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.
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


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

**Elda Lezaj**
Desk Officer, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of Albania, Albania

**Valbona Pllaha**
Specialist of Studies and Audiovisual Projects, Albanian Authority for Access to Information on Sigurimi Files, Albania

**Adnan Kadribašić**
Program Manager, Association Pravnik, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Anja Margetić**
Deputy Mayor, City of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Faris Šehović**
Researcher, Boris Divković Foundation, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Rositsa Ivanova**
Secretary and Senior Project Officer, Secretariat of the National Council for Cooperation on Ethnic and Integration Issues at Council of Ministers, Bulgaria

**Ahavani Topakbachian**
State Expert, Secretariat of the National Council for Cooperation on Ethnic and Integration Issues at Council of Ministers, Bulgaria

**Tihana Balija**
Head of Department for Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia
Participants

Vasiliki Keramida
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

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

Bekim Blakaj
Executive Director, Humanitarian Law Center Kosovo, Kosovo*

Remzije Istrefi
Professor / Judge, University of Prishtina, Faculty of Law / Constitutional Court of the Republic of Kosovo, Kosovo*

Igor Šćekić
Advisor, Special State Prosecutor’s Office of Montenegro, Montenegro

Mirela Ramcilović
Head of Division for National and Ethnic Minorities, Ministry for Justice, Human and Minority Rights, Montenegro
Participants

Furkan Chako
Diplomat/ Associate at Directorate for Multilateral Relations and Security Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, North Macedonia

Iljo Trajkovski
Ambassador to the EUROCLIO, EUROCLIO European Network of Professors of History, North Macedonia

Doris Manu
Adviser to the Special Representative of the Romanian Government for Promoting the Policies of Memory, for Fighting against Antisemitism and Xenophobia, Government of Romania, Romania

Andrei Gheorghe
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
Diplomat (Attache), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Law Department, Slovenia

Shejla Fidani
Policy Expert, Regional Cooperation Council, Serbia

Observer

Raluca Radu
Judge/ Trainer, National Institute of Magistracy, Romania
Instructors and AIPG Staff

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

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

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

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

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

Stephanie Wright
Program Associate, Research Development and Online Education at AIPG

Dr. Matei Demetrescu
Program Officer, Mediterranean Basin Programs and Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention at AIPG
External Experts

**Dr. Piotr Setkiewicz**
Director of the Research Center, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, Poland

**Dr. Codrin Taut**
Independent Evaluator