



International Visitor Leadership Program

U.S. Department of State

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media

A Regional Project

October 24 – November 18, 2022

Arranged By:

World Learning



World Learning
EDUCATION | DEVELOPMENT | EXCHANGE

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

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Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

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PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Program Sponsor
United States Department of State
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
International Visitor Leadership Program

The U.S. Department of State helps to shape a freer, more secure and more prosperous world through formulating, representing and implementing the President’s foreign policy. The Secretary of State is the President’s principal adviser on foreign policy and the person chiefly responsible for U.S. representation abroad.

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs fosters mutual understanding between the United States and other countries through international educational, professional and cultural exchanges. The Bureau promotes personal, professional and institutional ties between private citizens and organizations in the United States and abroad, and presents U.S. history, society, art and culture in all of its diversity to overseas audiences.

The Office of International Visitors manages and funds the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). Launched in 1940, the IVLP seeks to build mutual understanding between the United States and other nations through carefully designed professional visits to the United States for current and emerging foreign leaders. These visits reflect the visitors’ professional interests and support the foreign policy goals of the U.S. government. Each year over 4,500 IVLP participants from all over the world are selected by U.S. embassies to travel to the United States to meet and confer with their professional counterparts. Through these encounters, they gain a greater understanding of the cultural and political influences in U.S. society and enjoy a firsthand experience of the United States, its people and its culture. Visitors represent government, politics, the media, education, nongovernmental organizations, the arts, public health, international security, business and trade, and other fields. Over 320 current and former heads of government and state and many other distinguished world leaders in the public and private sectors have participated in the International Visitor Leadership Program.

The Office of International Visitors seeks to provide a broad and balanced range of perspectives in the International Visitor Leadership Program. To this end, programs include a variety of appointments with individuals and representatives of organizations whose opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.

National Program Partner
World Learning

World Learning is a nonprofit organization that empowers people and strengthens communities and institutions around the globe through education, sustainable development, and international exchange programs. For 90 years, the organization has focused on developing human connections to solve local problems and empower future generations of leaders. Through a broad array of programs in more than 100 countries, World Learning offers a continuum of learning for people

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION (continued)

in high school, college, graduate school and in their professional lives. The Experiment in International Living, SIT Study Abroad, and SIT Graduate Institute specialize in programs that emphasize leadership, cross-cultural learning, and international cooperation. World Learning’s global development and exchange programs run community-driven development projects around the world. In addition, U.S. government-sponsored international exchange programs bring more than 2,000 emerging leaders from over 140 countries to the United States each year on professional, academic, and youth exchanges. World Learning is committed to integrating people with disabilities, women, LGBT people, religious and racial minorities, and other marginalized groups in all of its education, development, and exchange programs.

Local Program Partners
Members of Global Ties U.S.

In most U.S. cities outside of Washington, DC and New York City, World Learning works closely with members of Global Ties U.S., a network of over 80 nonprofit organizations dedicated to building international understanding by connecting their communities with the world. Private citizens involved in these organizations volunteer to open their homes, schools, businesses, local government and nongovernmental agencies to leaders from abroad. Community based members of Global Ties act as “local sponsors” of the International Visitor Leadership Program by arranging professional and social activities for participants who visit their communities.

Interpreters and International Visitor Liaisons
Office of Language Services

Interpreters and International Visitor Liaisons are professional freelance contractors hired by the Department of State’s Office of Language Services to provide language and administrative support specifically to your program. The Office of Language Services holds contracts with more than 1,400 interpreters and liaisons, all of whom have passed rigorous language testing, in the case of interpreters, and an assessment of relevant knowledge and problem-solving skills needed for IVLP projects. Interpreters are selected for each project to provide quality interpretation support for the in-depth and detailed discussions that take place during IVLP meetings. Interpreters may provide simultaneous or consecutive interpretation, depending on the needs of each session. In addition, the team may include an administrative interpreter responsible for assisting in administrative tasks that require language support. International Visitor Liaisons may provide administrative support to both the program team and participants. The roles of each member of the interpreter/liaison team will be described at the beginning of each project during the opening session.

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Lithuania	Ms. Yelyzaveta MUCHNIK Museum Specialist, Samuel Bak Museum
Lithuania	Mr. Mantas SIKSNIANAS Museology Specialist, Vilna Gaon Museum of Jewish History
Netherlands	Ms. Anne VAN MOURIK Ph.D. Candidate, NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust, and Genocide Studies
Spain	Mr. Israel DONCEL Head of Communications, Centro Sefarad-Israel
Spain	Ms. Maria ROYO Director of Communications, Federation of Jewish Communities in Spain
Sweden	Ms. Sofia NERBRAND Political Editor, <i>Kristianstadsbladet</i> and <i>Norra Skane</i>
Türkiye	Mr. Mustafa Alkim BAYRAKTAR Project Assistant, Yeditepe University
Türkiye	Ms. Liza CEMEL Project Coordinator, Kreuzberg Initiative Against Anti-Semitism (KIgA e.V.)

