

7th Future of Remembrance Forum 2021

Practices among subsequent generations for reappraising family histories of persecution and Nazi perpetratorship

Wednesday, 10 November; 9:30 am – 12 pm (discussion session for relatives), 1:30 pm – 6 pm

Thursday, 11 November; 9:30 am – 5:15 pm

Friday, 12 November; 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Each year, the *Future of Remembrance Forum* offers relatives of former concentration camp prisoners and victims of Nazi persecution, memorial staff and other interested participants the opportunity to get to know one another and share their views. The 7th Forum, which takes place from 10–12 November 2021 at the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial, will focus on current practices among subsequent generations for critically reappraising experiences of persecution and Nazi perpetratorship in the context of family history and the politics of memory.

On **the first day**, relatives of people persecuted by the Nazis will have the opportunity to talk with one other prior to the start of the public events. Experts will share tips and assistance for helping the descendants of persecutees to publicly present their family histories.

The public part of the Forum begins at noon on 10 November. The first discussion will explore the perspectives of grandchildren of Nazi perpetrators who are grappling with the burden of their family history in graphic novels, written literature, documentary films, history classes and photography. In this context, the crimes of the National Socialists become a focal point for reflecting on the current social and artistic activities of people whose forebears were involved in the crimes. The photo exhibition entitled 'Luise: Archaeology of an Injustice' is one example of such activity. This exhibition will open during the Forum and be on public display at the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial until 13 March 2022.

On **Thursday**, the Forum will start with a dialogue between two guests from France whose fathers were imprisoned in the Neuengamme concentration camp, as well as two Hamburg residents who are the children of Nazi perpetrators. *'Mémoire à quatre voix'* (Memory in Four Voices) investigates possibilities for living with experiences of persecution and Nazi perpetratorship and for engaging in a dialogue that crosses the boundaries of biographical differences. This dialogue also serves as an example of cooperatively promoting a form of social interaction in the present day which includes a responsible approach to dealing with the crimes of the Nazi period.

Later in the afternoon, representatives of associations of former prisoners and their relatives from different European countries will report on their activities at various stations. The participants will also have an opportunity to talk with one another.

A panel discussion with people whose relatives were subjected to Nazi violence for various reasons will look at practices employed by the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the victims for grappling with their family history of persecution.

The second day of the Forum will end with a report and discussion about the politics of memory in Spain. Under Franco and in the wake of his dictatorship, the subject of family experiences of Nazi persecution was excluded from public discourse for decades there.

On **Friday**, relatives of former persecutees and other interested individuals will have an opportunity to print posters they have designed in memory of former prisoners of Neuengamme in the *Space to Remember, Connect and Support*. Previously printed posters will be put up together by the participants. The *Space to Remember, Connect and Support* was dedicated in the grounds of the Memorial during the Forum in 2020.

To close the Forum, a tour will be offered through the grounds and exhibitions of the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial which will focus on the perspective of family history.

Concept: Dr Alexandre Froidevaux and Dr Oliver von Wrochem

Venue: Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial, Centre for Historical Studies, Jean-Dolidier-Weg 75, 21039 Hamburg

Simultaneous **interpretation** will be available in German and English; other languages can be provided if necessary.

Important note: All participants and attendees are required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or recovery. Please be sure to bring the corresponding documents with you!

Registration:

You must register by 5 November 2021 to attend the Forum. A non-refundable registration fee of €60 (€30 reduced rate) will be charged to cover the cost of catering.

Please register by contacting Juliane Podlaha:

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Programme

Wednesday, 10 November; 9:30 am – 5:30 pm; Centre for Historical Studies, Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial

- 9:30 am – 12 pm Discussion session for relatives of former concentration camp prisoners
Moderators: Thorsten Fehlberg, Swenja Granzow-Rauwald, Natascha Höhn (Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial)
- 12 pm – 1:30 pm Lunch
- 1:30 pm – 2 pm Welcome and introductory remarks about the *Future of Remembrance Forum*
Dr Oliver von Wrochem and Dr Alexandre Froidevaux (Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial)
- 2 pm – 3 pm Discussion: Third-generation descendants of Nazi perpetrators
Stefanie Taschinski, Hamburg (children's book author), Maria Holzgrewe, Bad Segeberg (teacher), Paula Mittrowann, Hamburg (illustrator)
Moderator: Dr Oliver von Wrochem (Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial)
- 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Break & socialising
- 4:30 pm – 6 pm Presentation and opening of photo exhibition '*Luise: Archaeology of an Injustice*'
Stefan Weger, Berlin (photographer)
Moderator: Alexandra Köhring (Foundation of Hamburg Memorials and Learning Centres)

Thursday, 11 November; 9:30 am – 5:15 pm; Centre for Historical Studies, Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial

- 9:30 am – 9:45 am Welcome to day two
- 9:45 am – 11:45 am '*Mémoire à quatre voix*'
Yvonne Cossu-Alba, Grasse, and Jean-Michel Gaussot, Paris (children of former Neuengamme prisoners), Barbara Brix and Ulrich Gantz, Hamburg (children of Nazi perpetrators)
Moderator: Christine Eckel (Foundation of Hamburg Memorials and Learning Centres)
- 11:45 am – 12 pm Break
- 12 pm – 1 pm Presentations: Associations and initiatives of descendants of former concentration camp prisoners

Mark Van den Driessche, Oudenaarde/Belgium (Amicale Belge de Neuengamme), Swenja Granzow-Rauwald, Hamburg, and Franciska Henning, Hamburg (Young Committee of the Amicale International KZ Neuengamme), Jan van den Hoorn, Putten/Netherlands (Stichting Oktober 44), Kristof Van Mierop, Dudzele/Belgium (Amicale Belge de Neuengamme), Balbina Rebollar, Gijón/Spain (Amical de Neuengamme), Yvonne Cossu-Alba, Grasse, and Jean-Michel Gaussoit, Paris (Amicale française de Neuengamme), Martine Letterie (Amicale International KZ Neuengamme), Tom Devos (NCPGR Meensel-Kiezegem 44)

- 1 pm – 2 pm Lunch
- 2 pm – 3:30 pm Discussion: Third- and fourth-generation descendants of Nazi persecutees
Julia Gilfert, Tübingen and Kitzingen (granddaughter of a victim of the Nazi 'euthanasia' programme), Victoria Evers, Paderborn (granddaughter of a Polish former prisoner of Neuengamme), Tom Schröder, Hamburg (great-grandson of Jews deported from Hamburg)
Moderator: Christiane Heß (Foundation of Hamburg Memorials and Learning Centres)
- 3:30 pm – 4 pm Break and time for informal chat
- 4 pm – 5 pm Report and discussion: Politics of memory in Spain
Balbina Rebollar, Gijón/Spain (daughter of a former Neuengamme prisoner, Amical de Neuengamme) and Heike M. Martínez, Barcelona (Amical de Neuengamme)
Moderator: Dr Alexandre Froidevaux (Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial)
- 5 pm – 5:15 pm Closing remarks

Friday, 12 November; 10 am –12:30 pm; Space to Remember, Connect and Support, Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial

- 10 am – 12:30 pm Printing workshop at the *Space to Remember, Connect and Support*
Support staff: Sandra Wachtel and Justin Warland (Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial)
- 10 am – 1 pm Open to all: Tour through the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial