

Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention

March 22–29, 2026
Oświęcim and Kraków, Poland

2026 Edition

Funded by:



BLAVATNIK
FAMILY FOUNDATION

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The Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG) in partnership with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

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SEMINAR OBJECTIVES

1

To expand participants' understanding of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes, with a focus on these atrocities as processes that can be identified and prevented.

2

To identify the risk factors that are most clearly associated with large-scale, identity-based violence, as well as the factors that can make societies more resilient and able to avoid such violence.

3

To equip participants with the full array of tools available to prevent and respond to atrocities, based on the most recent research and evidence available.

4

To develop a global network of state officials and human rights practitioners who will act to prevent genocide and other mass atrocities.



OVERVIEW OF THE SEMINAR

This Seminar is grounded in the belief that preventing genocide and mass atrocities 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 we are committed and prepared. Buttressed by an international teaching team of scholars and human rights practitioners, this Seminar aims to provide a program for participants that could not be experienced anywhere else in the world.

The Seminar's curriculum begins with an in-depth exploration of the Holocaust as a case study for understanding genocides and other mass atrocities as processes that present multiple opportunities for prevention and intervention. From this starting point, the curriculum focuses on providing practical knowledge and evidence-based tools for responding to contemporary atrocities at all stages of the atrocity process – preventing them where possible, responding to atrocities when they occur, and building resilience to reduce the risks of recurrence once they are over.

Participants learn about the various methods for assessing risk for large-scale, identity-based violence; the variety of tools that state actors have for responding to ongoing violence; how state and civil society actors can work collaboratively to augment prevention efforts; and how transitional justice can be a process that at once deals with past injustices and makes future violence less likely. Additionally, the Seminar focuses on topics at the forefront of contemporary prevention work - such as challenges of the current geopolitical context, sexual violence and genocide, or local preventive peace infrastructures.

On **Days 1-2**, the Seminar follows the situated learning model of education by being grounded in the “power of place” at Auschwitz, the most notorious of the Nazi extermination camps.

Days 3-5 are structured around the different approaches to prevention - proactive, responsive, and redressive.

- **Proactive prevention approaches** entail efforts to reduce the risks of atrocities - historical, social, political, or international - and curtail escalation of violence and/or human rights violations through a wide array of instruments, ranging from forecasting to policy response.
- **Responsive prevention approaches** involve efforts to respond directly to ongoing violence to end it and/or reduce its negative effects. This can involve trying to slow, stop, or limit the escalation of atrocity violence, including any efforts to mitigate harm, through tools that

can be diplomatic, economic, investigatory/documentary, legal, or military.

- **Redressive prevention approaches** encapsulate efforts to transform the political, social, economic, and legal realities that led to past violence and transform relationships between governments, victim groups, and the broader public to prevent the recurrence of violence. This can happen through transitional justice tools, designed to help societies come to terms with violent or oppressive histories, and built on four main pillars: truth, justice, reparations, and nonrecurrence.

Day 6 of the Seminar concludes by putting genocide and mass atrocity prevention in action with a capstone simulation experience allowing participants to apply the practical competencies (knowledge and skills) acquired over the course of the Seminar.

The Seminar will follow the Chatham House Rule in which participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAM

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Introductions and Context

- Official Opening of the Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention
- Introduction to the Concepts of Genocide, Mass Atrocities, and Prevention
- The Holocaust: The Death of Democracy and the Rise of Nazism (1933-1939)
- Between Memory and Oblivion: Narratives, Guides, and Conflicting Memories at Auschwitz
- Guided Study Visit: Auschwitz I

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Process and Place

- The Holocaust: The Final Solution as Process (1939-1945)
- Administrative Evil: The Role of Bureaucrats in the Nazi Crimes
- Background Briefing: Auschwitz II-Birkenau
- Guided Study Visit: Auschwitz II-Birkenau
- Debriefing Auschwitz Visits

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Proactive Prevention: Understanding Risk Factors and Key Actors

- Framing the Day: Identity and Atrocity Risks
- Frameworks for Assessing Risks for Atrocity
- Proactive Prevention Tools and Techniques
- Institutionalizing Atrocity Prevention
- Moderated Discussion: Framing Proactive Prevention Work across Sectors
- Formative Evaluation Session

SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Responsive Prevention: Tools and Techniques for Responding to Crisis

- Framing the Day: Responding to Crisis
- Tools of Responsive Prevention
- Atrocity Prevention in the Current Geopolitical Context
- Gender, Sexual Violence, and Genocide
- Moderated Discussion: Current Crises, Challenges, and Lessons Learned
- Preparing for the Capstone Simulation

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Redressive Prevention: Dealing with the Past to Prevent Future Violence

- Framing the Day: Truth, Justice, Memory, Reconciliation
- Introduction to Transitional Justice from a Mass Atrocity Prevention Perspective
- Criminal Accountability for Atrocity Crimes
- The Role of Memory and Memorialization in Atrocity Prevention

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Atrocity Prevention in Action

- Capstone Simulation
- Simulation Debriefing
- Seminar Wrap-Up: The Way Forward in Partnership with AIPG
- Summative Evaluation Session
- Closing Dinner and Certificate Distribution

AGENDA

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

ALL DAY

Arrivals, Kraków Airport Pick-Ups

13:00- 15:00

Lunch - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

Dąbrowskiego St. 2, 32-600 Oświęcim

www.hilton.com/en/hotels/krkophx-hampton-oswiecim/

20:00

Dinner and Meet-and-Greet - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

Conference Room Leśna

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Introductions and Context

IMPORTANT: Please bring your passport / ID with a photo. It will be required for admission into the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.

07:00

Breakfast - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

08:00

Bus Departure to International Center for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust (ICEAH) at Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

Więźniów Oświęcimia St. 20, 32-600 Oświęcim

www.auschwitz.org/en/education/iceah-general-information/

08:30-09:15

Official Opening of the Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention

- **Dr. Gabriela Ghindea**, Program Director, Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention and Director of Mediterranean Basin Programs, AIPG
- **Dr. Tibi Galis**, Executive Director, AIPG
- **Mr. Andrzej Kacorzyk**, Director of the International Center for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust (ICEAH), Deputy Director of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
- **Dr. Kerry Whigham**, Curriculum Developer; Director of Research and Online Education, AIPG; Co-Director of the Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (I-GMAP), Binghamton University
- **Dr. Max Pensky**, Curriculum Developer; Co-Director of the Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (I-GMAP), Binghamton University

AGENDA

09:15-10:45

Introduction to the Concepts of Genocide, Mass Atrocities, and Prevention

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Max Pensky, I-GMAP
- **READING:** Scott Straus, "What Is Genocide? What Is Mass Atrocity?," *Fundamentals of Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention*, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

10:45-11:15

Coffee Break

11:15-12:45

The Holocaust: The Death of Democracy and the Rise of Nazism (1933-1939)

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Kerry Whigham, AIPG/I-GMAP
- **READING:** *Introduction to the Holocaust*, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

12:45-13:45

Lunch Break - ICEAH

13:45-15:00

Between Memory and Oblivion: Narratives, Guides, and Conflicting Memories at Auschwitz

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Mr. Tomasz Michaldo, Curator Head of Methodology of Guiding, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

15:00-17:30

Guided Study Visit: Auschwitz I (Small Groups)

- **FACILITATORS:** Guides from Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

17:45

Bus Departure from Auschwitz I to Hotel

18:45

Bus Departure from Hotel to Restaurant

19:15

Opening Dinner - Molo Restaurant

Ul. Główna 231 A, 32-608 Osiek
<https://moloresort.pl/en/restaurant/>

21:30

Return to Hotel by Bus

AGENDA

TUESDAY, MARCH 24 Process and Place

IMPORTANT: Please bring your passport / ID with a photo. It will be required for admission into the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.

