

Whether and how to address perpetratorship in concentration camp memorial sites has been a subject of controversial debate for decades. In the public consciousness, these historical sites are associated above all with the suffering and self-assertion of the prisoners.

Yet examining the perpetrators is essential to understanding how concentration camps came into being. Why did people commit themselves to working in such institutions? What motives, convictions or benefits guided them?

At the Ravensbrück Memorial Museum, for example, the residential houses of the female guards are the first buildings visitors see upon entering the grounds. They stand as a striking example of the close link between ideology and material incentive.

In 2004, the Ravensbrück Memorial Museum became the first concentration camp memorial to open an exhibition on perpetrators; this was updated in 2020.

This year's 17th Ravensbrück European Summer School builds on this engagement. It focuses on new research perspectives on perpetratorship – in particular with regard to gender-historical approaches, forms of collaboration in occupied territories, and questions of museum display and media representation. Continuities after 1945 and the need for shared strategies in educational work will also be addressed.

The Ravensbrück European Summer School is aimed at students, scholars, multipliers in historical-political education, and interested participants from diverse disciplines and generations. Simultaneous German/English interpretation will be provided.

CONCEPT

Isabel Enzenbach, Marcus Funck, Andrea Genest, Johanna Kootz, Achim Saupe, Thomas Schaarschmidt, Aliena Stürzer, Freya Ziegelitz, Irmgard Zündorf

COORDINATION

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FURTHER INFORMATION

www.ravensbrueck.de

ACCOMODATION

Overnight stay in a shared room with full board at the neighbouring youth hostel: 58 euros per night. Monday to Friday: 232 euros

CONFERENCE VENUE

Ravensbrück Memorial Museum
Straße der Nationen
16798 Fürstenberg/Havel

DIRECTIONS

By train: Hourly service on the RE5 from Berlin (towards Stralsund/Rostock) to Fürstenberg/Havel. From the station, it is approx. 2 km on foot or by taxi. Transfer available on request.

By car: Fürstenberg/Havel is located approx. 80 km north of Berlin on the B 96 Berlin-Stralsund.

SUPPORTED BY:



Der Beauftragte der Bundesregierung
für Kultur und Medien



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17TH RAVENSBRÜCK EUROPEAN SUMMER SCHOOL

25–29 AUG 2025

PERPETRATORS

IMAGES AND PLACES.
A CHALLENGE FOR
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 25 AUGUST

EXHIBITING PERPETRATORS

Chair: Andrea Genest

- 10:00 **Thematic tours of the Ravensbrück Memorial Museum (DE/EN)**
- 12:30 **Lunch**
- 13:30 **Welcome and introduction to the Summer School**
Andrea Genest
- 14:00 **Lecture and roundtable: Exhibiting Perpetrators**
Insa Eschebach, Andrzej Kacorzuk, Aya Zarfati
- 16:00 **Research forum**
Chair: Johanna Kootz, Sonja Mues, Thomas Schaarschmidt, Freya Ziegelitz
- 19:30 **Get-Together**

TUESDAY, 26 AUGUST

PERPETRATORSHIP FROM A GENDER-HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Chair: Aliena Stürzer

- 09:30 **Concepts of perpetratorship and perpetrator research**
Frank Bajohr, München
- 10:00 **Perpetratorship in the concentration camp system**
Stefan Hördler, Göttingen
- 11:00 **Facets of female perpetratorship**
Verena Meier, Heidelberg
- 11:30 **Discussion**
- 12:30 **Lunch**

- 14:30 **In-depth tours (DE/EN)**
- 18:00 **Dinner**
- 19:30 **Staged reading “Irma Grese”**
Petra Goldkuhle, Berlin

WEDNESDAY, 27 AUGUST

COLLABORATION AND CO-OPERATION UNDER OCCUPATION

Chair: Sara Berger

- 09:30 **Key aspects of an approach to perpetrators**
Sara Berger, Frankfurt a. M.
- 10:00 **Collaboration in Poland**
Grzegorz Rossoliński-Liebe, Berlin
- 10:45 **Denmark: Collaboration or co-operation?**
Jens-Christian Hansen, Hjørring
- 11:15 **The Italian police’s many forms of collaboration**
Amedeo Osti Guerrazzi, Rom
- 11:45 **Discussion**
- 12:30 **Lunch**
- 15:00 **Workshops**
- 18:30 **Dinner**

THURSDAY, 28 AUGUST

SHIFTS IN MEDIALITY

Chair: Andrea Löw

- 09:30 **Ravensbrück perpetrators – film, imagination and gender**
Katja Baumgärtner, Berlin
- 10:00 **Perpetrators in the exhibition**
Dominique Hurth, Berlin

- 11:00 **Perpetratorship and Nazi crimes in digital games**
Jakob Saß, Berlin
- 11:30 **Discussion**
- 12:30 **Lunch**
- 15:00 **Workshops**
- 18:00 **Dinner**
- 19:30 **Film screening**

FRIDAY, 29 AUGUST

CONTINUITIES OF IDEOLOGY

Chair: Isabel Enzenbach

- 09:30 **Contemporary relevance and outlook on international perpetratorship**
Franka Maubach, Dominik Rigoll, Davide Conti
- 11:30 **Critical Friends**
Chair: Johanna Kootz, Thomas Schaarschmidt