

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

2021 WORK PLAN





Wienerberger, Alexander. 1933. "Verlauste Todeskandidaten," in: Die Hungertragödie in Südrussland 1933.

Holodomor

noun: ho·lo·do·mor \ˈhō-lō-dō-ˈmōr

The term Holodomor (death by hunger, in Ukrainian) refers to the starvation of millions of Ukrainians in 1932–33 as a result of Soviet policies. The Holodomor can be seen as the culmination of an assault by the Communist Party and Soviet state on the Ukrainian peasantry, who resisted Soviet policies.



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HOLODOMOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

MANDATE & STRUCTURE

The Holodomor Research and Education Consortium (HREC) promotes research, study, and understanding of the Holodomor – the Famine in Ukraine of 1932–33. HREC was established in 2013 with the support of the Temerty Foundation as a project of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), University of Alberta. The HREC mandate is carried out by CIUS staff in Toronto and Edmonton offices, and researchers in Ukraine.

The HREC Research division conducts and promotes research on and related to the Holodomor and engages scholars, students, and institutions across disciplines through a range of programs and activities, including publication and translation programs, conferences, research grants, and fellowships. HREC Education (HREC ED) promotes the inclusion of the Holodomor in curricula and educational institutions through training programs, resource development, presentations, and consulting, and works with ministries of education, school boards, administrators, and curriculum leaders. HREC ED develops instructional materials and trains educators across Canada, the US, and Ukraine in best practices for teaching the Holodomor, using a multidisciplinary approach that encourages development of critical thinking skills.

HREC is overseen by an executive committee headed by Frank Sysyn. Marta Baziuk serves as Executive Director. Education activities are led by Director of Education Valentina Kuryliw, who is assisted by Research Associate Sophia Isajiw and Education Assistant Svitlana Sheptytsky. Bohdan Klid is Director of Research and is supported by Research Associate Oksana Vynnyk. Research Associate Olga Klymenko provides support to the Executive Director and to the program as a whole. HREC works closely with Ukrainian colleague Dr. Liudmyla Hrynevych, who both represents HREC and heads her own organization, HREC in Ukraine.



The Holodomor Research and Education Consortium is grateful to the Temerty Foundation for its ongoing and generous support.



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

The year 2020 will be remembered as a time of unprecedented uncertainty, and like other institutions, the Holodomor Research and Education Consortium grappled with unforeseen challenges.

When it became clear that some of our programming could not take place as planned, HREC adapted in ways that ultimately expanded our reach and impact. For example, the 2020 Annual Famine Lecture, delivered online by HREC's Bohdan Klid, reached 1,217 attendees, and a discussion with Anne Applebaum on the writing of *Red Famine* drew an audience of more than 4,200. No doubt our experience coordinating between Toronto, Edmonton, and Ukraine prepared us for the world of Zoom meetings and presentations.

HREC's new Emerging Scholarship program has proven particularly successful. In the absence of in-person programming, HREC launched the online workshop series to provide opportunities for young scholars to discuss their research. Participants tell us that in the current conditions of isolation, they greatly value these virtual meetings that foster peer networking. The young scholars, who come from seven countries, now cooperate with one another, organizing events such as panels for major conferences.

The pandemic has not only magnified inequities in society but also amplified the relevance of the educational message of the Holodomor. With the rise in racism, xenophobia, and disinformation, teachers are turning to HREC Education for teaching materials and resources that foster critical thinking, social responsibility, and empathy. As schools closed during lockdown and instruction moved online, teachers integrated HREC learning materials in classes via Google Classroom. The Toronto District School Board, the largest school board in Canada with more than 600 schools, designated HREC Education as an Accepted Educational Partner. As a first, HREC Director of Education Valentina Kuryliw was invited to speak in a Toronto classroom via Zoom.

We are proud that HREC has developed a reputation as the "go to" resource in Holodomor studies. The Genocide and Human Rights Program of the Zoryan Institute and University of Toronto turned to HREC to organize a presentation on the Holodomor for its internet-based series on genocide, and the Heritages of Hunger project, a Europe-based



Marta Baziuk
Executive Director



Valentina Kuryliw
Director of Education

2020 HREC STAFF

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HREC Representative
in Ukraine

Director, Holodomor
Research and Education
Centre

consortium of famine researchers and educators, invited HREC to make a presentation to its members.

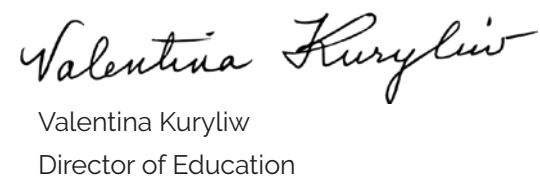
Requests to HREC Education for consultations increased manifold, and in particular, from genocide and Holocaust centers. The Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota reached out for assistance in developing a Holodomor Resource Guide for its Genocide Education Outreach Program and invited Valentina Kuryliw to speak on Holodomor Memorial Day, the first time the center marked the event.

HREC came to agreement with McGill-Queen's University Press to publish two important volumes. *Genocide: The Power and Problems of a Concept* features articles by experts who presented at a HREC conference on the topic of genocide. William Noll's *Transformation of Civil Society*, which is based on more than 400 interviews with elderly Ukrainian villagers, focuses on how collectivization destroyed a complex social structure and way of life. *East/West Journal of Ukrainian Studies* agreed to devote a special issue to colonialism, empire, and famine, again based on proceedings from a HREC conference. And HREC is nearly ready to go to print with a collection of articles by Ukrainian scholars, translated into English, on topics that have been neglected in the English language literature on the Holodomor.

In 2020, HREC Education prepared teaching materials in three languages for publication in Canada and Ukraine. *The Historian's Craft Lesson on the Holodomor*, a lesson on how to teach the Holodomor using interactive methodologies for engaged learning, was prepared for publication in English, translated into French, and modified for publication in Ukraine. In addition, Kuryliw's book *Holodomor in Ukraine* was translated into Ukrainian and is being modified for publication in Ukraine within a year.

The team at HREC is heartened that despite the challenges, 2020 was a year of achievement and new opportunities. In the fall of 2021, we will welcome the first Temerty Post Doctoral Fellow in Holodomor Studies, who will pursue an independent research project and contribute to the activities of HREC. We look forward to resuming face-to-face exchanges with scholars and educators while continuing to engage audiences worldwide through online programming.


Marta Baziuk
Executive Director


Valentina Kuryliw
Director of Education

HREC RESEARCH REPORT

PROMOTING EARLY CAREER SCHOLARS

■ Emerging Scholarship on the Holodomor Online Series

When the COVID-19 pandemic made in-person meetings impossible, HREC looked for other ways to engage scholars and encourage academic interchange. In the absence of face-to-face interaction, necessity was the mother of inventing the online series, Emerging Scholarship on the Holodomor. The program grew out of discussions with Karolina Koziura, a PhD candidate at The New School of Social Research, who had organized a Holodomor-related panel for a conference that was cancelled. HREC proposed to host an online series to support early career scholars and encourage them to try out ideas and approaches.

At each session, an early career scholar makes a presentation (papers are circulated in advance), followed by comments from an expert in the field invited for that session. A discussion follows with fellow early career scholars. The participants hail from Canada, the US, Great Britain, Australia, Austria, The Netherlands, and Ukraine. The fall sessions featured Karolina Koziura of The New School for Social Research in September, Dr. Kristina Hook of George Mason University in October, and John Vsetecka of Michigan State University in November.



Dr. Kristina Hook, who as a graduate student was awarded grants to participate in HREC conferences, is now Executive Director of the Better Evidence Project at the Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University.

After making a presentation as part of the Emerging Scholarship series, she wrote:

The level of scholarly expertise and professional collegiality at the HREC Emerging Scholarship on the Holodomor series has made these events some of the most productive and enjoyable on my calendar. I presented this fall, and the quality of my work was improved by hearing from my fellow early career researchers representing a wide range of disciplines and perspectives. I know that their thoughtful critiques contributed to my piece and encouraged me to finalize it for submission to a top-tier journal, where my article is now out for peer review. I very much appreciate HREC creating this opportunity to share our work and get to know other early career scholars in Holodomor studies.



I can't stress enough the importance of the Emerging Scholarship series. HREC has provided us the opportunity to create a strong and respectful community through which we can advance our research. Before the series, we early career scholars didn't really have a means of communication. We now know one another and each other's research. I think we all have been surprised to realize there are so many emerging scholars working within fields related to Holodomor Studies, and also how dispersed we are across fields, universities, countries, and so on. Several of us are now collaborating and have proposed panels at major conferences such as the upcoming Memory Studies Association Convention in Warsaw and the Association for the Study of Nationalities convention in New York. It is wonderful to have a community you can rely on when organizing such events.

Dissertation writing is often very lonely, and these discussions have helped me conceptualize my work, strengthen my arguments, and become acquainted with relevant sources and methodologies. I greatly benefited from feedback on my dissertation chapter from others from different disciplines. The series has also created an incredible opportunity to interact with established scholars whose work has inspired us. I received extensive comments from Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, the senior scholar who served as discussant for my presentation, for which I am extremely grateful.

— Karolina Koziura

Commenting on the value of the program, John Vsetecka, who is working on his PhD at Michigan State University, notes:

The HREC Emerging Scholarship series has been a wonderful venue for young scholars to share their work, exchange ideas, and interact with leading researchers in the field. As a result of participating in this group, I've been able to improve my current work and collaborate with others on new projects.

Descriptions of the sessions can be found below. HREC's Oksana Vynnyk manages the series, which will continue in 2021.

Fall Sessions of the Emerging Scholarship Online Series

SESSION 1 Learning What Not to Know: Famine, State Secrets, and Unbearable Information

- Presenter: **Karolina Koziura**, The New School for Social Research
- Discussant: **Natalia Khanenko-Friesen**, Director, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta

Karolina Koziura's doctoral dissertation is designed as a historical ethnography of Famine denial. In the chapter she presented, she investigates how journalists, politicians, and academics established the dominant frames and shaped the public discourse around the Famine. Her dissertation traces the ways Communist Party and Soviet government officials framed the developing food crisis in the Ukrainian countryside and who preferred to not know about the Famine. She argued that low and middle rank officials responded to the crisis by suppressing information about it in their internal communications. Focusing on the flow of information in the early months of 1932, she explored the impact of the bureaucratic production of secrets, misreporting, lies, and half-truths.



SESSION 2 Pinpointing Patterns of Violence: A Comparative Genocide Studies Approach to Violence Escalation in the Ukrainian Holodomor

- Presenter: **Kristina Hook**, George Mason University
- Discussant: **Serhii Plokyh**, Harvard University

Kristina Hook examined the nature, onset, and prevention of large-scale violence in the context of comparative genocide studies. She explained that current approaches trace genocide as an unfolding process, privileging methodologies that track large-scale violence according to numerically-based thresholds. She presented a new mixed methods qualitative and quantitative methodology to the case of the Holodomor as a framework that distinguishes evolving genocidal patterns in chaotic large-scale violence. By coding Joseph Stalin's 1932-33 correspondences regarding Ukraine according to this methodology, she proposes a means of pinpointing the moment when genocidal intent and victim selection overlap, with implications for applied genocide prevention efforts.

SESSION 3 The World Responds: International and Cross-Border Aid and Relief Efforts, (Dis)Information Campaigns, and the Fight to Help the Starving in Soviet Ukraine

- Presenter: **John Vsetecka**, Michigan State University
- Discussant: **Serge Cipko**, Assistant Director, Research, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta

John Vsetecka, whose dissertation examines the aftermath of famine in Soviet Ukraine, discussed the Holodomor in terms of international relief efforts, including aid committees formed in Lviv, Paris, Prague, Bucharest, London, Canada, Berlin, Argentina, Brussels, and Geneva. He explained that aid allowed some individuals and families to escape hunger and argued that to cast all relief efforts in terms of failure, as many have, is dismissive of those who survived thanks to such efforts. Through stories of survival, he examined how this aid worked and pointed out that world leaders and organizations were aware of the famine and ignored relief committees' calls for help. The information about the famine, available in numerous journals worldwide, was met with fierce disinformation campaigns that stalled relief efforts.

■ Visiting Scholar in Holodomor Studies: A Partnership at University of Toronto

In 2020, Andrey Shlyakhter was selected as a Visiting Scholar and, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, his tenure took place as a virtual engagement. HREC established a partnership in 2017 with the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine (Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto) to allow for the hosting of a visiting scholar in Holodomor studies. The HREC Visiting Scholar is selected based on the proposed research project and demonstrated qualifications to carry it out. The Scholar benefits from access to the university's rich library resources and to the archives of the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Centre, which include unpublished eyewitness accounts and survivor interviews, as well as interaction with HREC staff. HREC also facilitates meetings with scholars in relevant disciplines including in the genocide studies community.



Dr. Shlyakhter is a historian of the Soviet Union and its neighbours whose research explores the intersection of economic deviance, borderlands, ideology, and state power. He defended his dissertation on smuggling across the Soviet frontier (1919-24) in October 2020 at the University of Chicago. Dr. Shlyakhter proposed as his Visiting Scholar project the preparation for publication of an article titled "Borderness and Famine: Why Did Fewer People Die in Soviet Ukraine's Western Border Districts during the Holodomor, 1932-34?" He gave an online lecture on the topic on January 12, 2021.

Please see "Other Lectures" for more details.

TEMERTY POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN HOLODOMOR STUDIES 2021-22

In November, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies announced the inauguration of the *Temerty Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Holodomor Studies*, offered under the auspices of HREC. The fellowship was created as a way to support the study and expansion of knowledge about the Holodomor. Scholars in various disciplines were encouraged to apply, including but not confined to history, political science, anthropology, sociology, and literature, as well as famine studies, genocide studies, and rural studies. The announcement welcomed interdisciplinary and comparative project proposals. To qualify applicants must have received a PhD (or Candidate of Sciences degree) within the past five years at the time of application.

In addition to working on a research project, the Temerty Fellow will assist and participate in the overall program planning and activities of HREC, including the organization of a workshop or conference in the area of her/his research.

The Temerty Fellow will have the option to be co-hosted at the University of Alberta by one of the following departments: Anthropology, History and Classics, Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, Political Science, and Sociology. A co-hosting department will offer engagement via colloquia, mentorship, and other academic initiatives. An opportunity to teach a course in one of the departments may also be considered.

This competition was open to Canadian citizens, permanent residents of Canada, and foreign nationals. The duration of fellowship is for one year (with the possibility of renewal, subject to review, for a second year), and the annual stipend is C\$48,000. In addition, the award covers the costs of economy airfare to and from Edmonton; supplemental health benefits; and economy airfare and accommodations for a research trip to Toronto. Recipients of the Temerty Fellowship may not hold another fellowship concurrently.

The deadline for submissions was February 15, 2021.



RESEARCH GRANTS

The HREC Research Grants Competition is held annually to promote academic research on the Holodomor. For the 2020 competition, HREC encouraged applications in support of the publication of research results, the preservation of materials, and the organization of and participation in academic fora. The applications are reviewed by a committee of scholars and HREC associates. HREC encouraged proposals for larger collaborative projects that engage scholars and institutions from both in and outside Ukraine.

HREC awarded a total of \$39,000 CAD for 14 grants, ranging from \$1,300 to \$5,000.

**\$39,000
AWARDED**

**14
GRANTS**

INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

■ Yulija Hryshenko

Institute of History of Ukraine
National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv)
"Bulgarians in the Ukrainian SSR in the Time of Total Collectivization and the Holodomor"

This project focuses on the dramatic changes that the Bulgarian national settlements in Ukraine underwent in the 1920-30s in the course of collectivization, administrative-territorial reform, ideological and institutional transformations, as well as the so-called "cultural revolution" and the policy of korenizatsiia.



■ Andreea Kaltenbrunner

University of Vienna
"An Ignorant Neighbour? Reactions to the Holodomor in Romania"

Examining reactions in Romania to the Famine of 1932-33 in Ukraine, this project will produce a comprehensive study on how Romania, a neighbour of the Soviet Union with a large Ukrainian community, reacted to the Famine. Although the authorities knew and understood that a famine was taking place, they did not criticize the Soviet Union abroad. Using resources from archives in Romania, Moldova as well as Ukraine (Chernivtsi), the project investigates the responses to the Holodomor, focusing on the Romanian authorities as well as the Ukrainians living in interwar Romania.



■ Artem Kharchenko

Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute
"How to Describe the Forcible Transfer of Children in the Soviet Orphanages of the USSR during the Holodomor?"

Soviet orphanages are part of the history of the Holodomor 1928-35. This project focuses on formal and informal Soviet orphanage practices, which the author asserts can be considered genocidal, with social, cultural, national and age aspects to consider.



■ Karolina Koziura

PhD candidate, The New School for Social Research (New York)
"No Reconciliation without Recognition: The Work of Transnational Holodomor Memory Activists"

This project examines the work of Holodomor transnational memory activists and problematizes their struggles for international recognition of the Famine as a crime of genocide. This investigation of commemorative practices and remembrance projects organized by the Ukrainian diaspora in Canada within the context of transitional justice is based on interviews, discourse analysis, and media content analysis in Ukraine, Canada, and the United States.



