



Holocaust Educational Trust

Lessons from Auschwitz Project

Briefing for Nicola Sturgeon MSP, First Minister

About the Holocaust Educational Trust

Tuesday 30th October

About the Holocaust Educational Trust

The Holocaust Educational Trust was founded in 1988 during the passage of the War Crimes Act. Our aim is to raise awareness and understanding in schools and amongst the wider public of the Holocaust and its relevance today. We believe that the Holocaust must have a permanent place in our nation's collective memory.

One of the Trust's earliest achievements was to ensure that the Holocaust was included in the National Curriculum for England in 1991 – for Key Stage 3 students (11-14 year olds). The Holocaust has remained on the National Curriculum since then. We also successfully campaigned to have the assets of Holocaust victims and survivors released and returned to their rightful owners in the late 1990s.

Since 1999 the Trust's *Lessons from Auschwitz* Project has given thousands of post-16 students and teachers the opportunity to visit the Nazi concentration and death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau as part of a four-part educational programme. Since 2006 the Project has received Government funding. In 2018, in partnership with the Union of Jewish Students, we will deliver the *Lessons from Auschwitz* Project across universities, as part of our effort to tackle antisemitism on university campuses.

Having played a crucial role in the establishment of Holocaust Memorial Day in the UK in 2001, the Trust continues to play a key role in the delivery of this national commemorative day.

In 2010 the Government issued a new award to recognise the British men and women who came to the aid of Jewish people and other persecuted groups during the Holocaust – as a direct result of an initiative by the Trust to raise their profile and secure formal recognition for them.

At the Holocaust Educational Trust's Appeal Dinner in September 2013, then Prime Minister Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP announced the establishment of a national Holocaust Commission to establish what further measures should be taken to ensure a lasting memorial to the Holocaust in this

country. In January 2015, the recommendations of the Commission were endorsed with cross-party support including the creation of a new permanent national memorial to the Holocaust and accompanying learning centre. The Trust continues to work closely with the United Kingdom Holocaust Memorial Foundation, who are responsible for implementing the recommendations of the Commission.

In January 2015, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the Royal Mint has commissioned a special commemorative medal to mark 70 years since the end of the Holocaust, an initiative of the Holocaust Educational Trust.

In July 2017, the Holocaust Educational Trust supported a visit to the former Nazi concentration camp Stutthof by Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge where they met with survivors of the camp Zigi Shipper BEM and Manfred Goldberg. This high-profile initiative helped to shine a spotlight on the importance of ensuring that the Holocaust is never forgotten.

We work in schools, colleges and higher education institutions, providing teacher training workshops and lectures, as well as teaching aids and resource materials.

Our activities include:

The Outreach Programme: A central part of our work, the Holocaust Educational Trust's Outreach Programme allows students and teachers the opportunity to hear survivor testimony firsthand and take part in focused workshops designed and delivered by our trained educators. The impact of hearing a Holocaust survivor speak is something most people never forget and is a key feature of our approach to this subject. The Programme is free of charge, and over 120,000 students a year take part.

Lessons from Auschwitz Project: The Holocaust Educational Trust's *Lessons from Auschwitz* Project for post-16 students and teachers is now in its nineteenth year and has taken over 37,000 students and teachers from across the UK to the Nazi concentration and death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau, as well as many MPs and other guests. The four-part course is open to two students from every school and college in England, Scotland and Wales and incorporates a one-day visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau. The visits, combined with Orientation and Follow-up seminars, leave an unforgettable emotional and educational mark on participants. The Project aims to increase knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust based on the premise that 'hearing is not like seeing' and to signal what can happen if prejudice and racism become acceptable. In October 2018 we marked our 200th *Lessons from Auschwitz* Project one day visit to Poland.

In 2005 the Treasury announced funding for the *Lessons from Auschwitz* Project to enable two students from every school and college in the UK to participate. Since 2008 funding has been provided by the Department for Education (formerly the Department for Children, Schools and Families) in England and by the Scottish and Welsh governments.

Ambassador Programme: Following on from their involvement in the *Lessons from Auschwitz* Project, participants become Holocaust Educational Trust Ambassadors – people who are committed to educating others about the Holocaust and its contemporary relevance. Ambassadors have been invested with the responsibility for delivering a powerful message about what happened during the Holocaust to their peers and wider communities. To mark our 25th anniversary, we appointed Regional Ambassadors, who have all shown outstanding commitment to ensuring that the lessons of the Holocaust are not forgotten – their role is to coordinate and encourage the work of Ambassadors in their area. We now work with 100 Regional Ambassadors representing every region in the UK.

Resource Development: The Holocaust Educational Trust develops engaging and interactive classroom resources, all of which are available free of charge through a dedicated section of our website, which has more than 11,000 registered users. Our flagship resource, *Exploring the Holocaust*, is a

downloadable cross-curricular teaching pack which provides teachers with all of the materials they need to teach the Holocaust across a range of subjects at Key Stage 3 (age 11-14). We produce a wide range of age-appropriate resources for other stages in the school curriculum, from late primary school to sixth form. We also have a long history of creating resources in partnership with other organisations, including the BBC, the Football Association, the National Union of Teachers, and the USC Shoah Foundation, with whom we won a BAFTA in 2007 for our interactive DVD *Recollections: Eyewitnesses Remember the Holocaust*. In 2015 we launched *70 Voices: Victims, Perpetrators, Bystanders*, an innovative digital project which explored the complex history of the Holocaust through the words of 70 individuals, including victims, survivors, perpetrators and other witnesses.

