

# Switzerland's chairmanship of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance in 2017

# 1. Political context, organisation and financing

By decision of the Federal Council on 14 October 2015, Switzerland submitted its candidacy for the rotating presidency of the IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance) for the year 2017. The candidacy was accepted by the 30 other member states and Switzerland chaired the IHRA from 7 March 2017 to 6 March 2018. Switzerland has been a member of the IHRA Troika for more than two years. The Troika also brings together the outgoing and incoming chairs, namely Hungary (2015 chairmanship), Romania (2016), Italy (2018) and Luxembourg (2019).

The IHRA Chair is appointed by the state currently holding the chairmanship. Ambassador Benno Bättig, secretary general of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), assumed this position and held it until October 2017. François Wisard, head of the FDFA History Unit, was responsible for coordination, in particular for activities in Switzerland; from the beginning of August to the beginning of November 2017, he was also acting IHRA Chair. The other members of the Swiss delegation – Monique Eckmann, Daniel Gerson and Bernard Wicht – also actively supported the chairmanship. In addition to the FDFA History Unit, other specialised services of the FDFA carried out specific tasks: the FDFA Conference Service organised the logistics of the plenary meetings; the United Nations and International Organisations Division financed the plenary meetings. FDFA Information produced the press releases and blogs; Presence Switzerland created the chairmanship logo, financed activities organised or supported by Swiss representations abroad, and produced a publication in English on Carl Lutz. The FDFA published a dossier on the chairmanship on its website. In total, it published 9 press releases, 3 blog texts and 3 web articles.

The FDFA offset all chairmanship-related costs internally. These were spread over 2016, 2017 and 2018. The organisation of plenary meetings and support for activities in Switzerland amounted to CHF 523,400. This amount does not include current expenditure – including support for some projects – relating to Switzerland's participation in the IHRA since joining in 2004. Nor does it include the activities of Swiss representations abroad. Total costs amount to around CHF 680,000, spread over three years.

#### 2. Activities within the framework of the IHRA

#### 2.1. Plenary meetings and receptions

Switzerland organised two plenary meetings. The first meeting brought together around 250 delegates in Geneva from 26 to 29 June 2017; the second about 240 delegates in Bern from 27 to 30 November 2017. Various projects supported under the Swiss chairmanship were presented on the margins of these meetings.

The Cantonal Council of the Republic and Canton of Geneva invited all delegates to a reception at Villa Sarasin, where the president of the Cantonal Council and the IHRA Chair each gave a welcoming speech. The United Nations Office at Geneva and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) provided guided tours of their archives. Lastly, the FDFA hosted an official reception in Penthes, which was also attended by Holocaust survivors, Yenish, Sinti and Roma

community representatives and members of the Swiss delegation's advisory group. In his speech, the IHRA Chair reiterated the reasons for Switzerland's commitment, expressed his deep regret for the consequences of Swiss refugee policy during the Second World War and called for free and independent historical research.

During the meetings in Bern, the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities (SIG) joined the FDFA to host an official reception for the IHRA delegates, survivors, parliamentarians, journalists and ambassadors from member countries of the IHRA. The IHRA Chair welcomed the adoption by the IHRA of a strategy and priorities and announced that the FDFA would be dedicating one of its main meeting rooms to the memory of Carl Lutz. The president of the SIG thanked the Swiss chairmanship for its commitment to preserving the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. Lastly, the FDFA hosted an official dinner for the IHRA delegates at the Paul Klee Centre.

## 2.2. Adoption of a strategy and priorities

The year of the Swiss chairmanship was dominated by the development and adoption of the IHRA's first-ever strategy and clear priorities. The development of a strategy was based on the recommendation of an external evaluation. Work began in 2016, but there was no decision taken.

In early 2017, a Strategy Planning Group (SPG) was set up in order to develop a comprehensive strategy. Under a British chair, the group had 15 members including two representatives of the Swiss chairmanship and met three times in London. The results of its deliberations were submitted for adoption to the plenary session in Geneva. Discussions were required beforehand to allay any final misgivings. The strategy adopted in Geneva includes a vision, a mission, three goals and 11 objectives. The IHRA clarified its scope of action, without extending it to include the promotion of human rights or the prevention of genocide, even though its activities indirectly contribute to both. Given that its annual budget is less than EUR 1 million, it will focus its programmes on areas in which it can provide added scientific and political value.