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PROGRAM CALENDAR

October 24 – November 18, 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 23	24	25	26 10:00 am Program Opening	27 10:00 am Anne Frank Center, University of South Carolina	28	29
30	31	November 1	2 10:00 am U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum	3 10:00 am Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism	4	5
6	7	8	9 10:00 am U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum	10 10:00 am U.S. Department of State – Global Engagement Center	11	12
13	14	15	16 10:00 am U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum	17 10:00 am Data Analytics – Tracking Harmful Online Speech and Measuring Interventions	18	

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USA MAP



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MEETING LOGIN INFORMATION SUMMARY

<p>Wednesday, October 26 10:00 AM EDT 3:00 PM WEST 4:00 PM CEST 5:00 PM EEST 5:00 PM TRT</p>	<p>Project Opening Duration: 90 minutes Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09 Meeting ID: 429 547 1884 Passcode: 123789</p>
<p>Thursday, October 27 10:00 AM EDT 3:00 PM WEST 4:00 PM CEST 5:00 PM EEST 5:00 PM TRT</p>	<p>Anne Frank Center at University of South Carolina <i>Hosted by Columbia Council for Internationals</i> Duration: 90 minutes Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09 Meeting ID: 429 547 1884 Passcode: 123789</p>
<p>Wednesday, November 2 10:00 AM EDT 2:00 PM WET 3:00 PM CET 4:00 PM EET 5:00 PM TRT</p>	<p>U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Session #1 Duration: 90 minutes Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09 Meeting ID: 429 547 1884 Passcode: 123789</p>
<p>Thursday, November 3 10:00 AM EDT 2:00 PM WET 3:00 PM CET 4:00 PM EET 5:00 PM TRT</p>	<p>Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism Duration: 60 minutes Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09 Meeting ID: 429 547 1884 Passcode: 123789</p>
<p>Wednesday, November 9 10:00 AM ET 3:00 PM WET 4:00 PM CET 5:00 PM EET 6:00 PM TRT</p>	<p>U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Session #2 Duration: 90 minutes Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09 Meeting ID: 429 547 1884 Passcode: 123789</p>
<p>Thursday, November 10 10:00 AM ET 3:00 PM WET 4:00 PM CET 5:00 PM EET 6:00 PM TRT</p>	<p>U.S. Department of State – Global Engagement Center Duration: 90 minutes Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09</p>

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	<p>Meeting ID: 429 547 1884 Passcode: 123789</p>
<p>Wednesday, November 16 10:00 AM ET 3:00 PM WET 4:00 PM CET 5:00 PM EET 6:00 PM TRT</p>	<p>U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Session #3 Duration: 90 minutes Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09 Meeting ID: 429 547 1884 Passcode: 123789</p>
<p>Thursday, November 17 10:00 AM ET 3:00 PM WET 4:00 PM CET 5:00 PM EET 6:00 PM TRT</p>	<p>Data Analytics – Harmful Online Speech and Interventions <i>Hosted by New York Programming Branch</i> Duration: 90 minutes Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09 Meeting ID: 429 547 1884 Passcode: 123789</p>

CITY DESCRIPTIONS

WASHINGTON, DC

Washington, District of Columbia, is located where the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers meet, between the states of Maryland and Virginia. The population of the city today is approximately 706,000.

Washington serves as the capital of the United States, but it is not part of any state. Named for George Washington and Christopher Columbus, the city was created as the seat of the federal government by an act of Congress in 1790. Major Andrew Ellicott, a mathematician, and Benjamin Banneker, one of the first black civil servants of the United States and a scientist well known for producing one of the first series of almanacs published in the nation, were appointed to survey the new Federal city. Pierre L'Enfant, a French soldier and engineer, laid out the plans for the federal city with boulevards and open spaces inspired by L'Enfant's hometown, Paris. The city suffered a major setback during the War of 1812, when British troops entered Washington and burned the public buildings. The District of Columbia renewed itself after the fires, growing slowly but steadily.

The city was administered by Congress until 1974, when “home rule,” or government by an elected mayor and city council, was granted. The residents of the District are represented in Congress by a non-voting delegate who may take part in hearings, floor debate, and other functions of Congress. Under the 23rd Amendment to the Constitution, D.C. residents' votes are represented in the Electoral College that elects the President. However, because it is not a state, the District does not have a vote in either the Senate or the House of Representatives.

The Washington D.C. metro area enjoys all four seasons but wide variations in temperatures are common in the transition seasons of fall and spring. The summers are hot and humid, with feels-like temperatures in the 90s degrees Fahrenheit range (32 to 37 degrees Celsius) for long stretches, and winter temperatures can dip below the freezing mark.

Washington D.C.'s major business is national and international politics. The leading private industry is tourism, with eighteen to nineteen million visitors coming to the city every year.

Washington is also a major educational and research center with many colleges and universities; the list includes, Georgetown University, the George Washington University, Howard University, American University, the Catholic University of America, the University of the District of Columbia, and Gallaudet University, a renowned university for the deaf. In addition, many political, economic, and medical research institutes are located in Washington.

The U.S. capital attracts millions of visitors each year due to the numerous museums and other historical attractions. The National Mall, located between Constitution and Independence Avenues, forms the axis of the city, with the United States Capitol Building and the Supreme Court at the east end and the Lincoln Memorial to the west. The Smithsonian Institution's museums

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border the Mall to the north and south. The White House, the Washington Monument, the National Archives (which exhibits the original U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence), and numerous other memorials are located on or near the National Mall. Many federal agencies also have buildings in the area.

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

The geographic center of the Palmetto State, on the fall line at the confluence of the Broad and Saluda Rivers, joining to become the Congaree River, was chosen by the Legislature as the location for the country's first planned capital city in 1786. Interestingly, Columbia is apparently the first instance of the Latin feminine form of the name Columbus ever being used. From its central position, Columbia today maintains a central role in government, business, education, media, trade, and culture for the state of South Carolina.

