

MOOC “Memory Sites and Human Rights – 2020 Edition”

Report



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I'd like to study intl. affairs and I believe in order to get a better grasp of that, I needed to understand HR too. This course was far greater and went beyond my expectations.

MOOC participant

This course has helped me to get to know the preciousness of living in a democratic country.

MOOC participant

Summary

Key information

- Type of course:
free MOOC, instructor-paced
- Dates:
27 April – 21 June 2020 (8 weeks)
- Estimated effort:
5+ Hrs/week
- Access on edX platform:
<https://edx.gchumanrights.org/mshr>
- Presentation on GC website:
<http://www.gchumanrights.org/mooc-mshr>, including promotional [video](#) and social media campaign ([media toolkit](#))
- Features:
14 experts from 5 regions; 16 video lectures; text-based introductions; readings; multi-media materials
- Engagement & evaluation:
6 discussions (4 mandatory); 4 quizzes



Statistics*

- Enrolment:
933 participants (*target: 700*)
- Age & gender:
all ages, mainly 25-44 (66%)
female (64%), male (33%), other (3%)
- Country of origin:
all GC regions, with 4 out of 7 above *target of 10%* (see p.4)
- Professional profile:
varied, mainly student/researcher (36%), educators (13%) and HR/NGO professionals (26%)
- Surveys:
425 (welcome); 243 (user-experience)
- Posts (discussions):
1231
- Certificates issued:
165 (17% of enrolment; *target: 10%*)



*edx, youtube, surveys, email correspondence

Highlights

- Concrete and diverse examples/speakers
- Variety of perspectives on topics
- Instructor's prompts and updates helped to keep engagement high
- High level engagement: international examples and comments from participants from all over the world



Recommendations

- More introduction about the readings
- Shorten & energise videos
- Improve quizzes, add assignments
- More interactions among participants and with experts
- Content: add on the *right to forget*, *postcolonial reflections*



A snapshot



Nora Cortiñas



María Sonderéguer



Tarik Samarah



Vesna Teršelič

Some of our experts

What are the main social disagreements related to the past from the perspective of human rights violations?

In my country (South Africa), I think there are several aspects of our history (with a focus of Apartheid and colonialism) which are deemed by some as "necessary evils" for infrastructure and other economic development (no matter the human cost). On another note, I find some people able to justify any wrongs committed in the pursuit of democracy against the oppressive National Party, implying that any actions of MK or the ANC or other freedom fighting parties were tolerable no matter the violent nature or human cost.

Tiggletiger, 27 May 2020

A post in the forum

Question 1

All sites where human rights violations occurred are necessarily considered sites of memory.

☐ True

☐ False

SUBMIT

Question 2

For a place to become a place of remembrance, one or several persons will have to establish that...