■ Iuliia Kysla

University of Alberta
"Re-visiting Traumas from the Soviet Past. Ukrainian Cinema Between History and Politics, 1989-2020"

Drawing on recent developments in colonial and postcolonial theory, and on literature in the areas of historical politics and memory as well as trauma, this project analyzes post-Soviet Ukrainian cinema's engagement with history, particularly from the Soviet era. It addresses the cinematic treatment of the Holodomor and explores documentaries and feature films depicting the Famine, with an emphasis on the handling of trauma and use of visual strategies.



Nataliia Levchuk

Ptoukha Institute for Demography and Social Studies (Kyiv)

"Collective Farms, Grain Procurements and 1932-33 Famine Losses in Ukraine and Russia: A Comparative Regional Analysis"

Using data from collective farm archives and from statistical compendiums for Ukraine, its oblasts, and the major grain-producing regions of Russia (Lower Volga kraj, Central Black-Earth oblast, Central Volga kraj and North Caucasus kraj), the project compares the situation of collective farms and 1932-34 Famine losses in the context of Soviet repressive grain procurement policies and analyzes the dynamics of peasant resistance through their exodus from collective farms before and during the Famine. The goal is to establish similarities and differences in regional economic performance during the 1930-32 grain procurement campaigns and to determine whether there is a correlation between regional population losses and the specific characteristics of collective farms.



Olha Ryabchenko

H.S. Skovoroda Kharkiv National Pedagogical University

"'Ukrfil is Fully Satisfied with Us': Artists' Services to the Political Campaigns in the Countryside during the Stalinist 'Revolution from Above' and the Holodomor (1928-33)"

Under conditions of extreme oppression in the 1928-33 period, artists and writers were often left with no choice during the grain sowing and harvesting campaigns but to tour the villages under the slogans "Art in the fight for the reconstruction of agriculture! Raise high the flag of total collectivization! Let's liquidate the kurkuls as a class!" The project examines the role of the Ukrainian artistic, cultural, and literary intelligentsia in servicing Soviet propaganda campaigns in the countryside with a focus on the attitudes of artists towards their participation, their interaction with peasants and party activists in the villages, and the results of these tours.



Johnathon Vsetecka

PhD candidate, Michigan State University

"In the Aftermath of Hunger: Coming to Terms with Famine in Soviet Ukraine, 1933-88"

This project examines the ways in which repercussions of the 1932-33 Holodomor influenced and directed the lives of Ukrainians who attempted to move on from the violent and hungry years of the 1930s. It also incorporates in its scope the 1946-47 famine, the third famine to hit Soviet Ukraine in the twentieth century. Understanding the context of this third famine can elucidate ways in which hunger policies in Soviet Ukraine were part of a continuity of violence and starvation.



COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

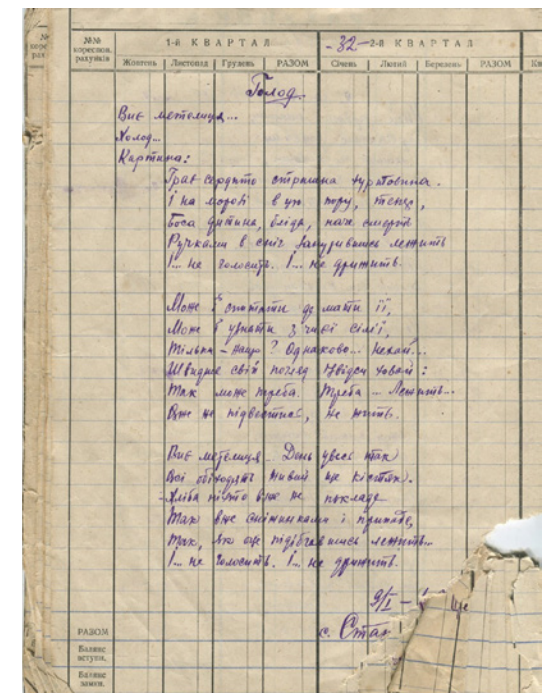
"Scattered and Unknown Holodomor Era Visual Documents: Kyiv Region"

Hennadii Boriak & Oksana Yurkova,

Institute of History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv) and

Kateryna Lobuzina, Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

The limited visual documentary sources from the Holodomor era call for a thorough investigation of photo collections of local regional museums in regions of Ukraine. The project surveys the 17 modern oblasts that cover the former six Ukrainian administrative units (oblasts) of the Holodomor era. The researchers proposed to discover, describe, record, scan, and annotate these visual sources as well as those for the pre- and post-Holodomor periods with the ultimate goal of publishing an annotated catalog of the discovered visual sources, both as a database and as a book.

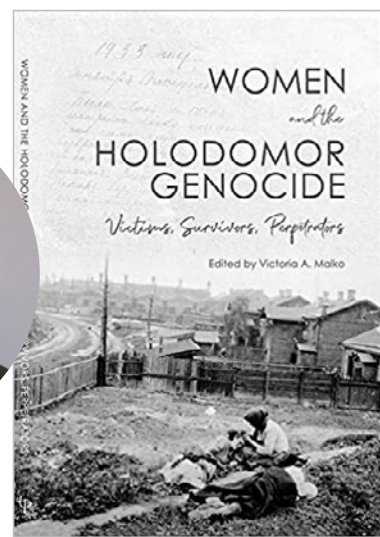


Victoria Malko

California State University (Fresno)

Roundtable Discussion of *Women and the Holodomor-Genocide: Victims, Survivors, Perpetrators* at the 52nd ASEES Convention in Washington, DC.

The grant supports a roundtable discussion of *Women and the Holodomor-Genocide: Victims, Survivors, Perpetrators*, a monograph edited by Victoria A. Malko (published in May 2019 by The Press at California State University, Fresno).





■ “Context for Holodomor Commemorations and Narratives in Minnesota, 1953-2018”

Zina Poletz Gutmanis, Halyna Myroniuk

St. Michael's and St. George's Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Minneapolis)



Drawing from the University of Minnesota's extensive resources, this project looks at how the Ukrainian community in Minneapolis-St. Paul speaks about and makes sense of the Holodomor, whether this has changed over time, and how this community compares to others. As part of a larger inquiry into the transgenerational impact of the Holodomor in a Ukrainian diaspora community, researchers will identify and study commemorations and narratives in other ethnic communities touched by genocide and compare findings with the commemorations and narratives.



■ “Estimation of Urban and Rural Holodomor Losses of Five Nationalities in Soviet Ukraine”

Oleh Wolowyna, University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill)

Larysa Yakubova, Institute of the History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv)



The project addresses an important question in Holodomor research: who were the main targets of the Holodomor, Ukrainian peasants or all persons living in Soviet Ukraine at the time? Rural and urban Holodomor losses will be estimated for five nationalities in Soviet Ukraine – Ukrainians, Russians, Poles, Germans, and Jews – at the national and oblast levels. Using archival sources in Kyiv and regional archives, losses in urban areas will be elaborated along two dimensions: urban areas by population size; and cities by type of industrial-economic structure.



■ “Moral Injury: a Comparative Study with Offspring of Holodomor and Holocaust Survivors”

Larysa Zasiukina, Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University (Lutsk)

Ruth Pat-Horenczyk, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem



The study addresses transgenerational transmission of moral injury in Holodomor and Holocaust descendants. Using psychosocial data, researchers will apply a mixed methodology of both qualitative and quantitative analysis to measure moral injury to offspring of Holodomor and Holocaust victims in the Ukrainian and Israeli populations, map the psychosocial consequences and associated difficulties in the offspring generation, and conduct a pilot study comparing transgenerational transmission of moral injury in the offspring of both groups.

■ “Digital Library of Holodomor Podcasts in the Music of Ukrainian Composers”

Olha Vasylenko, Glier Kyiv Municipal Academy of Music

Irene Okner, Art Director of the “Boulevard” Center (Queens, NY)

Irene Giraudet, Coignières Foyer Club (France)

Tatiana Markovskaia, Glier Kyiv Municipal Academy of Music

Yurii Riaboshkapov, Kyiv National I. K. Karpenko-Kary Theatre, Cinema and Television University

Oleksandr Vasylenko, Ukraine International Chamber of Commerce (Kyiv)



This collaborative project brings together specialists from Ukraine, France and the USA to present the outstanding musical works of Ukrainian composers on the theme of the Holodomor from the first decades of the twentieth century to the early twenty-first century.

2020 TORONTO ANNUAL UKRAINIAN FAMINE LECTURE

On November 19, HREC Director of Research Bohdan Klid delivered the twenty-second Toronto Annual Ukrainian Famine Lecture. Dr. Klid gave his presentation online from Edmonton to an audience of more than 1,200 people.



Dr. Bohdan Klid
HREC Director of Research

His lecture, titled *The Last Stand: The Third All-Ukrainian Conference of the Communist Party (bolsheviks) of Ukraine and the Holodomor*, focused on the Third All-Ukrainian Party Conference held in July 1932 to address the state of Ukraine's agricultural sector. The delegates included not only Ukraine's Communist Party leaders and district-level officials but also Kremlin emissaries Lazar Kaganovich and Viacheslav Molotov, dispatched by Stalin to deal with the crisis in the countryside.

The Party Congress was held in Kharkiv, then the capital of Soviet Ukraine, on the eve of the harvest and campaign to collect grain to fill state coffers. By this time, tens of thousands had already died of starvation. Ukraine's Politburo members met with Kaganovich and Molotov to argue for a reduction in the unrealistic grain collection quota, marking the last opportunity of Ukraine's communists to mitigate the severity of the famine. Dr. Klid discussed how the famine was addressed at the party conference and the discrepancies between archival copies of the conference proceedings and the published report.

The Toronto Annual Ukrainian Famine Lecture was begun in 1998 by the Toronto branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

Past lecturers include Jars Balan, James Mace, Norman Naimark, Anne Applebaum, and Timothy Snyder.

This year's lecture was co-sponsored by the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, University of Toronto; the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies; the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Toronto; and the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine.

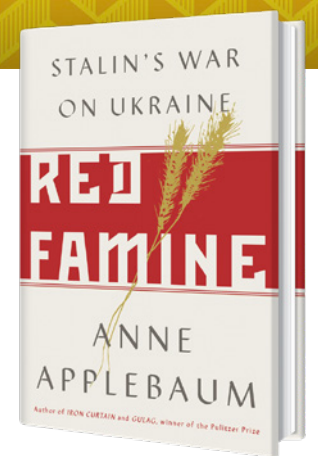
OTHER LECTURES ORGANIZED BY HREC

■ Anne Applebaum CIUS event A conversation with Anne Applebaum Writing *Red Famine*, the Story of the Holodomor November 28, 2020

Anne Applebaum, author of *Red Famine: Stalin's War on Ukraine*, participated in an online discussion with HREC's Marta Baziuk and Jars Balan of CIUS. The event was in part a response to comments of a University of Alberta sessional instructor in 2019 denying that the Famine had occurred. Ms. Applebaum spoke about the process of writing *Red Famine*, the reception of the book, and its relevance today in an environment where "fake news" and disinformation is affecting the workings of democracy.

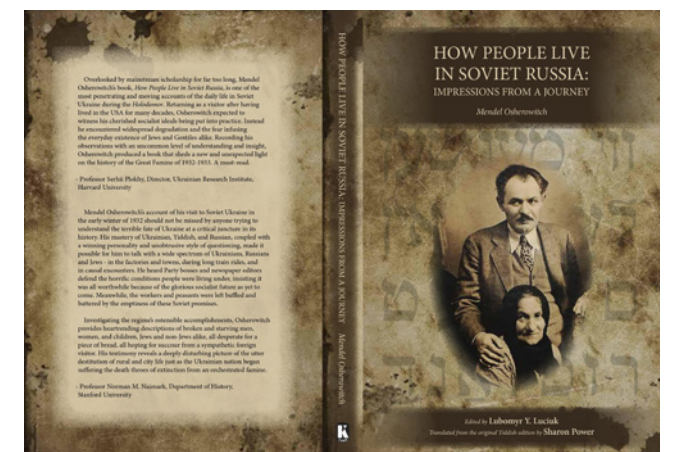
In addition, CIUS organized a showing of the documentary film *Hunger for Truth* that tells the story of Rhea Clyman, the courageous Canadian who was one of the few journalists to travel to Ukraine, witness the Holodomor, and write about it.

The event can be viewed online: <https://youtu.be/77OCQOhrTBQ>



■ Lubomyr Luciuk What Mendel Osherowitch Saw: Ukraine during the Holodomor December 3, 2020

Professor Lubomyr Luciuk discussed the memoir *How People Live in Soviet Russia: Impressions from a Journey*, in which Mendel Osherowitch describes his visit to Soviet Ukraine in 1932, when millions of Ukrainians were dying of starvation. Professor Luciuk edited the volume, newly translated from the Yiddish, which was described by Harvard Professor Serhii Plokhly as "one of the most penetrating and moving accounts of daily life in Ukraine during the famine."



Professor Luciuk first learned of Osherowitch from a publication of the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter (UJE), in which Dr. Wolf Moskowich, professor of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and member of the Board of Directors of UJE, described this valuable memoir.

Professor Luciuk teaches at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, Ontario, and has published numerous works related to the Holodomor. HREC's Marta Baziuk moderated the event, which was co-sponsored by the Writers' Union of Canada.



More than 2,000 people watched the online event, either via Facebook or Zoom.

The event can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/canadian.institute.of.ukrainian.studies/videos/496539387991111>

■ Andrey Shlyakhter

Borderness and Famine: Why Did Fewer People Die in Soviet Ukraine's Western Border Districts during the Holodomor, 1932-34?

January 12, 2021

Chair and Moderator: Ksenya Kiebusinski (PJP Co-Director and Head of the Petro Jacyk Central & East European Resource Centre, and Slavic Resources Coordinator, the University of Toronto Libraries)

Andrey Shlyakhter, then Petro Jacyk Visiting Scholar, presented his research on border regions during the Holodomor. He maintained that while the Holodomor affected all of Soviet Ukraine, not all regions suffered equally. Drawing on archives in Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus, as well as witness testimonies, he commented on the Soviet leadership's interest in the welfare of the population along Soviet Ukraine's western frontier, which led them to reduce the border districts' grain procurement quotas and to prioritize them in rendering food aid – benefits

that came at the expense of the republic's other areas. He argued that combined with the smuggling of foodstuffs from Poland, such privileging led to markedly higher survival rates among the inhabitants of Soviet Ukraine's "border belt."

Shlyakhter is a historian of the Soviet Union and its neighbours and defended his dissertation, "Smuggler States: Poland, Latvia, Estonia, and Contraband Trade across the Soviet Frontier, 1919-24," in October 2020 at the Department of History, University of Chicago.

The event was sponsored by the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine, the Centre for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, and the Holodomor Research and Education Consortium.



CONFERENCES

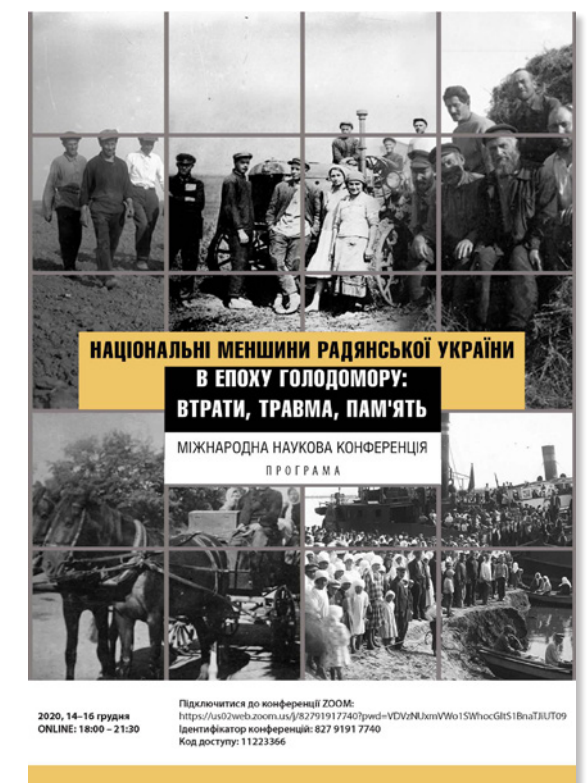
■ Soviet Ukraine's National Minorities during the Holodomor: Losses, Trauma, Memory

December 14–16, 2020

In 2020, HREC partnered with HREC in Ukraine to hold an international online conference that examined the fate of national minorities in Ukraine during the Holodomor era. The experience of Ukraine's minorities remains an insufficiently studied aspect of Stalin's policies even as research has established a foundation for the integration of the history of these groups into Holodomor studies.

