MEETING REPORT

COMBATTING ANTISEMITISM THROUGH EDUCATION:
A EUROPEAN MEETING

Berlin, December 11-13, 2018
Preface

As the Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism (KIgA e.V.), we organized the meeting “Combatting Antisemitism through Education,” December 3 to 5, 2018, in Berlin, Germany. Through this meeting, we intended to bring together the European organizations that are combating antisemitism and other forms of bias through education and discuss how we can forge European level cooperation against growing intolerance.

This meeting provided us with the chance of getting to know each other and explore some education projects in Berlin. Eventually, the participants discussed the needs and requirement for follow-up meetings of a prospected European network, as well as the core objectives.

Fifteen organization representatives from nine countries came together thanks to financial and other forms of support from the German Ministry for Family Affairs (BMFSFJ) and the EVZ Foundation. We are at the beginning to call it a network but can say it was a promising start to bring a diverse range of organizations working in civic and historical education, sharing a vision of a world free of hate, discrimination, and violence. This documentation will give you a brief understanding of the discussions and presentations during these three days.

We want to thank everybody who made this event possible.

Have a nice reading!

Coordinator
Emrah Gürsel, KIgA

Organizer
Johanna Voss, KIgA

Author
Paula Lange

Disclaimer
Contents of this report should not be taken as the official view of the partner organizations.

February 2019
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December 11

9 – 12 am Welcome Remarks
– Dr. Andreas Eberhardt (EVZ)
– Amb. Michaela Küchler (Federal Foreign Office)
– Dervis Hizarci (KlgA)
Meeting Goals and Schedule
– Emrah Gürsel and Johanna Voss (KlgA)
Interactive Getting to Know Each Other

Introduction

The opening event of the conference took place at the premises of the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ). Chairperson Andreas Eberhardt started by welcoming the participants from 11 different countries and introducing them to the operations of the EVZ. These operations are not limited to the compensation of former forced laborers, but also include support for educational projects that promote human rights all over Europe.

A recent study by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) shed light on the major role that NGOs and civil society initiatives play in the fight against antisemitism. The Special Representative for the Relations with Jewish Organizations of the German Federal Foreign Office, Ambassador Michaela Küchler further underlined this relevance and announced financial support for the network. Dervis Hizarci of the Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism – KlgA – explained that the European Network should be understood primarily as a response to the
current rise of antisemitism, racism, nationalism and intolerance all over Europe. According to Hizarci, educational work is fundamental in the fight against said phenomena.

Next the participants introduced themselves and their work, and it became obvious that many of the organizations present are facing similar challenges in their respective countries. Observations like a political swing to the right, growing acceptance of previously proscribed statements, hate speech on social media or Israel-related antisemitism were stated multiple times. On top of these general problems are country-specific challenges like a lack of knowledge about the history of Judaism, arrests of activists, precarious funding situations and the outsourcing of antisemitism in society. Afterwards the participants stated their expectations of the network:

stiftung-evz.de/eng/home.html
kiga-berlin.org
Visit: Topography of Terror

Then there was a guided tour through the Topography of Terror permanent exhibition “Gestapo, SS and Reich Security Main Office on Wilhelm- and Prinz-Albrecht-Straße,” located on the site of the former Gestapo-prison.

The permanent exhibition focuses on the central institutions of the SS and police during the “Third Reich” and the crimes that they committed throughout Europe. With the help of mostly photographic material on a “ribbon of panels” and documents (facsimiles) presented at subject-oriented lecterns, visitors are led through the major themes of the exhibition’s five main segments:

1. The National Socialist Takeover of Power,
2. Institutions of Terror (SS and Police), Terror, Persecution, and Extermination on Reich Territory, SS and Reich Security Main Office in Occupied Countries and The End of the War and the Postwar Era.

The participants reflected critically on the one-dimensional perspective of the exhibition’s photographs; by showing only the perpetrator perspective, they reiterate the humiliation of the victims of the Nazi regime.

I was very impressed by the location itself. It was my first visit there. The exhibition shows tangible perpetrators so that you can see: these are tangible crimes took place exactly there. This is very important. It doesn’t show the victims perspective and I understand this is widely criticized, but it’s not a memorial site, it’s a documentation centre. That is why it’s all the more important that the exhibited photographs are examined critically.

topographie.de/en/
December 11

4:15 pm – 6 pm  
*Introduction to the KIgA’s Exhibition on Jewish Life in Berlin*  
– Joachim Seinfeld (KIgA)

Visit to the Exhibition “L’Chaim”

After an introduction of curator Joachim Seinfeld on the concept of the exhibition “L’Chaim – To life!”, the participants had an opportunity to take a closer look at the traveling exhibition at its current location, Louise Schroeder School.

