

Ultimate Crime, Ultimate Challenge

Human Rights and Genocide

An International Conference

April 20-21

2005

Yerevan



Ultimate Crime and Ultimate Challenge

sums up the intent of this conference: to try to understand, yet again, the ultimate crime that genocide is, to examine how genocides happen, to explore formulas for action and prevention, and - the ultimate challenge - to even search for prescriptions for transcending. Finally, and very specifically, this conference, this year, is an endeavor to understand what it will take to bring together the conflicting and tortured memories and peoples living in this region, in order to turn our part of the world into a true neighborhood.

This international conference, held under the auspices of the National Commission on the 90th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, is organized by Armenia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Commission welcomes the participating scholars and specialists and salutes them for making this their life's work. The Commission is also grateful for the assistance that the Zoryan Institute for Contemporary Armenian Research and Documentation has provided in conceptualizing and organizing this work.

PROGRAM

April 20, Wednesday, 9:45 am - 6:00

Opening Addresses

Robert Kocharian
President of the Republic of Armenia

Karekin II
Catholics of All Armenians

Juan E. Mendez
Special Adviser to the UN Secretary General on the Prevention of Genocide

Break

Session I 11.00 am

Desecration of Human Rights, Past and Present

**The "Odious Scourge":
Evolving Interpretations of the Crime of Genocide**
William Schabas (Galway)
Director, Irish Centre for Human Rights, National University of Ireland

**Human Rights, International Law
and the Armenian Genocide**
Alfred de Zayas, (Geneva)
Director, Irish Centre for Human Rights, National University of Ireland

Can Genocide Be Avoided?
Yehuda Bauer (Jerusalem)
Academic Advisor, Yad Vashem,
Holocaust Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Authority

Discussion

Lunch 12.45 am

Session II 2:00 am

The Ultimate Crime

**The Significance
of the Armenian Genocide After Ninety Years**
Roger W. Smith (Williamsburg, Virginia)
Professor Emeritus of Government, College of William and Mary
Chair, Academic Board of Directors, Zoryan Institute

**Responses to Genocide:
Comparison of Armenian and Rwandan Survivors**
Donald E. Miller (Los Angeles, California)
Professor, School of Religion, University of Southern California

**The Effects of Genocide Denial on the Deniers -
Individuals and Nations**
Israel W. Charny (Jerusalem)
Executive Director, Institute on the Holocaust and Genocide
Editor-in-Chief, Encyclopedia of Genocide

**Third Party Involvement in Prevention and Perpetration:
The Armenian Case**
Nikolay Hovannissian (Yerevan)
Director, Institute of Oriental Studies, Armenian National Academy of Sciences

Discussion

Session III

4:00 am

Prevention and Action

Israel's Position Regarding the Armenian Genocide

Yossi Sarid (Jerusalem)

Member of the Knesset, Former Chair of the Meretz Party
Education Minister and Minister of the Environment
in the Rabin and Barak Governments

Factors Facilitating and Impeding Genocide

Gregory Stanton (Fredericksburg, Virginia)

James Farmer Professor of Human Rights, Mary Washington College
President of Genocide Watch, Director of the Cambodian Genocide Project

The Pain of Knowledge: Reflections on Holocaust and
Genocide Issues in Education

Yair Auron (Jerusalem)

Professor, The Open University of Israel and Kibbutzim College of Education

Genocide in Rwanda and Sudan:

A Comparative Assessment of US and UN Responses

Eric Markusen (Copenhagen)

Senior Research Fellow, Department for Holocaust and Genocide Studies
Danish Institute for International Studies

Discussion

Thursday, April 21, 2005 9:45 am - 6:00

Opening Remarks

Arkady Ghoukassian

President of the Republic of Nagorno Karabagh

Andranik Margarian

Prime Minister of Armenia, President of the National Commission
for the Commemoration of the 90th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide

Special Address

In the Name of Human Dignity

Lech Walesa

Former President of the Republic of Poland, Nobel Peace Laureate

Session IV

10:45 am

Ultimate Challenge:

Truth, Reconciliation, and Transitional Justice

Impunity as a Factor in the Armenian Genocide and its

Sequela

Vahakn N. Dadrian (New York)

Retired Professor of Sociology, Director of Genocide Research, Zoryan Institute

Dynamics of Denial:

Coming to Terms with the Past in Turkey and Japan

John Torpey (Vancouver)

Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology,
University of British Columbia

Can Memory of Genocide Lead to Reconciliation?

Eliazar Barkan (Claremont, California)

Chair, Department of Cultural Studies, Claremont Graduate University

Discussion

Lunch

12.30

Session V

1:45 am

Turkish-Armenian Relations:

Divided by History, United by Geography

Obstacles to Armenian-Turkish Reconciliation

Taner Akcam (Minneapolis, Minnesota)

Visiting Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Promoting Recognition

of the Armenian Genocide via Third-Parties

Rouben Paul Adalian (Washington DC)

Director, Armenian National Institute

Memory, Forgetting, and Silence:

How Collectivities Remember Their Past and Implications

for Current Relations

Murat Belge (Istanbul)

Professor of Comparative Literature, Bilgi University

Test of Maturity:

The Genocide Factor in Armenia's Foreign Policy

Ruben Safrastian (Yerevan)

Professor, Institute of Oriental Studies, Armenian National Academy of Sciences

Looking Backward, Moving Forward

Richard Hovannisian (Los Angeles, California)

Professor of Armenian and Near Eastern History, University of California

Holder of the Armenian Educational Foundation Endowed Chair

in Modern Armenian History

Discussion

Closing Addresses

4:00 am

Marie-Anne Isler-Beguín, Chairwoman

Delegation to the EU-Armenia Parliamentary Cooperation Committee,

European Parliament

Vartan Oskanian

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Armenia

DISCUSSANTS

Kevork B. Bardakjian

Historian, Marie Manoogian Professor of Language and Literature, University of Michigan, US

Ruth Barnett

UK Council for Psychotherapists, London, UK

Vicken Cheterian

Journalist, Le Monde Diplomatique, Director of Programs, CIMERA, Geneva, Switzerland

Hrant Dink

Editor, Agos Weekly, Istanbul, Turkey

Salpy Eskidjian

Consultant on Human Security, Peace and Reconciliation, Geneva, Switzerland

Jussi Flemming Biorn

Armenian-Norwegian Cultural Organization, Norway

Marcello Flores

Professor, Comparative History and Contemporary History, University of Siena, Italy

Tessa Hofmann

Professor, Free University, Berlin, Germany

Arsinee Khanjian

Actress, Toronto, Canada

Dickran Kouymjian

Professor of Armenian Studies, Director, Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno, California