Following that reasoning, in the autumn of 2017 the SPG set four priority objectives out of the 11 adopted in Geneva. The main one is entitled 'counter distortion and safeguard the record', while the other three are of a more technical nature. For the first time in the IHRA's history, the heads of delegation were invited by the Swiss chairmanship to an informal meeting. On 25 October 2017 in Zurich they endorsed these priorities. The priorities were then formally adopted at the plenary session in Bern.

The adoption of the first strategy and priorities was considered a major success, bearing in mind that it took the organisation several years to choose a new name. Looking forward, the Italian chairmanship will now face the task of adapting external and internal funding to the strategy and priorities, and then start thinking about the structure of the organisation.

#### 2.3. Other main activities

The Swiss chairmanship paid particular attention to the preservation, both physically and in memory, of historic sites in a number of member states. Significant progress was made for sites in Lithuania and the Czech Republic.<sup>3</sup> Progress continues or is announced for the Jasenovac site in Croatia, Komárom in Hungary and Staro Sajmište in Serbia; IHRA experts visited these countries at the invitation of the authorities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Vision: 'A world that remembers the Holocaust. A world without genocide'. Mission: 'Uniting governments and experts to strengthen, advance, and promote Holocaust education, remembrance and research worldwide and to uphold the commitments of the 2000 Stockholm Declaration'. Aims: '1) Set expectations & share good practices 2) Promote historically informed policy making 3) Build cooperation & engagement'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Professionalise the permanent secretariat; establish a monitoring and evaluation system; and improve the process for producing periodic country reports.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Lithuania: building of the former Vilnius ghetto library in poor condition. Czech Republic: former Roma camp in Lety u Pisku where there is now a pig farm.

The draft legislative amendment in Poland<sup>4</sup> occupied the chairmanship to a large extent and gave rise to debates at plenary meetings. From 23 to 25 April 2017, the IHRA Chair participated in the 'March of the Living' at the site of the former Nazi extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau, marking the importance that the IHRA attaches to Poland. On a proposal by the chairmanship, the plenary session adopted a declaration in June 2017 condemning the use of terms such as 'Polish death camps' instead of Nazi camps in occupied Poland. Furthermore, both in his plenary interventions and in his statements published on the IHRA website<sup>5</sup>, the IHRA Chair insisted that Poland continue to respect its commitments stemming from the 2000 Stockholm Declaration on the Holocaust, the founding document of the IHRA.

Steven Katz of the United States was coming to the end of his five-year term as Advisor to the IHRA chairmanship and permanent office, mainly on scientific matters. Three nominations to replace him were proposed, although in the absence of consensus no decision was taken in Geneva. During the summer, two of the applicants withdrew from the shortlist. The informal meeting of heads of delegation in Zurich helped to allay any final misgivings and Wichert ten Have of the Netherlands was appointed Advisor to the IHRA at the plenary session in Bern.

Under the Swiss chairmanship two observer countries, the first since 2011, were admitted as liaison countries, a step before admission as a member state: Bulgaria, with Israel as lead country, and Australia, with the United Kingdom as lead country. In addition, the IHRA created a new website and the management of its budget was transferred from Stockholm to Berlin, the headquarters of its permanent office.

Between March 2017 and March 2018, the IHRA also organised two conferences, each of which opened with a speech by the Swiss chairmanship. The first, in Vilnius, closed the IHRA's main multi-year programme devoted to mass killing sites. The second brought together about 80 participants at the University of Teacher Education (UTE) in Bern, the day before the IHRA plenary meetings. Devoted to the mass murder by the Nazis of people with disabilities, this conference benefited from the logistical and financial support of UTE Bern and the FDFA. Such a partnership, already implemented in 2015 at UTE Lucerne at an IHRA conference on education, was a source of inspiration.