07:00

Breakfast - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

08:40

Bus Departure to International Center for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust (ICEAH) at Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

09:00-10:30

The Holocaust: The Final Solution as Process (1939-1945)

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Kerry Whigham, AIPG/I-GMAP
- **READING:** Primo Levi, "On the Bottom," *If This Is a Man* (1959), pp. 15-34

10:30-11:00

Coffee Break

11:00-12:30

Administrative Evil: The Role of Bureaucrats in the Nazi Crimes

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Kerry Whigham, AIPG/I-GMAP
- **READING:** Guy Adams and Danny Balfour, "The Dynamics of Evil and Administrative Evil," *Unmasking Administrative Evil* (1998), pp. 3-22

12:30-13:30

Lunch Break - ICEAH

13:30-14:45

Background Briefing: Auschwitz II-Birkenau

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Piotr Setkiewicz, Chief Historian, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

14:45

Bus Departure from ICEAH to Auschwitz II-Birkenau

AGENDA

15:00-17:30

Guided Study Visit: Auschwitz II-Birkenau (Small Groups)

- **FACILITATORS:** Guides from Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

17:45

Bus Departure from Auschwitz II-Birkenau to Hotel

18:30-19:30

Debriefing Auschwitz Visits

Hotel Hampton by Hilton, Conference Room Dębowa

- **FACILITATOR:** Dr. Gabriela Ghindea, AIPG

19:30

Dinner - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Proactive Prevention: Understanding Risk Factors and Key Actors

Hotel Hampton by Hilton, Conference Room Leśna

07:00

Breakfast - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

09:00-09:30

Framing the Day: Identity and Atrocity Risks

- **FACILITATOR:** Dr. Gabriela Ghindea, AIPG

09:30-11:00

Frameworks for Assessing Risks for Atrocity

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Hollie Nyseth Nzitatira, Professor, The Ohio State University; Policy Analyst, AIPG
- **READING:** Hollie Nyseth Nzitatira, Trey Billing, and Eric W. Schoon, "Leveraging a Multi-Method Approach to Improve Mass Atrocity Forecasting," *Genocide Studies and Prevention* 18(1), pp. 54-59

11:00-11:30

Coffee Break

11:30-13:00

Proactive Prevention Tools and Techniques

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Kate Ferguson, Co-Executive Director, Protection Approaches
- **READINGS:**
 - a) Colin M. Fisher, "Groupthink and How to Avoid It";
 - b) Farida Mostafa, "LGBTQI+ Inclusive Atrocity Prevention: A Practical Toolkit," Protection Approaches

13:00-14:00

Lunch Break - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

14:00-15:30

Institutionalizing Atrocity Prevention

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Frank Osei, Doctoral Researcher, Binghamton University; Technical Assistance Officer, AIPG
- **READING:** "Pursuing Institutionalization of the Prevention Agenda," AIPG

AGENDA

15:30-16:00

Coffee Break

16:00-17:00

Moderated Discussion: Framing Proactive Prevention Work across Sectors

- **MODERATORS:** Dr. Tibi Galis, AIPG; Dr. Karen Smith, University Lecturer, Universiteit Leiden, and Former Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect

17:00-17:30

Formative Evaluation Session

- **FACILITATOR:** Dr. Daniela Calciu, Assistant Professor, "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urban Planning - Bucharest

19:00

Walk from Hotel to La Rossa Restaurant

19:15

Pub Dinner – La Rossa Restaurant

3 Stanisława Konarskiego, 32-602 Oświęcim

www.larossa.com.pl/en

AGENDA

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Responsive Prevention: Tools and Techniques for Responding to Crisis

Hotel Hampton by Hilton, Conference Room Leśna

07:00

Breakfast - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

09:00-09:30

Framing the Day: Responding to Crisis

- **FACILITATOR:** Dr. Gabriela Ghindea, AIPG

09:30-11:00

Response Tools for Atrocity Prevention

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Max Pensky, I-GMAP
- **READING:** "A Strategic Framework for Helping Prevent Mass Atrocities," United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

11:00-11:30

Coffee Break

11:30-13:00

Atrocity Prevention in the Current Geopolitical Context

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Karen Smith, Universiteit Leiden
- **READING:** Thomas Peak, "Halting Genocide in a Post-Liberal International Order," *International Affairs*, Vol. 99, 2003, pp. 787-804

13:00-14:00

Lunch Break - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

14:00-15:30

Gender, Sexual Violence, and Genocide

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Sarah Kasande, Doctoral Researcher, Human Rights Center, Ghent University
- **READING:** "Beyond Killing: Gender, Genocide, and Obligations Under International Law", Global Justice Center

AGENDA

15:30-16:00

Coffee Break

16:00-17:00

Moderated Discussion: Current Crises, Challenges, and Lessons Learned

- **MODERATORS:** Dr. Tibi Galis, AIPG; Dr. Kate Ferguson, Protection Approaches

17:00-17:30

Preparing for the Capstone Simulation

19:00

Dinner - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

AGENDA

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Redressive Prevention: Dealing with the Past to Prevent Future Violence

Hotel Hampton by Hilton, Conference Room Leśna

07:00

Breakfast - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

08:30-09:00

Framing the Day: Truth, Justice, Memory, Reconciliation

- **FACILITATOR:** Dr. Gabriela Ghindea, AIPG

09:00-10:30

Introduction to Transitional Justice from an Atrocity Prevention Perspective

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Ernesto Verdeja, Associate Professor, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and Keough School of Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame
- **READING:** "Transitional Justice and Prevention: Summary Findings from Five Country Case Studies", International Center for Transitional Justice

10:30-11:00

Coffee Break

11:00-12:30

Criminal Accountability for Atrocity Crimes

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Max Pensky, I-GMAP
- **READING:** Scott Straus, "Justice and Accountability after Genocide and Mass Atrocities," *Fundamentals of Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention*

12:30-13:30

Lunch Break - Hotel Hampton by Hilton

13:30-15:00

The Role of Memory and Memorialization in Atrocity Prevention

- **INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Kerry Whigham, AIPG/I-GMAP
- **READING:** Kerry Whigham, "Strengthening the Atrocity Prevention Capacity of Memory Spaces," Policy Paper

AGENDA

15:30

Bus Departure to Kraków

17:00

Check-In at Radisson Blu Hotel

17 Straszewskiego, 31-101 Kraków

www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blu-krakow

EVENING

Free Evening in Kraków

AGENDA

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 Atrocity Prevention in Action

Radisson Blu Hotel, Conference Center (1st Floor)

07:00

Breakfast - Radisson Blu Hotel

09:00-11:30

Capstone Simulation

- **FACILITATORS:** Dr. Tibi Galis, Dr. Kerry Whigham, and Dr. Max Pensky, AIPG and I-GMAP
- **READING:** Simulation Briefing