Teacher Training: As the UK's foremost authority in Holocaust education, the Holocaust Educational Trust delivers teacher training to trainee teachers at institutions of higher education and to practising teachers as part of their Continuing Professional Development. We partner with schools, local authorities and educational organisations to develop bespoke workshops, and each year the Trust leads several UK-based seminars bringing teachers into contact with leading Holocaust scholars. Additionally, our Teacher Study Visit series gives British teachers the opportunity to learn abroad from international experts and to consider the use of historical sites to enhance students' understanding of the Holocaust. We have led visits to the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Lithuania, and Poland. All teacher training courses are open to practising teachers from across the country.

Hi [REDACTED]

Yes, [REDACTED] has sent us the updates this morning and I've just update the relevant sections of the briefing.

I've attached for your records

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Private Office to the First Minister

5th Floor| St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 29 October 2018 13:53

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Auschwitz visit

[REDACTED]

I am just getting in touch to make sure you have the new information from HET received today. Please let me know if I need send it on. I can also incorporate it into the briefing pack too, although this would be logically a little tricky for me to achieve quickly.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] STEM, Languages and Social Studies [REDACTED]

Curriculum Unit | Scottish Government | [REDACTED], Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | [REDACTED]

Please note I work part time and am out of the office on Monday afternoons and Fridays.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 October 2018 17:03

To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Auschwitz visit

Hi

Updated briefing pack for First Minister's visit to Auschwitz on Tuesday 30 October.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 October 2018 16:17
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Auschwitz visit

Thanks [REDACTED], appreciate you doing that.

I'll see you all on Monday, let me know times etc

Thanks!

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 October 2018 10:53
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Auschwitz visit

Hi

I've combined the briefing sent in from HET along with the briefing [REDACTED] provided so as to avoid any repetition in what is given to FM.

I've requested suggestions for the visitors book along with a short outline of what they would like FM to say at the service, really just to give speechwriters a steer on what is required.

I'll forward on the briefing once I've received these so that you have a copy.

The check in time has changed but this is to allow the pupils time to get through security etc. As FM is normally fast tracker, I will leave her check in time as 5am.

[REDACTED] – we can have a chat once you are back in the office.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Private Office to the First Minister

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 October 2018 08:22

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Auschwitz visit

Hi all

Quick note about [REDACTED] briefing.

I see that check in time is 4.30, it was 5 am on a previous version of the itinerary so that's what's on the FM briefing.

Also, the itinerary asks that FM speak for 5 mins at the memorial service, is there enough between my briefing and what [REDACTED] for this?

Just to flag these up.

I'm on mobile today. [REDACTED]

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent with BlackBerry Work (www.blackberry.com)

BRIEFING FOR THE FIRST MINISTER

Visit to Auschwitz – Lessons from Auschwitz programme

30 October 2018: Flight departs Glasgow 06:30 and returns 22:40

Key message	The Scottish Government is committed to tackling all forms of discrimination and promoting a multi-faith and multi-cultural society based on mutual trust, respect and understanding. We must make sure that the Holocaust is never forgotten. We must recognise the value of learning about the Holocaust within the framework of Curriculum for Excellence. Holocaust education sits within international and citizenship education, at the heart of Curriculum for Excellence.
What	FM will participate in a tour of Auschwitz (itinerary attached at ANNEX A), along with pupils from schools around Scotland. This forms part of the Lessons From Auschwitz programme
Why	To highlight the Scottish Government's commitment to the place of Holocaust education within Curriculum for Excellence. To acknowledge our support for the work of the Holocaust Educational Trust and how the Lessons from Auschwitz programme complements the curriculum.
Who	The First Minister will participate in the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET)'s Lessons from Auschwitz project, along with senior pupils from secondary school across Scotland. For the Holocaust Educational Trust: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karen Pollock, Chief Executive• Martin Winstone, Education Officer• Elaine Leppard, Senior Project Co-ordinator, Lessons from Auschwitz• Rosie Goldsmith, Project Co-ordinator, Lessons from Auschwitz [REDACTED]
Where	Auschwitz- Birkenau – a full programme can be found at Annex A.
When	Tuesday 30 October 2018
Likely themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lesson's from Auschwitz project and its impact on Scottish young people.• The importance of Holocaust Education in Curriculum for Excellence.• The impact of the Holocaust on Scottish Government policies.
Media	FM comms will send separately
Supporting official	[REDACTED]
Attached documents	ANNEX A: Programme ANNEX B: Summary page including key stats ANNEX C: Visitors Book ANNEX D: Lessons from Auschwitz background ANNEX E: Key attendees and biographies ANNEX F: Schools & Groups ANNEX G: The Holocaust Educational Trust

	ANNEX H: Poland Country Briefing
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POLAND VISIT – Programme of the Day

05.00 Check in at Glasgow airport - flight number LS6561 (Jet2)

06.30 Flight departs

10.20 Arrive Kraków airport

Transfer through immigration and customs to allocated coaches

11.00 Journey from Kraków Airport to Oświęcim

12.00 Visit to Oświęcim sites

12.30 Re-board the coaches for the journey to Auschwitz I

12.50 Tour of Auschwitz I

14:50 First Minister to sign the Auschwitz-Birkenau Visitors Book, outside the crematorium

Re-board the coaches for the journey to Birkenau

15.05 Tour of Birkenau – including interviews with media

17.15 Memorial service at the ruins of Crematoria II, Birkenau

First Minister to say a few words during the service

18:00 Re-board the coaches for the journey to Kraków Airport

19.00 Arrive Kraków airport

20.30 Depart Kraków airport – flight number LS6562 (Jet2)

22:40 Arrive at Glasgow airport

Summary Page

The First Minister was invited to participate in this visit by the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET). Mr Swinney attended in 2017.

