

THE STANDARDS
OF MANAGEMENT AND COMMEMORATION
OF THE FORMER GERMAN CONCENTRATION
AND EXTERMINATION CAMPS

WANNSEE MEMORANDUM

EXPERT MEETING
BERLIN-WANNSEE 7TH APRIL 2017

Auschwitz
Birkenau



Witold Pilecki Center
for Totalitarian Studies

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Birkenau



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W A N N S E E
M E M O R A N D U M

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WARSAW 2018



Photo: Mikołaj Grynberg

”Auschwitz-Birkenau is the only former German Nazi concentration and extermination camp that was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. It is, however, viewed as representing all other sites of this kind.

The very organization of places of memory and the main aspects of their functioning have varied widely across Europe. A multitude of factors came into play: various political systems, the historical value of individual sites, decisions taken by numerous governmental and self-governmental bodies, and also the fundraising efficiency of the institutions established to preserve former concentration camp sites.

In 2017, representatives of the international community came together to work out a universal code of good practice – a set of guidelines to be implemented by all contemporary institutions entrusted with protecting these places of immense suffering and death.

The Council of Experts convened for its first meeting on 7 April 2017 in Berlin-Wannsee, at the historical lakeside villa. After the Second World War, this residence became an important symbol of that phase of the Shoah which was carried out within the system of concentration and extermination camps.

The proper commemoration of all the Victims necessitates collective reflection and international cooperation. The present publication contains the findings and determinations of the Council's session, ordered and presented in the form of a memorandum which should facilitate further work on the future of remembrance.

Dr. Piotr M. A. Cywiński
Director
The Auschwitz-Birkenau
State Museum



Photo: Dorota Czoch

“The second half of the 20th century has been called the age of commemoration. The first decades of the century witnessed the two bloodiest global conflicts in the history of the continent. The German Nazi concentration camps stand as the most terrible and disturbing legacy of the Second World War. Millions of people of many ethnicities were Victims of German nationalism, but the Wannsee Conference remains fundamental in the process of exterminating six million European Jews.

Remembering the Holocaust relies on sites, where it happened. The former German Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau grew into the symbol of the Holocaust and genocide. Putting the camp on the UNESCO World Heritage List, carried out through Polish initiatives in 1979, created a precedence in the entire history of the nomination procedure, because for the first time it did not preserve a monument of human ingenuity, but rather the material evidence of the brutality of perpetrators and the suffering of Victims.

After the fall of communism, an important step forward in commemorating this kind of site was to establish – through dialogue between, amongst others, Israel and Poland – a set of basic standards such as: displaying clear information about the Victims or creating archives in situ. These standards have been observed at the former death camps in Sobibór, Treblinka, Majdanek, and camps like Gross-Rosen. However, only in a few instances have they reached sites outside of Poland. The fate of the former KL Gusen in Austria is a telling example. On its spot, a residential area was built, the camp’s gate was turned into a villa, and the original camp square has been covered with piles of rubble.

Rules and standards of memorialization developed over the years by the State Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau are universal in character and form the content of the Memorandum of Wannsee. In honor of the Victims and for the sake of future generations, the states are recommended to implement them in other former concentration camps.

Prof. Magdalena Gawin
General Conservator of
Monuments
The Ministry of Culture
and National Heritage

MEMORANDUM

Those convened at the Council of Experts in Berlin-Wannsee on 7 April 2017

taking into consideration that it is the mission of UNESCO, expressed in the Preamble to its Constitution by the Organization's founding countries in 1945, to "construct the defences of peace in the minds of men", in order to prevent a reoccurrence of the tragic events of the Second World War,

recognizing the exceptional significance of the German Nazi concentration and extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau, established by Nazi Germany on the territory of occupied Poland, initially for Poles and Soviet prisoners, which in the years 1942-1944 became the primary and most important center for the extermination of European Jews,

recalling to mind the fundamental reason for the inclusion of the German Nazi concentration and extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1979, this being to symbolically encompass all other former extermination camps and centers from the Second World War established by the Third Reich,

being aware that the restriction of the inscription in the UNESCO World Heritage List only to Auschwitz-Birkenau, recognized as a representative for other post-camp Memorials, does not exempt from reflection on preservation and methods of revealing the truth about the most terrifying crimes of the 20th century, particularly about the unique in the history of mankind crime of the Holocaust,