11:30-12:00

Coffee Break

12:00-12:30

Seminar Wrap-Up: The Way Forward in Partnership with AIPG

- Dr. Tibi Galis, AIPG
- Dr. Gabriela Ghindea, AIPG
- Dr. Max Pensky, I-GMAP
- Dr. Kerry Whigham, AIPG/I-GMAP

12:30-13:00

Summative Evaluation Session

- **FACILITATOR:** Dr. Daniela Calciu, Assistant Professor, "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urban Planning - Bucharest

13:00-14:00

Lunch Break - Radisson Blu Hotel

AFTERNOON

Free Afternoon in Kraków

18:45

Meet in the Lobby - Radisson Blu Hotel

19:00

Closing Dinner and Certificate Distribution
White Rose Restaurant, Kraków

16 Straszewskiego, 31-101 Kraków
www.restauracjabialarozza.pl

AGENDA

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

MORNING

Check Out of the Hotel (by Noon) and Departure

ATTENDEE LIST

PARTICIPANTS



Fraser Alcorn

Conflict Analysis Lead, Conflict and Atrocity Prevention Department, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), United Kingdom

Mr. Fraser Alcorn is an Adviser in the Conflict and Atrocity Prevention Department of the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO). He currently leads the FCDO's conflict analysis and risk monitoring, including atrocity risk, which seeks to improve the UK's awareness and preparedness for newly emerging and worsening conflicts and associated impacts. He is currently working on integrating a revised framework of atrocity risk factors into the FCDO's global risk monitoring model.

Mr. Alcorn was previously the Regional Coordinator for Africa in the UK Stabilisation Unit, where he organized programming and policy support in a wide range of conflict, security, and justice contexts, and as Portfolio Lead for the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund in the Indian Ocean region. He has an LLM in Public International Law.



Gabriela Andrade, PhD

Chief of Staff to the Executive Secretariat at the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship, Brazil

Dr. Gabriela Andrade is a Social Policy Analyst for the Brazilian Federal Government and currently serves as Chief of Staff to the Executive Secretariat at the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship (MDHC). With extensive experience in public administration, she has held positions at the Ministry of Women and at the Special Secretariat for Women's Policies of the Presidency of the Republic. Her work focuses on the coordination and monitoring of protection policies for vulnerable groups, particularly through initiatives aimed at combating hate speech and safeguarding the rights of traditional populations, older persons, persons with disabilities, children, migrants, and the LGBTQIA+ community. She holds a PhD in Sociology and both an MA and a BA in Political Science from the University of Brasília (UnB). She also has previous experience as a university faculty.

PARTICIPANTS



Tsion Hailemariam Asrat

Project Officer, Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security, African Union Commission, Ethiopia

Ms. Tsion Hailemariam Asrat currently serves as a Project Officer in the Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security at the African Union Commission, where she specializes in human rights, transitional justice, and atrocity prevention. With over ten years of professional experience in peace and security governance, she leads the conceptualization and implementation of the African Union Human Rights Memorial (AUHRM), a landmark continental initiative dedicated to remembrance and prevention. She also serves as the focal point for the African Union's Special Envoy on the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocity, contributing to high-level advocacy and the development of key continental policy instruments, including the AU Policy Framework on Hate Speech and the integration of atrocity prevention mechanisms into the African Union's Early Warning System.

Ms. Hailemariam Asrat holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from Mekelle University and a Master of Arts in Peace and Security from Addis Ababa University. She is currently pursuing a second Master's degree in Peace, Governance, and Development in Africa at the University of Peace. She is a Certified International Project Manager (CIMP) and has completed additional specialized training in conflict analysis, peacebuilding, and human rights.



Charles Atiya Tolit, PhD

Head of Research, Nile Valley Institute for Policy and Security Studies; Lead Research Associate, Security Studies and Analysis Center, Nkumba University, Uganda

Dr. Charles Atiya Tolit is an interdisciplinary scholar and research consultant specializing in peace processes, transitional justice, and inclusive and sustainable development. He is the Co-Founder and Head of Research at the Nile Valley Institute for Policy and Security Studies and serves as Lead Research Associate at the Security Studies and Analysis Center (SESAC) at Nkumba University in Entebbe. A regular media commentator, his work spans politics, development history, and social anthropology, with a particular focus on peace and security in conflict-affected societies.

His doctoral research examined the de facto northern Uganda peace process, analyzing the transformative implications of the return and reintegration of displaced populations. This work built on his earlier experience as a Research Officer with Conciliation Resources (UK), where he contributed to UK-AID-funded research projects on communities affected by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) conflict in northern Uganda.

Dr. Tolit has extensive experience as a journalist and researcher working with NGOs and non-state actors, including the Justice and Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Gulu. He served as an advisor to Archbishop John Baptist Odama during the Juba peace talks between the Government of Uganda and the LRA, and played a key role in establishing Uganda's Transitional Justice Chapter.

PARTICIPANTS



Thaís Dias Luz Borges Santos

General Coordinator for the Prevention and Response to Violence in Schools, Ministry of Education of Brazil, Brazil

Ms. Thaís Dias Luz Borges Santos serves as General Coordinator for the Prevention and Response to Violence in Schools at the Ministry of Education of Brazil. In this capacity, she leads national initiatives aimed at strengthening policy frameworks and institutional responses to school-based violence, with a focus on inclusion, diversity, and the protection of vulnerable students. With a career dedicated to education policy and public administration, she has contributed to the development and implementation of strategies that promote equity and improve educational governance.

Previously, Ms. Dias Luz Borges Santos worked as a Specialist in Educational Strategies and Policy Innovation at Instituto Unibanco, where she focused on upper secondary education, racial equity, and education management. She also served on the coordination team of the Specialized Reference Center for Social Assistance in the state of Minas Gerais. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences with a specialization in Public Policy Management, a Master's degree in Sociology, and is currently completing her PhD in Social Anthropology. Her academic background includes teaching Sociology at a Brazilian Catholic university, participating in community-based college preparation initiatives, and undertaking an academic exchange at the Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology in Mexico. Her research and professional work address education policy in Brazil, including issues related to traditional communities, social protection programs, environmental challenges, and violence prevention.



Sandra Brown

Team Leader, Conflict and Atrocity Risk, Response and Research, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), United Kingdom

Ms. Brown joined the UK civil service in 2000 and has had a variety of roles across Defence, the Cabinet Office, National Crime Agency, and now the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). She is currently team leader for the conflict and atrocity risk, response and research team in FCDO. She has mostly worked in London on a variety of conflict and security issues in the Middle East and Balkans, and was previously posted to Australia, where she focused on developing socio-cultural analysis in Indonesia and East Timor. Prior to joining the civil service, Ms. Brown worked for two years in Eastern Canada with the Lester B. Pearson International Peacekeeping Training Centre, developing training courses for military and civilian personnel deploying into complex humanitarian emergencies.