- The Scottish Government is committed to providing opportunities for Scotland's children and young people to learn about the Holocaust within the framework of Curriculum for Excellence. Holocaust education sits within international and citizenship education, at the heart of Curriculum for Excellence. The First Minister's participation highlights the Government's commitment to the place of Holocaust education within Curriculum for Excellence and its support for the work of HET.
- We should never be complacent regarding the dangers of prejudice, intolerance, discrimination and hatred. The Scottish Government is committed to tackling all forms of discrimination and promoting a multi-faith and multi-cultural society based on mutual trust, respect and understanding.
- John Swinney, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills was the last ministerial visit in 2017. Michael Russell, while Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, visited in 2013. Alasdair Allan, Maureen Watt and Keith Brown have also visited Auschwitz with groups of school pupils.

Sensitivities

- [REDACTED]
- The UK Department for Education have recently announced a further three years of funding for the Lessons from Auschwitz project.
- The Scottish Government are committed to continuing to support the Lessons from Auschwitz programme in Scotland, subject to the usual budgetary processes.
- [REDACTED]

The Project

- *Lessons from Auschwitz* (LfA) is a 4-part project, which includes a visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau, it aims to increase knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust for young people and to clearly highlight what can happen if prejudice and racism become acceptable in a society.
- The opportunity can be accessed by any S5/S6 pupils from Scotland's 537 post-16 establishments i.e. Local Authorities, independent or special schools.
- The project also has wider benefits as young people sharing their experiences and reflections with fellow pupils and the community is a key part of the project.

Funding

Scottish Government has funded this project since 2009 as follows:

Scottish Government (Education) Funding	Amount
2009 - 2010	£214,000
2010 - 2011	£214,000
2011 – 2012	£214,000
2012 – 2013	£230,000
2013 – 2014	£255,000
2014 – 2015	£255,000
2015 – 2016	£286,000
2016 – 2017	£286,000
2017 – 2018	£296,000
2018 – 2019	£296,000

This funding illustrates the Government's commitment to providing opportunities for Scotland's young people to develop as responsible global citizens, which is a key element of Curriculum for Excellence.

Key Stats

Since 2009, Scottish Government funding has enabled:

- The Holocaust Educational Trust to deliver two *Lessons from Auschwitz* Projects per year from Scotland.
- To date, over 4,100 Scottish students have participated on the project as well as over 550 Scottish teachers.
- Schools from all 32 local authorities across Scotland to participate.
- As of October 2018, 376 schools or 69% of all eligible schools from across Scotland have participated (based on a total number of 547 eligible schools).

The numbers for 2018 so far, are as follows:

- The Lesson from Auschwitz Project from Edinburgh in early October saw 188 students and 25 teachers participate from 95 schools across 19 local authorities. There were four schools on the waiting list.
- Numbers for Glasgow project are still to be finalised.

Relationship to modern Scotland

- We want to build a Scotland where everyone can live free from fear, prejudice and discrimination – a Scotland built on the basis of mutual trust, respect and understanding. Learning about the Holocaust is an important role to play in achieving this and links to the Scottish Government's work around tackling sectarianism.

Scottish Links to Auschwitz – Jane Haining

- Haining, who grew up near Dumfries, is the only Scot to be officially honoured for giving her life to Jews in the Holocaust.
- A Church of Scotland missionary, she worked in Budapest as matron of the Girls' Home of the Scottish Mission in Budapest and cared for around 400 children, most of the girls were Jewish.
- When missionaries were ordered to leave in 1940, she remained to continue to take care of the children.
- She was arrested in 1944, taken to Auschwitz where she died later that year.
- Among the memorials to Jane Haining are two stained glass windows in Queen's Park Govanhill Parish Church of Scotland in Glasgow, where she worshipped during her time living in Glasgow.
- Holocaust Educational Trust have provided further detail in their own briefing sent to FM.

What impact has the project had in Scotland?

- The project has an extremely wide reach, as of October 2018, 376 Scottish schools or 69%, of eligible schools have participated in the project. The impact has been enhanced through the next steps work of participants in their roles as ambassadors for Holocaust education.
- Holocaust Memorial Day is on 27 January, which marks the day in 1945 that Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated from the Nazis. It provides an opportunity for everyone to learn lessons from the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides and apply them to the present day to create a safer, better future.

Tackling Religious Intolerance/anti-Semitism

- Scotland's diversity is our strength and we value and appreciate our relationships with our diverse faith communities and welcome their contribution.
- Scotland's faith communities play a significant role in Scotland and abroad, supporting many of our most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.
- We promote interfaith dialogue to strengthen and enhance connections across communities to lower barriers, eliminate fear and increase understanding.
- The Scottish Government funds a variety of faith and belief organisations to tackle religious intolerance and promote equality and community cohesion, £360,000 has been provided for 2017-18 as part of the Promoting Equality and Cohesion Fund 2017-20.
- In addition, more than £5 million will be provided to organisations supporting engagement with communities experiencing prejudice on the grounds of age, disability, gender, gender identity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation – while £2.7 million will go to frontline projects promoting equality and tackling prejudice.
- Of this, we are providing £215,000 for 2017-18 to Edinburgh Interfaith Association, Interfaith Glasgow and Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)
- The Scottish Government formally adopted the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism in June 2017, including all of the examples of anti-Semitism which accompany the definition.
- The Scottish Government wants to send a strong message to our communities that there should be no place in Scotland for any form of anti-Semitism or religious hatred that makes our communities feel insecure or threatened in their daily lives.
- The adoption will help to inform our work in this area and we will continue to work with key partners including Police Scotland to explore how using this definition translates into operational practice. Adoption of the IHRA definition reflects the value we place on tackling anti-Semitism and on ensuring people in Scotland feel valued and have a sense of belonging.