Gerard J. Libaridian

Professor, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Giro Manoyan

Director, ARF Dashnaksutjun Bureau International Secretary, Yerevan

Ashot Melkonian

Director, Institute of History, Armenian National Academy of Sciences, Yerevan

Levon Mkrtchian

Member of National Assembly, Chairman of the ARF Caucus, Yerevan

Micheline Aharonian Marcom

Visiting Writer, Mills College, Oakland, California

Baskin Oran

Professor, Faculty of Political Science, University of Ankara, Turkey

Giancarlo Pagliarini

Member of Parliament, Chamber of Deputies, Italy

Kourken Sarkissian

President, the Zoryan Institute

Hirooyoshi Segawa

Professor of Law, Aichi Sangyo University, Japan

Ronald Grigor Suny

Professor of Political Science and History, University of Chicago, Illinois

Samuel Totten

Professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, University of Arkansas

Michele Wegner

Architect, Armin T. Wegner Society, Rome, Italy

Ragıp Zarakolu

Bilgi Publishing, Istanbul, Turkey

Boghos Levon Zekiyan

Professor, Università di Ca' Foscari, Venice, Italy

Rouben Adalian

Director, Armenian National Institute USA



Rouben Adalian is the director of the Armenian National Institute (ANI) in Washington, DC. He is the author of Historical Dictionary of Armenia and From Humanism to Rationalism: Armenian Scholarship in the Nineteenth Century. He is the compiler and editor of The Armenian Genocide in the U.S. Archives, 1915-1918, a 37,000-page collection of American documents. He is also the compiler and editor of the ANI Web site (www.armenian-genocide.org). He was an associate editor of the Encyclopedia of Genocide, and has contributed to numerous publications, including America and the Armenian Genocide; Century of Genocide; Studies in Comparative Genocide; Pioneers of Genocide Studies; and Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Mr. Adalian has taught at The George Washington University, Georgetown University, and Johns Hopkins University.

Mr. Adalian's presentation is titled Promoting Recognition of the Armenian Genocide via Third-Parties. The 21st century opened with expectations for nations to build new relations unshackled by the burdens of the past. Armenia and Turkey have yet to participate in this emerging world order. The uses and abuses of historical memory define the relations between Armenia and Turkey. The decades-long campaign of denial of the Armenian Genocide by the Republic of Turkey continues to hinder and derail opportunities to consider a different future together as neighbors. In the absence of formal inter-state relations, efforts for international affirmation of the Armenian Genocide and their obstruction have become a substitute for genuine political dialogue.



Taner Akcam
Professor
University of Minnesota
USA

As editor-in-chief of a political journal, Taner Akcam became interested in Turkish politics at an early age. He was arrested in 1976 in Turkey and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. Managing to escape one year later, he fled to Germany as a political refugee, where he focused, among other social issues, on immigrant rights and worked actively in developing dialogues across various ethnic groups in Germany, especially Turks, Greeks, Serbians, Portuguese and Kurds.

Mr. Akcam received his Ph. D. from Hanover University with a dissertation titled, **Turkish Nationalism and the Armenian Genocide: On the Background of the Military Tribunals in Istanbul between 1919 and 1922**. He has since lectured and published extensively on this topic, with four books, including **From Empire to Republic: Turkish Nationalism and the Armenian Genocide** (2004), and articles in Turkish and German. Since 1988, he has held the position of Research Scientist in Sociology, Hamburger Institut für Sozialforschung, and has twice been Visiting Scholar at the Armenian Research Center, University of Michigan at Dearborn.

Mr. Akcam's presentation is titled **Obstacles to Armenian-Turkish Reconciliation**. The presentation will discuss three ideas on the subject of obstacles to Armenian-Turkish reconciliation, and remark on the possibility of reconciliation between the Turkish and Armenian communities. The first idea will elaborate on collective categories, or the issue of the balance between individual and group identity. Mr. Akcam's will also address the relationship between past and present or the problem of defining collective identity over time. Finally, he will discuss the stereotyping and dehumanizing of one group by the other.



Yair Auron
Professor
The Open University
Israel

Yair Auron is a professor at The Open University of Israel. He is the author of numerous articles and books on genocide and on contemporary Judaism, including **Jewish Israeli Identity, We Are All German Jews: Jewish Radicals in France During the Sixties and Seventies, The Banality of Indifference: Zionism and the Armenian Genocide, The Banality of Denial: Israel and the Armenian Genocide and The Pain knowledge: reflections on Holocaust and Genocide Issues in Education**.

Mr. Auron's presentation is titled **The Pain of Knowledge: Reflections on Holocaust and Genocide Issues in Education**. This paper will briefly analyze the difficulties to introduce Genocide Studies to high schools and universities in the world, though it is understood that education is necessary for preventing genocides, or, at least, limit their occurrences. The paper will then focus on the situation in Israel, where the Holocaust is taught, but the educational system and the universities usually avoid dealing with other genocides.

Elazar Barkan

Professor
Claremont Graduate University
USA



Elazar Barkan is professor of history and cultural studies at Claremont Graduate University in Los Angeles, California, and the director of the Institute for Historical Justice and Reconciliation. Mr. Barkan's research interests focus on the role of history in contemporary society and politics, with particular emphasis on the response to gross historical crimes and injustices. Among his works, he is the author of **The Guilt of Nations: Restitution and Negotiating Historical Injustices** (2000); **Claiming the Stones/Naming the Bones: Cultural Property and the Negotiation of National and Ethnic Identity**, (an edited volume with Ronald Bush, Getty, 2003); **Taking Wrongs Seriously: Apologies and Reconciliation**.

Mr. Barkan's presentation is entitled **Can memory of genocide lead to reconciliation?** The paper investigates the role of historical narratives in bridging national animosity by referring to various examples where countries acknowledged their own responsibility for historical crimes, and of the importance of such recognition as a tool of reconciliation. Although the recounting of history has been exploited to provoke conflict, incite war, and inflame genocides, Mr. Barkan asks whether it can also be drawn upon to facilitate reconciliation. Although national conflicts are based upon extensive real animosity, the history of nations is never one of undifferentiated hostility. The recognition of the multiple layers of the historical injustices and wrongs may provide for new processes and perspectives that could contribute to acknowledgments, recognition and a potential resolution of conflict.

Yehuda Bauer

Professor
Yad Vashem
Israel



Mr. Bauer was born in 1926 in Prague. Studied at University of Wales at Cardiff. Ph.D. from Hebrew University, Jerusalem. 1982-1995 he was the founding Chair of the Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Antisemitism (SICSA) at Hebrew University. 1986-1995 Editor of the Journal of Holocaust and Genocide Studies. Now Mr. Bauer is the academic adviser in Yad Vashem. He obtains visitor professorships in University of Honolulu at Manoa, Yale University, Ida E. King Distinguished Visiting Scholar of Holocaust Studies, Richard Stockton College, New Jersey, Clark University, Worcester, Mass.

