Dinner at Stara Poczta Restaurant in Oswiecim
Reflections: Konstanty Gebert, Director,
Warsaw Office of European Council on Foreign Relations

Tuesday, May 29 – Memory and Responsibility
8:15  **Background Briefing: Auschwitz II-Birkenau**
Dr. Piotr Setkiewicz, Chief Historian, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum Conference Room (Block 12)

9:00-Noon  **Guided Study Visit of Auschwitz II-Birkenau (smaller groups)**
Guides from Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
**Reading:** Selection from Primo Levi’s *If This Is a Man (Survival in Auschwitz)*, translated by Stuart Woolf (1959), pp. 19–27.

13:30-14:45  **The Holocaust: The Final Solution as Process (1939–1945)**
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College
**Reading:** “Historical Overview,” from Donald Niewyk and Francis Nicosia, *The Columbia Guide to the Holocaust*, pp. 9–41.

15:00-16:15  **Between Memory and Commemoration: Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum**
Alicja Bialecka, Educational Programs Director, International Centre for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust (ICEAH)
**Reading:** Michael Kimmelman’s “Auschwitz Shifts from Memorializing to Teaching,” *New York Times* (February 18, 2011).

16:15-17:30  **Dealing with the Past: Truth, Justice, Reparation and Memory in Argentina**
Andrea Gualde, Ministry of Justice, Argentina

**Wednesday, May 30 – Perpetrators and Frameworks for Genocide Prevention**

8:30-10:00  **The Role of Government Officials in the Holocaust**
Dr. Stefanie Fischer, Technical University of Berlin
**Reading:** Christopher R. Browning’s “Bureaucracy and Mass Murder: The German Administrator’s Comprehension of the Final Solution,” from *The Path to Genocide. Essays on Launching the Final Solution*, pp. 125–144 (2002).

10:15-12:15  ** Becoming Evil: How Ordinary People Commit Genocide and Mass Killing**, Dr. James Waller, Keene State College

13:45-15:45 Foreseeing, Preventing, and Responding to Genocide: The Legal Framework, Dr. iur. Ekkehard Strauss


16:00-17:30 Creating Early-Warning and Prevention Opportunities Using the Framework of Analysis Guidelines

Gillian Kitley, Mario Buiλ-Merce, and David Simon – UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect

*Reading:* OSAPG Framework of Analysis for States

19:00 Tour of Auschwitz Jewish Centre

Formative Evaluation Session

*Thursday, May 31 – Preventing and Responding to Risks of Genocide, War Crimes, Ethnic Cleansing, and Crimes Against Humanity*

8:30-10:00 Policy Options for Genocide Prevention

David Simon – UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect

10:30-11:30 **Case Study:** Policy Options for Genocide Prevention

David Simon – UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect

13:00-14:00 Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

Gillian Kitley and Mario Buiλ-Merce – UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect

*Readings:* (a) 2009 UN Secretary-General’s Report on Implementing the Responsibility to Protect, (b) 2010 UN Secretary-General’s Report on Early Warning, Assessment and the Responsibility to Protect, (c) 2011 UN Secretary-General’s Report on The Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Implementing the Responsibility to Protect.

14:15-15:15 **Case Study:** Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

Gillian Kitley and Mario Buiλ-Merce – UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect
15:30-16:00  Response Tools for Genocide Prevention
Tibi Galis, AIPR Executive Director; Dr. James Waller, Keene State College

16:00-17:30  Briefing on Current Crisis Spots: The Nuba Mountains of Sudan

Friday, June 1 – Transitional Justice and Partners in Genocide Prevention

8:30-9:30  Introduction to Transitional Justice
Alexander Mayer-Rieckh, AfterConflict Group

9:30-11:00  Working With Security Sector Partners in Genocide Prevention
Alexander Mayer-Rieckh, AfterConflict Group

11:15-12:45  Working with Civil Society Partners in Genocide Prevention
Erin Weir, Norwegian Refugee Council

14:15-15:45  Working With Military Partners: The Roles of the Military in Preventing Genocide and Mass Atrocities
Clifford H. Bernath, US Department of Defense (Retired)

16:00-17:30  Working With Media Partners in Genocide Prevention
Jean-Paul Marthoz, Senior Adviser, Committee to Protect Journalists and Vice-Chair of the Europe and Central Asia Division, Human Rights Watch
Readings: (a) Frank Chalk’s “Intervening to Prevent Genocide: The Role of the Media” (2007) (b) Allan Thompson’s “The Responsibility to Report: A New Journalistic Paradigm” (2007), (c) Philippe Dahinden’s “Information in Crisis Areas as a Tool for Peace: The Hirondelle Experience,” (d) Rafael Medoff’s *The New Republic and the Holocaust* (2004), and (e) Michael Dobb’s “What Did We Know and When Did We Know It?” (2012).