☐ the place is linked to their own personal memories

☐ such a place is important in terms of public memory

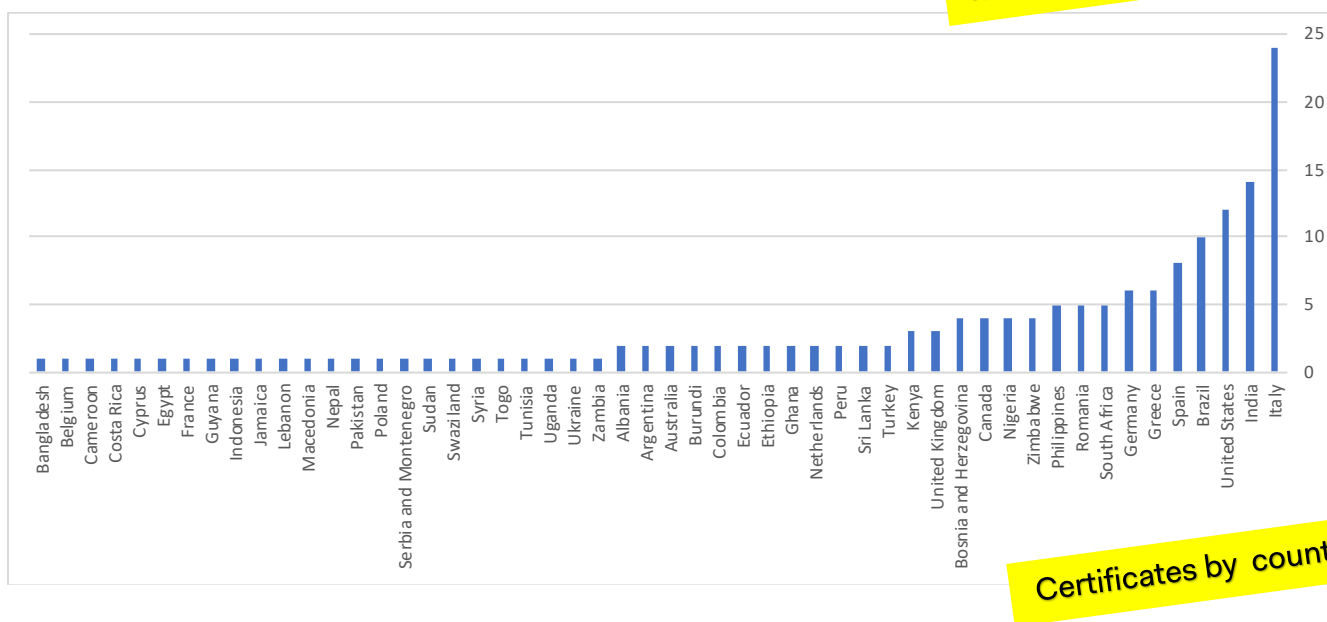
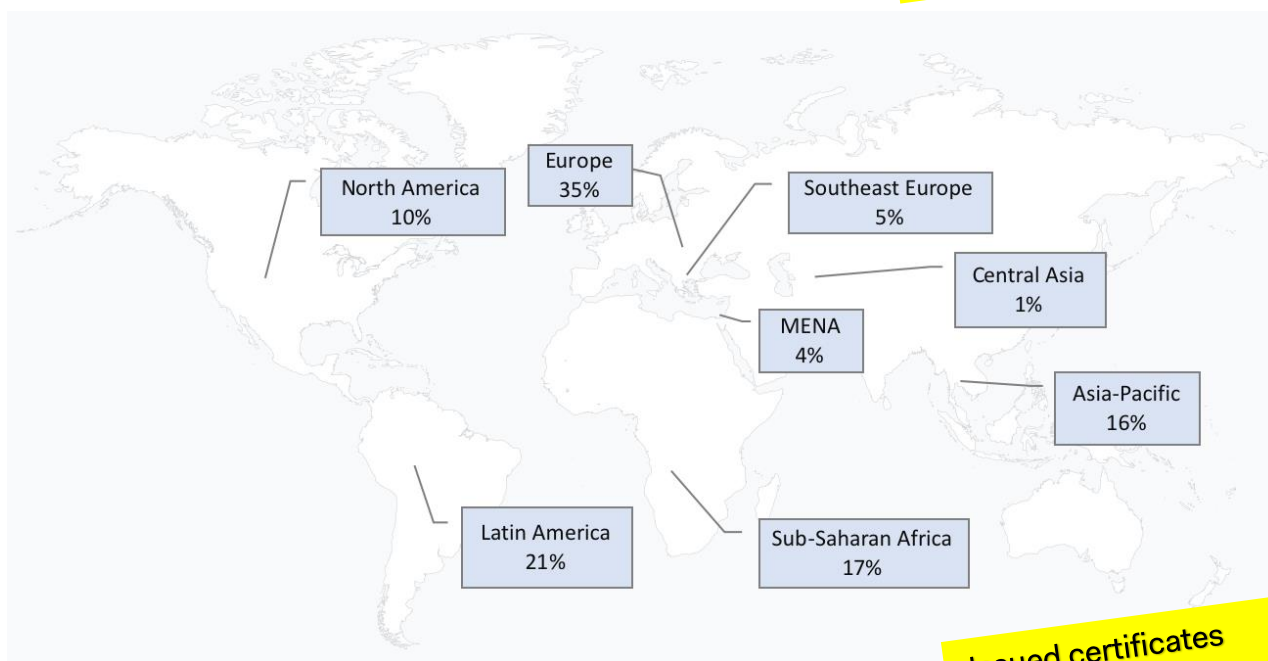
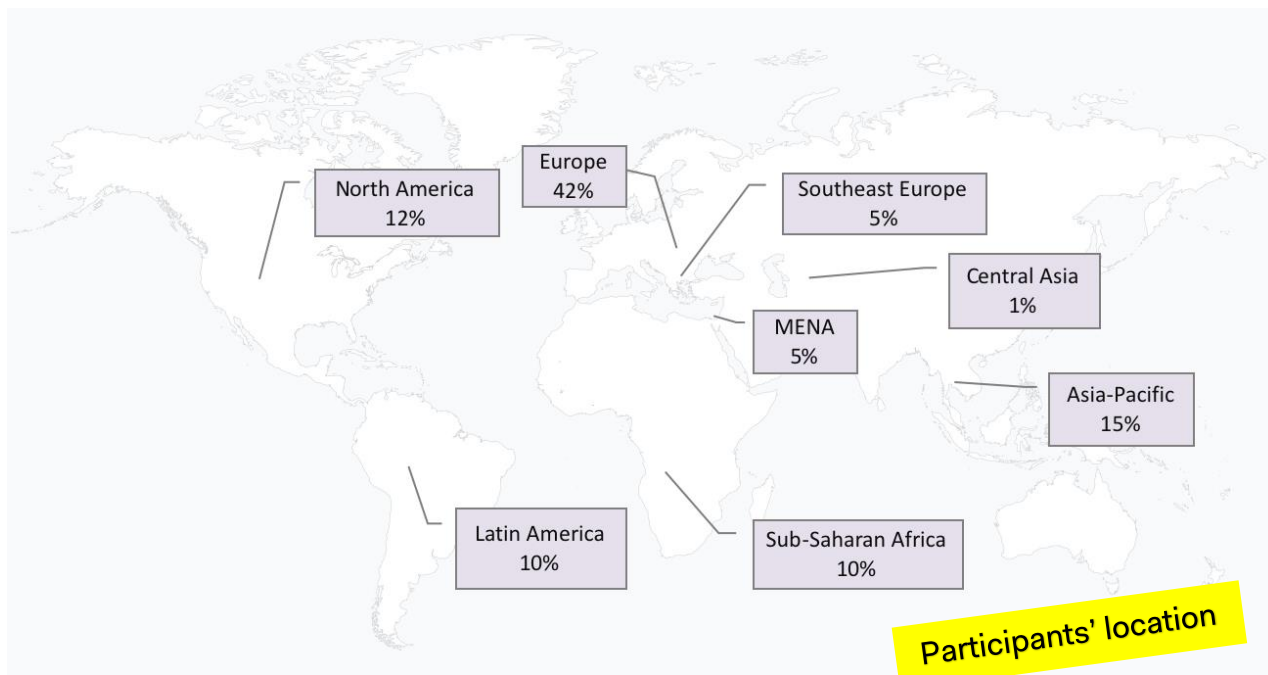
☐ it was the scene of a personal violence they witnessed

