



International Youth Event “DIKH HE NA BISTER” on August 2, 2019

Venue: International Youth Meeting Centre IYMC/IJBS/MDSM

Programme

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| 13.00 | Lunch and Youth Conference “Dikh He Na Bister“ in the International Youth Meeting Centre in Oświęcim, hosted by the International Roma Youth Network ternYpe and the Documentation and Cultural Centre of German Sinti and Roma and in cooperation with the International Youth Meeting Centre |
| 14.30 | Youth debate with international youth organizations |
| 15.15 | Opening of the international youth event |
| 16.00 | Encounter of young people with Holocaust survivors |
| 17.30 | Reflection |
| 18.30 | Closing and departure to Krakow |

Opening of the Youth Event: 15.15-16.00

Welcome words of Mr. Leszek Szuster, Director of the International Youth Meeting Centre
Speech of Ms Vera Jourova, European Commissioner for Justice and Consumers, European Commission
Speech of Mr. Michael Roth, State Minister for Europe, Germany
Speech of Mr. Thorsten Afflerbach, Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe
Official welcome of the survivors
Introduction to DIKH HE NA BISTER and the following meetings of young people with survivors

Youth debate with international youth organizations

Moderator: Irina Spataru (Dikh He Na Bister)

- Alina Bricman, President, European Union of Jewish Students
- Pia Šlogar, Vice-President, Youth of European Nationalities
- Benjamin Günther, Board Member, European Youth Forum
- Matic Germovšek, Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe
- Chiara Dzemajilji, DIKH HE NA BISTER
- Marietta Herfort, Phiren Amenca International Network

Themes: focus on the role of youth and youth organizations in remembrance and Holocaust education; youth participation and youth leadership, youth mobilization in the struggle against antigypsyism; questions of coalition-building and youth advocacy





Youth and Remembrance

Since 2010 every year, more and more young people from all over Europe have joined the **Dikh he na Bister Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative** around the 2 August in Krakow and in Auschwitz. Since 2014, when over 1000 youngsters participated at the official commemoration followed by an own youth commemoration next to the sight of crematorium V in Auschwitz-Birkenau, the event became a major meeting point for hundreds of young Roma and non-Roma, who gather every summer to learn about the Roma Holocaust and about human rights.

Every year the youngsters have the opportunity to experience the history through non-formal education, the visit of the Auschwitz museum and the especially through the meeting and talking with the survivors of the Holocaust, who believe that sharing their stories with the youngest generation, is a way to preserve their memory and what they have lived through in order for the youngsters to be aware and to fight against intolerance, racism and discrimination.

In early 2015 the Initiative went to the European Parliament in Brussels, together with 70 representatives of the TernYpe youth organizations and together with Raymond Gureme, the French Holocaust survivor in order to advocate for the recognition of the 2 August at European level. The EP resolution on the 2 August as an international memorial day of the Roma Holocaust and the recognition of antigypsyism as a special form of racism was passed only a few weeks later, on the 15 April 2015. That demonstrated in a way that youth initiatives can play an important role in advocating for and promoting the history and raising awareness and fighting against the racism that many Roma in Europe are still facing.

Therefore, on this year's occasion of the 75th anniversary of 2 August, we welcome international Roma and non-Roma youth representatives to reflect about the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of 2 August, and discuss about the importance of young people and youth organizations in remembrance and commemoration activities.