EU PRESIDENCY SEMINAR

ON THE HOLOCAUST AND COMBATING ANTISEMITISM AND THE RISE OF HATE CRIME AND HATE SPEECH

May 21-23, 2018

Sofia, Bulgaria

Day I, Monday, May 21, 2018

Arrival
Free Evening

Day II, Tuesday, May 22, 2018

8:30 Transfer from Hotel to Boyana Residence
9:00 Opening Remarks
- Mr. Georg Georgiev – Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, National Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism
- Ms. Richelle Budd Caplan - Director of the European Department of the International School for Holocaust Studies of Yad Vashem
- Mr. Jean-Paul Lehners – Chair of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) of the Council of Europe
- Ambassador Jan Deboutte – Chairman of the IHRA (2012), representing the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance
- Mr. Henri Nickels – Head of Sector Equality and Non-Discrimination, Equality and Citizens’ Rights Department, EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)
- Mr. Ilan Cohn – Project Manager at the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)
10:15 Coffee Break

Group photo
10:45  European Café: 1 Minute Presentations of Your Organization, Focusing on Educational Activities Relating to Promoting Holocaust Education, Combating Antisemitism and Fighting Against Hatred in Your Communities
Moderated by Richelle Budd-Caplan, Yad Vashem

11:45  Presentation of OSCE/ODIHR on “Understanding Antisemitic Hate Crimes and Addressing the Security Needs of Jewish Communities”, “Addressing Antisemitism through Education – Guidelines for Policymakers” and other materials developed under the “Turning Words into Action to address Antisemitism” project
Mikolaj Wzecionkowski, Ilan Cohen

12:45  Buffet Lunch

13:45  Moderated Panel Discussion on Trends in Contemporary Antisemitism in Three EU Countries:
- Dr. Ricardo Ruiz de la Serna, Spain
- Dr. Tomas Honz, Slovak Republic
- Dr. Jesper Svartvik, Sweden
Moderated by Dr. Ronaldas Racinskas, Lithuania

15:00  Coffee Break

15:15  Presentation by Amb. Jan Deboutte (IHRA) on The IHRA Strategy and its Thematic Focuses on Safeguarding the Record and Countering Distortion

15:45  Presentation by Assoc. Prof. Albena Taneva on Bulgarian Antisemitic Legislation of 1940: Examining the Primary Sources

16:30  Opening of Yad Vashem Exhibition “Shoah: How Was it Humanly Possible?”

17:00  Visiting Different Places of Worship in Sofia (St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral, Sofia Synagogue, Banya Bashi Mosque)

20:00  Dinner at Casa Boyana
Day III, Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Check Out of Hotel

8:30   Transfer from Hotel to Boyana Residence
9:00   Presentation of Yad Vashem’s New Massive Open Online Course "Antisemitism: From Its Origins to the Present" and Capacity Building Strategies on Contemporary Forms of Antisemitism
        Deborah Hartmann
        Dmitry Kolotilenko
10:30  Bulgarian Teachers and NGOs Present Contemporary Challenges in Teaching about the Holocaust and Addressing Hatred in Classrooms
        Louisa Slavkova
11:30  Presentation on regional training seminars and activities by Mr. Goran Sadikario, CEO, The Holocaust Fund of the Jews in Macedonia

11:45  Coffee Break

12:00  Presentation by Ms Katerina Vyzvaldova, Equality and Citizens’ Rights Department, EU FRA on Preventing Hate Crime and Antisemitism in the EU
12:45  Concluding Remarks

13:15  Farewell Lunch