Standing at the intersection of Main and Gervais Streets, one can touch the centers of government, commerce, and education almost simultaneously. The historic South Carolina State House, the Capitol Center, the tallest commercial building in the state, and the University of South Carolina, one of the oldest state universities in the country dating from 1801, sit shoulder-to-shoulder in the center of the city, proclaiming by their proximity a unique set of partnerships. Among those partnerships are many public-private business and development enterprises, state human service delivery systems, private nonprofit organizations, the higher education facilities, the faith communities, and educational-cultural partnerships in the arts.

Columbia, with a core city population of approximately 135,000 and a metro population of almost 850,000, is home to seven institutions of higher education; the contemporary Richland County Public Library, chosen as the National Library of the Year in 2001; the South Carolina Educational Television system, one of the premier public television and radio systems in the nation; the National Advocacy Center, where all the nation's prosecutors must come to be trained; Fort Jackson, the nation's largest induction center for the U. S. Army where 50% of all inductees are trained; Riverbanks Zoo, one of the country's finest small zoos; the South Carolina State Museum, which depicts what the state has been, is, and will be; the Congaree National Park, just south of the city, and a wide variety of arts, cultural, historic, research, and religious venues.

Columbians are aware of their heritage as the capital of one of the 13 original colonies that became the United States of America; as the leader in many of the decisions that led to the U.S. Civil War, still evident in the cannon damage to the State House; the massive damage from the burning of the city after Union General Sherman entered the city in 1865; and as the center for the state's struggle with race relations in the 60s. Equally evident on the street today are the great strides that have been made in the past fifty years to build trust and mutual respect among South Carolina's varied ethnic, cultural, and economic communities.

Today, Columbia is proud of its status as one of the state's most international cities, where more than 40 companies, institutions and organizations provide leadership to international trade, commerce, education, and culture. Today, the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business boasts one of the nation's highest-ranked master's degree program in international business. In its position in the center of the Palmetto State, Columbia is the gateway to family farms in the south, the peach groves north, east and west, the Upstate's international industry and manufacturing, the golf and leisure world of the coast, and historic Charleston with its growing tourism and its expanding international port.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

New York, with a population of approximately 8.8 million, is located on three islands surrounding a natural harbor at the mouth of the Hudson River. There are five boroughs – Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island, and the Bronx. Roughly one third of the City’s residents are immigrants, shaping a society proud of its ethnic heritage and inclusivity.

The Lenape people and their ancestors settled the region approximately 6,500 years ago. They named their bountiful island Manhattan, “Island of Many Hills.” The Dutch arrived in the early 17th century, founding the colony of New Amsterdam and bringing enslaved Africans on their boats; some attained partial freedom in the 1640s, creating the settlement’s first black community. By 1664 when the British assumed power and renamed the city New York, just 10 percent of the original Lenape population remained due to war and disease. Following the American revolution, New York City became the capital of the United States for five years, hosting the inauguration of George Washington in 1789. In the late 1800s and into the 20th century, millions of immigrants entered the United States via Ellis Island after sailing past the Statue of Liberty – dedicated in 1886 as a symbol of democratic government and to commemorate the national abolition of slavery. Starting in the 1910s, hundreds of thousands of African Americans migrated to New York from southern states in pursuit of greater freedoms. Harlem became a cultural center of African American arts and ideas, jazz, and literature.

New York City enjoys all four seasons. Spring and fall are relatively mild. During the summer temperatures can exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit (32 degrees Celsius). Whereas in January and February, temperatures can dip below freezing.

New York leads the nation in the creative arts, publishing, and advertising fields, and is well known for its fashion and finance industries. The New York Stock Exchange and many brokerage firms are located in the Wall Street area. New York City also hosts the Secretariat, General Assembly, and Security Council of the United Nations. Tech, life sciences, and “green” business play an increasing role in the city’s economy.

More than 850,000 students attend more than 100 institutions of higher learning in New York City including: Columbia University, Barnard College, the Juilliard School, New York University, Cooper Union, Fordham University, Union Theological Seminary, the Fashion Institute of Technology, and the City University of New York, among many others.

New York is known for its arts institutions. The Broadway performing arts district consists of 39 theaters. World-class musical venues include the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Ballet, Carnegie Hall, and Jazz at Lincoln Center. Museums include The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), and the Guggenheim Museum, and smaller gems like the Frick and the Morgan Library. Sports fans enjoy the Yankees and Mets (baseball), the Knicks and the Nets (basketball), and the Giants (American football).

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WEEK 1

Wednesday, October 26

Program Opening

Please log onto Zoom 10 minutes prior to the start of the event for a technical check.

Please connect to the Zoom link below to join the virtual appointment.

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 429 547 1884

Passcode: 123789

Host: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

Technical Coordinator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

Moderator: Ms. Jenny Eisenberg, U.S. Department of State

**10:00 –
11:00 am**

You have a meeting with:

Ms. Jenny Eisenberg

Program Officer, Office of International Visitors

U.S. Department of State

Telephone: (202) 320-5870

Email: eisenbergje@state.gov

Mr. Connor Donovan

Program Officer

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Topic: Your program will begin with an official U.S. Department of State welcome to the International Visitor Leadership Program, an introduction to your program team and fellow participants, a review of your program, and an administrative briefing conducted by the World Learning program team.

