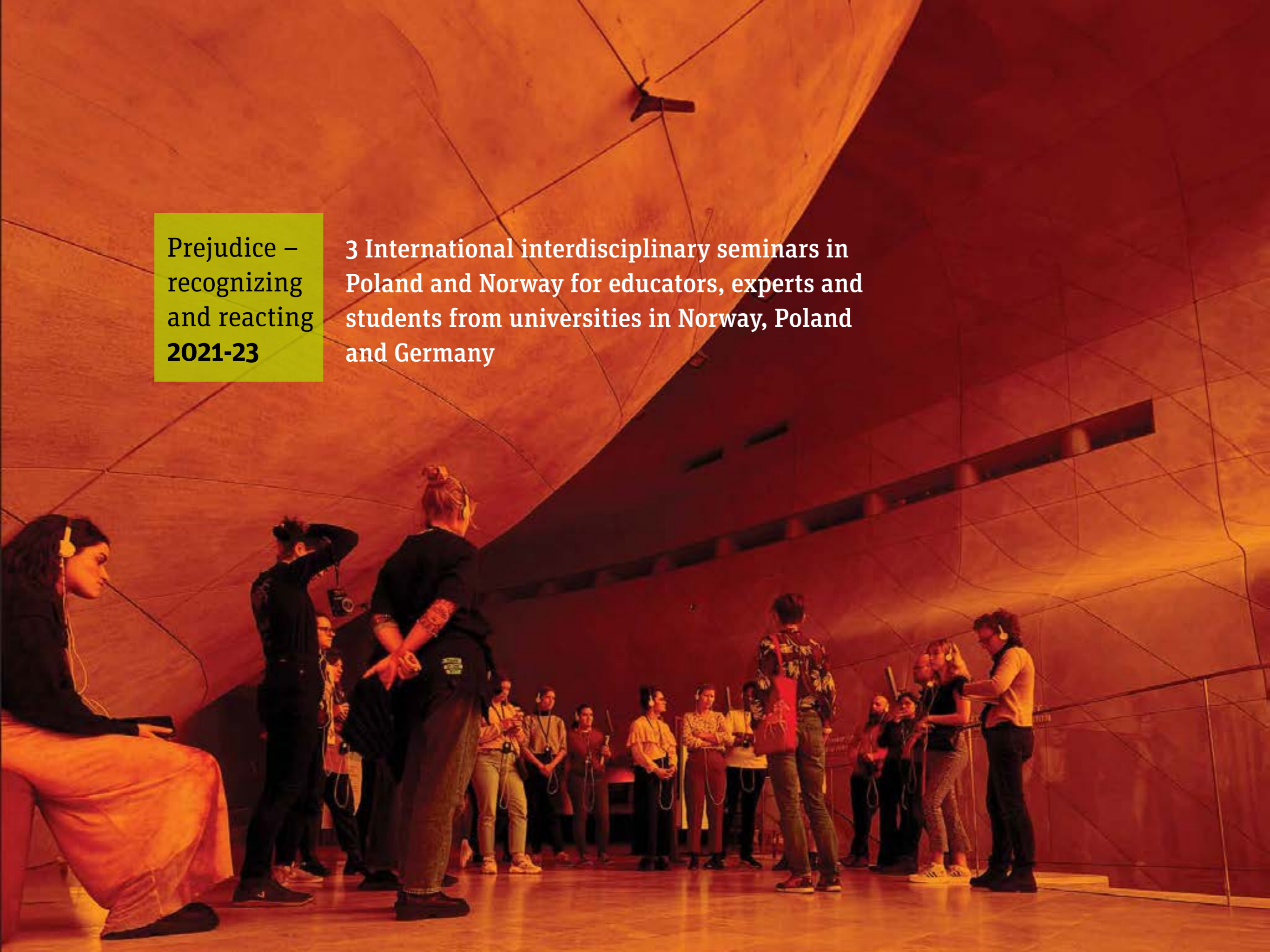


**Prejudice –
recognizing
and reacting
2021-23**

**3 International interdisciplinary seminars in
Poland and Norway for educators, experts and
students from universities in Norway, Poland
and Germany**



The 3 international interdisciplinary seminars were designed and organized within Jewish Cultural Heritage project by the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and Falstad Centre together with an international group of experts.