Auschwitz-Birkenau Visitor's Book

Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum have requested the First Minister sign their Visitor's Book. This will be positioned outside the Crematorium and can take place at the end of the tour of Auschwitz I.

Examples of messages written by previous Parliamentarians who have visited:

In 2012, when visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau, Nick Clegg, then Deputy Prime Minister wrote:

'Indifference and forgetfulness make hate, prejudice and genocide possible. That is why we must never forget the Holocaust and no visitor to Auschwitz today can.'

In 2014, when visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau, David Cameron then Prime Minister wrote:

'I wanted to come and see for myself this place where the darkest chapter of human history happened.'

Words cannot describe the horror that took place - making it even more important that we never forget. As Elie Wiesel said, "Failing to remember those who were murdered would be akin to killing them all over again".

The survivors have done so much to tell us about what took place. Today they are becoming fewer in number so I hope the Holocaust Commission we have established will teach future generations what took place - and that we must never forget all those who were murdered here and at other camps and at other places. We must always remember what happened.'

Lessons from Auschwitz Project - Background

The project comprises 4 stages:

1. Orientation (held 21 October in Glasgow)

Participants are given the opportunity to hear a Holocaust survivor share their testimony at the Orientation Seminar. During the seminar participants are divided into small groups which are facilitated by a Holocaust Educational Trust educator. The participants remain in these groups throughout the course. Each group discusses their reasons for taking part in the Project, their expectations, preconceptions and the potential impact that the visit may have on them. It also provides a useful opportunity for participants to get to know each other before they share what for many is a very moving and important life experience. At the Orientation seminar for this year's project taking place from Glasgow, participants heard the testimony of Eva Clarke, Holocaust survivor. (Biography in Annex D)

2. The Visit

During the visit itself, students are first taken to Oświęcim, the town where the Auschwitz concentration and death camps were located and where the local Jewish community lived prior to the start of the Second World War. The groups are shown several barracks at Auschwitz I – registration documents of inmates, piles of hair, shoes, clothes and other items seized from the prisoners as they entered the camps. Participants are then taken the short distance to Birkenau. This is the site that most people associate with the word "Auschwitz" and where the vast majority of victims were murdered. The remnants of barracks, crematoria and gas chambers are in stark contrast to Auschwitz I. The tour of Birkenau culminates in a memorable ceremony held next to the destroyed crematoria. The ceremony includes readings, a moment of reflection and ends with all participants lighting memorial candles. The ceremony on 30th October will be led by Anita Parmar, Head of the Lessons from Auschwitz Project and Rabbi Daniel Epstein from Cockfosters and New Southgate Synagogue in London (biographies in Annex D). The First Minister will also say a few words during the ceremony.

3 Follow-up (to be held on 5 November in Glasgow)

The 4-hour follow-up seminar allows students to reflect on their experiences and the impact it had on them. The seminar is very important for participants, as often visitors to Auschwitz have a delayed reaction to the experience and many find it difficult to speak to those who have not been there. The seminar also focuses on the wider education of Holocaust, genocide, racism, bullying, both in schools and local communities.

4 Next steps

After the follow-up Seminar, participants design and implement projects in their schools and communities aimed at sharing their experiences and disseminating the lessons they have learned. Follow-up activities in schools have included assemblies, displays and presentations on issues dealing with the Holocaust. Many students choose to focus on contemporary lessons of the Holocaust such as the celebration of diversity; highlighting issues such as racism and bullying in schools; current genocides around the world; active citizenship; and the dangers of being a bystander to racism.

Biographies and key attendees

Karen Pollock MBE, Chief Executive



Karen Pollock MBE joined the Holocaust Educational Trust in 1998, and has been the Trust's Chief Executive since 2000.

Karen has represented the Holocaust Educational Trust across the world, including at the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of Victims of the Holocaust at UNESCO's head office in Paris. She is involved with the work of HOPE not Hate and was a founding Trustee of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. In 2012 Karen was awarded an MBE for her services to education in the UK.

Marin Winstone, Education Officer



Martin Winstone is an Education Officer for the Holocaust Educational Trust, where he is responsible for the production of educational resources. He is also a member of the UK delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and is currently advising the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation on the content of the exhibition which will accompany the new national Holocaust memorial.

Martin is the author of two books about the Holocaust. *The Holocaust Sites of Europe* (I.B. Tauris, 2010) is the only comprehensive guide to Holocaust-related sites, including camps, mass shooting sites and ghettos. *The Dark Heart of Hitler's Europe* (I.B. Tauris, 2014) is a history of the General Government, the region of Nazi-occupied Poland which was the central killing ground of the Holocaust.

Martin has frequently appeared as an expert commentator on the Holocaust on television and radio and in the press.

Rabbi Daniel Epstein



Rabbi Daniel Epstein has been serving the Cockfosters & New Southgate United Synagogue – an 1,100-member North London community – together with his wife Ilana since June 2014.

