



Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability



2018 Program Report

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Forward

The Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability (AHDA) program has concluded one more successful fellowship year. This year the program took place in the face of exasperating political atmosphere. As populism continues to challenge democracies, narratives of contested and falsified historical memories are exploited to promote policies of nativism and xenophobia, to promote sectarian and nationalist interests, and to sow divisions among different identity groups. Concurrently, historical memory is becoming ever more central to public discourse and to policy makers. As historical narratives come to ethically define the identity of the group, it is through disputes over historical accounts — often frame the ethics of victims and perpetrators — which provide the context for debates of justice and human rights. From the Rohingya in Burma (who are now mostly displaced in Bangladesh) to the Roma in Central East Europe and numerous post-colonial disputes, the historical interpretation is used to justify the claims of the protagonists. Similarly, various diplomatic disputes revolve around historical narratives inflame and shape assertions for entitlements and counter political demands. Consider this year the conflict between Poland and Israel, or domestically and internationally in Turkey, to mention just a couple of prominent cases.

Historical disputes which used to be politically marginal are increasingly occupying the center of the political discourse. Consider the question of reparation for slavery. For a generation, representative John Conyers has repeatedly introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee H.R. 40, a bill that would establish a commission to study slavery impact on its victims. The bill never got out of committee, it remained ignored. Not so any longer. By 2019, the question of reparations is receiving support from Presidential candidates, and increasingly people are called upon to have an opinion on the subject. Similarly, museums in possession of looted cultural objects — primarily African and indigenous objects — which had been treated as either art or anthropological treasures, are facing growing demands for restitution, and more museums are adopting responsive policies. Historical dialogue is a collective designation to these and many other fields from education to cultural representations, which engage historical memory with contemporary controversial political stands.

Historical dialogue is also critical in preventing contemporary and anticipated mass violence and atrocities. In some cases, previous mass atrocities are predictive of imminent conflict, in others a seemingly assurance of never again. Conflict resolution professionals seem to incorporate the past as a risk factor but tend to overlook issues of historical justice and group memory in

their efforts to address protracted conflicts, primarily because it is viewed as too complicated. Resolving conflicting narratives in a post truth society is becoming increasingly challenging, and this is where greater attention has to be paid to historical dialogue.

The tension between growing right-wing xenophobia which ignores ethical considerations focusing on xenophobia versus the concurrent expansion of redress discourse and politics, characterizes the ambivalence of human rights place in the contemporary political discourse in general: more central than ever, yet being criticized both by friends and foes. Historical dialogue is a long term process, and the AHDA program focuses on supporting activists around the globe who promote redress as a way to advocate social justice policies. AHDA aims to provide support to a group of fellows each year who can enhance their own knowledge on the field, establish networks with like-minded activists, both peers, alumni and other activists, and develop existing or new projects. In addition to working with current fellows and alumni, AHDA develops tools such as mapping global project which enable activists to locate similar projects globally, and benefit for others' experience, bibliography database, political apologies database, and organizing annual conferences to facilitate interactions and networking for a global audience.

This year Fellows have come from Indonesia, Iraq, Kosovo, Poland, Rwanda, Turkey, USA and Zimbabwe. This diverse background together with close collegiality have enabled the Fellows to benefit from close interaction and rich comparative perspectives. The report below lays out the numerous occasions and ways in which the fellowship expanded their experiences with historical dialogue.

We could not have done it without our partners and funders: Robert Bosch Stiftung; the Auschwitz Institute; Georgetown Memory Project; Columbia University Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research; Columbia University Seminars on History, Redress and Reconciliation; Columbia University Seminar on Cultural Memory, and The Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University.

We invite you to connect with us, individually and institutionally, and together we can further the cause of historical dialogue as a tool of redress and conflict resolution.

Elazar Barkan,
Director, Institute for the Study of Human Rights
Professor of International and Public Affairs

Introduction

The Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability (AHDA) is an innovative approach that brings together interdisciplinary participants - students, civil society representatives, journalists, educators, artists, policy makers, and other scholars - who work on the issues of historical dialogue in conflict, post-conflict, post-dictatorial societies and, even, in established democracies. These individuals focus on political ramifications of the historical legacy of conflicts, along the role and impact of the memory of past violence on contemporary politics, society and culture. The AHDA program has grown over the years and is continuing to attract interest beyond main stakeholders in recognition that addressing violent past and conflicting narratives about the past is integral in the work of reconciliation and democracy promotion.

The AHDA program is unique. It is created from various components that weave together wide spectrum of research and practice. First, the program uses available resources at Columbia University through classes, workshops, film screenings and speaker series. Second, AHDA has an extensive virtual network of scholars, students and practitioners who build the knowledge database online and in-person. Third, AHDA organizes a flagship conference that permits individual researchers and practitioners to exchange ideas, practice and research with others in the field. Fourth, AHDA is at the forefront of advancing research by using contemporary means. The digital initiative - the Mapping Historical Dialogue Project (MHDP) - serves as a tool to identify work being done in the field and is a collective resource for best practices and contributes to understanding of the impact of historical dialogue initiatives in the field of conflict transformation. Fifth, AHDA alumni are playing a pivotal role in forming program's activities. In the future, AHDA will be focusing on expanding the Regional Network for Historical Dialogue and Dealing with the Past (RN-HDP) and it will develop geographically specific regional networks.

Finally, AHDA's signature fellowship continues to welcome to Columbia University an international group of practitioners and scholars working in fragile environments and with vulnerable populations. The fellows benefit from the curriculum, capacity building, project development and networking opportunities at the Columbia University to foster their field related projects. The fellows serve as an inspiration at the University and back home - their projects and collab-



Fellows on the steps of Low Library, Columbia University

orations initiated at the University continue long after the program ends.

The work of the AHDA program represents diversity of initiatives in the field of historical dialogue. It takes place in various disciplines such as journalism, education, history, oral history, new media and many others. All AHDA activities contribute to the goal of expanding public discussion about the past; understanding the instrumental use of history and providing a framework for communities to reflect, share and debate on their past in the quest for a more democratic future.

By supporting our work AHDA fellows, alumni, participants, contributors and various other stakeholders, emphasize that this work is integral part of reconciliation and democracy promotion. We are grateful for past and future support!

Sandra Paunksniene
Assistant Director AHDA

Digital Presence

The **Historical Dialogues, Justice, and Memory Network** (<http://historicaldialogues.org/>) encourages interdisciplinary research and advocacy on issues relating to the memorialization and historicization of conflicts, historical and transitional justice, the promotion of sustainable peace, participatory democracy and conflict transformation. The goal of the network is to connect practitioners, scholars and others interested in the field of historical dialogue, and to facilitate the exchange of knowledge between disciplines, national and local contexts, and between theory and practice. The Dialogues is a joint initiative of the Historical Justice and Memory Research Network (HJMRN), formerly housed at the Swinburne Institute for Social Research, in Melbourne, and currently under the auspices of the Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability (AHDA) at Columbia University. Aside from a biweekly newsletter, the Network's website contains resources including book reviews and an emerging scholars' paper series. The site is home to various projects (described below), resources and contains information about the Network's conferences, its members, and events and opportunities related to the field of historical dialogue.