His publications (English Books only) include **From Diplomacy to Resistance** (1970), **My Brother's Keeper** (1974), **Flight and Rescue. Random House** (1975), **The Holocaust in Historical Perspective** (1978), **The Jewish Emergence From Powerlessness** (1979), **American Jewry and the Holocaust** (1982), **History of the Holocaust** (1984), **Jewish Reactions to the Holocaust** (1988), **Out of the Ashes** (1989), **Jews for Sale?** (1995), and **Rethinking the Holocaust** (2001). He is the editor of **The Holocaust as Historical Experience** (1981).

Mr. Bauer's presentation is titled **Can Genocide Be Avoided?** The definition of genocide in the 1948 Convention is problematic, and what is needed is a strategy to get around the problems of definition. The international political world has so far failed to deal with genocidal threats - in the 20th century from the Herero genocide, through the Armenian genocide, the Holocaust, Rwanda, and now Darfur. There are now the tools to forestall outbreaks of mass violence, and the beginnings of an awareness of how to deal with these threats. The major obstacles are, of course, great power interests, denial, which is particularly blatant in the Armenian case, and impunity, though with regard to the latter the establishment of the International Criminal Court may lead to better results. Academics cannot limit themselves to analysis and writing, they must become active participants in efforts directed against the recurrence of genocides and genocidal threats.



Murat Belge
Professor
Bilgi University, Istanbul
Turkey

Murat Belge is a professor at the Bilgi University in Istanbul, Turkey. He received his B.A. in English Language and Literature from Istanbul University in 1966, and his Ph.D. in English Language and Literature, from Istanbul University in 1969.

Mr. Belge's presentation is titled Memory, Forgetting, and Silence: How Collectivities Remember Their Past and Implications for Current Relations.

Israel Charny
Executive director,
Institute on the Holocaust and Genocide
Israel



Israel Charny is Executive Director of the Institute on the Holocaust and Genocide in Jerusalem, a position he has held since 1980. He is Editor-in-Chief of the first Encyclopedia of Genocide (1999) and its e-book on the Internet, 2003. He is the creator and editor of an international newsletter, Internet on the Holocaust and Genocide, from 1985-1995 (56 issues published); founder of the series, Genocide: A Critical Bibliographic Review, and editor of its first 3 volumes: Volume 1, 1988, Volume 2, 1991, Volume 3, 1994; and author of several books, including **How Can We Commit the Unthinkable? Genocide: The Human Cancer** (1982).

Mr. Charny's presentation is titled The effects of Genocide denial on the deniers - individuals and nations: Progress and Continuing Challenges in the Battle against Denial. Mr. Charny writes that there is tremendous and even decisive progress against Turkish denials of the Armenian Genocide including some acknowledgements of the Armenian Genocide even by some Turkish people and writers. However, this progress now faces resolute and desperate counterattacks by a Turkish side, which knows it is losing the battle but still won't yield, even though denials are basically corrosive and injurious to its own development and society. On the part of the Armenian people, in a pattern entirely similar to the Jewish people, the time is coming to grow from a strictly victim-focused experience to an ability to acknowledge other victims of the Armenian Genocide; the development of an ability to acknowledge any instances of victimization of others; and most of all the development of a new strength to contribute to the acknowledgments of past genocides of other peoples in the world, and to contribute to the battle against new cases of genocide and genocidal terrorism in our contemporary world.



Vahagn N. Dadrian

Retired Professor of Sociology
Zoryan Institute
USA

Vahagn Dadrian received his undergraduate and graduate education in Europe at the University of Berlin in mathematics, the University of Vienna in history and the University of Zürich in international law. His training in the United States was in the social sciences, culminating with a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Chicago.

In the last fifteen years he has lectured extensively in French, English and German in European universities, among them the Free University of Berlin, the Universities of Munich, Parma, Torino, Zürich and Uppsala. In 1991, he was a guest lecturer at the Universities of Frankfurt am Main, Cologne, Bochum and Münster. He has given a series of lectures at the Universities of Amsterdam and Utrecht in the Netherlands (1993-1994), the Universities of Geneva and Brussels (1996 and 1998) and UNESCO's Paris centre (1999).

He currently is Director of Genocide Research with the Zoryan Institute. He has authored many books, monographs and articles including **The History of the Armenian Genocide**, **Ethnic Conflict from the Balkans to Anatolia to the Caucasus** (1995), **German Responsibility in the Armenian Genocide: A Review of the Historical Evidence of German Complicity** (1996), and **Warrant for Genocide: Key Elements of Turko-Armenian Conflict** (1999).

Mr. Dadrian's presentation is titled *Impunity as a Factor in the Armenian Genocide and its Sequela*. Mr. Dadrian argues that the Armenian Genocide was not a sui generis act of criminality but rather the culmination of a series of episodic massacres ante-dating it in the decades preceding World War I. The unpunished character of these massacres was a major factor in emboldening the Ottoman-Turkish decision-makers to conceive, plan, organize and implement that Genocide. Hence, impunity emerges not only as a basic, common denominator in all these instances of mass murder affording their sustained incidence, but also as a basic challenge to the domain of retributive justice in international criminal law.



Alfred de Zayas

Professor
United Nations (retired)
Switzerland

Alfred de Zayas is an American lawyer and historian. He has received his J.D. from Harvard University, and Ph.D. from Göttingen. He has worked twenty-two years with the United Nations, was former Secretary of the UN Human Rights Committee, former Chief of the Petitions Division at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. He was visiting Professor of Law, at DePaul University in Chicago; University of British Columbia in Vancouver; University of Alcalá de Henares in Madrid; and Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales in Geneva. He is a member of the Conseil scientifique of the Académie Internationale de droit constitutionnel in Tunis. He is the author of five books.

Mr. de Zayas' presentation is titled *Human Rights and International Law and Armenian Genocide*. The overarching principle of human rights is the principle of equality. Since all human beings share the same human dignity, there cannot be politically correct victims and those whom one can safely ignore. All victims, including the survivors of the Armenian genocide, are entitled to recognition of the status as victims and deserve our respect and compassion. There are no States above international law and no legal black hole. Genocide is a crime and has always been a crime under domestic law and

under the law of nations. This crime gives rise to State responsibility and to personal criminal liability. No statutes of limitations apply with respect to genocide. The perpetrator State or any successor State is under an obligation to prosecute and punish the officials responsible for this crime, and to grant restitution and make other forms of reparation to the descendants of the victims, to the survivors and to their descendants.

The Genocide Convention of 1948 strengthened the claims of the Armenians. It did not create their rights, since the Convention was declarative, not constitutive of the existing law of nations. Pursuant to the Convention, the International Court of Justice in the Hague should be called upon to deliver an advisory opinion concerning the legal consequences today of the Armenian genocide.



