



How to Deal with a Difficult Past? – Educational Perspectives on National Socialism, Shoah and the Second World War – **two-part seminar for German and Polish teachers**

July 14-19th, 2023 Buchenwald and Sachsenhausen Memorials and Museums

September 28th-October 2nd, 2023 Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum

International Centre for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum together with the Buchenwald and Sachsenhausen Memorials and Museums introduces a pilot seminar for German and Polish teachers entitled *How to Deal with a Difficult Past? – Educational Perspectives on National Socialism, Shoah and the Second World War*.

During the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz Marian Turski – the former Auschwitz prisoner and Holocaust survivor said that “Auschwitz did not fall from the sky. Auschwitz tiptoed along, treading in small steps, approaching until what happened here did happen”.

It is not possible to understand the crimes committed in Auschwitz without going back to the pre-war time, putting Auschwitz into a broader context as well as confronting different points of view and ways of remembrance about them. That is why the aim of the project is to follow and analyze the history of the Nazi crimes from its origin to the way how it is remembered in contemporary world. The seminar consists of two parts – one in Germany and one in Poland and addresses teachers from these two countries who are on different levels of their professional life – from students completing their studies up to educators experienced in introducing this topic into the school lessons. During two-part programme participants will have an opportunity to visit authentic memorial sites, find out more about their educational activities, get to know the history from different perspectives and exchange experience with co-participants as well as with the staff of the memorial sites.

The language of both parts of the seminar is English. Organizers will cover the costs of accommodation, meals, local transfer and programme. Participants will pay for the travel to and from the places of the seminar as well as for the health insurance.

PROGRAMME – PART 1

Buchenwald and Sachsenhausen Memorials and Museums

FRIDAY, July 14th, 2023

- until 16.00** *Arrival at the hotel and check-in*
- 16.00-17.30** **Getting to know each other:** “Why do we do this project?” – experiences, personal backgrounds & expectations of the participants and organizers
- 17.30-19.00** **Walk into the city of Weimar** with focus on the history of the city and the pedagogical intensions and methods
- 19.00** *Dinner in the city of Weimar*

SATURDAY, July 15th, 2023

- 8.50** *Transfer to Buchenwald Memorial*
- 9.15-9.30** **Official welcoming**
- 9.30-10.30** **Views on the history of National Socialism and Second World War in Poland and Germany and their role in and for school and out-of-school education –** lecture and discussion
- 10.30-11.00** *Break*
- 11.00-12.30** **Buchenwald and its diverse layers of history –** introduction & guided tour through the former concentration camp with focus on the pedagogical aims, *part 1*
- 12.30-13.30** *Lunch*
- 13.30-14.45** **Buchenwald and its diverse layers of history –** introduction & guided tour through the former concentration camp with focus on the pedagogical aims, *part 2*
- 14.45-16.15** **Buchenwald. Ostracism and Violence 1937 to 1945 –** visit of the main exhibition with a focus on the museological concept & didactic aims
- 16.15-16.45** *Break*

16.45-17.15 **Reflection** of the visit of the exhibition and **summary** of the day

17.20 *Transfer to the hotel*

18.45 *Dinner in the city of Weimar*

SUNDAY, July 16th, 2023

8.50 **Transfer to Buchenwald Memorial**

9.15-12.30 **Learning by doing** – Workshops and reflection formats for a deeper understanding within international (& German-Polish) programmes

- ***And from the loudspeakers of the camp soft music played*** – Music and its functions in the concentration camp Buchenwald
- ***Close to humans*** – Daily life in a concentration camp – The box of historical objects
- ***Buchenwald – An Audio Walk***
- ***Women of Penig*** – A photo box about the liberation of a sub-camp for women

12.30-13.30 *Lunch*

13.30-14.00 **Reflection** of the first part of the programme at the Buchenwald Memorial

14.00-14.30 Walk over former SS grounds

14.30-16.00 **Prescribed history? Buchenwald narratives in times of Communism** – guided tour over and reflections about the National Memorial of 1958