The international conference, which was initiated by Liudmyla Hrynevych of HREC in Ukraine and HREC's Bohdan Klid, addressed historical, demographic, social, political, cultural, economic, religious, and psychological issues related to Soviet Ukraine's national minorities during this period. Panel discussions addressed the following topics: national minorities and ethnic groups in the social structure of Ukrainian society and political space of the USSR as a polyethnic empire; Stalin's "revolution from above" at the local level; grain procurement, dekulakization, deportations, and the forced collectivization of agriculture; the roles played by members of national minorities as neighbors, activists, criminals, saviors, eyewitnesses, and victims; and national minorities and ethnic groups in the cultural memory of the Holodomor. Articles from the conference will be published as a special issue of the online journal *Holodomor Studies*, published by HREC in Ukraine.

The following panels were broadcast online:



Panel 1: National Minorities and Ethnic Groups in the Social Structure of Ukrainian Society and the Political Space of the USSR as a Polyethnic Empire (1920s–30s)

- Larysa Yakubova (Institute of the History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), "The Ethnopolitical Context of the Politics of Indigenization in the USSR and the Ukrainian SSR and the Problem of Integration into the Imperial Space"
- Oleh Wolowyna (Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), "The Impact of the Holodomor on the Ethno-Demographic Situation in Ukraine: Demographic and Historical Methodology for Calculating Losses"
- Yevhen Zakharov (Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group; Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union), "Murder by Starvation in the Context of Stalin's Ethno-National Policy: The Object of the Genocide"
- Discussant: Stanislav Kulchytsky (Institute of the History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine)

Panel 2: Poles during the Period of Stalin's "Revolution from Above" and the Holodomor

- Henryk Stroński (Uniwersytet Warmińsko-Mazurski in Olsztyn, Poland), "The Polish Dimension of the Great Famine"
- Oleg Kalakura (Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), "Poles during Collectivization and the Holodomor"
- Robert Kuśnierz (Institute of History of the Pomorska Academy in Słupsk, Poland), "What Information Was Available in the Second Rzeczpospolita about Poles in Ukraine during the Holodomor?"
- Przemysław Pazder (Institute of History of the Pomorska Academy in Słupsk, Poland), "Poles during the Great Famine in Contemporary Polish Historiography"
- Discussant: Jan Jacek Bruski (Institute of History, Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland)

Panel 3: Germans during the Period of Stalin's "Revolution from Above" and the Holodomor

- Bohdan Chyrko (Taurida National University, Kyiv, Ukraine), "The Ethnic German Community in Ukraine: The Socioeconomic and Ethnopolitical Aspect (1920s–1930s)"
- Otto Pohl (Independent historian, USA), "Ethnic Germans in Ukraine during Collectivization, Dekulakization, and the Holodomor"
- Colin Peter Neufeldt (Concordia University, Edmonton), "Hitler, the Mennonites, and the Holodomor: Nazi Germany and Its Impact on Mennonite Life in Ukraine in 1932–1933"
- Discussant: Guido Hausmann (University of Regensburg; German-Ukrainian Historical Commission, Regensburg, Germany)

Panel 4: Jews during the Period of Stalin's "Revolution from Above" and the Holodomor

- Wolf Moskovich (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel), "Mendel Osherowitch's Book *How People Live in Soviet Russia* (1933) as Important Evidence of the Holodomor"
- Victor Dotsenko (Taurida National University, Kyiv, Ukraine), "Jewish Agricultural Colonies in Ukraine during the Period of Collectivization and the Holodomor"
- Igor Shchupak ("Tkuma" Ukrainian Institute for Holocaust Studies; German-Ukrainian Historical Commission, Dnipro, Ukraine), "Jews and Ukrainians during the Holodomor: Neighbors, Activists, Criminals, Saviors, Eyewitnesses, Victims"
- Discussant: Anatoliy Pohorelov (V. O. Sukhomlynsky Mykolaiv National University, Ukraine)

Panel 5: Russians, Ukrainian Swedes (Staroshvedy), Greeks, and Bulgarians during Stalin's "Revolution from Above" and the Holodomor

- Hennadii Yefimenko and Viktoria Yefimenko (Institute of the History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), "Russian National Districts of the Ukrainian SSR during Stalin's "Revolution from Above" and the

Holodomor, and within the General Context of the Kremlin's Nationality Policy"

- Andrej Kotljarchuk (Institute of Contemporary History, Södertörn University, Stockholm, Sweden), "The Holodomor in the Staroshvedske Colony in Kherson Oblast: Strategies of Resistance and the International Reaction"
- Yuliia Hryshchenko (Institute of the History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), "Ukraine's Ethnic Bulgarian Minority during the Holodomor"
- Larysa Yakubova (Institute of the History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), "Ukraine's Greek Population during Forced Collectivization and the Holodomor"
- Discussant: Natalia Kuzovova (Kherson State University, Ukraine)

Panel 6: National Minorities and Ethnic Groups in the Cultural Memory of the Holodomor

- Khrystyna Semeryn (National University of Ostroh Academy, Ukraine), "The Conceptualization of Foreign National Images in Ukrainian Prose about the Holodomor (1930s–1980s)"
- Iryna Zakharchuk (Rivne State University of the Humanities, Ukraine), "The Image of the "Other" in the Reception of Contemporary Holodomor Fiction"
- Liudmyla Hrynevych (Institute of the History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), "Our Own/Outsider": Ethnohistorical Myths/Ethnic Autostereotypes in the Memory of the Holodomor"
- Discussant: Vitalii Ohienko (Ukrainian Institute of National Memory, Ukraine)

Papers from the conference will be published in CIUS's online journal *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies* in English, as a special issue, and later, in Ukrainian, in the Kyiv-based online journal *Holodomor Studies*.

Co-sponsors of the event were the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory; Institute of the History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; M. V. Ptukha Institute for Demography and Social Studies, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; the German-Ukrainian Historical Commission; Research Center for Postcolonial and Post-Totalitarian Studies, Wrocław University; Center for the Studies of the History and Culture of East European Jewry (Judaica Center), National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy; and the "Tkuma" Ukrainian Institute for Holocaust Studies.

HREC at ASEES Conference

November 14, 2020

HREC organized a panel at the annual convention (held online) of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEES), the major professional organization in Slavic studies.

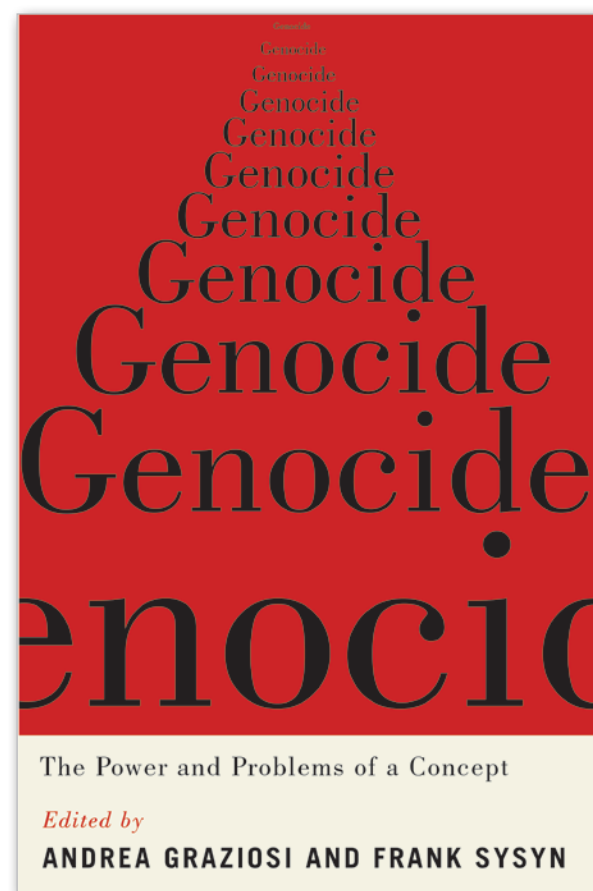
The panel, entitled Regional Differences in the 1931–1934 Famine in the Soviet Union, featured papers from HREC's Bohdan Klid, "Knocking Sense into the Heads of Soviet Farmers: The Famine in Ukraine of 1932–33 as Punishment," and Daria Mattingly, University of Cambridge (UK), "More than Cogs: Rank-and-File Perpetrators of the Holodomor." Liudmyla Hrynevych of HREC in Ukraine served as discussant. (Viktor Kondrashin was ill and did not present.)

PUBLICATIONS

The HREC publications program supports the research of scholars working on a range of Holodomor-related topics and promotes the study of the Holodomor across disciplines.

■ Genocide: The Power and Problems of a Concept

McGill-Queen's University Press (a joint venture of McGill University and Queen's University) is publishing *Genocide: The Power and Problems of a Concept* in 2021. The publication by a major academic press of a volume on genocide that addresses the Holodomor is a watershed achievement in integrating the study of the Holodomor within genocide studies. The acclaimed contributors, who presented at a 2018 HREC conference on genocide, include Caroline Fournet, Andrea Graziosi, Douglas Irvin-Erickson, Ronald Suny, Norman Naimark, Annette Timm, Michelle Tusan, and Anton Weiss-Wendt. In their introduction, editors Frank Sysyn and Andrea Graziosi address how the concept of genocide can be used most meaningfully as an analytical tool, drawing on contributor Scott Straus's distinction between Mass Categorical Violence (MCV), on the one hand, and genocide, in which significant proportions of large groups are exterminated over a limited amount of time, be they social, national, or religious, or even entire groups. Genocide as a subcategory of MCV would thus be reserved for events such as the Holocaust, the Armenian Genocide, and the Holodomor.



■ Empire, Colonialism, and Occurrences of Mass Starvation in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

The ten essays in this collection on the topic of empire, colonialism, and famine are appearing as the first issue in 2021 of the journal *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies*. The contributors were presenters on this topic at a HREC conference in 2017. HREC's Bohdan Klid wrote the introductory article. This collection will be published as a book later in the year by CIUS Press.

■ The Journal of Genocide Research

At a HREC conference in 2018, HREC approached presenter Dirk Moses, who is editor of *The Journal of Genocide Research*, about the possibility of including articles on the Holodomor in that journal. Professor Moses was interested, and HREC proposed a number of authors as possible contributors.



In 2020, the journal published two articles related to the Holodomor: Oksana Kis's "Women's Experience of the Holodomor: Challenges and Ambiguities of Motherhood" www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14623528.2020.1834713 and Oleh Wolowyna's "A Demographic Framework for the 1932-1934 Famine in the Soviet Union" www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14623528.2020.1834741.

■ The Famine of 1932-33 in Ukraine through the Eyes of Ukraine's Historians: Articles by Ukrainian Scholars in English Translation

HREC has prepared for publication by CIUS Press this collection of twelve articles written by Ukrainian scholars, which have been translated into English. HREC's Drs. Vynnyk and Klid are contributing an introductory article that provides context on the topics addressed, which to date have not been closely examined in English-language literature on the Holodomor.

■ Article on the Holodomor for the Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine



HREC's Bohdan Klid contributed the comprehensive article on the Holodomor, now available on the *Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, a project of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies. The article, which was co-written with the late Andriy Makuch, is intended as an authoritative overview on the subject, incorporating both factual content and analysis on a range of aspects of the Holodomor, including the historic context, the national question, Soviet policies, and genocide.

2020 CONQUEST PRIZE FOR CONTRIBUTION TO HOLODOMOR STUDIES



Dr. Olha Ryabchenko was the 2020 recipient of the Conquest Prize for Contribution to Holodomor Studies for her article "The Mobilization of Youth for Participation in the Communist Transformation of the Countryside during Collectivization and the Holodomor," first published in *Ukrainian Historical Journal*. HREC initiated the Conquest Prize in 2018 to recognize the author of an outstanding article that contributes to a fuller understanding of the Holodomor.

The adjudication committee described her work as follows:

"This extremely well-researched article constitutes an important contribution to the social history of the era, adding substantially to our understanding of how the Soviet agricultural sector was able to recover in the summer of 1933. Among her significant findings, Dr. Ryabchenko points to the reliance on students from peasant backgrounds to carry out this work."

"While histories of the period have emphasized the mobilization of the Party and the Army, Dr. Ryabchenko expands this discussion and also amplifies the notion of generational warfare. At the same time, she illustrates the complexity of this conflict and the moral crisis that it represented for some students who were forced to encounter a starving population."

To be considered for the \$2,500 prize, an article must be published in English, in print or in an online publication. Nominations are accepted from the author, editor, publisher, or colleagues.

Professor Olha Ryabchenko holds a doctorate in history and is head of the Department of World History in the Faculty of History at Kharkiv National Pedagogical University. Her research interests center on the everyday lives of young people in periods of social transformation. She is the author of more than 150 scholarly publications, including two individual and ten collective monographs.

Dr. Ryabchenko is co-author of numerous research and publishing projects of the Institute of History of Ukraine of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, including "Essays on Everyday Life of Soviet Ukraine during NEP (1921-28)," "Social and Professional Strata of Ukrainian Society during the Stalinist "Revolution from Above" (1929-38)," and "Relations between Government, Society and the Individual during the Soviet System (1918-38)." She is a recipient of grants from the Taras Shevchenko Scientific Society (USA) and the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), University of Alberta.

Dr. Ryabchenko is the second scholar to receive the prize, awarded on a biannual basis. It is named in honour of historian Robert Conquest, author of the ground-breaking work *The Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror-Famine*, which marked a watershed in the study of the Holodomor at the time of its publication in 1986. *Harvest of Sorrow* sparked debates in academic and political circles, and ensured widespread awareness of the Holodomor.

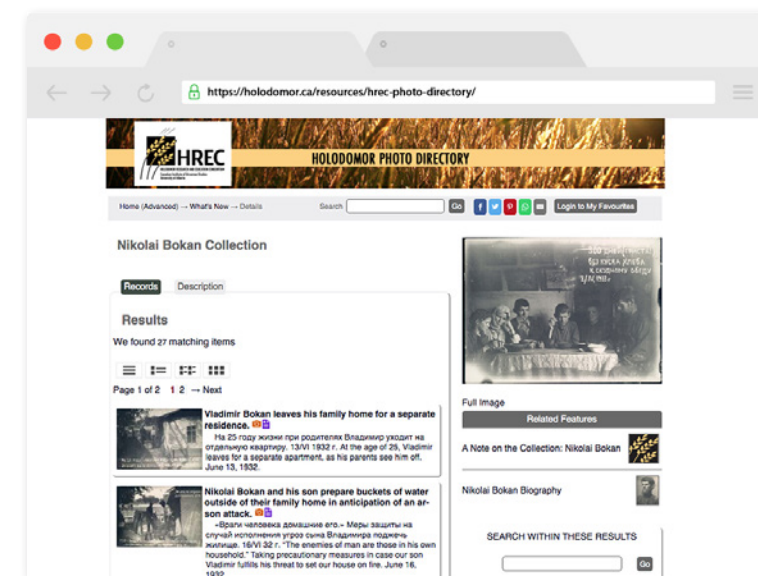


DIGITIZATION PROJECT

Online Holodomor Photo Directory

In 2020 HREC launched the Online Holodomor Photo Directory, which makes available more than 100 authenticated photographs from the Holodomor era. These rare photos were taken primarily by foreigners and smuggled out of the country, and one set was taken by a local photographer. The Directory provides in-depth information for each photo and also features articles that put the photographs into context, including biographies of the photographers and a section on Soviet photography of the 1930s.

The Directory is the initiative of academic librarian Lana Babij, who sought to create a database of authenticated photos from the Holodomor and to distinguish these from photos that were in fact taken during the 1920s. The issue of authentication is important because photos from a famine in the 1920s have sometimes been misidentified as taken during the 1930s, a confusion that Holodomor deniers exploited to discredit efforts to bring attention to the Holodomor. There are very few photos from the time of the Holodomor in large part because anyone who attempted to document the devastation could be charged with the criminal offense of anti-Soviet propaganda. In contrast, during the 1920s famine, the Soviet authorities allowed international aid organizations into Soviet Ukraine, and relief workers documented what they witnessed.



Bokan, Nikolai, 1881-1942, Photographer
Воспоминание о Косте умершем от голода. 10/ VII - 1933 г.
Remembering Kostia who starved to death. July 10, 1933.

The Collections

The best-known photos from the Holodomor were taken surreptitiously by Austrian engineer Alexander Wienerberger in the spring and summer of 1933 in Kharkiv, the capital of Soviet Ukraine at the time. The Directory contains eight photographs taken by Whiting Williams, an American authority on labour issues. Although Williams' travel was closely managed by the official Soviet tourist agency, he managed to snap a few shots hinting at the human catastrophe that surrounded him. The Directory features four photos taken in 1932 by photographer James Abbe, who included them in his 1934 memoir

I Photograph Russia. Photos taken by Nikolai Fedorovich Bokan, from Baturyn (Chernihiv oblast), are some of the most moving in the Directory. Bokan documented his family's experience, including the death of his son Kostya from starvation. His photos speak to the Famine's devastating impact on family dynamics amid broader social and political transformations. Bokan was arrested in 1937 and charged with anti-Soviet agitation. The materials in this collection were found in his criminal case file, housed at the Archive of the Security Service of Ukraine. Bokan died in a labour camp in 1942.