Nikolay Hovhannissian

Professor, Director, Institute of Oriental Studies, NAS Armenia

Nikolay Hovhannissian is the director of the Institute of Oriental Studies at the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia, as well as founder and director of the Conflict Resolution Center of Armenia. He is a specialist on the history of Arab countries, international and regional relations in the Middle East, ethno-political conflicts and genocide studies. He is the author of more than thirty books published in Armenian, Russian, English, Arabic, German, Italian, and French, among them **History of the Arab countries, vol. 1,2**, **The Armenian Genocide in Elucidation of Arabic historical Science**, **The Armenian Genocide**, **Armenocide** (in English), **Armenian Genocide** (in English, French, German, Russian), and **The Karabakh Problem** (in English). He is a member of the New York Academy of Sciences; the International Academy of Sciences on National Security Problems, in Moscow; the Ararat International Academy of Sciences, in Paris; the International Academy of Sciences of Nature and Society; and the Syrian Society of Sciences.

Mr. Hovhannissian's paper is titled **Third Party Involvement in Prevention and Perpetration: The Armenian Case**. Genocide is a process passes through three stages: preparatory, genocidal and post-genocidal. Besides the two main parties - executioner and its victim -- there is often a third party at the local, interstate or international level. Its role can be preventive, perpetrative or neutral. In the Armenian case Kurds, Circassians, Germany and Austro-Hungary were involved in the Armenian Genocide as perpetrative parties, while the Arabs formed a preventive party. England, France and Russia were potentially preventive party during the Armenian Genocide.



Eric Markusen

Professor
Danish Institute for International Studies
Denmark

Eric Markusen is Senior Research Fellow at the Danish Institute of International Studies, Department for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Copenhagen. He is on leave as Professor of Sociology and Social Work at Southwest Minnesota State University, USA. His publications include **The Genocidal Mentality: Nazi Holocaust and Nuclear Threat**, with Robert Jay Lifton, and **The Holocaust and Strategic Bombing: Genocide and Total War in the Twentieth Century**, with David Kopf. Markusen is on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Genocide Research* and *Journal of Human Rights*. His current work focuses on the genocides in Bosnia, Rwanda, and Sudan and the work of the International Criminal Tribunals for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

Mr. Markusen's presentation is titled: **Genocide in Rwanda and Sudan: A Comparative Assessment of US and UN Responses**. In Rwanda, the United States avoided labeling the killing as genocide, and the UN Security Council reduced the number of UN peacekeeping forces. In Darfur, the USA investigated allegations of genocide and then publicly accused the Government of Sudan of genocide, and the UN Security Council sent a Commission of Inquiry to Darfur, and, on 31 March 2005, voted to refer the Darfur case to the International Criminal Court. This presentation will consider possible reasons for, and implications of, these two different responses. It will also address the inadequacy of current policies toward the genocide in Darfur.



Juan E. Méndez

Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide
NY

Juan E. Méndez has taught at the International Human Rights Law at Georgetown Law School and at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. He teaches regularly at the Oxford Masters Program in International Human Rights Law in the United Kingdom.

For 15 years, Mr. Méndez worked with Human Rights Watch, concentrating his efforts on human rights issues in the Western Hemisphere. In 1994, he became the General Counsel of Human Rights Watch, with worldwide duties in support of the organization's mission, including responsibility for the organization's litigation and standard-setting activities. From 1996 to 1999, Mr. Méndez was the Executive Director of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights in Costa Rica, and between October 1999 and May 2004 he was Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana. Between 2000 and 2003, he was a member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States, and served as its President in 2002. In July 2004, Mr. Méndez was appointed the United Nations Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, a post that is complementary to his full-time position as the President of the International Center for Transitional Justice.

Mr. Méndez' presentation is titled *The Gross Violation of Human Rights: The U.N. and Prevention of Genocide*. The presentation will discuss the mandate and terms of reference of the newly-created office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide. Mr. Méndez will illustrate some of the challenges of devising an early warning/early action procedure, and offer recent examples of actions taken by the SASGPG in specific situations.



Donald E. Miller

Professor
University of Southern California
USA

Donald E. Miller is the Executive Director of the Center for Religion and Civic Culture at University of Southern California as well as a professor of religion and sociology. He is the author/editor of seven books, including *Armenia: Portraits of Survival and Hope* (2003), *Survivors: An Oral History of the Armenian Genocide* (1993), *GenX Religion* (2000), *Reinventing American Protestantism* (1997), *Homeless Families: The Struggle for Dignity* (1993), *Writing and Research in Religious Studies* (1992), and *The Case for Liberal Christianity* (1981). With his wife, Lorna, he has partnered with an association of orphans in Rwanda on an oral history project documenting the 1994 genocide.

Mr. Miller's presentation is titled *Responses to Genocide: A Comparison of Armenian and Rwandan Survivors*. This paper is based on oral history interviews with survivors of two genocides, the Armenian genocide of 1915 and the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. One hundred interviews were done with elderly Armenians who reflected on their experience as children and 160 interviews were conducted with survivors of the Rwanda genocide. The Armenian survivors exhibited 6 different characteristic responses to their experience of the genocide: 1) avoidance and repression, 2) outrage and anger, 3) revenge and restitution, 4) reconciliation and forgiveness, 5) resignation and despair, and 6) explanation and rationalization. This typology of responses among Armenians is compared to the sample of Rwandan survivors for whom the experience is still very fresh and raw.



Richard Hovannisian

Professor
UCLA
USA

Richard G. Hovannisian is Professor of Armenian and Near Eastern History at the University of California, Los Angeles. A member of the UCLA faculty since 1962, he has organized the undergraduate and graduate programs in Armenian and Caucasian history. In 1987, Professor Hovannisian was appointed the first holder of the Armenian Educational Foundation Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian History at the University of California, Los Angeles. From 1978 to 1995, he also served as the Associate Director of the G.E. von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies.

Mr. Hovannisian received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of California, Berkeley, and his Ph.D. from UCLA. He is the author of *Armenia on the Road to Independence* (1967); *The Republic of Armenia, 4 volumes* (1971-96); *The Armenian Holocaust* (1980); has edited and contributed to *The Armenian Image in History and Literature* (1981), *The Armenian Genocide in Perspective* (1986), *The Armenian Genocide: History, Politics, Ethics* (1992); *The Armenian People from Ancient to Modern Times*, 2 volumes (1997); *Remembrance and Denial: The Case of the Armenian Genocide* (1998), *Enlightenment and Diaspora: The Armenian and Jewish Cases* (1999), *Armenian Van/Vasporakan* (2000), *Armenian Baghesh/Bitlis and Taron/Mush* (2001), *Armenian Tsopk/Kharpert* (2002), *Armenian Karin/Erzerum* (2003); *Looking Backward, Moving Forward: Confronting the Armenian Genocide* (2003) and six other books on Near Eastern society and culture, and has published more than sixty scholarly articles.

Mr. Hovannisian is a Guggenheim Fellow and has received many honors for his scholarship, civic activities, and advancement of Armenian Studies, including election to membership in the Armenian National Academy of Science, honorary doctoral degrees from Yerevan State University and Artsakh State University. Mr. Hovannisian is a founder and three-time president of the Society for Armenian Studies.