Rabbi & Rebbetzen Epstein moved to Israel in 1998, where he established a PR firm, servicing over 40 Government, corporate, technology and non-profit clients including JNF UK, the European Jewish Congress, the World Holocaust Forum, Leket Israel, Nefesh b'Nefesh and Kemach Israel. He subsequently fundraised for The Arad Foundation and The Pelech Jerusalem School and was CEO of Sunrise Israel, a summer camp for Jewish and Arab children with cancer, alongside their healthy siblings, while studying for *semicha*(rabbinical ordination) in Jerusalem.

In London, Rabbi Epstein is involved in interfaith dialogue, runs a successful adult education programme in Torah, political, social and economic thought; and works to raise awareness of mental health challenges in the Jewish community. He initiated the idea of a Mental Health Awareness Shabbat, which had its launch in February 2017, with the involvement of over 80 Anglo Jewish communities of all denominations, as well as across several university Jewish societies and Jewish high schools.

Rabbi Epstein is a foundation governor of the JFS School – a 265-year-old Jewish school for 2,000 students.

Rabbi Epstein studied at Yeshivat Har Etzion in Israel and, subsequently, at the Straus-Amiel post-ordination Rabbinics School. Rabbi Epstein holds a BSc (Hons) ARCS in Chemistry and Management Science from Imperial College London and he and Ilana have 4 children, aged 10 to 19.

Eva Clarke

Holocaust survivor who addressed participants at the Lessons from Auschwitz Project Orientation seminar held in Glasgow on 21st October, ahead of the one day visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau.



Eva was born in Mauthausen concentration camp, Austria, on 29th April 1945. She and her mother are the only survivors of their family, 15 members of whom were killed in Auschwitz-Birkenau: three of Eva's grandparents, her father, uncles, aunts and her 7-year-old cousin, Peter.

In 1933, when Hitler came to power, Eva's father Bernd Nathan left Hamburg for Prague where he eventually met her mother Anka Kauderová. The couple married on 15th May 1940. In December 1941 her parents were sent to Terezín (Theresienstadt). They were to remain there for three years, which was very unusual: they were young, strong and well able to work.

During this time, and despite the sexes being segregated, Anka became pregnant with a son, Dan. When the Nazis discovered this fact, Eva's parents were forced to sign a document stating that when the baby was born, it would have to be handed over to the Gestapo to be murdered; it was the first time her mother had heard the word 'euthanasia'. However, in the event, her brother died of pneumonia at two months of age. And his death meant Eva's life – had Eva's mother subsequently arrived in Auschwitz-Birkenau with a baby, she would have been sent immediately to the gas chambers. But because she arrived there without a baby and although by this time she was again pregnant with Eva – but not visibly – she survived.

Eva's mother was in Auschwitz-Birkenau from 1st-10th October 1944. She had, incredibly, volunteered to follow her husband who was sent there. Tragically, she never saw him again and he never knew she was pregnant. She discovered after the war that he had been shot on 18th January 1945 – less than a week before the liberation by the Red Army.

As Anka's pregnancy was not visible and she was deemed fit for work, she was sent out of Auschwitz to work in an armaments factory in Freiberg, near Dresden. She was to remain there for the next six months – by now getting weaker while at the same time, becoming more visibly pregnant.

By the spring of 1945 the Germans were retreating and evacuating concentration and slave labour camps. Eva's mother and her fellow prisoners were forced onto a train: not cattle tracks this time but coal trucks – open to the skies and, obviously, filthy. They weren't given any food and scarcely any water during what was to become a 3-week nightmare journey around the Czech countryside. The Nazis didn't know what to do with their 'dying cargo'.

The train eventually arrived at Mauthausen concentration camp. Anka had such a shock when she saw the name of this notorious camp that her labour began and Eva was born on a cart, in the open, without any assistance, medical or any other kind. By this stage, Anka weighed about 5 stone (35 kg) – she had the appearance of a scarcely living pregnant skeleton. And Eva weighed about 3lbs/1.5 kg. If the camp's gas chambers hadn't been blown up on 28th April 1945 and the Americans hadn't liberated Mauthausen just days after Eva's birth, neither mother or child would have survived.

Eva and her mother returned to Prague, where Anna married Eva's stepfather in February 1948. In the same year they emigrated to the UK and settled in Cardiff. Eva married an academic lawyer in 1968, has two sons and has been living in Cambridge ever since.

Also attending are:

Elaine Leppard, Senior Project Co-ordinator, Lessons from Auschwitz
Rosie Goldsmith, Project Co-ordinator, Lessons from Auschwitz

Schools and Groups

During the day, the First Minister will be in a group of students and teachers led by Anita Parmar, Head of the *Lessons from Auschwitz* Project and a Guide from the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum. Karen Pollock, Chief Executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust will also accompany this group.

The group will comprise of students and teachers from the following schools:

- Alloa Academy, Clackmannanshire
- Baldragon Academy, Dundee City
- Barrhead High School, East Renfrewshire
- Bellahouston Academy, Glasgow City – located in the First Minister’s constituency
- Craigholme School, Glasgow City – located in the First Minister’s constituency
- Forres Academy, Moray
- Golspie High School, Highland
- Holyrood Secondary School, Glasgow City – located in the First Minister’s constituency
- Rothesay Academy, Argyll and Bute

Details of the students’ and teachers’ names from each school will be provided on the day.

