



Holocaust Memorial Days

An overview of remembrance and education in the OSCE region

PARTICIPATING STATE REPORTS AND ANNEXES*

2022

*This report consists of information OSCE participating States submitted to ODIHR in 2021. For an overview of efforts to commemorate and teach about the Holocaust in the OSCE region, please visit: <https://www.osce.org/odihr/510323>

Table of Contents

ANDORRA	- 6 -
COMMEMORATION	- 6 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 6 -
AUSTRIA	- 6 -
COMMEMORATION	- 6 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 8 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 9 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 9 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 9 -
BELGIUM	- 9 -
COMMEMORATION	- 10 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 10 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 11 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 11 -
<i>Memorial Sites</i>	- 11 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 11 -
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	- 11 -
COMMEMORATION	- 11 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 11 -
BULGARIA	- 11 -
COMMEMORATION	- 12 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 14 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 16 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 17 -
<i>Other</i>	- 17 -
CANADA	- 17 -
COMMEMORATION	- 17 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 18 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 19 -
<i>Research</i>	- 19 -
<i>Education</i>	- 19 -
CROATIA	- 20 -
COMMEMORATION	- 20 -
CYPRUS	- 21 -
COMMEMORATION	- 22 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 22 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 23 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 23 -
DENMARK	- 23 -
COMMEMORATION	- 23 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 24 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 24 -
ESTONIA	- 24 -
COMMEMORATION	- 24 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 25 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 25 -
FINLAND	- 25 -
COMMEMORATION	- 25 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 26 -

GERMANY	- 26 -
COMMEMORATION	- 26 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 27 -
GREECE	- 28 -
COMMEMORATION	- 28 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 29 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 29 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 29 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 29 -
HOLY SEE*	- 29 -
HUNGARY	- 31 -
COMMEMORATION	- 31 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 32 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 33 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 33 -
<i>Memorial Sites</i>	- 33 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 33 -
ICELAND	- 33 -
COMMEMORATION	- 33 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 33 -
IRELAND	- 33 -
COMMEMORATION	- 34 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 34 -
ITALY	- 34 -
COMMEMORATION	- 35 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 36 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 37 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 37 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 37 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 38 -
LATVIA	- 38 -
COMMEMORATION	- 38 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 39 -
LIECHTENSTEIN	- 39 -
COMMEMORATION	- 40 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 40 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 40 -
LITHUANIA	- 41 -
COMMEMORATION	- 41 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 42 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 42 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 43 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 43 -
<i>Memorial Sites</i>	- 43 -
LUXEMBOURG	- 43 -
COMMEMORATION	- 43 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 45 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 45 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 46 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 46 -
MALTA	- 46 -

COMMEMORATION	- 46 -
MOLDOVA	- 46 -
COMMEMORATION	- 46 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 47 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 47 -
MONACO	- 48 -
COMMEMORATION	- 48 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 48 -
MONGOLIA	- 49 -
COMMEMORATION	- 49 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 49 -
MONTENEGRO	- 49 -
COMMEMORATION	- 49 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 50 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 50 -
NETHERLANDS	- 50 -
COMMEMORATION	- 50 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 51 -
NORTH MACEDONIA	- 51 -
COMMEMORATION	- 52 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 53 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 54 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 54 -
<i>Memorial Sites</i>	- 54 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 54 -
NORWAY	- 54 -
COMMEMORATION	- 54 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 56 -
POLAND	- 57 -
COMMEMORATION	- 58 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 61 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 64 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 65 -
<i>Memorial Sites</i>	- 65 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 66 -
PORTUGAL	- 70 -
COMMEMORATION	- 70 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 71 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 72 -
ROMANIA	- 72 -
COMMEMORATION	- 73 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 74 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 74 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 74 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 74 -
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	- 74 -
COMMEMORATION	- 74 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 75 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 76 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 76 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 76 -

<i>Memorial Sites</i>	- 77 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 78 -
SAN MARINO	- 79 -
COMMEMORATION	- 79 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 79 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 79 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 79 -
SERBIA	- 80 -
COMMEMORATION	- 80 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 80 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 81 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 81 -
SLOVAKIA	- 82 -
COMMEMORATION	- 82 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 83 -
SLOVENIA	- 84 -
COMMEMORATION	- 84 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 85 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 85 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 85 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 85 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 85 -
SPAIN	- 85 -
COMMEMORATION	- 86 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 86 -
SWEDEN	- 87 -
COMMEMORATION	- 87 -
SWITZERLAND	- 88 -
COMMEMORATION	- 88 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 90 -
TURKEY	- 90 -
COMMEMORATION	- 90 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 92 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 92 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 92 -
<i>Memorial Sites</i>	- 92 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 92 -
UKRAINE	- 92 -
COMMEMORATION	- 92 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 93 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 93 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 93 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 93 -
<i>Memorial Sites</i>	- 93 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 93 -
UNITED KINGDOM	- 93 -
COMMEMORATION	- 93 -
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 94 -
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	- 97 -
GOOD PRACTICES	- 97 -
<i>Commemoration</i>	- 97 -
<i>Education and Research</i>	- 98 -