Berlin, a metropolis as diverse and multifaceted as its inhabitants and filled with history and stories, is a place that has been influenced and shaped by Jews since the 13th century. During the Nazi era, Jewish life in the city was largely destroyed. Today the city’s Jewish community consists of over 9,000 members. Combined with the number of people that are not official members of the Jewish community, this includes many Israelis, the total is approximately 20,000 people. This mixture of long-established Jewish families in Berlin and newer arrivals make it possible for Jewish life to grow continually in the German capital.

This exhibition portrays the diverse facets of Jewish life in Berlin by presenting 37 biographies of 31 Jews and 6 Gentiles. The link between all of them is their place of residence – Berlin. For some of them, religion is of central importance. Others understand their Jewish background as purely cultural and have no association with the Jewish faith. These different stories give the spectator a glimpse at the active and diverse Jewish life in Berlin.

*lchaim.berlin*

The exhibition was very beautiful. For me, as an adult, the exhibition was effective, but young people need additional guidance.
Israelis, Syrians and others, whose biographies are intertwined with the conflict in the Middle East, grapple with re-encounters as new “neighbors” in Berlin.

Theater Play “The Situation” at Gorki

“Anyone who wants to allude to the current political situation in the Middle East in Hebrew or Arabic speaks simply of »The Situation«. Over the past several years many people with roots in »The Situation« have ended up in Berlin, of all places, on their search for a new beginning...

In her new devised piece, Yael Ronen and the participating actors, whose biographies are intertwined with the conflict in the Middle East, grapple with these paradoxical re-encounters with the »neighbors«. They are all connected by the fact that they recently came to Berlin because the reality in their countries offers little hope for a peaceful future. But as much as the desire to escape from »The Situation« unites them, the motivations for moving are different: war has been raging in Syria since 2011, and in Israel and Palestine the political and social climate has become increasingly militant. Rents in Tel Aviv are exploding and life is no longer affordable for those with an average income... The Situation dusts off the confusing road map of the Middle East. The sand that trickles down tells stories of dispossession, disbelief and anger, but also of the search for a life beyond the wars in Berlin.”

I liked the play. It dealt with many of the stereotypes that exist but in a funny way. I think the play was designed for a German audience and none of the actors on stage was really German, so it was interesting for me to see the German audience respond to the play and to the challenges they have now in their own country. It breaks many taboos and stereotypes, in that sense it was very interesting
Antisemitism
– Dr. Juliane Wetzel (Board Member of KlgA and Center for Research on Antisemitism / TU Berlin)

Anti-Muslim Bias
– Sindyan Qasem (Center for Islamic Theology / University of Münster)

Expert Inputs

Dr. Juliane Wetzel, a professor at the Centre for Research on Antisemitism at the Technical University of Berlin, opened the session with an overview of the current challenges by and manifestations of antisemitism in Germany marked the opening of the expert inputs on day 2 of the Conference. Her definition of antisemitism is aligned with the official (working) definition of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA):

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.” Such manifestations could also target the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Wetzel differentiates between four different forms of antisemitism

- religious Christian Jew-hatred/anti-Judaism
- modern racial antisemitism
- secondary antisemitism
- Israel-related antisemitism/anti-Zionism

She estimates that especially the latter two manifestations occur frequently in Germany. Many antisemitic acts go unnoticed by the police, so it is also crucial to pay extra attention to the voices of victims. Only by including these voices it is possible to paint a realistic picture of the extent of antisemitic attacks. Wetzel makes out above all two current challenges: The first is that antisemitic attitudes are primarily attributed to Muslims and refugees in the media. It is important to implement preventive measures against antisemitism in Muslim communities while also simultaneously monitoring anti-Muslim discrimination. Embedded in this outsourcing strategy is the danger of trivializing antisemitic attitudes in the societal mainstream. The second challenge is the growing acceptance and distribution of conspiracy theories, which often contain antisemitic elements and gain a larger platform on social media and other internet mediums; this trend is amplified by the anonymity of the internet. Furthermore, Wetzel called for mandatory sensitivity training for teachers, to be able to react directly to antisemitic incidents in schools particularly.

tu-berlin.de/fakultaet_i/
zentrum_fuer_antisemitismusforschung/ menue/ueber_uns/
parameter/en/
holocaustremembrance.com/workin
g-definition-antisemitism
Next Sindyan Qasem of the Center for Islamic Theology at the University of Münster informed about the latest concepts on as well as effects and examples of anti-Muslim racism. While other organizations and academic institutions often use the word “Islamophobia,” Sindyan Qasem pleads for the use of the term “racism,” because it is better at covering all the different forms of the phenomenon. He further differentiates between four different concepts of racism:

- Biological vs. Cultural Racism
- Racism and Euro-Centrism
- Racism and Colonialism
- Racism and Privilege

The essential function of Racism, the differentiation of the “other” for the purpose of self-definition, effects that a lot of the Muslims living in Germany have a feeling of being “different, not belonging.” This attribute is now a permanent feature of Muslim identity. A great number of Muslims are viewed, spoken to and identified as Muslims, even when they self-identify differently. These external attributions make it all the more difficult for Muslims to build their own identity. As one of the first countries Germany has introduced the category “Islamophobia motivated attacks” in its records of criminal offenses. The report for 2017 shows a total of 1075 offenses with an anti-Islamic motivation. Nevertheless, it is estimated that the real number is much higher because many cases remain unreported. Qasem believes that this is due to the fact that the public primarily perceives Muslims not as victims, but as possible perpetrators who are open to radicalization. He further states that the success of right-wing populist parties is too based on anti-Muslim statements and concepts. According to Qasem, the increasing presence of Muslims in Europe poses a challenge to the European society, as it has formed its identity, above all, in differentiation to Muslims and Islam for centuries. In the course of this Muslims are prejudged as “incompatible with democracy” and “dangerous.”


December 12, 2018
11.30 – 12 am
The Museum’s work in Europe
– Klaus Mueller (USHMM)

**USHMM’s Work in Europe**

Dr. Klaus Mueller, Representative for Europe of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), used his slot primarily to respond to questions that were offered by the participants regarding the work of the USHMM.

1. *Does the USHMM include other genocides in its work?*

The museum wants to engage citizens and leaders to confront hatred and to draw lessons from the Holocaust to prevent genocides from happening. Our Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide works to educate and inspire the public to learn more about past genocides—such as those in Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur—and to consider what they can do to prevent these atrocities in
the future. One goal is to make genocide prevention a core foreign policy priority for leaders worldwide, building on the 2008 report of the Genocide Prevention Task Force and its practical policy recommendations and our work on Early Warning Alert with other institutions. Additionally, the museum’s website serves as a resource for genocide prevention documentation to get the word out through exhibits, public education and utilizing digital media.

2. Are there any special lessons the USHMM as an American institute has for its European counterparts?

The Holocaust, including migration during and after the Holocaust, left a deep imprint on many nations. Holocaust remembrance, research, and education is a central part of European and American cultural heritage and history. Its lessons are of global significance. The US Holocaust Memorial Museum was founded by Holocaust survivors who found refuge in the United States. The task of preserving and making publicly available the records of this unprecedented genocide on European soil is daunting as is the task of understanding the Holocaust and educating future generations. Archival evidence is a fundamental resource for confronting Holocaust denial and distortion, contemporary antisemitism, racist ideology, as well as for challenging national myths about the Holocaust. We need strong transatlantic alliances to secure the records of the Holocaust and to confront Holocaust distortion at both sides of the ocean, and globally.

Since our opening in April 1993, 43 million visitors (12% of them international) came to the Museum in Washington. Our online visitation has grown exponentially: In 2017, more than 20 million visitors visited the museum’s website. 46% of them were international visitors. Our Holocaust Encyclopedia is available in 16 languages and was used in 2017 by 17 million people worldwide. We deeply appreciate the close working relationships with European government agencies, archives, museums, memorials and researchers.