The Mapping Historical Dialogue Project (MHDP) (www.historicaldialogues.org/mhdp) is a digital visualization project that seeks to better understand how engagement of the memory of conflict can be used as an opportunity to develop conflict transformation mechanisms. Based on a crowdsourcing model, the map seeks to gather data about projects that engage in historical dialogue work. The information collected also enables users to more fully understand the impact that the memory of sectarian and national violence has on contemporary politics and to establish the norms of the field of historical dialogue. In doing so, the project aims to more fully understand how this knowledge facilitates work towards conflict transformation, reconciliation, peacebuilding and democracy promotion, particularly in post-conflict countries. During past few years, thanks to a generous grant from the Robert Bosch Stiftung, the MHDP has grown significantly and now contains information for over 600 projects from more than 100 countries. In addition, we have over 20 research affiliates who are working on components of the map in their specific areas of expertise. A group of



AHDA co-sponsored workshops with fellows and international scholars



The Mapping Historical Dialogue Project

these researchers attended the network conferences and contributed to a roundtable discussion about the work of the MHDP and its relevance to their research.

The Political Apologies Archive (www.humanrights-columbia.org/ahda/political-apologies) examines the ways in which apologies have become part of the political and historical landscape. This ongoing initiative was launched by political scientist Graham Dodds, and includes an archive of political apologies in modern historical contexts. The site has been moved to “Historical Dialogue Initiatives” portal housed under the Historical Dialogues, Justice, and Memory Network. Additional entries continue to be added in 2018.

“

I have appreciated the opportunity to meet and learn from a diverse set of scholars and to better acquaint myself with organizations and institutions working toward the goal of human rights across New York City. Before the program, historical dialogue seemed a much vaguer concept. This fellowship helped to refine my understanding both - of the power and the limitations of dialogue about the past.

- SARAH C. BISHOP

| POLITICAL APOLOGIES ARCHIVE | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p>How does the act of apologizing enable societies to come to terms with their past?</p> <p>Political apologies can be a powerful tool in the re-examination of a nation's history, and the significance this history has on democratic processes. The project includes a working list of political apologies throughout history that political scientist Graham Dodds has researched and compiled.</p> <p>This is a working list of major political apologies and related events. The selection criteria for compiling the list are somewhat loose, but the intent is to include any and all apologies that involve states, nations, or major political groups and actors, generally for significant public wrongs. Thus, apologies by individual politicians for more narrow matters (e.g., alleged personal or criminal failings) are generally excluded.</p> <p>Should you wish to add to the list, please e-mail ahda@columbia.edu.</p> | | | |
| Start Year | End Year | Keyword search | |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | |
| | | <input type="button" value="APPLY"/> | <input type="button" value="ALL"/> |
| Date of Apology | Title | Summary | Source |
| 1077 | Church-State Conflicts | Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV apologizes to Pope Gregory VII for church-state conflicts by standing barefoot in the snow for three days. | "Once More, With Feeling." Time. September 21, 1998. |
| 1403 | 1403 Proclamation Apologizing to the Peasantry | Queen Margaret I of Denmark issues a proclamation apologizing to the peasantry for the "great burden and much toll" caused by the "wantonness, greed and willfulness" of her clerks, balliffs, and herself. | Moberg, Vilhelm A. A History of the Swedish People. University of Minnesota, 2005. Vol. 1, p208. I am indebted to Steven Pinker for this reference. |
| 1697 | Salem witch trials of 1692 | One judge and twelve jurors apologize for the Salem witch trials of 1692, as the colony declares a | Norton, Mary Beth. "The Called It Witchcraft." New York Times. October 31, 2002. A27. |

Political Apologies Archive

Events, Initiatives & Collaborations

Memory Activism Workshop

A two-day international workshop entitled “Memory Activism Workshop” took place on November 1-2, 2018 at Columbia University, New York City. Twenty-six participants and nine AHDA fellows attended this closed workshop.

In collaboration with the Memory Studies Association, the workshop brought together scholars from around the world for an intensive workshop to systemically examine the phenomenon of memory activism and its role in shaping contemporary politics and social cohesion. Scholars working in the areas of social movements, memory studies, history, political science, sociology, human rights, and culture and literary analysis discussed mapping theoretical approaches and case studies of memory activism around the globe. The participants paid particular attention on how the politics of public memory have acquired a heightened importance in current events around the world. The workshop made a crucial contribution to frame the field and identify the research and to lay groundwork for systemic studies of memory activism.

AHDA co-hosted the workshop as an innovative global network of practitioners and scholars of historical justice dealing with past and ongoing violence as well as human rights abuses. Through online exchanges, a teaching series, a fellowship program for activists and international conferences, the network aims to enhance professional exchange about scholarly insights and good practices. The workshop’s scholarly ambition was paired with AHDA’s experience and innovation in the field of historical justice and conflict, network and resources. The workshop participants benefited not only from the expertise of the Institute, but also from New York City’s vibrant location of research in memory studies.

Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research

The Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research (CHRDR) is the official repository for the archives of major human rights organizations such as Amnesty International USA, Human Rights First, and Human Rights Watch. The director of the Center and archivist Pamela Graham serves as a resource and advisor for fellows and others interested in working on archival projects in their home countries, and regarding documentation projects



AHDA co-sponsoring Memory Activism Workshop

for digital and physical materials that are at risk of disappearing or being destroyed.

AHDA Alumni Network

AHDA’s ongoing collaboration with alumni of the fellowship program has continued to expand this year. There were numerous initiatives that took place and involved the program alumni.

Regional Network for Historical Dialogue and Dealing with the Past (RNHDP)

Regional Network for Historical Dialogue and Dealing with the Past (RNHDP) was established in 2012. It was born out of a collaboration between AHDA program, the Istanbul based NGO Hafiza Merkezi (Truth, Justice, and Memory Center), and Columbia Global Centers/Turkey. RNHDP is a regional network open to civil society professionals, scholars and students working in MENA and Caucasus regions. The Network focuses on issues relating to dealing with the past, such as historical dialogue, memory studies, truth and accountability. The program relies on the support of AHDA alumni network. Besides working on joint projects with RNHDP, AHDA is organizing and hosting discussions at Columbia University with alumni who return to support Alliance’s initiatives throughout the year.

The Fellowship Program

Historical Dialogue is a growing field of scholarship and practice that emerges from the legacy of historical violence and its ties to contemporary politics. The AHDA fellowship program seeks to contribute to the field of historical dialogue by building a network of advocates and fostering a dynamic academic environment. Fellows are encouraged to initiate and develop new projects to contribute to historical dialogue and by facilitating discussion about the past in their respective societies. The success of the AHDA fellowship program is due in no small part to the Institute's lengthy history of working with educators and scholars, advocates and practitioners, to strengthen the skills and knowledge of those working in the field of human rights. As AHDA 2018 fellow Kartika Pratiwi noted: *"It's an honor to be part of AHDA, especially because I can stay in New York City and network for my organization. All fellows come from different countries and it is good to experience for mutual learning and exchange of knowledge."*

AHDA curriculum is organized around four components. First, in seminars with scholars and experts in historical dialogue the fellows explore major theoretical and methodological issues relating to historical dialogue as a field. Second, the program juxtaposes theoretical and methodological issues with on-the-ground case studies. Third, the fellows learn in capacity building workshops and during site visits that focus on practical skills and networking opportunities with organizations and individuals whose work is relevant to historical dialogue. Finally, the fellows audit Columbia University courses that are relevant to their particular context or approach to historical dialogue. As members of the Columbia University community, over the course of the semester the fellows give presentations about their work. In addition, each fellow develops a project proposal with the expectation that the project will be implemented upon their return to their home community.