Mr. Hovannisian's presentation is titled *Looking Backward, Moving Forward*.



Ruben Safrastyan

Professor
National Academy of Sciences
Armenia

Ruben Safrastyan is Director of Department of Turkish Studies at Institute of Near Eastern Studies at the Armenian National Academy of Sciences, and is a professor at the Agharyan University. Ruben Safrastyan's current research interests focus on the problems of the genesis of genocide, Armenian-Turkish interstate relations, and problems of Turkish politics and ideology.

His most recent publications include the following books: *It Is Impossible To Let the Barriers Between Neighbors in the XXI Century...: Armenia and Turkey in Regional Developments* (2003); *Proto-genocide: Problems of History and History* (2005, forthcoming) and articles: "Turkey and Eurasia in the Aftermath of the September 11 Tragedy: Some Observations on the Republic and Foreign Policy", *Caucasus and Central Asia Newsletter: The Caucasus and Central Asia Program at the University of California, Berkeley*, 2001; "Armenian-Turkish Relations: An Attempt at a Theoretical Interpretation from the Standpoints of the Realist School", *Directions of the Armenian Foreign Policy. Collection of Articles*, 2002; "On the Ideological Substantiation of Turkey's Regional Policy: Concept of Eurasia", *The South Caucasus: Regional Security and Stability*, 2004; "The Return of 'Grey Wolves': Conservative Party in Turkish Politics (1983-1985)", *The Countries and Peoples of the Near and Middle East*, Vol. XXIII, 2004; Mr. Safrastyan is the editor of *Turkish and Armenian Studies*, in Yerevan.

Mr. Safrastyan's presentation is titled *Test of Maturity: The Genocide Factor in Armenia's Foreign Policy*. The Genocide as a factor in foreign policy is analyzed not only from the point of view of bilateral relations with Turkey, but also in the context of several world political processes. Mr. Safrastyan argues that the inclusion of the issue of recognition and condemnation of the Genocide into the agenda of Armenia's foreign policy testifies to its maturity. At the same time, the presentation emphasizes that a further adherence to this course will require Armenian diplomacy to more clearly define its objectives.

Yossi Sarid

Member of Knesset
Israel



Yossi Sarid is a journalist, writing a regular column for the Ha'aretz daily newspaper, as well as numerous articles for the local and international press. He received his M.A. in Political Science from the New School for Social Research in New York.

Since 1974, Mr. Sarid has been a Member of the Knesset, and served on the following committees: Education and Culture (1974-77), House (1974-92), and Foreign Affairs and Defence (1977-92). He has also served as the chairman of the Meretz Knesset faction (1992). He served as Minister of the Environment from January 1993, until June 1996; and in 2000, as Minister of Education. Mr. Sarid, who today heads the Meretz party, is currently a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and the Immigration and Absorption Committee.

Mr. Sarid's presentation is titled Israel's position regarding the Armenian Genocide. Mr. Sarid offers a critical view of the Israeli official position with respect to the Armenian Genocide. Mr. Sarid is the first and only Israeli official to openly participate in the commemoration of the Armenian Genocide and call for its recognition.

William Schabas

Professor, National University of Ireland, Galway
Ireland



William Schabas is the director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights at the National University of Ireland, Galway, where he holds the professorship in human rights law. An expert on international criminal law, he is the author of several books including the authoritative **Genocide in International Law**, published in English by Cambridge University Press and in German (Genozid im Völkerrecht). Professor Schabas recently served as a member of the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He is an honorary professor of human rights law at the Law Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing.

Mr. Schabas' presentation is titled The 'Odious Scourge': Evolving Interpretations of the Crime of Genocide. After being virtually stagnant for several decades, from the time the definition of genocide was codified in December 1948 in the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, in recent years there have been important and even dramatic developments in the interpretation of the norm. In particular, recent judgments of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda have provided important clarifications of such issues as the nature of the groups protected by the Convention, the meaning of 'in part', and the distinction between genocide and ethnic cleansing.



Roger W. Smith

Professor
College of William and Mary
USA

Roger W. Smith is professor emeritus of government at the College of William and Mary in Virginia. He has written widely on the nature, history, and prevention of genocide. He is co-founder and past president of the International Association of Genocide Scholars. Professor Smith is director of the Zoryan Institute's Genocide and Human Rights University Program and chair of Zoryan's Academic Advisory Board.

Mr. Smith's presentation is titled *The Significance of the Armenian Genocide after Ninety Years*. The Armenian Genocide continues to have major implications nearly a century after it was enacted: knowledge of how and why genocides are committed, how they may be prevented, the culture of impunity, continuing denial and its consequences, and possible steps toward conciliation between Turkey and Armenia at the state level.



Gregory Stanton

Professor
Mary Washington College
USA

Gregory Stanton is the James Farmer Professor of Human Rights at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and is the President of Genocide Watch and Director of the Cambodian Genocide Project.

Mr. Stanton has worked on human rights issues since 1960. He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Ivory Coast, Africa and as the Church World Service/CARE Field Director in Cambodia in 1980. He has received his degrees from Oberlin College, Harvard Divinity School, and Yale Law School, and a Doctorate in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Chicago.

Mr. Stanton has been a Law Professor at Washington and Lee and American Universities and the University of Swaziland. He was a legal advisor to the Ukrainian independence movement. He served in the State Department from 1992 to 1999, where he wrote the United Nations resolutions that created the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Mr. Stanton was a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars from 2001 to 2002.

Mr. Stanton's presentation is titled *Factors Facilitating and Impeding Genocide*

DISCUSSANTS

John Torpey

Associate Professor
Univ. of British Columbia
Canada



John Torpey received his B.A. in Political Science from Amherst College, and his M.A. (1987) and Ph.D. (1992) in Sociology from the University of California, at Berkeley. He is Associate Professor of Sociology and European Studies at the University of British Columbia.

Mr. Torpey's presentation is titled *Dynamics of Denial: Coming to Terms with the Past in Turkey and Japan*. The presentation will explore the reticence about coming to terms with past atrocities that is widely held to characterize contemporary Turkey and Japan, with an eye toward understanding the extent to which they maintain their stances vis-à-vis past wrongdoing and why they do so. The discussion considers the particularities of the misdeeds in each case; the problematic application of the terms "genocide" and "holocaust"; and the extent and nature of domestic and external pressures for "coming to terms with the past" in each country. Finally, Mr. Torpey will seek to draw lessons for the future from these two cases.

Kevork Bardakjian

Professor, University of Michigan
USA

Born in Beirut, Kevork Bardakjian received an undergraduate degree in Armenian Studies at Yerevan State University in 1969; and a Ph.D. in Armenian Studies at Oxford University, United Kingdom in 1979. He taught Armenian Studies at Harvard University, from 1974 to 1987; and at the University of Michigan, from 1987 to present. He is the Director of the Armenian Studies Program at the University of Michigan; and the Director of Graduate Studies at the Department of Near Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan. He has authored six books, including **Hitler and the Armenian Genocide**. His main interests are literature, history, church history, identity, and genocide. He is fluent in six languages and has a passive knowledge of five.