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- 99 -

COMMEMORATION

- 99 -

International Holocaust Remembrance Day

- 99 -

Days of Remembrance

- 100 -

International Engagement in Remembrance

- 102 -

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

- 102 -

GOOD PRACTICES

- 103 -

Below are the responses from OSCE participating States to ODIHR's online questionnaire concerning their promotion of the commemoration and study of the Holocaust, including the genocide of Roma and Sinti.

The opinions and information it contains do not necessarily reflect the policy and position of ODIHR.

ANDORRA

Commemoration

Andorra indicated that it has not established a Holocaust Memorial Day and that there are no annually recurring initiatives to commemorate Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide or crimes committed against other victim groups. However, Andorra does organize activities connected to Holocaust remembrance, without any established date or regularity.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is not a subject of academic research in Andorra. The Holocaust is included in the curriculum and is present in textbooks. While not explicitly included in the primary school level curriculum, the Holocaust can be taught as part of a school and class project meant to illustrate general content, such as key historical events of the twentieth century or the use of historical documents as information sources for the reconstruction of the past and human rights, among other topics. At the secondary level, the Holocaust is a part of the curriculum.

Finally, teachers can participate in teacher training on the topic of the Holocaust.

Memorial Day: 5 May – National Day against Violence and Racism in Memoriam of the Victims of National Socialism

Established: 1997

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti victims, and all victim groups persecuted under National Socialism

AUSTRIA

Commemoration

Austria commemorates the Holocaust on 5 May. The National Day against Violence and Racism in Memoriam of the Victims of National Socialism was established in 1997, following a resolution by both chambers of parliament. The day marks the anniversary of the liberation of the Mauthausen concentration camp and commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as victims of the Roma and Sinti genocide.

Official commemorative activities are held in parliament and at memorial sites and attended by the Head of State and representatives of the presidency, government, parliament and judiciary. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, religious communities, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in the organization of the events and participate in commemorative activities.

The Holocaust Education Institute of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (Erinnern.at)¹ regularly informs the public about the official Holocaust Memorial Day, as well as about other memorial days via press releases, special newsletters, information on their website, events, teacher training seminars and online events during the pandemic. Publicly financed institutions such as the Documentation Centre of Austrian Resistance organize special events around these days, present new publications and open special exhibitions. Regional co-ordinators of Erinnern.at organize school participation at Holocaust Memorial Day events and excursions to memorial sites and encourage schools to commemorate and teach about the Holocaust and other crimes committed under National Socialism.

Governmental funds are available for civil society organizations to participate in and organize commemorative activities. The Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research regularly funds activities by civil society organizations with a strong focus on educational activities (e.g., participation of students at memorial days).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many events related to the official Holocaust Memorial Day were held online or under strict COVID-19 prevention measures with fewer participants than usual. Other events were cancelled entirely, especially during the beginning of the pandemic in spring 2020 when many were not used to online events yet. Other ceremonies, like the International Liberation Ceremony at the former concentration camp Mauthausen, were organized as hybrid events. On 2 August 2020 (European Memorial Day of the Roma genocide during World War II), the Federal Minister for Women, Family, Youth and Integration at the Federal Chancellery and the Federal President both sent video messages. In addition, a commemoration event, which took place in Vienna, was streamed online.

For the official Holocaust Memorial Day, Erinnern.at held an online event for teachers and the interested public. The event included a lecture and was followed by a discussion. The official Holocaust Memorial Day event in the Austrian Parliament was broadcast live on national television. Other commemoration events organized by civil society groups were live-streamed online. Since the start of the pandemic, Erinnern.at organized online events, including online teacher training workshops, that commemorated other memorial days such as International Holocaust Memorial Day. These events focused on presenting teaching materials.