We see these components of the program as essential to expanding the impact, efficacy and implementation of work in historical dialogue as an emerging field.

Nine fellows who formed the class of 2018 were selected from a pool of approximately 125 applicants. They came from a variety of professional backgrounds and from a wide range of places: Indonesia, Iraq, Kosovo, Poland, Rwanda, Turkey, the US and Zimbabwe. All 2018 fellows already worked on issues related to historical

violence, transitional justice, dealing with the past and conflict transformation before coming to Columbia University. The professional and geographical diversity of the group is one of the strengths of the program with fellows learning from and sharing with their peers as well as broader Columbia University human rights community.

In the following section, we asked fellows to share with us what historical dialogue means to them, and how their work connects history and human rights advocacy. Each entry is followed by details regarding the fellows' activities during their time in New York City. The following staff of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights contributed their time and expertise to develop AHDA curriculum and to shape the program: Professor Elazar Barkan, the Director of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights and the founder of AHDA program led seminars over the course of the semester; Sandra Paunksniene, Assistant Director AHDA program, developed curriculum and series of workshops; Elyse Greenblatt, Program Coordinator, organized fellowship activities; other staff and board members of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, including Andrew J. Nathan, David L. Phillips, and John Washburn, dedicated their time to mentor fellows how to network and shared their expertise on a wide range of topics.

A special thanks to the members of Columbia University community who helped to welcome fellows, agreed to meet with them and served as advisors, mentors, and experts in a wide range of fields. These individuals are acknowledged by name in Networking@Columbia segment.



AHDA Fellows had extensive networking meetings



SARAH C. BISHOP

Baruch College, City University of New York
Institute for the Study of Human Rights (ISHR) Fellow

I work as an Assistant Professor at Baruch College, City University of New York, and as an immigrant rights advocate at Mixteca Organization in Brooklyn. I specialize in research concerning the interactions of nationalism, citizenship, migration, and media. My recent book, *Undocumented Storytellers: Narrating the Immigrant Rights Movement*, was published by Oxford University Press in January 2019; a chapter from this book won the Abraham Briloff Prize in Ethics. I am also the author of *U.S. Media and Migration: Refugee Oral Histories* (Routledge, 2016), which won an Outstanding Book Award from the National Communication Association and the 2017 the Sue DeWine Distinguished Scholarly Book Award.

My work appears in national and international academic journals including *Communication & Society*, *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, *Communication, Culture & Critique*, *Space & Culture*, *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, *Journal of Intercultural Communication Research*, and the *Journal of Studies in International Education*. At Baruch, I teach a range of graduate and undergraduate classes in Gender/Race/Ethnicity in Communication, Media and Migration, Global Communication, Privilege and Difference, and Digital Media Culture.

During my time as an AHDA fellow, I began designing a project called *Bodies of Evidence: Asylum Seekers and the Search for Legal Protection*. This project collects and presents first-hand insights into the trauma and human rights abuses constitutive of the legal processes triggered by forced migrants' arrival in the U.S. Drawing from oral history interviews with successful and unsuccessful applicants for asylum, archival records of asylum hearings, textual analysis of governmental media campaigns to deter asylum seekers, and a deep reading of asylum legislation, the project will advance understanding of the role of memory, narrative, and evidence in the contested site of forced migration.

Networking@Columbia:

Mary Marshall Clark, Columbia Center for Oral History Research

Elazar Barkan, Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs

Networking/Site Visits:

African Communities Together

Human Rights Watch

Heinrich Böll Foundation

International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

International Refugee Rights Initiative

Mmuseumm

National September 11 Memorial and Museum

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights

StoryCorps

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Volunteers of Legal Service

White & Case Law Firm

WITNESS

Speaking Engagements:

Presented week-long seminar on “Transcultural Leadership and Global Communication” at the Fundación UADE

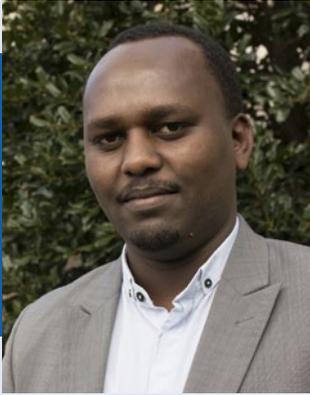
Presented project (in Spanish) at the MESO Conference in Buenos Aires

Presented at the class ‘Ethical Issues in Museums’ by Prof. Sally M. Yerkovich on the topic of Censorship and Controversy

Chaired the panel discussion on “Historical Dialogue and Global Human Rights” at Baruch College



AHDA Fellow Sarah C. Bishop presenting to other peers



NICOLAS HABARUGIRA

Community Based Sociotherapy

Rwanda

Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) Fellow

I have worked for many years in Rwanda and the Great Lakes Region and I joined Community Based Sociotherapy Program in 2014. As a community worker and human rights activist, I engaged in a participatory action research with Community Based Organization dealing with Rwanda's genocide legacies and transitional justice. This organization promotes psychosocial well-being in Rwanda through interventions focusing on healing, reconciliation and social cohesion, sustainable peace building as a downstream prevention and conflicts transformation. Since 2017, I was engaged as a field coordinator in western province of Rwanda.

In addition to the experience of identifying societal issues and formulating recommendations to policy makers, I participated in different international peace support missions and election observations in Africa, including the 2017 presidential elections in Kenya with the Jimmy Carter Center Organization. My area of interest is peace building, grass roots advocacy, memory and memorialization, democracy, reconciliation, transitional justice, conflicts analysis, conflict transformation, international relations and human rights. I have accumulated experience from various national and international institutions, and I have built a broad global network, including Foundation in Mass Atrocities and Genocide Prevention, AEGIS TRUST, Early Warning and Mass Atrocity Prevention Mechanisms, Collective Memory and Memorialization, and others.

At Columbia University, I developed a project entitled "*Breaking the Intergenerational Cycle of Violence and Trauma through Narratives and Dialogues among Youth in Rwanda.*" Research revealed that the legacies and experiences of the 1994 genocide are embodied in the second generation. While the government of Rwanda has initiated many programs to promote youth development, minimal attention has been paid to how parents' experiences in the 1994 genocide impacted parenting and youth. This project will contribute to the sustainable peace building and downstream prevention of recurrence of violence. It will bring together youth from schools and community from different historical backgrounds (descendants of survivors, perpetrators, youth whose parents paid reparations, etc.) in "safe" dialogues groups. They will be exchanging their life stories, their and their parents' experiences, thus, rebuilding safety, trust and making steps for new life orientations for themselves, their community, and the country.