PARTICIPANTS



Lt Cdr (NS) Aoife Campbell

Inclusion Advisor, Irish Defence Forces, Ireland

Lt Cdr (NS) Aoife Campbell has nearly 20 years of experience in the Irish Defence Forces-Naval Service. She currently serves as the Inclusion Advisor in Strategic HR at Defence Forces Headquarters, following her tenure as the Gender, Equality and Diversity Advisor (SO GEDI) to the General Staff (2021–2023). In this strategic capacity, she was instrumental in leading significant culture change initiatives, including the development and mandatory rollout of the Sexual Ethics and Respectful Relationships (SERR) education package and the Unconscious Bias training across the Defence Forces. Her professional background is underpinned by extensive operational experience, including command roles as Executive Officer (XO) onboard state ships, where she was responsible for the leadership and management of multi-functional crew. Her operational deployments include serving as Navigation/Logistics Officer during Operation Pontus, a humanitarian mission off the coast of Libya in 2015. She also gained international experience as the Civil Military Cooperation's (CIMIC) Officer for the Irish Battalion in UNIFIL, Lebanon. Lt Cdr Campbell holds a First Class MA in Women and Gender Studies from UCC (2021).



Muriel Cersovsky

Team Coordinator for Rule of Law & Transitional Justice, German Federal Foreign Office, Germany

Ms. Muriel Cersovsky is a German lawyer who passed the bar exam in 2023. Since December of that year, she has been working at the German Federal Foreign Office in the Department for Stabilization and Humanitarian Aid.

Currently, Ms. Cersovsky coordinates the Rule of Law, Democracy Support and Transitional Justice team in the Division for Stabilization, Crisis Prevention and Peacebuilding.



Kate Collins

Desk Officer, Peace and Stability Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland

Ms. Kate Collins is an early-career diplomatic officer in Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. She is currently serving as a Desk Officer in the Peace and Stability Unit, which was set up following Ireland's most recent term on the UN Security Council to lead on Ireland's policy on conflict-related issues as well as to oversee Ireland's partnerships with organizations working on conflict prevention and resolution. Ms. Collins specifically works on Ireland's engagement with the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, particularly Ireland's newly launched Fourth National Action Plan on WPS. She also leads on Ireland's policy on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV), and supports engagement on mediation and on peace and security issues in key geographic areas of focus for Ireland. She previously worked as a senior policy and data analyst at a well-known British social policy consultancy in London.

PARTICIPANTS



Guyo Liban Dadacha

Director for Peacebuilding, Healing, and Reconciliation, National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), Kenya

Mr. Guyo Liban Dadacha serves as the Director for Peacebuilding, Healing, and Reconciliation at Kenya's National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), where he leads national efforts aimed at addressing the root causes of ethnic and political violence and promoting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.

With over 15 years of experience across government, private, and non-profit sectors, Mr. Dadacha is a practitioner in peacebuilding, mediation, conflict analysis, governance, and development. He has worked with and advised a range of international and regional organizations, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Interpeace, the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), the Danish Demining Group (DDG), the Institute of Security Studies (ISS), the United Religious Initiative, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the African Alliance for Peace, where he serves as Co-President.

His work focuses on strengthening governance systems, fostering inclusive dialogue, and advancing reconciliation processes to prevent identity-based violence. He has received international recognition through several prestigious fellowships, including the Australian Leadership Fellowship, the Ford Foundation International Fellowship, the Les Aspin Fellowship in Good Governance and Anti-Corruption, and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Political Leadership Programme.

Mr. Dadacha holds a Master's degree in Government and Development from the University of Sussex (United Kingdom) and a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from the United States International University-Africa.



Capt. Peter Jigga

State Prosecutor, Ministry of Defence/Uganda People's Defence Force, Uganda

Captain Peter Jigga is a qualified lawyer and commissioned military officer in the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF), serving at the rank of Captain since 2008. He currently serves as a State Prosecutor within the Ministry of Defence/Uganda People's Defence Force and as a Prosecutor before the Air Force Division Court Martial. He also holds administrative responsibilities within the UPDF Legal Department, including serving as Secretary to the Lower Contracts Committee of the Air Force.

Captain Jigga has deployed twice with the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), from 2012 to 2013 as a Prosecutor and from 2019 to 2021 as a Board of Inquiry Officer. During his second deployment, he was appointed to a special investigative team tasked with investigating the misuse of a United Nations helicopter in Somalia (2020).

Throughout his career, he has completed specialized military and legal training in operational law, human rights, prosecution, investigations, media and communications, and peacekeeping operations. He holds a Bachelor of Laws and has undertaken advanced professional courses in mass atrocity prevention, early warning, and conflict-related atrocity crimes. His professional interests include military justice, accountability mechanisms, peacekeeping, and atrocity prevention.

PARTICIPANTS



Aneta Ljuljanaj

Legal Advisor, Supreme Court of Montenegro, Montenegro

Ms. Aneta Ljuljanaj is a Legal Advisor at the Supreme Court of Montenegro, where she has been active since 2010, initially as a judicial trainee and, since 2014, in a permanent advisory role. Her work focuses on supporting judicial decision-making, monitoring the consistency of case law, and strengthening institutional integrity within the judiciary. She has contributed to key institutional reforms, including the Integrity Plan of the Supreme Court (2016) and the Strategy for the Management and Development of Human Resources in Judicial Institutions (2016–2018), promoting transparency, professional standards, and institutional capacity.

Ms. Ljuljanaj drafts complex legal decisions, provides expert opinions to the President of the Court, and prepares analytical reports supporting consistent judicial practice. She also monitors courts' compliance with constitutional guarantees and the European Convention on Human Rights, particularly the right to a trial within a reasonable time, and regularly contributes to national and international discussions on human rights and judicial reform.



María Alejandra Mángano

Deputy Attorney General, National Federal Criminal and Correctional Court, Argentina

Ms. María Alejandra Mángano is an Argentinian lawyer serving as Deputy Attorney General before the National Federal Criminal and Correctional Court in Buenos Aires. She also serves as Co-Head of Office of the Prosecutor for Trafficking and Exploitation of Persons and as Prosecutor in charge of Federal Criminal and Correctional Prosecutor's Office No.12. Her work focuses on combating human trafficking, organized crime, and other complex criminal cases.

She graduated with honors from the University of Buenos Aires and holds a specialization in criminal law from Torcuato Di Tella University, where she also completed graduate coursework in Criminal Law. Ms. Mángano is the author of several publications on trafficking and organized crime, teaches at national universities, and regularly contributes to professional training programmes. She has participated as an invited expert in international forums organized by UNODC, IOM, and other regional organizations.

PARTICIPANTS



Celia Medrano

Independent Consultant on Human Rights, El Salvador

Ms. Celia Medrano is a consultant on human rights issues in Central America, focusing on social justice and the protection of vulnerable populations. She works in the promotion of human rights, migration, and forced displacement. Throughout her career, Ms. Medrano has worked with international organizations, state institutions, and civil society organizations - including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador and Cristosal, a human rights organization working across El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. She facilitates training, methodological design, and coordinates consultancy teams in gender, human rights, and strategic planning, driving processes with organizations, agencies, and states.



Muamer Džananović, PhD

Director, Institute for Research of Crimes against Humanity and International Law, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Dr. Muamer Džananović is the Director of the Institute for Research of Crimes against Humanity and International Law at the University of Sarajevo. He obtained both his MA and PhD from the University of Sarajevo in sociology, with a focus on genocide studies. He has been employed at the Institute since 2009 and has served as its Director since September 2024.