The IHRA experts on the genocide of the Roma received representatives of the Yenish and Sinti organisations in Geneva and representatives of Roma organisations in Bern for a dialogue on the situation of these communities in Switzerland and their perspectives.

#### 3. Activities in Switzerland

There is no requirement for the country assuming the chairmanship to organise specific activities. It is nonetheless conventional within the IHRA for such activities to be organised each year and to be presented to the delegates. From discussions in 2015 it was concluded that it was important to mobilise additional regular partners and to maintain a coherent approach to the type of projects supported, such as the publication of memoirs of Holocaust survivors living in Switzerland.

Thus the network of regular partners, namely the delegation's advisory group created in 2004, was expanded in anticipation of the chairmanship year. In addition, its members were invited to submit specific ideas. A committee of those who submitted ideas consolidated this programme at several meetings in 2016. Based on the discussions and the first projects supported, three priorities were announced: education, youth and social media. These priorities are closely interlinked.

Other projects were submitted directly to the FDFA. A complete list of the projects which received funding can be found in Appendix 1. With the exception of the French translation of survivors' memoirs, they are all projects of third parties. The main projects supported are as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Act on the Institute of National Remembrance. The amendment was accepted during the final weeks of the Swiss chairmanship.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> www.holocaustremembrance.com > Press Room. All the speeches made by the IHRA chair can also be found on this site.

#### 3.1. Publications

15 volumes of previously unpublished memoirs of Holocaust survivors were published between 2010 and 2014 by the *Kontaktstelle für Überlebende des Holocaust*, but they were available only in the original language, German. In the run-up to the presidential year, upper-secondary school pupils and their teachers undertook to translate several volumes into French as part of their course work. The project, which was conducted in Geneva and Biel, also involved direct meetings between the pupils and survivors. The results of their work were presented to the IHRA delegates in Geneva. The other volumes were translated into French with the specific support of the General Secretariat of the Federal Department of Home Affairs. The 15 volumes in French are available free of charge from the FDFA. A complementary volume entitled *'Les passeurs de Mémoires'* retraces this editorial adventure.

The chairmanship also published the volume 'Racconti e volti di sopravvissuti dell'olocausto' which was translated by the FDFA Language Service. It contains a summary in Italian of the 15 volumes of memoirs, as well as the history of the Kontaktstelle. The IHRA Chair offered the first copy of this volume to his Italian successor at the ceremony to mark the handing-over of the presidency on 6 March 2018 in Berlin.

Canadian historian Charlotte Schallié and Swiss journalist Agnes Hirschi, the adopted daughter of Carl Lutz, collected around 30 testimonies from five countries of people saved by the protective measures taken by Lutz and his team in Budapest in 1944. The chairmanship provided financial support for this first collection of testimonies: 'Under Swiss Protection. Jewish Eyewitnesses from Wartime Budapest'. The editors presented it to the IHRA delegates in Bern, and also abroad.

The publication in March 2018 of a biography of Kurt Bigler-Bergheimer, a German Jew who had taken refuge in Switzerland during the war, received funding from the Swiss chairmanship. Kurt Bigler instituted an award which, between 2008 and 2018, rewarded 15 Swiss educational projects aimed at raising awareness of and passing on knowledge of the Holocaust.

The Federal Commission against Racism published a report on anti-Semitism in the June 2017 issue of its magazine TANGRAM.

### 3.2. Web app

A team from UTE Lucerne, under the direction of Professor Peter Gautschi, developed the free web application 'Fliehen vor dem Holocaust. Meine Begegnung mit Geflüchteten' in collaboration with Austrian and German partners. This interactive app, the first of its kind, allows school pupils to consider the fate of five people who had to flee because of National Socialism. The concept was presented to the IHRA delegates in Bern. The FDFA has published a blog<sup>6</sup> and the free app was officially launched on 8 May 2018.

#### 3.3. Exhibitions

The Gamaraal Foundation created an exhibition of giant portraits and video testimonies of a dozen Holocaust survivors living in Switzerland, including members of the second generation. A brochure was produced to accompany the exhibition. The exhibition was presented in Berlin during the ceremony to mark the beginning of the Swiss chairmanship, then at the plenary meetings in Geneva. Subsequently it travelled around Switzerland and was then shown abroad, including at the UN headquarters in New York.