Networking@Columbia:

Elazar Barkan, Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs
 Paul Martin, Director of Human Rights Studies at Barnard College
 Khatchig Mouradian, Visiting Professor at Columbia University

National September 11 Memorial and Museum
 New Yorkers for Rwanda
 Oslo Freedom Forum
 Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights
 School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University
 Search for Common Ground
 StoryCorps
 United Nation Peacebuilding Fund
 United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
 White & Case Law Firm
 WITNESS

Classes:

Human Rights and Development Policy, R. Braun
 NGOs and the Human Rights Movement, L. Bickford

Networking/Site Visits:

Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR)
 Heinrich Böll Foundation
 International Center on Nonviolent Conflict
 International Coalition of Sites of Conscience
 National Endowment for Democracy
 National Museum of African American History and Culture

Speaking Engagements:

Presented at the ‘Ethical Issues in Museums’ class by Prof. Sally M. Yerkovich on the topic of Censorship and Controversy, Columbia University
 Presented on the ‘Historical Dialogue and Global Human Rights Panel Discussion,’ Baruch College



AHDA Fellows Presentation at Baruch College (courtesy of Marek Siek)



KORAB KRASNIQI

ForumZFD

Kosovo

Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow

The Kosovo conflict during 1990s that culminated with the bloody war that left civilians devastated, and political establishment fragmented have personally affected me. The end of war followed by the declaration of Kosovo independence in 2008 marked the last puzzle of the disintegration of federal Yugoslavia. Dealing with the conflict-related legacy of gross human rights violations has been part of both Kosovo's and Serbia's collective agenda as an important path towards reconciliation and EU integration. I struggled with 'whys', 'who's' and 'where's' of war, and as a result I was eager to engage with dealing with the past processes by supporting conflict-related victims.

My background is in psychology, political sciences and ten years of civil society activism and through my work with Forum Civil Peace Service. I am engaged in numerous national, regional and trans-European projects that foster inter-ethnic dialogue and reconciliation. My focus is dealing with the polarized categories of historical narratives. My work looks towards encouraging and facilitating private, public, and scholarly debates as a way to include the broader public with the discussion on historical dialogue. I strongly believe that art can play an important role in dealing with thorny questions on individual and collective guilt and responsibility and I utilize different mediums to further engage communities in a constructive dialogue.

Lately, I have been working on the following projects: '*I Want to be Heard*,' oral histories with survivors of wartime sexual violence; '*Living with Memories of Missing*,' an oral history and digital storytelling project with family members of missing persons; '*Kosovo Memory Heritage*,' a project on a general context of memory landscape; '*UNERASABLE*,' a collaborative regional exhibition exploring the concept of memory and oblivion; '*Feminist Conversations: History, Memory, and Difference*,' a regional conference on women activism during the times of oppression; '*Data March*,' forgotten women's activism in Kosovo from March 1998 project, and '*People and Memories Talk*,' oral histories with wartime survivors and other.

As part of AHDA fellowship, I designed a follow-up project that aims at delivering an academic/policy paper drawn after a thorough reading and analysis of "*I Want to be Heard*" publication. The paper resulting from interdisciplinary study will examine the ways how women deal with the trauma of rape and abandonment, and how that informs contemporary socio-cultural and political developments. Ultimately, the project aims to make impact on the level of policymaking, civil society and the international community to create a paradigm shift towards a more gender-sensitive approach on transitional justice.

Networking@Columbia:

Elazar Barkan, Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs

Tanya Domi, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs, Venera Kusari, Programs Coordinator at Columbia University

Richard Gowan, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs

Venera Kusari, Program Coordinator at Columbia University

David L. Phillips, Director of the Peacebuilding and Rights Program

Mmuseumm

National Endowment for Democracy

National Museum of African American History and Culture

National September 11 Memorial and Museum

New York University

School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

WITNESS

White & Case Law Firm

Classes:

Conflict Resolution, R. Gowan

Human Rights and Oral History, Z. West

NGOs and the Human Rights Movement, L. Bickford

Speaking Engagements:

Presented at the ‘Ethical Issues in Museums’ class by Prof. Sally M. Yerkovich on the topic of Censorship and Controversy

Presenter on the ‘Historical Dialogue and Global Human Rights Panel Discussion,’ Baruch College

Presenter at the ‘Introduction to Human Rights’ class by Prof. Andrew Nathan

Presented at the ‘Human Rights in West Balkans’ class by Prof. Tanya Domi, topic “In the Field of Black Birds: The myth of Kosovo Battle – Memory and Politics”

Networking/Site Visits:

Harriman Institute

Heinrich Böll Foundation

Human Rights Watch

International Center for Research on Women

International Coalition of Sites of Conscience



AHDA Fellow presenting at the Introduction to Human Rights class



SAMANTHA N. MANDIVEYI

Trust Africa

Zimbabwe

Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow

I am a documentary filmmaker from Harare, Zimbabwe and in the past I have studied Television Production Art and Design at Savannah College.

Some of my projects' include animation series, such as five-episode series supported by Freedom House on how to build a peaceful non-violent social movement. I also directed four seasons of Zimbabwe's leading satirical news program called '*The Week*,' which amassed over 2 million views by using comedy to engage citizens on political, social and economic issues. I produced and edited series of documentaries titled "*They Shall Be Remembered*" with the Holocaust Museum of Atlanta, that tell personal stories of five Holocaust survivors. I use storytelling to advocate for social justice and human rights.

While at Columbia University, I started working on a digital storytelling project about the Gukurahundi genocide that took place in Zimbabwe in 1983. The goal of the projects is to address tribal divisions of Zimbabwean communities through acknowledgement and engagement with the impact of past atrocities such as the Gukurahundi Genocide of 1983.

I want to create a space online in the form of the website and various social media pages where stories, documents and historical artifacts related to Gukurahundi genocide will be uploaded, archived and shared. The stories will be collected and recorded through various methodologies such as harvesting events, oral history recordings and traditional storytelling circles. This is also an opportunity for dialogue to reach across multiple divides. The long-term goal for this project is to deepen dialogue among young people who have been negatively impacted by tribal divisions.

Networking@Columbia:

Elazar Barkan, Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs
 Rhiannon Stephens, Associate Professor, History Department

Classes:

Media Campaigning and Social Change, A. Schiffrin
 African Development Strategies, A. Noman

Networking/Site Visits:

Archives and Public History program, New York University
 Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR)
 Heinrich Böll Foundation
 Human Rights Watch
 International Center on Nonviolent Conflict
 International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

National Endowment for Democracy
 National Museum of African American History and Culture
 National September 11 Memorial and Museum
 Mmuseumm
 Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights
 School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University
 Search for Common Ground
 United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
 White & Case Law Firm

Speaking Engagements:

Presented at the ‘Ethical Issues in Museums’ class by Prof. Sally M. Yerkovich on the topic of Censorship and Controversy
 Presented at the seminar by Prof. E.Barkan
 Presented at the ‘Media Campaigning and Social Change’ class by Prof. A. Schiffrin



AHDA Fellow Samantha N. Mandiveyi discussing with her peers



LINDA J. MANN

Georgetown Memory Project

United States

Institute for the Study of Human Rights (ISHR) Fellow

Early in my career I implemented school-based mediation programs in inner-city schools where I was forced to take a stark look at the disparities that exist within our U.S. public education system. Promptly, I became an advocate for communities in need. Years later, I returned to school to complete my PhD in Education Policy with the hopes of improving my advocacy. I wanted to explore policies that might attend to the continued racism I observed within public schools daily. For my dissertation, I performed a case study on a restorative justice program aimed to make amends for the denial of public education to a group of approximately 2400 African American during the years of 1959-1964 in Prince Edward County, Virginia. The findings demonstrated unfulfilled restorative justice, deep emotional loss and lasting economic and vocational deprivation. Further, it confirmed the policy chasm between the voices and needs of those wronged and the hegemonic control of institutions. These findings only deepened my convictions to take a hard look at U.S. racial redress and do my best to alter existing policymaking paradigms.