Moreover, Erinnern.at and Mauthausen Memorial conducted social media campaigns (e.g., #eachnamematters) to inform the public about the official Holocaust Memorial Day as well as the Holocaust and other crimes committed by the National Socialists. For the official Holocaust Memorial Day and the International Holocaust Memorial Day, Erinnern.at presented several interviews with survivors of National Socialist persecution, which are available online. Austria anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future.

In addition to the Holocaust Memorial Day, the Austrian authorities hold other annually recurring initiatives to commemorate the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide, and crimes committed against other victim groups.

On 27 January and 10 November each year, commemorative activities are organized to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the November Pogroms, respectively. The commemorative initiatives are held at memorial sites, in regional and local government buildings, in schools and at places of worship.

The remembrance of the Roma Holocaust is also a focus of the National Roma Contact Point in the Federal Chancellery. On 23 November each year, an activity is held in memory of the establishment of the Roma and Sinti internment camp Lackenbach in 1940. The Roma and Sinti victims are also commemorated on 2 August (European Memorial Day of the Roma genocide during World War II) and at the end of April each year, on the

¹ Erinnern.at, <<https://www.erinnern.at>>.

anniversary of the deportation of Roma from Salzburg-Maxglan to Auschwitz in 1943. Commemorative initiatives take place in parliament, at government offices and memorial sites, as well as at schools, theatres, private institutions, public spaces and various NGOs. The activities include public ceremonies, concerts, lectures, speeches and discussions.

Moreover, other groups of victims of National Socialism are commemorated on the second Sunday of May for the International Liberation Ceremony at the former concentration camp Mauthausen and on 26 October for Commemoration of the victims of National Socialism at the Austrian Heroes Monument by the Austrian president and the government. At the end of April, the massacre of ethnic Slovenes in Carinthia is commemorated. Each year activities are organized to remember the victims of political persecution on the anniversary of the Nazi invasion (Anschluss) of Austria in March 1938. The commemorative initiatives are held at government offices and memorial sites, as well as at places of worship, local landmarks (monuments), public places and schools.

Civil society organizations, religious communities and regional and local authorities (including schools) also hold Holocaust Memorial Day events on 8 May for Victory in Europe Day (“Tag der Befreiung”), Festival of Joy (“Fest der Freude”) and on 10 December for Human Rights Day, with commemorations by the Austrian Armed Forces for victims of National Socialism.

The activities include wreath-laying ceremonies, speeches, lectures, exhibitions, concerts, theatre performances, art projects, films and school projects.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide, and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are subjects of academic research in Austria. Several universities and teacher training colleges such as the University of Graz, the University of Salzburg (centres for Jewish studies), institutes for contemporary history at all Austrian universities, the Documentation Centre of Austrian Resistance (DÖW), the Vienna Wiesenthal Institute (VWI) and the University College of Teacher Education of Lower Austria specifically focus on teaching and researching the Holocaust and Jewish history. These institutions receive funding from the federal and local government, or through other funding institutions.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide, and the crimes committed against other victim groups are taught at all levels of the education system in Austria, mainly from secondary school to university, and are addressed in education textbooks. Education about the Nazi era and the Holocaust are mandatory topics in the national Austrian school curricula. Teachers commonly use schoolbooks, excursions to memorial sites and museums and teaching materials developed by Erinnern.at, the Holocaust Education Institute of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research. The learning resources of Erinnern.at include learning apps with video testimonies of Holocaust survivors. Furthermore, school visits from Holocaust survivors and other survivors of persecution under National Socialism are organized.

Teachers are supported through teacher training on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide, and crimes committed against other victim groups. On behalf of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, the Institute for Historical and Political Education on the Holocaust and National Socialism organizes a wide range of seminars in all Austrian provinces annually, which include the “Central Seminar” on different topics and held in different places as well as the annual seminar where Holocaust survivors meet teachers. Erinnern.at reached more than 1,700 teachers through seminars, workshops and events in 2019 (statistics for 2020 are not yet available). These seminars allow teachers to meet with Holocaust survivors and learn about crimes committed against other victim groups, e.g., those in Nazi prisons or the victims of the Nazis’ “euthanasia” programme. During the pandemic, Erinnern.at offered several online lectures and workshops for teachers. Erinnern.at also hosts a web-based learning tool² and programme that includes teaching materials and teacher training events on the Roma and Sinti genocide. Erinnern.at has published a book series about National Socialism and its crimes in the federal States, which includes life stories about the Roma and Sinti genocide. Additionally, Roma NGOs provide learning resources based on videotaped testimony of Roma victims.

