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Ministry of Science and Education

# Seminar for Educators from the Republic of Croatia

20 – 27 June 2023

The International School for Holocaust Studies  
Yad Vashem

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The shuttle-bus will pick you up from the hotel **30 minutes** before the program starts, and will take you back to the hotel at the end of the day. The seminar will be held in **Classroom Number 303** unless otherwise indicated

Please make sure you have a hat, water and sunscreen when we are outdoors. On **Friday 23 June** you will be visiting holy sites, therefore please dress accordingly (both men and women) - shoulders covered and the legs covered from below the knees and up.

## Tuesday, June 20

### Arrival in Israel

- 16:05      **Scheduled arrival** at Ben Gurion airport on LH680 (via Munich)  
**Transfer to Prima Park Hotel**, 2 Vilnai str., Jerusalem  
Tel. 972-2-6582203
- 17:30      Check-in at the Hotel
- 19:00      Dinner at Hotel

## Wednesday, June 21

### Orientation – Jewish Life before the Holocaust

- 08:30-09:00      Shuttle-bus to Yad Vashem
- 09:00-10:30      **Welcome and Introduction**  
*Lea Micha, Head, Educational Programs, Balkan Countries, Greece and Cyprus, The International School for Holocaust Education, Yad Vashem*  
*Ida Gamulin, First Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Croatia to the State of Israel*
- 10:30-11:00      Coffee Break & Group Photo
- 11:00-12:30      **Lecture: The Educational Concept of Yad Vashem, Part I: Remembrance and Education in Yad Vashem and in Israel**  
How can a vast subject like the Holocaust be taught effectively? How can we approach this often daunting, difficult subject? How do we avoid deterring our students, or even traumatizing them?  
*Esther Rachow, Yad Vashem*
- 12:30-13:30      Lunch break
- 13:30-15:00      **Lecture: The Holocaust and other Genocides**  
*Dr. Robert Rozett, Yad Vashem*

14:30-15:00	Coffee Break
15:00-16:30	<p><b>Guided tour: The Valley of the Communities: Learning about Jewish life and Communities in Europe before the Holocaust</b></p> <p>This memorial commemorates the Jewish communities destroyed by Nazi Germany and its collaborators, and the few which suffered but survived in the shadow of the Holocaust. For more than one thousand years, Jews lived in Europe, organizing communities to preserve their distinct identity. In periods of relative tranquility, Jewish culture flourished, but in periods of unrest, Jews were forced to flee.</p> <p><b><i>Shlomo Balsam, Yad Vashem</i></b></p>
16:45	Departure from Yad Vashem
18:30	Dinner at hotel
19:30	Shuttle-bus to Jerusalem Western Walls (Old City, Jaffa gate)
20:20-21:20	<b>Visit to the Jerusalem Western Walls [Guided Tour]</b>
22:00	Shuttle-bus to hotel

## Thursday, June 22

### Holocaust as a Result of Human Decisions: Stages, Text and Context

08:30-09:00	Shuttle-bus to Yad Vashem
09:00-12:00	<p><b>Guided Tour: The Holocaust History Museum of Yad Vashem</b></p> <p>What are the educational concepts and objectives that are embedded in the historical museum? How does the architectural design of the museum influence the way that the story is told? The personalization of the story of the Holocaust is reflected in the chronological and thematic</p> <p><b><i>Liz Elsby, Yad Vashem</i></b></p>
12:00-13:00	Lunch Break
13:00-14:30	<p><b>Lecture: From Antisemitism to Nazi Ideology</b></p> <p><b><i>Dr. Raphael Vago, Tel Aviv University</i></b></p>
14:30-15:00	Coffee Break
15:00-16:30	<p><b>Workshop: Teaching about Perpetrators</b></p> <p>The Case Study of a Deportation of German Jews to Riga. A Yad Vashem Teaching Unit for Students aged 15 and higher</p> <p><b><i>Daniel Rozenga, Yad Vashem</i></b></p>
16:40	Shuttle-bus to Hotel

