

9. European Workshop

On dealing with the past of Auschwitz burdened by violence

Invitation to broaden perspectives

*2018 August 11 – 16,
Centre for Dialogue and Prayer
Oswiecim, Poland*



Within the framework of the workshop 30 representatives of different European societies are invited to enter a joint process of learning on dealing with the experience of violence and its consequences in the exemplary analysis of the present significance of Auschwitz.

Analyzing Auschwitz and its consequences – beyond the concrete case – gets an exemplary meaning for dealing with violence experience and its after-effects in general. Auschwitz stands for experiences having a lasting effect on the identity of our civilization. Europe has been marked and hurt by the experience of violence in the 20th century. Auschwitz and the connected experiences symbolized by Auschwitz are playing an important role in this context. This is also shown in the different forms, contents, functions and ways Auschwitz is remembered by different European societies. These differences which are based on varying historical experience and contexts have great impact on the relationships within societies as well as between nations.

The workshop wants to invite the participants to jointly visualize the experiences made in connection with Auschwitz and to reflect on the different perspectives and contexts of experience and interpretation contributed by the participants. It is essential to make these differences visible and to make them comprehensible to one another and to oneself so that the negative impact of the history of violence might be overcome.

In addition to the joint learning efforts of the participants, the project aims at giving a concrete testimony of the Church's efforts to achieve a treatment of the history of violence aiming at reconciliation, at solidarity with the survivors, at respect for the sufferings of the victims which is marked by an understanding and the responsibility for the tense after-effects of this history.

Finally, the workshop is meant to give an impulse for the work of the participants in their individual contexts. The joint reflection on the role of the Church when dealing with a past burdened by violence is an indispensable component of our path.

Program

Saturday, 11 August THE GROUP

- Arrival until 03:00 p.m.
- 03:30 p.m. Introduction into the aims and the programme of the Workshop
- **Dr Jörg Lüer**
Vice-President Maximilian-Kolbe-Foundation, Germany
- **Georg Hörnschemeyer**
Member of board Maximilian-Kolbe-Foundation, Germany
- **Marta Titaniec**
Polish Council for Jewish-Christian-Relations, Poland
- Detailed introduction of the participants
- 06:00 p.m. Dinner
- 07:00 p.m. “Dealing with violent burdened past as a challenge”
- **Andrzej Kacorzyc** (*Vice - director Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial*)

Sunday, 12 August THE CAMP

- 07:30 a.m. Eucharistic Mass
- 08:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 08:45 a.m. Guided tour through the basic camp Auschwitz
- 12:45 p.m. Lunch
- 01:45 p.m. Guided tour through Auschwitz – Birkenau
- 06:00 p.m. Supper
- 07:00 p.m. Exchange in small groups and plenary session

Monday, 13 August THE SURVIVORS

- 07:30 a.m. Eucharistic Mass
- 08:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 09:30 a.m. Encounter with Survivors
Meeting in the Plenary

- *Prof Dr Hanna Ulantowska*
 - *Walentyna Ignaszewska Nikodem*
 - *Zdzislawa Wlodarczyk*
- 11:45 a.m. Coffee break
- 12:00 p.m. Plenary session
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch
- 03:00 p.m. Visit of Kolodziej exhibition
- *Rev Dr Manfred Deselaers*
Centre for Dialogue and Prayer, Poland
- 06:00 p.m. Supper
- 07:00 p.m. **“Remembrance, truth and temptation”**
“Theories on the role of the Church in dealing with the past
burdened by violence”,
- *Prof Dr Grzegorz Chojnacki,*
University Szczecin
Discussion with
Archbishop Prof Dr Ludwig Schick, Bamberg and the plenary

Tuesday, 14 August

DEALING WITH HISTORY AS A CHALLENGE

- 08:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 10:30 a.m. Celebration of Eucharistic Mass
on the occasion of the 77th Anniversary of P. Kolbe’s death
- 01:00 p.m. Lunch
- 02:30 p.m. Visit of the archives of the Museum and tour through the Polish
and Russian exhibitions in the Basic camp of Auschwitz
- 04:00 p.m. Guided tour to Oswiecim (Old Marketplace and Jewish
Centre)
- 06:00 p.m. Supper
- 07:00 p.m. **Lectures by participants on World War II and Auschwitz as
it is remembered in their countries (I)**
- *Marta Titaniec, Poland*
- *Dr Emanuel John, Germany*
- *Prof Dr Elena Rozhdestvenskaya, Russia*
- Discussion

Wednesday, 15 August

07:30 a.m.	Eucharistic Mass
08:00 a.m.	Breakfast
09:00 a.m.	Lectures by participants on World War II and Auschwitz as it is remembered in their countries (II) <i>- Victor Scheffers, The Netherlands</i> <i>- Kseniia Tsvikilevych, Ukraine</i> <i>- Tomasz Erzar, Slovenia</i>
	Discussion
10:30 a.m.	Coffee break
11:00 a.m.	OPEN SPACE 1
01:00 p.m.	Lunch
03:00 p.m.	OPEN SPACE 2
04:30 p.m.	Coffee break
05:00 p.m.	Plenary session Report from the OPEN SPACE , discussion
07:00 p.m.	Dinner – Celebration - Music

Thursday, 16 August

07:30 a.m.	Eucharistic Mass
08:00 a.m.	Breakfast
08:45 a.m.	Spiritual reflection - Way of the Cross <i>Rev Dr Manfred Deselaers,</i> <i>Centre for Dialogue and Prayer, Poland</i>
11:30 p.m.	Feedback and reflection on the workshop
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
	End and departures of the participants