The Swiss chairmanship provided financial support for the exhibition entitled 'Budapest 1944: Judenverfolgung und Schweizer Hilfe', which was shown in Zurich, and the 'Objets transmissionnels', a collection of portraits and stories about the second generation network of the Israeli community of Geneva.

Three exhibitions in English were made available free of charge to the Swiss chairmanship to be shown to the IHRA delegates: an exhibition by the ICRC on its role during the Second World War; the exhibition 'Carl Lutz and the Legendary Glass House in Budapest' of the Hungarian

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Blog: https://www.interactive.eda.admin.ch. Blog of 6.2.2018.

Lutz Foundation; and an exhibition by the ICRC on its activities in Budapest in 1944-1945. The latter was subsequently shown in the Hungarian capital.

The new exhibition 'Kinder im KZ Bergen-Belsen', produced by the German memorial, has a dual link with the Swiss chairmanship: many of the interned children settled in Switzerland after the war and youth is one of the ongoing priorities of the chairmanship. After its inauguration in Germany, it will be shown in Zurich in early 2019.

#### 3.4. International conferences

A highlight of the chairmanship was the International Study Days: 'Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust. Practice and experience in education' held in Lausanne on 22 and 23 January 2018. The conference was organised by UTE Vaud, under the direction of Professor Nadine Fink, in close collaboration with UTE Lucerne and the Swiss Conference of Cantonal Directors of Education, and with the financial support of the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation and that of the Swiss chairmanship of the IHRA. After the opening remarks, including from the IHRA Chair, practitioners from 25 countries presented and discussed their experiences, highlighting the variety of possible approaches. They were also able to see the exhibition 'I Am Your Protector'. The International Study Days thus promoted national and international exchanges and opened new scientific and pedagogical perspectives.

At the request of the Holocaust Memorial in Paris, the Swiss chairmanship helped organise a symposium on 'La Suisse face au génocide: nouvelles recherches et perspectives'. The symposium brought together about 10 speakers in Paris on 4 February 2018 who reported in particular on the most recent research on the flight to Switzerland of refugees from France, Italy and the Third Reich. During the following week, the Holocaust Memorial also organised a series of film screenings and encounters with survivors on the same theme.

#### 3.5. The 'Salle Carl Lutz' at the FDFA

The FDFA decided to name one of its main meeting rooms after Carl Lutz. The inauguration took place on 12 February 2018 in the presence of the head of the FDFA, Federal Councillor Ignazio Cassis, 43 years after Lutz's death. The plaque unveiled on this occasion includes the following text (in French only): 'This room is dedicated to all staff members of the department who, like Carl Lutz, Harald Feller, Gertrud Lutz-Fankhauser, Ernst Vonrufs and Peter Zürcher in Budapest in 1944–1945, acted with great humanity that serves to inspire us all.' An explanatory text around the plaque summarises the actions taken by these people, under the leadership of Lutz, to protect tens of thousands of Jews in Budapest during the final months of the war.

A blog featuring an interview with Carl Lutz's adoptive daughter was published at the time of the inauguration.<sup>7</sup>.

# 4. International Holocaust Remembrance Day: 27 January

The IHRA Chair, the President of the National Council Dominique de Buman (who, according to the Swiss political system, is the highest ranking person in the country), and Gábor Hirsch, a survivor from Auschwitz-Birkenau living in Switzerland, gave speeches at the ceremony held in Bern on 29 January 2018. The Israeli exhibition 'Beyond Duty' on diplomats recognised as 'Righteous Among the Nations' was inaugurated at this occasion.

In order to complete the Swiss aspect of this exhibition, the Swiss chairmanship organised the presentation of archive documents. The public was able to see for the first time two of the four collective passports, as well as the facsimile of a third kept at Yad Vashem, all signed by Carl Lutz in 1944. The four documents, with thousands of names and portraits, are kept in Switzerland, Hungary and Israel. On 8 February 2018, a panel discussion brought together historians, diplomats and former diplomats to discuss the links between obeying orders and following one's conscience.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Blog: https://www.interactive.eda.admin.ch. Blog of 12.2.2018.

