

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



NEWSLETTER

NEWSFLASH!

TEACHING TO LEARN

Watch the AHDR's latest video blog entitled "Teaching to Learn". This third blog from the AHDR gives an overview of the Council of Europe workshops held in April 2010 in Nicosia, Cyprus and includes interviews with expert education consultants:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RAGABs3pGFo>

If you have not yet seen our previous video blogs – be sure to check them out on our website!

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Communication Advisor and Video-blogs Producer; Stefanos Evripidou, who recently received a journalism award for his contribution to the advancement of the rights of asylum seekers:
<http://www.cyprus-mail.com/cyprus/cyprus-mail-journalists-awarded-their-work-migrant-issues/20100620>

AHDR WEBSITE

Please note the new address of the AHDR website:

<http://www.cyprus-tube.com/historical-dialogue/>

AHDR-MIDE TEAM EXPANDS!

The AHDR is pleased to announce the new members of the Multiperspectivity and Intercultural Dialogue in Education (MIDE) team.

Marina Theodotou - Project Manager; Alev Tugberk - Educational Director and Alexis Antoniou – Office Assistant.

To get to know more about Marina, Alev and Alexis, please see page 4 of this newsletter.

July 2010

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



Message from Rana Zincir CELAL, former AHDR – MIDE Project Manager

Dear friends,
Earlier this month, I had the unique experience of cheering on a group of 150 endurance athletes as they crossed the finish line of a 250 km, 7-day race through the Gobi Desert in China. Carrying their own supplies (water, food, medical gear, sleeping bags, etc) for the entire length of the journey, the competitors made their way across sand dunes, native Uyghur villages, Buddhist temples, rivers and many other features of a beautiful yet difficult landscape. Though I was only a tiny part of this whole spectacle, I was tremendously moved and inspired by the sheer resiliency of the human spirit to adjust to and meet

challenges of all kinds. Working for dialogue in Cyprus can be seen as marathon in itself, where determination, passion and support make all the difference with each step taken. As I move on from my post at AHDR, I'm grateful to have been part of a community of equally inspiring and committed people, who together are cultivating a new vision and understanding of the future. I'd like to thank the entire AHDR family (the MIDE team, our members, our partners and the Board) for a truly unique experience. Let's look forward to celebrating the opening of the Home for Cooperation next Spring!
Sevgilerle, Rana

AHDR BOARD MEMBERS VISIT THE HOUSE OF LITERATURE IN OSLO, NORWAY

As part of their visit to Oslo for the Council of Europe conference "Interactions, convergences, conflicts: European lessons in shared histories" in June 2010, representatives from Board of the AHDR had the opportunity to visit famous and inspirational House of Literature.



In the autumn of 2007, Norway's first House of Literature opened its doors in Oslo. The purpose of the House of Literature is to communicate and promote interest in literature and reading, as well as freedom of speech issues.

The objective is also to inspire a growing interest in Norwegian and international fiction and non-fiction, and to serve as a meeting place for all those interested in books and literature. The House of Literature is furthermore an important arena for public meetings and seminars organised by a range of different organisations and institutions, discussing a broad variety of topics ranging from international politics and climate change to cultural matters.

The House of Literature has also become an important arena for public debate in the capital of Norway. The Norwegian Broadcasting Company NRK airs their weekly debate on Channel 1 from the house.

The ground floor of the house contains a well-stocked bookshop and a café, restaurant and bar.



One floor focuses on children and youth, with the children's room Sjeherasad open to kindergartens three days a week. Schools are also invited to visit the house during the day, whilst the house also offers a variety of events in the afternoons and evenings. The House of Literature devotes special attention to reaching out to youths and young adults with an immigrant background, especially through workshops during school holidays.

The entire loft is dedicated to writers and authors. A total of 50 workspaces are available, along with offices for authors and a permanent meeting room for a network of journals and quarterlies.

The House of Literature can also offer an author's apartment where foreign authors and intellectuals can live and work in Oslo for a period between one week and three months. The apartment is offered rent free, and by invitation only.

One of the objects of the House of Literature is to foster debate and to serve as an arena for important voices from both the Norwegian and international public domain. In addition to presenting its own authors, they attach importance to presenting authors from the Nordic countries and from the rest of the world.

The visit to the House of Literature was truly inspirational and an amazing example of how such a building can provide so many services to both the local and international community. Moreover, the House plays an important role in the education of the young generation and providing a space for minority groups to have a voice.