3. Where are some of the current USHMM projects in Europe?

We cooperate with organizations like KlgA and others who work with new audiences in a migration society. We support the development of a European network against Antisemitism, including a transatlantic exchange. The Museum has observed with growing alarm actions by governments and/or prominent political figures in several countries where the Holocaust took place to distort or misuse that historical record. Holocaust distortions are used as calculated transgressions. Extremist voices and groups nurture an agenda in which the Holocaust is diminished as a warning so that contemporary hate campaigns against minorities – Jews, Muslims, LGBT people, refugees, migrants, or Roma and Sinti - remain unchecked. We will be publishing a comparative study on Holocaust distortion in 2019. We also show travel exhibitions in Europe, as for example ‘Some were neighbors: Collaboration and complicity in the Holocaust’ which opened at the German parliament in January 2019 and will travel throughout Germany for the next years. We hope ‘Some Were Neighbors’ will also be shown in France, Hungary, and Poland.

ushmm.org/confront-genocide/how-to-prevent-genocide

ushmm.org/information/exhibitions/museum-exhibitions/some-were-neighbor
Amina Nolte, Anna-Lilja Edelstein, Helen Müller, Orkide Ezgimen and Johanna Voß presented the work and approaches of the KlgA. Since 2003, the Berlin organization has created pedagogical concepts and working materials for engaging with antisemitism in diverse societies.

The KlgA begins with the understanding that Germany is a society of migration, and gears its activities not explicitly towards migrants, but the entire society. The methods are developed by the employees in conversation with external experts, to incorporate different perspectives in the materials. Tolerance for dissent and a plurality of perspectives are leading principles.

Together the collaborators present their experiences they have had thus far with the “is this allowed?” method. This method, available on the website anders-denken.info, entails presenting controversial statements in school workshops, and then compiling supporting and critical arguments. The method is meant to create a space for open discussion of subjects usually missing from the curriculum, in which students can express their actual opinions and debate as equals. Here it is important that the students construct their own arguments and formulate their own opinions, rather than adopt views passed down to them. This usually works well in the context of the workshop, but continuing it after the workshop in the normal classroom environment becomes problematic. KlgA workshops in schools are mostly initiated by dedicated teachers, but workshops that raise awareness for antisemitism should be mandatory in the curriculum so that all students can benefit from them. It is also problematic that organizations like the KlgA have to make up for the failures of the German educational system. These shortcomings—such as, for instance, the lack of awareness of antisemitism already discussed—are recognized politically, but due the existing offerings of NGOs they are hardly addressed by governmental institutions.

kiga-berlin.org
anders-denken.info
Good Practices II: Competence Center for Prevention and Empowerment and Change of Perspective Plus

Beate Klammt, an employee of Change of Perspective Plus, presented the two projects provided by the Central Welfare Office for Jews in Germany (ZWST).

The Competence Center for Prevention and Empowerment is primarily an offer for the Jewish community and

- Is aimed at specialists and executives of the education, early prevention, youth
- social work, youth welfare, administration, politics, and the media
- Is offering advanced education, professional exchange and organizational consultation
- Develops and implements innovative, pedagogical concepts and methods
- Encourages the Jewish community in the handling of antisemitism with a focus on preventative measures and advisory networks
- Advises individuals and institutions on antisemitic or discriminatory incidents

The Competence Center offers consultation in four languages. Beate Klammt stated her observation that this makes the Competence Centre accessible for people looking for support. If needed the employees also refer to experts providing further psychological and legal support. However, Change of Perspective Plus is aimed at the non-Jewish majority society. Its main goal is raising awareness for antisemitism. The target group consists of the staff of public administration, social workers, teachers and police officers. The staff of Change of Perspective Plus offers workshops, trainings, inputs, training programs and monitoring. Next, Beate Klammt presented two methods she frequently uses herself. The first method is one of positioning, putting emphasis on the “perspective while speaking of antisemitism.” The participants are supposed to position themselves in regard to the following points:

- General interest in the topic
- Personal experiences with antisemitism
- Secondary experiences with antisemitism in one’s immediate surroundings
- Some/all of the above

This method is supposed to show how antisemitism concerns every individual person. This should not be too overwhelming or painful; instead, it should enable every individual personal access to the topic. For the second method short reports of antisemitic attacks written by the Department for Research and Information on antisemitism Berlin (RIAS) were displayed. Then the participants were instructed to assemble into
small groups and find answers to the following questions regarding the short reports:

- What is happening?
- Who is [made] responsible?
- Who is affected?
- Which antisemitic contents do you find?
- What happens next?

The short reports provide a good basis for the engagement with antisemitic incidents because they are based on different personal stories.

zwst-perspektivwechsel.de/
zwst-kompetenzzentrum.de
report-antisemitism.de/#/en/report

December 12, 2018

4 - 6:30 pm

*Introduction to Anne Frank Zentrum*

*Guided Tour through the Exhibition at Anne Frank Zentrum*

– Rinske Reiding (Anne Frank Zentrum)

Visit of the Permanent Exhibition of the Anne Frank Zentrum Berlin

Rinske Reiding, project consultant of “New Ways – Prevention of Antisemitism” presented the work of the Anne Frank Zentrum. Afterwards the participants had the chance to visit the reopened permanent exhibition.

