

“The Missing Picture”¹: Rethinking Genocide Studies and Prevention

Biennial Meeting of the International Association of Genocide Studies

July 14-18, 2019

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

<https://iags2019.com>

Sponsored by the Center for Southeast Studies, American University of Phnom Penh and the Center for the Study of Genocide and Human Rights, Rutgers University, New Jersey

The field of genocide studies is flourishing. It is the focus of academic programs, a multitude of conferences and workshops, international diplomacy, research centers, public policy, and a rapidly growing and increasingly sophisticated body of scholarship, including field-specific book series, journals, readers, and textbooks. However, this remarkable growth has not been without its problems. Like all scholarly domains, genocide studies has been formed from particular disciplinary perspectives and traditions, resulting in a disproportionate focus on a small canon of cases as well as a predominance of literature marked by Western perspectives.

Proposals are invited for papers broadly related to the theme of “Rethinking Genocide Studies and Prevention.” Taking place in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the 2019 IAGS conference marks the association’s 25th anniversary and will be its first conference in Asia, extending efforts to diversify prevailing understandings of the experience of genocide, and the steps we can take to recover and learn from it. Although proposals concerned with any aspect of genocide are welcome, we especially encourage submissions on the following topics:

- New Directions in Genocide Studies and Prevention
- The Cambodian Genocide
- Genocide Education
- Genocide, Atrocity Crimes, and Human Rights
- Critical Genocide Studies
- Genocide, Aesthetics, and the Arts
- Sexualized Violence
- Memory and Transitional Justice
- Indigenous Perspectives
- Cultural Genocide and Heritage Practices
- Resistance and Responses to Genocide and Mass Atrocity

¹ We acknowledge taking inspiration for this title from Rithy Panh’s film *The Missing Picture* (Strand Releasing, 2014).

We welcome proposals for sessions and papers making use of alternative delivery formats, and most especially presentations that seek to break new ground on the widest possible variety of cases, concepts, theories, methods, practices, traditions, and topics relevant to the study of genocide, genocide education, and prevention. In addition to established scholars, submissions are being sought from emerging scholars as well as those working specifically in /on genocide in Southeast Asia. Presentations on under-researched genocides, comparative analyses, and critical and creative work intending to challenge or revise current conceptions of genocide and genocide studies are likewise particularly encouraged.

In addition to individual presentations, we are interested in receiving proposals for thematic panels normally comprised of no more than three people. Proposals for artistic or other kinds of installations, readings, public performances, screenings, workshops, and pop-up events will also be considered. Those thinking along these lines are strongly encouraged to contact the conference organizers prior to submitting their proposals in order to obtain more information concerning what might be possible. No IAGS funding is available to support such initiatives and events, however deserving. IAGS remains committed to (geographical, gender, racial, sexual, etc.) diversity, and so organizers are strongly advised to ensure that any proposed panels are as inclusive as possible since diversity will be a selection criterion.

The 2019 IAGS conference will take place on the 40th anniversary of the fall of the Khmer Rouge in a locality that continues to grapple with atrocity crimes and their legacies. It is also scheduled to occur during the final years of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). Participants will therefore be exposed to a vibrant public culture that is contributing not just to academic work, but to related efforts at memorialization, education, prevention, peacebuilding, and transitional justice.

There will be a number of site-specific opportunities available to those attending the conference, including excursions to former prison sites, Khmer Rouge zones, and the ECCC, as well as a number of primary archives and research facilities, judicial reparation initiatives, and arts performances. More details will be available closer to the conference dates.

Submission Details:

Proposals should be no more than 250 words long, and must include the presenter's full name, affiliation, a brief biography (150 words), and an e-mail contact address. Text should be single-spaced and written in 12-point Times New Roman font. Panel proposals must include the relevant information for all participants.

To facilitate review, all proposals should be saved and submitted as Word files.

Regardless of format, all conference presenters should plan to speak for a maximum of 20 minutes. Although multiple submissions are permitted, the organizers reserve the right to accept only one proposal.

Proposals must be submitted online at: <https://iags2019.com>.

Questions may be addressed to the conference organizers at: info@iags2019.com.

All submissions must be received no later than midnight (EST), November 30, 2018.