

**REPORT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA TO BE PRESENTED TO THE TASK  
FORCE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON HOLOCAUST EDUCATION,  
REMEMBRANCE, AND RESEARCH (ITF)**

Argentina has been a full member of the ITF since 2002, and as such is committed to the Stockholm Declaration on the Holocaust of January 2000 and implements policies and programs to support Holocaust education, remembrance and research.

With a view to fully comply with the obligations stemmed from the Stockholm Declaration, the Argentinean Government has issued Resolution SER 202/ SE 52 / SDH 6 of February 10th 2006, whereby the Secretaries of Justice, Education and Foreign Affairs committed themselves to an active participation in subjects related to the Holocaust, and in order to bring their plan to fruition they created of a Permanent Consultative Council, made up of government officials and NGOs that are interested in Holocaust education, remembrance, and research.

The *pro-tempore* Secretary of the Permanent Consultative Council is organized in a rotating system among the government areas involved. During the year 2006, the *pro tempore* Secretary was in charge of the Department of Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, named as the Focal Point for the Holocaust and ITF-related issues in March 2006. During the year 2007, the *pro tempore* Secretary is in charge of the Secretariat of Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, and subsequently, in the year 2008 will be in charge of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. During the present year, , the National Secretariat of Human Rights<sup>1</sup> is in charge of the coordination of the group, and by virtue of that institutional obligation, it frequently holds meeting in preparation for the Argentine participation at the ITF with representatives of the Ministries of Education, Justice and Foreign Affairs and with NGOs that are involved in the subject: *Museo del Holocausto* (Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum), *Delegación de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas (DAIA)* (Delegation of Argentine Israeli Associations), *Asociación*

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<sup>1</sup> The National Secretariat of Human Rights assists the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights on any subject relating to the elaboration and execution of policies, plans and programmes for the promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social, cultural and communal rights and also collective rights, and also on subjects relating to the normative adaptation of the domestic law to the international law of human rights. Further, it coordinates the actions regarding the promotion and protection of human rights with other National Ministries, the Judicial Power, the Attorney General, the National Ombudsman and the National Congress and with civil society organizations, and it exercises the representation of the National State before international human rights organisms, among other tasks.

*Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA)* (Argentine-Israelite Mutual Aid Association), *Simon Wiesenthal Center*, *B'nai B'rith*, *Confraternidad Argentina Judeo Cristiana (CAJC)* (Argentine Jewish Christian Fraternity), *Generaciones de la Shoá en Argentina* (Generations of the Shoah in Argentina) *Asociación Nuevos Derechos del Hombre* (New Human Rights Association), *Consejo Superior de Educación Católica Conferencia Episcopal Argentina (CONSUDEC)* (Superior Council of Catholic Education Argentine Episcopal Conference) and the *Junta Coordinadora de Asociaciones de la Enseñanza Privada (COORDIEP)* (Coordinating Junta of Private Teaching Associations).

The present report encompasses the activities carried out since December 2006 till the date of the first Plenary Meeting of 2007, including the projects for the year. The information was provided by the competent areas of the State and by the NGOs interested in the education, remembrance and research on the Holocaust.

Moreover, this report indicates not only the Argentina's commitment to the ITF, but also a strong conviction that the Holocaust remembrance is closely connected with the need of guaranteeing the memory, truth and justice in every case of truth and Human Rights.

Therefore, the promotion and protection of human rights are a key element of the State policy and also a priority of the current National Government.

The present report is divided into eight sections describing the activities carried out with regards to the Holocaust, in the context of the ITF and the obligations undertaken by the State. They are as follows: 1) Projects presented before the ITF, 2) Remembrance, 3) Education and investigation, 4) Training, 5) Publications and book presentations, 6) Screening of documentaries, films and presentations of theatre plays, 7) Holocaust Denial, and 8) Other genocides. The section on remembrance is divided into subsections: a) remembrance b) exhibitions, y c) monuments and places of memory.

## PROJECTS

### **A) PROJECT PRESENTED BY ARGENTINA'S ITF WORKING GROUP**

Name: "The Shoah as a key event of the XX<sup>th</sup> Century: Contributions for an educative agenda of the present time".

Presentation: Local ITF Working Group.

Planning, organization and implementation: National Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and Holocaust Museum of Buenos Aires.

Summary: The goal of the Project is to organize and carry out a two-day seminar on August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Several government officers in charge of the Design of the Curricula of the 24 Argentinean jurisdictions will participate in this Teachers' Training Seminar on the teaching of the Holocaust together with several teachers working both at Teachers' Training Institutes and at the Curricula area of Social Sciences. Further, government officials of States members of the MERCOSUR and associated States, together with other States from South America will be invited. Several panels in charge of national and international experts, survivors' testimonies and reflection and debate workshops –most of them in charge of scholarship recipients of the teachers' training seminars on the Holocaust organized by *Yad Vashem*- focusing on the utilization and production of didactic resources are foreseen.

