

The Legacy of the 1915 Genocide in the Ottoman Empire

Conference – March 23, 2009, Kungsholmens Konferens, Fleminggatan 18 (Trygg-Hansa huset), Stockholm, Sweden

Programme

- 08:00 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 09:10 Introduction
 Vahagn Avedian, Chief Editor of Armenica.org, Chairman of the Union of Armenian Associations in Sweden
- 09:10 09:25 An Ongoing Living History
 Stefan Andersson, Project manager, Living History Forum, Stockholm
- 09:25 09:45 Coffee break
- 09:45 10:45 The Phases and Faces of the Denial of the 1915 Genocide Richard G. Hovannisian, Professor of Armenian and Near Eastern History, UCLA, Los Angeles
- 10:45 11:00 Break
- 11:00 12:00 The 1915 Genocide and Present-day Turkey: Discussions and Processing Ragip Zarakolu, Human Rights Activist and Publisher, Istanbul
- 12:00 13:30 Lunch break
- 13:30 14:30 Assyrian Identity Problems and the Struggle for Assyrian Genocide Recognition David Gaunt, Professor, History Department, Södertörn University, Stockholm
- 14:30 14:45 Break
- 14:45 15:45 The Legal Dimension of the Atrocities of 1915: Then and Later Ove Bring, Professor, International Law, Swedish Defence College, Stockholm
- 15:45 16:40 Turkey's Policy and Fractures with Regard to the Armenian Genocide in the Framework of its EU Accession Prospect

 Laurent Leylekian, Executive Director, European Armenian Federation for Justice & Democracy, Brussels

Moderator: Marika Griehsel, journalist, foreign correspondent

Conference language: English

Please notice: The numbers of seats are limited. Free admission. Registration via email to vahagn.avedian@armenica.org. The closing date for entries is March 18.

Photographing prohibited. Accredited photographers only. Photos can be downloaded from www.levandehistoria.se and www.armeniska.se after the conference is closed.

The Conference is arranged in cooperation between The Living History Forum, ABF - Workers' Educational Association, The Union of Armenian Associations in Sweden, The Assyrian Federation in Sweden, Evxinos Pontos Stockholm, and Armenica.org.



Richard G. Hovannisian is Professor of Armenian and Near Eastern History at the University of California, Los Angeles. He served as the Associate Director of the G.E. von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies from 1978 to 1995. A member of the UCLA faculty since 1962, he has organized the undergraduate and graduate programs in Armenian and Caucasian history. The author of five volumes on the history of the first Armenian republic, he has also edited and contributed to five volumes on the Armenian Genocide and eight volumes on historic Western Armenian cities and provinces. He is a six-time president of the Society for Armenian Studies, and serves on the board of directors of nine scholarly and civic organizations



Ragip Zarakolu is a Turkish human rights activist and publisher. He is the founder of Human Rights Association in Turkey. For some time Ragip Zarakolu chaired the Writers in Prison Committee of International PEN in Turkey. Currently (beginning of 2007) he chairs the Committee for Freedom of Publication in the Union of Publishers. He has published several books about the Armenian and Assyrian genocides and has been prosecuted under Article 301 in the Turkish Penal Code, and was found guilty in June 2008 for having insulted "the institutions of the Turkish Republic." He is the recipient of IAGS Bienal Award in Sarajewo 2007, sharing the award with Ayse Nur Zarakolu for their struggle against the denialism of the Armenian and other genocides.



Ove Bring is Professor of International Law at Swedish National Defence College (SNDC) since 1997. He has also held the professorship at Stockholm University 1997-2005. Formerly Legal Adviser at the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Expert in International Law on the use of force, the Law of the UN Charter (including the Law of Peace Operations), International Humanitarian Law, Human Rights Law, the law of Diplomatic Protection, Foreign Investment Law and International Claims. Dr Bring has represented Sweden in the Sixth (legal) Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations for a number of years. He participated in the Thomson/Blackwell humanitarian missions to former Yugoslavia reporting on treatment of prisoners in Bosnia to the Committee of senior Officials of the Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe (1992-93).



David Gaunt is Professor of History at Södertörn University, Stockholm, Sweden. He is also the Director of Planning for the Baltic and East European Graduate School. During 1988-97 Director of Research at Stockholm Social Services Division. Has been visiting researcher at Cambridge Group for the Study of Population and Social Structure; the Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte in Göttingen; and the University of Edinburgh. He is corresponding member of the editorial board of Social History.



Laurent Leylekian is the Executive Director of The European Armenian Federation for Justice and Democracy (E.A.F.J.D.), a non profit organization. EAFJD represents European citizens with Armenian origin to European Institutions, federating several national organizations and associations of European countries, promoting and defending cultural and political rights of Armenian people worldwide.



Stefan Andersson is Project Manager at Living History Forum, Stockholm, Sweden. The Living History Forum is a government agency which has been commissioned with the task of promoting issues relating to tolerance, democracy and human rights – with the Holocaust as its point of reference. By spreading knowledge about the darkest sides of human history, the agency wants to influence the future. They learn to see patterns, reflecting on issues such as justice, humanity and personal responsibility.



Marika Griehsel is a freelance journalist, documentary director and correspondent from 1990-2001. She has extensive experience from South Africa, where she lived and delivered reports from between 1992 and 2001.