***hereby recommend* for other sites of that type, former concentration camps and extermination centres located beyond the borders of Poland, to accept the following standards of management:**

- emulation of practices developed by the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum, expressing extremely significant for UNESCO principles of authenticity, integrity of artefacts and archival collections, and international cooperation;
- development of educational forms with respect for the truth and based on international dialogue and cooperation;
- collecting artefacts that belonged to the Victims (name tags, shoes, suitcases etc.) and archival documentation (documents, photographs, films, maps) and storing *in situ*;
- establishing preservation laboratories *in situ*;
- conducting archaeological research on the basis of international cooperation and under rabbinical supervision;
- functioning of an advisory and opinionative body patterned after the International Auschwitz Council;
- performing solid research on the Victims as well as perpetrators;
- the obligation to include – in the permanent exhibitions, information materials as well as on the internet websites clear information regarding the citizenship and nationality of the Victims.

Recognition of the abovementioned practices of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial as universal, fully reflects the symbolic significance of this site, which was emphasized by its entry in the World Heritage List. It is also a precondition for remembrance which should stand as a warning and a lesson for the future generations.

MEMORANDUM

Les réunis au Conseil des Experts, Berlin-Wannsee, le 7 avril 2017

considérant le fait que la mission de l'UNESCO, proclamée par les États fondateurs en 1945 dans l'Acte constitutif, vise à « construire la paix dans l'esprit des hommes » en vue de prévenir que les événements tragiques de la Seconde Guerre Mondiale ne se reproduisent plus,

conscients de l'extraordinaire importance du camp de concentration et d'extermination allemand nazi Auschwitz-Birkenau, créé par l'Allemagne nazie sur le territoire occupé de la Pologne, à l'origine pour les Polonais et les détenus soviétiques, qui, de 1942 à 1944, est devenu le principal et le plus important camp d'extermination des Juifs européens,

en soulignant le poids de l'inscription du camp de concentration et d'extermination allemand nazi Auschwitz-Birkenau sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'UNESCO, intervenue en 1979, comme symbolique pour les autres anciens camps et centres d'extermination du temps de la Seconde Guerre Mondiale, organisés par le Troisième Reich,

considérant que l'inscription sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'UNESCO, restreinte seulement à Auschwitz-Birkenau, avec l'octroi à celui-ci du rôle représentatif pour les autres Lieux de Mémoire correspondant aux anciens camps, ne dispense pas de la réflexion sur la protection et les voies à suivre pour montrer la vérité sur les crimes les plus atroces du XXe siècle et, notamment, sur le crime de l'Holocauste, qui n'a pas son pareil dans l'histoire de l'humanité,

nous recommandons que dans les autres importants sites de ce type, anciens camps de concentration et centres d'extermination situés en dehors des frontières de la Pologne, soient adoptés les standards de gestion présentés ci-dessous, qui consistent à :

- suivre les pratiques élaborées au Musée d'État d'Auschwitz-Birkenau – qui mettent en oeuvre les principes d'authenticité, de sauvegarde de l'intégralité des artefacts et des fonds d'archives, et de coopération internationale, si importants pour l'UNESCO;
- développer des activités éducatives dans le respect de la vérité et dans l'esprit de dialogue international et de coopération;
- réunir et sauvegarder *in situ* les artefacts ayant appartenu aux Victimes (matricules, chaussures, valises, etc.) et les documents d'archives (documents, photos, films, cartes);
- mettre sur pied des ateliers de conservation *in situ*;
- faire des fouilles archéologiques en coopération internationale et sous la surveillance rabbinique;
- fonctionner en s'assurant le soutien d'organes consultatifs composés d'experts, à l'instar du Conseil International d'Auschwitz;
- faire des recherches honnêtes concernant aussi bien les Victimes que les auteurs des crimes;
- faire figurer, obligatoirement, dans les expositions permanentes, dans les matériaux d'information et sur les sites Internet une information lisible sur l'origine et sur l'appartenance nationale des Victimes.

La reconnaissance des pratiques susmentionnées, mises en oeuvre par le Lieu de Mémoire Auschwitz-Birkenau, comme universelles reflète pleinement le rang symbolique de ce site souligné par son inscription sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'UNESCO. Elle est aussi la condition de la sauvegarde de la mémoire qui doit constituer un avertissement et une leçon pour les générations à venir.

