

**LOOK
AND DON'T
FORGET**

75th Anniversary
Roma Genocide
Remembrance Initiative

**DIKH
HE NA
BISTER**



DIKH HE NA BISTER - Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative 2019 Krakow/Auschwitz (Poland), July 29 – August 4, 2019

“Dikh he na Bister” Youth Event around Roma Holocaust Memorial Day 2019 in Krakow

Around the Roma Holocaust Memorial Day on 2 August 2019, we gather about 500 young Roma and non-Roma from across Europe in Krakow and Auschwitz-Birkenau in the unique youth event “Dikh he na bister” (Look and don’t forget). The Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative aims at raising awareness among young Europeans, civil society and decision-makers about the Roma Genocide, as well as about the mechanisms of antigypsyism in a challenging context of rising racism, hate speech and extremism in Europe. The event aims to build capacity of youth activists and youth organizations, and to motivate them to take an active role in promoting remembrance education and beyond on local, national and international levels. With this initiative Roma youth advocates for the official recognition of 2 August as the Roma Holocaust Memorial Day.

ternYpe aims to empower young Roma to have a voice to become key agents of change, and to foster solidarity among young people! We have a strong vision to make a change in Europe. As young Roma and non-Roma we believe that we can build a European culture based on respect, dialogue, human rights and equal opportunities. We strongly follow our mission to create space for young people to become active citizens through empowerment, mobilization, self-organization and participation.

#2August

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THE INITIATIVE

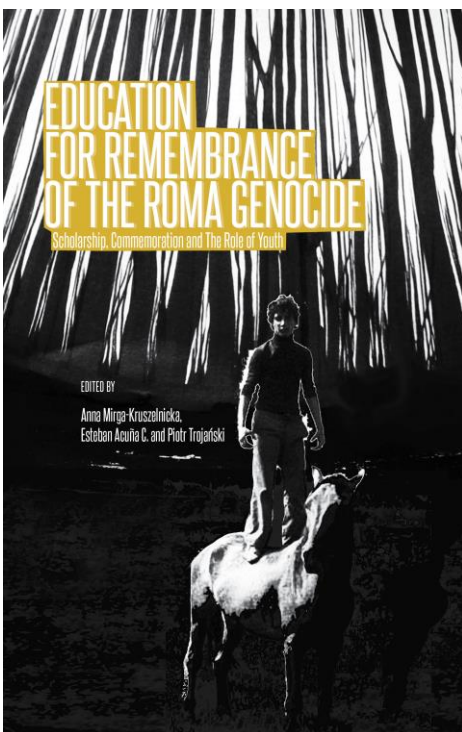
Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative

»The genocide of the Sinti and Roma was motivated by the same obsession with race, carried out with the same resolve and the same intent to achieve their methodical and final extermination as the genocide against the Jews. Throughout the National Socialists' sphere of influence, the Sinti and Roma were murdered systematically, family by family, from the very young to the very old.«

Federal President Roman Herzog, 16 March 1997

The Roma Genocide remains largely unrecognized in European history, until today it has not entered the canon of modern history and is seldom taught or even mentioned in school curricula. It is only in recent years and thanks to common efforts of Roma and non-Roma organizations and individuals that the Roma Genocide is gradually gaining official recognition. April 15, 2015 marked a historical moment. The European Parliament voted with an overwhelming majority to finally adopt a resolution which recognizes "the historical fact of the genocide of Roma that took place during World War II" and concludes "that a European day should be dedicated to commemorating the victims of the genocide of the Roma during World War II." Of huge importance is the fact that this resolution also "underlines the need to combat antigypsyism at every level and by every means, and stresses that this phenomenon is an especially persistent, violent, recurrent and commonplace form of racism."

ternYpe International Roma Youth Network and its partners have been committed to advocate for this recognition for many years, mobilizing thousands of Roma and non-Roma youth for this cause, developing co-operation with experts, historians, educational institutions and political stakeholders. We believe that youth plays a vital role in the process of constructing tolerant and inclusive societies, based on deep understanding of the past. That is why we developed the Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative, to build mutual trust, co-operation and solidarity among Roma and non-Roma youth, through analysis and interpretation of history as a tool, to evaluate and act in contemporary societies. Every year since 2010, around August 2 ternYpe and its partners bring together young Europeans of different backgrounds for the Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative. In 2014, ternYpe and its over 60 partner organizations gathered 1.000 young Roma and non-Roma from all over Europe around August 2, marking the 70th anniversary of the Remembrance Day of the Roma Genocide.



Documentation 2013-2014 of "Dikh he na bister"

Book: Education for remembrance of the Roma Genocide: Scholarship, commemoration and the role of youth, edited by Anna Mirga-Kruszelnicka, Esteban Acuña C. and Piotr Trojański; Libron (2015).

<http://2august.eu/book-remembrance>

Publications, program booklets: <http://2august.eu/live-coverage/publications/>

Video: <http://2august.eu/live-coverage/documentary-films/>

OBJECTIVES

Aims

The event aims to raise awareness of young people about the Roma genocide, build capacity and motivate them to take an active role in promoting remembrance education and beyond on local, national and international levels.

