

November 5, 2019



Our newsletter focuses on issues relating to historical dialogue, historical and transitional justice, and public and social memory. More details about items in our newsletter (and more!) can be found on our [website](#).

Both our website and newsletter provide information and resources to encourage innovative interdisciplinary, transnational and comparative research. They are housed at the [Institute for the Study of Human Rights](#) at Columbia University, New York City.



Start planning your trip! We are delighted to be hosting the 8th Annual Conference of the Historical Dialogues, Justice & Memory Network:
PREVENTION ACTIVISM:
[ADVANCING HISTORICAL DIALOGUE IN POST-CONFLICT SETTINGS.](#)
Columbia University, New York City
December 12-14, 2019

Blog post: history and the examination of root causes of conflict are a critical long-term line of defense against genocide and other identity based crimes of atrocities, and historical dialogue and genocide prevention is the topic of recent scholarly discussion. To this end, we share with you an essay written by J. Kenneth Blackwell and David Phillips regarding Turkish president Tayyip Erdogan's recent actions in Syria. If you are interested in writing a blog piece or short essay about a subject related to historical dialogue, please send it to us as dialogues@columbia.edu. The full version of this essay was published in The Christian Post and can be found [here](#).

Syria: Never again, by J. Kenneth Blackwell and David L. Phillips

[...] The term "genocide" was coined by Raphael Lemkin in 1943 who explained, "I became interested in genocide because it happened so many times. It happened to the Armenians, then after the Armenians, Hitler took action." Genocide was the legal basis of the Nuremberg Trials, which prosecuted Nazi war criminals. The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, adopted in 1948, requires states to intervene, whereas ethnic cleansing has no explicit or implied legal obligation. [...]

It may seem like a more benign and antiseptic term, but genocide and ethnic cleansing both describe crimes against humanity.

As U.S. officials, and in our private capacities, we struggled to prevent ethnic cleansing by Serbs in Bosnia. We applauded in 1995 when the United States went to war to stop ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and, in 1999, U.S. forces intervened to prevent what happened in Bosnia from happening in Kosovo. In both instances, we championed the rights of Muslims. We were proud that the U.S. went to war to defend defenseless victims.

In 1998, we visited Southeast Turkey to document the systematic killing and displacement of ethnic Kurds. Turkey cited counter-terrorism to justify its crimes, which resulted in the deaths of 40,000 people and the displacement of millions. We testified to the UN Human Rights Commission on Turkey's abuses.

Today, Turkey is practicing genocide again. Turkish troops and their jihadist mercenaries invaded northern Syria in October 2019. Erdogan vowed to "clear" the Kurds from the border area. Clear is a euphemism for cleanse, which is another way of saying genocide.

President Trump's turning a blind eye to Erdogan's murderous action against a U.S. ally who joined our fight against ISIS is a problem. The President said the Turks needed a swath of Syria to be "cleaned out" of Kurds -- this may be seen by many as an endorsement of ethnic cleansing. Regardless of the language or legal semantics, the U.S. should always oppose genocide and ethnic cleansing.

The U.S. has historically tried to be a force for good in the world. We opposed Hitler's genocide. Bombed the Serbs to prevent ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and Kosovo. Launched the Gulf War to keep Saddam Hussein from using chemical weapons.

By allowing ethnic cleansing to remove the Kurds from northern Syria, the U.S. may be seen as an accomplice to Erdogan's war crimes. The U.S. must oppose genocide in all its forms and in whatever name.

SCHOLARSHIP

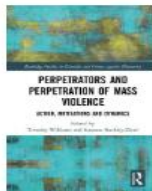
Select book reviews, books for review and the latest contribution to our working paper series.

[MORE ON SCHOLARSHIP](#)



We are delighted to share the latest contribution to our working paper series, Angela Bermudez's essay, "[The Normalization of Political Violence in History Textbooks: Ten Narrative Keys](#)". Angela Bermudez is a researcher at the Center for Applied Ethics in the University of Deusto (Bilbao, Spain).

Read Bjorn Krondorfer's review of *Perpetrators and Perpetration of Mass Violence: Action, Motivations and Dynamics*, edited by Timothy Williams and Susanne Buckley-Zistel, which suggests that this volume opens as many doors as the questions it raises



Interested in reviewing a book? Below are a list of books currently available for review. Interested in proposing a book for review? E-mail us at dialogues@columbia.edu!



- Lazzara, Michael. [Civil Obedience: Complicity and Complacency in Chile since Pinochet](#) (University of Wisconsin Press, 2018).
- Newman, Michael. [Transitional Justice: Contending with the Past](#) (Polity Books, 2019).

OPPORTUNITIES

Select postings for career and academic advancement.