11:00 –

11:30 am You have a meeting with:

Mr. Akram R. Elias
President, Capital Communications Group
Capital Communications Group, Inc.
Telephone: (202) 349-1444
Email: elias@capcomgroup.com

Capital Communications Group
Website: capcomgroup.com

Topic: This presentation will introduce federalism in the United States, including: the distinct and shared powers of different levels of government; the three branches of government; and how these branches play different, but interrelated, roles in making public policy.

Mr. Akram R. Elias, a Lebanese-born American citizen, has more than 25 years of professional experience as a consultant in the areas of public diplomacy, cross-cultural training, and communication. He has worked extensively with the U.S. Department of State and numerous private and international organizations to provide public diplomacy, and cross-cultural analysis and training. He is the founder and President of Capital Communications Group, Inc., a Washington, D.C.-based firm that provides services in public diplomacy and international business networking.

Capital Communications Group, Inc. (CCG) is an international consulting company based in Washington, DC that specializes in custom designed consulting services to government and private clients in the areas of international business and cultural and political networking. CCG's principals have received acclaim from government and business leaders for their work with international dignitaries visiting the United States on trade missions and cultural exchange programs.

At the conclusion of this session, your meetings are finished for the day.

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Thursday, October 27

Anne Frank Center, University of South Carolina

Please log onto Zoom 10 minutes prior to the start of the event for a technical check.

Please connect to the Zoom link below to join the virtual appointment.

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 429 547 1884

Passcode: 123789

Host: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

Technical Coordinator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

Moderator: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

10:00 –

11:30 am

You have a meeting with:

Dr. Doyle Stevick

Executive Director

Anne Frank Center, University of South Carolina

Email: stevick@mailbox.sc.edu

University of South Carolina

Website: sc.edu

Topic: Dr. Stevick will share his personal story of entering his field, which involved encounters with violent racist extremism, and then the years he lived in Central and Eastern Europe, and the politics of the Holocaust there. He will then discuss how this led him into the field of education and inspired his work and research related to identifying effective strategies for combatting racist ideologies through education.

Dr. Doyle Stevick is the founding Executive Director of the Anne Frank Center at the University of South Carolina and Associate Professor of Educational Leadership and Policies there. He was a Fulbright Fellow to Estonia in 2003 and 2013-14. He completed degrees in mathematics, history and classical studies at Penn State, and worked on archaeological digs in Sicily, Athens, and Megiddo, Israel. His journey from Greek and Latin to Holocaust education forms part of his presentation today. He completed his PhD from Indiana University with a focus on comparative and international education. His first two books addressed citizenship education and the next three concern Holocaust education, including “As the

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Thursday, October 27 (continued)

Witnesses Fall Silent: 21st Century Holocaust education in Curriculum, Policy and Practice” for UNESCO’s International Bureau of Education.

The **University of South Carolina (USC)** is a public research university in Columbia, South Carolina. It has seven satellite campuses throughout the state and its main campus covers over 359 acres (145 ha) in downtown Columbia not far from the South Carolina State House. The university is classified among "R1: Doctoral Universities with Highest Research Activity". Founded in 1801 as South Carolina College, Columbia is the flagship institution of the University of South Carolina System and offers more than 350 programs of study, leading to bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees from 14 degree-granting colleges and schools. The university has a total enrollment of approximately 52,000 students, with over 35,000 on the main Columbia campus as of fall 2019, making it the largest university in South Carolina. USC also has several thousand future students in feeder programs at surrounding technical colleges. Professional schools on the Columbia campus include business, engineering, law, medicine, pharmacy, and social work.

The **Anne Frank Center** at the University of South Carolina is the Official U.S. Partner of the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, and the only partner site in North America. The Anne Frank Center brings to life the story of Anne Frank, the young Jewish girl who – in the pages of her world-renowned diary – documented two years of hiding in German-occupied Amsterdam during World War II. By sharing Anne's legacy with visitors, students and teachers, USC’s Anne Frank Center seeks to inspire its commitment to never be bystanders but instead to stand up together against antisemitism, bigotry and inequality wherever it may exist today.

At the conclusion of this session, your meetings are finished for the day.

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WEEK 2

Wednesday, November 2

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum – “Holocaust Memory at Risk: The Distortion of Holocaust History Across Europe”

Please log onto Zoom 10 minutes prior to the start of the event for a technical check.

Please connect to the Zoom link below to join the virtual appointment.

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 429 547 1884

Passcode: 123789

Host: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

Technical Coordinator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

Moderator: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

**10:00 –
11:30 am**

You have a meeting with:

Mr. Klaus Mueller, Ph.D.

Museum Representative for Europe

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Mr. Tad Stahnke

Director of International Educational Outreach

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Website: ushmm.org

Topic: You will have a meeting with museum experts, which will include an overview of increasing Holocaust distortion in Europe, the growth of nationalism, the benefits of transatlantic partnerships, and a Q&A. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum recently undertook a research project to examine Holocaust distortion, its purveyors, and related increases in manifestations of antisemitism in eleven countries in Europe where the Holocaust took place. The Museum’s research focused on distortion promoted or enabled by governments, political leaders, and others with substantial current or potential influence over public policy and discourse. The Museum has produced a summary of key findings and offers suggestions of possible ways to push back on current trends that the institution hopes will stimulate important conversations about how the U.S. and other interested countries might work together in new ways.

