

# The International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania



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[www.komisija.lt](http://www.komisija.lt)

"Auschwitz  
and  
World War II as it is  
remembered  
in Lithuania"

The International Commission was created for specific researches on painful problems of the past, such as the Holocaust and the Soviet occupation.

The International Commission consists of 12 universally recognized historians.



The Commission started educational activities in 2002.

The program “***Teaching about the Crimes of Totalitarian Regimes, Prevention of Crimes against Humanity and Tolerance Education***” was created.



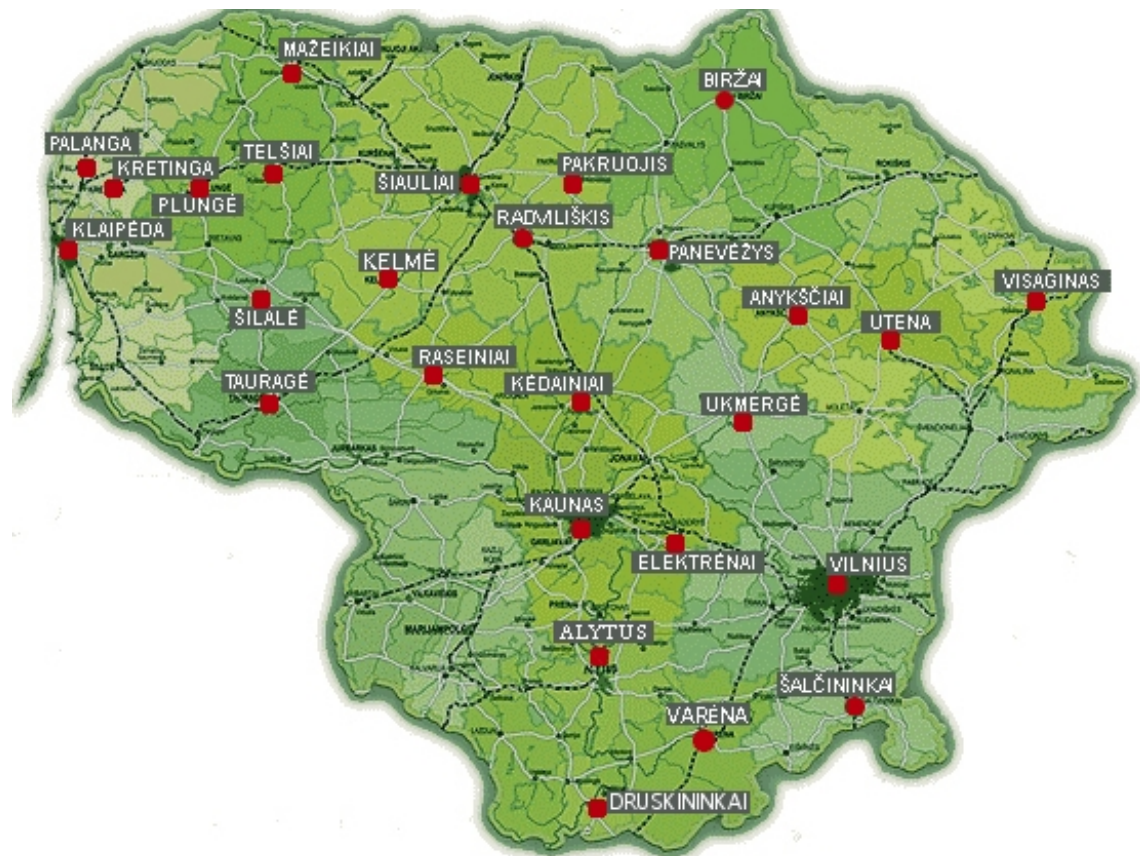
# How the program works?

1) Commemoration of historical dates, such as the **23rd of September** which is declared the National Memorial Day for the Genocide of the Lithuanian Jews, to commemorate the victims of the liquidation of Vilnius ghetto in Paneriai in 1943 and **International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27th January**;