18:00  Bus to Krakow
Saturday, June 2 – Genocide Prevention in Action

8:30-10:30  Capstone Simulation: Early Warning Assessment of Current At-Risk Area
Facilitator: Erin Weir, Norwegian Refugee Council

10:45-11:15 Seminar Wrap-Up
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College; Samantha Horn, Lemkin Seminar Series, Program Director, AIPR

11:15-Noon Summative Evaluation Session

Afternoon  Arranged Tours in Krakow:
Schindler Factory Museum (Podgorze District), Jewish Quarter (Kazimierz District); Galicia Jewish Museum (Kazimierz District); Krakow City Tour

19:00  Closing Dinner – White Rose Restaurant, Krakow

Sunday, June 3

AM  Participants check out of hotel and leave for return.
AIPR Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention

Sunday, November 11

All Day  Krakow Airport Pick-Ups – Morning and Afternoon

Monday, November 12 – History and Context

8:30-9:00  Official Opening of Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention
           Tibi Galis, Executive Director of the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and
           Reconciliation (AIPR), Andrzej Kacorzyk, Deputy Director for Education,
           Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, and Dr. James Waller, Cohen Professor of
           Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Keene State College and AIPR Academic
           Programs Director

9:00-10:15  Introduction to the Concepts of Genocide and Mass Atrocities
            Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
            Reading: UN Genocide Convention (1951).
            Handout: Definitions of Genocide and Mass Atrocity Crimes

10:30-Noon  Introduction to Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention
             Tibi Galis, Executive Director of AIPR
             Reading: Gregory Stanton, "The 8 Stages of Genocide" (1998).

13:30-14:30  The Holocaust: Failure of a Political System (1933-1939)
              Dr. James Waller, Keene State College
              Reading: “Historical Overview,” from Donald Niewyk and Francis Nicosia,
              pp. 3-9.
              Handout: Nazi Party Platform (1920)

14:30-17:00  Guided Study Visit of Auschwitz I (smaller groups)
             Guides from Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
             Reading: “Auschwitz,” from Walter Laqueur’s (ed.) The Holocaust

19:00  Official Opening Dinner at Stara Poczta Restaurant in Oswiecim

Tuesday, November 13 – Process and Memory

8:30-10:00  The Holocaust: The Final Solution as Process (1939-1945)
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College

10:15-11:30 Between Memory and Commemoration: Educational Philosophy of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Alicja Bialecka, Educational Programs Director, International Centre for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust (ICEAH)

11:45-12:15 Background Briefing: Auschwitz II-Birkenau
Dr. Piotr Setkiewicz, Chief Historian, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum Conference Room (Block 12)

14:00-17:00 Guided Study Visit of Auschwitz II-Birkenau (smaller groups)
Guides from Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Reading: Selection from Primo Levi’s If This Is a Man (Survival in Auschwitz), translated by Stuart Woolf (1959), pp. 19-27.

19:00 Debriefing of Auschwitz Experience and Formative Evaluation Session
Dialogue Centre
Facilitated by Dr. Hank Knight, Director of the Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Keene State College, and AIPR Staff

Wednesday, November 14 – Bureaucratic Resistance, Perpetrators, and Frameworks for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention

8:30-10:00 Models of Bureaucratic Resistance in the Holocaust
Dr. Paul Levine, Associate Professor/Docent in Holocaust History
The Hugo Valentin Centre, Uppsala University (Sweden)

10:15-12:15 Becoming Evil: How Ordinary People Commit Genocide and Mass Atrocity
Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR
145-164 and (b) excerpt from Jean Hatzfeld’s *Machete Season: The Killers in Rwanda Speak* (2003), pp. 21-27, 36-40.

13:45-15:45 Foreseeing, Preventing, and Responding to Genocide and Mass Atrocity: The Legal Framework
Prof. Sheri Rosenberg, Director, Program in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, NYC

16:00-17:30 Regional Frameworks: ECOWARN (ECOWAS Warning and Response Network)
Ms. Onyinye Onwuka, Early Warning Directorate, ECOWAS Commission

18:30 Tour of Auschwitz Jewish Centre
19:15 *Keynote:* Denying Genocide: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory
Dr. Deborah Lipstadt, Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish History and Holocaust Studies, Emory University (US)
20:00 Pub Dinner – High Way Pub

*Thursday, November 15 – Policy Options for Preventing and Responding to Risks of Genocide, War Crimes, Ethnic Cleansing, and Crimes Against Humanity*