The Swiss chairmanship joined forces with the EU Delegation to the UN in Geneva to host an exhibition by the Anne Frank House at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. The originality of the 'Let Me Be Myself' exhibition was that the guides were local students specifically trained for their new job. With the financial support of the Swiss chairmanship, the 'Coordination intercommunautaire contre l'antisémitisme et la diffamation' organised a meeting in Geneva a few days earlier between children of deported resistance fighters and children of Nazi leaders.

On 1 February 2018, a representative of the chairmanship presented the activities and priorities at the meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna. Another representative had done the same in October 2017 for foreign ambassadors stationed in Switzerland.

The question of the meaning of 27 January and possible other days to commemorate victims of National Socialism was raised by a member of parliament. On 27 June 2017, National Councillor Martina Munz introduced the motion 'For the Recognition of Holocaust Remembrance Day for the Roma (August 2)' (17.3400). The motion invited the Federal Council to recognise this day during the year of the Swiss chairmanship of the IHRA. In its response, the Federal Council reiterated that Switzerland included the genocide of the Roma in the commemoration of International Holocaust Remembrance Day (27 January) and that this practice corresponded to that of many states, including Germany, Italy and the Scandinavian countries. The national councillor subsequently withdrew her motion on 15 March 2018.

# 5. Activities of Swiss representations abroad

In December 2016, the FDFA secretary general informed the Swiss embassies in the member and observer countries of the IHRA, as well as the Swiss representations to IHRA's permanent international partners, on the priorities, key moments and main projects of the future chairmanship. He also indicated that the General Secretariat and Presence Switzerland (PRS) would consider applications for financial support for innovative projects that made sense in the country of residence and provided a communication platform.

A list of activities organised or supported by the Swiss representations can be found in Appendix 2. This list was published on the FDFA website in early February 2018. Most of the activities were financed by the regular budget of the representations, the others by PRS.

They included the screening of films (J. Berger, 'Un Juif pour l'exemple'), the presentation of books ('Under Swiss Protection' and a book on the Jews of Rome), exhibitions ('The Last Swiss Holocaust Survivors' and 'Carl Lutz y la casa de cristal') and the organisation of conferences, notably in Riga on education and in Washington DC on the work of remembrance and genocide. Several representations took an active part in the events organised as part of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Many representations used social media for their communication. The IHRA Chair participated in the event organised by the Swiss general consulate in New York on 1 February 2018, on the book about Carl Lutz.

### Appendices:

- 1) List of projects receiving financial support from the Swiss IHRA chairmanship
- 2) List of activities by Swiss representations abroad during the Swiss IHRA chairmanship