The AHDR are keen to take inspiration from the House of Literature and work hard on creating and establishing such an institution with the Home for Cooperation (H4C), which is due to open in May 2011.



For more information on the H4C, please see page 6 of this newsletter and/or visit our website.

AHDR was represented by AHDR Board Members: President, Chara Makriyianni and Secretary Alev Tugberk (their participation was enabled by an invitation from the Council of Europe), as well as Treasurer Kyriakos Pachoulides and International Administrator Marios Empaminondas. Their trip to the House of Literature was made possible thanks to the organisation and support of the Norwegian donors.

US CONNECTION!

AHDR Secretary Meltem Onurkan Samani and two members of the AHDR are now in Ohio, at the very crossroads of the United States as part of a programme being implemented by the Cyprus Fulbright Commission.

Participants will study American History with a team of American teachers to master the narrative of American History from Pre-Contact to 1877. The project is being co-directed by Peter Rutkoff, Professor of American Studies at Kenyon, who has lived and worked in Cyprus in the fall of 2005 and again in 2007 and returned to Cyprus in 2010 to work with the AHDR on a series of film events on the American Civil Rights Movement.

MIDE PROJECT NEWS

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Over the coming months the MIDE Education Department will be working on some new and exciting ideas and synergies. The aim is to implement the following action plan:

History Teachers' Journal

At the onset of the new academic year (2010-2011), we will be introducing a "History Teachers' Journal", in which teachers from across the divide will be able to share their ideas, lesson plans and activities. This will involve a forum in order to discuss issues concerning teacher training, limitations and delimitations of actual classroom practice and how to improve themselves as professionals.

Synergies with Research

In collaboration with the MIDE Research Department, we plan to carry out further research on history education in Cyprus with the focus on relating the findings to practice.

Supplementary Materials

Over the coming months we will be appealing to history educators from across the divide to contribute to a "Supplementary Materials Folder", in which educators, parents and students will have access to additional materials to use in classrooms, quizzes and questions to administer based on the most updated history trends. All items will be in line with the notion of multiperspectivity and dialogue.

If you would like to contribute and be involved in the "History Teachers Journal" and/or "Supplementary Material Folder" please do not hesitate to submit your ideas and suggestions. For more information please email ahdr.mide@gmail.com We look forward to hearing from you...

LIBRARY & ARCHIVE NEWS THE GROWING AHDR LIBRARY!

We are delighted to announce that during July our Library will be enriched with more than 400 new titles.

The new titles will include books by Cypriot and international experts regarding the subjects of Cyprus History, History Teaching and Intergroup Relations.

These new books will be catalogued and available on the shelves of the AHDR Library to all those interested in borrowing a copy. Researchers or individuals interested in obtaining access to the library are asked to please contact: LibraryandArchive@hotmail.com or visit our office at the Cyprus Community Media Centre, Ledra Palace Buffer Zone, Nicosia.

MONITORING & EVALUATION

What does it mean to think historically? 6 years on

The gathering of researchers and academics for the International History Education Symposium "What does it mean to think historically?: 6 years on" was seen as a great success

RESEARCH

HISTORY EDUCATORS STUDY: IMPLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

The data acquired from the History Educators Study, has now been collected and is currently being analysed. Our thoughts are turning to the important implications and applications that these results will have. Undoubtedly, the interplay between history educators' classroom practices, their intergroup relations, their epistemological beliefs about history and their representations concerning the history of Cyprus which the results of this research will potentially unravel will be of great interest.

The data collected from both sides of the existing divide will permit us to make comparisons between the educational systems in the North and South of Cyprus and between Greek and Turkish Cypriot history educators' perceptions, beliefs and characteristics. The data collected on opportunities for further professional development will identify the status of current opportunities for training in Cyprus and unmet needs.

Such information will be very useful in forming the basis of a report with recommendations that could be used to inform teacher trade unions and educational authorities. Further, the results of this research will be directly used by the AHDR to guide the design of educational material that history educators can use practically in their teaching. To complement the educational material, workshops and further professional development opportunities can be created for history educators, which will be based on empirical evidence. At an initial stage, a research report will be published summarising the main findings of the study in the fall of 2010.

