



Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention

Mediterranean Basin
Online Edition

May 24 - July 4, 2021

Goals

- 1** To introduce participants to the concepts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, and the processes by which genocide occurs.
- 2** To empower participants with the practical competencies (foundational knowledge and skills) necessary to prevent mass atrocities from ever taking place, prevent further atrocities once they have begun, and prevent future atrocities once a society has begun to rebuild after mass violence.
- 3** To examine critically and reinforce the emergent norm of the Responsibility to Protect, recognizing that sovereignty is not a privilege, but a responsibility.
- 4** To foster an open and respectful exchange between individuals with the aim of developing a deeper understanding of diverse perspectives and practices, with a particular focus on the role played by discrimination and “otherness” in fostering inequality.
- 5** To develop a worldwide network of state officials who will act to prevent genocide and mass atrocities.

Overview

The Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG) developed the first **Mediterranean Basin Edition** of the **Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention**. With the support of its partners, the Auschwitz- Birkenau State Museum, and the Claims Conference, AIPG has created an **interactive six-week online program**. The asynchronous, flexible format allows participants to engage in a virtual dialogue with the course instructors and their colleagues on Canvas, AIPG's teaching platform.

This online program is grounded in the belief that preventing genocide and other atrocity crimes is an achievable goal. That is, there are ways to recognize their signs and symptoms, and viable options to prevent them at every turn if stakeholders are committed and prepared. The program begins with a case study of the Holocaust, focusing on the Holocaust as a process. The second week is dedicated to an overview of the concepts of genocide, mass atrocities, and prevention. The remaining four weeks of the program are structured around three stages in a **continuum of prevention strategies** – primary, secondary, and tertiary. Primary prevention is **upstream prevention**: the “before” analysis of the longer-term governance, historical, economic, and societal factors that leave a country at risk for genocide and other mass atrocities and the inoculation avenues open to mitigating those risk factors. Secondary prevention is **midstream prevention**: the immediate, real-time relief efforts “during” the crisis – political, economic, legal, and military – that are direct crisis management tactics to slow, limit, or halt the mass violence. Finally, tertiary prevention is **downstream prevention**: the “after” efforts to foster resiliency by dealing with the acute long-term consequences of mass violence through pursuits of justice, truth, and memory to help stabilize, heal, and rehabilitate a post-genocide society.

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Agenda

Week One | The Holocaust as Process

Dates: May 24 – May 30, 2021

Synopsis: Case Study of the Holocaust as a Social and Political Process. Virtual Tour of Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

Instructor: Dr. James Waller, Cohen Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College and Director of Academic Programs at AIPG

Week Two | Concepts in Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention

Dates: May 31 – June 6, 2021

Synopsis: The Road to the Genocide Convention (from Raphael Lemkin to the UN). Concepts of Mass Atrocity and Prevention

Instructor: Mariana Salazar Albornoz, Academic Programs Associate for Latin America and International Law at AIPG

Week Three | Upstream Prevention: Early Warning and R2P

Dates: June 7 – June 13, 2021

Synopsis: The Genocide as Social and Political Process. Risk Factors for Atrocity (Governance, Conflict History, Economic Conditions, Social Fragmentation). Introduction to the Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

Instructor: Dr. Gabriela Ghindea, Director of the Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention and Program Director of Mediterranean Basin Programs at AIPG

Week Four | Midstream Prevention: Becoming Evil and Response Tools

Dates: June 14 – June 20, 2021

Synopsis: Becoming Evil: How Ordinary People Commit Mass Killing. Accelerants and Triggers in Provoking Mass Killing. Cooperative and Coercive Response Tools (Political, Economic, Legal, and Military)

Instructor: Dr. James Waller, Cohen Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College and Director of Academic Programs at AIPG

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Week Five | Downstream Prevention: Transitional Justice

Dates: June 21 – June 27, 2021

Synopsis: Introduction to Transitional Justice. Processes of Truth, Justice, Reparations, and Reform

Instructor: Dr. Ashley Greene, Assistant Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College and Academic Programs Officer for Africa and Transitional Justice at AIPG

Week Six | Downstream Prevention: The Role of Memory and Memorialization

Dates: June 28 – July 4, 2021

Synopsis: Concepts of Public/Collective Memory. Memorials and Sites of Memory

Instructor: Dr. Kerry Whigham, Assistant Professor of Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention at Binghamton University and Director of Research and Online Education at AIPG

“Human rights are universal and indivisible. Human freedom is also indivisible; if it is denied to anyone in the world, it is therefore denied, indirectly, to all people. This is why we cannot remain silent in the face of evil or violence; silence merely encourages them.” – Václav Havel

Participants

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Tihana Balija

Head of Department for Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia

Participants

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Head of Cabinet of Secretary General's of Religious Affairs Office, General Secretariat of Religious Affairs, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Greece

Alexandra Patrikiou

Researcher, responsible for Holocaust Research and Education, Jewish Museum of Greece, Greece

Efthymios Tziokas

Legal and Political Counsellor, EU Delegation to the Council of Europe (Strasbourg, France) - European External Action Service (since 2019) and Expert Counsellor at the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs (since 2009), Greece/ France

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Executive Director, Kosova Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims (KRCT), Kosovo*

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Executive Director, Humanitarian Law Center Kosovo, Kosovo*

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Participants

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Doris Manu

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Researcher, National Council for the Study of the Securitate Archives, Romania

Corina Badea

Diplomat, Counsellor, Embassy of Romania in Israel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Romania, Romania/ Israel

Maja Jerman

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Instructors and AIPG Staff

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External Experts

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Independent Evaluator