His research focuses on the study of genocide and war crimes committed in Bosnia and Herzegovina between 1992 and 1995. He is the author and co-author of several books, monographs, and more than thirty scholarly articles in this field. His work particularly includes studies on the formation of Republika Srpska (1991–1992), crimes committed against children in the municipality of Goražde during the siege (1992–1995), and the book *The Politics of War Crimes Revisionism in Bosnia and Herzegovina*. He is also a co-author of a study on the role of the Supreme Defence Council of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the two-volume study on crimes in the municipality of Zvornik (1992–1995), and one of the 47 co-authors of the six-volume *History of Bosnia and Herzegovina*. He contributed to the development of the *School Manual on the Genocide in Srebrenica* and to reports on the denial of genocide in Srebrenica. He has participated in numerous research projects, conferences, and publications dedicated to the study of genocide, war crimes, and the culture of remembrance.

PARTICIPANTS



Iulian Paraschiv

Chair of the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM); State Secretary and President of the Romanian National Agency for Roma (ANR), Romania

Mr. Iulian Paraschiv serves as the Chair of the Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM) of the Council of Europe and as President/State Secretary of the National Agency for Roma within the Government of Romania. He also co-presides over the Interministerial Committee for the National Strategy for Roma Inclusion. In addition, he is a member of the Interministerial Committee for Monitoring the Implementation of the National Strategy for the Prevention and Combating of Antisemitism, Xenophobia, Radicalization and Hate Speech 2024–2027.

Mr. Paraschiv is a PhD researcher at the Research Institute for Quality of Life of the Romanian Academy, specializing in Sociology. He holds a Master's degree in International Relations and Organizations in Contemporary Law from the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" Police Academy in Bucharest. He is also a graduate of the National Defence College within the Ministry of National Defence and of the National College of Internal Affairs at the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" Police Academy.



Bernardita Rebolledo Uribe

Justice Officer, Directorate of Human Rights and Family Protection, Carabineros de Chile, Chile

Ms. Bernardita Rebolledo Uribe is a Chilean lawyer and Justice Officer (Teniente de Justicia) serving within the Directorate of Human Rights and Family Protection of the Carabineros de Chile. In this capacity, she provides legal advice on human rights standards applicable to police operations, contributes to the drafting of institutional regulations, and coordinates responses to public and interagency human rights inquiries. Her professional work focuses on strengthening accountability mechanisms, promoting the lawful use of force, and ensuring the protection of vulnerable groups within the policing context.

Ms. Rebolledo Uribe holds a Law degree from the Universidad Autónoma de Chile and has completed postgraduate diplomas in Administrative Law (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile), Human Rights Education for Law Enforcement (Universidad de Los Lagos), and Security, Democracy and Human Rights (Universidad de Santiago de Chile in collaboration with Instituto Ortega-Marañón, Spain). She also serves as a human rights instructor at the Police Sciences Academy and CENPECAR. Her work reflects a sustained commitment to institutional modernization, the rule of law, and the prevention of institutional violence through education and regulatory reform.

PARTICIPANTS



Rovena Rrozhani

Specialist, Directorate of Scientific Support and Civic Education, Authority for Information on Former State Security Documents (AIDSSH), Albania

Ms. Rovena Rrozhani is a writer, journalist, and communication expert serving as Specialist at the Directorate of Scientific Support and Civic Education of the Authority for Information on Documents of the Former State Security (AIDSSH) of Albania. She has authored twelve children's books, four documentaries, and numerous articles on historical themes.

In her role at AIDSSH, she contributes to research, publications, and documentary projects examining Albania's totalitarian regime after the Second World War, with a focus on memory, civic education, and human rights. Her work includes publications and documentaries on the Spaç and Valias camps, as well as leading the national reading and information tour "Learning from the Past - Acting for the Future," organized in cooperation with the Council of Europe Office in Tirana. She also directed the development of the first official website dedicated to the Spaç prison camp and plays an active role in AIDSSH's "We Learn from the Past" book and film clubs.



D'Artagnan Scorza, PhD

Executive Director, Racial Equity, Los Angeles County, United States of America

Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza serves as the Executive Director of Racial Equity for Los Angeles County, where he leads the Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative, which aims to improve life outcomes for all residents. Previously, Dr. Scorza founded and served as the Executive Director of the Social Justice Learning Institute (SJLI) for over 14 years, expanding to more than 35 program sites in California and Texas and serving thousands of youth through the Urban Scholars Program.

Dr. Scorza served as a Board Member for the Inglewood Unified School District, securing \$350 million for school construction projects and championing investments in health education, dual-language immersion, and STEAM programs. A University of California Regent Emeritus, he prioritized veteran and student services centers, and updated the admissions policy, leading to increased enrollment of historically underrepresented students.

A U.S. Navy Iraq War veteran, Dr. Scorza earned multiple commendations. He is a lecturer with UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and has served as an advisor on multiple initiatives, including the National Science Foundation's PATHS Up Advisory Board, the City of Houston Health Department's My Brother's Keeper Initiative, and the Sacramento City Unified School District's Men's Leadership Academy. Dr. Scorza earned his Ph.D. from UCLA, was an Education Pioneers Fellow and a Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE) Fellow. He is the author of Healthy Habits for Healthy People, and his academic work includes co-authoring studies on educational justice, participatory action research, and the role of youth in social change movements.

PARTICIPANTS



Serhii Serafimov-Shumilovskiy

Prosecutor, Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, Ukraine

Mr. Serhii Serafimov-Shumilovskiy is a senior prosecutor with nearly 20 years of continuous service within the Prosecutor's Office of Ukraine. He currently serves in the Department for Countering Human Rights Violations in the Law Enforcement and Penitentiary Spheres of the Office of the Prosecutor General, where he focuses on procedural leadership of pre-trial investigations and on supporting public prosecutions in cases involving grave human rights violations.

Throughout his career, he has held a range of investigative and supervisory roles, including serving as a senior investigator on especially important cases and as the deputy head of department responsible for enforcing European Court of Human Rights judgments. Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, his work has been centered on safeguarding the rule of law under wartime conditions, preventing torture and ill-treatment in detention facilities, and strengthening accountability mechanisms within law enforcement institutions. He holds a Specialist Degree in Law from Odesa National Law Academy.



Nyon Nyin Toh

Assistant and Lead Programmer, ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, Malaysia

Ms. Nyon Nyin Toh is a human rights project consultant working with civil society organizations in Malaysia and across Southeast Asia. She has experience in human rights advocacy, community organizing, public policy, project management, organizational development, and strategic planning. Her work focuses on freedom of religion and expression, business and human rights, peacebuilding and atrocity prevention, constitutional awareness, access to justice, and the rule of law. She currently leads and supports human rights programmes under the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) Malaysia.

From 2019 to 2023, Ms. Toh served as a volunteer member of the Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect Youth Core Group on Atrocity Prevention. Between 2021 and 2023, she was the Global Focal Point for Youth for the Responsibility to Protect (YR2P) within the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY).

Ms. Nyon Nyin Toh holds a Bachelor of Economics (Hons) from the University of Malaya, Malaysia.

