

Institute of National Remembrance

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Institute of National Remembrance at the second International Meeting of Historical Memory Centers in Salamanca, Spain, April, 26-28 2010

During the second International Meeting of Historical Memory Centers, which was held in Salamanca on April 26-28, 2010, dr. Krzysztof Persak from the IPN's Public Education Office presented the activities and achievements of the Institute of National Remembrance. The conference was organized by the Spanish Ministry of Culture and the Historical Memory Documentary Centre (Centro Documental de la Memoria Historica), which is an archival and educational institution, gathering documentation related to the Spanish Civil War and Franco's dictatorship.

The meeting was devoted to the comparison of experiences of the institutions dealing with research on crimes of totalitarian regimes and dictatorships in the twentieth century. It was attended by such institutions as the Federal Commissioner for the records of the State Security Service of the former German Democratic Republic in Berlin, The National Council for the Study of the Securitate Archives in

Bucharest, the Martyrs 'and Heroes' Institute -Yad Vashem Memorial in Jerusalem, Résistance Foundation in Paris, the German-Israeli Future Forum in Berlin.

The conference, opened by Ángeles González-Sinde, the Minister of Culture, was accompanied by the exhibition dedicated to the Spanish prisoners of Nazi concentration camps. Also, a screening of the documentary film took place. "The roads of memory" (Los Caminos de la Memoria) depicts the ongoing exhumation of mass graves of victims of executions after the Spanish Civil War. The meeting in Salamanca met with great interest of the public as in Spain, for several years now, continues the process of restoring the memory of the victims of Franco repressions. An extensive account of the meeting has been presented in "El País", the largest Spanish newspaper.

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