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.

by the AHDR and an important basis on which to build. The collaboration between the international speakers involved in the Symposium has paved the way for the further exchange of ideas and practices towards the building of future teacher training programs and material with an emphasis on multiperspectivity, critical and historical thinking. Moreover, the AHDR is currently working towards compiling the proceedings of the Symposium into a notable publication.

INTRODUCING THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE MIDE TEAM!

Marina Theodotou (Project Manager) holds a Master of Arts in International Economics and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics (with Honors Magna Cum Laude) from the University of South Carolina. She began her career in banking, with tenure of 10 years and various roles at Bank of America in North Carolina and New York City, gaining a Six Sigma Black Belt. Between 2007 and 2009, Marina was the Director of Business Development & Operations for the Cyprus Investment Promotion Agency. Between 2004 and 2007, she was the Country Director in Jordan for the Financial Services Volunteer Corps between 2004 and 2007.

She has been an invited speaker in Cyprus as well as the United States, the Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf and is a member in several international professional organizations. She has appeared on television locally, discussing investment issues and has published articles locally and internationally. In 2009, Marina was voted one of the 100+ most powerful women in business in Cyprus.

Since January 2010, she is Managing Director and Founder of Curveball Limited, a boutique business consultancy firm based in Nicosia, Cyprus focusing on strategic and advisory and project management consultancy for small medium enterprises, start-ups and foundations.

Alev Tugberk (Education Director) was born in Turkey and graduated from Teacher Training College, Faculty of Foreign Languages, English Department. She then worked as an English Language and History teacher in an English medium college in Kyrenia for 20 years. In the meantime she obtained her M.A in English Language Teaching and Educational Studies in 1997. She was granted a scholarship to do Curriculum Planning and Development at James Madison University, Washington D.C. She became an Inspector of English Language in 2007 in the Turkish Cypriot Board of Educational Appraisal, Evaluation and Guidance. She then was promoted to the post of Assistant Director of General Secondary Education in 2008.

Alev Tugberk is the chief author of content based English language textbooks *Multiple Fun 1*, *Multiple Fun 2* and *Multiple Fun 3*.

She has a long NGO background, mainly being an elected Teachers Union Representative and an active member of peace building activities within different organisations.

Alexis Antoniou (Office Assistant) graduated from The English School, Nicosia and having finished his military service is now a BA student in history at University College London. His interest lies in the field of modern European history. Whilst at school, he participated in conferences and workshops that involved the two communities. He was the president of the bi-communal society 'Under the Same Sky' and the chair of the General Assembly at Mediterranean Model United Nations, Nicosia, Cyprus.

In 2004 and 2005 Alexis participated in two Youth Exchange programmes in Poland and France. He believes that participating in the MIDE project and being part of the team will provide him with a valuable opportunity in which he can learn more about historical research and especially projects of a bi-communal nature. Alexis will be with the AHDR until mid-September 2010.

The AHDR and MIDE team would like to take this opportunity to wish Rana Celal Zincir all the best in her future life in London and thank her for her hard work and valuable contribution to the MIDE project and the Association as a whole.

PARTNER NEWS

BICOMMUNAL WORKSHOPS FOR CREATIVE WRITING

The Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot Teachers' Platform "United Cyprus" is organizing a series of workshops in the fall. The bi-communal workshops will provide the chance for new authors to spring, from those who share a vision for a common future of the island and are dedicated in promoting the ideals of peace and coexistence.

If you are interested in participating in the workshops, please send an e-mail to: tokalemi@spidernet.com

RE-WRITING HISTORY TEXTBOOKS: HISTORY EDUCATION: A TOOL FOR POLARISATION OR RECONCILIATION?

**Thursday 15 July, 19.30
Cyprus Community Media Center**

POST Research Institute (POST RI) will be holding a cocktail to celebrate the launch of its latest book: *Re-Writing History Textbooks: History Education: A tool for Polarisation or Reconciliation?*

Since 2006, POST RI has undertaken extensive research into the Cyprus history textbooks in secondary schools in the northern part of the Island including an account of the changes that have occurred and the political influences dominating textbook revisions and this is now available to all interested parties in the form of a book. The book will be available in English, Turkish and Greek.

The book launch cocktail will include a presentation of POST RI's findings and an opportunity for participants to pose questions to the researchers directly involved in the research.

The book is a useful resource for anyone interested in history education in conflict and post-conflict areas and how the political changes of a country are often mirrored in the history that is taught to the new generation.

