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Das mehrsprachige Webportal publiziert fortlaufend Informationen zur historisch-politischen Bildung in Schulen, Gedenkstätten und anderen Einrichtungen zur Geschichte des 20. Jahrhunderts. Schwerpunkte bilden der Nationalsozialismus, der Zweite Weltkrieg sowie die Folgegeschichte in den Ländern Europas bis zu den politischen Umbrüchen 1989.

Dabei nimmt es Bildungsangebote in den Fokus, die einen Gegenwartsbezug der Geschichte herausstellen und bietet einen Erfahrungsaustausch über historisch-politische Bildung in Europa an.

Story of a German from Inowrocław

Ulrich Kuss:

Somebody said that the son of editor Kuss had signalled to the German airplanes with a torch. They wanted to shoot me. Then a worker came from the printing shop, Mr Budziński, a Pole, and he said, "I know this fourteen-year-old boy, he would never do such a thing." I was released from the arrest. My father had been arrested a couple of days earlier (it must have been 30 August) as a "member of the enemy people". He was to be taken to the fortress of Modlin together with other Germans. Due to the war, they could not be transported by train, and so they had to walk, supervised by the police. Those who were healthier and younger supported those who were old and weak. At that time, the Polish population hated all Germans. The Germans were beaten during the transport. They went up to Łowicz, where they were freed by German troops. My mother and I had remained in Inowrocław. As we had not heard anything about my father's fate for three weeks, we thought he was not alive any more.

During the air raids, we hid in the cellar of the house at the Queen-Hedwig-Street, where the editorial offices were situated. On one occasion, a Polish woman, about fifty years of age, rushed into the cellar with us. When she realised after the raid that she had been together with Germans, she yelled, "If I had known that there were Germans I would had killed them at once!"

When the German army invaded Inowrocław, the soldiers asked me to help them in their search for murdered local Germans and to bury them in the field at the Wierzbiński street. We found twelve dead bodies in a state of advanced decay; they had wounds in the back of their necks, and their hands were tied at their backs. On all of them, identity cards carrying German names were found. Doubtlessly, they were victims of an execution that had taken place shortly before the German troops marched in.

U. Kuss, born 1925, lived at Inowrocław until 1945; the report was done in 1998 and was kindly made accessible by historian Tomasz Łaszkiewicz.