Ruth Barnett

UK Council of Psychotherapists
UK



Born in Berlin, Ruth Barnet is a Holocaust survivor who arrived in England at the age of four on the Kindertransport program. She worked as a teacher for nineteen years and then retrained as a psychotherapist. She has been a practicing psychotherapist for twenty-five years and for the last five years has been appearing at schools as a live witness in Holocaust education programs. She has worked with survivors, both as individuals and in groups. She has presented a number of papers and held seminars on the theme of genocide

Mrs. Barnet believes that the only possibility for containing violence is through education about the differences, prejudices and fears that lead to aggression and ultimately genocide. "As a Jew I consider Jews to have an important part to play in insisting that the longest genocide in history should be ended by modern Turkey fully owning up to the genocide that their ancestors perpetrated on the Armenian community in 1915. I see this not so much as a problem of the Armenians but a problem of the whole family of nations, especially Turkey, to acknowledge and then mourn and memorialize this tragic loss to humanity".

Jussi Flemming Bjorn

Armenian-Norwegian Cultural Organization
Norway

Born in Stockholm, Jussi Flemming Bjorn works as a sales manager at Hydro Texaco AS, a major energy resources company in Norway. He is active in the Armenian - Norwegian Cultural Organization.

Mr. Bjorn's interest and search of his own origins propelled him to research the life of Bodil Catharina Bjorn (1871-1960), who had adopted his Armenian father. An active missionary, Bodil Catharina Bjorn had worked in Asia Minor, Armenia and Syria from 1905 to 1934. In cooperation with the young director Magnus Swärd Jordheim and producer Kjell Eriksen, they now are in the preparatory stage of making a film about this woman pioneer and missionary and her encounter with the first Genocide in modern times.

Vicken Cheterian

Program Director
CIMERA
Swiss

Born in Beirut, Mr. Cheterian is a journalist who since 1992 has been covering post-Soviet and Middle East affairs for various European newspapers and journals. He has focused on democracy and conflicts in the Caucasus (Karabakh, Abkhazia, both Osset wars and Chechnya), Russia and Central Asia. Mr. Cheterian is particularly interested in the phenomenon of mass trauma and national mobilization. In the case of Armenia, he has examined the role and legacy of the Genocide on the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict. He has established and is the Program Director for the Caucasus Media Institute in Yerevan.

Hrant Dink

Editor
Agos Weekly
Istanbul

Hrant Dink was born in 1954 in Malatia, Turkey. He frequented various Armenian secondary schools in Istanbul. Thereafter, he studied Philosophy at the Istanbul University. While at the university, Dink had become sympathetic with the Turkish leftist movement, as a result of which he was often persecuted by Turkish law enforcement agencies and on several occasions even jailed.

In 1996, Mr. Dink became editor-in-chief of the Agos Weekly, a bilingual publication in Armenian and Turkish. He frequently participates in political and scientific conferences and forums in Turkey and other countries. He has been particularly active in the media in Turkey on issues related to minorities and the Armenian community. He has provided testimonials on the Armenian Genocide at the Turkish and European parliaments.



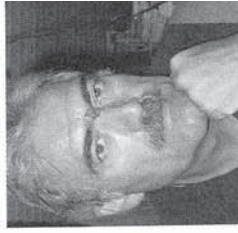
Salpy Eskidjian

Consultant
Switzerland

Based in Geneva, Switzerland Salpy Eskidjian is an independent consultant on international affairs, human security, peace and reconciliation. From 1995 to 2004 she served as Program Executive for International Affairs, Peace and Human Security of the Commission of Churches on International Affairs (CCIA) within the World Council of Churches, where she was responsible for the Middle East region and peace building and disarmament globally. From 2001 to 2002 Ms. Eskidjian initiated and formed the WCC Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI) and served as its International Executive Coordinator until February 2005.

She has a degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice from The George Washington University in Washington, DC, United States, a certificate on Diplomacy and Human Rights from the University of New South Wales, Australia, and a Special Graduate degree on Development, Law and Social Justice from the Institute for Social Studies in the Hague, Netherlands. She is fluent in Armenian, Greek, English and knows basic French.

For 15 years Ms. Eskidjian has been working on human rights, impunity, peace and reconciliation issues in the Middle East and with the World Council of Churches (WCC) Commission of the Churches on International Affairs. Within the WCC Programme to Overcome Violence, she has coordinated an international campaign on peace and reconciliation working with different groups against impunity, for truth, peace and reconciliation, drafted the framework and basis of the Decade to Overcome Violence: Churches Seeking Peace and Reconciliation, given numerous lectures, commissioned international studies and books, run workshops on non-violence, disarmament, peace and reconciliation.



Marcello Flores

Professor
University of Siena
Italy

Marcello Flores is Professor of Comparative History and Contemporary History at the University of Siena, where he is also the coordinator of the Master's Program in Human Rights and Humanitarian Action. He has organized four international conferences: "The Myth of the USSR" (Cortona 1989); "Collective Identity and Historical Memory" (Warsaw-Siena 1994); "The Totalitarian Experience in the Twentieth Century" (Siena 1997); and "History, Truth, Justice: the XXth Century and its Crimes" (Siena, 2000).

His latest publications include: **Tutta la violenza di un secolo** (All the Violence of a Century), 2005; **Il secolo-mondo. Storia del Novecento** (The Century-World. History of the XXth Century), 2002; and **Verità senza vendetta. L'esperienza della Commissione sudafricana per la verità e la riconciliazione** (Truth without Vengeance. The Experience of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa), 1999.

He is a member of the Scientific Committee responsible for the publication of the Italian diplomatic papers on Armenia. He is a member of the Scientific Committee and Editorial Board of the upcoming four-volume **History of the Shoah**, to be published by Utet, where he will also author an essay on genocides in the twentieth century. He is currently writing **History of Armenian Genocide** for il Mulino, an Italian publisher. He participates in seminars at the Genocide Studies Program at Yale University and at the Genocide Prevention Seminar at Columbia University.



Tessa Hoffman

PhD, Freie University Berlin
Germany

Tessa Hofmann studied at the Department of Slavonic Languages and Literature, as well as Armenian studies and sociology at the Freie Universität Berlin. From 1974 to 1975 she carried out her post-graduate research at the State Universities of St. Petersburg, Yerevan and Tbilisi in the former Soviet Union; and completed her doctoral thesis in 1982.

