

**LOOK
AND DON'T
FORGET**

Roma Genocide
Remembrance Initiative

**DIKH
HE NA
BISTER**



DIKH HE NA BISTER - Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative 2018 Krakow/Auschwitz (Poland), July 29 – August 4, 2018

“Dikh he na Bister” Youth Event around Roma Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 in Krakow

Around the Roma Holocaust Memorial Day on 2 August 2018, we gather about 250 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. With this initiative Roma youth advocates for the official recognition of 2 August as the Roma Holocaust Memorial Day to pay homage to the victims, heroes, survivors, and strengthen the identity based on the deep knowledge of the past.

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

www.2august.eu



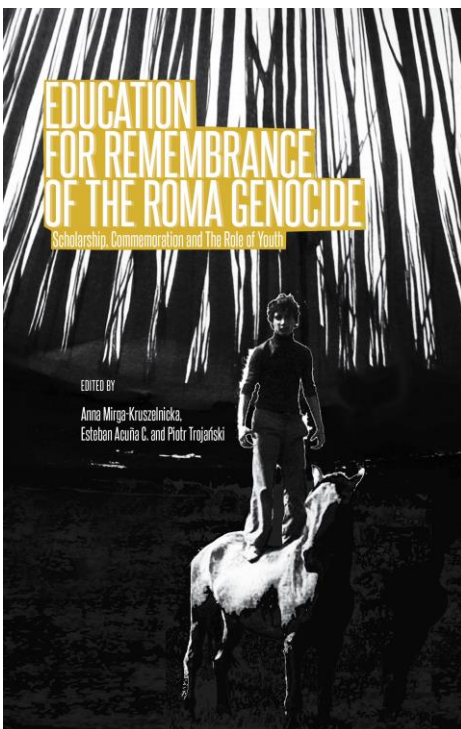
Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative

»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 anti-Gypsyism 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 hundreds 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](#)