Quiz questions



Asst.Prof.Dr.Prajak Kongkirati
Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University

A video lecture: <https://bit.ly/3i9Q6Zj>

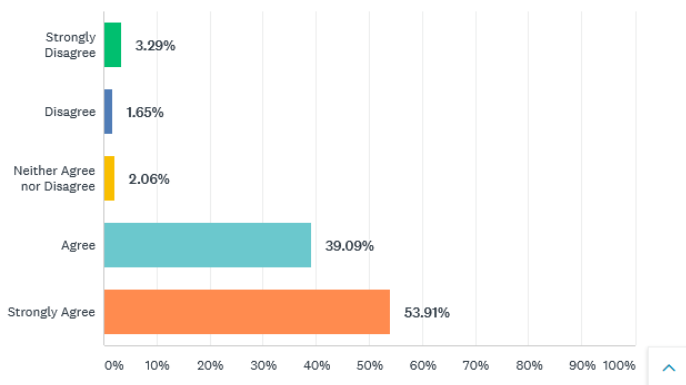


Deep dive into participants' feedback (243 respondents)

Positive impact of materials: 93% agrees

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The course materials (lectures, videos, documents) have had a positive impact on my learning experience.

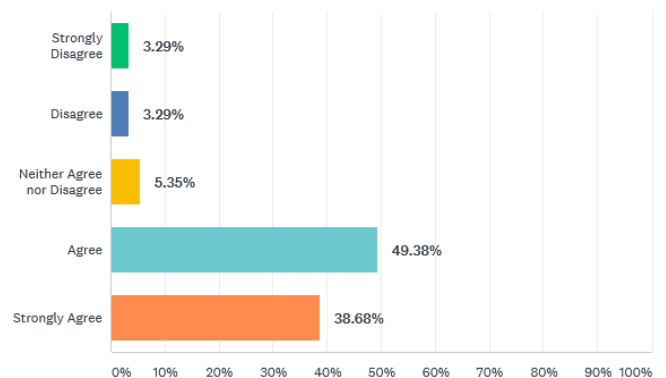
Answered: 243 Skipped: 0



Positive impact of activities: 88% agrees

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The course activities (discussions, quizzes) have had a positive impact on my learning experience.