Schools attending	Local Authority
Dyce Academy	Aberdeen City
Oldmachar Academy	Aberdeen City
Carnoustie High School	Angus
Montrose Academy	Angus
Forfar Academy	Angus
Campbeltown Grammar School	Argyll & Bute
Lomond School	Argyll & Bute
Tarbert Academy	Argyll & Bute
Rothesay Academy	Argyll & Bute
Lornshill Academy	Clackmannanshire
Alloa Academy	Clackmannanshire
Sanquhar Academy	Dumfries & Galloway
Castle Douglas High School	Dumfries & Galloway
Wallace Hall Academy	Dumfries & Galloway
Stranraer Academy	Dumfries & Galloway
Baldragon Academy	Dundee City
Loudoun Academy	East Ayrshire
Park School	East Ayrshire
St Joseph's Academy	East Ayrshire
Lenzie Academy	East Dunbartonshire
Boclair Academy	East Dunbartonshire
Bearsden Academy	East Dunbartonshire
Kirkintilloch High School	East Dunbartonshire
Turnbull High School	East Dunbartonshire
Douglas Academy	East Dunbartonshire
Woodfarm High School	East Renfrewshire
Williamwood High School	East Renfrewshire
St Ninian's High School	East Renfrewshire
Barrhead High School	East Renfrewshire
Communication Support Service c/o Williamwood High School	East Renfrewshire
Denny High School	Falkirk
Jordanhill School	Glasgow City
Springburn Academy	Glasgow City
Notre Dame High School	Glasgow City
St Roch's Secondary School	Glasgow City
Rosshall Academy	Glasgow City
Bannerman High School	Glasgow City
Craigholme School	Glasgow City
Bellahouston Academy	Glasgow City
Glasgow Gaelic School	Glasgow City
Abercorn Secondary School	Glasgow City
Govan High School	Glasgow City
Holyrood Secondary School	Glasgow City
King's Park Secondary School	Glasgow City
Hyndland Secondary School	Glasgow City
Golspie High School	Highland
Ardnamurchan High School	Highland
St Columba's High School	Inverclyde
Clydeview Academy	Inverclyde
Notre Dame High School	Inverclyde
Inverclyde Academy	Inverclyde

St Stephen's High School	Inverclyde
Forres Academy	Moray
Irvine Royal Academy	North Ayrshire
St Matthew's Academy	North Ayrshire
Arran High School	North Ayrshire
Largs Academy	North Ayrshire
Kilwinning Academy	North Ayrshire
Greenwood Academy	North Ayrshire
Kilsyth Academy	North Lanarkshire
Taylor High School	North Lanarkshire
Our Lady's High School - Cumbernauld	North Lanarkshire
Dalziel High School	North Lanarkshire
Calderhead High School	North Lanarkshire
Clyde Valley High School	North Lanarkshire
Coltness High School	North Lanarkshire
St Andrew's High School	North Lanarkshire
Cumbernauld Academy	North Lanarkshire
Firpark Secondary School	North Lanarkshire
Caldervale High School	North Lanarkshire
Braighthurst High School	North Lanarkshire
Brannock High School	North Lanarkshire
Chryston High School	North Lanarkshire
Greenfaulds High School	North Lanarkshire
St Benedict's High School	Renfrewshire
St Andrew's Academy	Renfrewshire
Gleniffer High School	Renfrewshire
Trinity High School	Renfrewshire
Park Mains High School	Renfrewshire
Carrick Academy	South Ayrshire
Ayr Academy	South Ayrshire
Larkhall Academy	South Lanarkshire
St Andrew's and St Bride's High School	South Lanarkshire
Holy Cross High School	South Lanarkshire
Uddingston Grammar School	South Lanarkshire
Cathkin High School	South Lanarkshire
Trinity High School	South Lanarkshire
St John Ogilvie High School	South Lanarkshire

The Holocaust Educational Trust and the Holocaust

Founded by Lord Janner of Braunstone and the late Lord Merlyn Rees, the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET) was formed in 1988. HET developed from MPs and Peers as a result of renewed interest and need for knowledge about the Holocaust, during the passage of the War Crimes Act in the late 1980s. The aim is to raise awareness and understanding of the Holocaust and its relevance today in schools and amongst the wider public. HET believes the Holocaust must have a permanent place in our nation's collective memory. The Chief Executive of HET is Karen Pollock.

One of HET's first achievements was to ensure that the Holocaust was included in the National Curriculum in 1991 in England – for Key Stage 3 students (11-14 year olds). They also successfully campaigned to have the assets of Holocaust victims and Survivors released and returned to their rightful owners.

Having played a crucial role in the establishment, delivery and development of Holocaust Memorial Day in the UK, HET continues to play a key role in the delivery of the day.

The Holocaust

"Holocaust" is a word of Greek origin meaning "sacrifice by fire." It is the term generally used to describe the genocide of approximately six million European Jews during World War II, by a program of systematic state-sponsored extermination by Nazi Germany, under Adolf Hitler. Five million people of other nationalities are estimated to have suffered the same fate.

The persecution and genocide were carried out in stages. In 1935, Jews were declared to be an inferior race and segregated from the rest of the population. Concentration camps were established in which inmates were used as slave labour until they died of exhaustion or disease. After the outbreak of the Second World War, these policies were exported to the occupied territories.

