

association for historical dialogue and research
tarihsel diyalog ve arařtırma derneđi
óμιλος ιστορικού διαλόγου και έρευνας



NEWSLETTER

SAVE THE DATE!

COUNCIL OF EUROPE RETURNS TO CYPRUS

16 & 17 APRIL 2010

“Developing intercultural communication skills when learning history in a multicultural context: pupils’ assessment in focus”

Friday 16 April will consist of presentations from keynote international and local speakers, including Ms Tatiana Minkina-Milko (Council of Europe), AHDR and Teacher Trade Union representatives, as well as international Education Consultants.

Saturday 17 April will consist of three parallel workshops lead by Cypriot trainers and animated by international experts John Hammer, Catherine Thompson and Chris Rowe. The workshops themes are: the history of fashion, the history of education, and housing tradition.

To obtain your application form, please contact:
ahdr.mide@gmail.com

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO THINK HISTORICALLY:

6 YEARS ON

7 & 8 MAY 2010

In 2004, AHDR set alight a vibrant and pioneering debate on history education when it organized its first conference in Cyprus. Now, after six years, AHDR will be revisiting the notion of historical understanding and its relation to history teaching through an international symposium titled “What Does it Mean to Think Historically: 6 Years On”. **The symposium brings together leading scholars from around the world to share the latest developments and most innovative thinking on core areas of history education: second order understanding, teacher training and teachers’ representations, and trends in educational materials.** Findings from AHDR’s latest research surveying history educators from across the divide will be premiered during the symposium.

March 2010

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AHDR: dialogue about enhanced pedagogic practices that would encourage the values of the discipline of history



Message from Dr. Chara Makriyianni, AHDR President

Dear Friends

Spring is in the air! Together with the sunshine (and some instances of rain), AHDR is blossoming with new ideas and developments, fresh thinking and renewed energy to pursue our plans and activities! As you can see from our newsletter, AHDR is moving into a very busy season. The coming months are filled with a number of events – a Council of Europe teacher training on 16-17 April, a presentation on archiving in collaboration with PRIO and ICTJ, and an International Symposium on History

Education on 7-8 May. Also coming up is what looks to be a very thought-provoking experience is POST – AHDR tour of Famagusta on 10 April. In the meantime, the results from our three research projects have started to come in, all of which will help to fertilize new understandings of history education.

Please share your ideas and thoughts with us!

See you soon
Chara

RESEARCH: ORAL HISTORY ACCOUNTS COLLECTION PRESENTATION

Last month, the AHDR presented some of its initial findings from the study entitled Oral History Accounts Collection which focuses on formerly mixed villages (villages which included both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots) to investigate the representations of the past, present and future of their inhabitants.



The two researchers collecting these oral history accounts through interviews and questionnaire administration presented some initial findings on the life of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot inhabitants of one formerly mixed village in Cyprus. Particularly interesting was the comparison made by the researchers of the way members of the two communities often differently perceived the specific events that shaped their lives. The large attendance at the event demonstrated the public's interest in research in formerly mixed villages in Cyprus. The Oral History Accounts Collection study is part of the AHDR's Representations of History project co-financed by the EU Commission and UNDP-ACT.



FILM PROGRAMME: CIVIL RIGHTS IN HISTORY AND ON FILM

The AHDR hosted a series of film screenings throughout March, featuring films that showcased the history of the struggle for civil rights in America. Along with showing one of the earliest films of the feminist movement, films focusing on the role played by music, such as jazz and blues, in the civil rights movement were also featured. Films included Salt of the Earth, Eyes on the Prize, Guess Whose Coming to Dinner, Deep Blues and Bird.

Following the screening of each film, discussions were led by guest speaker, Dr. Peter Rutkoff, Professor of American Studies at Kenyon College, and Rena Choplarou, AHDR Board Member. Discussions following Guess Whose Coming to Dinner were also co-hosted by the Cyprus Fulbright Commission and co-facilitated by U.S. Scholar, Dr. Beauty Bragg. Discussions allowed participants to share their view on the films and presented them with an opportunity to delve deeper into the issues of Civil Rights in the US, as well as looking at comparisons in Cyprus.



Multiperspectivity and Intercultural Dialogue in Education (MIDE) is supported by the United Nations Development Programme – Action for Cooperation and Trust (UNDP-ACT). The European Commission partially supports one of AHDR's latest research projects on Representations of History.



TEACHER TRAINING: LEARNING DIFFERENT HISTORIES – DISCUSSING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES

POST Research Institute (POST RI) with the support of the AHDR hosted a 2-Day Teacher Training Workshop on "Learning different histories - Discussing Alternative Approaches". Educators from across Cyprus participated in the event which took place on 19 and 20 March at the Ledra Palace Hotel.