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Wednesday, November 2 (continued)

Dr. Klaus Mueller is the Museum Representative for Europe. Based in Berlin, Klaus develops new partnerships on educational initiatives of the Museum and its traveling exhibitions in Europe and collects Holocaust-related materials. He has worked for the Museum since 1992, including as a consultant on the Nazi persecution of homosexuals—a theme that he continued to work on independently as a filmmaker with the documentaries *Paragraph 175* on gay survivors and *But I was a Girl* on Dutch resistance fighter Frieda Belinfante. He co-curated the Museum’s exhibition *Anne Frank The Writer: An unfinished Story* and developed the online exhibition *Do You Remember When*. Dr. Mueller serves on the United States delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) where he chaired IHRA’s Committee on Holocaust, Genocide and Crimes against Humanity in 2018. Previously he taught film and cultural history at the University of Amsterdam. Dr. Mueller holds a Ph.D. in Sociology and a Master’s degree in German Literature and Philosophy.

Mr. Tad Stahnke is the William and Sheila Konar Director of International Educational Outreach at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. He also leads the museum’s Initiative on Holocaust Denial and Antisemitism, which provides accurate information about the Holocaust in ways that reflect the relevance of history to global audiences today. Mr. Stahnke is an expert in religion and human rights, with extensive experience in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, including on combating antisemitism, xenophobia, and hate crimes. Before joining the Museum, Mr. Stahnke was Program Director at Human Rights First, an international human rights advocacy organization, and Policy Director at the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, which was created by Congress to advise the U.S. government on advancing respect for the internationally recognized right to freedom of religion or belief. Tad holds a J.D. from Columbia Law School.

The **U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM)** is the United States’ official memorial to the Holocaust. The USHMM provides for the documentation, study, and interpretation of Holocaust history. It is dedicated to helping leaders and citizens of the world confront hatred, prevent genocide, promote human dignity, and strengthen democracy.

At the conclusion of this session, your meetings are finished for the day.

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

Thursday, November 3

Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism

Please log onto Zoom 10 minutes prior to the start of the event for a technical check.

Please connect to the Zoom link below to join the virtual appointment.

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 429 547 1884

Passcode: 123789

Host: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

Technical Coordinator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

Moderator: Ms. Jenny Eisenberg, U.S. Department of State

10:00 –

11:30 am

You have a meeting with:

Amb. Deborah Lipstadt, Ph.D.

Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism

Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism

U.S. Department of State

U.S. Department of State

Website: state.gov

Topic: Amb. Lipstadt will share her story and discuss her work and responsibilities as the U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism.

Special Envoy Deborah E. Lipstadt was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on March 30, 2022 as the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism, with the rank of Ambassador. As Special Envoy, she leads efforts to advance U.S. foreign policy to counter antisemitism throughout the world. Special Envoy Lipstadt has a storied career as a historian, academic, and author. At Emory University’s Tam Institute for Jewish Studies, which she helped to found, she served as the Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish History and Holocaust Studies. She has also taught at the University of Washington, UCLA and Occidental College. Special Envoy Lipstadt also served as the director of the Brandeis-Bardin Institute and was a research fellow at the Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Antisemitism at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Special Envoy Lipstadt was a historical consultant to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, helping design the section of the Museum dedicated to the American Response to the

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

Thursday, November 3 (continued)

Holocaust. She has held a Presidential appointment to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council (from Presidents Clinton and Obama) and was asked by President George W. Bush to represent the White House at the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

The U.S. Department of State advises the President in the formulation and execution of foreign policy. As Chief Executive, the President has overall responsibility for U.S. foreign policy. The Department of State's primary objective in the conduct of foreign relations is to promote the long-range security and well-being of the United States. The Department determines and analyzes the facts relating to American overseas interests, makes recommendations on policy and future actions, and carries out the established policy. It also engages in continuous consultations with the American public, the Congress, other U.S. departments and agencies, as well as foreign governments. It negotiates treaties and agreements with foreign nations and represents the United States at the United Nations, in more than 50 major international organizations in which the United States participates, and at more than 800 international conferences annually.

The Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism (SEAS) advances U.S. foreign policy on antisemitism. Antisemitism is discrimination, prejudice, or hatred toward Jews. The Special Envoy develops and implements policies and projects to support efforts to combat antisemitism. Deborah E. Lipstadt was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on March 30, 2022 as the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism, with the rank of Ambassador.

At the conclusion of this session, your meetings are finished for the day.

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

WEEK 3

Wednesday, November 9

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum – The Sardari Project: Iran and the Holocaust

Please log onto Zoom 10 minutes prior to the start of the event for a technical check.

Please connect to the Zoom link below to join the virtual appointment.

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 429 547 1884

Passcode: 123789

Host: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

Technical Coordinator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

Moderator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

10:00 –

11:30 am

You have a meeting with:

Ms. Andrea Bertrand

Programming Manager for International Audiences

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Mr. Arash Azizi

Writer

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Website: ushmm.org

Topic: This meeting will consist of an overview of the project (Phases I & II and future plans), the mutual benefits of a partnership between a historical institution and a media site, audience polling and feedback, Q&A, and more. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum has partnered with Maziar Bahari, an Iranian-Canadian journalist and filmmaker, and his website IranWire.com since 2016 to reach young adults living in Iran with accurate and relevant information about the Holocaust and to counter the Iranian regime’s Holocaust denial and antisemitic rhetoric. The content produced as a result of this partnership has revealed an interest in the topic of the Holocaust among the Museum’s target audiences through IranWire’s promotion of material on their website and social media channels. To build on this success, the Museum and IranWire launched The Sardari Project: Iran and the Holocaust. The Persian content released during Phase I of The Sardari Project received 2.8 million views, outperforming IranWire’s average for all Persian content by 118%.