Both days will develop around four axis of reflection:

1. Holocaust/Shoah: the meaning of the Shoah, State of exception and eclipse of the Law
2. Memory and Transmission: between the past and the future. Testimony and legacies for the new generations.
3. Between the century and the historian. Memories of the Shoah. Discriminations, persecutions and other genocides.
4. Perspectives for the analysis of the genocidal social practices.

Funding in charge of the National Ministry of Education, Science and Technology: U\$S 20.4000

Funding requested to the ITF: U\$S 20.000

Current Status: Awaiting response regarding financing since 2006.

## **B) PROJECT PRESENTED BY AMIA**

Name: *“Teaching about the SHOAH in High School Trainers' training course”.*

Organization: AMIA- (Central Council of Jewish Education of the Republic of Argentina)

Partners: *Cultural Hebrew Foundation* and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre

Summary: the project's goal is to develop a training and education programme for secondary schools' teachers, outside the Jewish Schools network, on contents relating to the teaching the Shoah from an academic viewpoint. The programme includes two courses, each one addressed to 60 teachers of Argentinean public schools. At the end of the course, it is expected that the teachers will be able to develop specialized and educative activities and hold meetings with their colleagues in order to transmit the

knowledge and experience and encourage them to work the subject of the Shoah with their students in a systematic manner.

Cost: € 70.120

Funding requested to the ITF: € 24.700

Current Status: Project approved and part of the financing already received.

## REMEMBRANCE

It is the responsibility of the constitutional institutions of the Republic to carry out the collective exercise of memory with the goal of teaching the present and future generations the irreparable consequences entailed in the substitution of the Rule of Law by the application of illegal violence and terror practices to avoid the oblivion from being the seed of future repetitions.

➤ The 27th of January has been recognized as the International Holocaust Remembrance Day on November 1st 2005 by the General Assembly of the United Nations, by the consensus of 104 countries. Argentina co-sponsored the said resolution presented by Israel during the 60<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly. The Ministers of Education, Science and Technology and of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, the Secretary of Human Rights of the National Ministry of Justice and Human Rights and the non-governmental organizations forming the Argentinean Chapter of the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research (ITF) organized the central act for the commemoration of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, at the *Leopoldo Marechal* Hall of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, which was took place on January 25<sup>th</sup> 2007. The Minister of Education, Daniel Filmus, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Jorge Taiana, the Secretary of Human Rights, Eduardo L. Duhalde, the President of the DAIA, Aldo Donzis, Holocaust survivors, diplomats and National authorities, among others, participated thereof. Some of the salient paragraphs of the speech of the Minister of Education follow:

*“The schools have to be the protectors of the construction of a world where atrocities like the ones committed during the Holocaust are never perpetrated again”, and -quoting Theodor Adorno- he recalled that: “If education has a meaning, it is to avoid that Auschwitz happens again (...)*

*The educative systems are the institutions addressed to disseminate those values that we wish to transmit, from generation to generation, to the humanity as a whole. The Holocaust has to be one of the fundamental issues of our country ".*

The Minister of Foreign Affairs held that:

*"...The historical and political context of Argentina forces us to occupy a place where our democratic identity as a Nation possess as a fundamental pillar the protection of human rights... it is in within this context that we understand that to deny that the Holocaust existed is tantamount to deny the essence of the value of the human being itself. This conviction led that the Plenary of the Task Force accepted by consensus the Argentinean proposal, where it is definitely asserted that "... those who, by denying obvious facts, would create a mendacious view of human history and would challenge the essence of the notion of international Human Rights".. In line with this position, I inform those who are present today that ... Argentina, together with the European Union and other countries have presented a project for a resolution on the rejection of the Holocaust denial before the plenary of the General Assembly of the United Nations and we expect that it shall be adopted tomorrow....".*

➤ At the same occasion, the poster "Remembrance and Beyond" winner of the contest organized by the United Nations regarding the International Holocaust Remembrance Day was given to the National Teacher's Library and to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology by the AMIA. The work was done by Matías Delfino, an Argentinean designer of the UN, who, when visiting Buenos Aires during 2006 requested AMIA to offer the poster to Argentinean institutions and organisms committed with the fight for human rights. Since then, the poster is exhibited in a display case at the entrance of Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, together with books illustrating the topic of the Holocaust, which are already a legacy of the National Teacher's Library.

➤ The Honourable National Senate is currently analyzing a bill elaborated by the Secretary of Worship<sup>2</sup> to declare November 25<sup>th</sup> as the "Day of Freedom of

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<sup>2</sup> It is the nexus between the State and the different cults that exist in Argentina. It has a plural, open and clear approach to the relationships among different religions and the State. Its work is characterized by a plural, open and transparent approach to the relations among the diverse religions and the National State. One of the goals is to guarantee, promote and encourage freedom, peaceful coexistence and dialogue

Consciousness and Freedom of Religion". The date was selected because November 25<sup>th</sup>, 1981, was the date when the United Nations passed the "Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief". This is the international instrument which has covered the Freedom of Consciousness and Freedom of Religion with the most accuracy and depth.

