



Brief historical outline of the Holocaust Task Force 1998 - 2007

FIRST YEARS OF EXISTENCE

May 7, 1998: First meeting in Stockholm of a working group composed of Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States and decision to create a *Task Force on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research*, future Task Force.

Sweden chairs the Working Group. Prof. Yehuda Bauer is academic advisor.

September 25, 1998: Meeting in Washington, D.C. The United States is Chair of the working group. Israel and Germany become members.

December 3, 1998: Meeting in Washington, D.C.

March 8, 1999: Meeting in London. The United Kingdom is Chair of the Task Force. The Netherlands and Poland become members. France attends as an observer.

June 25, 1999: Meeting in London. France and Italy become members.

July 1, 1999: Israel becomes Chair.

October 13-14, 1999: Meeting in Jerusalem.

January 25-27, 2000: International Forum of Stockholm. Official launching of the Task Force. Sweden is Chair from December 1999 to February 2000.

Members of the Task Force in January 2000 are: France, Germany, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States

GERMAN CHAIR

February 2000: Germany becomes Chair (Amb. Albert Spiegel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

MEETINGS:

April 10 – 11, 2000 in Berlin and Sachsenhausen

September 25-26, 2000 in Buchenwald

February 1, 2001 in Berlin

ADMINISTRATION:

Creation of the Task Force Endowment Fund, April 2000

NEW MEMBERS:

Austria (February 2001)

DUTCH CHAIR

November 2000: The Netherlands takes over the Chairmanship for one year (Amb. Frederik Rake, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

MEETINGS

May 2-3, 2001 in Amsterdam

October 23-24, 2001 in The Hague

MISCELLANEOUS:

First projects financed by the Task Force (in Lithuania [UK], Romania [France], and in the Czech Republic [the Netherlands])

FRENCH CHAIR

March 2002: France becomes Chair (Norbert Engel, Ministry of Culture; Ambassador Patrick Amiot, MFA). Offices of the Chair at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

PLENARY MEETINGS

June 23-26, 2002 in Paris

October 14-17, 2002 in Strasbourg, at the Council of Europe

NEW MEMBERS:

Czech Republic (June), Lithuania (June), Argentina (June), Hungary (October)

The Council of Europe becomes an observer in the Task Force

EXTRA EVENTS:

October 14-15, 2002: International Conference “Holocaust Education and the Arts” at the Council of Europe, organised by the French delegation of the Task Force, the Council of Europe and the Paris-based Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah.

October 14, 2002: Official launching of the Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust and Crimes against Humanity by the Ministers of Education of member countries of the Council of Europe

OFFICIAL VISITS:

April 2002: Argentina (Norbert Engel, Ministry of Culture/MFA)

May 2002: Hungary (Norbert Engel, Ministry of Culture/MFA)

September 23-25, 2002: Lithuania (Patrick Amiot, Francis Lott, Jean-Marc Dreyfus, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

November 6-9, 2002: Latvia (Patrick Amiot, Jean-Marc Dreyfus, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

November 20-22, 2002: Belgium (Patrick Amiot, Jean-Marc Dreyfus, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

January 26-30, 2003: Poland (Patrick Amiot, Jean-Marc Dreyfus, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

February 1-2, 2003: Germany (Patrick Amiot, Jean-Marc Dreyfus, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

US CHAIR

March 2003: The United States of America becomes Chair (Ambassador Randolph Bell, Ambassador Edward O'Donnell Jr., offices of the Chair at the Department of State and the Holocaust Memorial Museum)

ADMINISTRATION:

March 2003: Karel Fracapane, a former member of the French delegation (MFA), becomes “Fellow” of the Task Force and is in charge of supporting the Chair and ensuring the continuity between the Chairmanships. His office is located in the Chair country.

MEETINGS:

May 11-14, 2003 in Washington, D.C

November 30 - December 3, 2003 in Washington, D.C

September 11: First meeting of the Strategic and Implementation Working Group (SIWG)

October 2003: Meeting of the Education Working Group in Budapest, under the auspices of the Hungarian Ministry of Education

NEW MEMBERS:

Luxembourg (May), Norway (December)

OFFICIAL TRIPS:

June 7-12, 2003: Italy (Jody Manning, State Department, Karel Fracapane, USHMM)

September 15-20, 2003: Denmark, Estonia, Norway, Croatia (Don Braum, Gregory Mattson, State Department, Karel Fracapane, USHMM)

October 23-28, 2003: Latvia, Hungary (John Becker, State Department, Karel Fracapane, USHMM)

December 8-12, 2003: Brussels, Strasbourg (UE, CoE) (Greg Mattson, Emmanuel Cohet, State Department)

January 27, 2003: Sweden (in White House delegation)

ITALIAN CHAIR

March 2004: Chairmanship of Italy (Ambassador Giorgio Franchetti Pardo). Offices of the Chair at the Ministry of Education

MEETINGS

June 6-9, 2004 in Rome

December 13-16, 2004 in Trieste

October 14, 2004: Meeting of the SIWG

EXTRA EVENTS:

