Doomed to Repeat? Challenges of Teaching 20th-Century History

International congress on history education

2nd August

10:00-11:00	Keynote lecture
11:15-12:45	Multiperspectivity. National and transnational approach to the Past. Panel discussion Multiperspectivity has been a key postulate in European history education for more than 25 years. What is a multiperspective approach in practice? What opportunities does such an approach provide, and what are the dangers? What kind of perspectives should we take into account, and what criteria should we use to select them? Are there any that we should not consider?
13:00-14:30	Long Shadow of the Iron Curtain. Teaching about communism in the West and the East. Panel discussion The post-war division of the globe left its mark on Europe's societies. Just one example is how perception of Communism differs in the East and the West. We will examine how these differences make themselves known in history education. Can western nations, who did not experience the Communist system, learn something from the countries of the former Eastern Bloc?
14:30-15:30	lunch
15:30-17:00	History as a tool of propaganda. Russia, Ukraine and the West. Panel discussion References to history in today's political discourse arouse strong emotion and controversy more than ever before. History has long been used as a justification for violence and aggression. Can history education counteract the abuses of propaganda?
17:15-18:45	The role of history education: what to think or how to think? Round-table discussion What should modern history education teach? Certainly, factual knowledge is within everyone's reach, but does this accessibility translate into knowledge of history? How should we teach history in the age of the internet and universal access to knowledge?
19:30-21:00	dinner

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9:00-10:30	Forgiveness based on truth: reconciliation through school education. Panel discussion History can be an obstacle in relations between states. Events of the past influence perceptions of other nations. How can history education contribute to reconciliation? Is it possible to overcome barriers related to a difficult past and to forgive wrongs through education?
10:45-12:15	History of Nazism as a tool of civic education. Opportunities and limits. Panel discussion The history of Nazism is an important point of reference for history education. The history of the Third Reich is crucial for understanding how a democratic system can collapse, and teaching about these issues is important for civic education. To what extent can examples from the past be used to help us understand contemporary political and social processes? What are the limits to this kind of thinking?
12:30-14:30	Creating European Museum of Totalitarianism Workshop
14:30-15:30	lunch
15:30-16:00	Genocide - a recurring crime Presentation (Lemkin Center)
16:00-16:30	closing remarks