² “The Fate of European Roma and Sinti during the Holocaust”, Roma Sinti Genocide website, <<http://www.romasinti-genocide.eu/en/home>>.

Erinnern.at also organizes school activities to raise awareness and improve teaching about the Holocaust, including the Talk About It³ mobile exhibition, which is shown in schools throughout Austria, and a walking tour of Vienna focused on the persecution of the Jewish people.⁴

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- Ausstellung: “Darüber Sprechen”. Nationalsozialismus und Holocaust: Erinnerungen von Zeitzeuginnen und Zeitzeugen (Exhibition: “Talk about It”. National Socialism and the Holocaust: Memories of Contemporary Witnesses), <<http://www.erinnern.at/bundeslaender/oesterreich/lernmaterial-unterricht/ausstellung-darueber-sprechen>>;
- Rundgänge für Schulklassen in Wien: “Leben und Vertreibung der Jüdischen Bevölkerung in Wien” (Tours for school classes in Vienna: “Life and displacement of the Jewish population in Vienna”), <<http://www.erinnern.at/bundeslaender/oesterreich/aktivitaten/rundgang-wien/rundgang-wien-leben-und-vertreibung-der-juedischen-bevoelkerung-in-wien>>;
- Erinnern.at, the Holocaust Education Institute of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research, <www.erinnern.at>;
- Weiter_erzählen, <www.weitererzaehlen.at>.

Good Practices

Education and Research

“Zentrales Seminar” – The “Central Seminar” is an annual, three-day teacher training seminar for about 100 participants. It focuses on themes related to National Socialism and the Holocaust and on the prevention of anti-Semitism and racism through education. It aims to bring together teachers to share their latest research and new teaching methods such as using modern technology and visiting local memorial sites.

As a result of an international research project on the use of videotaped testimonies of Holocaust survivors in classrooms (developed by Erinnern.at, Austria; Free University Berlin, Germany; University of Innsbruck, Austria; Teacher Training University Lucerne, Switzerland), a learning app was developed. The app “Fliehen vor dem Holocaust. Meine Begegnung mit Geflüchteten” (“Fleeing from the Holocaust”) was published in 2018 and recognized with a “Worlddidac Award”. The app was well appreciated and used by students in Austria, Germany and Switzerland before the pandemic; the number of users rose significantly during the pandemic.⁵

Erinnern.at carries out numerous activities around memorial days through its regional network of educators and employs a regional co-ordinator (a focal point for educators) in each federal State.

BELGIUM

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Day in Commemoration of the Victims of the Holocaust

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as Roma and Sinti victims, people with disabilities, homosexuals and resistance fighters

Memorial Day: 8 May – End of World War II and Restoration of Democracy

³ “Ausstellung: ‘darüber sprechen’. Nationalsozialismus und Holocaust: Erinnerungen von Zeitzeuginnen und Zeitzeugen. Mit Handreichung für Lehrende”, Erinnern.at, <<http://www.erinnern.at/bundeslaender/oesterreich/lernmaterial-unterricht/ausstellung-darueber-sprechen>>.

⁴ “Rundgänge für Schulklassen in Wien: ‘Leben und Vertreibung der jüdischen Bevölkerung in Wien’”, Erinnern.at, <<http://www.erinnern.at/bundeslaender/oesterreich/aktivitaten/rundgang-wien/rundgang-wien-leben-und-vertreibung-der-juedischen-bevoelkerung-in-wien>>.

⁵ “Fliehen vor dem Holocaust”, Erinnern.at, <<https://www.erinnern.at/app-fliehen>>.

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti victims, and all other victims of Nazism

Commemoration

Belgium has officially established two Holocaust Memorial Days: 27 January and 8 May. As per UN General Assembly Resolution 60/7, 27 January is marked as the International Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Holocaust and, as such, commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as Roma and Sinti victims, people with disabilities, homosexuals and resistance fighters.

Official commemorative activities are organized in parliament, at government offices, memorial sites and academic institutions. The activities in parliament involve speeches, testimony from survivors and interventions by young people on what the commemoration means to them. Events held at memorial sites include wreath laying, candle lighting and speeches. Commemorations at other sites involve speeches and discussions.

These events are attended by government officials, members of parliament and the judiciary, civil society and academic institutions. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society and academic and research institutions are involved in developing commemorative activities and actively participate in these events.

