

... An extremely unique experience at a so high-level organized seminar, these are few words I'd say about it. I was provided with the educational material I desired in order to motivate the teachers of my school to get involved in a project about the Holocaust. Beyond the educational part, the cultural and emotional one's have a great impact on all the participants I believe. The suggestions about the duration of the seminar (from 8 to 10 days) I hope to be positively reconsidered...

Educator from Peloponnese

"Attending the 2012 seminar in Yad Vashem for Greek teachers has been a fruitful and stimulating experience, as it provided me with all the necessary historical knowledge in order for me to deal with World War II and the Holocaust in class. Furthermore, it gave me the opportunity to engage in new practical methods concerning the teaching of the Holocaust and the years before, during and after the war, and be familiarized with the theoretical basis of the educational approach of the Holocaust. The seminar gave me the opportunity to meet and work with colleagues from my country, share our experience and collaborate in workshops. The seminar also gave me the motivation and confidence to work on a project about the Holocaust in the forthcoming school year. Lastly, I feel that it is necessary to mention that our coordinator, Mr Yiftach Meiri, helped the group in a very valuable and beneficial way and I am looking forward in attending a similar seminar in Yad Vashem soon".

Educator from Athens

The seminar was one of the best organized I have ever participated. The lectures were very interesting and the workshops quite well, although I would expect to be more interactive. I also expected more references to the issue of the Jews of Thessaloniki, Greece or the Balkans in general.

What occurred, however, was terribly interesting (even the two conferences that were not just related to the subject: Judaism and the Palestinian-Israelis conflict were very good)

The guided tours, the visits to museums, the hospitality, the food, the care, the organization (both from the side of the Jewish Museum and from the side of Yad Vashem) were excellent.

The material purchased and the methodology of teaching a difficult subject will be certainly helpful to us in our work in class.

Finally there was a very good cooperation of the group (selection criteria appeared to work).

Educator from Northern Greece

I came back from Jerusalem, Israel with the best of impressions! The excursions to the Dead Sea as well as the tour of the old city of Jerusalem were amazing! All the sessions of the seminar in Yad Vashem were very interesting. I have gained a lot! The timetable was a bit heavy and tiring, though. The tour of the campus of Yad Vashem was breath-taking! All in all, the whole trip was an awesome experience!!

Educator from Northern Greece

The time I have spent in Yad Vashem was absolutely wonderful and it was more than I hoped for. It has been a really intense program but the quality of knowledge, the inspiration and the emotions were truly a treasure that I brought home with me. The program was very well planned. It is an excellent seminar that must continue and many more should attend because it offers an overall information about the historical facts, along with a “non guided” discussion about the motives, the dilemmas and the non visual causes of the holocaust.

The well organized lectures, workshops and tours were very informative, challenging and delivered on an academic format. The educational workshops introduced me to new teaching methods, which I will be able to use in the future. I return back home with a renewed enthusiasm to pass on the knowledge I gained about Holocaust to my students education. Also, it was remarkable that I have had the opportunity to listen to such phenomenal lecturers. Finally, thanks to Yad Vashem all the group was offered an important educational and archival material that will be a useful tool in the class.

Overall, I can safely say that the Seminar has advanced my knowledge and understanding of the subject substantially and with no doubt this trip was one of the most amazing and educational experiences of my life and for that I will forever be grateful to the Jewish Museum of Greece and Yad Vashem. And last but not least, I own a special thanks to Yiftach Meiri, who had been the perfect host and guide of the whole week.

Educator from Central Greece

The whole experience of participating in the seminar organized by Jewish Museum of Greece and the International School For Holocaust Studies of Yad Vashem was very positive.

The seminar in general terms was carefully scheduled and combined a variety of aspects upon the Holocaust study. The program of lectures, workshops and tours in Yad Vashem sights was very interesting and at the same time a little bit strict. So, in my opinion, it should probably be spread in more than 5 days time.

This seminar gave me the opportunity to obtain a profound knowledge on the subject of the Holocaust, on the reasons which caused it and on the results that occurred afterwards. On one hand we learnt the analysis of the

specialists and on the other we heard the very touching victims' testimonies.

As far as the coordinator of our group is concerned, I could say that he was helpful and professional at his work.

Except for the seminar itself, the good quality of the provided facilities and food made our journey in Israel all in all a pleasant experience. Another good point of the program was the sightseeing in the city of the Jerusalem and the additional excursion to the Dead Sea.

To sum up, the seminar was a very fruitful experience to me.

Educator from Northern Greece

I came to the ICHEIC International Seminar because of the reputation the International School has for expertise in the field.

I came to this seminar to expand my personal knowledge of the Holocaust subject and to learn new ways to teach it. I feel that I have done both.

I learnt more about the history and pedagogy of the Holocaust and I feel able to make comparisons with contemporary racism and use education about the Holocaust to promote respect for the human rights of all people.

I will continue Holocaust relative activities after the seminar at school. Yad Vashem very generously provided us with a discount in teaching material (mainly in books and maps). So I do have plenty of stuff to begin with, plus the fact that my personal and teaching interest in Holocaust studies is now tremendously both updated and upgraded.

All the subjects having been taught were emotionally as well as intellectually challenging. Some of the speakers upset me and others changed my mind. But that's exactly the thing: an intellectual debate!

Also, I encountered the Holocaust from a whole new view point thanks to the choice of scholars lectured on a rich variety -of general to more specific themes. For example, Dr Yehuda Bauer, the well-known scholar who had a great impact on me lectured on "The murder of the Jews from 'Operation Barbarossa' to the 'Wannsee Conference'". In that case I feel really honored and grateful to have such an opportunity to study with real scholars in the field! [...]

I also would very much like to start having a permanent link with YV. I would like to feel free to send any questions or problems I face in the future while I will implement my new program and ideas at school.

I would also like to have a follow up seminar in YV next year in order to progress in field on my knowledge about Jewish history, the Holocaust and the current situation related the anti-Semitism as well as the challenges that face the modern Israel state in the certain geo-political and furthermore in the today's global reality.

I would also be particularly interested in participating in an international forum where I would have the opportunity to meet, exchange ideas and build network with teachers and educators from all over the world, who have-like myself- already participated to an earlier YV seminar. Holocaust teaching is basically a teaching about current anti-Semitism, racism and xenophobia so why it will be always a valuable experience.

If I had to change something that would be more time after the end of each seminar to meet and speak with the speakers. There is nothing more powerful for building relationships and expressing your gratitude than shaking hands with someone and talking to them face-to-face.

The organization of the whole trip was fantastic. A big THANK YOU to the Jewish Museum of Greece, Athens, for all the support and help before and during the trip and seminar. Mrs Elisa Solomon and Ms Orietta Treveza , are two ladies who very professionally organized everything perfectly! They were very supportive, discrete, genuine and polite. Just fantastic!

Thank you for that richly rewarding experience.

Educator from Northern Greece