PARTICIPANTS



Rodrigo Varela

General Secretary of Mission, Office of the Ombudsperson of Ecuador, Ecuador

Mr. Rodrigo Varela is an Ecuadorian lawyer specializing in human rights and strategic litigation in cases involving structural violations across constitutional, criminal, environmental, and Indigenous peoples' rights frameworks. He currently serves as General Secretary of Mission at the Office of the Ombudsperson of Ecuador, where he contributes to the institution's national mandate to promote and protect human rights.

A significant part of his professional career has been dedicated to the Ombudsman's Office of Ecuador. Prior to his current appointment (since May 2025), he served as General Coordinator for the Protection of Human Rights and Nature (2023–2025), leading institutional strategies to address systematic human rights violations and advance jurisdictional guarantees through strategic litigation. Between 2012 and 2018, he held several positions within the institution, including Lawyer in the National Directorate of Collective Rights, Nature and Environment, and later National Director of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. In these roles, he managed complex cases concerning the rights of Indigenous, Afro-descendant, and Montubio communities, environmental protection, and the application of international human rights standards, including cases before the Inter-American and United Nations human rights systems.

In addition to his institutional work, Mr. Varela serves as a consultant on business and human rights, civil and political rights, human mobility, and the rights of children and adolescents. He holds a Master's degree in Human Rights and Strategic Enforceability, with a specialization in Structural Litigation (2014–2016), and a Higher Specialization in Human Rights (2012–2014) from Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar, with a focus on International Human Rights Law and Constitutional Law. His areas of expertise include the rights of Indigenous Peoples, economic, social, and cultural rights, and strategic litigation at both constitutional and international levels.



Alejandro Vecchio

Foreign Service Officer, Directorate of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Uruguay

Mr. Alejandro Vecchio is a Uruguayan foreign service officer who has served within the Directorate of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this capacity, he has contributed to the advancement of Uruguay's policies on international humanitarian law and the prevention of atrocity crimes. He has served as the Ministry's alternate representative to the National Commission for the Application of International Humanitarian Law and as Uruguay's focal point to the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect. Through his work, Mr. Vecchio has engaged extensively with issues related to the early detection and prevention of atrocity crimes, as well as the responsibilities of States under international law in this regard.

CURRICULUM COORDINATORS



Kerry Whigham, PhD

Director of Research and Online Education, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG); Associate Professor of Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention at Binghamton University, Co-Director of its Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (I-GMAP), United States of America

Dr. Kerry Whigham is AIPG's Director of Research and Online Education, an Associate Professor of Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention at Binghamton University and Co-Director of its Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (I-GMAP). His first book, *Resonant Violence: Affect, Memory, and Activism in Post-Genocide Societies*, is published by Rutgers University Press. He has also published articles in *Genocide Studies and Prevention*, *The International Journal of Transitional Justice*, *Memory Studies*, *Public Administration Review*, *Public Administration and Development*, and the *Stanford Social Innovation Review*. More information at www.kerrywhigham.com.



Max Pensky, PhD

Professor of Philosophy, Co-Director of the Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (I-GMAP), Binghamton University, United States of America

Dr. Max Pensky is Co-Director of the Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention (I-GMAP) at Binghamton University, the State University of New York, USA, where he is also Professor of Philosophy. His research and experience are in the fields of international criminal law, transitional justice, and atrocity prevention. As a philosopher, he has also published widely in contemporary political philosophy and democratic theory, transitional justice processes, and the philosophy of law.

FELLOWS IN RESIDENCE



Kate Ferguson, PhD

Co-Executive Director, Protection Approaches, United Kingdom

Dr. Kate Ferguson is a foreign policy expert and strategist driving a new approach to preventing mass violence and insecurity. She is the Co-Executive Director at [Protection Approaches](#), which she co-founded in 2014 to transform how identity-based violence is understood and so transform how it is prevented. Dr Ferguson has trained and advised state representatives, parliamentarians, and law enforcement around the world including on developing national and local atrocity prevention. In 2021 Dr Ferguson was appointed as Specialist Adviser to the International Development Committee for the duration of its inquiry [Promoting dialogue and preventing atrocities: the UK government approach](#); between 2018-2022 she was the inaugural Chair of Policy at the [European Centre for the Responsibility to Protect](#). She has a PhD on the dynamics of modern mass atrocities from the University of East Anglia and MPhil in Russian and East European Studies from the University of Oxford. Her book, [Architectures of Violence: The Command Structures of Modern Mass Atrocities](#) was published in 2020 by Hurst and Oxford University Press.



Sarah Kihika Kasande

Doctoral Researcher, Human Rights Center, Ghent University, Uganda / Belgium

Ms. Sarah Kihika Kasande is a doctoral researcher at the Human Rights Center, Ghent University. Focusing on Uganda, her research examines how innovations in documentation by grassroots actors in Northern Uganda reshape the goals and methods of transitional justice beyond state-centric models toward an inclusive, victim-centered approach.

Ms. Kasande has over 13 years of experience as a human rights lawyer, supporting peacebuilding and transitional justice initiatives at the grassroots, national, and regional levels. Before joining the Human Rights Center, she served as the Head of the Uganda Office of the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ). She also led the Initiative for Transitional Justice in Africa, a joint program established by the African Union and the European Union to provide technical support to African Union member states implementing transitional justice processes.

She has provided technical assistance on reparations, truth-seeking, criminal accountability, and gender-inclusive transitional justice processes to victims' groups, civil society organizations, and state actors in various African countries, including Uganda, South Sudan, The Gambia, Tunisia, and Kenya. She has also worked with and engaged communities affected by conflict in Uganda, supporting grassroots women's groups and social justice initiatives that promote women's access to justice.

Ms. Kasande is a member of the Advisory Committee for the Africa Transitional Justice Legacy Fund. She also served as a Fellow in Residence at the Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide. She holds an LLM in International Human Rights Law from the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary, and a Bachelor of Laws (LLB, Hons) from Makerere University Kampala.

FELLOWS IN RESIDENCE



Karen Smith, PhD

Lecturer, University of Leiden, Netherlands

A South African International Relations scholar, Dr. Karen Smith has been teaching at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands since 2017. Before that, she was an associate professor at the University of Cape Town and also taught at the Universities of Stellenbosch and the Western Cape, all in South Africa. Dr. Smith served as UN Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect from January 2019 to July 2021. Dr. Smith is an advisory board member of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (GCR2P) and the Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), as well as a member of the Africa Working Group of the Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC). For the past twenty years, her main research focus has been challenging Eurocentrism in International Relations, and exploring contributions to the field from the global South, particularly Africa. She is the co-editor (with Arlene Tickner) of *International Relations from the Global South: Worlds of Difference* (Routledge, 2020), and co-author (with Pinar Bilgin) of *How to Think Globally about World Politics: Beyond Global IR* (Palgrave, 2024). She has also written on South African foreign policy and the role of global South groupings like the BRICS.



Ernesto Verdeja, PhD

Associate Professor of Peace Studies and Global Politics, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Keough School of Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame, United States of America

Dr. Ernesto Verdeja is an Associate Professor of Peace Studies and Global Politics in the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Keough School of Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame. Dr. Verdeja has published widely on the causes and prevention of genocide and mass atrocities, genocide and mass atrocities early warning, social media disinformation and violence, transitional justice, political reconciliation, trials and truth commissions, and artificial intelligence and violence early warning. He has worked as a human rights researcher for a number of non-governmental organizations, and regularly consults with the United Nations, governments, and human rights organizations on genocide and mass atrocity prevention, and on justice and reconciliation efforts. Dr. Verdeja is also on the advisory board of the Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities.