The Anne Frank Zentrum is the German partner organisation of the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. The Centre reminds visitors of Anne Frank and her diary with exhibitions and an array of educational programs. It facilitates learning opportunities in which children and young people can examine history and link it to the world in which they live today. They learn how to take on social responsibility, and how to engage with freedom, equal rights and democracy. This work is based primarily on the peer-to-peer concept. The Anne Frank Zentrum shows a permanent exhibition in Berlin and temporary exhibitions all over Germany. It implements nationwide projects and develops working material for the engagement with the history of Nazism, antisemitism, racism and discrimination today. Diversity receives special emphasis.

**Goals:**

- To commemorate Anne Frank
- To foster youth engagement
- To counter antisemitism

**Methods:**

- To learn from and with biographies. To strengthen identities
- To activate civil society
- Act locally
- To create diversity and remove barriers
- To network
- To take a chance with new partnerships.
The story of Anne Frank is very known and there is always the danger to trivialize it. I think the exhibition is very successful in showing its subject in an interesting way and also in engaging visitors. I really liked the clear explanations, for instance “what does it mean to die of Typhus?” The exhibition is primarily attended by children and youths, some of whom have never heard of typhus. Understanding this well is important to being able to stir up sympathy.

annefrank.de/en/exhibition-in-berlin

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**December 13, 2018**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 – 11.30 am</td>
<td>A Networking Practice: European Network against Racism</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– Juliana Santos Wahlgren (ENAR)</td>
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<td>Discussion Rounds: What to Do Next?</td>
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<td>Evaluation</td>
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**Closing Workshop: Ideas for a European Network**

Juliana Santos Wahlgren, member of the European Network (ENAR), not only presented her experiences working with ENAR but also gave specific advice for further actions.

ENAR takes on an intersectional approach for its work, assuming that discrimination has different effects on specific groups or individuals. While doing so, they always try to point out the positive impact of diversity. A basis of their work is the inclusion of discriminated groups into all discussions and decision-making processes.

Questions that need to be answered before founding a new network:

1. What similar networks and organizations are already in existence? What is their main focus?
2. What exactly is the goal of the network?
3. What should be the organizational structure of the network?
4. Who should be members?
5. Are there already Europe-wide collaborations?
6. What is the target group?

Her advice for the new network:

1. A head office that coordinates and organizes all of the work of the network
2. Dynamic communication where all members are involved
3. Find continual funding to avoid spending too much time on financing strategies
4. If possible, pay for work done on behalf of the network
5. Reflect critically on the working language of the network, because not all people have the privilege to learn English

enar-eu.org
After the ENAR presentation, we carried out a discussion session about the prospective network. The meeting ended with an evaluation session. You can find the results of both in the diagrams below.

**Ideas for Following up**

- Send updates about the work of the individual organizations to all members in the network
- Find new members for the network on other conferences
- Next meeting in another country
- Further training for the employees of the member-organizations
- Develop new projects together
- Make use of the skills and qualifications of the network members
- Exchange of information
- Write a blurb about the network to get invitations to conferences
- Send updates about the work of the individual organizations to all members in the network
- Create a list of all existing organizations in the respective countries (goals, motivations, methods, target group).
- Form small working-subgroups
- Joint application for EU Funding
- Create a collection of examples of “good and bad practices”
- Get to know each other better at the next meeting
- Become more visible as a network, form a joint lobby
- Visit the respective museums and organizations to increase knowledge of each others work
- Create a newsletter with information about further training, financing opportunities, status reports from other countries, etc.
The meeting was useful for my work. I improved my knowledge on the themes of the meeting. I learned useful methods and approaches. I consider my participation satisfactory. Other participants were active and open to learning. Organization team did its work well.

I have new ideas I want to implement. I met new partners with whom I want to work. Many existing problems can be attributed to the respective educational systems, these are out of the sphere of influence of the network.

Pending Issues

What does “network” mean? Who is the target group?

Which expectations are realistic and which ones are unrealistic? What role should the respective members take?