➤ On April 11th, the National Secretary of Worship and the Italian Embassy in Argentina paid homage to Primo Levi, a Holocaust survivor whose intellectual work was consecrated to the dissemination and teaching of the Holocaust. The homage took place in the Residency of the Italian Ambassador. The Secretary and Subsecretary of Worship, Ambassadors Guillermo Oliveri and Alejandro Grossman; the President of DAIA, Aldo Donzis; the Vice-president of AMIA, José Adaszko; the Director of the Italian Institute, Ennio Bispuri, the Rabbi Daniel Goldman, religious authorities and representatives and students from schools of different religions existing in the country took part of the ceremony. A commemorative inscription was placed containing a phrase by Primo Levi himself: "It is necessary to be mistrustful with those who try to convince us through instruments different from the reason, that is, with charismatic leaders; we must be cautious when delegating our opinion and will onto others".

➤ The Subsecretary of Worship, ambassador Alejandro Grossman, joined the celebrations for the festivity of Passover (Pesach), attending the ceremonies carried out by the Bet-El Community on April 3rd and by the B'nai B'rith Argentina on the 17th of the same month.

➤ The Subsecretary of Worship, Ambassador Alejandro Grossman, participated on April 18th of the Remembrance Act of the Uprising of the Warsaw Ghetto organized in the province of Tucuman by the local branch of the DAIA and the Cultural Entity of the Province, with the adherence of the Italian Institute of Culture.

➤ Through Resolution 126 of the year 2000, the Ministry of Education declared the date April 19th as the "Day of Cultural Diversity" as a remembrance of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising (1943) and as a way of paying homage to the Holocaust victims during the Second World War, but mostly, as a way to preserve memory. The date was incorporated to the academic calendar of all Argentinean provinces.

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among the religions of Argentina, promoting the mutual understanding and the coexistence in diversity. Regarding this subject, the commitment taken by the Secretariat of Worship is based on the promotion of

Furthermore, and only as an example, we describe the activity carried out by the province of Cordoba:

- The Human Rights area of the Direction of Educational Projects and Policies of the Ministry of Education of the Province of Cordoba has implemented working actions with the schools of its jurisdiction, sending reflection documents with several pedagogic proposals regarding significant dates relating to human rights, for the joint work of teachers and the community.
- The last document signed by the Minister of Cordoba and sent to the schools on April 19<sup>th</sup> reads:

*“In honour of the victims of the Holocaust (SHOAH) and in remembrance of the Uprising of the Warsaw Ghetto (1943) “a scream of the Polish people against the oppression of the Nazi Regime”, we have incorporated the remembrance of April 19th as the Day of Cultural Diversity, as a way of preserving the memory of the past and of projecting a society free of discrimination, xenophobia and racism. (...) Each school of our province will be during those days, a place for the memory and the remembrance of radical evil. But above all, they will be places to show our struggle against indifference (...) we invite everyone to reflect once more, this enables us to remember the importance of the fundamental respect among people, and thus invites us once again to the adequate social coexistence. It provides a place to respect and acknowledge ourselves as fellow human beings with dignity. The evil suffered must be inscribed onto the collective memory to offer a new opportunity to the future. And from this Ministry of Education, we accept the challenge and responsibility”.*

- Also in commemoration of April 19th, AMIA organized several acts at the *Tablada* Cemetery, with the presence of Nazi extermination camps survivors.
- In the context of the programme to honour victims and survivors of the Shoah organized by DAIA, the embassies of Austria and Germany accredited in Argentina have held such tributes. During these commemorations, a sculpture was presented. This programme aims at committing the European States to the public acknowledgement of the Shoah and the attitudes of their respective governments

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inclusion policies and on the stimulus of freedom of thinking, consciousness and religion, and rights guarantee by the National Constitution and by the Treaties that our country has subscribed.

during the past. The programme will continue throughout 2007 in the Embassies of Croatia, Belgium, Czech Republic, Greece, Russia, Ukraine and Lithuania.

➤ Since 1953 DAIA has organized the Central Act of Commemoration of the Holocaust. This year, the remembrance act of the Uprising of the Warsaw Ghetto took place on April 19th. It counted with the presence of high authorities of the National Government, including the President of the Nation, Nestor Kirchner, the Vice-president, Daniel Scioli, the National Minister of Justice and Human Rights, Alberto Iribarne, the National Minister of Interior, Anibal Fernandez, the National Secretary of Human Rights Eduardo Luis Duhalde and Chief of the City of Buenos Aires, Jorge Telerman, among other National authorities, NGO representatives and survivors of the Nazi persecution. Moreover, it must be highlighted that in every Argentinean province where there is a branch of the DAIA, similar commemoration acts with the presence of Provincial authorities were organized. It is worth mentioning the act organized in the Province of Tucuman because it was held at the City Cathedral and the speakers were the President of the local DAIA, the German Ambassador and the Governor of the Province.

➤ The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum lighted six candles and set up commemorative inscriptions in its Memory Hall. Foreign diplomats, National authorities, NGO representatives, survivors of the Nazi persecution and Human Rights officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Secretariat of Human Rights, the Subsecretary of the Ministry of Education, Alejandra Birgin, the Human Rights Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Federico Villegas Beltrán, the Chief Rabbi of the Republic of Argentina, Salomon Ben Hamú; the President of DAIA, Aldo Donzis; and the President of the Argentinean Jewish Christian Fraternity, Martha de Antueno among others, took part of the commemoration.

