THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022

9:30 A.M. in New York 3:30 P.M. in Berlin 7:30 P.M. in Dhaka 10:30 P.M. in Seoul

COUNTERING REVISIONISM: ENGAGING NEW GENERATIONS IN MEMORY, TRUTH AND JUSTICE AROUND WORLD WAR II HERITAGE

International Seminar to Share Best Practices in World War II Heritage and Youth Engagement



In 1945-46, the Nuremberg trials charged representatives of the Nazi party for criminal offenses in World War II. Today, the Memorium Nuremberg Trials, a Site of Conscience located at the historic venue, shares the background, conduct, and subsequent effects of the trials with the public. **Photo credit**: National Archives, College Park, MD, USA

The event will be live streamed and accessible to all.

TO REGISTER, CLICK HERE.

In recent years, aided by new media and communication technologies, challenges to conventional understandings of World War II narratives at heritage sites have emerged, some of which include underrepresented voices and experiences related to the war that can enrich our understanding of this history, as well as others that manipulate historical facts and spread disinformation that perpetuates bias and discrimination.

Under these circumstances, Sites of Conscience and other cultural and heritage sites are perfectly positioned to spark community dialogue that amplifies marginalized voices, assesses the damaging strands of revisionism, and promotes truth-telling – leveraging the lessons of the past to foster free, just and democratic societies. By recognizing all victims of the war and engendering compassion and new understandings of shared values across diverse audiences, these sites contribute to a deeper understanding of World War II and its contemporary legacies.

To highlight best practices and deepen the role of Sites of Conscience and heritage sites in the promotion of more inclusive narratives and the countering of revisionist narratives of World War II, the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience and the Institute of International Studies at Seoul National University are hosting an international conference at the Rubin Museum of Art on July 7, 2022.



1942, the United States government ordered more than 110,000 men, women, and children to leave their homes and detained them in remote, military-style camps. Manzanar War Relocation Center was one of ten camps where Japanese American citizens and resident Japanese aliens were interned during World War II. Today, Manzanar is a Site of Conscience.

Photo credit: Dorothea Lange, Public Domain

The day-long event will feature presentations by representatives of Sites of Conscience and other cultural and heritage sites that share underrepresented narratives related to WWII, offer strategies to promote more inclusive histories for future generations, and provide tools to counter historical revisionism. The event will be accessible to a limited number of inperson guests, and accessible to all through a livestream. In addition, a roundtable discussion with youth from around the world will explore the importance of war heritage, the power of memory, and the ways that youth can take leadership roles in continuing these vital conversations. Videos from Sites of Conscience in ten countries will also be shown, each sharing reflections from youth about the role these heritage and memory sites can play in countering revisionism.

For more information, please email: Estefanía Hecht-Toltl at ehecht-toltl@sitesofconscience.org.

FOR A SCHEDULE OF SPEAKERS AND PRESENTATIONS, PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE.

Program Schedule			
Time	Program		
09:30 – 09:45	OPENING Welcome Dong-Joon Jo, Professor at the Department of Political Science and the International Relations, Seoul National University; Elizabeth Silkes, Executive Director of International Coalition of Sites of Conscience		
09:45 – 10:10	KEYNOTE SPEECH Memory and Interpretation of War Heritage for Future Generations Jean-Louis Luxen, former Board Member of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, and former Secretary-General of ICOMOS		
10:25 – 12:00	SESSION 1: WORLD WAR II AND CURRENT DAY HISTORICAL REVISIONISM – History and Interpretation		
	Presentations by scholars at four different museums and heritage sites will explore current interpretations of WW II and the importance of sharing full, inclusive histories for future generations.		
	MODERATOR:	Jihon Kim, Adjunct Professor, Graduate School of World Heritage Studies, Konkuk University	
	Introduction:	Contemporary Threats of Historical Revisionism and the Roles of "Living" Interpretation at Historic Sites in Confronting Revisionism Dong-Joon Jo, Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Seoul National University	
	Presentation 1:	Interpretation of Foreign Citizen Mobilization and German Industrial Heritage of WWII Gerhard Lenz, Managing Director/Foundation Director, Rammelsberg World Heritage Site Goslar GmbH	
	Presentation 2:	Forced Labor: Prisoners of War during World War II and Contemporary Narratives David Palmer, Visiting Professor of History, University of Melbourne	
	Presentation 3:	Diversity of War Records in the History of Thailand's Death Railway Sermsuk Prakittipoom, Head of Muang Sing Historical Park in Kanchanaburi, ICOMOS-Thailand	
	Presentation 4:	National Nostalgia and Heritage Diplomacy Nakano Ryoko, Professor, Faculty of Law, Kanazawa University	
	Q&A: Q&A discussion with selected youth participants		
	Lunch		
13:00 – 14:40	SESSION 2: YO	OUTH ROUNDTABLE – Interpretation of War Heritage and Participation of Future Generations	
	Videos produced by a range of youth around the world will be shared as a starting point for dialogue between participating youth and panelists on the lessons of war heritage, the power of memory, and the role of youth in shaping the future of these conversations. MODERATOR: Lauren Zalut, Director of Education and Tour Programs, Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site (USA)		
		Elizabeth Silkes, Executive Director of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience	
	Short Break		
15:00 – 16:35	SESSION 3: CONFRONTING WORLD WAR II HISTORICAL REVISIONISM AT HERITAGE SITES – The Role of Sites of Conscience		
		present four case studies of Sites of Conscience interpreting World War II histories, highlighting their role in fostering d critical thinking among new generations about historic narratives, promoting justice, and advancing human rights.	
	MODERATOR:	Elizabeth Silkes, Executive Director, the International Coalition of Sites and Conscience	
	Introduction:	The Importance of Multiple Perspectives, Community Engagement and Living Interpretation in Countering Revisionism and Promoting Peace Through Sites of Conscience Programs Elizabeth Silkes, Executive Director, the International Coalition of Sites and Conscience	
	Presentation 1:	Manzanar National Historic Site Case Study, USA. Rose Masters, Park Ranger, Oral History Specialist	
	Presentation 2:	Fondazione Scuola di Pace Monte Sole Case Study, Italy Elena Bergonzini, Senior Educator; Stefano Merzi, Educator/ Trainer	
	Presentation 3:	Colonia Dignidad Case Study, Chile Lelia Perez Valdes, Head of the Human Rights Education Unit	
	Presentation 4:	Casa do Povo Case Study, Brazil Benjamin Seroussi, Executive Director	
	Q&A: Q&A discussion with selected youth participants and public		
	Short Break		
16:50 – 17:00	CALL TO ACTION AND CLOSING		
		Jihon Kim, Adjunct Professor, Graduate School of World Heritage Studies, Konkuk University	
	_	Professor at the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Seoul National University; Executive Director, the International Coalition of Sites and Conscience	