This is one of 25 photographs depicting life and death in and around Kharkiv during the Holodomor that the photographer put together in a small album with a handwritten title: *Die Hungertragödie in Südrussland 1933 [The Tragedy of Famine in South Russia 1933]*. He presented the album to the Roman Catholic Cardinal Theodor Innitzer of Vienna in 1934 as an expression of appreciation for the Cardinal's efforts in trying to organize an international campaign to assist the victims of starvation in 1933. The album is housed in the collections of the Diözesanarchiv, Vienna, Austria.

Inscriptions

Handwritten caption in album:
"Schlange stehn [sic] um Schwarzbrot." [Standing in line for black bread.]

Description

Hundreds of people are crowded around the front and to the side of what the photographer indicates is a place to get bread. The entrance to the store is just to the left of the white building; above the door is a temporary sign that reads "Хатор". A "Хатор" or Khatorh (abbreviation of: Kharkiv Trade Organization) was one of several types of food access centers created or repurposed in the early 1930s to manage the sharply diminishing food supply for the greatly expanded urban and industrial population. This establishment is most likely selling goods for residents with ration cards; however, it is possible that it had been repurposed in 1933 to sell bread for rubles (Wienerberger, Osokina) At this Khatorh, the door appears to be open, but the large waiting crowd is an indication that supply and delivery is not meeting the demand for the basic necessities that can be obtained here.

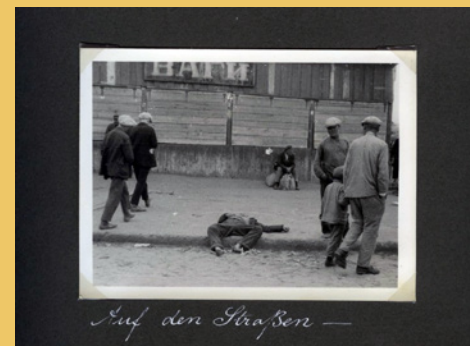


Creator

Wienerberger, Alexander,
1891-1955, Photographer

Photo source

Wienerberger, Alexander.
Die Hungertragödie in Südrussland 1933; also known as the Innitzer Album, 1934. P.2.



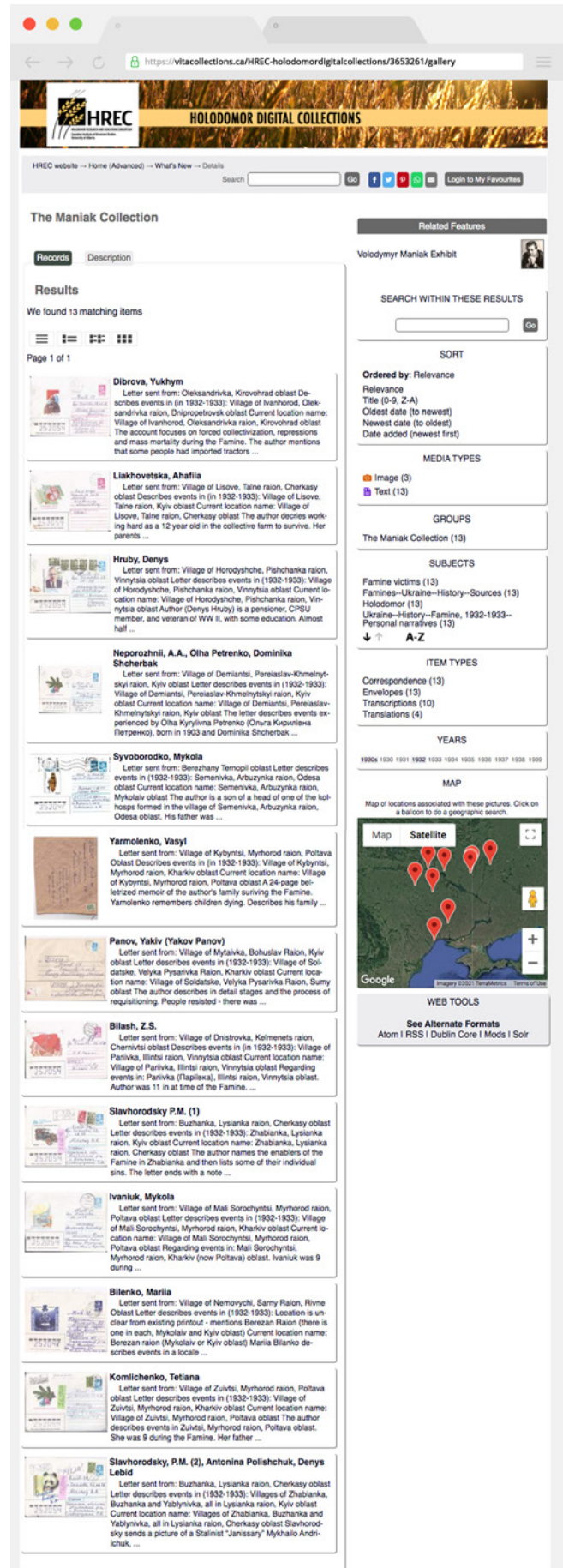
The Maniak Collection of Holodomor Witness Accounts

In 2020, HREC launched a pilot project aimed at making the collection of valuable Holodomor witness accounts known as the Maniak Collection available online and searchable. The collection consists of letters gathered in Ukraine by journalist Volodymyr Maniak which were sent in response to appeals for memoirs that Maniak and his associates ran in Ukrainian newspapers in the late 1980s. HREC acquired more than 500 of the previously unpublished letters and is making accessible the originals and transcriptions (which is important given that the handwriting is often extremely hard to read), and in some cases, English translations.

HREC is collaborating with **Our Digital World (ODW)**, an organization that specializes in digitizing archival collections. The ODW technology enables users to conduct searches of the letters not only in their original languages (Ukrainian or Russian) but also in English by subject, date, and location, for example. In 2020, HREC Research Associate Olha Klymenko and ODW refined the layout and metadata for the collection, determining the most effective options for the presentation of the letters and related content.

On the website, each letter entry features in addition to the letter, transcription, and in some cases, translation, a display of the envelope, along with information about the author, a brief description of the letter's content, and the main topics addressed. A researcher can conduct a search for a particular subject of interest, for example, searching for all of the letters that address the topic "orphans." A researcher could also choose to view all letters that include mention of a particular village, or examine multiple letters by one author (for example, the two letters by P.M. Slavhorodsky, a local activist who collected testimonies about the Holodomor from witnesses in three villages in Lysianka raion, Cherkasy oblast).





In 2020, 136 letters were uploaded as searchable scans and transcriptions; 68 of these testimonies include metadata and have been made public.

Entry of the metadata is ongoing, and the remaining letters will be made public in June 2021. Of this batch of uploaded letters, 41 will be accompanied by fully searchable English translations. The project will continue in 2021.



REACHING NEW AUDIENCES FINDING NEW PARTNERS

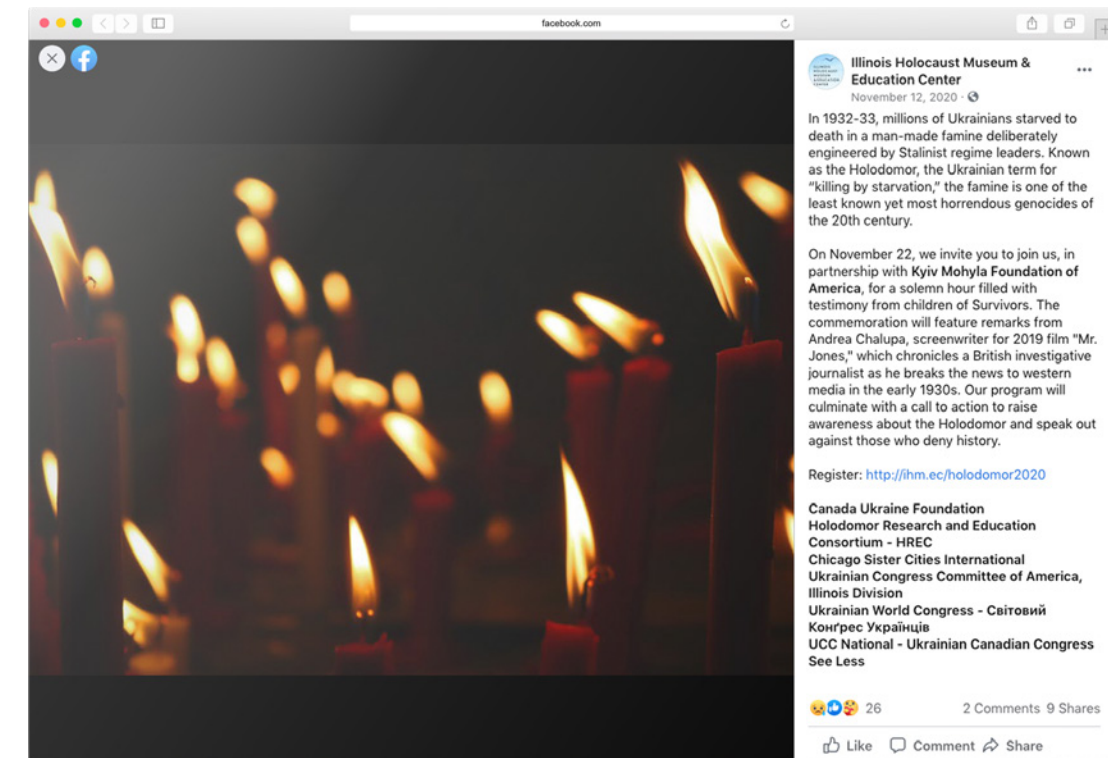
Remembering The Holodomor: Commemorating the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine

Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center

November 22, 2020

HREC was a co-sponsor of this virtual hour-long event in remembrance of the victims of the Holodomor. The solemn proceedings included testimony from children of survivors and remarks from Andrea Chalupa, screenwriter for the film *Mr. Jones*, which chronicles the discovery of the horrors of the Famine by Gareth Jones.

The event was hosted by the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center and Kyiv-Mohyla Foundation of America.



Heritages of Hunger Project

HREC continues to play an active role in the consortium *Heritages of Hunger*, which brings together experts on European famines from a wide range of scholarly disciplines and institutions. This international project is headed by Radboud University (RU), Wageningen University & Research (WUR), and the Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies (NIOD), all in The Netherlands.

The following case studies are at the core of the project: Belgium and Germany during and after WWI; the Netherlands, Russia, and Greece during WWII; Ireland and Finland during the nineteenth century, interbellum Spain, and the Holodomor in Ukraine.

The organizers postponed the launch of the project that was to take place at Radboud University in spring 2020 and instead organized a series of occasional online learning sessions for project partners. HREC offered to prepare a session on the Holodomor, and in March 2021, HREC's Marta Baziuk and Valentina Kuryliw and Toronto-based

Ukrainian community activist Irka Mycak will present an hour-long session on the Holodomor to this group of academics, educators, and activists engaged in the study and commemoration of famines.

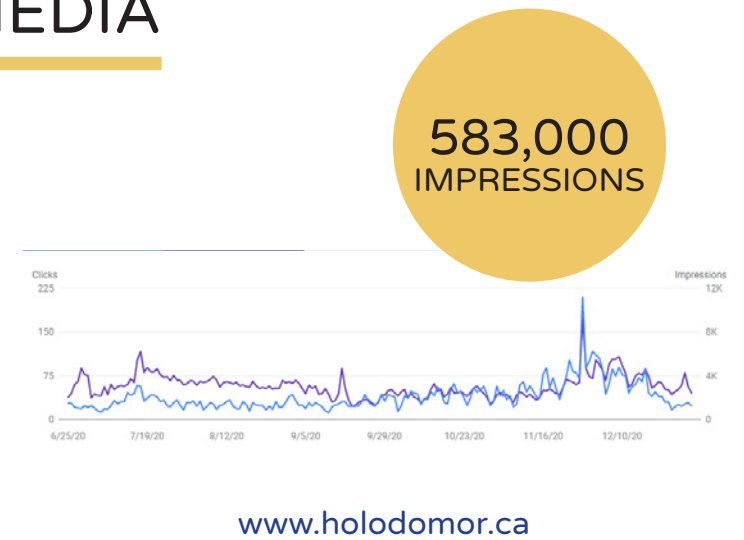
As a project partner, HREC will contribute to the compilation and analyses of educational practices at schools, museums, and surrounding commemorative initiatives, and the implication for immigrant groups and the communities they live in across the globe. HREC will also contribute to the project's teaching recommendations to be aimed at policy makers, educational institutes, and the heritage sector and to the educational materials to be made available through the project's Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), a digital repository of textual, visual, and audio materials about the famines at the heart of the project. Heritages of Hunger will demonstrate how experiences of famine from various contexts can be connected on local, national, and global levels.



WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Website

For the period January to December 2020, the HREC website (www.holodomor.ca) had **583,000 impressions**. Among users, 37% were based in Canada, 29% in the United States, and 5% in Ukraine. The site also received significant traffic from the United Kingdom, Australia, Poland, Brazil, Germany, Italy, and India.



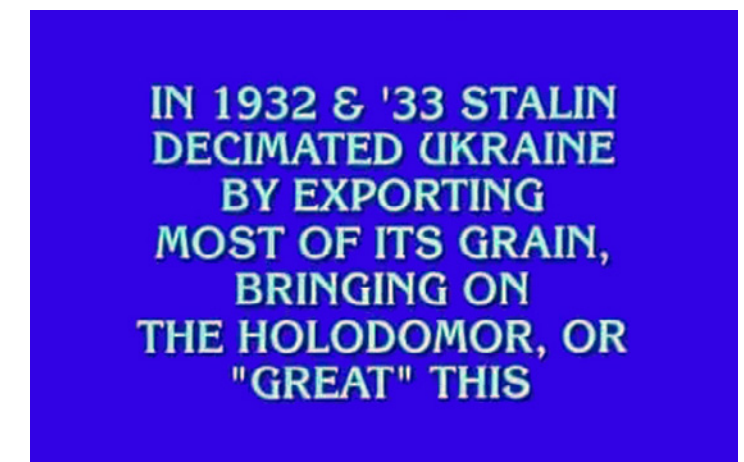
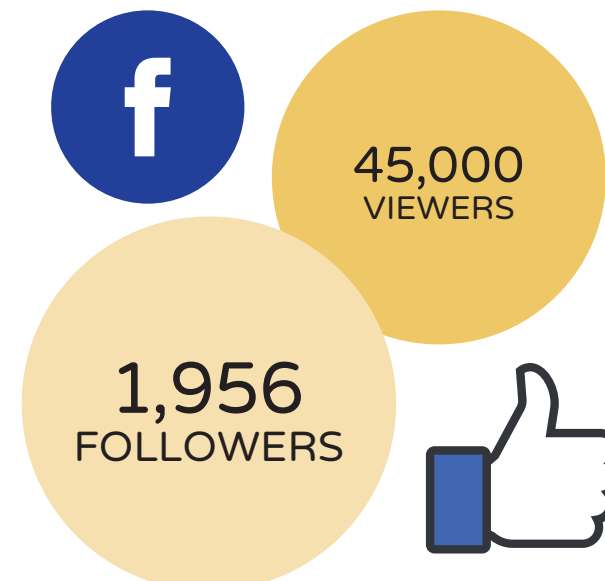
Social Media

Through its Facebook page, HREC promotes awareness of its activities and announces opportunities for scholars, driving traffic to the HREC website. HREC also shares more general information on its Facebook page related to genocide, famines, Soviet history, Ukraine in the 1920s-30s, Stalin, collectivization, and contemporary cases of starvation.

By the end of 2020, the HREC Facebook page had **1,956 followers**, and HREC events had appeared on the screens of **45,000 people**.

Some of the most popular posts in 2020 related to the film *Mr. Jones*, including reviews and interviews with the director, screenwriter, and the lead actors. A posting about the HREC Photo Directory garnered 947 views. Notices about the Emerging Scholarship series featuring the young scholars were popular as was the notice about Lubomyr Luciuk's lecture on Mendel Osherowitch.

