



Symposium 'Identifying and Countering Holocaust Distortion: Lessons for and from Southeast Asia'

Program

23-26 November 2021

This symposium is part of the project *'Identifying and countering Holocaust distortion: Lessons for and from Southeast Asia'* implemented by the Never Again Association, and supported by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and Heinrich Böll Stiftung Cambodia. The project's objective is to identify narratives around the Holocaust, develop counter-arguments and strategies against its distortion in Southeast Asia, and inspire critical memory discourses about local instances of conflicts and genocides. The event will be held online in English, with simultaneous translation of selected sessions in Burmese, Khmer, and Thai languages. Registration is required: [HERE](#).

23 November 2021

17:30-17:45 ICT/11:30-11:45 CET

Opening remarks, introducing the project –

Prof. Rafal Pankowski, co-founder, the NEVER AGAIN Association, Warsaw, Poland

17:45-18:00 ICT/11:45-12:00 CET

Opening remarks – Dr. Kunnaya Wimooktanon, BALAC, Program Director, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

8:00-19:30 ICT/12:00-13:30 CET

Critical Discourse Analysis approach to study anti-minority discourses, racism, and genocide denial - Teun van Dijk, professor at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain

Moderator: Dr. Verita Sriratana, Department of English, Faculty of Arts at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, Research Fellow at Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund University, Sweden

24 November 2021

17:00-17:05 ICT/11:00-11:05 CET

Welcome, introducing the project –

Natalia Sineaeva, the NEVER AGAIN Association, Warsaw, Poland

17:05-17:15 ICT/11:05-11:15 CET

Opening remarks - Paula Assubuji, Heinrich Böll Stiftung Cambodia, Phnom Penh

17:20-17:30 ICT/11:20-11:30 CET

An overview of the problem of Holocaust distortion and how it relates to antisemitism -

Robert Williams, Deputy Director, International Affairs, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, chair of the Committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial at the IHRA, Washington DC, USA

17:30-18:00 ICT/11:30-12:00 CET

Keynote talk about the meaning of the Holocaust, its legacy, and challenges for its

commemoration - [Prof. Yehuda Bauer](#), IHRA Honorary Chair, Professor Emeritus of History and Holocaust Studies at the Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Academic Advisor to Yad Vashem, Israel

18:00-18:10 ICT/12:00-12:10 CET

Discussion, reflections -

Moderator: Foysal Shahriar Ratul, Law student at Jahangirnagar University and volunteer researcher at the Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice, the Liberation War Museum, Dhaka, Bangladesh

18:10-18:30 ICT/12:10-12:30 CET

Mindfulness meditation (break) - Venerable Lablu Barua (Thirasattho),

Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, Thailand

18:30-18:45 ICT/12:30-12:45 CET

The case of genocide multi-deniers - Prof. Rafal Pankowski, the NEVER AGAIN Association, Warsaw, Poland

18:45-19:00 ICT/12:45-13:00 CET

Dealing with the past in Cambodia in the context of genocide distortion - Sayana Ser, Peace

Institute, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

19:00-19:15 ICT/13:00-13:15 CET

The Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum as a witness against historical distortion - Hang Nisay, Director the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

19:15-19:30 ICT/13:15-13:30 CET

Discussion, reflections

19:30-20:00 ICT/13:30-14:00 CET

Break: Short tour of Jewish Warsaw

20:00-20:30 ICT/14:00-14:30 CET

Keynote talk about genocide denial and distortion in Southeast Asia and worldwide - [Prof. Ben Kiernan](#), Professor of International and Area Studies, Director of the Genocide Studies at Yale University Program, USA

20:30-20:45 ICT/14:30-14:45 CET

Discussion, reflections, conclusions -

Moderator: Prof. Rafal Pankowski, the NEVER AGAIN Association, Warsaw, Poland

25 November 2021

16:00-16:10 ICT/10:00-10:10 CET

Introduction, welcome -

Sayana Ser, Peace Institute, Phnom Penh, Cambodia; Natalia Sineaeva, the NEVER AGAIN Association, Warsaw, Poland