19:30 Dinner at hotel

## Friday, June 23

### Excursion I & Shabbat Service

09:00-09:30 Shuttle-bus to the Old City

09:30-16:30 **Guided Tour: Old City of Jerusalem & Lunch in the Old City**  
*Noam Yatsiv, Tour Guide*

16:40 Departure from the Old City to hotel

19:00 Departure from Hotel to Shabbat Service (5 min. walking distance from hotel)

19:05 **Shabbat Service at Machon Meir Synagogue**  
*Orit Margaliot, Historian and Tour Guide*

20:15 Return to hotel

20:30-21:30 Dinner at hotel

**Saturday  
, June 24**

**Excursion II**

08:00  
Departure from hotel

16:00 **Guided Tour: Trip to Caesarea and Haifa**  
*Noam Yatsiv, Tour guide*

08:00-

19:30 Dinner at hotel

## Sunday, June 25

### Teaching History through Personal Stories as basic Methodological Approach

08:30-09:00 Shuttle-bus to Yad Vashem

9:00-10:30 **Lecture and Workshop: Young age Pedagogical Approach and Materials**  
*Lori Gerson, Yad Vashem*

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12:30 **Workshop: A Street in Poland (Room 208, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the same building)**

- Yiftach Meiri, Yad Vashem*
- 12:30-13:30 Lunch break
- 13:30–15:00 **Workshop: Besa. A Code of Honor. Teaching material for teaching about the Righteous Among the Nations [Workshop]**  
*Lea Micha, Yad Vashem*
- 15:00-15:30 Coffee break
- 15:30-17:00 **Lecture: Persecution of the Undesirables or from History of the Roma Genocide in Croatia, 1941 – 1945**  
*Dr.sc. Danijel Vojak, Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar, Zagreb*
- 17:10-17:30 Shuttle-bus to hotel
- 19:00 Dinner at hotel

## Monday, June 26

### Implications after the Holocaust / Aspects of Commemoration

- 08:30-09:00 Shuttle-bus to Yad Vashem
- 9:00-10:30 **Lecture: Efforts to bring Nazi War Criminals to Justice**  
*Dr. Ephraim Zuroff, Director, Simon Wiesenthal Center*
- 10:30-11:00 Break
- 11:00-12:00 **Meeting with Holocaust Survivor Miriam Steiner Aviezer**
- 12:00-12:30 **Reflection: Our Interpretation of Holocaust Survivors Testimonies Expectations and Questions**
- 12:30-13:30 Lunch break
- 13:30–15:00 **Guided Tour: The Holocaust Art Museum of Yad Vashem**  
*Liz Elsby, Yad Vashem*
- 15:00-15:30 Coffee Break
- 15:00-16:30 **Guided tour: Yad Vashem Campus and Holocaust Remembrance in Israel**  
*Sarah Levy, Yad Vashem*
- 16:40 **Departure from Yad Vashem**
- 19:40 Shuttle-bus to dinner

20:00-21:30 Farewell Dinner at Luciana Restaurant, Mamilla

21:40 Shuttle-bus to hotel

## Tuesday, June 27

### Seminar Evaluation, Check-out and Departure

09:00-10:30 **Seminar Evaluation and Handing out of Seminar Certificates at Hotel**

11:00 Check-out from Hotel

12:30 Departure to Ben Gurion Airport

16:40 Flight **No LY5183** to Zagreb

### Biographies

**Shlomo Balsam** was born in Paris. After immigrating to Israel in 1968, he returned to France in 1972 to earn his Master's degree in business studies at the Sorbonne. He taught at the Yavneh Jewish High School in Paris and worked for the "Bnei Akiva" youth movement. In the 1970s and 1980s he traveled to the Soviet Union to meet with Jewish dissidents who were not allowed to travel to Israel. Most recently, he was employed in the Department of Jewish Zionist Education at the Jewish Agency. Today, Schlomo Balsam works as a freelancer at the ISHS in Yad Vashem.

