

The International Research Centre and Museum of the Crimes of Communism, the world's first comprehensive museum on communist crimes will facilitate world class research and raise awareness through online projects and an immersive, state of the art exhibition, ensuring that the inhuman nature of communist regimes and ideology will never be forgotten.

The Estonian Institute of Historical Memory and its predecessor have been investigating international crimes and human rights abuses committed by totalitarian regimes in Estonia, as well as the ideologies that have given rise to such regimes. With its research results and awareness-raising activities, the Institute helps to take a stance against such regimes also in the 21st century.

The establishment of the Institute was initiated by the Estonian President Toomas Hendrik Ilves in 2008. Its predecessor was the Estonian International Commission for Investigation of Crimes Against Humanity, founded by President Lennart Meri in 1998, which investigated the crimes against humanity committed in Estonia during the German and Soviet occupations.

For more information about the Estonian Institute of Historical Memory visit www.mnemosyne.ee



INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE CRIMES OF COMMUNISM

According to the Black Book of Communism approximately 100 million people perished as a result of communist tyranny. Yet, the history of orchestrated mass famine, mass deportations and executions remain largely unknown. Remembering our past is important to understanding our present and avoiding the threats of totalitarian ideologies of the 21st century.

For more information about the museum visit:

www.redterrormuseum.com



The International Research Centre and Museum of the Crimes of Communism is to be established in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia,

led by the Estonian Institute of Historical Memory with the support of the Government of Estonia and leading remembrance institutions in Europe and beyond.

The museum will be built within the Patarei fortification complex that was used by both the Soviet and the Nazi regimes throughout the XX century, located on the shores of the Gulf of Finland in the heart of Tallinn. The museum will introduce crimes committed by both the Soviet and Nazi regimes, with the main focus on the machinery, ideology and crimes of communist regimes, moving from a local overview, to the events in Europe, to a global scale.

While Patarei is one of the strongest symbols of Soviet political terror for Estonians, it is also an international monumental

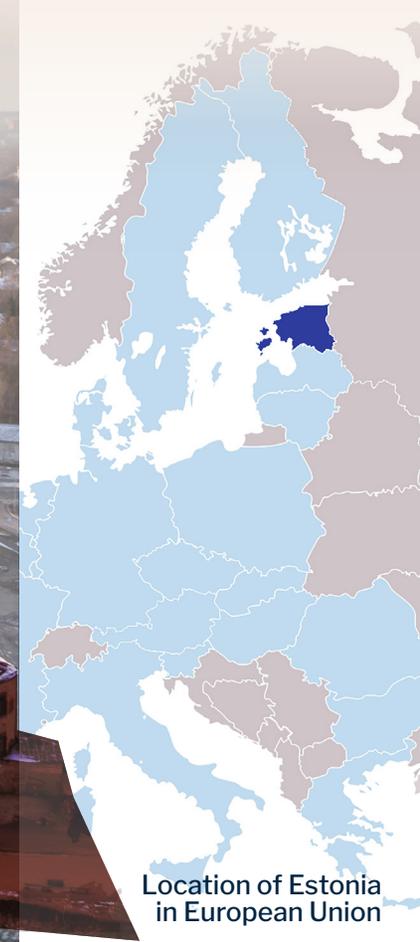
memorial that helps to understand the inhuman nature of totalitarian regimes, irrespective of the specific state power, indicating with sinister clarity as to why it is imperative to avoid their recurrence.

The museum is planned to an approximately 65,000 square feet area in the eastern part of the building, with authentic prison cells, an execution chamber, corridors, a prison lean with prisoners' walkways and much more.

The museum and centre will bring together a diverse international coalition of trusted regional and international memory institutions, researchers, experts and thinkers on the crimes of totalitarian regimes. Governments and media who seek facts and information can contact the museum and centre as an international nexus for information about the crimes of Communism.



The Patarei fortification and prison complex with the planned museum in the eastern wing.



Location of Estonia in European Union