



anne frank house



Seminar
Teaching the Holocaust by Bullets

Witnesses, archives and investigations

July 6-8, 2011
Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Target

European history and religion teachers in secondary schools

Yahad - In Unum - History

For more than six years, the association Yahad – In Unum has worked in the Ukraine, Russia, Poland and Belarus interviewing witnesses of the shootings of the Jews by the Third Reich's *Einsatzgruppen* and trying to identify sites of the Jewish and Roma mass graves on the occupied territory of the former USSR.

The association Yahad – In Unum, through its European Resource Centre for Research and Learning about the Eastern Holocaust (in French: CERRESE), has made available to the public the results of its research: more than one thousand video testimonies and archival records. This information and Yahad's educational work has helped increase public understanding of the history of the Holocaust in Eastern Europe.

Anne Frank House

The story of Anne Frank is well known: a young German Jewish girl who left Nazi Germany with her family to live in Amsterdam, to escape persecution. After the Occupation of the Netherlands by the Nazis her family and some friends, went into hiding. After being betrayed, the eight people hiding together were deported. Otto Frank, Anne's father, was the only one to survive the concentration camps. Anne died in Bergen Belsen just weeks before the liberation of that camp, shortly before her sixteenth birthday.

During the two years in hiding, Anne Frank wrote her diary, a poignant testimony in which she describes her life in hiding and the persecution of the Jews in the countries under Nazi rule. After his return to Amsterdam, Otto Frank found Anne's diary and published it.

The *Anne Frank House* is an independent organisation entrusted with the care of the Secret Annexe, the place where Anne Frank went into hiding during World War II and where she wrote her diary. It brings her life story to the attention of people all over the world to encourage them to reflect on the dangers of anti-Semitism, racism and discrimination and the importance of freedom, equal rights and democracy.

Seminar in Amsterdam 6 – 8 July 2011

The association Yahad - In Unum, together with the Anne Frank House, are inviting European history teachers to participate in a seminar designed to deepen their knowledge and comprehension of **the process of the extermination of Jewish and Roma victims in Eastern Europe during the World War II.**

1/ Participants will be invited to visit the Anne Frank House and the Jewish Historical Museum of Amsterdam which relate the history and tragic fate of the Dutch Jewish community during World War II.

2/ During the seminar presentations will be made by researchers from the Yahad team and by historians who are specialized in the history of the genocide of the Jews and Roma in Eastern Europe. They will highlight the different aspects of the Holocaust in the East: the different phases and the process of the extermination of the Jews and Roma in the Ukraine, Belarus and Russia. The speakers will discuss the various categories of actors, their roles and functions and at which point of the extermination process they were involved.

3/ The organizers will especially highlight the importance of oral histories of survivors and bystanders.

Participants will be presented with various Yahad archival documents and research results including interviews with Ukrainian, Belarusian and Russian witnesses (also coming from the Soviet and German archives), Jewish memory books, photographs

of mass graves, former work camps and ghettos. Yahad's working methods, its instruments and the uniqueness of its approach will be an important part of the presentations.

4/ A Ukrainian non-Jewish witness to the mass shooting of Jewish victims interviewed by Yahad during its research will be present at the seminar and will relate what he saw more than sixty years ago.

5/ Special attention will be given to the educational transmission of the knowledge made available during the seminar. Workshops on the theory and practice of Holocaust education will challenge the participants to share past experiences in teaching about the Holocaust and to discuss how 'the Holocaust by Bullets' might be taught in schools throughout Europe.

The Anne Frank House will share its experiences in working with a variety of teaching methods and materials, including the educational tool 'The Search', a graphic novel on the Holocaust that has been introduced into schools in several European countries. Yahad - In Unum will propose a toolkit with original documents (testimonies, archives, schemes, photos...) very informative, simple, short and visual that will help teachers to illustrate and explain in a simple way the Holocaust in Eastern Europe.

Dates and Place

The seminar will be held in **English, July 6-8, 2011 in Amsterdam at the Anne Frank House** Accommodation and travel expenses will be covered by the seminar organizers.

Application

All secondary school teachers (5 years of experience minimum) interested in attending the seminar are invited to e-mail a letter of interest and a curriculum vitae to:

Lillia Votler at l.votler@yahadinunum.org.

Deadline

April 30, 2011

For more information, please contact Lillia Votler at l.votler@yahadinunum.org