



BUDAPEST CENTRE
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL
PREVENTION OF GENOCIDE
AND MASS ATROCITIES

In cooperation with



Invites you for

Prevention of Mass Atrocities in practice series

Roundtable

Pre-event of the VII. Budapest Human Rights Forum

THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN THE PREVENTION OF MASS ATROCITY CRIMES

Central European University

Popper room

Nador u. 9 – 1051 Budapest - Hungary

19 November 2014

9:00-18:00

Background

Education is an important tool to spread a culture of peace and prevent violent conflicts. It also helps manage inequalities within society and between identity groups, tackle discrimination based on race, gender, religion or other forms of group thinking, and handle the entire spectrum of inhumanity.

Educational programs are vital to the promotion of fundamental human rights, being a basis for preventing extreme human rights abuses and violations.

Teaching about prevention of mass atrocities, including genocide can be an effective tool to support justice, reconciliation, and empathy for the individual human being, to counter hatred and prejudice, to foster appreciation of human rights, and to promote acceptance diversity.

The latest report of the UN Secretary General “Fulfilling our collective responsibility: International assistance and the responsibility to protect” has also underlined the importance of education and training for an effective implementation of the Responsibility to Protect. Among some of its key points, the Report stressed the necessity to inform and educate as many people as possible on the nature and dynamics of mass atrocity crimes.

In societies which experienced genocide and mass atrocities, the crimes perpetrated have left deep wounds in the survivors. In these countries, there is a particular need to pay special attention to educating the new generations to respect the rights of minorities and each other as human beings.

The Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities shares the views that one of the best ways to prevent mass atrocity crimes is to educate the new generation and explain the tragedies, their cores and signals as well as the tools for addressing the challenges.

This roundtable wishes to generate further efforts in education of mass atrocity prevention. It will provide a framework for government officials, representatives of international organizations, academia and practitioners involved in human rights, RtoP and education to share lessons learned and discuss the possibilities for advancing education with a view to prevent mass atrocities.

The geographical and temporal proximity of genocide in Srebrenica constitutes a particular challenge for the Visegrad countries. They should, therefore, in particular contribute to the reconciliation and peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where the wounds of the genocide perpetrated in Srebrenica in 1995 are deep and the tension within society is still high.

By organizing this event the Budapest Centre continues its endeavors to build up capabilities in Europe to prevent mass atrocities. It intends to generate more political will within the Visegrad Group to develop national and regional skills and contribute to the on-going efforts for supporting education in Bosnia and Herzegovina and empowering the new generation to make “never again” a reality.

The Roundtable will consist of three panels:

1. Significance and challenges of education in preventing mass atrocities: views of international actors
2. Lessons learned by practitioners in educating mass atrocities prevention
3. Challenges of education to prevent mass atrocities in Bosnia and Herzegovina

PROGRAMME

09.00 – 09.30 **Registration**

09.30 – 10.20 **Welcome session**

Speeches by

Jon Greenwald, Visiting Professor at SPP/CCNR, Central European University

Tamas Kuntar, Deputy Head of the Department of International Organizations,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

Ferenc Jari, International Visegrad Fund

Gyorgy Tatar, Chair, Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide
and Mass Atrocities

10.20 – 10.35 **Coffee Break**

10.35 – 12.00 **I. Panel**

**Educating future generations - Significance and challenges of education in
preventing mass atrocities: views of international actors.**

Moderator: **Aline Sierp**, Assistant Professor in European Studies, University of
Maastricht

Panelists:

Mario Buil-Merce, Political Affairs Officer, Office of the Special Advisers on the
Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect

Istvan Lakatos, Deputy Permanent Observer of the Council of Europe to the United
Nations Office in Geneva

Zuzana Dorazilová, Directorate-General for Justice, European Commission

Kendall Palmer, Head, Human Dimension Department OSCE Mission to BiH

12.00 – 12.30 **Discussion**

12.30 – 13.30 **Buffet-lunch**

13.30 – 15.00 **II. Panel**

Lessons learned by practitioners in educating mass atrocities prevention

Moderator: **Rita Izsák**, Special Rapporteur on minority issues, UN Human Rights
Council

Panelists:

Marialaura Marinozzi, Researcher, Budapest Centre for the International
Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities

Agnes Osztolykan, Former MP of Hungary

Elizabeth White, Research Director, US Holocaust Memorial Museum

Krisztina Lakatos, head of the education department at the Holocaust Memorial Center

Ildiko Laszak, Representative of Anne Frank House in Hungary

15.00 – 15.30 **Discussion**

15.30 – 17.00 **III. Panel**

Challenges of education to prevent mass atrocities in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Moderator: **Robert Zuber**, Global Action to Prevent War and Armed Conflict

Panelists:

Senadin Musabegovic, Professor of Sociology of Culture and Art Theory at School of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo

Maja Nenadovic, Western Balkans Coordinator of Anne Frank House, Netherlands

Ljuljeta Goranci Brkić, General Manager, Nansen Dialogue Center for Peace and Dialogue, Sarajevo

Eli Tauber, Manager, Institute for researching crimes against humanity, University Sarajevo (tbc)

17.00 – 17.30 **Discussion**

17.30 – 18.00 **Conclusions**

Enzo Maria Le Fevre Cervini, Director of Research and Cooperation, Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities

For more information and registration please contact:

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