Ms. Hofmann is the author of 13 books on Armenian history and culture. She is an honorary member of the Armenian community of Berlin (1992) and of the Central Council of Armenians in Germany (2000). She is an honorary professor at the Hrachia Ajarian University, Yerevan (2002). In 2003 she was awarded the Fridtjof Nansen Medal of the National Museum and Institute of the Armenian Genocide. She is the author of the book **Persecution, Expulsion and Annihilation of the Christian population in the Ottoman Empire, 1912-22**.

Ms. Hofmann is a member of the International Society for Threatened Peoples and co-founder of its Coordination Group Armenia since 1979. In 2000/2001 she was coordinator of the working group "Affirmation", which appealed to the German Parliament for Recognition of the Genocide of the Armenians. She is chairperson of the reorganized Working Group "Affirmation" - Against Genocide, for Reconciliation. She is an active participant in the international initiative "Speaking with one voice!" that combines Armenian, Assyrian/Aramean and Greek efforts for the recognition of Genocide claims.

Dikran Kouymjian

Professor, Director of Armenian studies Program
California State University, Fresno
USA

Dikran Kouymjian holds the Haig & Isabel Berberian Chair of Armenian Studies and is the Director of Armenian Studies at California State University at Fresno. He holds a Ph.D. in Armenian Studies from Columbia University. Professor Kouymjian has taught at Columbia University, the American University of Beirut, the American University in Cairo and the American University of Paris. In 1987 he was a Fulbright Senior Lecturer at Erevan State University. He has held the Armenian Chair at the Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (INALCO) of the University of Paris, and the William Saroyan Chair of Armenian Studies at U.C. Berkeley.

His publications include a dozen books on Armenian history, art, and literature and scores of scholarly articles, most recently a vast and definitive Album of Armenian Palaeography. Mr. Kouymjian's published works on the Armenian genocide have centered on the destruction of Armenian historical monuments and the confiscation of Armenian property, including "Destruction des monuments historiques arméniens, poursuite de la politique de génocide" (Destruction of Armenian Historical Monuments: Consequence of the Policy of Genocide), Le Crime de Silence, 1984.

Gerard J. Libaridian

Professor
University of Michigan
USA



Gerard Libaridian currently holds the Alex Manoogian Chair in Modern Armenian History at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He specializes in Armenia, the Caucasus, and the Near East. From 1991 to 1997, Dr. Libaridian served as adviser, and then senior adviser to the former President of Armenia, Levon Ter-Petrossian, as First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (1993-1994). He taught previously at a number of universities, and has lectured and written extensively. His most recent works are **Modern Armenia. People. Nation. State** (2004) and **The Challenge of Statehood. Armenian Political Thinking since Independence** (1999).

Giro Manoyan

ARF
Armenia



Born in Lebanon, Giro Manoyan studied political science at Concordia University, in Montreal, Canada. From 1982 to 1989 he served as Executive Director of the Armenian National Committee of Canada. From 1989 to 1991 he worked as Assistant Editor of the Canadian-Armenian Horizon Weekly, and from 1991 to 1999 as Editor of Horizon Weekly. Since 2000, he is the Director of the International Secretariat of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaksutyun Bureau.



Micheline Aharonian Marcom

Writer
USA

Micheline Aharonian Marcom is the author of *Three Apples Fell From Heaven* which was a 2001 New York Times Notable Book of the Year, a Los Angeles Times and Washington Post Best Book of 2001, and was Runner-up for the PEN/Hemingway Award. Her second novel, *The Daydreaming Boy*, was released in 2004 and was named a best book of 2004 by the Los Angeles Times and the San Francisco Chronicle. She was a recipient of the 2004 Lannan Literary Fellowship.

She is working on a trilogy of novels that take as their subject the Armenian Genocide and its aftermath. Her first novel, *Three Apples Fell From Heaven*, attempted to represent the Genocide as it was occurring in the Anatolian towns of Kharpert and Mezre in Ottoman Turkey during the years 1915 - 1917. The second novel, *The Daydreaming Boy*, followed the life of an Armenian war orphan and refugee in Beirut, Lebanon in the post-war years and inquired into questions of memory, trauma, and exile for the second generation survivors of the Genocide. She is currently at work on the third novel which takes place in Los Angeles and Guatemala, and in part explores the themes of loneliness and violence in the Americas, and of being cut off from one's origin and one's history.



Levon H. Mkrtchian

National Academy of Sciences of Armenia,
Institute of History Ph. D.

Born in Lebanon, Giro Manoyan studied political science at Concordia University, in Montreal, Canada. From 1982 to 1989 he served as Executive Director of the Armenian National Committee of Canada. From 1989 to 1991 he worked as Assistant Editor of the Canadian-Armenian *Horizon Weekly*, and from 1991 to 1999 as Editor of *Horizon Weekly*. Since 2000, he is the Director of the International Secretariat of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaksutyun Bureau.

Baskin Oran

Professor
University of Ankara
Turkey



Baskin Oran graduated in 1968 from the Faculty of Political Science, at Ankara University. Since 1969, Mr. Oran works as a Professor of International Relations at Ankara University. He has authored fourteen books. His main subjects of interest are nationalism and minorities, and Turkish foreign policy.

Giancarlo Pagliarini

Member of Italian Parliament
Italy



Giancarlo Pagliarini studied in Catolica University, where he earned a degree in economics. He is an independent auditor since 1967, first with Arthur Andersen and then with Giancarlo Pagliarini & Partners. Since 1992, he is a member of the Italian parliament since 1992. In 1994, Mr. Pagliarini served as Italy's Finance Minister.

Mr. Pagliarini is actively engaged in the issue of recognition of the Armenian Genocide in Italy and in Europe. On March 30, 2000 he wrote a letter to all the Presidents of the National Parliaments of Europe, urging them to recognize to Armenian Genocide. He was also the initiator of a declaration of the Italian Parliament recognizing the Armenian genocide, under which 145 MPs signed. On June 13, 2001, taking into account his great contribution in the pursuit of the recognition of Armenian genocide by the Italian Parliament, the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia awarded him the title of Honorary Doctor of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia.

Kourken Sarkissian

President, Zoryan Institute
USA

Mr. Sarkissian was born on November 18, 1948. He is a Canadian businessman. After graduating from the University of California in 1972, he joined the family business. He is the founder and president of the following companies: Servocraft Limited Canada (since 1982), Byron Hill Corporation (since 1985) Marlboro, NJ & Toronto Canada, and Yorkbridge Plastics Packaging, YPNE (1996) Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

As an active businessman and philanthropist, he is a founding member of the Zoryan Institute for Contemporary Armenian Research and Documentation (1982), and President since 1995. Since 1982, he has been devoted to providing strategic direction to the Institute. The Zoryan Institute is the first non-profit, international center devoted to the research and documentation of contemporary issues related to Armenia, the Armenian Genocide, and Diaspora, within a universal context.

