



Working group – reporting back

WG number and topic: II - Reflecting remembrance in human rights education and training

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What suggestions for concrete action were made?

- ➔ EU institutions should support Member States in their efforts to preserve the memory of the crimes of authoritarian and totalitarian regimes. Without relativising existing remembrance, it should be discussed how to broaden the historical basis of remembrance, with consideration to how recent history can be integrated and how remembrance can be linked to today's diverse societies, also in view of combating hate crime today.
- ➔ EU institutions and Member States should provide funding and resources for commemorating events, maintaining memorial sites and museums, making use of the testimonies of survivors, and establishing programmes of human rights education and training, for networking as well as exchanging knowledge and ideas at the European level.
- Politicians and public figures should speak out against hate crime as well as trivialisation.
- Media literacy.
- Add to remembrance also good history education.
- Keep authentic sites alive and preserved / financed.
- There is a need to broaden the historical basis of remembrance to what is “foundational” to human dignity (apartheid, colonialism), however not put all in one “pot” and without relativizing.
- Ministries of education should provide teachers with tools, time, and knowledge (resources).
- Professional manuals / guidelines for teachers.
- Include adult education and professional development.
- Funding!
- Work on a local level (district, municipality).
- Use “living” evidence; invite survivors.
- Use testimonies of people who have suffered to bring the impact of hate crime (ie poster project in schools, exchange exhibitions between countries) closer to the target audience.
- Involve target groups – empowering activities.
- Relate to local history.
- NGOs should be encouraged to have their own programmes of remembrance.
- Interdisciplinary work needed.
- Cooperation between groups / communities supporting each other (incl. joint statements).
- Increase diversity in public service and schools.
- Use new media/social media as a cost effective way of reaching out, incl. to marginalised groups
- Maintain enough funding to keep memorial sites open and “alive”.

- Minorities have to be “heard” and “recognised” in remembrance.
- Think global (European), but act local: work on the local level (district, municipality).

Existing practices (non-exhaustive list of examples as brought by working group participants)

Memorials and authentic sites

- List of Holocaust memorials and museums:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Holocaust_memorials_and_museums
- Auschwitz memorial, <http://en.auschwitz.org.pl/>
- Wannsee Memorial, <http://www.ghwk.de/>
- Anne Frank Haus, www.annefrank.org
- “Stolpersteine” (Stumbling stones), <http://www.stolpersteine.com/>
- Bewusstseinsregion Mauthausen - Gusen - St. Georgen
<http://www.bewusstseinsregion.at/>
- Concentration camps
- Memorial to the victims of communism, Prague
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memorial_to_the_Victims_of_Communism
- Liverpool museum on history of slavery, <http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/ism/about/>

Remembrance Days

- International Holocaust Remembrance Day (27 January) and Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Day, 27-28 April), http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holocaust_Memorial_Days
- European Day of Remembrance for Victims of Stalinism and Nazism – “Black ribbon Day” (23 August)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Day_of_Remembrance_for_Victims_of_Stalinism_and_Nazism
- International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia – IDAHO (17 May),
<http://dayagainsthomophobia.org/>
- Transgender Day of Remembrance (20 November),
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transgender_Day_of_Remembrance
- Plus many different remembrance days at national level

Other

- www.erinnern.at (Austrian teachers’ network on national socialism and holocaust remembrance)
- Polish network of teachers teaching about Holocaust
- Workshops for pupils: “To save from oblivion”, <http://stowarzyszenie.romowie.net/>
- Seminars for law enforcement: “Understanding evil”. www.ajcf.org
- Exhibitions, teacher trainings, teaching tools, youth meetings, peer education, police training, youth workers
- Memory walks, such as March of the Living, a two week trip for Jewish teenagers to Poland and Israel in memory of the Holocaust. <http://motl.org/>
- Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative, <http://2august.eu/>
- Tours guided by immigrants
- Public discussions

- Localised history workshops by citizens
- Online archives with interviews of witnesses
- Alternative forms of remembrance from affected communities
- Social media (apps on forced labour under Nazi times, etc.)
- Phone app to historical sites, providing additional footage and text
- Germany: training for young lawyers (Wannsee memorial and Central Court of Berlin)

Other key messages

- Holocaust and totalitarianism are not deviations of “normal history” but an integral part of it.
- Memory is dynamic, it is not static. It is a process and a project that develops. It is culturally relative.
- What do we want our European *culture* of memory to be (rather than “European memory”)?
- If we want to combat racism and hate crime today, learning from the Holocaust is crucial, and so is integrating experiences of all other groups into human rights education – concept of multidirectional memories (Michael Rothberg).
- After whom we name streets or schools, for whom we erect monuments, has a great influence on our societies today.
- How to integrate recent history and memory and how to link it to today’s diverse and more fluid society? How to make minority groups part of mainstream history?