“The multinational topics of racism and antisemitism have been discussed through the lens of (inter) national case studies from a superficial perspective. What was interesting were the different ideas that students from various disciplines came up with to combat this kind of discrediting and discrimination. By actively contributing to individual project ideas, sensitivity to these issues was heightened, and knowledge was deepened.”

*Xenia, 2022
Freie Universität Berlin*



The goal of the seminars was to reflect on social memory and to network educators, experts and students from Norway, Poland and Germany.

The POLIN Museum and the Falstad Centre have invited for working on this project an international group of experts and higher education lecturers from Poland, Norway and Germany. Together they have planned the seminars, organized them and actively participated in them.

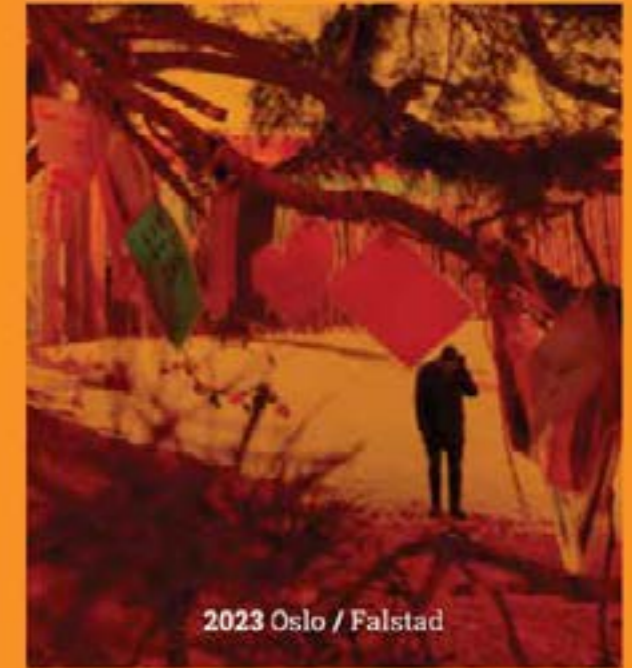
The international group of experts were already very experienced within the field of social memory – they have conducted several student workshops and seminar activities related to the topic of Holocaust in Lodz, Sztutowo and Riga in the years 2016-2019.

Three international interdisciplinary seminars, known as “Prejudice - recognizing and reacting” took place from



2021 until 2023 in Poland and Norway. The seminars “Prejudice - recognizing and reacting” were conducted by experts from the POLIN Museum and Falstad Centre and by educators from Bergen, Volda, Hamburg, Berlin, Warsaw and Wroclaw* in Warsaw in 2021 (without students due to the Covid19 situation), both with students in Warsaw in 2022 and in 2023 in: Oslo/Utøya (module 1) and Falstad (module 2). The seminars are covered in this publication and will also be presented on a congress at Polin Museum in October 2023.

Whilst Holocaust memory culture has long relied on witness descriptions which now gradually disappear, communicating the memory includes a transition from lived culture to the culture of experts and mediated communication. At the same time, the impact of legacy



media is changing, the habits of young people’s use of media are in a flux and the political European landscape can be considered challenging. Antisemitism and racism have not only been part of history, but are very much contemporary phenomena we are facing in all forms throughout our societies.

In the international, interdisciplinary seminars, we are dealing with communicating sensitive topics (Holocaust, antisemitism, racism) to younger generations and observing how young university students from within the fields of media, art, design, communication and psychology approach this communication challenge. The students in this project developed ideas and concepts in a short period of time, based on research, lectures, exhibitions, presentations, group working and coaching.



Irmgard Zündorf
FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN



Kathrin Lemme
HMS HAMBURG MEDIA SCHOOL



Thomas Lewé
VOLDA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE



Hilde Kramer
UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

THE SUPERVISORS:

The workshop supervisors are multi disciplinary experts from a variety of European universities covering the fields of film studies, public history, design, psychology and journalism.

