

Educational resources on Comparative genocides with a focus on the Holodomor

Compiled to accompany testimony on Massachusetts bill H.314 hearings; July 27, 2017. To link directly to the online resources, access this list by typing "Holodomor information links" in your browser's search box.

A HISTORICAL NOTE ON THE HOLODOMOR

The Holodomor - death by starvation imposed on millions of Ukrainians during 1932-33 - was the centerpiece of the Soviet Union's ruthless campaign against nationally conscious Ukrainians opposed to Stalinism. Besides decimating Ukraine's political, intellectual, cultural, and religious leadership, Joseph Stalin's communist regime deliberately starved Ukraine's majority population, its farmers.

After deporting Ukraine's most successful farming families, Stalin forced those remaining to surrender their property and join government-run farms. Given impossible grain quotas, the farmers resisted, and militias eventually stripped households of any food. Countless villages were blocked off from receiving any goods, and the borders of Ukraine were sealed, so that the people were trapped into a slow and tortuous death by starvation. Meanwhile, grain and other food products were exported to the outside world.

At the height of the famine in 1933, 28,000 Ukrainians were dying each day.

The Soviet Union denied that a murderous famine had ever taken place and compelled its subject Ukrainians to live this lie. To speak of the famine was a crime. Most of the world learned of the Holodomor only after the Soviet Union's collapse in 1991.

Raphael Lemkin, who invented the term genocide and was the initiator of the United Nations Convention on Genocide, stated that the Soviet attack on Ukraine "is a case of genocide, of the destruction, not of individuals only, but of a culture and a nation." [This note is adapted with modifications from a 2015 Holodomor Memorial Dedication Committee text].

I. HOLODOMOR SPECIFIC RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION

A. Start here:

Holodomor 1932-33. <http://www.holodomorct.org/> Provides basic historical information along with a regularly updated guide to 200+ resources, including films, maps, collected survivor testimony, and teaching materials suitable for the secondary and college level - most with links to instant online access: "Information Links: Recommended Resources for Further Information."
<http://www.holodomorct.org/links.html> .

The Holodomor Research and Education Consortium (HREC). <http://holodomor.ca/> Canadian based site with a well developed curricular resources component: <http://holodomor.ca/education/>

B. A few key Holodomor focused resources:

Conquest, Robert. *The Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror-famine*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1986.

Genocide Never Again [Ukrainian Genocide] Teacher and Student Workbook, by Vera Bej, Ihor Mirchuk, and Christine R. Shwed, 2007. [Grades 7+]. http://ncua.inform-decisions.com/eng/files/UkrGenocide_Teacher_Student_Workbook.pdf

Lemkin, Raphael. "Soviet Genocide in the Ukraine." 1953.
http://www.uccla.ca/SOVIET_GENOCIDE_IN_THE_UKRAINE.pdf

Melnyk, Motria. *Curriculum Guide for Teaching Genocides with a focus on the Holodomor, the Famine Genocide in Ukraine*. 2011. [Grades 6-9].
<http://cis.uchicago.edu/oldsite/sites/cis.uchicago.edu/files/resources/110128-ukraine-genocide.pdf>

Naimark, Norman. "How the Holodomor Can Be Integrated into our Understanding of Genocide." *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies (ewjus.com)* 2, no. 1 (2015).
<https://www.ewjus.com/index.php/ewjus/article/view/Naimark/28>

Naimark, Norman M. *Stalin's Genocides*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2010.

United States. *Investigation of the Ukrainian Famine, 1932-1933 Report to Congress*. Washington: U.S. G.P.O., 1988. <http://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/007398237>

This final report includes the "Executive Summary," which presents the "Findings" of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, among them the often quoted #16, which states: "Joseph Stalin and those around him committed genocide against Ukrainians in 1932-1933." Several other valuable reports comprise this volume.
<http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=umn.31951d00831044s;view=1up;seq=8>

Werth, Nicolas. "The Great Ukrainian Famine of 1932-33, Online Encyclopedia of Mass Violence." Sciencespo.fr. April 18, 2008. <http://www.sciencespo.fr/mass-violence-war-massacre-resistance/en/document/great-ukrainian-famine-1932-33>

II. SELECTED RESOURCES ON GENOCIDE : Each selection below includes a chapter on the Holodomor

Altman, Linda Jacobs. *Genocide : The Systematic Killing of a People*. Rev. and Expanded. ed. Issues in Focus Today. Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow, 2009. [Grades 6+]

Charny, Israel W. *Encyclopedia of Genocide*. Santa Barbara, Calif: ABC-CLIO, 1999.

Genocide. Contemporary Issues Companion. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2007. [Grade 7+]

Hewitt, William. *Defining the Horrific: Readings on Genocide and Holocaust in the 20th Century*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2004. College textbook.

Jones, Adam. *Genocide : A Comprehensive Introduction*. 2nd ed. London: Routledge, 2011.

Kiernan, Ben. *Blood and Soil: A World History of Genocide and Extermination from Sparta to Darfur*. New Haven: Yale Univ. Press, 2007.

Modern Genocide: Understanding Causes and Consequences. ABC-CLIO [subscription database].

Snyder, Timothy. *Bloodlands: Europe between Hitler and Stalin*. New York: Basic Books, 2010.

Stone, Dan. *The Historiography of Genocide*. Basingstoke England: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

Totten, Samuel, and William S Parsons. *Century of Genocide*. 4th Ed. ed. Hoboken: Taylor and Francis, 2012. (and earlier editions.)

Valentino, Benjamin A. *Final Solutions : Mass Killing and Genocide in the Twentieth Century*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2004.

Voices into Action. Online program offering curriculum-based teaching resources and tools for teachers and students on issues related to prejudice, human rights, and social justice. Unit 2 offers lessons on genocide. By FAST: Fighting Anti-Semitism Together. 2014 -. <https://www.voicesintoaction.ca/Learn/Unit2/Chapter5>