16.30 *Transfer to Berlin*

Arrival, check-in in the hotel and dinner

MONDAY, July 17th, 2023

9.25 *Transfer to Sachsenhausen Memorial*

9.35-9.45 **Official welcoming**

9.45-10.45 **With good Intention:** my own motivation – reflection and talk

10.45-11.45 **My own view on National Socialism** – reflection and talk

11.45-12.00 **Introduction** in the afternoon programme of the day

12.00-12.45 *Lunch*

12.45-14.00 **Visit of the Memorial** – self-exploration with tablets

14.00-14.45 **Talk** about experience-observations-questions

Free time

TUESDAY, July 18th, 2023

9.25 *Transfer to Sachsenhausen Memorial*

9.35-10.35 **Introduction in the History of the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp 1936-1945** – lecture

10.35-10.45 *Break*

10.45-13.15 **Meta level guided tour** at the Memorial
Learning by doing – working with educational material

13.15-14.15 *Lunch*

14.15-17.45 **Speaking about Perpetrators** – workshop including visit of the perpetrator's exhibitions

18.00 *Farewell dinner in the city*

WEDNESDAY, July 19th, 2023

9.25 *Transfer to Sachsenhausen Memorial*

9.45-12.45 **Additional historical layers – The Soviet Special Camp 1945-1950** – Workshop

12.45-13.45 *Lunch*

13.45-15.00 **Exercise Expectations regarding a Memorial visit**

15.00-15.15 *Break*

15.15-16.00 **Reflection** of the second part at the Sachsenhausen Memorial

after 16.00 *Departure of participants*

PROGRAMME – PART 2

Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum

THURSDAY, September 28th, 2023

- until 17.00** *Arrival, check-in in the hotel*
- 17.00-18.30** **Introduction to the seminar and presentation about the ICEAH**
- 19.00** *Dinner*

FRIDAY, September 29th, 2023

- 8.30** *Departure for Będzin*
- 9.30-11.00** **Jewish community in the city of Będzin** – visit to the House of Prayer at the Cukerman’s Gate
- 11.00-11.30** *Break and departure for Gliwice*
- 12.15-13.45** **Jewish community in the city of Gleiwitz (until 1945) and in the city of Gliwice (after 1945)** – visit to the House of Remembrance about Upper Silesian Jews
- 14.00-15.00** *Lunch*
- 15.00** *Return to Oświęcim*
- 16.30-17.00** **Reflection about the visit to Będzin and Gliwice**
- 17.00-17.15** *Break*
- 17.15-18.45** **Auschwitz in the system of concentration camps** – lecture (introduction to the study visit of the former Auschwitz camp)
- 19:30** *Dinner*

SATURDAY, September 30th, 2023

- 9.00-13.00** **Study guided tour of the former Auschwitz I camp**
- 13.00-14.30** *Lunch*

- 14.30-15.30** **Function and meaning of art in KL Auschwitz** – visit to the Collections
- 15.30-16.00** *Break*
- 16.00-17.30** **They survived in order to live!** – workshop
- 17.30-18.00** *Break*
- 18.00-19.00** **How do we teach about Auschwitz and the Holocaust in Poland and in Germany?** – discussion, part 1
- 19.30** *Dinner*

SUNDAY, October 1st, 2023

- 9.00-13.00** **Study guided tour of the former Auschwitz II-Birkenau camp**
- 13.00-14.30** *Lunch*
- 14.30-16.00** **11th commandment: Thou shalt not be indifferent** – workshop
- 16.00-16.30** *Break*
- 16.30-17.30** **Preserve for the future** – visit to the Conservatory Labs
- 17.30-18.00** *Break*
- 18.00-19.00** **How do we teach about Auschwitz and the Holocaust in Poland and in Germany?** – discussion, part 2
- 19.30** *Farewell dinner*

MONDAY, October 2nd, 2023

- 9.00-11.00** Free time on national exhibitions
- 11.00-12.00** Evaluation of the seminar
- after 12.00** Departure of participants

Educational activities are realized in the building which adaptation has been financed within the project “The Adaptation of the “Old Theatre” Premises for the Functioning of the International Center for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust” – Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment 2014-2020



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