The second officially designated day is 8 May. The day was established in 1945 and marks the end of Nazi-German dictatorship, the restoration of freedom and the restoration of democracy. The Memorial Day commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti as well as military and resistance fighters. Official commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices and at memorial sites. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes speeches, candle lighting, Jewish religious songs and wreath laying. Parliament holds a special commemorative session involving young people, veterans of patriotic movements and Jewish survivors. Members of the government and parliament at both the national and local levels, high-ranking civil servants and members of the judiciary attend commemorative events on 8 May. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society and academic and research institutions are involved in organizing the events and take part in these events.

The government promotes and publicizes commemorative events through press releases and messages on social media. There are governmental subsidies available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a video message from the Prime Minister was published on social media. Belgium anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future.

Aside from the above-mentioned Memorial Days, a commemorative event is organized by the Jewish community every year on Yom HaShoah at the Memorial for the Jewish Martyrs of Belgium. At the event, the names of victims are read aloud, followed by speeches and prayers about the Holocaust. This event is attended by high-ranking politicians from all levels of government and civil society.

Also, since 1956, on the second Sunday in September, representatives of the Sons and Daughters of Deported Jews organize a pilgrimage to the Dossin Barracks in Mechelen. The event is attended by politicians and involves a march by Jewish youth organizations, speeches, wreath laying, candle lighting, prayers and anthems.

Finally, on or around 19 April each year, in the commune of Boortmeerbeek, a special ceremony is held commemorating the brave act of three young men who stopped the 20th transport from the Dossin barracks in Mechelen to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Due to their action, 17 people were able to flee and survive.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups during National Socialism are subjects of academic research in Belgium. More than five institutions are researching and teaching on these topics. These include universities in Antwerp, Ghent and Brussels, as well as State archives in Leuven and Liège, and, in particular, The Study and Documentation Centre for War and Contemporary

Society (CEGESOMA) in Anderlecht. The government supports these institutions through subsidies.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups of National Socialism are taught at the secondary and upper secondary level, as well as at the college and university level, and are covered in textbooks. Because the Constitution guarantees freedom of education, the government sets the general educational standards but does not impose any research subjects. Activities carried out in schools to promote awareness and teaching about the Holocaust, including the experience of Roma and Sinti, depend to a large extent on the schools, and on the individual teacher. Training courses covering the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups of National Socialism are available for teachers. It is the responsibility of the communities to conduct teacher trainings.

Good Practices

Commemoration

- Territories of memory (Liège).

Memorial Sites

- National monument for the Jewish Martyrs (Anderlecht), Kazern Dossin (Mechelen) and Monument of Jewish deportees (Belgiëlei, Antwerpen).

Education and Research

- Besonder's Committee for Remembrance Education (Vlaanderen);
- Kazern Dossin, a training course for local and federal police.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Memorial Day: 27 January – Holocaust Memorial Day

Commemorates: Jewish victims of Nazism

Commemoration

Bosnia and Herzegovina commemorates Jewish victims of Nazism on 27 January – the Holocaust Memorial Day.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of academic research in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied at the college and university level. Moreover, teachers can participate in training programmes to teach about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism. The Holocaust and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are also covered in educational textbooks.

BULGARIA

Memorial Day: 10 March – Day of the Rescue of the Bulgarian Jews and of the victims of the Holocaust and of the Crimes against Humanity

Established: 2002

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti victims, and other victims of National Socialism

Commemoration

Bulgaria commemorates the Holocaust on 10 March, the Day of the Rescue of the Bulgarian Jews and the Victims of the Holocaust and of the Crimes against Humanity, which serves as a memorial day for Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and all other victims of National Socialism, as well as other genocides and crimes against humanity.

The date marks the anniversary of the historical events in March 1943 when a powerful grassroots movement, including protest marches and petitions — staged and supported by the Deputy Speaker and members of parliament, politicians, the leaders of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, intellectuals and ordinary citizens — openly challenged, resisted and finally prevented the pro-Nazi regime's plans for the imminent deportation of Bulgarian Jews to death camps. Still, in March 1943, under pressure from Nazi Germany, 11,343 Jews from the Bulgaria-administered and controlled territories were deported and transferred into Nazi German custody and sent to death. Commemoration on 10 March represents an occasion to pay tribute to the “Righteous Among the Nations” and all those who helped prevent the deportation of Bulgarian Jews and honour the memory of the 11,343 deported Jews, as well as all the victims of persecution and the Holocaust during World War II and subsequent genocides.

The first state-sponsored nationwide Holocaust remembrance ceremony was held on 9 March 2002, under the patronage of the President of Bulgaria, and officially established through a Decision of the Council of Ministers on 19 February 2003.