I applied to the AHDA program to forward an oral history initiative that I was performing with a cohort of enslaved descendants. The participants for this project descended from a cohort collectively known as the GU272. The GU272 were a group of approximately 313 men, women and children once enslaved by the Maryland Jesuits. In 1838, these individuals were sold to three sugar plantations in southern Louisiana to financially salvage Georgetown University and to further invest monies in other Jesuit school holdings. The descendants for the oral history project were individuals who were systematically identified and located by an organization known as the Georgetown Memory Project (GMP).

As an AHDA fellow, I developed this project into a large-scale oral history initiative focused on documenting the voices of enslaved descendants to better understand their perceptions of identity, faith and meaningful repair. The project has strengthened my research and emboldened my findings that the voices of those wronged must be at the forefront of repair initiatives. Further, the oral histories documented the lasting impact of historical racial injustices. However, the U.S. has yet to confront its slave past and as a result, the country continues to struggle with racism and oppression. My goal is to continue to work side-by-side with those unheard, to assist in “lifting every voice” and to work towards U.S. policymaking that provides meaningful and sustainable repair to the legacy of historical racial injustices.

Networking@Columbia:

Elazar Barkan, Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs

Thai Jones, Department of History

Ariella Lang, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Fellowships

Wilder Steven, Department of History

Classes:

Human Rights and Oral History, Z. West

Networking/Site Visits:

American Slavery Project

Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR)

Heinrich Böll Foundation

Human Rights Watch

International Center on Nonviolent Conflict

International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

International Center on Transitional Justice

Mmuseumm

National Endowment for Democracy

National September 11 Memorial and Museum

National Museum of African American History and Culture

Northeastern University, Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project

Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights

School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University

The Aspen Institute

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

University of Virginia, Universities Studying Slavery

White & Case Law Firm

Speaking Engagements:

Panelist at the conference 'Recognition, Reparation and Reconciliation', Stellenbosch University, South Africa, December 2018

Presenter at the 'Readings in Human Rights' class by Profs. V. Seiling Jacobs and R. Wisor

Presenter on 'Historical Dialogue and Global Human Rights Panel Discussion', Baruch College

Presenter on 'Freedom's Loom', Cornell University

Presenter at the 'Introduction to Human Rights' class by Prof. A. Nathan



AHDA Fellow presenting at the Introduction to Human Rights class



KARTIKA PRATIWI

Independent Researcher

Indonesia

Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow

I was born in Indonesia and I have graduated with a Master's Degree in Humanities. It was Pramoedya Ananta Toer's literary tetralogy that brought my curiosity about what happened in Indonesia around 1965-1966 and is excluded from history education. I have been working as an independent researcher with an interest in narrative discourse about Indonesian genocide in 1965. In 2008, I founded Kotakhitam Forum – an independent organization, dedicated to conducting research, workshops and documentary movie productions for social and political changes with the idea to record accounts of witnesses and survivors of the mass killings. During that time, I was involved in producing video archives on Indonesian political history and collective memory, as well as documentary films, including '*Yang Bertanah Air, Tak Bertanah*' (2008), '*r.i.*' (2010) and '*Api Kartini*' (2012). With Kotakhitam Forum, I regularly facilitate projects for teachers and youth to use interactive media as a learning tool in schools. Recently, I led a public seminar and teachers' workshop on '*Holocaust, Genocide and Contemporary Challenges*' as part of my engagement with the International Conference on Education and Holocaust in 2017, organized by the US Holocaust Memorial Museum and UNESCO. Since 2015, I worked for *EngageMedia*, a non-profit organization focused on creating social change through the distribution of human rights and environmental video, media and technology, research, network development and digital rights advocacy. Trained as a Program Manager, I have handled several projects for EngageMedia in Indonesia and worked with communities and diverse groups.

Previously, I served as Asean Graduate Student Fellow at the National University of Singapore in 2012 and John Darling Fellow at the Herb Feith Foundation in Melbourne (Australia) in 2017. During this fellowship, I produced short documentary film '*Arohui*' (2017) about West Papuan asylum seeker. This film won several awards from ReelOz! Australia – Indonesia Film Festival for Best Film, Best Documentary and Best Collaboration.

The project that I was developing during the AHDA fellowship was entitled "*(Re)writing Indonesian Genocide in 1965 in the Digital Age*," which will be creating an interactive digital platform about the facts related with the Indonesian mass killing in 1965 through materials such as collection of stories and memories of survivors, archival documents and digital cartography. This project aims to change the culture of history writing of Indonesian genocide issues by using digital technology. It also contributes to providing alternative materials in history education that enable learners and educators as well as wider society to get more access to formerly cloistered documents and stories and allow them to explore the issue for themselves.

Networking@Columbia:

Elazar Barkan, Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs

Louis Bickford, the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Adjunct Professor

Alex Gil, Digital Humanities at Columbia University

Pamela Graham, Director of Global Studies, Director of the Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research

Classes:

NGOs and the Human Rights Movement, L. Bickford

Human Rights and Human Wrongs, B. Cronin

Networking/Site Visits:

Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR)

George Washington University

Heinrich Böll Foundation

Human Rights Watch

International Center on Nonviolent Conflict

International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

Mmuseumm

National Archives

National Endowment for Democracy

National Museum of African American History and Culture

National September 11 Memorial and Museum

New York Times

New York University

Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights

StoryCorps

The Enough Project

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

White and Case

WITNESS

Speaking Engagements:

Presented at the film screening for “Films as a Site of Memory”

Presented on the ‘Historical Dialogue and Global Human Rights Panel Discussion,’ Baruch College

Presented to the “Introduction to Human Rights’ class by Prof. A.Nathan



AHDA Fellows visiting September 11 Memorial Museum



BAYAR MUSTAFA SEVDEEN

American University of Kurdistan

Iraq

Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow

I am an Assistant Professor and researcher at the College of International Studies at the American University of Kurdistan. In the past, I served as a diplomat with the Division of Turkey at Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2010 to 2013. My wider research interests are history, regional and international politics of the Middle East with a focus on Kurdish politics in Iraq, Syria and Turkey as well as Kurdistan region domestic politics and the relations between diverse groups. I published four books and currently I am working on my latest book entitled '*Contemporary Politics of Kurds and Kurdistan.*' I have conducted and engaged in numerous research projects on Yazidi's genocide and other minority status in the Kurdistan Region, Iraq and Syria. I am currently involved in ongoing projects focusing on Yazidi and other religious groups in the Middle East.

My other activities, research and projects were conducted in collaboration with international foundations and universities. The most recent are: a collaborative research project on "*Peace-building, Gender and Social Connections in Kurdistan, targeting Yazidi Community*" by Tearfund and Queen Margaret University; a research project on "Return Migration to Iraqi Kurdistan" by Coventry University (UK); a survey on the Kurdistan Region's Independence Referendum in Sinjar Provinces designed and implemented by the Center for Peace and Human Security and a project of security forces of KRG in Sinjar and disputed areas by Harvard University. The latest project is entitled "After the Last "Firman": *Victimhood, Survival and Societal Transformation among the Yazidis,*" conducted with London School of Economics and the University of Central Florida. I am also one of the co-organizers of conference "*Beyond IS: The future of religious minorities in Iraq and the Middle East*" which is realized in collaboration with the European Parliament.