ALL OPPORTUNITIES

November 2019

[Asian Studies Association of Australia: Future Asias](#)

Conference Dates: 6-9 July 2020

Location: University of Melbourne, Australia

Deadline: 1 November 2019

[CfA: Between Enemy Combatant and Racial 'Other': Nazi Persecution of Soviet POWs](#)

Location: Washington, DC

Conference Dates: January 6-10, 2020

Deadline: 1 November 2019

[Globalization and Social Movements: Familiar Patterns, New Constellations?](#)

Location: Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

Conference Dates: 4-5 June 2020

Deadline: 4 November 2019

[CfA: Visiting Scholar Programs, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum](#)

Location: Washington, DC

Deadline: 15 November 2019

[CfA: Multiple Positions, Scholars at Risk](#)

Location: New York City or remotely

Deadline: 15 November 2019 (rolling)

[CfA: Making Mediation & Peace Processes Work: Peacemaking in Deeply Divided Societies and Challenging Contexts](#)

Location: London, United Kingdom

Dates: November 18–20, 2019

CfP: [Holocaust Memory and Education in the Digital Age](#)

Abstract Deadline: November 20, 2019

[CfA: RELEVANCE: 60th Annual Conference of the Estonian National Museum](#)

Location: Estonian National Museum, Tartu, Estonia

Conference Dates: 5-7 May 2020

Submission Deadline: November 20, 2019

[Designing and Implementing Effective Monitoring and Evaluation for Development, Peacebuilding & Humanitarian Operations](#)

Location: London, United Kingdom

Dates: November 21–23, 2019

[National Dialogue & Peace Mediation Course](#)

Location: Basel, Switzerland

Program Dates: 27 – 31 January 2020

Application Deadline: November 30, 2019

[Dealing with the Past Course](#)

Location: Basel, Switzerland

Program Dates: 24-25 January 2020

Application Deadline: November 30, 2019

[Call for Nomination: 2020 Gwangju Prize for Human Rights](#)

The May 18 Memorial Foundation, South Korea

Deadline: November 30, 2019

December 2019

[CfP: Lessons and Legacies Conference on the Holocaust XVI: The Holocaust: Rethinking Paradigms in Research and Representation](#)

Location: Ottawa, Canada

Conference Dates: 7-10 November 2020

Submission Deadline: 1 December 2019

[CfA: Yale World Fellows](#)

Location: Yale University, New Haven, CT

Deadline: December 4, 2019

[The 12th Annual Summer Institute: Teaching Peace in the 21st Century](#)

Location: University of Notre Dame

Deadline: December 15, 2019

Conference Dates: June 8-12, 2020

CfA: [Human Rights Advocates Program](#)

Location: Columbia University, New York City

Deadline: 16 December 2019

[CfP: Overcoming the Darkness? – Holocaust Survivors' Emotional and Social Journeys in the Early Postwar Period](#)

Location: Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, Israel

Conference Dates: 29-30 June, 2020

Deadline: 31 December 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

Select activities related to historical dialogue, historical and transitional justice, and public and social memory

ALL EVENTS

November 2019

[Call for Applications: Lessons and Legacies Munich](#)

The Holocaust Educational Foundation, the Center for Holocaust Studies at the Institute for Contemporary History in Munich, the Federal Agency for Civic Education of Germany, and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, are pleased to announce a special session of the Lessons and Legacies Conference. The special session, "The Holocaust and Europe: Research Trends, Pedagogical Approaches, and Political Challenges," will take place in Munich from November 4 – 7, 2019.

[DISRUPTORS: Being Peacebuilders in a World of Conflict](#)

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Date: November 6-8, 2019

[X-Raying Turkey: Current Realities and New Aspirations](#)

Location: Columbia University

Date: November 7, 2019

[30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACEFUL REVOLUTION – FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL](#)

Location: Berlin, Germany

Date: November 8, 2019

[INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND BORDERS: DECOLONIZATION, CONTESTATION, TRANS-BORDER PRACTICES](#)

Location: Columbia University, New York City

Date: November 11-12, 2019

[12th annual International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation \(ICERI\)](#)

Location: Seville, Spain

Date: November 11-13, 2019

[Lingering in the Memory Palace. Rethinking the Archive through the Arts](#)

University of Kent and Institute of Modern Languages Research partnership

Location: London, United Kingdom

Date: November 12, 2019

[Political Transitions Revisited: A Discussion](#)

Location: Columbia University

Date: November 14, 2019

[International Human Rights Arts Festival](#)

Location: New York City

Date: November 14, 2019

[Build Peace Borderlands](#)

Location: San Diego/Tijuana

Dates: November 14-16, 2019

[Cultural Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution](#)

Columbia University, New York City

Date: November 14, 2019

[COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE PRACTITIONERS](#)

Location: Columbia University, New York City

Date: November 15, 2019

[Presence and future of European Jewish Literature Studies in a changing Europe](#)

Location: Rhineland-Westphalian Technical University of Aachen, Germany

Date: November 18-20, 2019

November 2019

[8th Annual Conference of the Historical Dialogues, Justice & Memory Network](#)

[PREVENTION ACTIVISM: ADVANCING HISTORICAL DIALOGUE IN POST-CONFLICT SETTINGS](#)

Location: Columbia University, New York City



Date: December 12-14, 2019

CfP: Lina Wertmüller Symposium (e-mail for details: wertmullersymposium@gmail.com)

Location: University of Westminster, UK

Date: December 13, 2019

Tell us about events, opportunities and initiatives you are working on! E-mail dialogues@columbia.edu.

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