The event commenced on Friday 19 March with a seminar involving various presentations by international experts and discussions co-ordinated by Cypriot experts from across the divide, which offered participants a fascinating insight into alternative approaches to teaching, as well as varying perspectives of historical events.

Saturday involved 3 consecutive parallel workshops, conducted by Dr. Zvi Bekerman (Israel), Mr. Jamie Byrom (UK) and Dr. Peter Rutkoff (USA). The workshops allowed participants to examine alternative approaches to teaching history from varying pedagogical approaches, as well placing participants in the role of both the teacher and the student. Moreover, for the first time in Cyprus, teachers were given the opportunity to tackle some of the more sensitive issues of Cyprus (past and present) in an open dialogue.

The event was organised under the Education for Peace III project, funded by the European Commission and implemented by POST RI.

MIDE PROJECT NEWS

For more information about the MIDE project and upcoming activities please contact AHDR President Dr Chara Markiyianni and/or AHDR Advisor Rana Zincir Celal at ahdr.mide@gmail.com

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AHDR LIBRARY

This month Library & Archive would like to share with you details of two books concerning Missing Persons.

Written by Panikos Neokleous and called **Missings 1974** (ΑΓΝΟΗΘΕΝΤΕΣ 1974), this 584 page book published in 2008 is a useful resource for anyone interested in the subject of missing persons in Cyprus. **Missings 1974** contains 50 authentic and important testimonies from people who lived in various parts of the Island in 1974. Rather than highlighting conflict and division and opening the wounds of people, the book has a strong message of peace between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. **Missings 1974** has received good critiques from both communities and has also been translated into Turkish.

Izler Silinmeden 1 is a new book which photographs the 25 Turkish Cypriot villages remaining in the southern part of Cyprus. The book was written by Mahmut İslâmoğlu, Altay Burağan, Eralp Adanır ve Şevket Öznur and it is the first volume of the study. The team filmed and photographed 150 Turkish Cypriot villages and the first volume was published in January 2010. The book was published by the Cyprus Turkish Writers Union Publication through the financial support of the Department of Culture. The chapters of the book include the following:

Chapter 1: Faslı, Antroliku (Gündoğdu), Hirsofu (Altıncık), Pelatusa (Karaağaç), Stavrokono (Aydoğan), Aşağı Arodez (Aşağı Kalkanlı), Falya (Gökçebel)...
Chapter 2: Evdim (Düz kaya), Bladanisya (Çamlıca), Alehtora (Gökağaç), Malya (Bağlarbaşı), Muttayaka (Mutluyaka), Piskobu (Yalova)...
Chapter 3: Klavya (Alaniçi), Dohni (Taşkent), Civisil (Cevizli), Mennoya (Ötüken), Köfünye (Geçitkale), Dali...
Chapter 4: Finike, Susuz, Marona (Uluçam), İstinco (Tabanlı), Bodamya (Dereliköy), Peristerona

We would like to inform you that we are gratefully accepting book donations from publishers or individuals. We would be pleased to host your books on history and education in our newly launched library. If you would like to contribute please contact us at: libraryandarchive@hotmail.com

AHDR NEWS FLASH!

WATCH AHDR'S NEW VIDEObLOG "OLD FACE, NEW PLACES: A HISTORY OF HOME"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-quMMPQmCw>

Renovation work on the much-anticipated Home for Cooperation has begun. AHDR has spent the last three years raising funds and acquiring all the necessary permits to buy and renovate the dilapidated building sitting in the heart of the buffer zone in Cyprus split capital, Nicosia.

The Home will be the first intercommunal building dealing with history education. The Cyprus Community Media Centre takes a look at the history of the place and the hopes for the future.

Stay tuned for new episodes of AHDR's video-blogs.

NEW AHDR BOARD

**The AHDR Board is pleased to
announce the new positions of its
members**

Alev Tugberk - Secretary
Chara Makriyianni – President
Charis Psaltis - Research Director
Dervis Comunoglu - Project Director
Fezile Isik -Vice President
Kyriakos Pachoulides - Treasurer
Marios Empaminondas - International
Adminstrator
Loukas Perikleous - Organisational
Secretary
Meltem Onurkan Samani -Press Officer
Rena Choplarou - Press Officer
Stavroula Philippou - Board Member

NEW RESEARCH STUDIES



POST RI - EDUCATION FOR PEACE III TEXTUAL AND VISUAL ANALYSES OF THE UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOL CYPRUS HISTORY TEXTBOOKS

POST Research Institute held a press conference on 4 March to announce the findings of its latest research involving the analysis of the upper secondary school history textbooks used in the north of the Island. The research involved a comparative study of the upper secondary Cyprus (Turkish) History textbooks. Four 'Cyprus History' textbooks prepared under the Republican Turkish Party (CTP) authority from 2006 until 2009 for Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 were analysed and compared with the two current 'Cyprus Turkish History' textbooks created under the auspices of the current (National Unity Party – UBP) authority.