16:10-16:40 ICT/10:10-10:40 CET

Countering Holocaust distortion in the framework of interfaith dialogue in Southeast Asia - Jeremy Jones, Director of International and of Community Affairs for the Australia/Israel & Jewish Affairs Council and Senior Contributing Editor for the Australia Israel Review, Sydney, Australia; Chief Rabbi of Poland Michael Schudrich, Warsaw, Poland; Moderator: Venerable Lablu Barua (Thirasattho), Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, Bangkok, Thailand

16:40-16:50 ICT/10:40-10:50 CET

Discussion, reflections

16:50-17:20 ICT/10:50-11:20 CET

The Land of Smiles, Nazi Chic and Communist Cool: Personality Cult and 'Democide & Holocaust Indifference' in Thailand - Dr Verita Sriratana, Associate Professor, Department of English, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, Research Fellow at Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund University, Sweden

17:20-17:35 ICT/11:20-11:35 CET

Discussion, reflections

17:35-18:05 ICT/11:35-12:05 CET

How techniques of denial and distortion were weaponised to enable the genocide of Myanmar's Rohingya, and why education about the Holocaust and its denial must be part of a democratic Myanmar's future - Dr Ronan Lee, Visiting Scholar at Queen Mary University of London's School of Law and the International State Crime Initiative and author of '*Myanmar's Rohingya Genocide: Identity, History and Hate Speech*', London, UK

18:05-18:15 ICT/12:05-12:15 CET

Discussion, reflections –

Moderator: Foysal Shahriar Ratul, Law student at Jahangirnagar University and volunteer researcher at the Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice, the Liberation War Museum, Dhaka, Bangladesh

18:20-18:50 ICT/12:20-12:50 CET

Burmese Jews as part of pluralist society in Myanmar - Sammy Samuels, Leader of Jewish Community, Yangon, Myanmar

18:45-18:55 ICT/12:45-12:55 CET

Discussion, reflections

18:55-19:00 ICT/12:55-13:00 CET

Break

19:00-20:30 ICT/13:00-14:30 CET

Discussion 'Challenging Genocide Distortion' -

Konstanty Gebert, journalist, writer and educator, Warsaw, Poland;
Barbara Thimm, CPS-advisor GIZ at the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, Phnom Penh, Cambodia;
Mofidul Hoque, founder trustee of the Bangladesh Liberation War Museum, Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice of the Museum, Dhaka; Nickey Diamond, Ph.D. candidate in political and legal anthropology at the University of Konstanz, Germany, Burmese human rights activist and an advisor to Fortify Rights, Konstanz, Germany
Moderator: Prof. Rafal Pankowski, co-founder, the NEVER AGAIN Association, Warsaw, Poland

26 November 2021

Outlining Discussions

17:00-18:00 ICT/11:00-12:00 CET

Presentation of two museum initiatives in Thailand and discussion of 6 October Museum Project: Documentation, Archives, and Patani Art Space in Thailand's conflict zone, in the 'Deep South'

Patporn (Aor) Phoothong, researcher who is focused on museums and archives of past political violence and ongoing violent conflicts, Bangkok, Thailand

Arjan Jehabdulloh Jehorhoh, the founder and director of Patani Art Space, Thailand

Moderator: Dr Verita Sriratana, Associate Professor, Department of English, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, Research Fellow at Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund University, Sweden

18:00-18:15 ICT/12:00-12:15

From Auschwitz to Myanmar - Maung Zarni, exiled Burmese activist, adviser to the Genocide Watch & research fellow, Genocide Documentation Center Cambodia (DC-Cam), Cambodia, UK

18:15-18:45 ICT/11:15-12:45 CET

Conclusions, closing remarks - Rapporteurs: Alena Fomenko, the Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center, Alina Scheitza, Germany

Contact us: info@neveragainassociation.org

Website: <https://holocausteducation-asia.org/>, <https://www.nigdywiecej.org/en/>