# Appendix 1: Projects receiving financial support from the Swiss IHRA chairmanship Project Further information

Project	Further information
«Mémoires de survivants de l'Holocauste»: French translation of 15 volumes of memoirs of Holocaust survivors, five of which were translated by secondary school pupils in Geneva and Biel	https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/home/news/news-fdfa.html/content/eda/en/meta/news/2017/11/27/memoiren-holocaust.
«Under Swiss Protection»: Publication by C. Schallié and A. Hirschi, comprising a collection of eyewitness testimonies on the rescue efforts of Carl Lutz and his team	https://www.ibidem.eu/de/under-swiss-protection.html
«Fliehen vor dem Holocaust. Meine Begegnung mit Geflüchteten»: Web app for Holocaust education (in German), developed by the University of Teacher Education in Lucerne, in cooperation with Austrian and German partner institutions	http://www.erinnern.at/app-fliehen
«The Last Swiss Holocaust Survivors»: Travelling exhibition by the Gamaraal Foundation	https://www.last-swiss-holocaust-survivors.ch/en
«Children in the Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp»: Travelling exhibition by the Bergen-Belsen Memorial	http://kinder-in-bergen-belsen.de/en/home
«International Study Days. Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust»: Conference organised by the University of Teacher Education in Lausanne	https://www.hepl.ch/cms/accueil/actualites-et-agenda/actu-hep/enseignement-apprentissage-shoah.html;jsessionid=071C99DAE28A8BB45D7B7479BD2373AB
«Racconti e volti di sopravvissuti dell'Olocausto»: Italian translation of the final volume of memoirs of Holocaust survivors living in Switzerland, published by the Kontaktstelle für Überlebende des Holocaust in Switzerland	https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/it/dfae/servizi- pubblicazioni/pubblicazioni/alle- publikationen.html/content/publikationen/it/eda/Geschicht e/Holocaust-Abschlussb-2014
«Ich glaubte ins Paradies zu kommen»: Publication by Lea Bloch on Kurt Bigler, Swiss Holocaust survivor	https://www.chronos-verlag.ch/node/21033#kurztext
«Let Me Be Myself»: Exhibition by Anne Frank House at the UN in Geneva, on the occasion of International Holocaust Remembrance Day	http://www.annefrank.org/en/Worldwide/Exibitions/Let-me-be-myself/
«La Suisse face au génocide. Nouvelles recherches et perspectives»: International conference organised by the Holocaust Memorial in Paris and the Swiss IHRA chairmanship	http://www.memorialdelashoah.org/evenements- expositions/colloques/colloques-colloque/suisse-face- genocide-nouvelles-recherches-perspectives.html
«2e génération : enfants de résistants déportés et de responsables nazis témoignent»: Event organised by CICAD in Geneva, on the occasion of International Holocaust Remembrance Day	http://www.cicad.ch/fr/cicad-news-shoah- news/evénement-cicad-«-2e-génération-enfants-de- résistants-déportés-et-de-responsab
«Objets transmissionels»: Travelling exhibition and publication by the Réseau Deuxième Génération, Geneva	http://www.cerclemartinbuber.ch/wordpress/?p=880
«Budapest 1944: Judenverfolgung und Schweizer Hilfe»: Series of events organised by the Archives of Contemporary History, Zurich	https://www.afz.ethz.ch/publikationen/ausstellungen/buda pest-1944
«Mass murder of people with disabilities and the Holocaust»: IHRA conference in cooperation with the University of Teacher Education in Bern	https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/conferences/mass-murder-people-disabilities-and-holocaust

# Appendix 2. Activities by Swiss representations abroad during the Swiss IHRA chairmanship

Representations Athens	<b>Project description</b> Organisation of a series of events (round-table discussion, etc.) in Kavala, Greece, in collaboration with Kavala Municipality and the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	<b>Date / period</b> 20–23.10.2017
Bogota	Support for the presentation of Yad Vashem's 'Más Allá del Deber' (Beyond the call of duty) exhibition.	31.01.2018
Budapest	Organisation of a conversation between Carl Lutz's adopted daughter and Agnes Heller (a Hungarian philosopher saved by Lutz) and presentation of the book 'Under Swiss Protection'.	22.01.2018
	Presentation of the new exhibition by the International Committee of the Red Cross on its activities in Budapest in 1944–45.	23.01–29.03.2018
Berlin	Ceremony marking Switzerland's assumption of the chairmanship of the IHRA and presentation of 'The Last Swiss Holocaust Survivors' exhibition.	07.03.2017
	Organisation of a series of events: 'The last Swiss Holocaust Survivors' photo exhibition; reading and discussion of the biography of Else Lasker-Schüler with Kerstin Decker and Lea Rosh; concert by the Diplomatic Quartet featuring works by Jewish composers (including Ernest Bloch, a Swiss national who became a naturalised American citizen); screening of 'A Jew Must Die', with director Jacob Berger and film-maker Aude Py. Participation in commemorative events and discussions with Holocaust survivors.	March 2017 -December 2017
Buenos Aires	Presentation of the Spanish version of the Carl Lutz exhibition, inaugurated in the presence of Lutz's adoptive daughter, and presentation of the exhibition in several Argentinian provinces.	Mars 2017– March 2018
	Participation in the official unveiling of two plaques and a sculpture in memory of Carl Lutz.	
	Facebook campaign dedicated to the 'Swiss Righteous Among the Nations'.	
Caracas	Support for an 'in memoriam' event at the Anne Frank Foundation.	28.01.2018
Helsinki	Participation in the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, with a speech by a member of the Swiss delegation.	25.01.2018
London	Screening of the film 'A Jew Must Die' at the UK Jewish Film Festival, followed by a discussion with the film's director, Jacob Berger.	14.11.2017
Luxembourg	Support for an international symposium on the work of remembrance, and sponsorship of a concert by Swiss musicians on Holocaust Remembrance Day.	January 2017– April 2017
OSCE mission in Vienna	Support for a conference in Warsaw on the theme of 'Combating anti-Semitism through youth education'	14.09.2017
Montevideo	Presentation of the Carl Lutz exhibition in the presence of Lutz's adoptive daughter.	March 2017
GC New York	Presentation of 'The Last Swiss Holocaust Survivors' exhibition at the UN.	18.01.2018
	Organisation of an event with Rabbi Arthur Schneier at Park East Synagogue in the presence of the IHRA chair and the two authors of the book 'Under Swiss Protection'.	01.02.2018