As an AHDA fellow, I pursued a project "*The Voice of the 74th Genocide: A Platform for Yazidi Youths.*" The focus of the project is memory work of Yazidis, the trauma they faced in August 2014 and reconciliation of their relations with their Muslim neighbors, both Kurds and Arabs. Another issue that project will address is how to initiate a 'trust building' process through historical dialogue between Kurds and Arabs (the specific situation of Yazidis Distrust in Arabs and difficulties in re-communicating with the Kurds). The ultimate goal of the project is to provide a suitable platform for Yazidi youth in order to give voice to their own stories, to deepen the discussion and to reveal the root causes of the mistrust as well as to foster their motivation of searching solutions.



AHDA Fellow presenting during the panel with USHMM

Networking@Columbia:

Jody Cheng-Hopkins, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Pamela Graham, Director of Global Studies, Director of the Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research

Brigitte L. Nacos, Adjunct Professor of Political Science

David L. Phillips, Director, Peacebuilding and Rights

John Washburn, Director, International Criminal Court Program

Naomi Weinberger, Professor of International and Public Affairs

Zoe West, Lecturer of ISHR

Classes:

Building Peace after Conflict, J. Cheng-Hopkins

Human Rights and Oral History, Z. West

Middle East Conflicts and Global Security, N. Weinberger

Teaching Human Rights Workshop, K. Eberbach and S. Sirota

Networking/Site Visits:

Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR)

Centre for American Progress

Heinrich Böll Foundation

Human Rights Watch

International Center on Nonviolent Conflict

International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

Machik: Incubating Social Innovation for Tibet

Mmuseumm

National Endowment for Democracy

National Museum of African American History and Culture

National September 11 Memorial and Museum

New York University

Peace Research and Education Program, New York University

Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights

StoryCorps

The Aspen Institute

White & Case

WITNESS

Speaking Engagements:

Panelist during the movie screening “82 Names: Syria: Please Don’t Forget Us,” co-sponsored by the US Holocaust Memorial Museum

Presenter at the ‘Ethical Issues in Museums’ class by Prof. Sally M. Yerkovich on the topic of Censorship and Controversy

Presenter at the “Introduction to Human Rights’ class by Prof. A. Nathan

Presenter on the US policy in Iraq and Kurdistan Region in post ISIS’s era, University of Central Florida, November 2018

Presenter at the “Middle East Conflict and Global Security” class, November 2018



JOANNA TALEWICZ-KWIATKOWSKA

Jagiellonian University

Poland

Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow

I am an Assistant Professor at the Intercultural Studies Institute, Jagiellonian University and an Academic Advisor for Memorial and Museum at Auschwitz-Birkenau. Also, I am a lecturer in the postgraduate studies program: Totalitarianism-Nazism-Holocaust established by the Memorial and Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau. My other experiences include serving as a fellow of Leadership Academy for Poland (2016), grantee of the Fulbright scholarship (2015, 2016), grantee of the European Commission's program '*Marie Curie - Conferences and Training Courses on Multi-Disciplinary and Cross-National Approaches to Romani Studies*' (Central European University, 2009), and International Leadership Visitor Program of the U.S. State Department Program. I am focused on Roma communities in Europe and the U.S. During Fulbright scholarship, I conducted the project "*Migration of European Roma people to the USA since the 1990s and the social and economic situation of Roma people in Central and Eastern Europe.*"

My main area of work is related to the Roma Holocaust. I have incorporated the Roma history in educational programs of the Memorial and Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau. In addition, I have conducted lectures, seminars and workshops about Roma Holocaust in the context of acknowledgment and memorialization. I represent Roma communities in social, educational campaigns and in the media, and I initiate and I lead various projects concerning the Roma history and present situation. I am an author, co-author and co-editor of many books (to name a few) such as, '*Direction: Future, 25 Years of Freedom and the Roma People*' (2018); '*The Influence of the EU Financial Activities on the Social Situation of the Roma People in Poland*' (2013) by Jagiellonian University Publishing House; '*The Roma and Sinti in Auschwitz*' (2011) by Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and many others.

During AHDA fellowship, I have worked on the research project "*One-way ticket 1981 in Oświęcim*" which is about series of the act of violence against the Roma, including setting their houses on fire, destruction of property and acts of physical aggression. As a result, the Roma left Poland and settled in Sweden. The project will be the first systematic, multi-disciplinary study of these events and the post-migration history of Oświęcim based Roma community. This multidisciplinary research will include comprise History, Political Science, Migration Studies and Anthropology, and later will be collected in a book.

Networking@Columbia:

Elazar Barkan, Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs

Alex Gil, Digital Humanities at Columbia University

Cristiana Grigore, Roma People's Project at Columbia University

Classes:

African American History, C. Naylor

Human Rights and Human Wrongs, B. Cronin

Networking/Site Visits:

Anne Frank Center

Civic Hall

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

German Embassy in New York

Graduate School of Jewish Studies

Heinrich Böll Foundation

Human Rights Watch

International Center on Nonviolent Conflict

International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

National Democratic Institute

National Endowment for Democracy

National Museum of African American History and Culture

National September 11 Memorial and Museum

Open Society Foundation

Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights

Rutgers University

StoryCorps

The Aspen Institute

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

White & Case Law Firm

WITNESS

Speaking Engagements:

Presented on the topic 'Historical Dialogue and Global Human Rights - Memorialization and Commemoration of the Roma Holocaust,' Baruch College

Presented at the 'Ethical Issues in Museums' class by Prof. Sally M. Yerkovich on the topic of Censorship and Controversy

Presented at the International Scholar Panel on "Roma Communities and Aspects of Grief: Anthropology and Literature Approaches," Columbia University



AHDA Fellow during the seminar with Professor Barkan



LATIFE ULUÇINAR

Anadolu Kültür

Turkey

Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow

My interest in the field began when I was a teenager growing up in Turkey with its legacy of the 1980 coup d'état. The massive destruction, the numerous serious human rights violations that took place during 90's made me question the roots of identity-based conflicts in Turkey and the history behind them. This led to my focus on identity politics and their political, social and philosophical foundations. I took part in projects on cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue, inmates' rights, women's rights and youth involvement in social issues. In 2013, I began working at Anadolu Kültür, where I combine two main interests - arts and culture with social change. Established as a not-for-profit cultural organization in 2002, Anadolu Kültür works to overcome differences within Turkey by bringing diverse cultural groups and communities together through the arts and culture. By promoting civic dialogue, the organization contributes to social change and the development of a society, which values pluralism where cultural diversity is perceived as an asset, rather than a source of conflict.

At Anadolu Kültür, I coordinate '*BAK: Revealing the City Through Memory*' (2013 to 2018), a project developed based on the needs arising from the social and political environment in Turkey, which had become more polarized as a result of the Kurdish conflict. The BAK, a cultural dialogue and exchange project, brings together young people from cities from the east and the west of Turkey. It enables young people not only to explore each other and the land they live in, but also to record stories about collective and individual memories of the cities they live in. While coordinating this project, I realized the importance of creating a space for cultural exchange that not only helps people to know the "other," but at the same time leads to mutual understanding and establishment of a dialogue. Revealing and addressing the past allows people to assess the hegemonic narrative and helps to establish a healthy relationship with the present.