INSTRUCTORS



Tibi Galis, PhD

Executive Director, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), United States of America

Dr. Tibi Galis has been the Executive Director of the Auschwitz Institute since 2006. Before joining AIPG, Dr. Galis worked as an Associate Researcher for the Parliament of the United Kingdom, helping develop the country's position on the UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. He also served as rapporteur for the Swedish government at the 2004 Stockholm International Forum on the Prevention of Genocide. Dr. Galis earned a PhD from the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University, with a focus on transitional justice. He also holds an MA in International Politics and Political Development from the University of Manchester and a BA in Law and Political Science from Babeş-Bolyai University in Romania, his native country.



Hollie Nyseth Nzitatira, PhD

Professor of Sociology and Criminology, The Ohio State University; Policy Analyst, Department of Research and Online Education, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), United States of America

Dr. Hollie Nyseth Nzitatira is Professor of Sociology and Criminology at The Ohio State University and an AIPG Policy Adviser. She studies genocide, transitional justice, and human rights. She has authored over 70 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and has conducted extensive fieldwork, including interviews with over 500 individuals about their experiences with genocide. Her forthcoming book, published by Oxford University Press, examines the reintegration of Rwandans who were incarcerated for committing genocide. In recognition of her work, Dr. Nyseth Nzitatira received the 2023 Engaged Scholar Award from the International Association of Genocide Scholars. She is also the co-editor of The Oxford Handbook of Atrocity Crimes and serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the International Association of Genocide Scholars Policy Brief Initiative. Between 2014 and 2024, she served on a U.S. government atrocity forecasting task force, and she continues to consult on atrocity risk assessment. At Ohio State, Dr. Nyseth Nzitatira teaches courses on genocide, violence, and research methods. She also leads an education abroad program in Rwanda, trains teachers around the world on how to teach about genocide, and works with numerous museums and nonprofits.

INSTRUCTORS



Frank Okyere Osei

Technical Assistance Officer, Executive Office, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), Ghana / United States of America

Mr. Frank Okyere Osei is a researcher and practitioner specializing in atrocity prevention and peacebuilding in fragile African contexts. He joined the Auschwitz Institute in October 2025 as the Executive Office's Technical Assistance Officer, where he supports the planning and implementation of technical assistance programs, working closely with partners to strengthen atrocity prevention capacities in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

Mr. Osei has been involved in risk-assessment modelling for governments and civil society institutions and serves as a consultant for international organizations on peacekeeping, peacebuilding, and the protection of civilians. He is currently pursuing doctoral studies at Binghamton University (SUNY), where his research explores the localization of global prevention norms. He has published on atrocity prevention and local peace infrastructures.

Mr. Osei holds a Master's degree in International Studies and Diplomacy from SOAS, University of London, and a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Ghana.



Tomasz Michaldo

Curator, Head of Methodology of Guiding, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, Poland

Mr. Tomasz Michaldo graduated from the Jagiellonian University in Kraków with a Master's degree in History, specializing in Jewish Studies. He also completed a Postgraduate Degree in Museology at the same university. He has been associated with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum since 2011, initially working as a guide. In 2013, he joined the Methodology of Guiding Department, where he was responsible for collaborating with guides, recruiting and training new candidates, and developing existing guides professionally. Since 2014, he has served as the Curator and Head of Methodology of Guiding. Additionally, between 2019 and 2020, he acted as the Head of Educational Projects at the Museum. His expertise lies in communication, management, and education within the field of Holocaust remembrance.



Piotr Setkiewicz, PhD

Chief Historian, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, Poland

Dr. Piotr Setkiewicz was born in 1963. He graduated from the Jagiellonian University in Kraków with a degree in History, and from the Silesian University in Katowice with a PhD. His doctoral thesis, which was completed in 1999 was titled "IG Farben- Werk Auschwitz 1941-1945." He has worked in the Research Department at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial Museum since 1988. Between 2001-2007 he was the Head of the Archives, and in 2008 he became the Head of the Research Department. His research interests are: the employment of prisoners in German industry, the history of subcamps in KL Auschwitz and the SS Garrison, among others.

INDEPENDENT EVALUATOR



Daniela Calciu, PhD

Assistant Professor, “Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urban Planning - Bucharest, Romania

Dr. Daniela Calciu is an Assistant Professor at the Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urban Planning in Bucharest. Trained as an architectural scholar and applied researcher, she works at the intersection of urban studies, cultural heritage, and community-engaged practice. Her work is grounded in forging stronger connections between universities, cultural institutions, and local communities to support more equitable and sustainable urban futures. She has been involved with the Association for Urban Transition (ATU) for more than eighteen years and was recently elected President of the organization. In this role, she leads and contributes to major international and EU-funded collaborations, including CONECT (Collective Networks for Everyday Community Resilience and Ecological Transition), WECARE (Warding Ecosystem Commons through Action-Research Education) and EcoCARE (Ecologies of Care). Dr. Calciu also coordinates strategic projects for the Romanian Order of Architects (OAR) on housing quality and accessibility, and oversees the OAR team in U-RE-HERIT (Architects for Heritage in Ukraine: Recreating Identity and Memory), developing participatory methodologies for heritage protection and recovery in a crisis context. Her experience includes workshop facilitation, field investigations, co-creation processes, and shaping professional dialogues. Guided by an interdisciplinary, evaluation-oriented approach, she brings skill in synthesizing diverse perspectives and fostering inclusive, reflective conversations.

OBSERVERS



LizAnn Eisen

Executive Director, The Elie Wiesel Foundation, United States of America

Ms. LizAnn Eisen is the Executive Director of The Elie Wiesel Foundation, where she leads efforts to promote tolerance and dignity for all human beings in the global community through education, dialogue, and ethical leadership programs rooted in the legacy of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel. She was appointed to this role in August 2025, bringing extensive experience from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors.

Before joining the Foundation, Ms. Eisen held several senior roles across academia, law, finance, and public service. She served as an acting professor of the practice at Cornell Tech/Cornell Law School and as an adjunct professor at the University of Oregon Law School, where she taught and advised students on law, regulatory policy, and corporate governance. Ms. Eisen also worked as a senior partner at an early-stage investment firm, providing strategic and regulatory insights to growing companies.

Earlier in her career, she was a corporate partner at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP in New York City, where she specialized in corporate finance transactions, governance, and international business matters. Ms. Eisen additionally served as Deputy Director in the Division of Corporation Finance at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, overseeing disclosure and compliance programs that underpin investor confidence in capital markets.

Throughout her career, Ms. Eisen has championed human rights, education, and interfaith understanding, leveraging her legal expertise and commitment to ethical leadership in each of her roles.