MEMORANDUM

Zebrani na Konsylium Eksperskim – Berlin-Wannse dnia 7 kwietnia 2017 roku

mając na względzie, że misją UNESCO wyrażoną w Akcie konstytucyjnym przez państwa założycielskie w 1945 r. jest „budowanie pokoju w umysłach ludzi” celem przeciwdziałania powtórzeniu się tragicznych wydarzeń II wojny światowej,

dostrzegając wyjątkowe znaczenie niemieckiego nazistowskiego obozu koncentracyjnego i zagłady Auschwitz-Birkenau, utworzonego przez nazistowskie Niemcy na terenie okupowanej Polski, pierwotnie dla Polaków i więźniów sowieckich, który w latach 1942-1944 stał się głównym i najważniejszym ośrodkiem zagłady Żydów europejskich,

podkreślając wagę wpisu niemieckiego nazistowskiego obozu koncentracyjnego i zagłady Auschwitz-Birkenau na Listę Światowego Dziedzictwa UNESCO, dokonanego w 1979 roku, jako symbolicznego dla pozostałych byłych obozów i ośrodków zagłady z okresu II wojny światowej utworzonych przez Trzecią Rzeszę,

uznając, że ograniczenie wpisu na Listę Światowego Dziedzictwa UNESCO jedynie dla Auschwitz-Birkenau wraz z nadaniem mu roli reprezentatywnej dla innych poobozowych Miejsc Pamięci nie zwalnia z refleksji nad ochroną i drogami ukazywania prawdy o najstraszniejszych zbrodniach XX wieku, zwłaszcza unikalnej w dziejach ludzkości zbrodni Holokaustu,

rekomendujemy by w pozostałych największych tego typu obiektach, byłych obozach koncentracyjnych i ośrodkach Zagłady położonych także poza granicami Polski, przyjęto następujące standardy zarządzania polegające na:

- odwzorowaniu ukształtowanych w Państwowym Muzeum Auschwitz-Birkenau w Oświęcimiu praktyk – wyrażających tak ważne dla UNESCO zasady autentyzmu, zachowania integralności artefaktów i zbiorów archiwalnych oraz współpracy międzynarodowej;
- rozwijaniu działalności edukacyjnej z poszanowaniem prawdy oraz w duchu międzynarodowego dialogu i współpracy;
- gromadzeniu i zachowaniu *in situ* artefaktów należących do Ofiar (tabliczek identyfikacyjnych, butów, walizek etc.) i dokumentacji archiwalnej (dokumentów, zdjęć, filmów, map);
- utworzeniu pracowni konserwatorskiej *in situ*;
- przeprowadzaniu badań archeologicznych we współpracy międzynarodowej i pod opieką rabiniczną;
- funkcjonowaniu na przykładzie Międzynarodowej Rady Oświęcimskiej ciał doradczych oraz opiniujących, składających się z ekspertów;
- prowadzeniu rzetelnych badań dotyczących zarówno Ofiar, jak i sprawców;
- obowiązku zamieszczania na ekspozycjach stałych, w materiałach informacyjnych oraz na stronach internetowych czytelnej informacji o przynależności narodowościowej i państwowej Ofiar.

Uznanie wymienionych praktyk za uniwersalne w pełni odzwierciedla symboliczną rangę Miejsca Pamięci Auschwitz-Birkenau podkreśloną poprzez wpis na Listę Światowego Dziedzictwa UNESCO. Jest też warunkiem zachowania pamięci, która powinna być przestrogą i lekcją dla przyszłych pokoleń.

MEMORANDUM

Die Teilnehmer an dem Sachverständigenrat – Berlin-Wannsee, den 7. April 2017

unter Berücksichtigung der Mission von UNESCO, die von den Gründungsstaaten in der Präambel der Verfassung im Jahre 1945 mit den Worten „der Frieden muss im Geist der Menschen verankert werden“ niedergelegt wurde, um der Wiederholung der tragischen Ereignisse des II. Weltkrieges entgegenzuwirken,

angesichts der außergewöhnlichen Bedeutung des deutschen nationalsozialistischen Konzentrations- und Vernichtungslagers Auschwitz-Birkenau, das durch Nazi-Deutschland auf dem Gebiet des besetzten Polens gegründet und ursprünglich für die Polen sowie die sowjetischen Gefangenen bestimmt wurde, und das in den Jahren 1942-1944 zum führenden und wichtigsten Zentrum der Vernichtung europäischer Juden geworden ist,