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

Wednesday, November 9 (continued)

Phase II of the project focused on building the first Persian-language foundational resource on the Holocaust for young Iranians.

Ms. Andrea Bertrand develops and implements programming for international visitors to the Museum and manages outreach projects on Iran and the Holocaust. Andrea joined the Museum in 2009 and previously served as a cataloger and researcher in its Holocaust Survivors and Victims Resource Center. Ms. Bertrand has a BA in English from Illinois State University and a Master's degree in Library Science from Indiana University Bloomington, where she also served as an archivist at the Liberian Collections Project of the Department of Folklore & Ethnomusicology.

Mr. Arash Azizi is a Ph.D. candidate in history and Middle Eastern studies at New York University (NYU) and the author of *The Shadow Commander: Soleimani, the U.S., and Iran's Global Ambitions* (Oneworld, 2020). His writings and commentary have appeared in numerous outlets including the New York Times, Washington Post, Newseek, the BBC, Daily Beast and the Guardian and the Vanity Fair. Mr. Azizi consults the Museum on outreach to Iranian audiences and is part of the project team for *The Sardari Project: Iran and the Holocaust*.

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Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

Thursday, November 10

U.S. Department of State – Global Engagement Center

Please log onto Zoom 10 minutes prior to the start of the event for a technical check.

Please connect to the Zoom link below to join the virtual appointment.

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 429 547 1884

Passcode: 123789

Host: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

Technical Coordinator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

Moderator: Ms. Julianna Rodrigues, World Learning

**10:00 –
11:30 am**

You have a meeting with:

Mr. Paul Fischer

Senior Technology Advisor

U.S. Department of State

Email: fischerpj2@state.gov

U.S. Department of State

Website: state.gov

Topic: You will receive a presentation on the U.S. Department of State – Global Engagement Center’s work to combat **misinformation and disinformation through gaming**, more specifically through their games Harmony Square and Cat Park. You will engage with this technology and explore how gamification of content could be used to both educate people on the Holocaust and combat Holocaust misinformation and disinformation.

Mr. Paul Fischer is an Industry Solutions and Services Associate Manager on Accenture Federal Services’ National Security Portfolio. In this capacity, he serves as the Senior Technology Advisor for the U.S. State Department’s Global Engagement Center, leading the Department’s efforts to inoculate vulnerable populations to disinformation using videogames. From 2020-2022, he co-led the interagency Cultural Antiquities Task Force, working to protect cultural heritage from theft, looting, trafficking, destruction, and climate change. Mr. Fischer’s program design work focused on training and capacity building, public education and outreach, and promoting sustainable livelihoods. Mr. Fischer holds a BA in International Relations with a focus on Conflict and Security from The George

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

Thursday, November 10 (continued)

Washington University, and a Master of Science in Foreign Service with a concentration in International Development from Georgetown University. His graduate research focused on the potential of cultural heritage to promote reconstruction and peacebuilding in Yemen. Mr. Fischer was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Morocco and speaks Arabic and Portuguese.

The U.S. Department of State advises the President in the formulation and execution of foreign policy. As Chief Executive, the President has overall responsibility for U.S. foreign policy. The Department of State's primary objective in the conduct of foreign relations is to promote the long-range security and well-being of the United States. The Department determines and analyzes the facts relating to American overseas interests, makes recommendations on policy and future actions, and carries out the established policy. It also engages in continuous consultations with the American public, the Congress, other U.S. departments and agencies, as well as foreign governments. It negotiates treaties and agreements with foreign nations and represents the United States at the United Nations, in more than 50 major international organizations in which the United States participates, and at more than 800 international conferences annually.

The U.S. Department of State's **Global Engagement Center (GEC)** leads U.S. inter-agency efforts to proactively address foreign adversaries' attempts to use disinformation and propaganda to undermine U.S. interests. GEC directs, synchronizes, integrates, and coordinates efforts of the U.S. Federal Government to recognize, understand, expose, and counter foreign state and non-state propaganda and disinformation efforts aimed at undermining or influencing the policies, security, or stability of the United States, its allies, and partner nations.

At the conclusion of this session, your meetings are finished for the day.

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

WEEK 4

Wednesday, November 16

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum – Museum Resources for Finding Accurate Holocaust Information, Teaching About the Holocaust, and for Combatting Holocaust Disinformation

Please log onto Zoom 10 minutes prior to the start of the event for a technical check.

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Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 429 547 1884

Passcode: 123789

Host: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

Technical Coordinator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

Moderator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

**10:00 –
11:30 am**

You have a meeting with:

Mr. Andrew Hollinger

Director, Communications

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Ms. Ewa Wampuszyc, Ph.D.

Content Review Manager

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Website: ushmm.org

Topic: Speakers will discuss U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and other resources that Visitors can utilize for finding accurate Holocaust information, teaching about the Holocaust, and for combatting Holocaust disinformation.