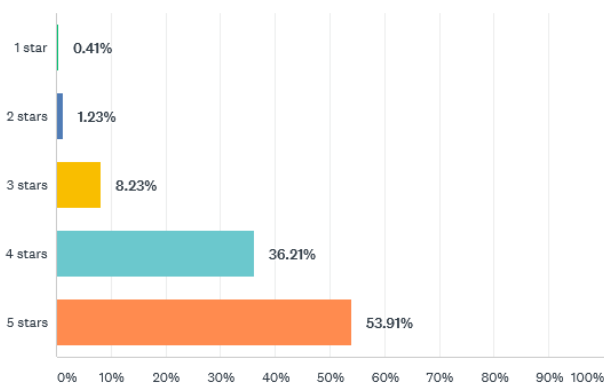
Answered: 243 Skipped: 0



Overall rating: 90% gives 4 - 5 ★

Please give this course an overall rating on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest rating

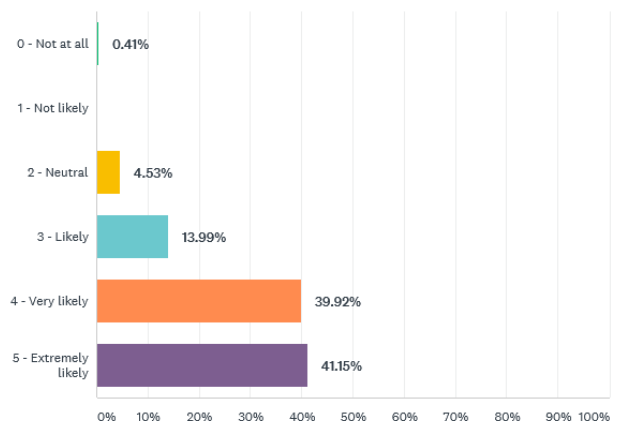
Answered: 243 Skipped: 0



95% would recommend it

How likely are you to recommend this course to a friend?

Answered: 243 Skipped: 0



THE RIGHT FORMAT

... as a mother of a 2-y old and a worker, the online course and the material provided perfectly suited my needs.

... the perfect way to deepen my knowledge without being held back on my University and work commitments.

THE RIGHT TIME

During COVID-19, this course was a great way to engage with people no matter where they are or what they do. I'll definitely try more of your MOOCs in the future.

LOYALTY TO THE GC

I am excited to begin another MOOC with the GC of Human Rights.

Thank you for offering this course again.

Impact

Comments received in the User-experience Survey demonstrate a high level of self-reflection among the participants. They did not only appreciate the knowledge they gained through the MOOC's materials and 'voices', but also articulated the added value of the course in terms of support to their studies and profession. This proves that the course has inspired new action in this area of human rights, and globally sustained professionals, including educators and researchers, in their daily work. A large number of comments explicitly referred to the usefulness of comparing the Balkans (one of the geographical focuses of the MOOC) with other regions. Below a selection of all comments received.

NGOs / LAWYERS



[The course] will for sure have an impact on the quality of my work... also relevant for constructive *Dealing with the Past* processes in our West Balkans region.

I work for an NGO that promotes Indigenous Peoples' rights. [The course] helped me understand the importance of memorial sites in the process of reconciliation

This course material is directly related to my work supporting victims groups and civil society in Nepal with memorialisation projects.

It made me think about organizing an event for my colleagues to start planning memorialisation activities for future Syria.

I will use it during the training that we do for our partner organisations.

Working for an HRD ... I found this course very helpful, it helped me to explore new ideas and possibilities to work with victims, survivors and their families.

I feel like I could contribute to a dialogue about memory sites in my community in a more educated manner.

As a lawyer in a country where human rights are violated, the enhanced study will impact my relationship with justice and the procedural parties.

EDUCATORS & SOCIAL WORKERS



... I can integrate what I have learned in my own teaching activities.

I can use this course to further add to my future goals in becoming and psychotherapist.

RESEARCHERS



It provided a great bibliography to continue exploring the topic

I'm currently researching spatial mnemonic practices in Turkey. It showed me conflicted memorialisation practices from all around the world.

The course has expanded the horizon of my interests and informed the political dimension of my practice as a film scholar interested in documentaries and works from Southeast Asia.

ARTS



It gave me a lot of inspiration for my next documentary projects.

This was very relevant also to my practice as a Fine Art Gallery worker. To also increase my career opportunities.