	Presentation of 'Under Swiss Protection' by its authors at Park East Day School and United Nations International School.	31.01.2018
Paris	Organisation of a lunch debate on the Swiss chairmanship of the IHRA in the presence of representatives of major Jewish institutions in France.	22.11.2017
	International symposium on the theme of 'Switzerland in the face of the genocide. New research and perspectives' organised by the Shoah Memorial in cooperation with the Swiss chairmanship of the IHRA.	04.02.2018
Riga	Organisation of a public round-table discussion and workshop with experts and professors on the theme of 'Holocaust Education Three Generations Later: Challenges and Opportunities'.	29.01.2018
Rome	Presentation of the book 'Storia degli ebrei di Roma' (History of the Jews of Rome) by its author, Ricardo Calimani, Swiss honorary consul in Venice.	05.04.2017
	Support for a project launched by Italy's IHRA chairmanship marking the 80th anniversary of the fascists' promulgation of racial laws.	May 2018
Santiago de Chile	Support for the presentation of Yad Vashem's 'Más Allá del Deber' exhibition.	January 2018– February 2018
	Presentation of the Spanish version of an exhibition on Carl Lutz.	April 2018
San José	Participation by the Swiss embassy in an exhibition organised by the Israeli embassy entitled 'Diplomáticos reconocidos como Justos ante las Naciones' (Diplomats recognised as Just Among the Nations).	29.01.18
Singapore	Presentation of 'The Last Swiss Holocaust Survivors' exhibition to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day and screening of six films on this topic.	20.01.2018
Tel Aviv	Screening of the film 'A Jew Must Die' at the Museum of the Jewish People, in the presence of director Jacob Berger.	March 2017
	Participation in the inauguration of 'Paul Grüninger Street' in the presence of Federal Councillor Johann Schneider-Ammann.	October 2017
	Participation in the inauguration of a scenic outlook dedicated to the memory of Carl Lutz in the Switzerland Forest near Tiberias.	November 2017
	Presentation of 'The Last Swiss Holocaust Survivors' exhibition in collaboration with the Massuah Institute for the Study of the Holocaust and Tel Aviv University.	April/May 2018
Washington	Organisation of a series of three lectures on Holocaust remembrance:	
	<ul> <li>'The Future of Holocaust Remembrance in the United States, Switzerland and Beyond' in partnership with the Judaic Studies Programme at George Washington University</li> </ul>	November 2017
	<ul> <li>'Holocaust Education, Youth and Social Media' in partnership with the Anti-Defamation League.</li> </ul>	December 2017
	<ul> <li>'Preventing Atrocities in the 21st Century' in partnership with the United States Institute of Peace.</li> </ul>	January 2018
	Presentation of 'The Last Swiss Holocaust Survivors' exhibition at the Virginia Holocaust Museum in Richmond, VA, and the Hillyer Art Space in Washington, DC.	February 2018 –April 2018