die Bedeutung betonend, welche der Eintragung des deutschen nationalsozialistischen Konzentrations- und Vernichtungslagers Auschwitz-Birkenau in die Liste des UNESCO-Welterbes im Jahre 1979 beigemessen wird, als eine symbolische Bedeutung für sonstige ehemalige Vernichtungslager und Vernichtungszentren aus dem Zeitraum des II. Weltkrieges, die durch das Dritte Reich gegründet wurden,

die Tatsache anerkennend, dass die Einschränkung der Eintragung in die Liste des UNESCO-Welterbes ausschließlich auf das KL Auschwitz-Birkenau, dem damit eine stellvertretende Rolle für sonstige ehemalige Lagergebiete als Gedenkstätten zuerkannt wurde, von einer Reflexion über den Schutz sowie über die Methoden, die Wahrheit über die grausamsten Verbrechen des 20. Jahrhunderts – insbesondere in Bezug auf das einmalige Verbrechen in der Geschichte der Menschheit, den Holocaust – immer ans Licht zu bringen, nicht entbindet,

empfehlen wir, dass in den sonstigen größten Objekten dieser Art, in den ehemaligen Konzentrations- und Vernichtungslagern, die sich auch außerhalb der polnischen Grenzen befinden, die nachfolgenden Verwaltungsstandards angenommen und Maßnahmen eingeführt werden sollen:

- Nachbildung der in dem Staatlichen Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau in Oświęcim etablierten Praktiken – mit denen die Grundsätze der Authentizität, der Einhaltung der Integrität von Artefakten und Archivbeständen sowie der internationalen Zusammenarbeit zum Ausdruck gebracht werden, die für UNESCO von erheblicher Bedeutung sind;
- Entwicklung von Bildungsmaßnahmen unter Beachtung der Wahrheit und im Geiste des internationalen Dialogs und der Zusammenarbeit;
- Sammlung der zu den Opfern gehörenden Artefakten (Identifikationstafeln, Schuhe, Koffer usw.) sowie von Archivdokumentationen (Dokumente, Bilder, Filme, Karten) und deren Aufbewahrung *in situ*;
- Gründung eines Erhaltungslabors *in situ*;
- Durchführung archäologischer Forschungen in internationaler Zusammenarbeit und unter der rabbinischen Aufsicht;
- Funktion der aus Experten bestehenden Beratungs- und Begutachtungsorganisationen am Beispiel des Internationalen Auschwitz-Rates;
- Durchführung zuverlässiger Forschungen sowohl in Bezug auf die Opfer, als auch auf die Täter;
- Verpflichtung, in den Dauerausstellungen, in den Informationsmaterialien sowie auf den Internetseiten lesbare Informationen über die nationale und staatliche Angehörigkeit der Opfer zu platzieren.

In der Anerkennung der vorgenannten Praktiken als universelle Maßnahmen wird die symbolische Bedeutung der Gedenkstätte Auschwitz-Birkenau in vollem Umfang wiedergespiegelt, betont durch die Eintragung in die Liste des UNESCO-Welterbes. Das ist auch die Voraussetzung dafür, dass Erinnerungen nicht in Vergessenheit geraten, die für die nächsten Generationen eine Warnung und eine Lektion sein sollen.

PARTICIPANTS

OF THE EXPERT MEETING - BERLIN-WANNSEE
7TH APRIL 2017



Photo: The Witold Pilecki Center for Totalitarian Studies

Participants at the Expert Meeting in Berlin Wannsee represented various international organizations such as: UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Yad Vashem, The Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah, The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, The Ministry of Culture in France, The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Poland, The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in Poland, The Witold Pilecki Center for Totalitarian Studies, The House of the Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Site.