They are multinational individuals from the following organisations: Volda University College (Norway), the University of Bergen (Norway), SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Wrocław, the University of Warsaw (Poland), the Hamburg Media School (Germany) and the Centre for Contemporary History/Free University of Berlin (Germany).

The supervisors were supported by colleagues from the Falstad Center (Norway) and the POLIN Museum (Poland).



Krzysztof Moszczyński
SWPS WROCLAW



Kamila Zochniak
UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW



Jon Harman
VOLDA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE



Sebastian Klein
FALSTAD CENTER NORWAY



Christina Svarva
FALSTAD CENTER NORWAY



Magdalena Dopieralska
POLIN MUSEUM WARSAW



Malgorzata Waszczuk
POLIN MUSEUM WARSAW



Joanna Longfors
POLIN MUSEUM WARSAW



2021 WARSAW 08th to 10th October
1st International Interdisciplinary Seminar

2021 WARSAW 08th to 10th October

Prejudice – recognizing and reacting

Our first seminar was held in October 2021 at the Polin Museum in Warsaw, Poland.

The cooperation about interdisciplinary and international seminars has been established between the Polin Museum, Falstad Centre, Volda University College, Freie Universität Berlin, SWPS Wrocław, University of Warsaw and Hamburg Me-

dia School in 2020, when we just finalized “Jewish Cultural Heritage” project for 2020-2024

Due to the worldwide Corona restrictions in the years 2020-2021, the plans for our

cooperation were both postponed and adjusted. The decision to finally start this project in 2021 was made with the Corona regulations still around, therefore, our first official seminar took place in Warsaw with all the involved experts, but without students. We decided to use this seminar for planning the students activities in 2022 and 2023 carefully. We invited guest speakers, visited exhibitions and had many relevant discussions around the seminar topic “Memory Dialogues on Antisemitism and Racism”. The main goals were to get to know each other, to familiarize participants with the methods and resources of the POLIN Museum related to antisemitism, prejudice and discrimination, to create a space to discuss the seminar for students in 2022 and 2023 and to learn about current research and projects on antisemitism from Germany, Norway and Poland.

DAY 1 Friday

We started with short presentations of all participants, before guides and teachers from the POLIN Museum presented their activities and experiences in their programs on antisemitism, prejudice and anti-discrimination (K. Dąbrowska, M. Jastrząb, M. Koszyńska). In the afternoon, we visited the temporary exhibition “Wilhelm Sasnal: such a landscape”

(guided tour by K.Jankowska), before a discussion on a publication from the seminar lead by the Falstad Center rounded up the official part of day 1.

DAY 2 Saturday

Visiting the main exhibition along the anti-Judaist / anti-Semitic theme (guided tour by D. Mańka-Wizor), followed by a meeting with a curator (F.Zakrzewski) of the post-war gallery. After a lunch break, Professor M. Bilewicz presented the Center for Research on Prejudice (CBnU) and gave us an update on the research on antisemitism in European context. Thereafter, we were presented Hejtstop’s activities in Poland and Europe, followed by a discussion with all participants.

DAY 3 Sunday

We summarized this seminar, and for the rest of the day before everybody’s departure, we discussed and gathered the inspiration for seminars in 2022 and 2023.



Photo by memorydialogues.com



2022 WARSAW 22nd to 29th October
2nd International Interdisciplinary Seminar

2022 WARSAW 22nd to 29th October

Prejudice – recognizing and reacting

The second seminar was held in October 2022 in Warsaw, Poland. 26 students and 9 experts from Germany, Norway and Poland participated.

DAY 1 Sunday

The workshop officially began on Sunday morning at the POLIN Museum's education center after a welcoming dinner and introductions on Saturday. Participants, lecturers, and coordinators introduced

themselves, sharing their educational backgrounds and motivations for engaging with antisemitism and racism topics. The goal was for an interdisciplinary, productive process with valuable outcomes for POLIN. We received brief introduc-



phot.M.Starowieyska/Museum of the History of Polish Jews

tions about both the POLIN Museum and the Falstad Center in Norway. The POLIN Museum's focus is on the history of Jews in Poland, including anti-discrimination programs. We had the afternoon to explore the museum's exhibitions, with a specific focus on "storytelling in museum contexts." We examined our impressions, emotions, and reasons for these reactions, later discussing our findings in groups for presentation the next day.