The most popular posting, reaching **4,597 people**, stated simply, "Last night on Jeopardy," and featured this image:



HREC RESEARCH 2021 WORK PLAN

■ PUBLICATIONS | 2021

- ***Empire, Colonialism, and Occurrences of Mass Starvation in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries***
This collection of ten essays on the topic of empire, colonialism, and famine based on presentations made at a HREC conference will appear as the first issue in 2021 of *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies*. HREC's Bohdan Klid wrote the introductory article. This collection will be published in late 2021 by CIUS Press.
- ***Genocide: The Power and Problems of a Concept***
This collection of articles by scholars who presented at HREC's 2018 conference "Genocide in Twentieth-Century History: The Power and the Problems of an Interpretive, Ethical-Political, and Legal Concept" will be published by McGill-Queen's University Press in late 2021.
- ***The Famine of 1932-33 in Ukraine through the Eyes of Ukraine's Historians: Articles by Ukrainian Scholars in English Translation***
CIUS Press will publish in fall 2021 a collection of twelve articles written by Ukrainian scholars, which have been translated into English. HREC's Drs. Vynnyk and Klid are contributing an introductory article that provides context on the topics addressed, which to date have not been closely examined in English-language literature on the Holodomor.
- ***The Transformation of Civil Society: Oral History of Ukrainian Peasant Culture of the 1920-30s***
McGill-Queen's University Press will publish this important work, first published in Ukrainian, which is based on interviews with elderly Ukrainian villagers about their experiences of collectivization and the aftermath, including the Holodomor. Author William Noll led the interview project in 1993-95, collecting more than 400 firsthand accounts of village life prior, during, and after collectivization.
- ***Eternal Memory: Monuments and Memorials, by Wiktoria Kudela-Swiatek***
CIUS will co-publish this monograph that examines Holodomor monuments and commemoration in cooperation with a Polish publisher. The work is an English translation of a previous work on the subject, published in Polish in two volumes. The project received funding from the National Program for the Development of Humanities of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland.
- ***Archives Related to the Holodomor Found Outside the Former USSR***
The journal *Ukraina Moderna* will publish a collection of articles that examine archives and archival collections outside of the countries of the former Soviet Union that contain materials related to collectivization and the Holodomor. The articles are based on papers given at a HREC conference aimed at exploring little known and under-researched sources; revealing new materials and collection to stimulate further research; and encouraging publication of these lesser known materials. HREC is overseeing the editing of these articles.
- ***Conference papers: Soviet Ukraine's National Minorities during the Period of the Holodomor: Losses, Trauma, Memory***
Editorial work will begin to prepare these papers for publication in Ukrainian as a special issue of the online journal *Holodomor Studies/Студії Голодомору* and in English as a book of essays.

■ TORONTO ANNUAL UKRAINIAN FAMINE LECTURE | NOVEMBER 2021

- Serhy Yekelchyk, a professor of history at the University of Victoria, will deliver the 23rd Toronto Annual Ukrainian Famine Lecture. He will discuss the connection between the Holodomor and the attack on the intelligentsia and culture—something Lemkin saw as crucial in modern genocides.

■ OTHER EVENTS AND LECTURES | 2021

***HREC in conversation with Andrea Chalupa, screenwriter of the film Mr. Jones* | January 27, 2021**

- HREC Executive Director Marta Baziuk will discuss with screenwriter Andrea Chalupa the making of the film *Mr. Jones* and its relevance today. Live-streamed on the CIUS Facebook page.
- <https://holodomor.ca/a-conversation-with-andrea-chalupa-scriptwriter-of-the-film-mr-jones/>
- https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=450583709452535&ref=watch_permalink

***Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum film discussion of Bitter Harvest and Mr. Jones* | March 8, 2021**

- Dr. Sara Abosch-Jacobson, the Chief Education, Programs, and Exhibitions Officer of the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, will discuss the films *Bitter Harvest* and *Mr. Jones* with HREC's Marta Baziuk as part of the museum's Movie Monday film series.
- https://dallasholocaustmuseum.secure.force.com/ticket/?_ga=2.115877318.1140974617.1611517160-1628326263.1593529452#/events/a0S5A00000dSkQBUAo
- <https://www.texasmonthly.com/event/movie-monday-film-discussion-bitter-harvest-and-mr-jones/>

***Genocide and Human Rights University Program (GHRUP) online series* | March 2021**

- In response to a request from GHRUP, HREC will organize a lecture on the Holodomor for this online series on genocide.

***Heritages of Hunger – Presentation to European famine educators* | March 29, 2021**

- HREC's Marta Baziuk and Valentina Kuryliw together with community activist Irka Mycak will present a session on the Holodomor to a consortium of academics, educators, and activists engaged in the study and commemoration of European famines as part of the Heritages of Hunger project, of which HREC is a partner.

***HREC Holodomor Photo Directory Presentation* | April 28, 2021**

- HREC will present its online Holodomor Photo Directory, which features rare photos taken during the Holodomor era. The project was initiated by librarian Lana Babij, who will take part in the online discussion.

■ HREC CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS | 2021

Professional Ethics, Medical Experts and Genocide | November 2021

- This interdisciplinary workshop will examine genocide as it relates to public health policy, focusing on bioethics and the role of medical professionals in times of genocide. The workshop will look at the relation between professional ethics, personal agency and genocide, bringing together experts who work in a range of disciplines including historians, anthropologists, political scientists, and scholars of bioethics.

Narrating the Holodomor: The Social and Cultural History of Collectivization and Famine in Soviet Ukraine | December 2021

- In the 1980s, after fifty years of silence, Holodomor victims and their families were able to tell their stories. The subsequent dissolution of the Soviet Union brought with it access to previously restricted archives and public discussion of the legacy of Stalinism. Although numerous scholarly works on collectivization and the Famine have been published since, the social and cultural history of the Holodomor remains understudied. The aim of this conference is to recover the voices of the victims and examine the Soviet state's use of violence in the 1930s. The conference will encourage papers analyzing official government sources but will particularly focus on survivors' memoirs and testimonies. Potential topics include the categories of victim, perpetrator and bystander as they apply to the Holodomor; everyday experiences and practices in rural and urban areas during and after collectivization and the Famine, with a focus on gendered experience, violence, resistance, survival strategies, mobility patterns and changes in social and cultural norms; and cultural representations of the collectivization and the Famine.

■ HREC PARTICIPATION AT CONFERENCES | 2021

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention November 18-21, 2021, in New Orleans | December 2-3, virtual component

- HREC has organized a panel, *The Soviet Famine of 1932-33: Three Approaches to Ukraine's Holodomor*, at the conference of the leading international organization dedicated to the advancement of knowledge about Central Asia, the Caucasus, Russia, and Eastern Europe. The panelists are Jars Balan (CIUS), speaking on "Coverage and Cover-up: Contemporaneous Canadian Press Accounts of Ukraine's Great Hunger"; Oleh Wolowyna, on "The Sudden Increase in Losses in Early 1933 in Some Regions of Ukraine and Russia: Implications for the Famine as "Man-made Accidentally or Intentionally"; and Bohdan Klid (HREC), on "Nationalism, the National Question and the Famine of 1932-33 in Soviet Ukraine (Holodomor)." Chair and Discussant: Serge Cipko

Conference: International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES)

August 3-8, 2021, in Montreal and virtually.

- HREC organized a panel titled *Social Transformation, Professional Discourses, Everyday Practices and Famine in Soviet Ukraine* at the conference of ICCEES, a global consortium of national scholarly associations dedicated to multi-disciplinary scholarly studies of Central and Eastern Europe. The panel features HREC's Oksana Vynnyk, speaking on "Professional Ethics, Medical Personnel and Famine in Soviet Ukraine"; Bohdan Klid, on "Observations and Perceptions of Work on Collective

Farms by Soviet Officials in Ukraine during the Famine (Holodomor) of 1932-33"; and Iryna Skubii (a HREC grantee and Visiting Scholar), "Being Old in Starvation: Consumption Practices of Elderly People during Famine in Soviet Ukraine." Chair: Jars Balan; Discussant: Olga Andriewsky

Conference: Holodomor in Academic and Public Debates: Ukrainian and European Perspectives September 16-18, 2021, Berlin and virtually.

- Frank Sysyn and Bohdan Klid have submitted papers for the sixth annual conference of the German-Ukrainian Historical Commission.

■ HREC SUPPORT OF EMERGING SCHOLARS | 2021

Temerty Post-Doctoral Fellow in Holodomor Studies

- HREC will welcome, in person in Edmonton or virtually, the first Temerty Post-Doctoral Fellow in Holodomor Studies in the fall of 2021 for the academic year. The fellowship was created as a way to support the study and expansion of knowledge about the Holodomor and to encourage scholars engaged in research related to the Holodomor. The duration of the fellowship is one year (with the possibility of renewal, subject to review, for a second year) and includes funding for a research trip to Toronto.

Emerging Scholarship in Holodomor Studies – Online Workshop Series

- HREC will continue its online Emerging Scholarship series. At each monthly session, an early career scholar discusses their current research, followed by comments from an expert in the field and discussion with fellow early career scholars. Approximately eight per year.

HREC Research Grants Program

- Each year, HREC conducts an international research grants competition to support research that expands our knowledge and understanding of the Holodomor; publication and translation of research results; preservation of and increasing access to materials; and organization of and participation in academic forums.

Holodomor Visiting Scholar

- HREC will support a Visiting Scholar in Holodomor studies, in partnership with the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine (Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto), selected based on a proposed research project. The Scholar benefits from access to the university's rich library resources and interaction with HREC staff. HREC also facilitates meetings with scholars in relevant disciplines including in the genocide studies community.

Genocide and Human Rights Program

- HREC anticipates sponsoring a young scholar of the Holodomor to attend the two-week Genocide and Human Rights University Program (GHRUP), organized by the Zoryan Institute at the University of Toronto (likely to be run virtually). GHRUP provides participants with the intellectual framework to address complex issues related to genocide through case studies and comparative analysis.

■ ONGOING PROJECTS | 2021

In this two-year project, Bohdan Klid and Oksana Vynnyk will research **State Department documents on collectivization and the famine of 1932-33** with the aim of publishing the most significant documents. In year one, they will select documents from digital copies of microfilm rolls of the Records of the State Department Relating to the Internal Affairs of the Soviet Union, 1930-39. Documents from Records of the Department of State Relating to Political Relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, 1930-39 will be examined next.

Testimonies submitted to the Kersten Committee (US Congress House Select Committee on Communist Aggression)

- Documents of the Kersten Committee and an accompanying essay examining the historical context and Cold War politics of the committee's and Charles Kersten's relationship with the Ukrainian community and its leadership in the USA will be prepared for publishing and submitted to *East/West Journal of Ukrainian Studies*.

Holodomor Digital Collections

- HREC will continue to work with OurDigitalWorld to make letters from the Maniak Collection of Holodomor testimonies accessible and searchable online. Approximately 100 more testimonies with transcriptions will become available online and searchable in 2021, and of these, approximately 30 will include English translations.

Professional Ethics, Medical Experts, and the Holodomor in Soviet Ukraine

- HREC Research Associate Oksana Vynnyk will finish a draft article on this topic, present it at the ICCEES World Congress, and submit it for publication by October, and also begin work on an article addressing medical practices during the Holodomor.

HREC EDUCATION REPORT

HREC Education MANDATE

HREC Education (HREC ED) furthers the research, study and teaching of the Holodomor through six main streams:

- resource development
- educator training workshops
- presentations
- outreach
- promotion, and
- consulting

It promotes inclusion of the Holodomor as a topic in school curricula and educational institutions. HREC Education develops instructional materials and training programs for educators that use best practice strategies and methodologies for teaching about the Holodomor across Canada, the USA and in Ukraine. HREC ED promotes an interactive multidisciplinary approach in the teaching of the Holodomor and trains educators to develop students' critical and historical thinking skills.

HREC Education is led by **Director Valentina Kuryliw**, assisted by **HREC Research Associate Sophia Isajiw** and **Education Assistant Svitlana Sheptytsky**.

To fulfill its mandate, HREC Education works with teachers, institutions which train teachers, ministries of education, curriculum developers, school boards, students, and national and community organizations to ensure that the Holodomor is included as a topic in curricula related to human rights and genocide.

HREC Education provides content and teaching materials for teachers with engaged learning teaching strategies on the topic of the Holodomor.



HREC Education reaches out to all audiences, creating spaces to understand the universal lessons of the Holodomor and its ongoing relevance using the most current methodologies for teaching it, while promoting a stronger civil society.

EDUCATION PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

PRESENTATIONS

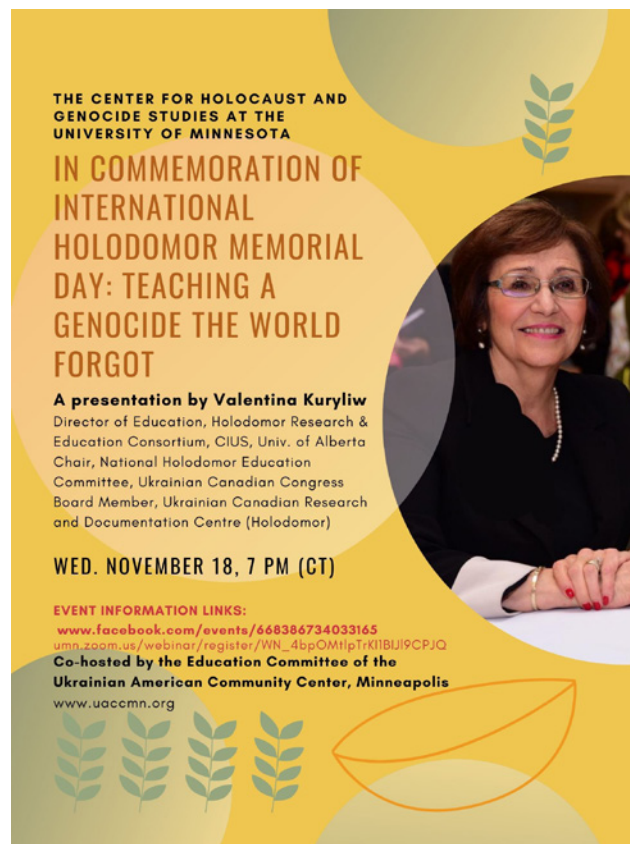
HREC Education promotes interactive and multidisciplinary approaches in educational workshops and community presentations.

■ “In Commemoration of International Holodomor Memorial Day: Teaching a Genocide the World Forgot,” A presentation by Valentina Kuryliw”

Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
Co-hosted by the Education Committee of the Ukrainian American Community Center, Minneapolis
18 November 2020 | Online

Kuryliw's presentation, a first Holodomor Memorial Day talk for the Minnesota Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, outlined basic information and facts about the Holodomor together with strategies and approaches Kuryliw uses to include the Holodomor in curricula across Canada within a human rights and genocide education context.

As a child of two Holodomor survivors, Kuryliw also shared examples and anecdotes from her family history.



“I appreciated many things about the presentation, in particular the history of HREC and that it was Valentina’s efforts behind it that engendered that research center. I kept thinking that it literally does take one person to change the world and influence the future. Overall, I was thankful to learn about her work and was inspired by her example to have an impact on thousands of students in Canadian schools.”

– Ruslana A. Westerlund,
WIDA @ Wisconsin Center
for Education Research,
University of Wisconsin at Madison

The question and answer period was robust with a record 160 online participants, the highest number attending any of the Holocaust & Genocide Studies Center’s events to date, according to their staff.

See information on the university’s website: <https://cla.umn.edu/chgs/events/commemorative-lecture-international-holodomor-memorial-day-teaching-genocide-world-forgot>

Read article about the event and view video recording: <https://education.holodomor.ca/in-commemoration-of-international-holodomor-memorial-day-teaching-a-genocide-the-world-forgot/>



This presentation, given in commemoration of the 87th anniversary of the Holodomor, was for educators, community activists and the community at large. Over 160 participants attended the talk on Zoom online.

PROMOTION

As a genocide recognized by the Canadian government and many of its provinces, HREC Education promotes the inclusion of the Holodomor in school curricula and educational institutions across the country and beyond.

Annual Holodomor Memorial Day Pamphlet

The annual **Holodomor Memorial Day pamphlet** promotes inclusion of the Holodomor in school curricula and observance of the annual Holodomor Memorial Day for commemoration in schools across the country – on the fourth Friday in November. Begun in 2008, this initiative has now spread to school boards across Canada. HREC Education works with the UCC's National Holodomor Education Committee to prepare a package of informational materials each year and distribute it electronically and in hard copy. The HMD pamphlet contains information about the Holodomor, an announcement to be read, and a list of resources available to teachers and administrators who are also encouraged to visit the HREC website and join HREC Education's Facebook network for information and news updates. These materials are sent out in an annual e-blast to HREC Education's entire mailing database.

The **Holodomor Memorial Day pamphlet** and the **HREC Education Mandate** are now available in both English and French from the same download link. These may be used by the Ministry of Education in Quebec and French communities across Canada. In 2020, HREC Education sent out an e-blast to all our database contacts in preparation for Holodomor Memorial Day with a link to the downloadable pamphlet online.

"Thank you. We use your materials in the DPCDSB (Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board)."

— Lesia Skira Saluchok
Computer Science Teacher
Loyola C.S.S., DPCDSB
Mississauga, Ontario



Download the pamphlet:
<https://education.holodomor.ca/holodomor-memorial-day-2020/>

Media Interviews

Host Tess Terrible interview with Valentina Kuryliw
The Pursuit podcast, CATO Institute
Washington, DC
Aired online 18 February 2020;
recorded 6 September 2019

A podcast about government action and individual liberty, host and producer Tess Terrible interviewed Valentina Kuryliw as a child of Holodomor survivors. Kuryliw talked about the history of the Holodomor and its significance intertwined with her own family history and emphasized the value of oral history and survivor eyewitness archives to the study of the Holodomor. Interviewed also for this podcast were author and journalist **Anne Applebaum** and historian and **Director of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University (HURI) Serhii Plokhii**. Terrible draws on two survivor accounts from the *Share the Story* archives.