At the present, Turkey is going through a social and political process where democracy has been in considerable decline. The law has been instrumentalised to suppress the freedom of self-expression and society has become more polarized around ethnic identities, religion, culture class and life-styles. Critical voices are being repressed and silenced. Passing through increasingly those ahistorical times, approaching ever-escalating polarization by detaching them from the political, social and cultural structures that lead to them as if they do not have past makes it more difficult to analyze and to see into the future. The project that I developed at AHDA aims at creating safe ground to encourage interactive dialogue between different views and interpretations of historical narratives in order to promote democratic values and open alternative spaces for our polarized society and politics. Taking into consideration the evolution of narratives and the polarized shape they take currently in Turkey the project will bring together people coming from different social and cultural backgrounds to foster a common ground for alternative and critical envisagement and imagination.



AHDA Fellows during site visits

Networking@Columbia:

Elazar Barkan, Director, the Institute for the Study of Human Rights

Paul Martin, Director of Human Rights Studies at Barnard College

Margaret McLagan, Visiting Professor of Professional Practice

Tunç Şen, Assistant Professor, Department of History

Amy Starecheski, Director, Oral History Master of Arts Program

Classes:

NGOs and the Human Rights Movement, L. Bickford

Human Rights and Urban Public Space, N. Chasin

Networking/Site Visits:

Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation

Freedom House

Games for Change

Hakawati-Disruptive Narrative

Heinrich Böll Foundation

Human Rights Watch

International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ)

International Center on Nonviolent Conflict

International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

Mmuseumm

National Endowment for Democracy

National Museum of African American History and Culture

National September 11 Memorial and Museum

New York Peace Institute

Open Society Foundation

Open Society Justice Initiatives

Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights

School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University

Search for Common Ground

StoryCorps

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

White & Case Law Firm

WITNESS

Speaking Engagements:

Presented at the class 'Ethical Issues in Museums' by Prof. Sally M. Yerkovich on the topic of Censorship and Controversy

Presenter at the film screening for "Films as a Site of Memory"

Presenter to the "Introduction to Human Rights" class by Prof. A. Nathan

Presenter to the "Human Rights and Urban Public Space" class by Prof N. Chasin



AHDA Fellows' Trip to Washington D.C. November 2018

AHDA Fellows Trip to Washington D.C. November 2018

In November 2018, the AHDA fellows took a three-day trip to Washington, D.C. The purpose of the trip was to bond together as a group outside the formal structure of the program in New York and to take advantage of the historical and networking opportunities in Washington D.C. During the meetings and visits, the fellows were able to gain valuable insights into areas of focus related to historical dialogue, human rights and peace building for their specific regions as well as general exposure to a wide array of institutions.

Fellows interacted with the organizations and institutions mentioned below:

Washington D.C. Networking:

- Heinrich Böll Foundation North America
- International Center for Research on Women
- International Center on Nonviolent Conflict
- National Democratic Institute
- National Endowment for Democracy
- National Museum of African American History and Culture
- Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights
- School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University
- Search for Common Ground
- The Aspen Institute
- The Enough Project
- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

“

My experience with the AHDA fellowship has been very much beneficial at both-personal and my organization's level. First, having been together with people from different historical backgrounds, different country histories and different ways of dealing with history in post-conflict situation has been a rich experience. Second, workshops related to memories, history and human rights are of importance, especially when we have to design new projects. Theories mixed with practice exchange with our peers, speakers who visited during the program are inspiring.

— NICOLAS HABARUGIRA



AHDA fellows engaged with networks at the University, NYC and Washington DC

Workshops and Seminars

What are the potential advantages and impact of different vehicles and media on different types of audiences? What are the tropes, possibilities, limitations of print publications; school curricula and museum site preservation and memorialization? AHDA curriculum addresses these questions through a series of workshops and seminars that help the fellows explore the concepts and applications of historical dialogue. The program is deeply appreciative of the workshop and seminar instructors, who gave generously of their time, often making themselves available outside of scheduled sessions to ensure that fellows had the support and resources necessary to develop successful projects and to further their work in and understanding of the field of historical dialogue.

Archives and Documentation

[Pamela Graham, Columbia University](#)

Dr. Graham is a Director of the Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research at Columbia University. In her workshop with the fellows, Dr. Graham explores the Center's work archiving the materials of human rights organizations around the world and the practical applications of such work. She also discusses how archiving can become an effective tool for advocacy and coalition building. The Columbia University houses many unique archives from around the world. The fellows were able to explore very rare human rights archives documenting historic events in their countries of origin dating few decades back.

Capacity Building Workshops

[Joanna Brucker, New Knowledge](#)

Training led by Joanna Brucker focuses on developing front-end evaluation tools for project planning, including defining intended audiences and goals for impact and indicators of success. The workshop explores topics: What categories/groups of people are implicated in the past trauma you are remembering? What social change are you trying to effect through your work? Who are you targeting in order to effect that change?

Why are they the most effective group(s) to target in order to effect that change?

Designing Museums, Memorials, and Exhibits Workshop

[Paul Williams, Ralph Appelbaum Associates](#)

Dr. Williams is a Senior Content Developer at the museum design firm, Ralph Appelbaum Associates. Dr. Williams' work for Ralph Appelbaum Associates involves planning, research and conceptualization of content for globally significant new museum projects with a human rights focus. In his seminar, Dr. Williams explored the problematics of "exhibiting" trauma, and different strategies and challenges of confronting violent pasts through visual media and museum modes.

Gendered Storytelling Workshop

[Radhika Hettiarachchi, Sri Lanka](#)

Radhika Hettiarachchi presented experiences in creating projects on memorialization and reconciliation in Sri Lanka. She also shared experiences of collaborating with global organizations and funders to advance memory mapping and gendered historical dialogue stories.



AHDA Fellows participated in the workshop at WITNESS



AHDA Fellows visiting ICTJ in New York

Historical Dialogue as Conflict Transformation Seminar

[Elazar Barkan, Columbia University](#)

Dr. Elazar Barkan is a Professor of International and Public Affairs and a Director of the Human Rights Concentration at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs, as well as the Director of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights (ISHR). A historian by training, Dr. Barkan has a particular interest in historical memory. During the semester, fellows examine goals, objectives and questions raised within the field of historical dialogue.

Oral History and Human Rights: Methodologies and Practice

[Mary Marshall Clark, Columbia University](#)

Mary Marshall Clark is a Director of the Columbia Center for Oral History and co-founder/ director of

Columbia's Oral History Master of Arts (OHMA) degree program. Prior to this, she was an oral historian and filmmaker at the New York Times. Her workshop provided fellows with an introduction to oral history theories and practices, interview techniques in oral history, and the application of oral history in historical dialogue projects.

Role of Art, History of Violence in Memory Work and Resistance Workshop

[Marianne Hirsch, Andreas Huysee and Isin Onol, Columbia University](#)

Initiated by AHDA fellow Latife Uluçinar, the workshop focused on the topic of the role of art, history of violence in memory work and resistance, and involved discussion of specific case studies and examples that illustrated most effective approaches in this regard.