How feasible are the expectations? Maintaining focus on anti-Muslim racism

Maintaining focus on education Rationalizing expectations

Who is the target group? Unterverstüchtigung von Schulen/Lehrkräften von außerhalb – langfristige Zusammenarbeit etablieren, die nicht von Individuen abhängt

Very different countries and situations, e.g. discussion/ situation/ problems in Poland are entirely different than in France

Challenges we face

Maintaining focus on education Rationalizing expectations

Very different countries and situations, e.g. discussion/ situation/ problems in Poland are entirely different than in France

Challenges we face

Unterverstüchtigung von Schulen/Lehrkräften von außerhalb – langfristige Zusammenarbeit etablieren, die nicht von Individuen abhängt

Many existing problems can be attributed to the respective educational systems, these are out of the sphere of influence of the network

Meeting Report

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APPENDIX
Biographies of the Participants

Félix, Anikó – Tom Lantos Institute, Budapest, Hungary

Anikó started working at the Tom Lantos Institute in September 2016 as the Program Manager for Jewish Life and Antisemitism. Anikó holds an MA in Minority Politics from the Eötvös Loránd University (Budapest), where she is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in the Sociology Department. Her research focused on far-right extremism from a gender perspective. Anikó has worked at Maven Seven Network Research Company and also at the political research institute Policy Solutions. She has been involved in several education programs and has developed a digital education curriculum based on testimonies of Holocaust survivors for the Zachor Foundation. Currently, she is a member of the alternative education program called ‘Living Library’ which aims to combat stereotyping and the discrimination of different social groups among school children. She participates in programs related to the Jewish community, currently via Minyanim: an international leadership and community-building program for young Jewish people.

Galert, Désirée Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism e.V. (KlgA), Berlin, Germany

Désirée is responsible for the coordination of consulting and education service Antisemitism at KlgA. She develops, implements and evaluates workshops and methods in schools for pupils and teachers. In the case of antisemitic attacks, she offers a consulting service for schools and prepares civic educators to work in schools with the KlgA methods. Désirée holds a Master in Islamic Studies, Politics and Anthropology from Freie Universität Berlin. In her studies, she focused on culture and religion in a secular and liberal society, intercultural dialogue, concepts of multiculturalism, recognition politics of religious minorities in secular Europe and Germany. Before starting at KlgA in 2018 she was working as a guide in Museums, in Registerstelle Berlin-Mitte, a registration and documentation office for verbal and physical attacks by reason of antisemitism, racism, homophobia, anti-Muslim racism and others, she gave workshops in the field of critical whiteness, colonialism, anti-Muslim racism, conflict solution strategies.

Gürsel, Emrah – Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism e.V. (KlgA), Berlin, Germany

Emrah works as the International Exchange Coordinator at KlgA. Since 2005, he has worked in several non-profit organizations in Turkey, such as Community Volunteers Foundation (TOG), the Truth Justice Memory Center,
AFS International, German-Turkish Youth Bridge, and Istanbul Bilgi University. Also, He worked as a facilitator for international organizations. He edited five books on such themes: youth centers, civil society history, and antisemitism. Emrah graduated from Istanbul Technical University and received his master’s degree at Marmara University. Apart from his formal educations, he completed the Bilgi University NGO Management Program and the Council of Europe’s Training of Trainers for Human Rights. He is the initiator and founder of a historical memory organization in Turkey, Karakutu, and was a board member of Ali Ismail Korkmaz Foundation.

Heijhuurs, Jos – Diversion, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Jos is a historian with a keen interest for (international) political affairs. After working for the Dutch embassy in New Zealand, and as a junior researcher at the Centre for Geopolitics & Security in Realism Studies, he started working for Diversion in 2015. Diversion is a social enterprise focusing on societal innovation, based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Diversion tackles societies’ challenges through the development of creative concepts, in the fields of education, youth literacy, youth participation, and emancipation. Throughout several projects in education, they deploy young role models (aged 18-26) to bring subjects into discussion that many youths may find dull, that are associated with cultural or religious taboos or are politically sensitive (e.g. antisemitism & anti-Islamism, polarization and radicalization, LGBT+, but also debt and poverty prevention, mental health issues and democratic values). Over the past 15 years, they have successfully trained and deployed over 1200 young role models in projects addressing controversial societal topics.

Klammt, Beate – Perspektivwechsel Plus (ZWST), Berlin, Germany

Beate holds a diploma in social sciences and completed the Turcicum. Since then she worked in the field of non-formal education across the country as well as internationally on the topics of diversity, identities, and migration. Since 2017 she is a part of “Perspektivwechsel Plus” (ZWST). Her focus of work is Antisemitism and racism, power-critical and diversity-conscious educational work.