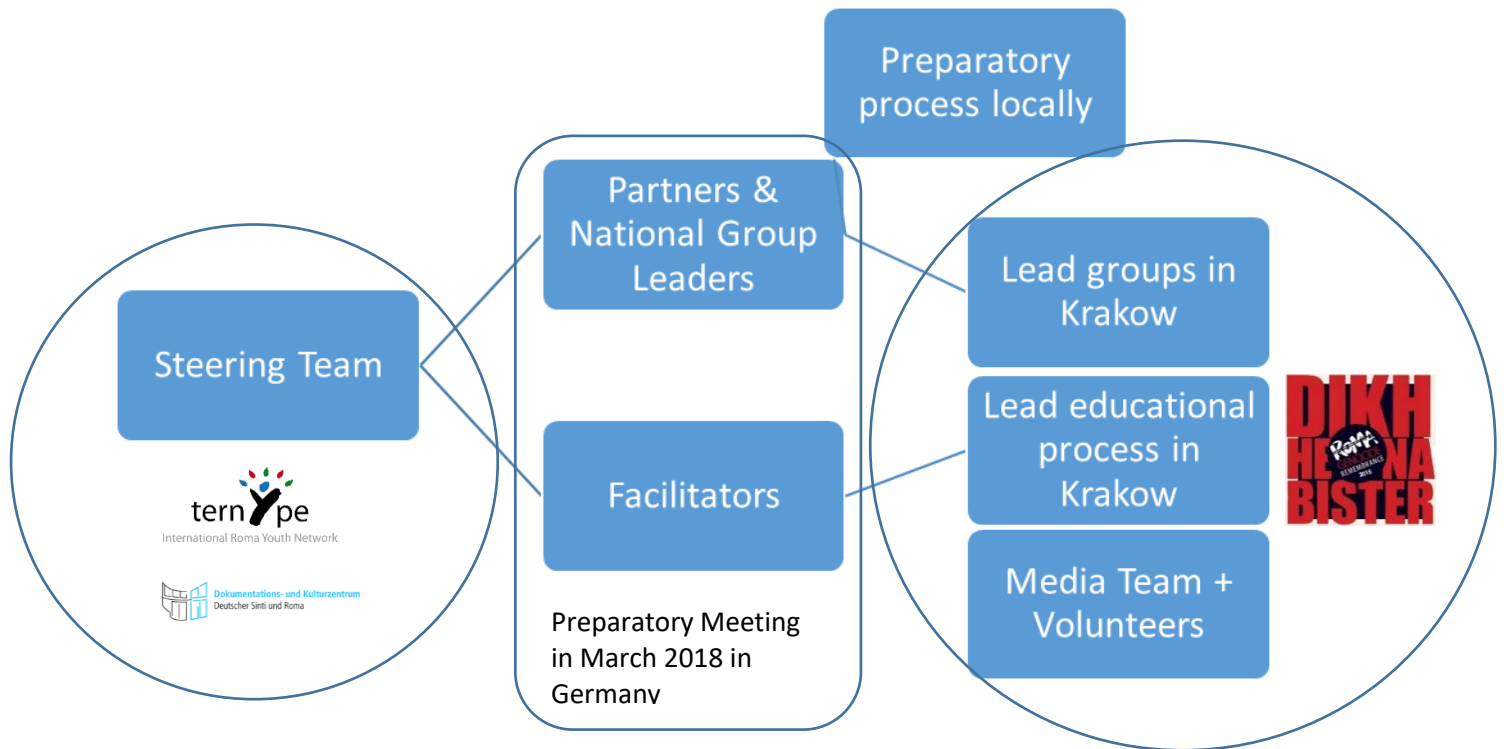


CONCEPT IN 2018

- **20 facilitators** participate in a preparatory seminar in March 2018 in Germany; they will run the educational workshops during the 5-days lasting program in Krakow.
- **15 national group leaders** participate in a preparatory seminar in March 2018 in Germany, then prepare their groups at home, and accompany their educational process and assist the organization of the event in Krakow.
- **National groups consist of 10-15 people in Krakow:** 2 leaders (experienced leader and “junior” leader” who participated before in Dikh he na bister) and 8 or 13 participants (18 to 30 years old, never participated before in Dikh he na bister, participants of one group shall be able to assist each other language wise in English and Romani). The overall event will have about 250 participants, including 200 participants and group leaders, 20 facilitators, volunteers and staff.
- **A preparatory seminar will take place in March 2018 in the former concentration camp Dachau, near Munich, Germany,** in order to build a quality educational program for “Dikh he na Bister” and to strengthen the capacity of facilitators and national group leaders for their responsibilities during “Dikh he na Bister”. The 2018 preparatory seminar will not focus on the conceptual development of Dikh He Na Bister (like in 2017), but focus on a training on content/knowledge about the Roma Genocide, and on educational methods for trainers of non-formal / human rights education.
- **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.



ROLES



PROFILE OF THE FACILITATORS

- Roma and non-Roma facilitators and trainers of non-formal education that have already a basic experience in leading non-formal educational activities;
- Facilitators have an experience in working with Roma youth, Holocaust Remembrance and Human Rights Education.
- Facilitators shall speak English and/or Romanes; (other languages are an additional advantage)
- Facilitators participate both in the preparatory seminar in Dachau (March 2018) and in the Dikh He Na Bister event in Krakow (August 2018).
- During the preparatory seminar, the facilitators receive content and methodological preparation, they prepare and develop the educational process of the DIKH HE NA BISTER event in Krakow, and they clarify their roles and responsibilities in the project.

PROFILE OF THE NATIONAL GROUP LEADERS

- 2 national group leaders are nominated by the official partner organizations of the DIKH HE NA BISTER initiative; it is obligatory that 1 of the group leaders of each partner participates in the preparatory seminar in April in Heidelberg;
- Roma and non-Roma youth leaders that have already a basic experience in leading non-formal educational activities; ideally have participated before in DIKH HE NA BISTER in Krakow;
- Experience in working with Roma youth, Holocaust Remembrance and Human Rights Education.
- Leaders shall speak English and/or Romanes; (other languages are an additional advantage)
- 1 leader per partner is willing to participate both in the preparatory seminar in Dachau (March 2018) and 2 leaders per partner in the Dikh He Na Bister event in Krakow (August 2018).
- During the preparatory seminar, they receive content and methodological preparation themselves, they plan the preparatory process of the participants, and they clarify their roles and responsibilities in the project.