DAY 2 Monday

In the morning, we discussed our impressions of the POLIN Museum, focusing on the design and interactive elements. Head unit Małgorzata Bogdańska-Krzyżanek

Students 2022: Bethel Britto, Liv Tveide Lilleslett, Mohamed A. Abukar, Stella Sofia Hag [Volda University College] Thale Meisfjord, Signe Wohlfeil, Linda Karia Løvheim [University of Bergen] Aleksandra Mikołajczyk, Kalina Zalewska, Julia Radzikowska, Małgorzata Kopycka [University of Warsaw] Kaja Wojciechowska, Gabriela Cieślak, Maria Olech, Alicja Polak [SWPS Wrocław] Liska Toppe, Phoebe Genschow, Stefan Tobias Strietzel, Merle Alisa J. Kluge, Ines Schröder, Anna Reinert, Xenia Rachmann, Ida Hattenberger [Freie Universität Berlin]

Supervisors 2022: Irmgard Zündorf [Freie Universität Berlin], Krzysztof Moszczyński [SWPS Wrocław], Hilde Kramer [University of Bergen], Kamila Zochniak [University of Warsaw], Jon Harman [Volda University College], Thomas Lewe [Volda University College], Sebastian Klein [Falstadsenteret], Magdalena Dopieralska [Polin Museum], Joanna Longfors [Polin Museum], Małgorzata Waszczuk [Polin Museum]

introduced us to contemporary artists collaborating with the museum, many of whom draw inspiration from its collection. We had the opportunity to view unique items from the museum, such as a tie named "Polish tie [Christian] Company" from the 1930s, and a brooch made from a coin from the Łódź ghetto in the 1940s. We also learned how to use the museum's digital collection and online archive.

We received a professional guided tour by Dagmara Manka-Wizor through the POLIN Museum's permanent exhibition, focusing on the presentation of antisemitism. We explored how anti Judaism and antisemitism has evolved over time and how to effectively present them. Given our interdisciplinary and international group, we shared country-specific perspectives on antisemitism, racism, and hate speech through short presentations from each university.

Prof. Dr. Michał Bilewicz also discussed how various Central European countries address prejudice against Jewish individuals and highlighted the interconnectedness of sexism, racism, antisemitism, homophobia, and anti-Muslim attitudes. Additionally, we delved into the prevalence of conspiracy theories in Polish politics.



phot.M.Starowieyska/Museum of the History of Polish Jews

DAY 3 Tuesday

We discussed both the guided exhibition tour and the workshop as a whole. Participants shared their thoughts on the tour, what stood out to them, and any preferences for improvements.

Overall, the workshop received positive feedback, especially regarding lectures from individuals connected to the museum and the topics of antisemitism, racism, and hate speech. Following the discussion, the final lecture was delivered by a researcher Jacek Mazurczak, who presented three examples of actions against hate speech. Two of these examples had a comedic twist, such as turning a neo-Nazi demonstration in Germany into a charity walk against hate speech. The third example involved a video featuring individuals affected by hate speech, including a mother who lost her son due to hate speech-induced suicide.

We then engaged in small group work using the Gamma method, analyzing the goals, audience, message, messenger, media, and monitoring/evaluation for the last example.

DAY 4 Wednesday

We formed mixed groups comprising students from various disciplines and

countries to embark on the primary workshop task: generating project ideas centered around racism, antisemitism, and contemporary prejudices. The project could take various forms, such as an area, virtual space, educational material, or a campaign within or for the POLIN Museum.

Following initial brainstorming within the groups, we engaged in a coaching session with our supervisors to address challenges and refine our project ideas.