Makówka-Kwapisiewicz, Anna – Jewish Association Czulent, Kraków, Poland

Anna is a historian, journalist, social activist, anti-discrimination trainer, and educator. She worked with the Austeria Publishing House and Midrasz, Polish-German Center Association, Foundation for the Preservation of the Jewish Heritage in Poland, KARTA Institute, Anne Frank House, OSCE, Internationaler Bund Foundation Poland, and Radio Kraków Małopolska. She is an author of new educational tools for combating antisemitism. Anna is a member of the Crisis Intervention Society. Since 2010 she is the President of Czulent Jewish Association. Besides she is a Ph.D. student at the the Pedagogical University of
Krakow with a particular focus on antisemitism, memory, and the Holocaust. Anna is currently working as a Project coordinator at the National Democratic Institute.

Mańka-Wizor, Dagmara – POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Warsaw, Poland

Dagmara has been engaged in and around Jewish topics for years, in the Jewish Community of Warsaw and various NGOs. She is a 2014 alumnus of Paideia: The European Institute for Jewish studies in Sweden (One Year Program and Educational Track) and a member of Paideia Connect (Alumni Association) board. She has been working at the POLIN Museum for more than seven years. She combines two roles: project coordinator (including leadership of international anti-discrimination programs, focused on teachers and law enforcement, cooperation with International March of the Living, international exchange programs and seminars) and trainer/educator. She is teaching Jewish tradition, history, Polish-Jewish heritage, and intercultural issues. She also takes part in recruiting and training guides for the core exhibition. Dagmara has been involved in the anti-discrimination program at the POLIN Museum since 2015 – as a scenario designer, trainer, and – since 2016 – as a coordinator of various projects, implemented with the financial support from the EVZ Foundation, European Commission, et al.

Melka, Christian – Memorial Site of Les Milles Camp, Aix-en-Provence, France

Since 2014 Christian works as a counselor in the field of Remembrance, Memory, and Education and as a special counselor for the president of the Memorial Foundation of the Camp des Milles – Aix en Provence. Before that, he worked in the field of international relations, as a director of the Language Center of the Alliance Francaise in Chicago, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Lusaka.

Mueller, Klaus – United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), Berlin, Germany

Klaus serves as the USHMM’s Representative for Europe on the Museum’s core themes of Holocaust documentation and education, antisemitism today, and genocide prevention. Based in Berlin, he develops in this role new partnerships strengthens the museum’s international networks confronting antisemitism and collects Holocaust-related materials. Since 1992, Klaus has worked for the Museum in different capacities. During the conception of the Museum’s permanent exhibition, he served as a consultant on the Nazi persecution of homosexuals. Since 2009, he has been part of the State Department’s delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), in 2018 he became Chair of IHRA’s Committee on Holocaust, Genocide, and Crimes against Humanity. Since 2010, Klaus has served as Chair
of the USHMM/Salzburg Global Holocaust and Genocide Education Initiative that brings together Holocaust educators from the Global South.

Nolte, Amina – Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism e.V. (KIgA), Berlin, Germany

Amina is a researcher and educational trainer based in Berlin. She graduated with a master’s in political science, Middle Eastern Studies and Gender Studies from the University of Marburg and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 2015. She has been involved with several educational projects around antisemitism, anti-Muslim racism and Islamophobia through the platform "Alsharq" where she is an active member for almost ten years. Since 2015, she works on a Ph.D. in the field of Sociology with a focus on urban developments in Jerusalem. In addition to pursuing her Ph.D. at the Justus-Liebig-University Gießen, she started working with KIgA in July 2017 and works in the field of education on antisemitism, antisemitism and the Middle East conflict and anti-Muslim racism.

Reiding, Rinske – Anne Frank Center, Berlin, Germany

Rinske was born in the Netherlands where she also finalized her education with an MA in Philosophy of Education. She worked in several nonformal educational projects and institutions as an Educator, researcher, and coordinator. For four years she lived in Jerusalem and coordinated educational cooperation between Israeli and Palestinian youth movements. Rinske Reiding currently works as an educational officer and project manager in the Anne Frank Center in Berlin. In the department of traveling exhibitions, she is responsible for the educational team. Moreover, she runs a project on antisemitism in cooperation with the Turkish Community in Hamburg.