Wednesday, November 16 (continued)

Mr. Andrew Hollinger oversees a six-person communications division at the Holocaust Memorial Museum that develops and implements strategic communications plans promoting initiatives, programs, and fundraising. His team executes integrated communications through multiple channels including print and online media; print and online advertising; website; social media; e-communications; and publications. Mr. Hollinger has managed numerous comprehensive campaigns for the Museum. The integrated marketing campaign for the Museum's 20th anniversary won multiple awards and featured a national engagement and acquisition campaign rooted in a national tour. Prior to the Holocaust Museum, Mr. Hollinger was an account executive at KSK Communications.

Dr. Ewa Wampuszyc joined the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2020 to oversee the review of the online Holocaust Encyclopedia (HE). Her primary responsibility is to review and refresh more than 900 HE articles in accordance with consensus historiography, while ensuring maximum accessibility and readability. Dr. Wampuszyc has taught Central and Eastern European languages, literature, culture, and history at the University of Michigan, the University of Florida, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her scholarly publications include a monograph entitled *Mapping Warsaw: The Spatial Poetics of a Postwar City* (Northwestern University Press, 2018). Dr. Wampuszyc has also edited and translated Holocaust-related research and pedagogy tools for USHMM and the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in English (Wayne State University); a Master's Degree in Russian and East European Studies (University of Michigan); and a PhD in Slavic Languages and Literatures (University of Michigan).

The **U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM)** is the United States' official memorial to the Holocaust. The USHMM provides for the documentation, study, and interpretation of Holocaust history. It is dedicated to helping leaders and citizens of the world confront hatred, prevent genocide, promote human dignity, and strengthen democracy.

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

Thursday, November 17

Data Analytics – Tracking Harmful Online Speech and Measuring Interventions

Please log onto Zoom 10 minutes prior to the start of the event for a technical check.

Please connect to the Zoom link below to join the virtual appointment.

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4295471884?pwd=UTh4cnFnR1gwTC9SOU92SWhUV3ZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 429 547 1884

Passcode: 123789

Host: Mr. Connor Donovan, World Learning

Technical Coordinator: Ms. Carina Rivera, World Learning

Moderator: Ms. Jenny Eisenberg, U.S. Department of State

10:00 –

11:30 am

You have a meeting with:

Mr. Zeve Sanderson

Founding Executive Director

New York University's Center for Social Media and Politics

Email: zeve.sanderson@nyu.edu

New York University

Website: nyu.edu

Topic: Mr. Sanderson will discuss data analytics regarding **harmful online speech** – particularly extremism, antisemitism, and holocaust distortion - and what his research shows about the efficacy of interventions.

Mr. Zeve Sanderson is the Founding Executive Director of NYU's Center for Social Media and Politics. In his role, he helps lead the Center's strategy, operations, and management. His research interests focus on measuring the diffusion and impacts of harmful online speech, as well as empirically testing the efficacy of interventions. He speaks regularly to academic, media, and government audiences, and his writing has appeared in both popular and scholarly outlets. He is writing his dissertation at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

New York University (NYU) is a private research university in New York City. Chartered in 1831 by the New York State Legislature, NYU was founded by a group of New Yorkers led by then-Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin. In 1832, the non-denominational all-male institution began its first classes near City

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

Thursday, November 17 (continued)

Hall based on a curriculum focused on a secular education. The university moved in 1833 and has maintained its main campus in Greenwich Village surrounding Washington Square Park. Since then, the university has added an engineering school in Brooklyn's MetroTech Center and graduate schools throughout Manhattan. NYU has become the largest private university in the United States by enrollment, with a total of 51,848 enrolled students, including 26,733 undergraduate students and 25,115 graduate students, in 2019. NYU also receives the most applications of any private institution in the United States and admission is considered highly selective. NYU's **Center for Social Media and Politics (CSMaP)** is a leading academic research institute studying how the ever-shifting online environment impacts politics, policy, and democracy.

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Lithuania

Name: **Ms. Yelyzaveta MUCHNIK**

City: Vilnius

Present Position: Museum Specialist, Samuel Bak Museum

Languages: Ukrainian (primary), English, Russian

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Professional Background: Ms. Yelyzaveta Muchnik is a Museum Specialist with the Samuel Bak Museum in Vilnius, Lithuania. In her role, Ms. Muchnik is primarily responsible for providing museum tours and for creating and implementing educational public activities related to the history, culture, religion, and art of Lithuanian Jews, drawing on the museum's exhibitions. The Samuel Bak Museum is a division of the Vilna Gaon State Jewish Museum.

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (continued)

Lithuania

Name: **Mr. Mantas SIKSNIANAS**

City: Vilnius

Present Position: Museology Specialist, Vilna Gaon Museum of Jewish History

Languages: Lithuanian (primary), English, Russian

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Professional Background: Mr. Mantas Siksnianas is a Museology Specialist for the Vilna Gaon Museum of Jewish History. In this role, Mr. Siksnianas is responsible for providing museum tours and for developing exhibitions and educational public activities related to the history, culture, religion, and art of Lithuanian Jews. He previously served as the museum's Acting Head of its Holocaust Exhibition and its Paneriai Memorial, which commemorates Jews, Lithuanians, Poles, Roma, and Russian prisoners of war massacred during the Nazi occupation of Lithuania.