PROGRAM

Program

- **Official commemoration:** The main commemoration ceremony takes place on August 2 at 11/12 AM at the memorial for the murdered Roma and Sinti in Birkenau. Moreover, young people in their seminar groups will prepare their own commemoration moments.
- **Educational seminar:** 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.
- **Meetings with Holocaust survivors:** We aim to create meetings of dialogue and learning between Holocaust survivors and eyewitnesses with young people.
- **Visit to Auschwitz:** All the groups will visit the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum on July 30.
- **Arrival/Departure:** All participants arrive on 29.07.2018, until the afternoon and depart on 04.08.2018 (or alternatively on 03.08.2018 in the evening)

MON – 30.07.2018	TUE – 31.07.2018	WED – 01.08.2018	THU – 02.08.2018	FRI – 03.08.2018
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 04.08.2018

PARTICIPANT

Participants profile and roles:

- **Participants:** We expect that all young people (18 to 30 years) participate for the first time in “Dikh he na bister”. Previous participants of Dikh he na Bister can take the role as national group leaders, engage as facilitators or as volunteers.
- **National Group Leaders:** Each country group shall assign 2 national group leaders (main leader and “junior” leader) for a group of 8 or 13 participants, thus, the delegation consists generally of 10-15 people. The group leaders have an important role to play to coordinate the group, to pass information between the organizers and the participants, to support their learning process and translation if needed.
- **Facilitators:** We invite 20 people with experience in facilitation and training in human rights and holocaust education to join the event as facilitators. The facilitators will build the learning process with one group of 15-20 participants from the beginning until the end.
- **Volunteers:** We invite few previous participants of “Dikh he na bister” to join the event as volunteers making this a wonderful event for everybody.
- **Social Media:** We invite each partner organization to assign 1-2 participants of their group as the (social) media coordinators to bring visibility to the event, as well as to support the international media team during the event!

Limited number of participants

- The event will just include 250 people including participants, facilitators and volunteers. We expect 15 national groups consisting of 10-15 participants each (8 participants + 2 leaders), plus a group of facilitators and volunteers.
- The number is limited in order to make a good quality educational event. The organizers will agree with each partner organization on the exact number of participants that can come.

Preparation of the participants:

- **Preparation before arrival:** As almost all the participants participate for the first time in a visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and in DIKH HE NA BISTER we consider it “obligatory” that all participants participate in preparatory activities.
- **Suggested topics:**
 - Expectations: What do participants expect from the journey? How is the journey organized and what should participants know about your group/the journey?
 - What has happened during WWII? Why is remembrance important for us today?
 - Local connection: Can the participants/leaders find information about the history of the Roma Genocide in their local environment/country? Can the participants meet an eyewitness or watch a video-testimony that addresses the local history?
- **Available materials:**
 - **Right to Remember:** [Right to Remember - educational toolkit on Roma Genocide](#)
 - **Council of Europe:** [European pack for visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum. Guidelines for teachers and educators](#)
 - **ternYpe Publication:** [Publication of “Dikh he na bister”](#)
 - **Rromani Resistance Website:** <http://rromani-resistance.com/>
 - **Roma Sinti Genocide Website:** <http://www.romasintigenocide.eu/>
 - **Roma in Auschwitz:** http://lekcja.auschwitz.org/en_roma_auschwitz/story.html

Financial conditions: What are the conditions to participate?

- All groups join the whole 5-day program.
- ternYpe covers the accommodation, board and program costs in Krakow.
- Partner organizations or participants have to cover the travel costs to Krakow, and any additional private expenses.
- Partners in all countries should start early enough to organize and fundraise for a bus or for flights. Partners from neighbouring countries can cooperate to finance a bus together. We can support your fundraising activities with recommendation letters, ideas, contacts etc.

Selection and registration of participants

Group leaders/partner organizations are responsible to select participants, as well as to collect the information and registration of participants and pass them to the coordination team.

Independent guests:

We expect that former participants of Dikh he na Bister are interested to come to the 2 August commemoration, as well as leaders of their organizations without being the national group leaders. Such guests can attend for 2-3 days the event, they pay their own travel, as well as a fee of 100 € for accommodation and board. However, they generally cannot join the closed seminar groups.

Accommodation:

[Hotel Studencki Zaczek](#), al.3 Maja 5, 30-063 Krakow, Poland

Attention: The coordination with the hotel is in the hands of ternYpe. For any questions, please contact her, and not the hotel. Contact person: ternype@romayouth.com

Travel arrangements and Dates

Travel is arranged by the partner organizations.

Arrival: morning / noon time on July 29, 2018 (opening in the late afternoon/evening), we suggest that long distance buses leave already on July 28th to arrive in Krakow on July 29th.

Departure: August 3rd after 8 pm in the evening, flights can leave on August 4th.

Team arrival: Facilitators and some volunteers are invited to arrive earlier (tbc).

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, as well as it is administratively and educationally supported by the Council of Europe through the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Roma issues and the Youth Department.



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

