









Press Release

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Diasporas' Heritage and Remembrance

Armenian, Jewish and Roma Diasporas of Europe discuss their heritage and challenges they confront.



16-18 October 2015, Budapest, Hungary

On October 16-18, 2015, the "Diasporas' Heritage and Remembrance" seminar will be held in Budapest. The seminar is the second in a series of events taking place under the umbrella of a project entitled "A Europe of Diasporas". This project, which was initiated by AGBU Europe, Phiren Amenca International Network and the European Union of Jewish Students, aims to promote exchange, solidarity and common advocacy in a European context of rising tension and prejudice.

The Budapest seminar will bring together representatives of Armenian, Jewish and Roma diasporas to discuss the significance of heritage and remembrance. If the ability to draw on a



shared cultural inheritance is an indispensable resource, this seminar will be an opportunity to compare the challenges, which the different diasporas face. To what extent does dispersion affect the transmission of heritage? What role can or do public institutions play in this regard in various European countries? How do public awareness and attitudes or political factors affect this transmission? What brings Armenians, Jews and Roma together and how different are the challenges they face? Subsequently, these issues will be developed into proposals to present at a European Conference scheduled for April, 2016.

A number of prominent speakers of Armenian, Jewish and Roma background will also address these issues during a public conference to take place on October 16th at the Central European University in Budapest. The details and the program of the public conference are available <u>online</u>.

The "Europe of Diasporas" is a European project and is a first step towards the establishment of a network of diasporas in Europe. This network will aim to help develop, affirm and popularize the notion of European diasporas and encourage the idea that identities need not be tied to a territory or to a source of authority to be legitimate and valuable.

To learn more about the project, please visit <u>A Europe of Diasporas</u> webpage.

Follow the Budapest seminar live on <u>Facebook</u> and be a part of the #EuDiasporas conversation on Twitter.

AGBU Europe coordinates and develops the pan-European activities of the <u>Armenian General</u> <u>Benevolent Union</u>. The AGBU Europe District furthers this mission by raising awareness of Armenian causes through advocacy in European communities and in EU public affairs arenas.

<u>Phiren Amenca</u> is a network of Roma and non-Roma volunteers and voluntary service organizations creating opportunities for non-formal education, dialogue and engagement, in order to challenge stereotypes and racism.

<u>The European Union of Jewish Students</u> is a pluralistic, inclusive and non-partisan umbrella organization that supports Jewish student unions throughout Europe and represents its members in international institutions and organizations.

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