



Working Package 8

Policy Maker Conference: Shaping Police Education and Training in Austria

In this afternoon event, the project was presented to policy makers from Austria. They were informed about the project's first steps and its findings. Not only how the workshops and the journey went by, but only an academic insight in the effectiveness of the project was part of this event. In small groups the participants were invited to share firsthand their experiences with the audience. We discussed about the conditions for historical educational project on the history of the Holocaust when working with police officers.

We invited policy makers and partners from memorials, the police, ministries and foundations to see our findings and to discuss the educational work with the police on topics such as the holocaust.

In our presentation, we tried to show the quality of the project by combining both workshops on sites and at the cities where participants came from and traveling with them to unknown sites of the holocaust by police officers as perpetrators – mainly in Poland.

There were some greeting words by our partner Stephan Mlczoch and Oberst Lang, both from the Ministry of the Interior from Austria. Both of them highlighted the importance of such projects for Austria's police forces.

Then, Dr. Andreas Kahrs presented the project. He explained structure, parts and methods of the educational project with police officers from both Austria and Germany. He screened a source from a first transport from Vienna to Sobibor in the summer of 1942. By seeing this, the audience could understand the connection between Austria's capital and the visited sites of the holocaust.

During the next step, there were former participants, police officers, ready to talk with the audience and share their experiences. For 30 minutes there was a Questions and Answers in small groups regarding how it was like as police officers today to learn about the Police during the Holocaust.

Then we presented a research perspective on the question of effectiveness of educational projects. By presenting first results from qualitative interviews we showed by quotes how this project affected police officers.

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