



## **Yahad – In Unum and The Caen Memorial**

### **European Teachers 2014 Seminar**

**8-9 November 2014**

### **Call for participation**

#### **Target**

History teachers in high schools and secondary schools in Europe. Applications from Italy, Portugal, Russia, Balkan States and Eastern Europe are particularly encouraged.

#### **Yahad - In Unum and the Caen Memorial - History**

For more than 10 years, the international **Association Yahad – In Unum** has been working in the Ukraine, Russia, Poland, Romania, Moldova, Belarus and Lithuania, interviewing witnesses of the mass shootings of Jews and Roma perpetrated by the Third Reich's *Einsatzgruppen* and their collaborators. Yahad also identifies sites of the Jewish and Roma mass graves located on the occupied territory of the former USSR.

In its Paris Research Center, Yahad gives access to the results of its several years of investigation: more than 3,450 video testimonies and the different archival sources used to complete its research in the field are accessible to the public.

Yahad's educational efforts help increase public understanding of the history of the Holocaust in Eastern Europe and teach young generations to fight mass violence against civilians.

In November 2010, Yahad delivered recovered objects in Eastern Europe to the Caen Memorial which conserves them with due precautions. This objects include more than 150 artifacts, evidence of the genocide, including bullet cartridges and weapons found adjacent to mass graves as well as personal effects discarded by victims prior to their



executions or left behind in their houses. Many of these artifacts are displayed in the section of the exhibition dedicated to the Holocaust by Bullets, according to Yahad's partnership with the Caen Memorial.

**The Caen Memorial** is one of the first memorial centers in Europe. Its exhibition spaces have been renewed for ten years and are at the heart of the reflection on the history's place in society. The historical journey of the Memorial de Caen begins in 1918 and ends in 1989 with the fall of the Berlin Wall. The exhibition devoted to World War II is the heart of the museum and deals with the major themes of the Second World War: the interwar period and the rise of totalitarianism, France's defeat and collapse in 1940, the German Occupation, the collaboration and Resistance in France, the globalization of the conflict, liberations and consequences of the war. In this new exhibition, issues not previously featured in museums are now addressed: the "Holocaust at close-range", mass violence, the characteristics of total war, private life in wartime, the life and death of a soldier... The Memorial de Caen also has an important educational dimension. Nearly 100 000 students each year come to work with their teachers. Learning sessions, with analysis of artifacts and historical documents, are available, as well as meetings with witnesses and historians. New training seminars are proposed each year to teachers to understand the questions of memory.

### Seminar

Yahad-In Unum and the Caen Memorial are inviting European history teachers to participate in a two-day training session on how to teach the Holocaust by bullets and persecution of the Roma in Eastern Europe. This workshop is designed to deepen their knowledge and understanding of **the extermination process of Jewish and Roma in Eastern Europe during World War II**. The 2014 session is the fourth time that this seminar is offered by Yahad. Participants will also be invited to visit the Caen Memorial permanent exhibition: one section dedicated to Holocaust in Eastern Europe is based on Yahad's research.

**Presentations will be made by historians and Yahad research team members about the Jews and Roma genocide in Eastern Europe. They will highlight the different aspects of the Holocaust in the East:** the different steps and process of the extermination of the Jews in the Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Poland, Russia and Lithuania; the killing methods; the different phases of the concentration of Jews in work camps and ghettos; the Roma persecutions. Speakers will discuss the various categories



of actors, their roles and functions and at which point of the extermination process they were involved.

**The organizers will especially highlight the crucial role of collecting evidence and testimonies of survivors and bystanders in the reconstitution of genocide** and in the transmission of its history to the young generations in order to prevent genocides or mass violence.

Participants will be shown Yahad archival documents and its research results: interviews of eyewitnesses; Soviet and German archives; photographs of execution sites; work camps and ghettos. They will be guided along the Caen Memorial exhibition on World War II. At the end of the session, they will be given a toolkit designed by Yahad to support their teaching of Holocaust in Eastern Europe. Yahad's working methods, its instruments and the singularity of its approach, aiming to collect evidence of the Holocaust, will also be an important part of the presentations.

### **Dates and Place**

The workshop will be held **in French and English, on November 8 and 9, 2014 at the Caen Memorial**. Participants are requested to arrive no later than November 7 and will return on November 10.

Accommodation and transportation expenses will be paid by the organizers.

### **Application**

All teachers interested in attending the seminar are requested to send a letter of interest and a resume until 15 August 2014 to the following contact:

Lillia Votler at [l.votler@yahadinunum.org](mailto:l.votler@yahadinunum.org).

**For more information, please contact Lillia Votler at [l.votler@yahadinunum.org](mailto:l.votler@yahadinunum.org)**