Listen to The Pursuit podcast interview, 26 min.: <https://www.libertarianism.org/podcasts/pursuit/holodomor-forgotten-ukrainian-genocide>

Ukrainian Language Education Centre (ULEC) at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS)
Faculty of Education, University of Alberta
Regional Highlights Section Interview with HREC Director of Education Valentina Kuryliw
Newsletter, Vol. 2, Issue 1, October 2020, pages 16-18

As part of their Regional Highlights focus section of their quarterly Newsletter, ULEC's Acting Director Olenka Bilash invited HREC Director of Education Valentina Kuryliw to respond to a series of interview questions. The section highlights educators living in different parts of Canada who have made a difference to the teaching profession regarding various topics in Ukrainian education. In the interview, Kuryliw shares her influences, aspirations, mottos, teaching approach and experiences and the work she has been doing at HREC Education.

To read interview see: <https://education.holodomor.ca/ulec-interview-with-valentina-kuryliw/>



Student Voice Monthly Podcast

SUSK – Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union

November 2020



SUSK "Student Voice" podcast host and editor of the "Student" paper **Alexandra Holyk** interviewed educator and 2020 HREC Educator Award recipient **Natalia Onyschuk** about her award-winning lesson plan, teaching approach and Holodomor commemoration event activities with her music students.

Holyk also asked how SUSK members, as post-secondary students, can help educate fellow classmates about this genocide. In the same podcast, Holyk interviewed HREC Assistant to the Director of Education and CIUS Research Associate **Sophia Isajiw** regarding online resources to share with students and USO's (university student organizations) in order to commemorate Holodomor Memorial Day 2020 during the pandemic.

Listen to the SUSK podcast, 20:30 min.: <https://susk.ca/student-voice-podcast/>

"Very informative and inspiring presentation."

— Victor E Glasko
Culture and Education
Committee Chairman of the
Ukrainian-American
Civic Center, Buffalo, NY

Genocide Month

April is Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month

April 2020

HREC Education participates annually in April Genocide Month by issuing a statement to encourage teachers to commemorate the genocide experiences of diverse communities in Canadian schools, including the Holodomor. It encourages teachers and students to remember and honour survivors of global atrocities, to condemn human rights abuses, and to strive to build more peaceful communities locally and globally through awareness and advocacy. HREC Education continues to work with individual school boards and educators to ensure that the Holodomor genocide is featured in schools across the country during the month of April and to give workshops and talks to classes within the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) on the topic of genocide, human rights and the Holodomor as an Accepted Educational Partner of the TDSB, as well as to others in the community.

APRIL IS GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE, CONDEMNATION, PREVENTION & EDUCATION MONTH

On April 24, 2015, the House of Commons unanimously passed a historic motion (M-587) to recognize the month of April as Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month.

Canada has been affected by many genocides and recognizes: the Armenian Genocide, Ukrainian Holodomor, Jewish Holocaust, the Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda and the Genocide in Bosnia. The Canadian Parliament has also recognized the ongoing genocide being committed against the Yazidi in Syria and Iraq today, the Rohingya in Myanmar and the Romani during WWII.

Educators are encouraged to take time in April to remember those who suffered and lost their lives in the Holodomor and other genocides, to commit to using education to protect and defend human rights and dignity everywhere, and to stand up against prejudice, hate and other forms of exclusionary practices that are known precursors to crimes against humanity.

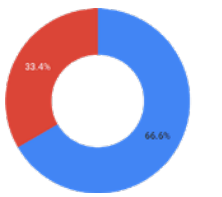
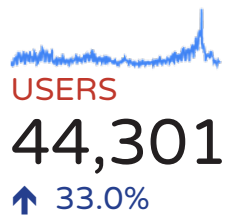


Kharkiv, Ukraine, 1932-33
Photo: A. Wienerberger, Innitzer Collection

HREC Education Website & Social Media

HREC Education Website www.education.holodomor.ca

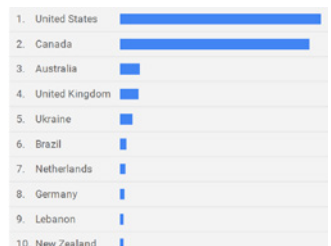
- From January through to December 2020, the HREC Education website had **44,301 users (an increase of 33% over the previous year)** and received **57,819 visits (an increase of 33.8% over the previous year)** who viewed various parts of the website over extended periods of time. Users are reaching the site predominantly by Googling it directly, through web searches from Facebook and other sites carrying our information, and in 2020 for the first time a small but significant portion, clearly all educators, utilized the HREC Education website via Google Classroom. This is the first solid data we have of use of HREC Education materials in classrooms digitally.
- In 2020, HREC Education's website also saw an **increase of 66.6% new visitors** and of **33.4% returning visitors**.
- 1,514 files were downloaded** from the website in 2020 (**an increase of 34.5% over the previous year**). The Holodomor Memorial Day pamphlet continues to be the top download followed by the "Basic Facts About the Holodomor" page, the "Holodomor Denial and Silences" page, the archival photos gallery page, V. Kuryliw's Ukrainian language book pdfs *Metodyka Vykladannya Istorii* and then information about Raphael Lemkin and his full speech of 1953.
- November remains the busiest month for the website – Holodomor Memorial Day visits increased to over 850 at the end of November. Late February also saw a significant spike in website users.
- In 2020, 13 new pages were added to the HREC ED website, including 6 new articles and 3 Ukrainian language pages. The most frequently visited and used pages of the website overall in 2020 were the teaching materials, Holodomor timeline, basic facts and archival photographs.
- Globally, website users in 2020 increased to living in **151 countries (up from 136 in 2019)**. Without doubt the USA is the predominant user of the website, followed by Canada, the UK, Ukraine, Australia, Brazil, Germany, the Netherlands, India, China, France, Poland, Ireland, Spain, Lebanon, the Philippines, Sweden, Italy, Singapore, South Africa, New Zealand (all over 100 users from each, in this order). HREC Education's online presence continues to grow, and statistics show the website is progressively being used globally.
- Ukrainian language website component:** In 2018, HREC Education added a Ukrainian language drop down menu on its website to include information in Ukrainian for educators including articles, teaching materials, news and resources. In 2019, new articles were added. **In 2020, users for the Ukrainian language section of the website increased to 354, representing 644 visits, meaning these were repeat visits.** Kuryliw's 2008 publication in Ukrainian, *Методика викладання історії / A Methodology for Teaching History*, which is no longer available in book form but continues to be in demand in Ukraine, was placed online for download under this section of the website in 2020. Visits to this page from Ukraine and other parts of the diaspora increased immediately.



151 COUNTRIES



TOP VISITS



Social Media

HREC Education Facebook Page was created just prior to the 2017 Holodomor Education Conference to post materials related to Holodomor and genocide education, to advertise award opportunities and events for educators and students, and to engage teachers, administrators and students in topics related to the Holodomor and all aspects of teaching it. It functions as an essential referent to the HREC Education website.

- The Facebook page's **regular monthly reach averages over 2,000** with impressions over 4,000, but this number swells to almost 8,000 reached in November.
- The number of **subscribed followers increased this year to 446**. Unlike the HREC Education website, users of its Facebook page are predominantly Canadian.
- In 2020, a total of **120 posts** reached **15,932 people** via Facebook.

HREC Education Twitter Page was created in late 2018 to complement the website and Facebook page, to help drive users to the website, and to capitalize on HREC Education networks and connections in live time.

- HREC Education's Twitter page **more than doubled** its followers over the previous nascent year to **82 followers** in 2020 with **over 50,250 impressions**

HREC Education on UCC's website

HREC Education cooperates closely with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) through its National Holodomor Education Committee (NHEC) of which HREC's Director of Education is the Chair. Many events, announcements and educational resources are posted on UCC's website which link to HREC's website pages. This more broadly extends the reach of these materials across all of Canada, allowing UCC branches in each province to access them for use in local advocacy campaigns for recognition and education.

HREC Education on HNAT's website

The National Holodomor Awareness Tour (HNAT) for the Holodomor Mobile Classroom uses the HREC Education website as a "link to Holodomor Resources."



Tweet by a city politician from Ringgold City Council, Georgia, USA which shares the HREC Education HMD pamphlet.



Retweet by the U.S. Holodomor Committee of HREC Education tweet for its joint project with John Vsetecka of Harvard University that updates and maps all Holodomor recognition proclamations and bills in the USA and Canada.



Ukraine News 4 English Media retweet of HREC Education Holodomor Memorial Day tweet

EDUCATOR TRAINING WORKSHOPS

HREC Education conducts professional workshops for educators which train teachers to develop students' critical and historical thinking skills while focusing on the topic of human rights and the Holodomor.

■ The Sixth National Methodology Seminar for Educators

"The New Ukrainian School: Teaching about the Holodomor and other Genocides"

Kyiv, UA | Zoom online

23-24 November 2020

The Verba Magistri Seminar of the Methodology Lab for teaching the Holodomor and other genocides was set up as an agreement in 2016 with HREC Education in Canada, HREC in Ukraine and the Ministry of Education and Sciences of Ukraine.

In 2020, the 6th Seminar hosted over 200 online educator participants

from across Ukraine. Valentina Kuryliw

gave welcoming remarks from HREC Education at the opening of the 6th

Seminar encouraging teachers approach

the Holodomor through a discussion of human

rights in their classrooms. New and relevant

academic research regarding the Holodomor

as a case history was presented over two days.

The first day focused on a panel of academics

sharing their current research, including updated

demographics on the Holodomor, a comparison

study of the number of people who died in Russia

and Ukraine, and a presentation of the latest

information on Ukraine itself. A presentation about

the strong case for Imperial Genocide looked at

Ukraine as a breadbasket of resources to feed the

rest of the Soviet Union even at the expense of

the local population, which was deemed to be too

nationalistic. Examples of historical literature that



can be used in the classroom formed another talk.

A valuable study that focused on how Ukrainian

textbooks present the Holodomor included the

fact that few emphasize the word "Genocide" in

their texts. The second day of the Seminar focused

on methodologies. Teachers presented 2 teaching

methodologies and 3 lessons they created on the

Holodomor. Two of the presenters were graduates

of the Verba Magistri Summer School Program

and it was evident in their lessons that the work

of the Methodology Lab Summer School has

had a positive effect on the way that the next

generation of teachers is teaching the Holodomor.

All registered participants were issued an electronic

certificate.

Organizers included the Ministry of Education and Sciences of Ukraine, the Institute of History of Ukraine, the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the Institute of Demography and Social Studies named after M. E. Ptukha of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the Holodomor Research and Educational Consortium (HREC) at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies of the University of Alberta, the Holodomor Research and Educational Center (HREC in Ukraine).



Online program: <http://program-www.holodomor-hrec.com/downloads/new-school/programm.pdf>

■ Teaching the Holodomor, Human Rights and other Genocides Summer School Program for Educators in Ukraine – Litna Shkola

Verba Magistri Methodology Lab at
The New Ukrainian School
Chornomorsk, Odesa oblast, Ukraine

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was not possible to hold this summer school for teachers in 2020.

Since 2016, as part of the ongoing **Verba Magistri Methodology Lab, The New Ukrainian School's Summer Program** runs an annual two-week additional qualifications summer training session for educators from across Ukraine. In it, educators are trained in methodologies developed by Kuryliw and used to foster historical and critical thinking skills while teaching human rights and the Holodomor. Participants are also provided with resources on the Holodomor to use in the classroom. The course for history and social studies teachers has become a popular, highly desired professional development course amongst educators in Ukraine which receives more applicants than is possible to accept (it is capped at 35 educators per session). The Summer School is organized annually for the professional development of educators, for which they receive Ministry certification. It is organized by HREC in Ukraine, the Ministry of Education and Sciences of Ukraine and HREC Education in Canada.

"Your presentation was excellent. You are a gem of knowledge and a treasure.

I learned some things tonight in your suggestions of teaching methodology and how to tell the story of the Holodomor in so many applications."

— Oksana Piaseckyj
Community Activist
Naples, Florida

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

HREC Education develops instructional materials, resources and training programs for educators using best practice strategies and methodologies for teaching about human rights and the Holodomor across Canada and the USA, and in Ukraine.

■ 2020 HREC Educator Award for Holodomor Lesson Plan Development

1 October 2020 | Online

The third annual HREC Educator Award for Holodomor Lesson Plan Development, in the amount of \$2,000 CAD, was awarded to **Susan Kenney** (Washington Township, New Jersey) and **Natalia Onyschuk** (Edmonton, Alberta).

- Kenney's lesson plan analyzes the profound questions raised in the firsthand accounts from survivors regarding the U.S. response to the Holodomor and invites students to envision alternative responses.
- Onyschuk's lesson trilogy looks at the event through the eyes of children and teaches content and culture through music, visual and language arts.

The winning lesson plans both make use of engaged learning in insightful ways and are downloadable from the HREC Education Learning Activities website for use by other educators.

See article and lesson plans: <https://education.holodomor.ca/2020-hrec-educator-award-for-holodomor-lesson-plan-development-winners-announced/>



Dry Tears, performed by the St. Matthew School Choir, conducted by Natalia Onyschuk, at the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble of Edmonton.



**2020 HREC
EDUCATOR AWARD
FOR HOLODOMOR LESSON PLAN
DEVELOPMENT**

WINNERS



Dr. Sue Kenney
Immaculate Heart Academy
Washington Township,
New Jersey, USA
Winning lesson plan:
*Imperial Famines: America's
Response to the Holodomor*
Grades 11 & 12



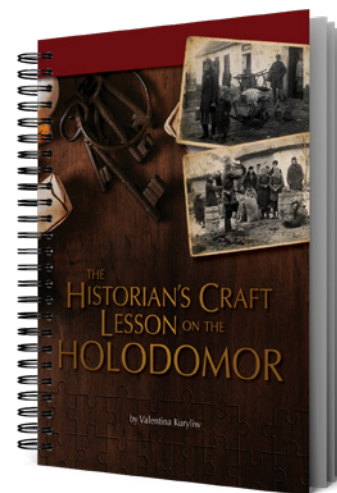
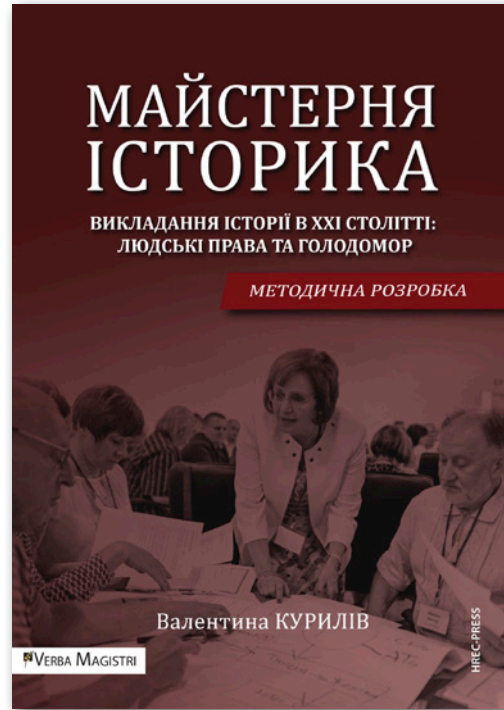
Natalia Onyschuk
St. Matthew School
Edmonton Catholic
School District
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Winning lesson plan:
*Teaching the Holodomor
Through Music —
The Song "Dry Tears"*
Grades 4-6

■ Educational Resources Nearing Publication

The Ukrainian language translation, *Майстерня Історика, Людські Права та Голодомор/Маустерня Історика, Людські Права та Голодомор*, of the soon-to-be published English language *The Historian's Craft Lesson on the Holodomor Master Class Sample Lesson by V. Kuryliw* was translated into Ukrainian and will be published by HREC Press in Ukraine in 2021. It serves as an example of how to teach the Holodomor using current methodologies and approaches and a variety of readymade resources included in the package. It will be used by educators in Ukraine and throughout the Ukrainian diaspora.

V. Kuryliw's *The Historian's Craft Lesson on the Holodomor*, a sample lesson plan for educators in English exemplifying how the Holodomor may be taught using interactive methodologies of engaged learning and a variety of resources for students to analyze and synthesize in groups. Its publication date is set for summer or later of 2021. During 2020, the HREC Education team focused on a full final edit of the manuscript and all of its component parts (approx. 90 pages with maps, archival photos, archival documents, etc.).

V. Kuryliw's *Holodomor in Ukraine, the Genocidal Famine 1932-1933: Learning Materials for Teachers and Students*, a 308-page book of teaching materials, lesson plans and resources on the Holodomor, was translated into Ukrainian in 2020 and is now being edited and modified for publication by HREC in Ukraine. It will be published by HREC Press in Kyiv by the end of 2021.