DAY 5 + 6 Thursday + Friday

On Thursday, two groups each presented their preliminary results and challenges to one another and the supervisors, seeking input and feedback. Finally, on Friday, after additional group work, students presented their project concepts in its final version.



Photo by memorydialogues.com

Assignment:

Recognizing, dealing with, and preventing hate speech, antisemitism and racism is a growing concern for contemporary societies and communities. As brutalization in our society seems to increase in both the physical and digital world, the number of discriminating incidents related to hate speech, racism and antisemitism seems to grow accordingly. This comes not only from private persons, but also from public people, as we could currently see and hear. In this workshop, the students were asked to research on this topic, observe relevant societies and communities, and develop adequate concepts.

Group 1

Alicja Polak, Liv Tveide Lilleslett, Julia Radzikowska, Ida Hattenberger, Linda Karia Løvheim, Xenia Rachmann

They developed «**Mymate**», a project featuring a photobooth to be placed at the POLIN Museum. Visitors can take a photo and answer questions about their interests. Based on their responses, the booth suggests a “partner” with similar interests, allowing visitors to learn more about that person’s life story. These “partners” are volunteers from specific groups. The project aims to connect people and share their stories through photos and narratives.



[MY MATE](#)

Group 2

Stella Hag, Signe Wohlfeil, Aleksandra Mikołajczyk, Gabriela Cieślak, Merle Kluge, and Stefan Strietzel

This group developed a participatory exhibition «**Everyday Relics**» to showcase contemporary Jewish life in Poland. They noted a lack in the POLIN Museum’s existing exhibition, which mainly featured a video about Jewish life today. It also adds to a global issue where Jewish identity



phot.M.Starowieyska/Museum of the History of Polish Jews

is often reduced to the Holocaust and antisemitism, neglecting the diverse aspects of contemporary Jewish culture. Initially, their plan involved conducting video interviews linked to museum objects to illustrate their ongoing significance for Jewish individuals. However, recognizing their limited knowledge of present-day Jewish life in Poland and potential question biases, they transitioned to a process-oriented approach. They assumed the roles of facilitators, allowing members of the Jewish community to curate the exhibition themselves. Workshops with around 20 Jewish participants covered topics like museum objects, storytelling, and exhibition curation. Participants were encouraged to share personal items with meaningful stories, even if unrelat-

ed to Judaism, resulting in an evolving, community-driven exhibition. One of the project’s objectives is to raise awareness among viewers, particularly bystanders, about the prevalence of multiple forms of discrimination in Poland. The campaign encourages viewers to challenge their own biases against the featured groups. For those experiencing discrimination, the interactive map on the website provides a platform to connect with others facing similar issues, offering a first step toward empowerment.



[EVERYDAYRELICS](#)

Group 3

Mohamed A. Abukar, Malgorzata Kopycka, Anna Reinert, Liska Toppe, Kaja Wojciechowska

This group launched «**diverSEEtY**» to spotlight Poland’s cultural and ethnic diversity throughout history. The project addressed concerns related to stereotypes, taboos, and inadequate education about cultural and ethnic minorities, which fuel social polarization and dis-



Photo by memorydialogues.com

“This seminar was probably the most intense seminar I had until now. Not even a week, a lot of input, getting to know each other, working in international and interdisciplinary groups, finding common ground, getting along with your ideas not working, deadlines, drama and the surprise how well everything worked out in the end.”

Stefan 2022
Freie Universität Berlin

crimination. Their primary objective is to enhance high school students' awareness of cultural diversity in Poland. The project comprises three components: a traveling exhibition, workshops, and a video project. Scheduled from March 21, 2023, to March 21, 2024, with the POLIN Museum as the start and endpoint, the video project features interviews, lifestyle portraits, and dialogues with individuals from diverse minority communities in Poland, including Jewish, Roma, and Ukrainian groups. These videos are integral to workshops and a social media campaign, employing the hashtag #diverSEEtY and Instagram takeovers during the exhibition. The traveling exhibition, extending to various Polish regions, particularly rural areas, aiming to educate about historical and general aspects of minority life in Poland, underlining the nation's diverse heritage. To make learning engaging, the “actionbound” app would be utilized. Workshops would complement the main exhibition, empowering students to creatively showcase cultural and ethnic diversity through object creation, guided by local experts, professionals, and historians. Ultimately, the comprehensive exhibition, featuring the main exhibit, videos, and student-generated objects, will be showcased at the POLIN Museum as a temporary exhibition.