Objectives

- Create possibilities for participants to learn about the Roma Genocide, the historical and political context (mechanisms and reasons) leading to it, as well as the consequences for today;
- Develop critical thinking and reflection in understanding and analyzing the past and the present struggle of Roma in the world;
- Familiarize the participants with the concept of remembrance and its relevance and role in addressing contemporary antigypsyism;
- To understand and reflect on the genocide and its implications for today from the perspective of human rights as a system of moral beliefs and behaviours; strengthen dignity, solidarity and empathy of and with people who suffer racism, discrimination and any form of injustice;
- To discuss the roles, responsibilities and opportunities of youth in addressing current challenges of racism, discrimination and antigypsyism in order to become agents of change;
- To build motivation, capacity, and empowerment of young people and youth organizations to engage in local, national and international youth work on issues of remembrance and combatting antigypsyism.

THE EDUCATIONAL HANDBOOK DEVELOPED BY THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE: “RIGHT TO REMEMBER: A handbook for education with young people on the Roma Genocide”

This handbook of the Council of Europe is intended for youth workers in non-formal educational settings working both with Roma or non-Roma young people in order to raise awareness of young people about the Roma genocide, and to stimulate a critical reflection and debate about the causes and mechanisms of persecution, about the moral and human rights dimension of the genocide, and about the relevancy of Remembrance and Holocaust Education nowadays for young people. The handbook was developed in 2013-2014, and was publically launched during “Dikh he na bister” 2014 in Krakow.

[Download here](#)



CONCEPT of 2019

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- **30 national group leaders** participate in a preparatory seminar in Berlin/Germany from February 27 until March 3, 2019, then prepare their groups at home, and accompany their educational process and assist the organization of the event in Krakow.
- **30 facilitators** participate in a preparatory seminar in April/May 2019 in Krakow and Auschwitz (Poland); they will run the educational workshops during the 5-days lasting program in Krakow.
- **National groups consist of 10-20 people in Krakow:** 2 leaders (experienced leader and “junior leader” who participated before in Dikh he na bister) should have a good experience in youth work and demonstrate a high-level of motivation to engage in the initiative and to support the process of their national group. Participants should be generally between 18 to 30 years old (exceptionally at least 16 years), and should participate for the first time in DIKH HE NA BISTER. Participants of one group shall be able to assist each other language wise if translations are required (English/Romani main languages). Very few participants in each national group, who previously participated in DIKH HE NA BISTER, can ONLY join again if they take a very clear supportive responsibility for the event (e.g. media reporting, translations for new participants, volunteering). Small and new partner organizations shall set-up groups of max. 10 participants, experienced organizations in particular from bigger countries can bring 15-20 participants. The overall event will have about 400 participants.
- **Preparatory activities of the national groups** at home are **obligatory** as a condition to participate in the event.
- **The educational event in Krakow will include 5 full program days!** It starts with educational sessions in the working groups in Krakow, continues with a visit of the Auschwitz Museum; after another day in the working groups in Krakow, the group participates in the 2 August commemoration activities in Auschwitz, and a final day in Krakow allows to finish and evaluate the learning process.
- **The educational learning process:** We aim to build an educational process, which allows participants in an **internationally mixed but stable group to go through the experience of the whole event**, meaning that all participants will stay in one group from the beginning until the end. In each group, facilitators will create a space of learning about the Holocaust, as well as of reflection about remembrance and the role of youth in addressing current challenges of antigypsyism, and other forms of racism in Europe today.



PROGRAM

Program

TUE - 30.07.2019	WED - 31.07.2019	THU - 01.08.2019	FRI - 02.08.2019	SAT - 03.08.2019
Krakow	Auschwitz	Krakow	Auschwitz	Krakow
Remembrance, Holocaust and Human Rights Education: Seminars, workshops in University	Visit of the Auschwitz Museum	Remembrance, Holocaust and Human Rights Education: Seminars, workshops in University	Commemoration Ceremony	Remembrance, Holocaust and Human Rights Education: Seminars, workshops in University
Remembrance, Holocaust and Human Rights Education: Seminars, workshops in University	Visit of the Auschwitz Museum - Educational program	Remembrance, Holocaust and Human Rights Education: Seminars, workshops in University	Meeting with survivors / eyewitnesses	Evaluation/ Reflection; Closing Ceremony
Cultural Program	Cultural Program	Cultural Program	Cultural Program	Departures that evening or on 04.08.2019

Partners

We aim to continue a wide partnership of the Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative. The initiative this year is coordinated by ternYpe International Roma Youth Network, and the Documentation and Cultural Centre of German Sinti and Roma. The youth event is funded by the Erasmus+ Program of the European Commission and the European Youth Foundation, as well as it is administratively and educationally supported by the Council of Europe through the Roma and Travellers Team and the Youth Department.



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