- The number of Jews killed by the Nazis during the Holocaust is approximately 6 million.
- The total number of all those persecuted by the Nazis during the Holocaust is thought to be around 11 million.
- The 'Final Solution' wiped out two-thirds of all European Jews.
- Jews, Soviet prisoners of war, Poles, gypsies, disabled, homosexuals, communists, Jehovah's Witnesses and underground resistance fighters were all sent to concentration camps. Social 'undesirables' including beggars, the homeless, alcoholics and the unemployed could also be sent to concentration camps.
- The most deaths occurred at Auschwitz, Treblinka, Warsaw and Sobibor in Poland, Mauthausen-Gusen in Austria and Belsen, Buchenwald and Dachau in Germany.
- More than 9,000 people were killed each day at the height of exterminations at Auschwitz.
- In Poland the Jewish death toll exceeded three million - 90 per cent of Polish Jews

COUNTRY CORE BRIEF – POLAND

Head of State – President Mr Andrzej Duda (since August 2015)

Prime Minister – Mr Mateusz Morawiecki (since December 2017)

Foreign Minister – Mr Jacek Czaputowicz (since January 2018)

Minister of Culture and National Heritage - Piotr Gliński (Since November 2015)

Government composition – Law and Justice (PiS) [right wing-populist party], Alliance (P) [conservative] and United Poland (PS) [conservative]

Ambassador to the UK – HE Arkady Rzegocki (since August 2016)

UK Ambassador to Poland – HE Jonathan Knott (since April 2016)

Internal country politics

- Law and Justice (PiS) is a conservative right-wing party, descending from the Solidarity anti-communist movement. It is mildly Eurosceptic and opposes a federal Europe, although it strongly supports common European security and defence policy. In its campaigns, it emphasises that the EU should '*benefit Poland and not the other way around*'. PiS is the second biggest party in the European Conservatives and Reformists political group after the UK's Conservative Party.
- Support for the PiS government has fallen in recent times since the recent judicial developments including the 'Holocaust law' and clashes with the EU over rule of law controversies.
- Former Polish PM Beata Szydło resigned on 7 December 2017. Law and Justice (PiS) leaders replaced her with former Minister for Finance and Economic Development Mateusz Morawiecki. Morawiecki shares Szydło's strong support for the PiS leaders moves to limit the power of the judiciary, promote a conservative Catholic social agenda, and oppose European Union demands to accept Muslim refugees. Additionally a small cabinet reshuffle was announced at the beginning of January 2018. Former Foreign Minister Witold Waszczykowski, [REDACTED], has been replaced by Mr Jacek Czaputowicz. [REDACTED].

Hot Topics/Current Developments

- The EU launched Article 7 procedures against Poland due to lack of action on the Rule of Law issue. The new law sets judges retirement age at 65, forcing one third of judges into retirement from July 2018. Several judges including the Supreme Court Chief Justice, whose 6 year term does not expire until 2020, have refused to stand down. On 24 September, the European Commission referred the case to the ECJ, saying the change undermines judicial independence. On 10 October, Duda appointed 27 new Supreme Court judges, despite internal and EU pressure not do so. Opponents say the move aims to appoint favourable replacements, undermining democracy and judicial independence.
- Additionally the ECJ ruled on 25 July to authorise EU members to refuse arrest warrants issued by Poland if they doubt defendants will get a fair trial in the country after a case brought by the Irish High Court. The ruling is not legally binding and is at the discretion of the member state.
- Under pressure from key international relationships, namely the US and Israel, Poland has amended the Holocaust defamation law which criminalises the false attribution to the Polish state or nation of complicity in the crimes committed by Nazi Germany during the Holocaust. Those who suggest Polish responsibility for Nazi war crimes using the phrase 'Polish death

camps' will no longer face possible sentencing of up to 3 years in jail. Defamation charges can still be brought under existing Polish law.

Key Links with Scotland

- Residents in Scotland- 90,000- 100,000 (Polish Consulate in Edinburgh)
- Poland was the country focus of the 2017 Edinburgh International Film Festival.
- In Nov 2015, a statue of a Polish Soldier and Wojtek the Bear was unveiled in the Princes Street Gardens. SG contributed towards the cost of an interpretation panel.
- The Polish-Scottish Heritage Project aims to promote greater awareness of Poland and Scotland's shared heritage.
- Artist and founder of the Traverse, Richard Demarco has built a long and respectful relationship with Poland. He has been in extended conversations with SG, National Galleries of Scotland and Creative Scotland about his archives, which includes extensive Polish material.
- The current Polish CG is Mr Ireneusz Truszkowski. He took up post in November 2017. Poland also has an honorary Consulate in Aberdeen and a new Consular office open in Inverness.

Trade and investment links

- 57% labour workforce employed in services, 30.4% in industry and 12.6% in agriculture.
- World's 24th largest exporting nation 2014 – Germany largest partner (27.1%) followed by UK at 6.8%.
- Scottish exports to Poland totalled £310 million in 2016.
- Scottish Direct Exports to Poland in 2014 were valued at £265m, and Poland was Scotland's 24th largest export territory.
- Scottish businesses doing business in Poland include: Souter Investments (bus services), Craig Group (shipping and energy), Ethos Energy Group.
- Poles have set up nearly 22,000 companies in the UK. Another 65,000 Poles are self-employed.
- Polish companies based/doing business in Scotland include: CST Global Limited (laser services); Lacross Language Consultancy.
- Poland has 3 GlobalScots
- [REDACTED]Total Fleet Solutions.
- [REDACTED]Saltire International Management.
- [REDACTED]Development-Managers.com

Recent and upcoming Ministerial engagements

- The Polish Consulate in Edinburgh are organising activities for the celebration of Poland's centenary year in November 2018, including the unveiling of the Mazcek bench and a plaque to thank the Scottish people for their hospitality to all those who on British soil fought and nurtured the idea of independent Poland. Scottish Ministers are likely to be invited.
- [REDACTED]
- 10 Aug: Ms Hyslop attended a concert by the London Symphony Orchestra and Polish Pianist Krystian Zimmerman to celebrate 100 years of Polish independence.
- 8 Aug: Mr Macpherson, Minister for Europe, Migration and International Development met with the Polish Consul-General for an introductory meeting
- Apr 2018, Ms Hyslop attended the launch of the Great Polish Map and met with HE Arkady Rzegocki, Polish Ambassador to the UK.