[EXHIBITION PROJECT](#)

Group 4

Bethel Britto, Thale Meisjord, Kalina Zalewska, Maria Olech, Phoebe Genschow, and Ines Schröder

This group developed the «**bez szuflad**» project, translating to “not labelling.” This initiative encompasses a nationwide poster campaign in Poland, addressing various forms of discrimination, including racism. The campaign directs viewers to an interactive website where they can either share their experiences with discrimination on an interactive map or explore different forms of discrimination. The website offers definitions of racism and delves into the history and daily life of discriminated groups in Poland. Animated video interviews with discriminated individuals in Poland cover topics such as discrimination and daily life, featuring Jewish people, Roma people, LGBTQI+ individuals, BIPOC, and refugees. The project's focus on showcasing diverse forms of discrimination is grounded in scientific data revealing that those who propagate

racism often exhibit other discriminatory tendencies. Consequently, the campaign addresses multiple forms of discrimination beyond racism, antisemitism, and homophobia. One of the project's objectives is to raise awareness among viewers, particularly bystanders, about the prevalence of multiple forms of discrimination in Poland. The campaign encourages viewers to challenge their own biases against the featured groups. For those experiencing discrimination, the interactive map on the website provides a platform to connect with others facing similar issues, offering a first step toward empowerment.



[BEZ SZUFLAD](#)

2023 OSLO / FALSTAD 5th to 11th March
3rd International Interdisciplinary Seminar



2023 OSLO / FALSTAD 5th to 11th March

Prejudice – recognizing and reacting

The third seminar was held in March 2023 in Oslo and Falstad, Norway. 26 students and 9 experts from Germany, Norway and Poland participated.

DAY 1 Sunday

We visited the Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies (HL-Senteret). HL-Senteret focuses on Holocaust, extremism, antisemitism, and minority issues.

Students 2023: Bethel Britto, Sophia Becker, Oyaro Laban Lekishon, Maria Chojnacka, Anway Bansod, Daria Krzemkowska [Volda University College] Haruna Inagaki, Nahid Daneshvar, Anders Hagen, Lara Brener [University of Bergen] Aleksandra Mikołajczyk, Kalina Zalewska, Julia Radzikowska, Małgorzata Kopycka, Valeriia Kalinnikova, Mariia Bilostotska [University of Warsaw] Paweł Kołtun, Maciej Wajler, Karolina Lizunow, Alicja Polak [SWPS Wrocław] Daniel Neumeier, Lisa Querner, Boris Ritzow, Alishya Tanoku [Freie Universität Berlin] Christina Reuter, Ronja Lauderback, Jennifer Nedlin [Hamburg Media School]

Supervisors 2023: Irmgard Zündorf [Freie Universität Berlin], Krzysztof Moszczyński [SWPS Wrocław], Hilde Kramer [University of Bergen], Kamila Zochniak [University of Warsaw], Kathrin Lemme [Hamburg Media School], Jon Harman [Volda University College], Thomas Lewé [Volda University College], Sebastian Klein [Falstadsenteret], Magdalena Dopieralska [Polin Museum], Joanna Longfors [Polin Museum], Christina Svarva [Falstadsenteret]

Housed in the former residence of fascist Prime Minister Vidkun Quisling, it explores the reappropriation of history. Professor Claudia Lenz, a researcher at HL-S, discussed how historical narratives shape collective memory, including Norway's

narrative of resistance against Quisling's regime. She highlighted a global memory emerging since the 1990s through culture, film, and museums. This laid the groundwork for our guided exhibition tour. "In/Visible: Everyday Racism in Norway" showcased subtle discrimination against minorities. The exhibit shared personal perspectives, historical context, and media's role in perpetuating racism. It aimed to spark discussions about discrimination and change perspectives, providing an insightful start to our trip.