Piotr M.A. Cywiński, PhD

Director
The Auschwitz-Birkenau
State Museum

Prof. Barbara Engelking

Chairwoman
The International Auschwitz Council

Barbara Furmanik

World Heritage Unit
The National Heritage Board of Poland

Prof. Magdalena Gawin

General Conservator of Monuments
The Ministry of Culture
and National Heritage

Joseph Gevir

Director of Governmental
and External Affairs,
Senior Assistant
to the Yad Vashem Chairman

Hans Christian Jasch, PhD

Director
The House of the Wannsee
Conference Memorial
and Educational Site

Joseph King

Director of the Sites Unit
The International Centre for the Study
of the Preservation and Restoration
of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

Serge Klarsfeld

Vice-President
The Foundation for the Memory
of the Shoah

Prof. Wojciech Kowalski

Legal and Treaty Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Poland

Wojciech Kozłowski, PhD

Deputy Program Director
The Witold Pilecki Center
for Totalitarian Studies

Prof. Jean-Louis Luxen	Treasurer The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience
Aleksandra Maj	Assistant to the Management Board The Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation
Magdalena Marcinkowska, PhD	Assistant to the General Conservator of Monuments, The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
Anna Marconi-Betka	Head World Heritage Unit The National Heritage Board of Poland
Anna Miszewska	Director General The Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation
Linda Norris	Global Networks Program Director The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience
Jacek Nowakowski	Senior Curator for Collections The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
Maria Anna Ossolińska	Diplomacy of Remembrance The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Rafał Pióro	Deputy Director The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Max Polonovski	General Heritage Curator The Ministry of Culture France
Prof. Jacek Purchla	President Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Director of the International Cultural Centre in Krakow
Prof. Sławomir Ratajski	Secretary General The Polish National Commission for UNESCO
Birgitta Ringbeck, PhD	Commissioner for World Heritage of Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Foreign Office

Mechtild Rössler, PhD	Director of Division for Heritage UNESCO World Heritage Centre
Robert Rozett, PhD	Director The Yad Vashem Libraries
Tomasz Stefanek	Head of Program Department The Witold Pilecki Center for Totalitarian Studies
Magdalena Tabak	Assistant to Director Piotr M. A. Cywiński The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Agnieszka Tanistra-Różanowska	Deputy Head Preservation Department The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
Marian Turski	Member The International Auschwitz Council
Marek Zajac	Secretary The International Auschwitz Council
Katarzyna Zalasinska, PhD	Deputy Director Department of Cultural Heritage The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

Establishing preservation laboratories *in situ*



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

Preservation laboratory in The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.

LES DÉPORTÉS DU KL-NATZWEILER ET DE SES CAMPS ANNEXES

Nationalités

NATIONALITÉS	NOMBRE
POLOGNE	13 606
URSS	7 586
FRANCE	6 781
LORRAINE	821
ALSACE	231
HONGRIE	4 403
ALLEMAGNE	3 703
ITALIE	1 690
YOUGOSLAVIE	872
PAYS-BAS	676
NORVÈGE	579
LITUANIE	555
LUXEMBOURG	416
LETTONIE	390
BELGIQUE	387
ESTONIE	312
TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE	254
GRÈCE	169
SLOVÉNIE	125
ESPAGNE	80
ROUMANIE	37
ALBANIE	17
AUTRICHE	13
ROYAUME-UNI	11
UKRAINE	10
FINLANDE	7
SUISSE	7
TURQUIE	6
DANEMARK	3
BULGARIE	2
PORTUGAL	1
SUÈDE	1
NON RENSEIGNÉS	8 985
TOTAL	51 684

Catégories*

CATÉGORIES	NOMBRE	%
DÉPORTATION POLITIQUE	60	
POLITIQUE	46	
POLITIQUE JUIF	6,5	
NN	4,9	
SOVIÉTIQUE (CATÉGORIE JUSQU'EN 1942)	1,3	
POLONAIS (CATÉGORIE JUSQU'EN 1942)	0,8	
KGF (PRISONNIER DE GUERRE)	0,5	
SAW (RÉFRACTAIRE À LA WEHRMACHT)	0,1	
DÉPORTATION RACIALE	11,03	
JUIF	11,02	
ASOCIAL JUIF	0,01	
AZA (TRAVAILLEUR CIVIL ÉTRANGER)	6	
BV 175 (DÉVIANT SEXUEL)	2,6	
ASOCIAL	1,3	
SV (DÉPORTÉ EN INTERNEMENT DE SÉCURITÉ)	0,7	
TZIGANE	0,6	
HOMOSEXUEL	0,42	
TÉMOIN DE JÉHOVAH	0,05	
APATRIDE	0,004	
NON RENSEIGNÉS	17,7	

* selon les nazis

The obligation to include – in the permanent exhibitions, information materials as well as on the internet websites clear information regarding the citizenship and nationality of the Victims



Photo: The KL-Natzweiler Museum

Information list regarding the citizenship and nationality of the Victims presented at the exhibition in the former German concentration camp KL Natzweiler-Struthof.