Saltiel, Leon – Central Board of Jewish Communities of Greece, Athens, Greece

Leon is a Post-doctoral researcher at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, researching the fate of the Jewish assets during the Second World War, with a scholarship of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation. Before that, he was a Visiting Fellow at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland and holds a Ph.D. in Contemporary Greek History from the University of Macedonia, in Thessaloniki, Greece, with a focus on the Holocaust in Thessaloniki. He is a member of the Central Board of Jewish Communities of Greece and the Greek delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). Leon was part of a team of Greek academics who published the first-ever study of Greek public opinion attitudes towards antisemitism (Antisemitism in Greece today: Aspects, causes and tackling the phenomenon, Heinrich-Böll Foundation Greece 2017). Leon has more than 15 years of experience working
on human rights issues around the world, the majority of which were made while working with the United Nations in Geneva.

Santos Wahlgren, Juliana – European Network against Racism ENAR, Brussels, Belgium

Juliana works as a senior Advocacy and Network Development Officer at ENAR.

She joined ENAR in July 2006. She previously worked as a legal counselor for ASTI (Association de soutien aux travailleurs immigres), one of ENAR’s members in Luxembourg, for three years, and before that as a lawyer in a multinational oil and gas company in Brazil. She holds a Bachelor of Law from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and was an International Fellow at the Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg (Germany). Her areas of work are migration, community mobilization, and network development.

Schönfeld, Heino – Holocaust Education Trust Ireland (HETI), Dublin, Ireland

Heino is HETI’s Director since November 2018. He practiced as a front-line worker, manager, and policymaker in Germany, the USA and, since 1987, in Ireland. Heino was the founding Director of the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education and a member of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment for over ten years. He was the Deputy Director of the Centre for Effective Services and before joining HETI. He was Early Years Development Manager in Barnardos, Ireland’s largest child welfare organization. Heino is a very experienced practitioner, manager, writer and policymaker across the NGO and statutory sectors.

Şensever, Fikret Levent – Civil and Ecological Rights Association (SEHAK), Istanbul, Turkey

Fikret Levent is a founding member of the Board of SEHAK, based in Istanbul. SEHAK aims to contribute to a civil society that is democratic, respectful of human rights, mindful of cultural and intellectual diversity of the society, and to this end, carries out advocacy activities, launches campaigns, and conducts research, training, lobbying and similar activities. He is currently coordinating a three-year Project, ‘Teaching about fundamental rights and democratic values through the life and story of Anne Frank’, carried out by SEHAK and financially supported by the EU. The Anne Frank House, Amsterdam, is the principal Project partner. At the core of the action is the SEHAK’s focus on creating long-lasting, high quality, interactive educational materials that draw on proven-successful pedagogical methods and that engage and inspire generations of both teachers and students. As part of this endeavor, original teaching materials on Holocaust and antisemitism have been produced in cooperation with the Center for Sociology and Education Studies (SEÇBIR) and Anne Frank House, and are being introduced to teachers and young people through teaching seminars in all over Turkey.
Sineava-Pankowska, Natalia – Never Again, Warsaw, Poland

Natalia works for the antiracist and antifascist foundation “Never again”. She studies in Warsaw in cooperation with Lancaster University in Great Britain and holds an MA in Society and Politics. Before that, she studied Media Studies and Journalism at Moldovan State University in Moldova. 2006-2009 she was a Ph.D. candidate at a doctorate program in Sociology at the Graduate School for Social Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. Natalia took part in the Polin Academy, the post-graduate course for museum educators in Jewish history, culture, museology, and creative education at POLIN Museum. After that, she graduated from Postgraduate Museum and Curatorial Studies at the History Department at Jagiellonian University in Kraków. From October 2017 until September 2018 Natalia took part in the Postgraduate Certificate Program of Exhibiting Contemporary History at Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, Germany.

Voss, Johanna – Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism e.V. (KlgA), Berlin, Germany

Johanna started working for the Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism in 2017 - leading workshops on antisemitism for teachers. Since June 2018 she additionally coordinates international exchanges for KlgA e.V. Before this, she studied European Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies and Public History in Bremen, Haifa, and Berlin. During her studies, she focused on the following topics: remembrance, collective memory, antisemitism, Mideast conflict, and history didactics. Before Johanna Voss joined KlgA, she gained experiences in related institutions such as Friedrich Ebert Foundation Israel, djo-German Youth in Europe or Kurdistan Culture and Welfare Society.