DAY 2 Monday

The second day began with group presentations, bringing together students

from Poland, Norway, and Germany, as well as diverse backgrounds including Brazil, India, Iran, Japan, Kenya, and Poland. Some presentations highlighted political and social issues related to racism and antisemitism, including prejudice, homophobia, Anti-LGBTQI+ biases and Germany's history of racism and extremism. Others shared personal experiences of racism, from inappropriate questions to physical attacks, revealing the need for awareness, education, and allyship. We also visited the 22. Juli Senteret in Oslo, which educates about the 2011 attacks. The center sheds light on the events, state actions, and the ideology of the perpetrator, fostering reflection on



Photo by memorydialogues.com

“The Falstad Seminar was an eye-opening experience that allowed us to share our personal stories and perspectives while gaining insight into the various forms of discrimination within cultural and historical contexts.”

*Jennifer, 2023
Hamburg Media School*

“To understand how past and present come together in our personal lives, is quite difficult. I thought that meeting people from all over the world with their individual background and stories, hear them, discuss together, and think about how we can shape the future of society in a different way, will be an intense experience. But I didn’t expect such open-minded, respectful and honest encounters in this special atmosphere which formed my understanding of and willingness to hear people’s stories – the easy and the hard ones.”

*Lisa, 2023
Freie Universität Berlin*

conspiracy theories. This prepared us for our upcoming visit to Utøya, emphasizing the importance of countering extremism.

DAY 3 Tuesday

Our visit to Utøya brought mixed emotions. We watched “22 July” and read about racism in Norway, but nothing prepared us for the impact. After an introduction at the 22 July Center, we took a ferry to the island. In the new building named “torget,” we were welcomed, given a tour, and shown the island’s history, from political shifts to touching stories on the love path. The old cafeteria, where many victims perished, was the toughest spot, with text conversations and images evoking deep emotions. Outside, we saw 495 iron steles protecting 69 wooden ones, symbolizing survivors and victims. A circular memorial ensured equal remembrance. Leaving with heavy hearts, we appreciated the enrichment and the island’s role in political engagement. Utøya’s resilience and Norway’s increased political participation since 2011 represent progress.

DAY 4 Wednesday

We arrived at Falstad Center early in the morning after an overnight bus ride from Oslo. The program started later that day with an introduction by Sebastian Klein, the head of education. The Falstad Center,

established in 2000 and opened in 2006, educates about WWII imprisonment, humanitarian law, and human rights. The complex history dates back to 1921 as a reformatory school and later served as a camp for Norwegian political prisoners during the German occupation. It was also a forced labor camp after the war. Discussions covered colonialism’s link to the German occupation and the distinctiveness of the Holocaust compared to other genocides. We then split into groups to work on final presentations. During that period, Sebastian Klein led a tour through the forest area where over 200 prisoners were executed and buried during WWII. We saw memorials marking significant periods of Falstad’s history, paying tribute

to victims from various nations, including Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, and Norway.

DAY 5 + 6 Thursday + Friday

We had the opportunity to watch Erik Poppe’s film, “Utoya: July 22,” a gripping portrayal of the tragic events that unfolded on Utøya island. Following the screening, we engaged in a meaningful Zoom conversation with Erik Poppe himself. During this enlightening discussion, we delved into his motivations behind creating the film, his unique approach to storytelling, the intricate process of making the film, and his collaboration with survivor groups to ensure its authenticity. The conversation proved to be both challenging and thought-provoking, as it prompted us