He is the founder of the International Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies (2001), which runs an annual course called the Genocide and Human Rights University Program. The mission of the Genocide and Human Rights University Program is to help develop a new generation of scholars to engage in research and publication in the field of genocide and human rights studies. The program strives to show, through the study and sharing of the genocidal traumas of many peoples, that genocide is a universal human experience and that, as such, it must be the concern of all individuals and institutions.

He is a founder and sustaining sponsor since 1991 of **Diaspora: A Journal of Transnational Studies**. This journal is devoted to providing a forum for the analysis of the challenges that people in Diaspora face in relationship with their host state and their homeland.

Hiroyoshi Segawa

Professor of Law
Aichi Sangyo University
Japan



In 1973, Hiroyoshi Segawa graduated from doctoral course of Kansai University Graduate School where he had majored in International Human Rights Law. He is currently a professor of law at Aichi Sangyo University in Japan.

In his early career, he focused on research into the elaboration of the Articles of the Genocide Convention itself. Later, he has devoted himself to the study of the Armenian Genocide from the viewpoint of a jurist. Mr. Segawa is the pioneer of research into the Armenian Genocide in Japan.



Ronald Suny

Professor
University of Chicago
USA

Ronald Suny is currently Professor of Political Science and History at the University of Chicago. He is a graduate of Swarthmore College and Columbia University, he taught at Oberlin College (1968-1981), as visiting professor of history at the University of California, Irvine (1987), and Stanford University (1995-1996). He was the first holder of the Alex Manoogian Chair in Modern Armenian History at the University of Michigan (1981-1995), where he founded and directed the Armenian Studies Program. Mr. Suny has been elected President of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies for the year 2005. Among his books, he has authored **The Baku Commune, 1917-1918: Class and Nationality in the Russian Revolution**, 1972; 1983; **The Making of the Georgian Nation**, 1988, 1994; **Looking Toward Ararat: Armenia in Modern History**, 1993; **The Revenge of the Past: Nationalism, Revolution, and the Collapse of the Soviet Union**, 1993; and **The Soviet Experiment: Russia, the USSR, and the Successor States**, 1998). He is also the editor of **Transcaucasia, Nationalism and Social Change: Essays in the History of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia**, 1983, 1996 and **The Structure of Soviet History: Essays and Documents**, 2003. He is currently working on a study of the young Stalin and the formation of the Soviet Union and a series of essays on empire and nations. Mr. Suny organized and ran the Workshop on Armenian Turkish Scholarship, which has held four conferences bringing Armenian, Turkish, and other scholars together to discuss the Armenian Genocide.



Samuel Totten

University of Arkansas
USA

Samuel Totten specializes in the prevention and intervention of genocide. His articles on intervention and prevention have appeared in *Journal of Genocide Research*, *Society, Human Rights Review*, and *Aegis Journal of Genocide Research*. Totten is the chief editor of **Century of Genocide: Critical Essays and Eyewitness Testimony**, 2004; managing editor of **Genocide: A Critical Bibliographic Review**, and is currently editing, with Eric Markusen, a book on the Darfur Atrocities Documentation Project. This past summer Totten was one of 24 investigators sent to Chad by the U.S. State Department to interview refugees from Darfur, Sudan, in order to collect data for the express purpose of ascertaining whether genocide was being perpetrated in Darfur.

Michele Wegner

Armin T. Wegner Society
Italy



Michele Wegner was born in Rome in 1941, following his father's departure from Germany for being against the Nazi regime. He earned a degree at the German College in Rome, and later studied to become an architect. He has worked for various construction companies in Italy and Germany, and is currently working on a reconstruction project at the US Embassy in Rome. He is interested in solutions in the spheres of energy, bio-fuel and wind energy.

Boghos Levon Zekiyan

Ca' Foscari University, Venice
Italy

Boghos Levon Zekiyan heads the Chair of Armenian Language and Literature at Ca' Foscari University in Venice, and is Professor of the Armenian Church Institutions at the Pontifical Oriental Institute of Rome. Since 1986, he is the founder and director of Ca' Foscari University's Summer Intensive Course in Armenian language and culture. Listed among the Cambridge-based International Biographical Centre's 2000 Outstanding Scholars of the 21st Century, he is the author of numerous books, monographs and of more than one hundred fifty scholarly articles; among them: **The first steps of modern Armenian Theatre and the movement of Armenian Rebirth. A syncretical approach**, 1975 (in Arm.); **Mekhitar of Sebaste, New illuminator and Precursor**, 1977 (in Arm.); **An ecumenical dialogue in the 12th century. The negotiations between Saint Ners's Snorhali and the Imperial Legate Theodoranos in view of the union of the Armenian and Byzantine Churches**, 1978 (in Arm.); **Humanism. Conceptual contents and historical roots**, 1981 (in Turkish); **The Armenian Way to Modernity. Armenian Identity Between Tradition and Innovation, Specificity and Universality**, 1997; **The Mosaic of Identity**, 2001 (in Arm.); **At the Search of Spirituality and of Roots**, 2001 (in Arm.); **Armenian History and Identity. Comments between the Lines**, 2001 (in Arm.).

Ashot Melkonian

Director, Institute of History,
National Academy of Sciences
Armenia

Ashot Melkonian was born on February 16, 1961 in Akhalkaki. Graduated cum laude from the History department of Yerevan State University (YSU). In 1985, completed post-graduate course at the YSU Armenian History chair. In 1989, Mr. Melkonian received his Ph.D.

Since 1986, he has worked at the History Institute of the Armenian National Academy of Sciences, first as a junior staff member, then researcher, scientific secretary, and finally, deputy director. In 2002, Ashot Melkonian received his Doctorate, and the same year he became the new director of the History Institute.

Prof. Melkonian's scientific interest lies in such areas as Western Armenia, the Armenian Question, the Armenian genocide, the history of Javakhk, the Armenian-Georgian relations, as well as issues pertaining to historiography of the Armenian people. Prof. Melkonian's authored 6 books and about 150 scientific papers, published in Armenia, the US, England, France, Georgia, Lebanon, Egypt, Iran, Argentina in a variety of languages.

For his outstanding contribution to historiography, President Kocharian awarded Prof. Melkonian the Movses Khorenatsi medal.

Ragip Zarakolu

Publisher, Human Rights Activist, Belge International Publishing House
Turkey

Ragip Zarakolu was born on July 30, 1942, in (on) Beuyuk Ada, as his father had been appointed Governor of the Istanbul Island province. He spent his childhood living among Armenians, Greeks, and Jews. His mother, who had witnessed the Armenian genocide, told him all about it.

A cofounder of the Human Rights Association (IHD), Mr. Zarakolu is currently responsible for the organization's foreign relations. He is also among the founders of the IHD-affiliated "Commission on the Protection of the Rights of Minorities," together with his wife, Ajshe Nour Zarakolu owns and manages the **International Document** publication. He is Chairman of the "Freedom to Publish" commission of the Union of Turkish Publishers; as well as editor-in-chief and general director of the Turkish **Oguz Bakis** (Independent View) daily.