CULTURAL LINKS WITH POLAND

Polish Great Map of Scotland

- The Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs attended and spoke at an event on 12 April 2018 to unveil the newly-restored Great Polish Map of Scotland and the launch of the 3D model of the map developed by Historic Environment Scotland
- Work to restore the fifty metre wide, three dimensional map of Scotland which was built in the mid-1970s in the grounds of Barony Castle, Peeblesshire has been carried out in recent years, with the work being unveiled on 12 April 2018.
- This unique landmark which celebrates Scottish/Polish relations has been brought to life digitally to highlight the many cultural and historical connections between the two nations.
- The map has been digitally scanned using 3D technology by Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and the digital version of the map - in the form of an animation - will feature various locations across Scotland boasting links to Poland and its people.

Year of National Independence in 2018

- In 2018, Poland will celebrate the centennial of the restoration of its independence after the First World War. A year-long programme of major cultural celebrations are being planned by the Polish government to mark this centenary, running up to the actual date of 11 November 2018.
- A memorial to a Polish war hero who made his life in Scotland after his home country fell to communism is to be unveiled in Edinburgh on 3 November 2018. A life-sized bronze statue of General Stanislaw Maczek sitting on a bench, by the Polish artist Bronislaw Krzysztof, will be placed in the courtyard of the City Chambers on the Royal Mile. General Maczek, who was commander of the 1st Polish Armoured Division, was appointed by Winston Churchill to protect the Scottish east coast from invasion during the Second World War.
- On 4 November 2018 at St Mary's RC Cathedral in Edinburgh, a plaque will be unveiled to thank the Scottish people for their hospitality to all those who on British soil fought and nurtured the idea of independent Poland.
- Legendary Polish pianist Krystian Zimerman performed with the London Symphony Orchestra as part of the Edinburgh International Festival and centenary celebrations at the Usher Hall on 10 August 2018.

Wojtek the Bear

- On 7 November 2015, a statue of a Polish Soldier and Wojtek the Bear was unveiled in Princes Street Gardens. The life and a quarter size statue is in bronze on a granite base. Alongside there is a 4m length bronze pictorial depicting the journey of the soldiers to Scotland. The Wojtek Memorial Trust raised funds of £300,000 to cover the cost of the project. The Scottish Government contributed £20,000 of funding towards the cost of the memorial's interpretation panel and hosted a reception in support of the Trust.

[REDACTED]

Thanks. I attach some bullet points, in case FM finds them helpful tomorrow. These have been revised to reflect the changes in the operational note.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: 29 October 2018 15:38

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Events - First Minister - Ops note - Visit to Auschwitz - Birkenau – Lessons from Auschwitz programme on 30/10/18

Hi

Please find attached the updated operational note for tomorrow.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Private Office to the First Minister

5th Floor| St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED]

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 October 2018 13:32

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Events - First Minister - Ops note - Visit to Auschwitz - Birkenau – Lessons from Auschwitz programme on 30/10/18

Dear All

Please find attached ops note for the First Ministers visit to Auschwitz, Poland on Tuesday 30th October.

Thanks

[REDACTED] / Office of the First Minister of Scotland / Scottish Government / 5th Floor, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
[REDACTED]

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Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon MSP

First Minister

Visit to Auschwitz

Bullet points

[REDACTED]

Tuesday 30 October 2018

Background

Towards the end of your visit to Auschwitz, there will be a service at Birkenau.

The ceremony will be led by Martin Winstone (HET) and Rabbi Daniel Epstein.

Four student participants will each read a poem focused on the Holocaust and remembrance. Karen Pollock will say a few words before inviting you to say a few words.

After you have spoken, Rabbi Epstein will recite prayers and ask all participants to light candles which the Trust provides on the day.

The service is outside, and there will not be a lectern. I have provided very basic bullet points in case they are helpful, but because there is no lectern, I have tried to keep these to one side of paper. I am also aware that the things you see and experience on the visit will have a big impact on your remarks. The basic proposed structure is as follows:

- Thank yous – you should thank Rabbi Epstein, the guides (each group will have an allotted guide) and the Holocaust Educational Trust.
- Reflections on visit and what you have seen.
- Reflections on why remembering the holocaust continues to be important – possibly using the Pittsburgh shooting as a starting point.

Thank yous

- Thanks to **Rabbi Epstein**.
- Also want to thank **the guides**.
- Finally, want to thank **Karen (Pollock), Martin (Winstone) and the Holocaust Educational Trust** for organising this visit, and for all the work they do to ensure we remember the holocaust.

Reflections on visit

- This visit has shown the value of the HET's work.
- *Add reflections from the tour*

Importance of remembering the holocaust

- The holocaust also shows that progress can never be taken for granted.
- Events in Pittsburgh over the weekend are a reminder that discrimination and anti-semitism are still far too common.
- We need to challenge bigoted and intolerant attitudes when we come across them.
- Doing that is the best possible way in which we can honour those who died here.
- I hope this visit will help all of us to do that.