**Liz Elsby** was born in New York in 1963, studied in the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Houston, and was awarded the honor of Presidential Scholar in the Arts in 1982. She made aliyah in 1984, served 2 years in the IDF as a graphic designer in the Education Corps, and later received her degree in graphic design and illustration from the Bezalel Academy in 1991. After working as a freelance illustrator for more than ten years, she was able to combine her love of art and design with her passion for Holocaust education when she began working in 2006 at Yad Vashem. At Yad Vashem she serves as the graphic designer for the Yad Vashem International School website, for which she also writes lesson plans and articles. She also draws and illustrates Holocaust-related themes. Liz serves as a guide for student groups, organizations, and individuals in the Yad Vashem museum and campus, and gives lectures about Holocaust art and other topics.

**Lori Gerson** has a BA in political science from Barnard College, Columbia University. She began her career in Jewish education at Block Yeshiva High School in St. Louis, Missouri, where she taught Jewish studies and served as the school's program director. After relocating to Chicago, Lori then became the first director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching. In that capacity, she set up and ran Chicago's only training center for Jewish day school educators. After making aliyah Lori joined the Yad Vashem team as a guide for educational groups. Since 2016, Lori has taken on the role of Educational Coordinator in Yad

Vashem's International Training and Education Department where she lectures, helps coordinate seminars, develops curriculum and guides educators in best practices.

**Sarah Levy** was born in London and moved to Israel in early 2000 with her family. She has a diploma in teaching from the London Board of Jewish Religious Education, holds a degree in Business Law (LLB Hons.) from the London Guildhall University and is a qualified TEFL teacher (University of Cambridge). Sarah has over 30 years of experience in both formal and informal education teaching Jewish Studies, English and business English. Since 2018, Sarah has been the Program Coordinator for the Echoes & Reflections Holocaust educational program at Yad Vashem. She is also a licensed guide at Yad Vashem's Holocaust History Museum where she regularly guides groups of teachers and students from English-speaking countries.

**Yiftach Meiri** was born in 1968, and grew up in Jerusalem. He received his B.A in History at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Yiftach began working in Yad Vashem in 1999 as a guide, mostly with Israeli pupils.

He currently heads the UK, Ireland, Scandinavia and Finland desks at the International Education and Training Department, International School for Holocaust Studies, Yad Vashem.

**Lea Garyfallia Micha** (Seminar coordinator) is the Head of the Educational programs, Balkan Countries, Greece and Cyprus at the International School for Holocaust Studies et Yad Vashem. Lea is a political scientist and researcher and works at Yad Vashem since 2013, initially as a researcher at the International Institute for Holocaust Research at Yad Vashem (the Deportation Database and Research project), and later in the Righteous among the Nations department. Lea holds a BA in Political Science and a Research Master's degree (Master 2 Recherche) in International Relations from the University of Sorbonne (Paris I), Paris, France, as well as a BA in Religions from the University of Athens, Greece. She started her PhD on Greek-Israeli relations in the department of Political Science / International relations at the University of Sorbonne and, she also worked as research fellow at Bar-Ilan University, Israel, as a scholar of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Esther Rachow** was born in Germany and moved to Israel in 2012. She received her B.A. in Cultural and Media Education from the University of Applied Science in Merseburg and her M.A. in Public History from the Freie Universität Berlin. She has worked extensively on topics such as contemporary history, Holocaust historiography and memory in both Israel and Germany, and served as an educator for youth and professionals in national and international frameworks. In her present capacity, Esther works for the Section of German Speaking Countries and Hungary of the International Education and Training Department at the International School for Holocaust Studies, Yad Vashem.

**Daniel Rozenga** was born in the Netherlands. He studied there in the Teacher's Academy and later he began studying ancient Greek and Latin at the University of Groningen. He then moved to Amsterdam to study Semitic languages at the Amsterdam University and also worked as a school teacher. He currently works at the German Desk of the European Department of the International School for Holocaust Studies in Yad Vashem, is the head of the Dutch Desk and is also working in a High School as an English teacher.