➤ The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum organized commemoration and honouring acts for the victims and survivors of the Sephardic communities of Rhodes, Salonika and Cos, together with the Community *Chalom* Centre and the Foundation for the Memory of the Holocaust.

➤ The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum was officially declared "Site of Cultural Interest" in July 2006 by the Legislature of the City of Buenos Aires. Thus, an act was organized in March 2007 with the participation of the Ambassadors of Austria and France, diplomats from Hungary, Poland, the United States and Israel; representatives

of the Legislative and Judicial Powers and officials of the Ministers of Interior, Education and the National Secretariat of Human Rights.

- A Shoah survivor living in Argentina visited the King and Queen of Spain. David Galante, a permanent collaborator of the Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum, took part in the official acts organized for the Annual International Day of Commemoration and Memory of the Holocaust Victims. He offered his testimony in front of hundreds of people at the Fine Arts Circle and the Italian School. Furthermore, the Congress of Representatives bestowed him a distinction and he was received by the Mayor of Madrid and the King and Queen of Spain.
- On March 19th, Generations of the Shoah in Argentina gathered with David Galante after his visit to Spain and the hearing with the King and Queen, where 40 people attended.
- Each year, on November 9<sup>th</sup>, B'nai B'rith Argentina, together with the Ecumenicalism Commission and the Inter-religious Dialogue of the Buenos Aires Archdiocese, commemorate the anniversary of the Anti-Jewish pogrom known as the *Night of Broken Glass*. In 2006, this activity took place at the *Del Patrocinio de San José* parish church and during it the liturgy on Holocaust *From Death to Hope* was read.
- On May 9th of 2007, Generations of the Shoah in Argentina co-organized together with *Sherit Hapleitah* the commemoration of the signature of the capitulation of Germany. 30 diplomatic representations and National authorities attended.

## **Exhibitions**

- From April 17th to 27th, the exhibitions “Anne Frank, a current story” and “From Dictatorship to Democracy: the force of Human Rights (1976-2006)” were organized jointly by the National Secretariat of Worship, the Council of Interior Security and the Anne Frank Foundation in commemoration of the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising in the Space of Art of AMIA. A group of young people formed by students of the Federal Police, the Airport and Port Police, the National Gendarmerie and the National Coastal Guard, middle schools and members of social and religious organizations acted as guides of the exhibition. All of them were previously and adequately trained to carry out the task.

- The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum organizes on a daily basis guided visits for formal (middle schools and universities) and non-formal educative entities. These visits, coordinated by teachers and pedagogues of the Museum, include explanatory talks, visits of the permanent and temporal exhibitions and meetings with survivors of the Holocaust or screenings of testimonial films. Since May 2006 till date, the Museum was visited by more than 12.000 young people from the City of Buenos Aires and the provinces and by more than 300 tourists.
  
- The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum currently offers the following exhibitions:
  - *Images of the Shoah*. This permanent exhibition was visited by students of educative middle establishments, universities and non-formal entities from all over the country, who have also listened to the testimonies of survivors.
  - *Rhodes 2006*. This exhibition presents the Jewish culture of this island of the Mediterranean Sea and the Commemorative Monuments of Brandenburg (Germany).
  - *Project The Butterflies of the Heart*. More than 600 butterflies drawn by students of middle schools of the City of Buenos Aires were exhibited. The activity was organized together with the *Benei Tikvah* Community and School Nº 9, "*Santiago Derqui*", consisted in the reading of a poem written by a 14 year old boy murdered in the concentration camp and from this testimony, each student drew a butterfly. The idea was to gather a million and a half butterflies representing the amount of children murdered during the Holocaust. The material, after being exhibited at the Museum, was sent to Israel.
  - *Images of the Genocide in Darfur*. As part of the broad educative programme destined to raise awareness about the danger of the genocide, the Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum is currently showing "Genocide Emergency: Darfur", a series of posters and audiovisual material belonging to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) about the tragedy in the Sudan.
  - The exhibitions "*A day in the Warsaw Ghetto*", "*The Legend of the Children of the Lodz Ghetto*" and *The Nazi Regime, denigration and extermination*", produced by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) are currently part of the Museum

## **Monuments / Places of Memory**

➤ The National Secretariat of Human Rights is currently on the preparation stage of the Project “Exchange of experiences on the management of places of genocide” to be presented before the ITF. The background of the project is as follows: the activities of remembrance, education and dissemination of the Holocaust keep the memory of the Shoah alive and can help prevent new genocides and other tragedies haunting current societies, and also understand and interpret them. Honouring those who lost their lives and those who survived the Shoah, several organizations and Holocaust Museums around the world have contributed to the dissemination, visibility and education of tragedies and genocides so that the remembrance of the Shoah awakes the consciences and be an effective instrument for the prevention of ethnic, racial and religious hatred of current tragedies.

The Project aims to learn from the experiences both on the management of places where the Shoah took place, specifically the concentration camps, and the relations between the surrounding communities and those places. In the case of Argentina, the last dictatorship (1976-1983) left more than 450 clandestine concentration camps spread throughout the territory of the Republic. In the current public agenda, there is a heated debate about the best ways to preserve and decide the destiny of such camps.

The project seeks to learn from the European experiences the best practices on the preservation of sinister legacy of the concentration camps and its relation with the communities as educative and remembrance instruments so that they serve the current debate in the Argentinean context, through the exchange of those who are in charge of the preservation and the management of the places and those who have participated in cases where such places function as social and educative exchange tools.

➤ In the year 2006 the construction of a Monument for the Victims of the Shoah in the City of Buenos Aires was approved. This National Law was promoted by DAIA in 1995 and was regulated in 2000. Till date, DAIA has managed to fulfil all the required steps for this type of projects and the National Government is now able to call for an International Art Contest in order to choose the work which will be built at “*Tres de Febrero*” Park.

➤ AMIA is working together with the National Government on the establishment of a Monument for the Victims of the Holocaust.

## EDUCATION / RESEARCH

In the context of a plural society like the Argentinean, education is an essential tool for peaceful coexistence. In this sense, the transmission of experiences such as the Holocaust is necessary in order to establish and enrich the debate of issues such as impunity, truth, justice and reparations for violations of human rights. Thus, it is indispensable to locate the topic of human rights within the political, economic, social and cultural contexts which made the genocide of the Jewish people and the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the last military dictatorship in Argentina possible.

➤ The National Secretariat of Human Rights shall attempt to facilitate the active participation of the provinces and the City of Buenos Aires, within the federal system, so that the respective States fulfil their obligation to include the study of the Holocaust in their respective educational systems. For that purpose, there shall be used as a main channel the Federal Council of Human Rights. In a federal and decentralized educational system, this is a key complementing task to fulfil the obligation to include the study of the Holocaust at a national level. In this sense, it will present for the consideration of the High Provincial Authorities of Human Rights a project resolution whereby the Federal Council of Human Rights adheres to the commitment of the National Government regarding education, remembrance and research of the Holocaust.

➤ The National Secretariat of Human Rights is currently preparing an activity to be held on the second semester of 2007 regarding a meeting of survivors of the Argentinean State terrorism and the Shoah in order to share experiences and discover similarities and differences. The meeting will be coordinated by professionals who will provide the theoretical framework to the testimonies. The possible axis are: memory, identity, dehumanization, systematic terror in order to achieve social paralysis, resilience, non social acknowledgement of the experience and children of the Shoah and children born in captivity during the last dictatorship.

➤ The National Secretariat of Worship and the Argentinean Jewish Christian Fraternity organized the round table "Contribution of the Jewish Christian Values to the democratic life", held on April 19th at the Auditorium of the National Foreign Service Institute.

- The courses on the History of the Shoah offered by the Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum began in March 2007. Their topic is *“Shoah, 60 years later. New approaches about the Holocaust”*. The course *“Cinema debate on discrimination and Nazism”* coordinated by Professor Abraham Zylberman also began in March.
- The course *“Ashkenaz, a thousand years of history”* is organized by the IWO Foundation and held throughout 2007 at the Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum.
- With the sponsorship of DAIA, the professionals of the Centre for Social Studies teach the course *“Nazism and Fascism, their impact in Argentina”* at the Political Sciences School of the University of Buenos Aires and *“Nazism and its impact in the Argentinean media”* of the Communication Sciences School of the same university.
- In the context of its research programmes, DAIA develops the *“Project Testimony”*, which preceded the creation of the CEANA (Commission for the Research of Nazi Crimes in Argentina). It consists in a archive documenting the actions of the State institutions and the Argentinean society with regards to the Holocaust. This work accounts for the ascension of Nazism and Fascism in Europe, Jewish immigration to Argentina before, during and after the Second World War, and the entrance and permanence of Nazi war criminals and collaborationists and spies of the Berlin-Rome Axis. The *“Project Testimony 2”* (soon to be presented) accounts for the role of the graphic media in Argentina with respect to the coverage, dissemination and setting of opinion regarding Nazi policy and the persecution of the Jews during World War Two.
- AMIA organized five seminars for teachers and professors of the Jewish School network on the study of the Holocaust and other genocides.
- The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum has received a great flood of students from middle schools, universities and non-formal establishments, who, apart from visiting the permanent exhibition, listened to survivors’ testimonies. Further, materials on the topic were provided to different communities and schools from the interior of the country. Also, the photographer Erika Diettes and the painter Joseph Kaplan from Bogota, Colombia, visited the Museum and presented their book: *“Silences”*, with photos and letters from Holocaust survivors living in Colombia; the constitutional lawyer Daniel Sabsay, the historian Felipe Pigna, the journalist Uki Goñi, the researcher Adolfo Kuznitzki, among others also visited the Museum. Moreover, representatives of the

Houston Holocaust Museum and from Jewish communities from different cities of the United States met with the Buenos Aires Museum directors. A pedagogic trunk was presented and has already been sent to Mexico and other countries of the world. It is a new educative project with pedagogic materials “to teach teachers about the Shoah”.

➤ The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum edited “*The Holocaust in 10 posters*”. It is an edition of texts and posters (with a booklet for the teacher) addressed to educative institutions throughout the country, distributed free of charge, in schools and universities, formal and non-formal education institutions from the provinces of Buenos Aires, Cordoba, Mendoza, Santa Fe, Entre Rios, Corrientes, and Rio Negro. Further, it is distributed abroad (For example: Peru and Uruguay, among other countries).

➤ The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum together with the Latin American Foundation of Social Sciences (FLACSO) offers a virtual course on the Holocaust lasting 2 and a half years.

➤ Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah and DAIA signed an agreement in order to create –at the Holocaust Museum- an Information and Documentation Centre which will retrieve and make public the historical archive of the political representation of the Argentinean Jewish community which was damaged at the 1994 bombing. The adoption of the agreement was led by the president of both institutions, Mario Feferbaum and Aldo Donzis. The Centre will centralize through the most modern technology information relating to anti-Semitism and the Jewish community in diverse historical contexts, including the chapter of the detained-disappeared during the last military dictatorship and also the attacks against the Israeli Embassy and the AMIA building.

➤ The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum organized the conference “*Holocaust: an inter-disciplinary look*”, in the context of the 33<sup>rd</sup> International Book Fair of Buenos Aires. Federal Judge Dr. Daniel Rafecas; constitutional lawyer Dr. Daniel Sabsay; psychologist José Milmaniene; and the president of the Holocaust Museum, Mario Feferbaum took part of the conference.

➤ The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum organized the seminar “*Discrimination and Holocaust*”, jointly with the Association of Judges and Officials of the Judicial Power of the City of Buenos Aires and the Training Centre of the Magistrates’ Council of the same city. The seminar took place on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and it was addressed to judges and

judicial officials, it was held at the Museum and prestigious specialists and jurists gave lectures.

➤ In the context of the First Seminar of Human Rights, Memory and Genocide organized in the city of Chivilcoy, two hundred students between the age of 15 and 17 listened to the testimony of 84 years old survivor Juan Lichtig, born in Poland (who travelled in representation of the Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum) and anthropologist Marcelino Fontan. The latter lectured on Oswald Menghin, former minister of Education of Nazi Austria, and who later exercised ideological control on the School of Anthropology of the University of Buenos Aires. Fontan is the author of the book “Oswald Menghin: science and Nazism. Anti-Semitism as a moral imperative” (published by the Museum), where he analyses the biography of this ideologist of racist theories which backed Nazism, and lived his last years in Chivilcoy. Lichtig and Fontan were declared “Guests of Honour” of the city and in September the local Legislature withdrew the name “Oswald Menghin” from the local archaeological museum.

➤ The authorities of the Theology School of the Argentinean Catholic University (UCA) decided to add to the curricula a course on Jewish-Christian dialogue, taking as a starting point the conclusions (final declaration) of the I International Symposium of Christian Theology on the Holocaust-Shoah. Its effects on theology and Christian life in Argentina and in Latin America, organized by the Argentinean Jewish Christian Fraternity (CAJC). Until then, there was only one optional seminar on the subject, which only reached a small group of students, but with this measure, it will progressively reach the totality of the student body. Thus, one of the goals of the symposium: reaching the educative and opinion setters' centres has been achieved.

- On January 19th Generations of the Shoah in Argentina organized an activity called “A lighthouse for human kind”, on the existence, circumstances and behaviours of non-Jewish saviours. As dissertation tools, a “power point” presentation and fragments of different films were used. 30 people attended, including members of the association and teachers. This activity was organized again on March 26th at the AMIA auditorium where 150 people attended, on May 18th at the Institution of Theological Formation of the Salesians, with the participation of 20 people, on May 23rd at the *Peretz* community of Lanás, with the attendance of 30 people and finally on the 27<sup>th</sup> at the *Neveh Shalom* community, where 60 people attended.
  
- On March 12th, Generations of the Shoah in Argentina organized an activity called “Not so tame, not so lamb-like”, about the different responses of the Jewish victims of the Shoah and the diverse forms adopted by the resistance. As tools, a “power point” presentation and fragments of films were used. It was held at the headquarters of the Generations of the Shoah and 30 people attended.
  
- On April 18th, Generations of the Shoah in Argentina organized an activity at the *Weitzman* School for approximately 120 children between the age 9 and 12 and 20 teachers. There, Mrs. Rosa Rotenberg, a Polish survivor gave her testimony and then the children worked on the topic with their teachers.
  
- On April 23rd Generations of the Shoah in Argentina organized an activity at the Jerusalem community for 30 people, children and adults, where Mrs. Claudia Piperno, Italian survivor, gave her testimony, and afterwards, there was an exchange work.
  
- On April 24th Generations of the Shoah in Argentina took part in a seminar held in the capital of the province of Mendoza, organized by the Auge Foundation. There, Mrs. Irene Dab, Polish survivor, gave her testimony, and then different spheres (Provincial Legislature and media) worked on the subject. The central activity counted with the presence of authorities and members of the government. Approximately 400 people attended.