“

[AHDA] opened me up to a new field of study that I did not know existed before coming across the institution. We often speak of conflict resolution, restorative justice and so on, but it all starts with not only dialogue, but understanding the complexities including culture, history and regions of the people we are aiming to help. Ideas such as the right to truth and memory activism need more attention. I learned about the importance of not only advocacy, but the power that is necessary to draw needed attention to a specific issue when we advocate. Historical dialogue can be interpreted in many different ways and is, thus, adaptable to a lot of projects that have to do with addressing the past and how it is connected to the present. — SAMANTHA NYASHA MANDIVEYI

“

My project is more robust as a result of the AHDA program. The program is intense. It requires a significant focus and time developing your project. Historical dialogue should be used as a tool to develop an understanding between those wronged and those who are responsible for the historical injustice. Ultimately, the goal is to develop a way to go forward either through acknowledgement or other reconciliation practices. — LINDA J. MANN

Storytelling Workshop

Nicholas Cadena, *StoryCorps*

'StoryCorps' mission is to preserve and share humanity's stories in order to build connections between people and create a more just and compassionate world. This workshop allows the fellows to hone skills in collecting stories to preserve our shared humanity, to strengthen and build the connections between people, to teach the value of listening, and to weave into the fabric of our culture the understanding that everyone's story matters. At the same time, it teaches how to create an invaluable historical dialogue archive for the future generations.

Teaching History and History Education Workshop

Karen Murphy, *Facing History and Ourselves*

Dr. Karen Murphy is the Director of International Programs for Facing History and Ourselves. Her work fo-

cus on history education, particularly in communities where contested narratives about the past lead to pressing challenges regarding how to teach history. The workshop explored some of the educational approaches and techniques that 'Facing History and Ourselves' employs in its work in post-conflict societies.

Teaching Human Rights Workshop

Kristina Eberbach, *Columbia University* and Sandra Sirota, *Advocacy Lab*

The workshop provided training and professional development to human rights and social justice professionals and students. The workshops addressed both practical skills and thematic issues intended to enhance the work of those engaged in human rights, historical dialogue and social justice work. These include Research and Documentation, Human Rights Campaigns and Advocacy, Organizational Leadership for Human Rights, Teaching Human Rights, and Business and Human Rights.



AHDA Fellows meeting at Human Rights Watch



AHDA Fellows introduced themselves to University community

“

AHDA was an opportunity for me to do networking and visit some big organizations to hear what they do so far, and grow my knowledge about historical dialogue. The seminars that we had with Prof. Elazar Barkan deepened my understanding about this field, and it's good to learn it from academic perspectives. I did not have a chance doing this before as my background is an activist and what I did is to directly assist survivors. The concept of Transitional Justice from the seminar class has changed my idea about doing advocacy in Indonesia. — KARTIKA PRATIWI

“

If you work on Transitional Justice, Memory, Reconciliation, Dealing with the Past, Historical Research, Peace Education, Peace Building, Research and Art, Museum, etc. this program is a step beyond what you've learned from your experience and from your peers. It helps looking at conflict, trauma, memory, justice from a more narrowed and intimate perspective. It helps you make sense of what you do, and provides safe space for reflection and exchange. — KORAB KRASNIQI

Video Advocacy Workshop

Jackie Zammuto, WITNESS

Jackie Zammuto, is the Program Manager at WITNESS and currently oversees organization's work in the US. Zammuto's workshop provided an overview of video advocacy with examples from around the world as well as insights regarding the challenges and benefits of the media landscape. The workshop included hands-on exercises on digital advocacy and how it might fit into the fellows' historical dialogue work.

War Crimes Investigations Workshop

Anjli Parrin, Columbia University

The workshop introduced the use of forensics tools and human rights to further truth and criminal accountability for mass atrocities in the Central African Republic. Anjli Parrin is a Legal Fellow with the project on War Crimes and Mass Graves at Columbia Law School. She is a Legal Fellow with both the Human Rights Clinic and Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team, working on the Clinic and Institute's project on war crimes and mass graves. The workshop reviewed the use of forensics and human rights to further truth and criminal accountability for mass atrocities.



AHDA Fellows in a meeting with HRAP Advocates

Web Design, Digital Media, and Historical Dialogue Workshop

Alex Gil, Columbia University

Dr. Alex Gil is a member of the Department of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University and is the Digital Scholarship Coordinator in the Office of the Digital Humanities. In his workshop on digital and web projects, Dr. Gil spoke to fellows about the potentials and problematics of using web and websites as a vehicle for historical dialogue projects. He also spoke about the digital resources available at Columbia for fellows interested in developing media/websites on specific topics.

Writing About Historical Dialogue Topics Workshop

Brian Phillips, Journal of Human Rights Practice

The co-founder of the Journal of Human Rights Practice (Oxford), Brian Phillips introduced the trends in contemporary publications on human rights topics, and shared tips on how to collect and describe experiences related to collecting historical dialogue archives.

“

As an AHDA fellow, I was able to develop a strategy for my research and interests and produce new project with effective design. History and memory are the main tools for overcoming long-lasting conflicts, preventing genocide and re-engaging communities who were under campaigns or have been victims of genocide campaigns. They can decide a better future and policies and better management of differences and conflicts with other ethnic groups. Giving voice to the truth is not a reason for renewing conflict but it could be the best way to prevent conflicts and genocide. I've learned how to better advocate for the rights of the groups who experienced it and to suggest a set of tools for advocacy and memory documentation.— BAYAR SEVDEEN

“

I appreciated the people who participate in this program, their perspectives and experiences. It was very important and intensive time in my life. I did my best to use this time for my research, not only to connect with the program but in wider context. Great events, classes, library and people. I would advise to focus on development the area of interests and advocacy using the sources and contacts.

— JOANNA TALEWICZ-KWIATKOWSKA

Institute for the Study of Human Rights

The Institute for the Study of Human Rights (ISHR) was established in 1978 at Columbia University as the Center for the Study of Human Rights (CDHR). In spring 2010, Columbia University elevated CSHR to the level of an institute. ISHR is committed to its three core goals of providing excellent human rights education to Columbia University students, fostering innovative interdisciplinary academic research and offering its expertise in capacity building to human rights leaders, organizations and universities around the world.

ISHR (then CSHR) was the first academic center in the world to be founded on an interdisciplinary commitment to the study of human rights. This remains one of our most distinctive features. We recognize that human rights research must transcend traditional academic boundaries, departments, and disciplines, reaching out to practitioners to address the ever-increasing complexities of human rights in a globalized world. ISHR's emphases on interdisciplinarity, engagement and globalism draw from and complement the strengths that have long characterized intellectual life at Columbia University

Institute for the Study of Human Rights Staff

Irene Atamian, Business Manager

Elazar Barkan, Director of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights

Christine Caldera, Program Coordinator, Peace-building and Rights Program

Kristina Renee Eberbach, Director, Education Program

Elyse Greenblatt, Program Coordinator

Stephanie V. Grepo, Director, Capacity Building program

Gergana Halpern, Program Manager, Education

J. Paul Martin, Director of Human Rights Studies at Barnard College

Lara Nettelfield, Director of Graduate Studies

Sandra Paunksniene, Assistant Director, Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability

David L. Phillips, Director, Peacebuilding and Rights Program

Amal Qadeer, Program Coordinator

Elsa Stamatopoulou, Director, Indigenous Peoples' Rights Program

John Washburn, Adjunct Research Scholar, International Criminal Court Program



With the program, I realized once again that without dealing with past, it is impossible to build a peace in any given society. Along with legal processes, the integration of history, memory to the conflict resolution is necessary. It is crucial to make the disputable histories visible, to deconstruct conflicting narratives in order to put them in a dialogical relation. The dialogue, which takes the history at its core, is an ongoing process and involves diverse efforts and agents – academy, historians, civil society, advocates, journalist, victim, state organs, etc. Though not all these agents always move accordingly, any efforts are an achievement for the dialogue. — LATIFE ULUÇINAR

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