**Dr. Robert Rozett** is a Senior Historian in the International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem. Between 1993-2018 he served as Director of the Libraries at Yad Vashem and has worked at Yad Vashem in various capacities since 1981. He is the author of *Conscripted Slaves, Hungarian Jewish Forced Laborers on the Eastern Front*, Yad Vashem 2013, a finalist for a National Jewish Book Award, 2014, and *Approaching the Holocaust, Texts and Contexts*, Valentine Mitchell, 2005. He is the co-editor with Iael Nidam Orvieto of the album of letters written by Holocaust survivors, *After So Much Pain and Anguish: First Letters after Liberation*, Yad Vashem 2016. He is the co-editor of *The Encyclopedia of the Holocaust*, New York: Facts on File in Association with Yad Vashem, 2000, was the associate editor of the *Encyclopedia of the Holocaust*, New York: Macmillan, 1990, and he is the co-editor with Avraham Milgrom

of *Heroism at the Inferno's Core, An Anthology*, Yad Vashem and the Knesset, 2013 (Hebrew) and also with Milgrom, *The Holocaust: Frequently Asked Questions*, Yad Vashem and the Knesset, 2005. Dr. Rozett has lectured around the world and in recent years has been the keynote speaker for Holocaust Remembrance Day events in Belgium, Ethiopia, South Africa, Ghana and Canada. He has guided many dignitaries through Yad Vashem and has represented Yad Vashem in various international forums concerning the Holocaust and contemporary anti-Semitism. He serves as the historical advisor for the Echoes and Reflections educational program.

**Rafael Vago** (Ph.D.) was born in Romania in 1946. He received his PhD in Modern Eastern European History from Tel Aviv University focusing on Hungarian-Romanian Relations after 1945. Dr. Vago is presently a Senior Researcher at the Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry, Tel Aviv University's Department of History and The Cummings Center for Russian and East European Studies. He is the research coordinator for the Institute on the study of antisemitism. His publications include: "Anti-Semitism and the Treatment of the Holocaust in Slovakia" in Randolph Brahm, Ed; *Anti-Semitism and the Treatment of the Holocaust in Post-Communist Eastern Europe*, New York, 1994; "Romanian Jewry in the Interwar Period" in Randolph Brahm, Ed. *The Holocaust in Romania and "The Quest for the 'Authentic' Central Europe"*, in *Being Jewish in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Central Europe*, 2020. Dr. Vago was a member of the International Commission of Historians on the Holocaust in Romania and the academic editor of the five-volume English edition of *The History of the Jews in Romania* published by Tel Aviv University.

**Danijel Vojak** is a research associate at the Institute of Social Science „Ivo Pilar“ in Zagreb. In 2011 I have finished my Phd with the topic *Of the eve of the War: Position of the Roma population in Banate of Croatia in the period 1939 - 1941* on Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (University of Zagreb). I have published books and papers on history of Roma in First World War and Second World War and I have been working on several international and domestic project regarding project history Roma: "Voices of the Victims" (part of Rom Archive project; Karola Fings, 2017), Roma Early Childhood Inclusion (RECI+) (Open Society Foundation, Pučko otvoreno učilište „Korak po korak“, UNICEF-a i REF; 2014 - 2015), especially as a project leader: *Stradanje Roma na području Nezavisne Države Hrvatske za vrijeme Drugoga svjetskog rata [Suffering of Roma in the Independent State of Croatia during the Second World War]* (Institute of Social Science 'Ivo Pilar', *Romsko nacionalno vijeće*, 2015), *Spomenici i kultura sjećanja: Komemoriranje žrtava Židova, Srba i Roma od 1945. do 2016 [Memories and Cultures of Remembrance: Commemoration of Victims of Jews, Serbs and Roma from 1945 to 2016]* (Institute of Social Science 'Ivo Pilar', *Romsko nacionalno vijeće*, 2017), *Stradanje Roma u Hrvatskoj u Drugom svjetskom ratu: Dokumenti, sjećanja, obrazovanje [Roma Suffering in Croatia during the Second World War: Documents, Memories, Education]* (Stiftung "Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft", Berlin, 2017 - 2018). In his work he is focusing on analyzing the relationship between indigenous (majority) population and the Roma minority population in this area. His current research focus is on analyzing the position and extent of the suffering of Roma during the Second World War in the pro-Nazi Independent State of Croatia.