Ellen Emilie Stensrud, PhD

Senior Researcher, The Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies, Norway

Dr. Ellen Emilie Stensrud has a background in political science and has been working at the Norwegian Holocaust Center since 2015. Her research interests include comparative genocide studies, atrocity prevention, and transitional justice. She is currently leading a project that explores civilian and local strategies to resist mass atrocities across diverse geographical locations. Previously, she coordinated a project analyzing small states' roles in atrocity prevention at the UN, with findings published in the *Nordic Journal of Human Rights*. She also coordinated a project on international responses to the persecution of the Rohingya people in Myanmar, featured in the *Global Responsibility to Protect* journal. Dr. Stensrud has worked on the connections between atrocity prevention and related policy agendas such as Women, Peace and Security and Freedom of Religion or Belief. She has extensive experience working at the intersection of research and policy, with project funding from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation.

OBSERVERS



Benjamin Steven Warren

President & CEO ITC Trading Company Ltd.; Board Member, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), United States of America

Mr. Benjamin Warren has more than 20 years leadership experience as the CEO of a multi-generational family office and investment pool of capital, and over thirty years of executive management experience in food processing, manufacturing and distribution. As a successful entrepreneur in the food business, Mr. Warren has built, managed and sold market-leading food businesses with extensive operations across the United States.

He is a dedicated Community leader with a deep sense of passion for educating, caring for and changing the lives of challenged and underserved populations through a variety of organizations, virtually all grounded on a track to education in one way or another. Board Member - Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide & Mass Atrocities, Former Board Chair - Holocaust Museum Houston, Board President - Royal Public Schools, Board Member - American Society of Holocaust Education and Remembrance, Life Time Trustee - Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, Board Member - KIPP Public Schools - Texas.

ORGANIZERS



Gabriela Ghindea, PhD

**Program Director, Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention;
Director of Mediterranean Basin Programs, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of
Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), Romania**

Dr. Gabriela Ghindea joined the Auschwitz Institute in January 2019. Based in Bucharest, Dr. Ghindea coordinates all aspects of AIPG's Mediterranean Basin Programs, including developing and expanding relationships with State and civil society actors at the regional and national levels, developing and guiding programs through the conceptual, partner identification, implementation, and evaluation phases, teaching in AIPG programs, in addition to regularly liaising with the Auschwitz Institute's offices around the world. She is also the Program Director of the Global and Mediterranean Basin editions of the Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention.

Dr. Ghindea earned one BA in History and another in Political Science from Babeş-Bolyai University, in Cluj-Napoca, an MA in European Studies from the Rheinisch Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen, and a PhD in International Relations from Babeş-Bolyai University. Interested in memory cultures and civic education, she conducted several research and pedagogical projects in Romania, Austria, and Germany. In parallel with her academic research, she worked for the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) from 2009–2015 and as a referent within the Teaching Liaison Department of the Goethe-Institut from 2015–2019, further developing her expertise in the fields of historical-political education and educational marketing during this period.



Matei Demetrescu, PhD

**Program Officer, Mediterranean Basin Programs, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of
Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), Romania**

Dr. Matei Demetrescu joined the Auschwitz Institute in 2020. Prior to this, he worked for the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) as a Program Officer and Acting Director of the DAAD Information Centre in Bucharest. After completing his BA in Political Science in Bucharest, Matei earned a master's degree in Political Theory at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences-Po). He obtained a PhD in Political Science from the University of Bucharest in 2013 and was a postdoctoral researcher at the Romanian Academy from 2014 to 2015. Based in Bucharest, he supports the Director of AIPG's Mediterranean Basin Programs in organizing the Global Raphael Lemkin Seminar for Genocide Prevention, as well as in developing and implementing other programs.

ORGANIZERS



Gosia Waligóra

Director of Polish Affairs, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), Poland

Ms. Gosia Waligóra assists the Auschwitz Institute in planning and executing the Raphael Lemkin Seminar in Poland. While Ms. Waligóra officially joined our staff in 2014, she has worked with AIPG since 2009 as a consultant. Ms. Waligóra has held an MA in Public Administration from the Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Kraków University since 2011. In 2016, she completed postgraduate studies on “Totalitarianism, Nazism, Holocaust” at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in cooperation with the Pedagogical University in Kraków. In 2017, Ms. Waligóra completed postgraduate studies on “Christian-Jewish Relations” at the University of John Paul II in Kraków. In 2018, she participated in the Seminar for Polish educators titled “Teaching about the Holocaust” at the Yad Vashem Institute in Israel. In 2022, she completed postgraduate studies in “Human Resources” at the Economics University in Kraków. She has been a member of the Foundation Council at the International Youth Meeting Centre in Oświęcim/Auschwitz since May 2023. She is also a licensed guide at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, serving English-speaking groups.



Andrzej Kacorzyc

Director of the International Center for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust (ICEAH), Deputy Director of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, Poland

Mr. Kacorzyc was born in Osiek near Oświęcim in 1963. A pedagogue, he graduated from the College of Pedagogical Sciences in Opole, the Teachers’ College of Foreign Languages, and completed postgraduate studies in History and Museology at the Jagiellonian University. Since July 2, 2012, Mr. Kacorzyc has served as the Deputy Director of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim, overseeing the International Centre for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust (ICEAH).

SUPPORT STAFF



Jacob Amai

Director of Africa Programs, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), Uganda

Jacob Amai joined the Auschwitz Institute in March 2024. He is an enthusiastic and dedicated professional with extensive experience in violence prevention. With over ten years of working experience, he has been actively involved in promoting human rights, particularly in violence prevention among women and children, Basic Education, Youth Development, and Project Management. Throughout his career, Mr. Amai has successfully collaborated on projects with various donor streams including USAID, EU, UNHCR, and UNICEF, among others.

Previously, Mr. Amai worked with the Education Development Center under USAID/Integrated Child and Youth Development Activity (ICYD) as a Community Engagement Supervisor in Kampala, Uganda. Before that, he served as a Technical Advisor for School Related Gender-Based Violence with RTI International under USAID/Literacy Achievement and Retention Activity in Kampala. Additionally, he worked with Plan International as a Project Coordinator for the EU project on combating violence against children in Lira Program Area, Uganda.

Mr. Amai holds a Master of Arts in Development Studies from Uganda Martyrs University, a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences from Makerere University, a Post Graduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management from Uganda Management Institute, and a Certificate in Administrative Officers' Law from LDC, among others.



Gary Penzell

Operations and Budget Manager, Executive Office, Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities (AIPG), United States of America

As the Auschwitz Institute's Manager of Budgets and Operations, Gary Penzell is responsible for managing the organization's budget activities. He also manages Operations, Human Resources, and Payroll. Mr. Penzell has an MBA in Finance and has worked as a Financial Controller for Citibank as well as Controller for the Doe Fund in New York City. In both roles, he was responsible for budgets and financial reporting.



Justyna Korpak

Member of Educational Projects Department Auschwitz Birkenau State Museum, Poland

Ms. Justyna Korpak has been affiliated with the Memorial and Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau since 2022 and is a member of the Educational Projects Department at the International Center for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust (ICEAH). In this role, she coordinates educational initiatives primarily targeting students, teachers, and other educators. She also serves as a museum guide for English-speaking visitors.

Ms. Korpak holds a degree in History from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Before joining the Memorial, she gained experience in education as a history and social studies teacher at a general secondary school.



the auschwitz institute
for the prevention of genocide
and mass atrocities

**We are building a world
that prevents genocide and
other mass atrocities**