The research indicates that the previous textbooks attempted to use a multicultural approach, as well as explaining the history of Cyprus without detaching it from world history. However, the new textbooks place great emphasis on the history of the Turks, such as the Ottoman Empire and the formation of Turkey, as well as focusing on the Turkish-Greek conflict. Additionally, the history of Cyprus is mostly narrated from the perspective of the Turkish-Greek conflict. In this respect, the new textbooks can be seen to mostly focus on Ottoman and Turkish history and its relationship with Cyprus, however, the previous textbooks used a multicultural approach and lent towards the notion of mutual tolerance and understanding.

The recent textbooks also include the notion of a homogenous and single "other", which was generally not the case in the previous textbooks.

In terms of the visual images, the new textbooks are not structured well in terms of page design and there is lack of student-centered images which is a great shift from the previous books. Instead, visual images are mostly used to support the discourse, instead of using images as a tool to encourage students to question and analyse. In brief, the new textbooks can be described as encompassing an ethno-centric approach, both in terms of the discourse and images used.

The research was undertaken as part of POST Ri's latest project, *Education for Peace III* which is funded by the European Commission.

For further information please contact: info@postri.org and/or www.postri/efpIII/

PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES FOR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE

A recent survey by the Open University of Cyprus under the scientific guidance of assistant professor Michalinou Zempylas aimed to investigate the views and emotional readiness of teachers for reconciliation and growing the culture of peaceful coexistence.

The research findings were presented in the conference, organized by the Ministry of Education on "Growing culture of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect and cooperation of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot to the exclusion of the occupation and the reunification of the motherland and our people: Challenges and Prospects".

Presenting the research, Mr Zempylas explained that the study was conducted by combining both quantitative methodology and qualitative methodology, and that the findings showed that:

- **93,4%** of teachers surveyed believe the importance of the growing of peaceful coexistence
- **97%** believe that the target has difficulties in its practical issue
- **23,8%** disagree with the target of peaceful coexistence
- **20,2%** believe that the target is not feasible
- **85,2%** believe that the target will help to solve the political problem
- **55,4%** do not feel ready to promote reconciliation
- **64,3%** are not sure whether it is possible to reconcile
- Only **7.7%** feel ready to promote reconciliation.

OTHER NEWS

SLOVAK EMBASSY WITH GREEK CYPRIOT & TURKISH CYPRIOT POLITICAL PARTIES TO PRIORITIZE EDUCATION

A press release issued following February's meeting of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot political parties convened by the Slovak Ambassador, announced that one of the three activities planned for the year will involve education. The press release states that representatives of educational institutions from both communities, as well as the EU Commissioner for Education will be invited to discuss how education can strengthen relations between the two communities.

CALL FOR PAPERS

CONFLICTS AND VALUES OF HERITAGE: THE CYPRUS CASE AND BEYOND PRIO CYPRUS CENTRE ANNUAL CONFERENCE NICOSIA 12-14 NOVEMBER 2010

The 2010 PRIO Cyprus Centre conference will focus on the complex politics of heritage destruction and reconstruction in Cyprus. It will examine the diverse social and political implications of heritage practice and neglect across the Cyprus divide, especially with respect to identity formation and reconstruction. Moreover, it aims to draw knowledge from heritage practice in other conflict zones with similar problems and predicaments. An abstract of up to 300 words must be submitted by 3 May 2010.

To submit an abstract or request further information, contact Olga Demetriou: prio.olga@cytanet.com.cy

CONFERENCES IN CYPRUS

MAKING GLOBAL CONNECTIONS: DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS 8-10 APRIL 2010 – LIMASSOL, CYPRUS

The conference will take place in Limassol on 8-10 April. Speakers include distinguished experts in the field of Education and Development Education from across Scotland, Lithuania, England, Ireland and Cyprus. The conference will bring together teachers, NGO representatives, active citizens and experts from across Europe. It will offer many interactive workshop sessions to share good practices of Development Education in schools, to explore challenges and opportunities in linking Development Education to school curricula, and to enhance the participants' skills in the field of Development Education.