Photo: Gross-Rosen Museum in Rogoźnica

More than 600 objects that belonged to the Victims were excavated at the former German concentration camp Gross-Rosen in Rogoźnica during the archaeological research carried out in the project „Stone Hell KL Gross Rosen I”.



Photo: The State Museum at Majdanek

Objects belonging to the Victims. During the archaeological research in Sobibór, over 33,000 different artefacts were discovered.

Conducting archaeological research on the basis of international cooperation and under rabbinical supervision



Photo: The State Museum at Majdanek

Archaeological research in Sobibór is conducted with respect for Jewish religious law and under the supervision of the Steering Committee consisting of the representatives of Poland, Israel, the Netherlands and Slovakia.

Collecting artefacts that belonged to the Victims (name tags, shoes, suitcases etc.) and archival documentation (documents, photographs, films, maps) and storing *in situ*



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

The collection of Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum consist of 3,800 suitcases, more than 2000 with inscriptions left by their owners. The exhibition also shows 39,978 m³ of footwear, over 12,000 pots, 470 prostheses and orthoses, 390 pieces of camp clothing, so-called striped uniforms, 246 tallesses, approx. 4,100 artistic works (including about 2,000 made by prisoners) and thousands of other priceless artefacts.



Photo: Gross-Rosen Museum in Rogoźnica

▲ Exhibition „KL Gross-Rosen 1941-1945” at the Gross-Rosen Museum in Rogoźnica.



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

▲ In Auschwitz-Birkenau memory site the archive *in situ* was established in 1957. It has 250 running meters of documentation, including approx. 30 meters of documents created during the camp's operation.

Collecting artefacts that belonged to the Victims (name tags, shoes, suitcases etc.) and archival documentation (documents, photographs, films, maps) and storing *in situ*



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

▲ At the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum the suitcases formerly owned by the Victims are stored in a specially designed and equipped room, in which optimal humidity and temperature are maintained. Such meticulous and individual concern for each artefact serves to extend the existence of priceless objects – often the only traces left behind of the Victims.

**Development of educational forms
with respect for the truth and based on
international dialogue and cooperation**



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

Every year the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum is visited by 2 million people from around the world.

Development of educational forms with respect for the truth and based on international dialogue and cooperation



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

▲ Guides in the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum are giving tours in 17 different languages.



Photo: KZ-Gedenkstätte Flossenbürg

▲ Educational workshops at the former German concentration camp KL Flossenbürg.



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

▲ Each year the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum is organising many conferences and workshops for students from different countries.

Functioning of an advisory and opinionative body patterned after the International Auschwitz Council



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

Meeting of the International Auschwitz Council appointed by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland. The International Auschwitz Council consists of experts from different countries and is an advisory body helping to honourably commemorate and manage the former German concentration and extermination camps located inside the current Polish borders.

Performing solid research on the Victims as well as perpetrators



Photo: Gross-Rosen Museum in Rogoźnica

Exhibition „The Things, The Remembrances, The Sorrow That Remains...” in the newly renovated ground floor of old camp’s weaving mill at the Gross-Rosen Museum in Rogoźnica.



JÓZEF ZEGLEŃ

Urodzony 4.03.1890 r. w Bystrej Podhalańskiej. Aresztowany w lecie 1940 r. w Makowie Podhalańskim i osadzony w więzieniu w Tarnowie. 8.10.1940 r. został przewieziony do KL Auschwitz (nr 5921), a następnie do KL Gross-Rosen (nr 1486). W drugiej połowie 1942 r. został przeniesiony do podobozu Breslau-Lissa, skąd powrócił do obozu głównego w marcu 1943 r. Ewakuowany 10.02.1945 r. do obozu Leitmeritz. 28.03.45 r. przeniesiony do obozu macierzystego we Flossenbürgu.