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (continued)

Netherlands

Name: **Ms. Anne VAN MOURIK**

City: No primary address

Present Position: Ph.D. Candidate, NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust, and Genocide Studies

Concurrent Position: Founder and Editor of NIOD Rewind Podcast on War and Violence, NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies

Languages: Dutch (primary), English, German

U.S. Travel: Louisiana, New York

Professional Background: Ms. Anne van Mourik is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Amsterdam and the Dutch Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies (NIOD). She conducts research for the project “Heritages of Hunger: Societal Reflections on Past European Famines in Education, Commemoration and Musealization,” which explores how stories of suffering are used to influence public opinion. Ms. Van Mourik is also a co-host of the podcast series NIOD Rewind, where she interviews historians and other experts on the history, study, and current impact of mass violence, war, and genocide. In 2019, Anne made the podcast Het Ministerie van Verzet (“The Ministry of Resistance”), and in 2020 she made the Dutch podcast series Onzekere Tijden (“Uncertain Times”).

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (continued)

Spain

Name: **Mr. Israel DONCEL**

City: Madrid

Present Position: Head of Communications, Centro Sefarad-Israel

Concurrent Position: Assistant Professor of Journalism, Madrid University Carlos III

Languages: Spanish (primary), English

U.S. Travel: New York

Professional Background: In 2018, Mr. Israel Doncel became the Head of Communications at the Centro Sefarad-Israel, an organization created in 2006 as a joint effort between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Regional Government of Madrid, and the City Council of Madrid. Centro Sefarad-Israel’s mission is to deepen studies on the legacy of Sephardic culture as an integral part of Spanish culture, and to foster a greater knowledge of Jewish culture among Spanish society. Mr. Doncel is currently a Ph.D. candidate and Assistant Professor of Journalism at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. Through this IVLP experience, Mr. Doncel is interested in learning techniques to identify false political narratives and to combat antisemitism and hate speech in social media.

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (continued)

Spain

Name: **Ms. Maria ROYO**

City: Madrid

Present Position: Director of Communications, Federation of Jewish Communities in Spain

Languages: Spanish (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Professional Background: Ms. Maria Royo is the Director of Communications for the Federation of Jewish Communities of Spain (FCJE), which helps bring together Jewish communities and organizations across Spain. As Director of Communications, Ms. Royo plays an important role in publicizing resources like the Anti-Semitism Observatory, which the FCJE established in 2009 to raise awareness of anti-Semitic events occurring in the country. She also uses her position to help share the lessons and stories of the Holocaust with her fellow Spaniards.

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (continued)

Sweden

Name: **Ms. Sofia NERBRAND**

City: Malmö

Present Position: Political Editor, *Kristianstadsbladet* and *Norra Skåne*

Languages: Swedish (primary), English

U.S. Travel: 20 U.S. states

Professional Background: Ms. Sofia Nerbrand is the political editor of *Kristianstadsbladet* and *Norra Skåne*. She was an editorial writer at Sweden’s biggest daily *Dagens Nyheter* as well as regional daily *Sydsvenskan* between 2016-2020. In 2006, she founded the liberal monthly magazine *Neo*, which she led as chief editor, CEO and publisher, for five years. Ms. Nerbrand has also been an independent columnist for the daily *Svenska Dagbladet* for several years. Between 2011 and 2014 she worked as Region Skåne’s chief strategist. Ms. Nerbrand has also been the Chair of the liberal think tank Bertil Ohlin Institute. She was a member of the Liberal Youth Association leadership and also served as a member of the Lund local municipality in the 1990s. She lives in Malmö and actively works there to combat anti-Semitism, arranging “Kippah walks” in support of the Jewish minority among various other initiatives.

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (continued)

Türkiye

Name: **Mr. Mustafa Alkim BAYRAKTAR**

City: Istanbul

Present Position: Project Assistant, Yeditepe University

Concurrent Position: Board Member, SEHAK; Anthropologist

Languages: Turkish (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Professional Background: Mr. Mustafa Alkim Bayraktar is a Project Assistant at Yeditepe University who works on an Erasmus+ initiative that targets disadvantaged youth. Mr. Bayraktar is also a volunteer and board member for the Civil and Ecological Rights Association (SEHAK), an organization through which he has implemented projects on topics ranging from the Holocaust and antisemitism to media monitoring of hate speech and Turkish public attitudes toward Jewish citizens in Türkiye. He has also worked with the Hrant Dink Foundation on discourse education and combatting hate speech.

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial: The Role of New and Traditional Media – A Regional Project

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (continued)

Türkiye

Name: **Ms. Liza CEMEL**

City: Istanbul

Present Position: Project Coordinator, Kreuzberg Initiative Against Anti-Semitism (KIgA e.V.)

Concurrent Position: Managing Editor, *Salom*

Languages: Turkish (primary), English, Italian

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Professional Background: Ms. Liza Cemel is a Project Coordinator with the Kreuzberg Initiative Against Anti-Semitism (KIgA e.V.), where her role is to design a program that will enable youth from Türkiye and Germany to have intercultural dialogues on subjects of identity, religion, culture, and social responsibility. She is also a journalist and Managing Editor for *Salom* whose work has been published in both London and Istanbul. Ms. Cemel is currently working toward a master's degree in Jewish Civilizations at the University of Heidelberg after having completed her foundational studies at the European Institute for Jewish Studies in Stockholm.



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE