

## Activities in Europe – Summer 2009

■ During the summer semester (July to September), 450 educators from Europe attended 18 seminars at the International School for Holocaust Studies.

Educators from Germany, the UK, Austria, Belgium, France, Liechtenstein, Spain, Portugal, Romania and Croatia spent an intense period of study at Yad Vashem, participating in tours of the site and lectures on a variety of Holocaust-related topics. A second group of Christian and Muslim educators from Tatarstan's capital, Kazan, also attended the seminar, organized by

the School's Russian-speaking countries Desk. A group of lawyers from Northrhine-Westphalia, Germany and representatives of the Grodzka Gate-NN Theater from Lublin, Poland also took part in seminars at Yad Vashem.

Three summer seminars were held for School graduates committed to strengthening their connection to Holocaust teaching and commemoration: one for German educators from Northrhine-Westphalia (Germany); a second international seminar for selected graduates of seminars held over the last few

by Galit Avitan

years; and one following up last November's International Graduates Seminar on the topic of "The Holocaust and Human Rights," which was conducted in Vienna in cooperation with the European Union.

During the summer months, staff at the European Department also taught in seminars and follow-up activities organized by educators in Russia, Lithuania, Germany and Hungary.

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## New in the Virtual School [www1.yadvashem.org/education](http://www1.yadvashem.org/education)

### Holocaust Education and the Arts

■ The Holocaust continues to resonate as a human story, with implications that go far beyond a mere historical event. Yad Vashem's pedagogical philosophy thus encourages an interdisciplinary approach to education, with a special stress on artistic representation and exploration of the Holocaust. In keeping with this principle, the educational section on Yad Vashem's website now features an expanded segment dedicated to the arts, including lesson plans, teacher's guides, activities and related

articles. These units span a wide range of perspectives, from prewar culture to postwar art, literature, poetry and music.

### New Russian Online Course: Introduction to Holocaust History

■ In October 2009, a new Russian online course was launched by the International School, providing an overview of the Holocaust, with a focus on areas of the FSU. The course, developed with the assistance of the Genesis Philanthropy Group, is part of the Russian-

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language Internet portal and is intended for teachers and educators in formal and informal education. It features ten lessons on a variety of topics, including the Nazi rise to power, the ghettos, Operation Barbarossa, the Nazi camp system and the "Final Solution," bystanders, and resistance. The lessons are accompanied by a large range of articles, photographs, documents, testimonies and more.

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