- On May 7th, Generations of the Shoah in Argentina organized an activity called “Where was I on the day of the German capitulation?” which 35 people attended.
- On May 13th, Generations of the Shoah in Argentina organized an activity at the *Bet El* community, where Mrs. H el ene Gutkowski gave her testimony. 15 people attended.

<b>TRAINING</b>
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Training of people in charge of education is vital for the full compliance of the goals of the ITF. The importance of counting with the correct methodology will enable the educators to present the topic of Shoah in an effective manner, making the students reflect on what happened. Moreover, given the history of our country, it is necessary to complement the subject of the Holocaust with the knowledge of other genocides and grave violations of human rights, as the events of the last military dictatorship suffered by Argentina (1976/1983).

- Once again a member of the National Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has received a scholarship for the Teachers’ Training Seminar on the Holocaust offered by the Hebrew Foundation *Yad Vashem* in Jerusalem, Israel, between January 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The extensive working days about the transmission of the Shoah, challenge the reflection and adaptation of what has been learnt to the National educative policies of memory and transmission.
- AMIA carried out a series of Colloquiums on the Holocaust with the participation of teachers of the Jewish school network.
- Since May 2006, the Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum has offered testimonies to more than 4500 person in institutions such as the Cadets’ School of the Federal Police, the I Body of the Army and the Penitentiary Service, among others. Furthermore, the Museum and the Discriminatory Behaviours Division of the Federal Police gave a lecture on discrimination for 650 aspiring agents of the Officers’ School, and the film “Some who lived”, the film from the series “Broken Silence”, produced by the Shoah Foundation, was screened.

- The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum has given training courses for educative institutions of the City of Buenos Aires and other Provinces. It has also provided numerous illustrative materials (videos, samples, interactive CDs, etc.) to the institutions that have asked for it.
  
- The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum organized the *Latin-American Congress for the Learning and Teaching about the Holocaust-Shoah*. More than 350 teachers, researchers, academics and people interested in the dissemination of the topic, and 50 lecturers reflected on the relation between this subject and education. It is worth highlighting that the opening of the Congress, held at the *Libertador* Hall of the San Martin Palace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was in charge of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Education, Jorge Taiana and Daniel Filmus, respectively.
  
- The *Yad Vashem* Museum and the Houston Holocaust Museum have trusted the Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum with the selection of the scholarship recipients for their training courses of January 2007 and of July 2007.
  
- DAIA interacts, as a part of its diffusion programmes, with security forces of Argentina, giving them information about the Shoah.
  
- La DAIA has started an intense programme with public schools of the City of Buenos Aires, whereby it offers training for the teachers and it seeks to achieve an agreement with different ministries and/or secretaries of Education of the different provinces.
  
- By virtue of the actions led by the DAIA branches in Mendoza, Corrientes, Mar del Plata, Cordoba, Santa Fe, Tucuman and Rosario, the Provincial Governments have undertaken the obligation to train teachers of public schools on the subject of the Shoah. The training programmes are offered by the Centre for Social Studies of DAIA and the Foundation for the Memory of the Holocaust.
  
- The Argentinean Jewish Christian Fraternity has organized several workshops on discrimination and teaching of the Shoah in different Catholic schools and institutions (*Instituto Salesiano de Estudios Teológicos, EAC Encuentro Arquidiocesano de Catequistas*) and Christian schools.

## PUBLICATIONS / BOOK PRESENTATIONS

- The National Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has signed an agreement with the National Secretariat of Human Rights with the view to distribute books regarding the recent history and human rights in middle schools throughout the country.
  
- Since 1998, DAIA regularly publishes the “*Report on Anti-Semitism in Argentina*” (unique in its characteristics in Latin America) containing a registry of anti-Semitic aggressions, the denial of the Shoah, the activity of pro Nazis groups, also with the mention of the positive actions of the State to fight against anti-Semitism. This publication has counted with the sponsorship of the Task Force in Argentina since 2004.
  
- In the year 2004, DAIA signed an agreement with the Secretariat of Education of the City of Buenos Aires to annually distribute the “Report on Anti-Semitism” to all public schools of the city. It also includes the “*Indice*” Review (A highly prestigious academic review of our country) which for 2007, foresees to editions: a) the first one, which appeared on May 29<sup>th</sup> under the title: “Anti-Semitism. The force of an old prejudice and its impact in culture” and b) the second, to appear on November 29<sup>th</sup> under the title: “Holocaust, its impact in Argentina”.
  
- The publication produced by the Foundation for the Memory of the Holocaust, “*Nuestra Memoria*” (Our Memory) has been published every three months since 1994; currently, and from volume 26, its format has changed in order to be a true reference book for the researchers and academics of the Holocaust. The next edition will be fully dedicated to the lectures given at the Latin-American Congress for the Teaching and Learning about the Shoah, held in October 2006.
  