"Growing up in a Communist system, I am so thankful for people like Valentina Kuryliw educating people on the cruelty of Communism."

— Zory Drazenovic
Vancouver

"Your professional and creative approach to teaching the Holodomor has no peers. All is outstanding! I will share with others."

— Oksana Piaseckyj
Author and community organizer Miami, Florida

OUTREACH

HREC Education does outreach to Ministries of Education, administrators, school boards, social studies and history curriculum leaders, museums and genocide centres, and community organizations across Canada, and beyond.

■ Accepted Educational Partner of the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) 2020 | Toronto

HREC Education was invited by TDSB Director John Malloy to enter into a formal partnership in late 2019. TDSB approved HREC Education as an **Accepted Educational Partner** in an agreement which began in 2020 and is renewable, pending review, yearly. The partnership expands the reach for promotion of HREC Education materials to target audiences across what is the largest school board in Canada (approx. 600 schools and a quarter of a million students). It also increases opportunities for direct access to teaching TDSB students and their teachers during in-class workshops and presentations about the Holodomor that can now be easily requested by teachers, opening up additional opportunities for further cooperation.

Due to the 2020 pandemic lockdown schools were closed and teachers were not able to request or attend partnership talks. HREC ED nonetheless continues its partnership with the TDSB in 2021 with online availability possible.



■ Holodomor Advocacy Kit Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) and the National Holodomor Education Committee (NHEC) in cooperation with HREC Education

HREC Director of Education as the Chair of NHEC agreed to help prepare a **Holodomor Advocacy Kit** in 2021 to be used to approach politicians to request Holodomor recognition, awareness and educational inclusion by UCC Branches in the Atlantic Provinces. HREC Education is in meetings in 2021 with representatives of the UCC branches in the Atlantic Provinces to aid them in getting political recognition of the Holodomor as a genocide in each of their provinces and to obtain inclusion of the Holodomor as a topic in their local school curricula.



CONSULTING

HREC Education consults with Ministry staff, Faculties of Education, school boards, other educational institutions, educators, students, museum educators, community organizations, researchers and authors about human rights, genocide and the Holodomor.

1. **Luda Anastazievskia, Minneapolis Public Schools Educator and Programming Director of the Ukrainian American Community Center in Minneapolis, MN** approached HREC's Director of Education for educational teaching materials on the Holodomor for a **Holodomor Resource Guide** which Anastazievskia was preparing for the Genocide Education Outreach Program of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota. Valentina Kuryliw and Sophia Isajiw also proofed the final draft of the Resource Guide and are thanked for it in a front page article in the Ukrainian Weekly about the Minneapolis Ukrainian Center. Kuryliw's book of teaching materials, *Holodomor in Ukraine*, was additionally made part of the Holocaust Center's resource library. Holodomor Resource Guide: <https://cla.umn.edu/chgs/holocaust-genocide-education/resource-guides/holodomor> Article in *The Ukrainian Weekly*: <https://education.holodomor.ca/minneapolis-ukrainian-center-educates-teachers-public-about-the-holodomor/>
2. **Mykola Kunderevych, 12th grade Advanced Placement Research (APR) student** at Manville High School in New Jersey. The U.S. AP Research curriculum requires students to conduct research on a topic that can be studied for the entire school year and to seek out select expert advisers who can assist with research information on their topics. HREC Education helped him to strategize and amend his Holodomor research question slightly to be more on point and suggested many resources and websites for him to further research. The student was engaged in a conversation with guided questions to enable him to better understand, and focus in on, his topic. He will

also utilize the *Share the Story* survivor witness videos as a core of his research.

3. **Victor E. Glasko, Cultural and Art Committee Chair, Ukrainian-American Civic Center, Buffalo, NY**, approached HREC's Director of Education for suggestions on videos or films about the Holodomor to be shown in November over a 3-night period during Holodomor Commemoration Week 2020. Kuryliw prepared and sent a package of 3 DVDs: *Genocide Revealed (Education version)*, *Holodomor: Voices of Survivors* and *The Holodomor (CanadaInns)* for their use.
4. **Eugene Ladna, Guidance Counsellor, Dufferin Peele Catholic District School Board**, requested a prayer and a PowerPoint presentation of basic facts about the Holodomor for November's Holodomor Memorial Day. He was sent the HMD pamphlet and a prayer with additional information. He sent HREC ED a PowerPoint he wanted to use to send out to schools which required corrections and editing in particular regarding the numbers and statistics listed in it and the photographs utilized. HREC ED also suggested videos that could be shared for educational purposes.
5. **Jason Haraschuk, high school English teacher at Father Michael Goetz Catholic Secondary School, Dufferin Peele Catholic District School Board** in Mississauga approached HREC ED about getting a Holodomor survivor as a guest speaker, stating they have had the same Holocaust survivor speaking annually for eight years and Haraschuk thinks it's time for another speaker to visit for a change. This is a common remark we hear from educators periodically. V. Kuryliw suggested she could come in as a child of survivors to do a virtual presentation

and sent teaching materials, lists of books and resources for the school library, her Top Picks List and oriented him to the HREC Education website. Jason shared all the information received from Valentina with his History Department Head, Steve Glugosh.

6. **Dean Stevens, Social Studies teacher at Notre Dame High School, RDCRS (Red Deer Catholic Regional School Board) in Red Deer, Alberta** requested to consult with the Director of Education as to whether an exceptional paper by a student of his could be published somewhere. He also asked if he could share the link to Kuryliw's 2020 presentation at the University of Minnesota with his Grade 12 classroom. V. Kuryliw agreed to the presentation being shared with his students but did not think the student paper was worthy of publication without major rewrites.
7. **Caitlin Johnston, grade 12 Genocide teacher in Nanaimo, British Columbia**, wrote an article for *TEACHER* magazine, a publication of the BC Teachers Union that is widely read among BC teachers. The article speaks to the importance of teaching the Holodomor in Canadian classrooms and invites teachers to access the educational resources put out by HREC Education. The article also discusses a Genocide Tree Memorial planting project Johnson did with her students on the banks of a local river where students planted trees for many global genocides and added a fruit tree to commemorate the Holodomor as a symbol of sharing food and hope into the future. Through this project and others, she envisions a practice of "active hope" which couples acts of ecological repair and socio-historical repair and healing. Caitlin Johnston hopes to submit a lesson plan for the HREC Educator Award in 2021 which reflects this idea. Johnston also requested a Zoom meeting with Valentina Kuryliw for her Professional Development day, Oct. 23, 2020. Due to the pandemic, teachers were asked to select a professional educator to interview whose work inspired them and to discuss their process with them as a consultation. During the PD session Kuryliw outlined the path she took to ensure the Holodomor would be included as a topic to be taught in the Canadian curriculum and the processes involved to implement it.



See Johnson article and photos: <https://education.holodomor.ca/holodomor-the-genocidal-famine-in-ukraine/>

8. HREC Education through the National Holodomor Education Committee (NHEC)

of which Kuryliw is the Chair, participated in aiding to incorporate genocide education as compulsory learning in all Toronto District School Board (TDSB) high schools. This allows a genocide course to be taught in every high school in Ontario. Kuryliw submitted a brief supporting the motion written by TDSB Trustees to the Ontario Ministry of Education. The motion passed and this effort has been expanded to the Ministry of Education in Ontario to include a genocide course in all Ontario high schools, not just the TDSB. This is a major move forward in genocide education in Ontario.

See articles in *The New Pathway* and on our website: <https://www.newpathway.ca/national-holodomor-education-committee-participates-incorporating-genocide-education-compulsory-learning-tdsb-high-schools/> and <https://education.holodomor.ca/national-holodomor-education-committee-participates-in-incorporating-genocide-education-as-compulsory-learning-in-all-tdsb-high-schools/>

National Holodomor Education Committee

National Holodomor Education Committee participates in 'incorporating genocide education as compulsory learning' in all TDSB high schools.

The National Holodomor Education Committee (NHEC) actively participated in helping to incorporate genocide education as compulsory learning throughout Toronto District School Board high schools. NHEC Chair Valentina Kuryliw submitted a brief supporting the motion written by TDSB Trustees to the Ontario Ministry of Education.

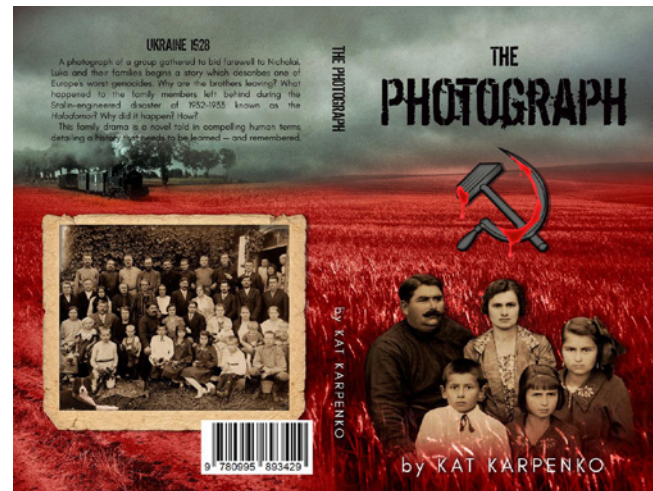


9. Sara Abosch Jacobson, Chief Education Programs & Education Officer, Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, Texas

added V. Kuryliw's *Holodomor in Ukraine* book to the museum's collection of educational materials for teachers. She praised the work of HREC and stated that at the museum they suggest HREC Education's website as a resource whenever they receive requests for additional information beyond what they present in their "10 Stages of Genocide" gallery exhibit.

10. Kat Karpenko, Halifax author of

The Photograph (published in 2020) referenced HREC materials used in her research for this novel. She also contacted



HREC Education for advice about how to promote the book in educational circles. The book is a historical fiction of one family's story in the Holodomor based on a photograph she found in her family collection. The novel is an excellent resource for classroom use about daily life in Ukraine in the 1930s during the Holodomor.

See: <https://www.katkarpenko.com>

11. Larysa Zasyekina (Лариса Засєкіна), Prof. of Psychology, Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University,

approached HREC Education regarding researching the consequences of survivor trauma by looking at the UCRDC Holodomor oral history archives, wanting to share her research information with us for future collaboration possibilities. V. Kuryliw and S. Isajiw met with her at the HREC office to discuss the educational possibilities and have been in contact regarding possibilities for future collaboration several times since.

12. Talia Soglin, Yale Daily News Public Editor at Yale University

requested to interview V. Kuryliw for a history research paper about the teaching of the Holodomor to children in the U.S. and Canada, particularly in Ukrainian diasporic communities. The interview consult took place on 12 March 2020.

13. Madeleine Sarapuu, Grade 12 student at Thomas More College in South Australia

contacted HREC Education because she was writing an essay on the Holodomor for her final year. She requested informational materials and to interview Kuryliw as a child of survivors about basic information, which took place via

Skype on 21 April 2020. She also spoke with HREC Director of Research Bohdan Klid.

14. Charlene Echart, teacher at Edmund Partridge Community School in Winnipeg, MB approached HREC Education after the Holodomor Memorial Day e-blast went out, to consult about obtaining information regarding historical novels and poetry that would be suitable for students to use during the November 2020 commemoration activities. She was sent some translated poetry on the Holodomor and information about historical fiction and novels on the Holodomor appropriate for youth. Echart was a participant in the 2017 HREC Education conference in Winnipeg.

15. Maria Walzer, Scientist | Inclusion of Ukrainian Genocide in the 2018 Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for History and Social Science (Pre-Kindergarten to 12) | 19 January 2020

Maria Walzer spearheaded the inclusion of the Holodomor into the Massachusetts History and Social Science curriculum framework, which was finalized and adopted in early 2020. She requested curriculum materials for teaching the Holodomor from V. Kuryliw which she presented to the Massachusetts Ministry of Education along with other materials. Kuryliw consulted with her about using a human rights approach and suggested materials that could be used. The Holodomor may be taught under Standard 25h in World History II, and the wording regarding the Holodomor is on Page 155, "Topic 4. The Great Wars, 1914–1945 [WHII.T4]," questions 9 d) and e). See: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/hss/2018-12.pdf> See article, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, 10 April 2020: <http://www.ukrweekly.com/uwwp/a-holodomor-curriculum-success-story/>

"Thank you for the important work you continue to do."

— Steve De Quintal
Teacher, St. Mary Catholic
Academy, Toronto



COOPERATION WITH HREC IN UKRAINE

HREC Education works closely with its affiliate organization HREC in Ukraine, headed by **Dr. Liudmyla Hrynevych**. Joint initiatives include organizing national education training programs, with sessions conducted by HREC Education Director V. Kuryliw, and translation and publication projects.

HREC in Ukraine's **Verba Magistri** ("In the words of teachers") is a **Methodology Lab** for teaching the Holodomor and other genocides as envisioned by **The New Ukrainian School** curriculum guidelines. It trains Ukrainian teachers to develop and adopt innovative and interactive methodologies for teaching human rights, genocide and the Holodomor and to create new curriculum. Its annual two-week **Summer School Program** for educators is an important component of a partnership agreement with the **Ministry of Education and Sciences of Ukraine**. V. Kuryliw is the leading instructor at the Summer School which utilizes her *Maysternia Istoryka* sample lesson as a basis for her teaching methodology and resources. The **Verba Magistri** also conducts symposiums in Ukraine about the Holodomor for educators, academics and methodologists, providing instruction in new methods for teaching the Holodomor in Ukrainian schools.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there was no travel to Ukraine possible and the Summer School had to be cancelled, but several online training sessions were held throughout the year at which HREC ED Director Kuryliw gave opening remarks.

RECOGNITIONS

■ Etobicoke Centre Community Recognition Awards 2020 – Outstanding Volunteer Service to the Community

Yvan Baker, MP (Etobicoke Centre), Toronto, ON

Presented on Zoom 17 Jan. 2021

In recognition of Valentina Kuryliw's dedication and commitment to the community.

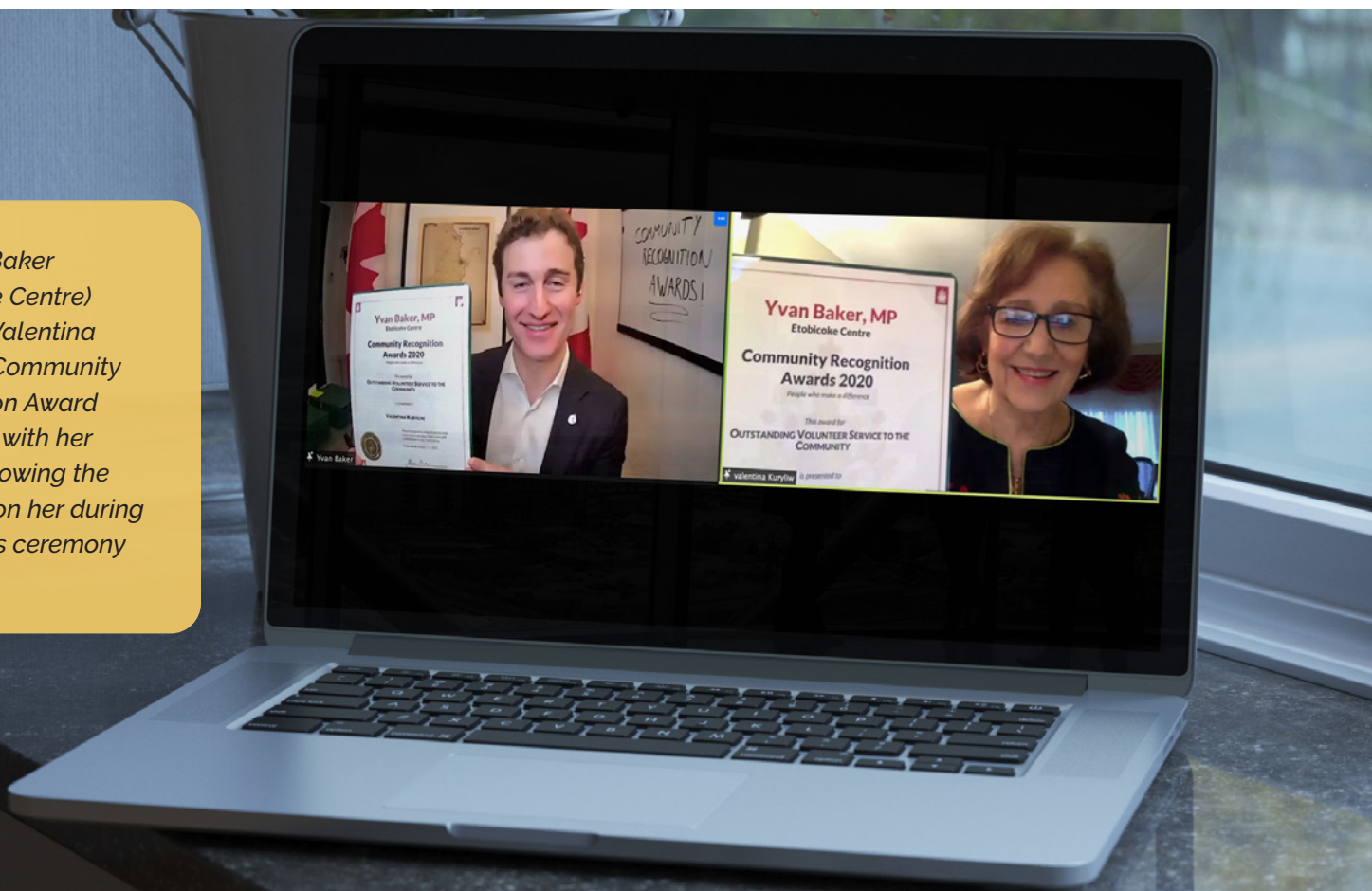
The award nominator wrote:

"Valentina's work to educate people in Etobicoke Centre, throughout Toronto, Ontario, and Canada about the Holodomor and human rights is critical work. Her tireless work to ensure that Canadians learn the lessons of the Holodomor makes Etobicoke Centre, and all of Canada, a more socially just place. I have had the pleasure of knowing Valentina for just under 10 years and she has been a mentor to me and many other educators as I work in the TDSB (Toronto District School Board) to educate students about genocide, and more specifically, about the Holodomor."