This latest research comes under the umbrella of POST RI's latest project, Education for Peace III which is funded by the European Commission and supported by the AHDR.

For more information please email: info@postri.org or visit POST RI's website: <http://www.postri.org/efpIII/>

THE DAY AFTER III - THE CYPRUS PEACE DIVIDEND FOR TURKEY AND GREECE

**By Özlem Oğuz Cilsal, Praxoula Antoniadou
Kyriacou & Fiona Mullen**

**Wednesday 21st July 2010, 19.30
Fulbright Centre, Nicosia**

The PRIO Cyprus Centre (PCC) cordially invites you to the launch of their third report in the Day After series, prepared by the award-winning team that has come to be known as The Three Ladies. Opening remarks by Alexander Downer (Special Adviser to the Secretary-General) will be followed by a presentation by the authors. The authors look beyond Cyprus to the region, analyzing the peace dividend that awaits Turkey after a solution that unites the island, while also previewing the benefits for Greece. As always, the authors' estimates are based on the examination of hard statistical data.

R.S.V.P to: prio.guido@cytanet.com.cy

TOGETHER WE CAN!

Thursday 22 July 2010 19.00, Kontea Park

The Bi-Communal Peace Movement and more than 40 Turkish and Greek Cypriot mass Organizations, will come together to remember the innocent victims of almost 50 years of violence and war. They will gather at the Peace Park in the village of Kontea, with relatives of the victims of massacres, unionists, teachers, students, artists, peace activists, common people of all walks of life, to remember our violent past and to pledge to build a common peaceful future. Divided we have suffered, but TOGETHER WE CAN build peace!

If you would like to reserve a place on the bus to be taken to Kontea (Turkenkoy), please RSVP to Christos Efthymiou at: efthymiou.assoc@cytanet.com.cy

ONE STREETS FESTIVAL VIDEO

On Saturday 5 June, a group of young people from the Cyprus Network for Youth Development organised a mobile street festival that took place at three points of the divided Nicosia street - Ledra/Lokmaci. The festival, called 'One Streets'; included drumming circles, live bands and various dance groups. The purpose of the festival was to bring people together and celebrate multiculturalism along this main shopping street in Nicosia. The Cyprus Community Media Centre was there to film:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/CyprusCommunityMedia>

THE ROLE OF EDUCATION TOWARDS A UNIFIED CYPRUS

"The Role of Education Towards a Reunified Cyprus" was organized on June 25 by the Slovak Embassy and the political parties participating in the bi-communal dialogue at the Ledra Palace.

The Cyprus Weekly newspaper reported on the conference and stated that teachers from both sides of the Green Line have expressed their willingness to work together towards ending the Cyprus problem and helping a solution succeed. European Commissioner for Education Androulla Vassiliou said "education in a reunified Cyprus should build in a practical way on the relationship between the people from the two communities and promote a common future." She added that the preparation for peaceful coexistence should focus on the effort to reconnect the population and promote a common future. Representatives of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot teacher unions expressed the common position that the role of education and educators in both sides of the Green Line was important towards finding a solution to the Cyprus problem.

PREPARING FOR THE OPENING OF THE HOME FOR COOPERATION IN MAY 2011!

As construction work continues at the Home for Cooperation (H4C), the AHDR are now busy concentrating on the specific aspects of the Home and its future as an important landmark and facility in Cyprus.

Having been inspired by a recent trip to the House of Literature in Oslo, the AHDR is keen to make the H4C a truly remarkable resource for all citizens in Cyprus and a symbol of shared cooperation and dialogue.

The opening of the H4C is scheduled to be held in May 2011 and the occasion will be marked by a historic celebration – details of which will follow in due course.

The idea behind the Educational and Research Centre resulted from the efforts of the AHDR 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.

Learn more about the idea behind the H4C and meet the former owner of the house, Avo Mangoian, who tells the story of the house from when it was built in the early 1950s and in which his family lived until 1974 in the AHDR's video blog: "**New Faces, Old Places: A History of Home**". Please visit our website to watch this and our "**History on the Grill**" video blog: <http://www.cyprus-tube.com/historical-dialogue>

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



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.cyprus-tube.com/historical-dialogue> and email us your complete form at ahdr.mide@gmail.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: ahdr.mide@gmail.com

We thank you for your continued support!