To register, contact: futureworldscenter@gmail.com

ICTJ ARCHIVE WORKSHOP – 26-27 APRIL SOUTH AFRICA HISTORY ARCHIVE IN CYPRUS

On 26 & 27 April ICTJ together with PRIO and AHDR will be hosting a workshop with Piers Pigou, an expert from South Africa who will share his experience of setting up the South Africa History Archive - a very successful and innovative example of an 'activist archive' which has given voice to those traditionally not heard within the official history discourse. The event will involve a public presentation on 27 April at 18.30 followed by in-depth training and discussion with Piers Pigou.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

EDUCATION AND RECONCILIATION SYMPOSIUM 19-21 June 2010 – ISTANBUL, TURKEY

In 2009, a project named "The Role of Education as a Means to Reconciliation in Societies experiencing Social and Political Conflict" was launched. The aim of the project is create dialogue on the role that education plays in creating reconciliation, with the Kurdish issue as the case in point. From 19-21 June 2010, a symposium on this project will be held in Istanbul, where the issues of peace building and reconciliation in post-conflict societies, as well as the role that education plays in this will be emphasized. The dialogue in this symposium will include case studies from various countries.

2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MEDITERRANEAN WORLDS THE MEDITERRANEAN OF THE MYTHS, THE MYTHS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN 3-6 JUNE 2010 - ISTANBUL, TURKEY

An international conference organized by the Department of History of the Eastern Mediterranean University & the Department of Historical and Social Sciences of the University of Salerno & the Department of History of Istanbul Şehir University. The conference organisers seek thought-provoking papers exploring the mythological, symbolic and ideational peculiarities of the 'Mediterranean world' across these different historical periods.

For further information, please contact: history@sehir.edu.tr / luca.zavagno@emu.edu.tr

COUNCIL OF EUROPE EUROPEAN SEMINARS FOR 2010

11-14 May 2010 -3rd European Seminar: Preparing future teachers for intercultural understanding – Oslo, Norway

21-26 June 2010 - 128th European seminar on: Gender Mainstreaming – how does school guarantee gender equality? - Bad Wildbad, Germany

For more information please visit the Council of Europe website: www.coe.int

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HISTORY DIDACTICS 22-28 August 2010

22-28 August 2010 – 20th International Congress of Historical Sciences – ICHS – CISH – Amsterdam, The Netherlands

For more information please visit the website: <http://www.historydidactics.org/>

HOME FOR COOPERATION CONSTRUCTION WORK IN FULL SWING!

Over a month has passed since construction crews got to work on the renovations on the Home for Cooperation.

The inside of the building has been carefully cleared and items of historical importance have been salvaged by the AHDR.

Construction work is due to last a year and by early 2011 the doors of the newly restored Home for Cooperation will be open!

The idea behind the Educational and Research Centre resulted from the efforts of the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research to create a shared space, an inter-communal, multi-functional Educational Centre in the UN buffer zone of Cyprus with Conference, Museum and Exhibition rooms, a Centre for Archives, a Research and Education centre for children and educators, a Library and a workplace for researchers and organisations with a shared vision of cooperation.

The Home for Cooperation project is approved under the EEA (European Economic Area) Financial Mechanisms by the donors Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein that will contribute most of the overall costs. It is supported by individuals, organisations, local authorities in Cyprus and abroad, embassies and UNFICYP and has received significant donations by Switzerland and Sweden. Contributions were also made by friends and members of the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research, historical and

intellectual societies and organisations, academics and civil society in Cyprus, Germany, Denmark, Netherlands, United Kingdom, and United States of America.

If you would like to contribute in some way, donations can be made directly to the bank account, specifically opened for the funding of the Home for Cooperation project with:

Société Générale Bank

Account number: 32-38068-0081-01-8 EUR

IBAN: CY81 0120 0032 0380 6800 8101 8978

SWIFT Code: SOGECY.2N

To keep up to date with the latest developments of the renovations of this important building, be sure to watch this space!



RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

THANKS to all those who have renewed their AHDR membership and also thank you for sending your updated contact details, which will help us greatly to strengthen our communication.

Should you wish to renew your membership, simply visit our website at <http://www.hisdialresearch.org/membership.htm> and email us your complete form at hisdialresearch@yahoo.com

If you have changed your contact details, please, remember to send us your updated details and new email address to enable us to provide you with all the news on time.

CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome your ideas, thoughts, lesson plans, photographs, drawings, research findings, articles, news, links and suggestions at:
hisdialresearch@yahoo.com

We thank you for your continued support!