June 10, 2004: seminar of Primo Levi in Rome

March 2005: Seminar on Teaching about the Holocaust in Multicultural Society in Montecatini

NEW MEMBERS:

Denmark (June), Latvia (June), Romania (December), Switzerland (December)

The OSCE becomes an observer in the Task Force

OFFICIAL TRIPS:

June 4, 2004: France (Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education)

October 1-5, 2004: Croatia - Dubrovnik (Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education)

October 11, 2004: Germany – Bad Arolsen (Luigi Clavarino, Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education)

November 24-25: Switzerland (Giorgio Franchetti Pardo, MFA, Anna Piperno, Luigi Clavarino, Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education)

POLISH CHAIR

March 2005: Chairmanship of Poland (Daria Nalecz, State Archives). Offices of the Chair at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MEETINGS:

June 26-30, 2005 in Warsaw

November 13-16, 2005 in Krakow

May 16, 2005: Meeting of the SIWG

EXTRA EVENTS:

November 17, 2005: Conference on *Facts and Lies about the Holocaust*, Krakow

NEW MEMBERS:

Belgium (November), Croatia (November), Greece (November)

OFFICIAL TRIPS:

May 23-24, 2005: Sweden (Daria Nalecz, Ministry Culture, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

June 8-9, 2005: Spain – Cordoba (OSCE) (Mariusz Edgardo, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

October 3, 2005: Croatia (Ireneusz Kotarski, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

October 24-25, 2005: Belgium (Daria Nalecz, Ministry Culture, Martyna Majewska, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

November 28-30, 2005: Hungary (Karel Fracapane, MFA)

December 12-13, 2005: France – Strasbourg (Council of Europe) (Mariusz Edgardo, Karel Fracapane, Martyna Majewska, MFA)

January 23-25, 2006: Israel – Jerusalem, Tel Aviv (Karel Fracapane, MFA)

HUNGARIAN CHAIR

March 2006: Chairmanship of Hungary (Balint Magyar, Minister of Education, then Secretary of State, Office of the Prime Minister). Office of the Chair at the Ministry of Education

ADMINISTRATION:

Karel Fracapane is appointed Executive Secretary of the Task Force
Prof. Yehuda Bauer is appointed Honorary Chairman
Prof. Dina Porat becomes Academic Advisor

MEETINGS

May 21-25, 2006 in Budapest
December 3-6, 2006 in Budapest
May 21, 2006: Meeting of the SIWG
February 3-7, 2006: Meeting of the Education Working Group (EWG) in Zagreb, under the auspices of the Croatian Ministry of Education

EXTRA EVENTS:

April 23-25, 2006: Meeting of the Memorials Working Group and Conference on Cultures of Memory, organised by the Austria Academy of Science in Vienna.

NEW MEMBERS:

The United Nations becomes observer. All international organisations attending Task Force meetings officially become “Permanent Observers”

OFFICIAL TRIPS:

March 28- April 2, 2006: United Kingdom (Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education)
April 6, 2006: Slovakia (Zoltan Loboda, Yvonne Schuchmann, Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education, Janos Hovari, MFA)
April 21-25, 2006: Austria (Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education)
May 8-9, 2006: Romania (Zoltan Loboda, Yvonne Schuchmann, Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education, Janos Hovari, MFA)
June 10-13, 2006: United States – Minneapolis (Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education)
July 4-5, 2006: Latvia (Janos Hovari, MFA, Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education)
September 4, 2006: Ukraine (Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education)
September 11 – 15: United States – Washington DC, New York (Zoltan Loboda, Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education, Janos Hovari, MFA)
October 27-29, 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina (Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education, Janos Hovari, MFA)
November 13-15, 2006: Serbia – Belgrade, Novy Sad (Balint Magyar, Zoltan Loboda, Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education, Janos Hovari, MFA)
January 17-18, 2007: Austria (Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education, Janos Hovari, MFA)
January 23-28, 2007: Spain (Balint Magyar, Zoltan Loboda, Karel Fracapane, Ministry of Education, Janos Hovari, MFA)

March 2007: Czech Republic takes over the Chairmanship (Amb. Milos Pojar, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Karel Fracapane leaves the Task Force and is replaced “ad Interim” by Mr. Jan Sechter, of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MEETINGS:

June 10-13, 2007 in Prague

December 2-5, 2007 in Terezin and Prague

May 22-24, 2007: Meeting of the EWG’s Roma genocide subcommittee in Brno, at the Romani Culture Museum

NEW MEMBERS:

The EU Fundamental Rights Agency becomes a Permanent Observer

OFFICIAL TRIPS:

April 12-15, 2007: Estonia (Milos Pojar, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

May 15, 2007: Ireland (Milos Pojar, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

June 2-5, 2007: Canada – Montreal (Milos Pojar, Karel Fracapane, MFA)

AUSTRIAN CHAIR

2008: Austria becomes Chair of the Task Force

ADMINISTRATION:

Creation of a Permanent Office in Berlin

A new Executive Secretary is appointed

MEETINGS

February 2008: Meeting of the Education Working Group (EWG) in Paris, at the Shoah Memorial

October 2008: Meeting of the EWG Roma genocide subcommittee in Paris, at the Shoah Memorial