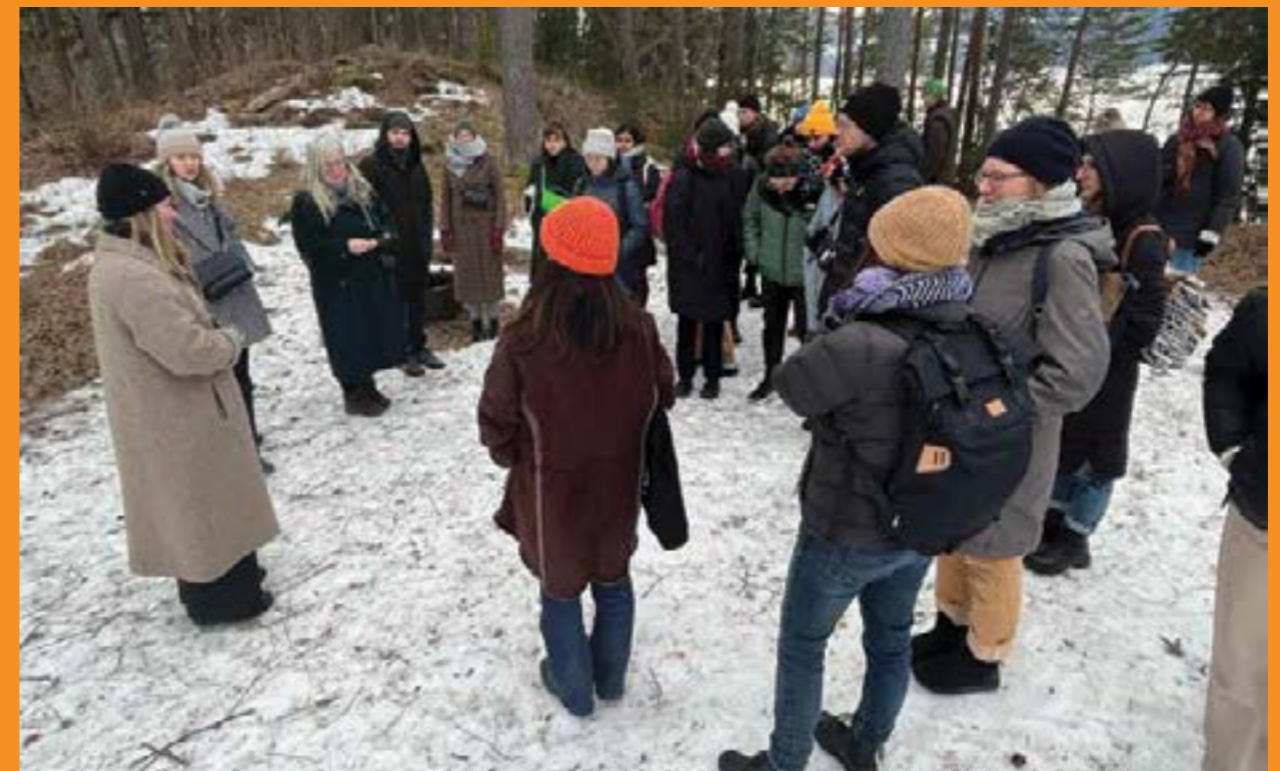


Photo by memorydialogues.com

to reflect on the power of cinema, the profound impact of domestic terrorism, and our collective responsibility to confront issues such as racism. Erik Poppe's film and our subsequent discussion provided a poignant reminder of the importance of addressing these pressing societal matters through the medium of film and open dialogue.

The Assignment for this seminar:

Recognizing, dealing with, and preventing hate speech, antisemitism and racism is a growing concern for contemporary societies and communities. As brutalization in our society seems to increase in both the physical and digital world – the number of discriminating incidents related to hate speech, racism and antisemitism seems to grow accordingly. And this comes not only from private persons, but also from public persons, as we could currently see and hear. In this workshop, the students were asked to research on this topic, observe relevant societies and communities, and develop adequate concepts.



DIFFERENT



TEACHING DIVERSE VALUES



CAN INTIMACY CHANGE OUR BIASES



YOUR STORY IN A BOTTLE



NAMING DISCRIMINATION



All images used in this presentation are protected by copyright and may not be used or reproduced without prior permission from the respective copyright holders

Published by Falstad Centre
Stiftelsen Falstadsenteret
Falstadveien 59
7624 Ekne
Norway

Falstad Centre 2023

Project is supported by the EEA Grants from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway,
and by the state budget

Iceland 
Liechtenstein
Norway grants

Ministry of Culture and
National Heritage



Working together for a green, competitive and inclusive Europe