8:30-10:00 Creating Early-Warning and Prevention Opportunities Using the UN Framework of Analysis Guidelines
Castro Wesamba and Frank Chalk – UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect
*Reading:* OSAPG Framework of Analysis

10:15-11:30 Policy Options for Genocide Prevention
Frank Chalk–UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect and Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies, Concordia University

11:30-12:30 Case Study: Policy Options for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention
Frank Chalk with Castro Wesamba – UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect

13:45-15:00 Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
Claudia Diaz – UN Office on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect
*Readings:* UN Secretary-General’s annual reports on the responsibility to protect; (a) Implementing the Responsibility to Protect (2009), (b) Early Warning,
Assessment and the Responsibility to Protect (2010), (c) The Role of Regional and Sub-regional Arrangements in Implementing the Responsibility to Protect (2011) and (d) The Third Pillar: Timely and Decisive Response (2012).

15:15-16:15 **Case Study:** Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
Castro Wesamba and Claudia Diaz – UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect

16:30-17:30 **Quiz:** Response Tools for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention
Tibi Galis, Executive Director of AIPR & Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR

19:00-19:40 **Student Presentations – Dialogue Centre**
Sarah Efronson and Tiferet Unterman
Cardozo Law Legal Interns/Students

19:45 **Networking Discussions – Dialogue Centre**
Facilitated by AIPR Staff

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**Friday, November 16 – Transitional Justice and Dealing with the Past**

7:00 Breakfast and Checkout of Galicja Hotel

8:30-10:00 **Introduction to Transitional Justice**
Vahidin Omanovic, Center for Peacebuilding (Sanski Most, BiH)

10:15-11:45 **Working with Civil Society Partners in Genocide Prevention**
Erin Weir, Norwegian Refugee Council
**Reading:** Hugo Slim’s “Idealism and Realism in Humanitarian Action,” Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (2005).

12:45-14:15 **Impact of Global Arms Trade in Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention**
Andrew Feinstein, Former South African Member of Parliament and Current Director of Corruption Watch UK

14:30-16:00 **Briefing on Current Crisis Spots:** The Nuba Mountains of Sudan
Reading: “UNMIS report on the Human Rights Situation during the Violence in Southern Kordofan Sudan” (June 2011).

16:15-17:45 Dealing with the Past: Truth, Justice, Reparation and Memory in Argentina
Andrea Gualde, Ministry of Justice (Argentina)

18:00 Bus to Krakow
19:00 Check-In at Radisson Blu
Evening Free Evening in Krakow

Saturday, November 17 – Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention in Action

7:30 Breakfast – Radisson Blu

8:30-10:45 Capstone Simulation: Early Warning Assessment of Current At-Risk Area
Facilitators: Tibi Galis, Executive Director of AIPR & Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR

11:00-11:30 Seminar Wrap-Up, Certificate Distribution, and Group Photo
Tibi Galis, AIPR Executive Director, Dr. James Waller, Keene State College/AIPR, and Alex Zucker, AIPR Alumni Network Director

11:30-Noon Summative Evaluation Session

13:30 Arranged Tours in Krakow:
Schindler Factory Museum (Podgorze District)
Jewish Quarter (Kazimierz District)
Galicia Jewish Museum (Kazimierz District)
Krakow City Tour

19:00 Closing Dinner – White Rose Restaurant, Krakow

Sunday, November 18

AM Participants check out of hotel and leave for return.
Supporting Organizations

United Nations Office on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect

Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research (ITF)

Polsko-Amerykańska Fundacja Wolności
Polish-American Freedom Foundation

German Federal Foreign Office

Lehrman Foundation
The Jacob & Charlotte Lehrman Foundation
Partner Organizations

Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

Jagiellonian University

Center for the Study of Genocide, Conflict Resolution, and Human Rights:
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark
Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation
2 West 45th Street, Suite 1602 | New York, NY 10036
t: 212 575 2605 | f: 212 575 2654 | www.auschwitzinstitute.org

Tibi Galis: Executive Director
tibi.galis@auschwitzinstitute.org

Beata Schulman: Program Manager
b.schulman@auschwitzinstitute.org

Samantha Horn: Legal Associate;
Program Director, Lemkin Seminar (Global Government)
samantha.horn@auschwitzinstitute.org

Alex Zucker: Communications Officer; Alumni Network Director
alex@auschwitzinstitute.org

James Waller: Academic Programs Director
james.waller@auschwitzinstitute.org

Daniel Mitzner: U.S. Programs Officer
dmitzner@auschwitzinstitute.org

Christopher Kousouros: Program Coordinator,
Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention
ckousouros@auschwitzinstitute.org

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