The Cardozo Law Institute in Holocaust and Human Rights began as the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Program in 2005 with the aim to prevent mass atrocities and promote human security.

Today, the Institute maintains its original purpose while expanding to meet complex and ever-evolving challenges in mass atrocity prevention and response. Remembering the Holocaust demands being responsive to the future world. With compassion for victims of the Holocaust and mass atrocities, we are dedicated to "paying it forward." Maturing from a scholarly program into an institute with practical tools, we implement change to prevent and respond to mass atrocities.

2015-2016 marked a turning point, as we expanded and evolved into an organization that grew at a pace in parallel with a growing global need for scholarly policy and advocacy work on the prevention of mass atrocities. 2014 saw the highest number of refugees since WWII with 3.2 million refugees fleeing Syria alone; extreme forms of Islam, ISIL and Boko Haram across North Africa and the Middle East; ethnic and religious violence in the Central African Republic; 300,000 civilian deaths in Eastern Ukraine; tens of thousands of young children fleeing torture and gang violence seeking asylum in the U.S. Prepared by the lessons of the past, we confront new scenarios in a changing world.

The Cardozo Law Institute in Holocaust and Human Rights is at the forefront of strengthening laws, norms and institutions to prevent mass atrocities by using a systematic 3-part strategy: prevent, protect, and rebuild.

OUR HISTORY

CLIHHR (pronounced “clear”) began in 2005 with unclaimed funds from a Holocaust claims litigation settlement. The mission was to engage in education, publication, and advocacy toward atrocity prevention. Since then, the Institute has become the locus for high-level discussion on Holocaust remembrance and atrocity prevention, developing a unique and sophisticated approach. With the support of individual donors and foundation grants, the Institute now comprises 10 faculty and staff members implementing 10 programs to advance the scholarship and advocacy in the field.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

"Appreciating the dark lessons of history without being responsive to the future world violates the memory of the past. Thus, with profound compassion for the victims of genocide and other mass atrocities, we pursue our work with scholarly rigor, passion and commitment."
Sheri P. Rosenberg, Former CLIIHHR Faculty Director and Associate Clinical Professor of Law

9/11 Memorial Museum, New York City Trying to Remember the Color of the Sky on That September Morning, Spencer Finch (American, b. 1962) Quotation from Virgil’s Aeneid, forged from remnant World Trade Center steel, Tom Joyce (American, b. 1956) Photograph by Jin Lee, Courtesy 9/11 Memorial Museum