

The Asper Foundation

The Asper Foundation, which has supported educational activities at Yad Vashem since 2002, became Yad Vashem Pillars in 2019. The Asper International Holocaust Studies Program originated from the vision of Dr. Israel H. Asper, who shared his concerns for the future of Holocaust education and awareness with Yad Vashem experts, leading to the conception of a major global outreach program at the then-fledgling International School for Holocaust Studies.

In the almost two decades since, the Asper International Holocaust Studies Program at Yad Vashem has developed targeted programming through joint decisions by the Foundation's Trustees and the Yad Vashem Directorship regarding which projects of the International School are in most need of support. Among others, the Asper Program incorporates professional development programs, worldwide outreach projects, expert international engagement, and support for Yad Vashem's international educational conferences. The closing session of each international conference was dedicated to the memory of the late Dr. Israel Asper, and now his wife Ruth (Babs), to perpetuate the memory of the Program's founders. Speakers at the Asper closing sessions have included world-renowned professors and lawmakers, heads of state, members of parliament and UNESCO ambassadors. Tens of thousands of

educators and students from over 70 countries have benefitted from the Program's exceptional support since its inception.