- The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum hosted several book presentations on the subject of the Holocaust, among which it is possible to mention: “*Después de Auschwitz. Renacer de las cenizas*” (*After Auschwitz. Reborn from the ashes*), by Eugenia Unger; “*Memoria, voces de sabiduría y esperanza*” (Memory, voices of wisdom and hope) by Andrea Poretti; “*Vigder y los Hunos*” (Vigder and the Huns), by Víctor Oppel; and “*Éxodo y exilio*” (Exodus and Exile), by Arnoldo Liberman.

➤ On Mayo 28th Generations of the Shoah in Argentina presented a book called “*Hijos de la Guerra*” (Children of the War) by Diana Wang, at the AMIA auditorium. The panel was formed by the writer Tomas Abraham, the Rabbi Daniel Goldman, Mrs. Mirta Kupferminc, Mr. Sergio Langer Mrs. Ines Grimland and Mrs. Diana Wang, the latter protagonists of this book dealing with the children of the survivors of the Shoah.

#### EXHIBITION OF DOCUMENTARIES / FILMS / THEATRE PLAYS

➤ The Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum organized the screening of the following films, documentaries and radio and TV shows:

- “Hitler’s Argentinean Minister” (Channel TN; the historians Abraham Huberman and Abraham Zylberman, permanent collaborators of the Museum, participated)
- “Documentary on women and the Shoah” (coming soon, produced jointly by with the University of La Matanza).
- Avant première of the film “Fateless”, written by the Nobel Literature Prize Winner Imre Kertesz and directed by Lajos Koltai. The screening was done in honour of the victims and survivors of the Shoah and in commemoration of the 68<sup>o</sup> anniversary of the *Kristallnacht* (Night of the Broken Glass).

➤ On April 30th the film “The Just” by Marek Halter was screened at the AMIA auditorium, organized by Generations of the Shoah in Argentina, where 150 people attended.

➤ On May 20th Generations of the Shoah in Argentina presented the play “*Camino del Cielo*” (Road of Heaven) by Juan Mayorga, at the General San Martin Theatre, where 150 people attended. The following day, a conceptualization activity on the contents of the play took place at the headquarters of the organization, where 100 people attended.

#### HOLOCAUST DENIAL

Argentina maintains a position of absolute rejection regarding Holocaust denial. It can be observed in the following facts and manifestations:

➤ With the co-sponsorship of Argentina, on November 21st 2005, the Resolution **(A/RES/60/7)**, which commemorates the Holocaust was approved during the 60° General Assembly of the United Nations. This Resolution establishes, among other things: **the rejection to all total or partial denial of the Holocaust as a historical event, further, it determines January 27th as the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a day dedicated to honour the memory of the millions of people who lost their lives in the hands of the Nazis during the Second World War.**

➤ On December 9th 2005, the Security Council of the United Nations (UNSC), of which Argentina is a non-permanent member, condemned for the second time the declarations attributed to the Iranian President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, about Israel and the denial of the Holocaust. The President of the UNSC issued a statement on behalf of the members of the organ, condemning the expressions uttered by the President Ahmadinejad and supporting the words of Secretary General Annan of December 8th 2005, recalling that recently the General Assembly had adopted a resolution rejecting the Holocaust denial (AG/RES/60/7) as a historical event and requesting the Member States to educate their peoples in relation to the Holocaust.

➤ The speech given by the Minister of Foreign Affairs on October 24th 2006, at the opening of the Latin American Congress for the Learning and Teaching of the Holocaust-*Shoah* at the San Martin Palace, organized by the Buenos Aires Holocaust Museum, is a true reflect of this national position, when he stated that ***"...I wish to reiterate the strong, very strong commitment to fight denying theories about the Holocaust and denounce those who try to contradict it. I reaffirm that it is through education, remembrance and research of the Holocaust the way in which the civilized society shall be able to understand such event, thus avoiding oblivion and stressing the never again"***.

➤ Furthermore, at the time of the plenary sessions of the ITF on December 6th 2006, the Argentinean Delegation signed a Declaration adopted by the consensus of the 25 Member Status of the ITF against the affirmations of the Iranian President about Holocaust denial. The **Declaration** states in one of its paragraphs that ***"... those who, by denying obvious facts, would create a mendacious view of human history and would challenge the essence of the notion of international Human Rights, which was developed by the international community after and because of the Shoah"***.

➤ In accordance with this position, with the co-sponsorship of Argentina, on March 22nd 2007, the General Assembly adopted Resolution **61/255** which was approved by consensus and rejects the Holocaust denial. It states in its second part that it condemns without any reservation any denial of the Holocaust and urges all Member States unreservedly to reject any denial of the Holocaust as a historical event, either in full or in part, or any activities to this end.

<b>OTHER GENOCIDES</b>
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➤ During the 61<sup>o</sup> session of the Human Rights Commission, Argentina co-sponsored a resolution on the “Convention for the Prevention and Sanction of Genocide” presented by Armenia.

➤ Law 26.199, approved on December 13<sup>th</sup> 2006 declares April 24<sup>th</sup> as the "Day of Action for Tolerance and Respect among Peoples" in commemoration of the Genocide suffered by the Armenian People.