Petro Shturyn, President of UCC-Toronto wrote:

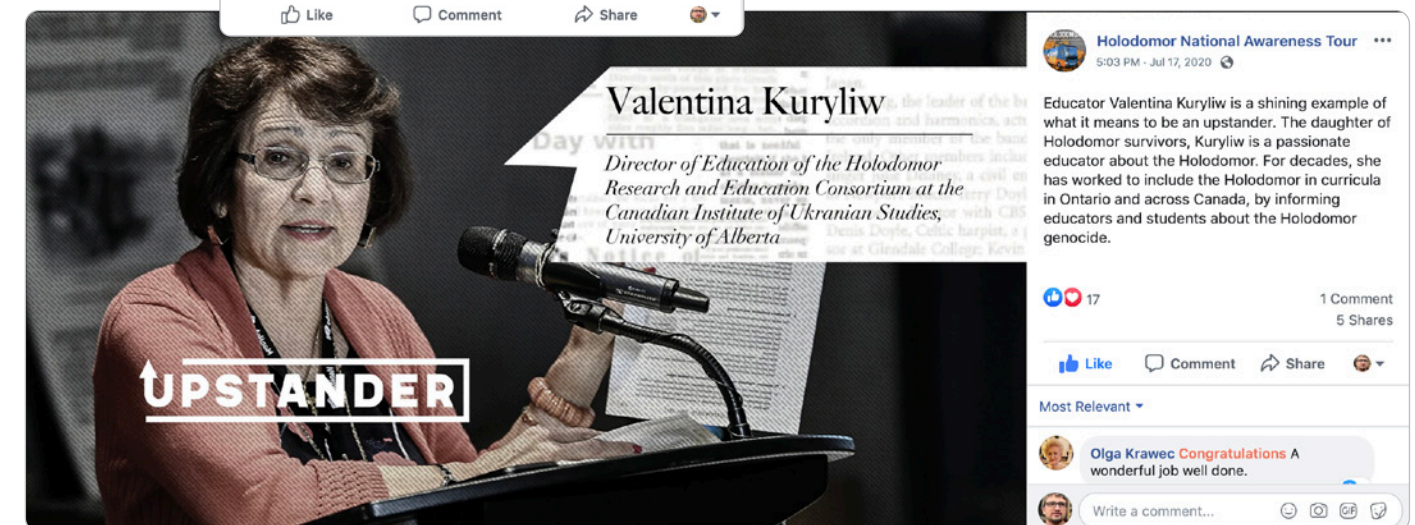
"On behalf of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Toronto, and myself, I would like to congratulate you on the Etobicoke Center Community Recognition Awards. This award is a recognition of all your hard work in spreading knowledge about the Holodomor in Canadian society and studying this painful topic for the Ukrainian people in Canadian schools. We wish you strength, inspiration and further success in all your projects."

MP Yvan Baker (Etobicoke Centre) holds up Valentina Kuryliw's Community Recognition Award certificate with her while bestowing the award upon her during his awards ceremony via Zoom.



■ Holodomor National Awareness Tour Upstander Campaign

The Holodomor National Awareness Tour made HREC Director of Education Valentina Kuryliw part of their Upstander Campaign in 2020 through a variety of social media posts and tweets:



"Those of us who have had the privilege of knowing Valentina as friend and colleague - know that each award that Valentina has received over the years has been hard earned and most well-deserved. She has developed and presented the English speaking world bona-fide, educator-created and educator oriented materials specific to the Holodomor - materials that are meticulously vetted and researched and meet the highest standards. The inclusion of her curricula in recent genocide teaching compilations reflect the respect of leading scholar-educators in the field. Furthermore - she has tirelessly promoted Holodomor education, crisscrossing Canada to lead countless workshops, organized two very successful Holodomor Education Conferences in Canada, created the award winning interactive curriculum for the Holodomor Bus, has been promoting Holodomor recognition and education legislation throughout the years, and recently initiated an awards program to promote further Holodomor study unit development. And this is only part of her contributions."

— Lana Babij
Independent bibliographer
and researcher, Manchester, CT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

International Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies – Genocide and Human Rights Webinar Series: Summer 2020

Zoryan Institute | 4 August 2020

A live webinar focusing on a case study in Genocide and Human Rights Studies presented by a scholar or practitioner in the field. As a result of the pandemic, the Summer Institute classes went online and HREC Research Associate Sophia Isajiw was able to attend 1 of the 5 webinars for Professional Development.

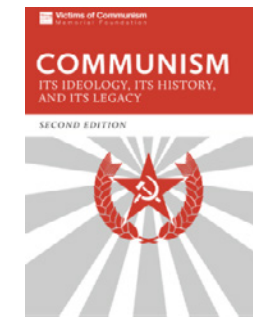


“Rwanda: Genocide, Justice, and Prisoner Reentry and Reintegration” was taught by award-winning Prof. Hollie Nyseth Brehm, Associate Professor of Sociology and the Principal Investigator on two National Science Foundation grants on transitional justice in Rwanda as well as serving on the US Atrocity Taskforce. Because Brehm has years of direct field work and oral history interviewing in Rwanda, Isajiw was interested in Brehm’s research process and results as they might pertain to the post-genocide situation of the Holodomor, and especially if Rwanda’s Gacaca courts for reconciliation can serve as an example for punitive and restorative justice outside of Rwanda. Her presentation was very detailed, in-depth and well organized and the discussion with Prof. Brehm was illuminating.

See recorded video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLyFboK1nu8&feature=emb_logo

Victims of Communism National Seminar for High School Educators 2020

Zoom online | Washington, DC | 22-25 July 2020



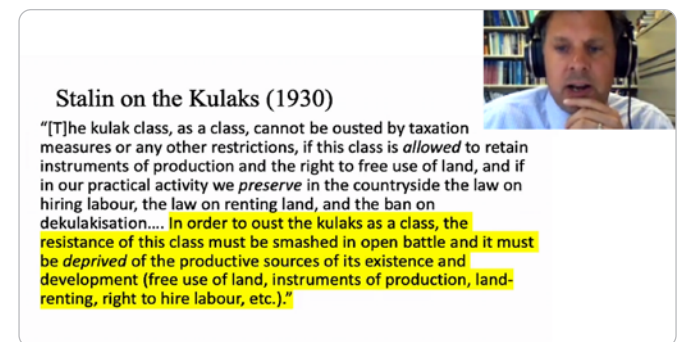
As a result of the pandemic, **Victims of Communism (VoC) Memorial Foundation** hosted its 2020 National Seminar for High School Educators online via Zoom thus allowing HREC Research Associate Sophia Isajiw to take advantage of attending it for professional development, specifically to see if and how the Holodomor is referenced in the course and what resources and pedagogies are used to teach the content.

The seminar confronts the ideology, history and legacy of communism globally by integrating lectures by scholars, sessions on pedagogy and peer discussions to carefully balance research content and teaching practices. Learning is reinforced powerfully in very valuable end-of-day personal stories and testimonials from witnesses, dissidents and victims of various communist countries who are very generous with their time, allowing educators to further question them in-depth post-presentation.

Notable lectures were delivered by VoC faculty:

Jonathan Pidiuzny, Flagg Taylor and **Elizabeth Spalding** amongst others. Although the VoC’s materials do touch on the Holodomor, Sophia Isajiw advocated that they go further and do more on the topic. Isajiw appreciated the large box of multiple resources each educator is sent. She also made note that the tight format and highly organized content not only delivered facts, information and best-practice methodologies for teaching the topic but did so in a way that helps educators reframe their thinking about the approaches they use to teach about Communism, its global legacies and its impact on individual lives.

See article: <https://education.holodomor.ca/victims-of-communism-national-seminar-for-high-school-educators/>



Prof. Flagg Taylor of Skidmore College, NY delivering remarks about Stalin’s strategic use of a kulak class during collectivization.



HREC EDUCATION 2021 WORK PLAN & INITIATIVES

■ Educational Presentations | 2021

HREC Education responds to requests for talks and presentations throughout the year from various district school boards, educational institutions, genocide centres and community organizations.

- **January 22, 2021 | Virtual presentation for Grade 11 Genocide Course, Weston Collegiate Institute (TDSB).**

V. Kuryliw was invited by teacher Michael Anthony to give a PowerPoint presentation on her personal family history and the basic facts about, and the human rights abuses during, the Holodomor.

- **March 29, 2021 | Heritages of Hunger Presentation to European famine educators**

HREC Education's Valentina Kuryliw together with Marta Baziuk and community activist Irka Mycak will present a session on the Holodomor to a consortium of academics, educators, and activists engaged in the study and commemoration of European famines as part of the Heritages of Hunger project, on which HREC is a partner. Valentina Kuryliw is asked to present the steps that she took to include the teaching of the Holodomor as a topic into school systems in Canada, her approach to teaching the Holodomor through human rights, and some of the initiatives HREC Education has introduced to promote Holodomor awareness and its teaching in Canada and Ukraine.

- **May 16, 2021 | NUTC – The 2021 Online National Conference for Ukrainian Educators/ Всеукраїнська Конференція Українських Освітнян – 2021, online.**

This conference aims to support the collaboration and dissemination of knowledge among educators of Ukrainian language, culture, and heritage. V. Kuryliw will be presenting with Nadia Prokopchuk of Saskatchewan, Education Department, University of Saskatchewan on new materials, publications and resources for teachers in the Ukrainian language on the Holodomor.

- **2022-23 will be the 90th Anniversary of the Holodomor and the 10th Anniversary of HREC** and of the first HREC Education conference in 2013. Plans for a webinar conference on Holodomor education as part of a larger Ukrainian Canadian Congress/Ukrainian World Congress weeklong event are being discussed between interested partners. HREC is considering a possible theme of "where we are now and where are we going?" for this global event.

■ Promotion | 2021

- **April Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation, Prevention Month**

HREC Education continues to promote the teaching of genocides and the Ukrainian Holodomor in schools across the country during the month of April. This year HREC Education worked with the National Holodomor Education Committee (NHEC) of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) to ensure that a specific day is designated during April for remembrance of the Holodomor in schools. UCC issued a statement with NHEC and HREC Education regarding April Genocide Month to educators and school boards designating this day as April 16. This day was selected because of

the escalation in the number of deaths due to forced starvation from 12,000 per day in February to nearly 20,000 per day in April of 1933. Also, every year in April, Ukrainians worldwide traditionally visit cemeteries to remember the dead with special memorial ceremonies held the week after Easter, when victims of the Holodomor are specifically remembered.



HREC Education is in conversations with the Toronto District School Board's (TDSB) Director of Education regarding April and November Holodomor commemorations and inclusion in their organizational "Days of Significance Resource Guide."

- **Holodomor Memorial Day** is an annual event in schools on the fourth Friday in November. We print an update of the Holodomor Memorial Day pamphlet to be distributed to school boards, faculties of education, ministries of education, educators and our mailing database, both digitally online, and in hard copy. HREC Education continues to be an Accepted Educational Partner with the TDSB throughout 2021. HREC Education continues to receive school and community requests to conduct talks annually on Holodomor Memorial Day.
- **Book Launches for Kuryliw's English-language *Holodomor in Ukraine*** publication are being planned for Vancouver, New York City, Seattle and possibly other cities in the fall of 2021.
- **Book Launches for Kuryliw's *Maysternya Istoryka*** are being planned virtually for various centres in Ukraine such as Kyiv, Lviv and Kharkiv, in the fall of 2021.
- **Book Launch for Kuryliw's English-language *The Historian's Craft Lesson on the Holodomor*** will possibly happen in the fall of 2021 online via Zoom.
- The **HREC Education website** will continue to undergo development and additions of news, resources, teaching materials, etc.
- In previous years, the global non-profit organization *Facing History and Ourselves* did not show an interest in including the topic of the Holodomor in their genocide education teaching units or activities. Their organization has trained over 10k teachers teaching over half a million students. Kuryliw will be working with former HREC Educator award winner and teacher Michael Anthony to write a blog post about the Holodomor for the *Facing History* website to encourage their educators and the organization itself to include the Holodomor as one of the genocides to be studied.

■ Educational Resource Development | 2021

- The 2021 HREC Educator Award for Holodomor Lesson Plan Development closes applications on May 1st and will be announced on October 1st. HREC Education will advertise it in the international *Ukrainian Weekly* publication, through a MailChimp e-blast and on social media. We will announce the winners on social media on October 1st, 2021.
- The Ukrainian language publication *Maysternya Istoryka* master class lesson will be coming out in 2021.
- A major focus for 2021 is the modification, editing and publication of the Ukrainian translation of V. Kuryliw's *Holodomor in Ukraine* book (308 pages).

- The French translation of *Holodomor in Ukraine* is being undertaken by translator Delphine Pallier, originally from Paris, now residing in Toronto.
- In 2021, *The Historian's Craft Lesson on the Holodomor* will be published in English and in French as *La Méthode Historique Cours sur L'Holodomor*.
- The Holodomor Memorial Day educational pamphlet is updated yearly and is distributed throughout Canada.
- HREC Education will continue to provide detailed information regarding recognitions of the Holodomor across Canada to John Vsetecka, founder and co-editor of H-Ukraine on the H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online platform based in East Lansing, MI in the USA, to update his maps of Canadian and USA recognitions for HREC Education's website.
- Valentina Kuryliw's *Human Rights and the Holodomor Lesson Plan* will be published as a booklet at the request of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine following her successful presentation delivered for the Seventh National Methodology Seminar for Educators, The New Ukrainian School: Teaching the Holodomor and Other Genocides. The goal is to publish it before the end of the year with HREC Press in Kyiv.

■ Outreach | 2021

- HREC Education will continue working with UCC's NHEC to encourage the recognition and teaching of the Holodomor in the Maritime Provinces and Quebec by providing the local UCC branches with a "Holodomor Advocacy Kit" that includes teaching materials, basic information on the Holodomor and instructions on how to approach politicians, school board trustees and administrators.
- Meetings with Ministry of Education staff in Quebec and British Columbia are planned to further the cause of teaching the Holodomor in their respective provincial curricula, including visits to individual school boards should travel restrictions be removed in 2021.

■ Educator Training Workshops | 2021

- **12 March 2021 – 12:30-2pm EST | Seminar, "Навчання Про Людські Права та Голодомор/ Teaching Human Rights and the Holodomor" | Kyiv, Ukraine, online**
Valentina Kuryliw is giving a presentation for the 7th Seminar of Verba Magistri, a partnership with HREC in Ukraine and the Ministry of Education and Sciences of Ukraine for The New Ukrainian School Program that provides new methodologies and approaches to teaching these topics.
- HREC Education will continue to co-partner in the Verba Magistri agreement with HREC in Ukraine and the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Sciences to run the two-week *Litna Shkola Summer School Program* on the Holodomor for history and social studies educators.

■ Consulting | 2021

As HREC Education continues to become better known, and as V. Kuryliw's 2018 publication becomes more popular and is translated into other languages, organizations and individuals in other countries as well as Canada have increasingly begun to turn to HREC Education requesting various kinds of consultative expertise. Online consultation requests have also increased since the 2020 pandemic reduced travel, including with authors of historical fiction, university students and high school seniors across North America working on research essays.

- **Consult with the Critical Thinking Consortium (CTC)**, an organization that prepares teaching materials for creating a unit of study on the Holodomor for educators across Canada. This would be an opportunity to mainstream the topic of the Holodomor nationally by having this organization custom prepare a teaching module on the Holodomor according to their content specifications that would be readily accessible to teachers across the country. They have an excellent web page, and they are well known and respected in school boards throughout Canada. Many of their staff teach at Faculties of Education and use these prepared units of study as examples of how to teach a new topic in a high school classroom. HREC Education will provide resources, teaching materials, primary documents and various other preparatory resources and be the go-to specialists for the CTC writers.



The Holodomor Research and Education Consortium was established in 2013 through the generous funding of the Temerty Foundation.