Born 4.03.1890, in Bystra Podhalańska. Arrested in summer 1940 in Maków Podhalański and imprisoned in Tarnów. On 8.10.1940 he was transferred to Auschwitz KL (inmate No. 5921). Subsequently, transferred to Gross-Rosen KL (inmate No. 1486). In the second half of 1942 he was transferred to the Breslau-Lissa sub-camp. In March 1943 he was transferred back to the main camp. On 10.02.1945 he was evacuated to the Leitmeritz camp. Then, on 28.03.1945 to the main camp in Flossenbürg.

Geboren am 4.03.1890 in Bystra Podhalańska. Im Sommer 1940 wurde er in Maków Podhalański inhaftiert und ins Gefängnis in Tarnow gebracht. Am 8.10.1940 wurde er ins KL Auschwitz (Häftlingsnr. 5921) und anschließend ins KL Gross-Rosen (Häftlingsnr. 1486) gebracht. In der zweiten Hälfte des Jahres 1942 wurde er ins Außenlager Breslau-Lissa transportiert er kehrte von dort im März 1943 zurück. Am 10.02.1945 wurde er ins KL Leitmeritz evakuiert. Am 28.03.1945 wurde er ins Stammlager Flossenbürg verlegt.



MIECZYSLAW MICHALOWICZ

Urodzony 29.08.1876 r. w Petersburgu. Był lekarzem pediatrią, profesorem Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego i twórcą nowoczesnej Kliniki Pediatrycznej przy ul. Litewskiej w Warszawie. Został aresztowany w nocy z 10 na 11 listopada 1942 r. w Warszawie i osadzony w więzieniu na Pawiaku. Wiosną 1943 r. przewieziony do KL Majdanek. 8 kwietnia 1944 r. przeniesiony do KL Gross-Rosen (nr 29007). 10.02.1945 r. ewakuowany do obozu Leitmeritz. Tam doczekał wyzwolenia.

Born 29.08.1876 in St. Petersburg. He was a paediatrician and a professor of the Warsaw University and worked at the paediatric clinic on Litewska Street in Warsaw. He was arrested on the night of 10/11 November 1942 in Warsaw and imprisoned in Pawiak. From spring 1943 he was an inmate at the Majdanek KL. On 8.04.1944 he was transferred to Gross-Rosen KL (inmate No. 29007). On 10.02.1945 he was evacuated to the Leitmeritz camp where he was finally liberated.

Geboren am 29.08.1876 in Petersburg. Kinderarzt, Professor an der Universität Warschau und Gründer der modernen Kinderklinik in Warschau in der Litewska-Straße. Er wurde in der Nacht vom 10. auf 11. November 1942 in Warschau inhaftiert und im Gefängnis in Pawiak festgehalten. Im Frühjahr 1943 wurde er ins KL Majdanek verlegt. Am 8.04.1944 wurde er ins KL Gross-Rosen (Häftlingsnr. 29007) transportiert. Am 10.02.1945 erfolgte die Evakuierung ins KL Leitmeritz. Dort wurde er befreit.

Photo: Gross-Rosen Museum in Rogoźnica

▲ Solid information about the Victims captured at the former German concentration camp Gross-Rosen in Rogoźnica displayed on the exhibition „The Things, The Remembrances, The Sorrow That Remains...”.

Performing solid research on the Victims as well as perpetrators



Photo: The Museum Stutthof

▲ Fiodor Karaczow arrested in 1939 in Gdansk. Below as a prisoner of the former German concentration camp KL Stutthof.



Photo: The Museum Stutthof

Emulation of practices developed by the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum, expressing extremely significant for UNESCO principles of authenticity, integrity of artefacts and archival collections, and international cooperation



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

New international travelling exhibition *Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away* on the history of the German concentration camp will be open until 17 June 2018 at the Arte Canal Exhibition Center in Madrid.



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

▲ On 2,500 square meters the exhibition *Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away* displays more than 600 original objects, most of them belonging to the Auschwitz Memorial Collections. The project also involves specific loans from various international institutions, such as Yad Vashem – The World Holocaust Remembrance Center in Jerusalem, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC, as well as from survivors and private collections.



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

Emulation of practices developed by the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum, expressing extremely significant for UNESCO principles of authenticity, integrity of artefacts and archival collections, and international cooperation



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

▲ In the next 7 years the international travelling exhibition *Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away* will visit altogether 14 cities around the world, 7 in Europe and 7 in North America, bringing history of Auschwitz closer to millions of people. This project is a great example of international cooperation and exchange of good practices.



Photo: The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

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