# Moments from national Holocaust memorial day in Lithuania – 23th of September

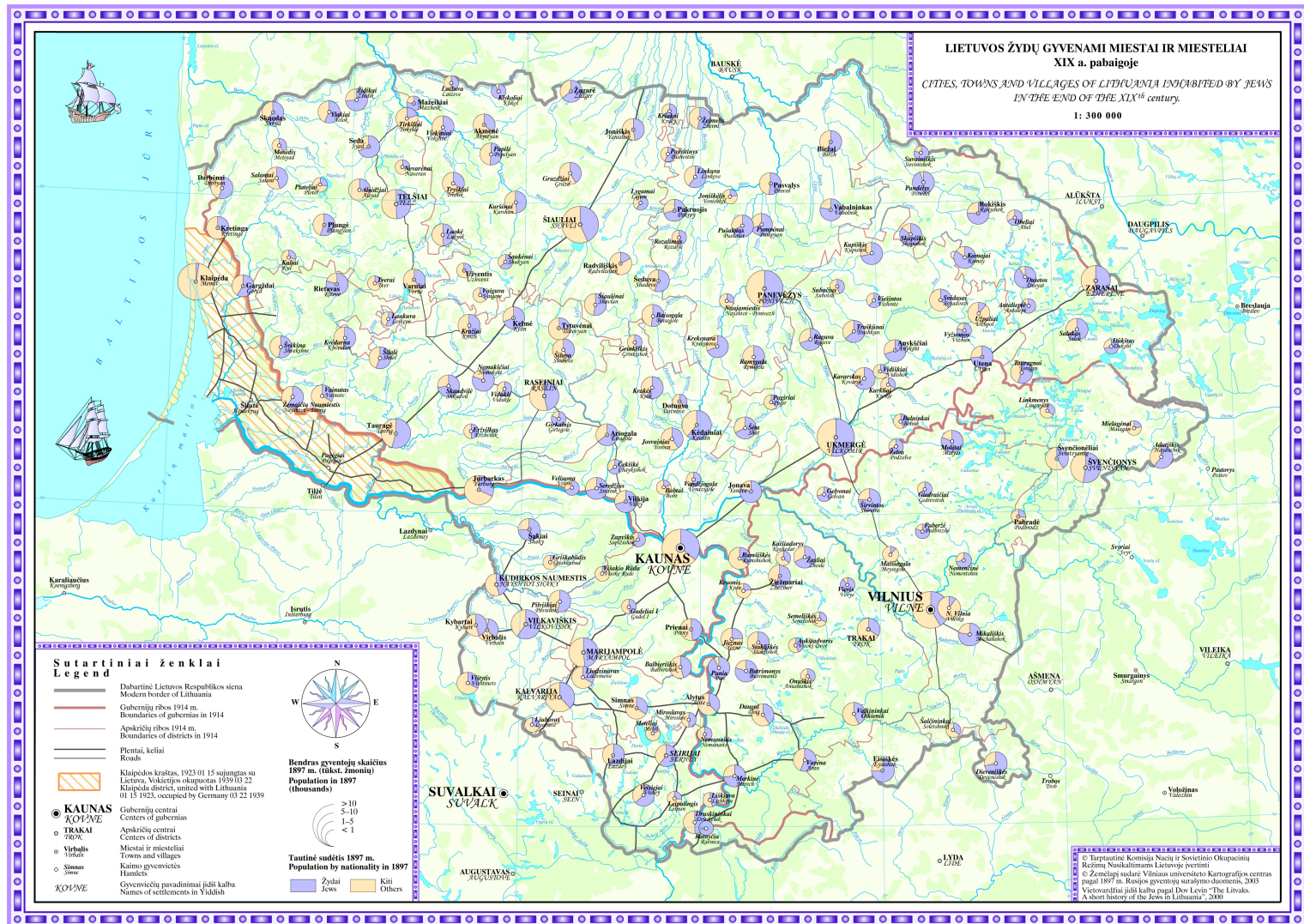


- 2) Seminars, conferences based on the structure and material of the researches of the Commission;
- 3) Network of motivated teachers, “Tolerance Education Centres”;
- 4) Local, regional, national and international projects.





# Why it is important to talk about Auschwitz and to commemorate the International Holocaust Remembrance day in Lithuania?



# **World War II history of Lithuania and Holocaust:**

- Before WWII, the Lithuanian Jewish population numbered around 220. 000
- During WWII approximately 92 -94 % of Jews were decimated (survived about 9.000 Jews)

# Our Jews were shot in pits near their places of residence





# Paneriai (**Ponary**) and **Kaunas IX** fort (in Kovno) are the biggest mass murder places in Lithuania



# ***Why it is important to talk about Auschwitz and to commemorate the International Holocaust Remembrance day in Lithuania?***

- Auschwitz is as a symbol of mass murders and humiliation of Jews and other nationalities;
- We must know, what happened during WWII in our neighbouring country and find out the differences and similarities of the Holocaust in both countries;
- Auschwitz has become a symbol of Holocaust in Europe;
- My personal opinion – Auschwitz is a must-visit for every human being on earth;



# The ways we talk about Auschwitz:

- Seminars for teachers;
- Special lessons;
- Commemorations (27<sup>th</sup> of January – the International Holocaust memorial day);

The common project of the International  
Commission and Memorial Auschwitz  
Birkenau State museum in 2012

**“Memorial Sites as a Key for Future  
Education”**

# The seminar in Auschwitz – Birkenau museum in April, 2012 (participated teachers and educators from Lithuania);



# The “follow – up” seminar in May, 2012, in Lithuania (the same participants as in seminar in Poland);





# The seminar in Lithuania, in July, 2012 (participants from Poland).



# What are the main goals of these seminars?

- To know;
- To see;
- To understand;
- To share the information.

More the information about the project you will find in website: <http://www.memorialsites.it/en/>

More the information you can find  
in website of the Commission:

[www.komisija.lt](http://www.komisija.lt)