In general, commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices, at memorial sites, and at religious and academic institutions and schools. The central observance event — a wreath-laying ceremony with speeches, prayers and a minute of silence to pay homage to those who prevented the deportation of the Bulgarian Jews and to the memory of the Holocaust victims — is held at the Memorial to the Rescue of the Bulgarian Jews by the Bulgarian people during the Holocaust, near the parliament building.

Since 2017, the ceremony has been organized by the Sofia Municipality and the Organisation of the Jews in Bulgaria “Shalom”. In some years, the ceremony has been attended by the President of Bulgaria, the Speaker and members of parliament, Deputy Prime Ministers, ministers and other high-level government officials, the Mayor of Sofia, foreign ambassadors and diplomats, Holocaust survivors, media, civil society and students. On some occasions, foreign dignitaries have attended the remembrance ceremony. A high-level IHRA delegation and the European Commission's Coordinator on Combating anti-Semitism attended the commemoration in 2017.

Wreath-laying ceremonies are also held at the monument dedicated to Dimitar Peshev, who, as Parliament Deputy Speaker, led efforts to prevent the deportation of Bulgarian Jews in 1943. He was recognized as “Righteous Among the Nations”. Similar ceremonies take place at other monuments, museums and memorial sites in a number of other Bulgarian cities. Yearly commemorative sessions are held in parliament and include an address by the Speaker and a minute of silence. On the 60th and 70th anniversaries the National Assembly issued special declarations.

Occasionally, memorial services are held at Christian Orthodox churches and at the Central Synagogue in Sofia. In recent years, two exhibitions — “The Power of Civil Society: Fate of the Jews in Bulgaria 1940–1944”, developed jointly by the State Institute of Culture at the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Center for Jewish Studies at Sofia University, and “The Fragility of Tolerance” (including a smartphone application) created by the Archives State Agency — have been showcased in Sofia and several other Bulgarian cities.

Commemorative events are attended by the Head of State, officials from the Presidency, government and members of parliament as well as foreign ambassadors, diplomats and dignitaries. Victims' and survivors'

associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, civil society and academic and research institutions are involved in organizing and participating in the events.

In March 2018, at a ceremony in Sofia Central Synagogue, the Bulgarian Prime Minister and the Sofia Mayor were presented with the Jewish community's special Shofar award recognising the consistent efforts of the Bulgarian Government in fighting anti-Semitism and hate speech, and for the commemoration of the Holocaust. Two relevant book launches — one on the history of Bulgarian Jews and one presenting stories of rescuers of Jewish people — also took place in March 2018 and five new monuments and commemorative plaques were installed in the country in 2018 from public-private partnership projects. Finally, for the first time, a memorial plaque was unveiled at the site of one of the forced labour camps near the town of Breznik, where Bulgarian Jewish men were interned from 1941 to 1944.

Commemorative events are announced in advance to the media, which disseminates the information. On the commemorative day, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a press release on its official website and social media, raising awareness about the Holocaust, the rescue of the Bulgarian Jews and the present-day implications of the lessons learned. Throughout the day, government officials talk with media about the significance of the Holocaust Memorial Day, while commemoration activities receive significant media coverage.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the traditional wreath-laying ceremony in Sofia took place as usual both in 2020 and 2021, while respecting all the public health measures. Some other commemorative events, such as the wreath-laying ceremony in Plovdiv, were cancelled by the organizers in 2020 due to the spread of COVID-19. Until now, no online commemorative activities have been organized. However, holding online commemorative events in the future is a subject for further analysis.

Bulgaria also commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January, with remembrance activities held in parliament, at government offices, at memorial sites and at academic and religious institutions. The date was chosen to mark the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp in 1945 and to honour the victims and survivors of the Holocaust.

In 2020, the commemorative event took place in the Sofia Synagogue and was organized by the State Cultural Institute under the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Organization of the Jews in Bulgaria "Shalom" and the Central Israelite Religious Council. The Deputy Prime Minister on Judicial Reform and Minister of Foreign Affairs Ekaterina Zaharieva attended the event. During the event, candles were lit in honour of the memory of the twenty Bulgarians awarded the title "Righteous among the Nations."

On 8 April, Bulgaria celebrates International Roma Day to celebrate Romani culture and raise awareness of the issues Roma people face. The day also draws attention to the European Roma and Sinti victims of the Holocaust (the Porajmos) and discrimination directed at Roma communities. Activities related to this day take place at government offices, memorial sites and academic and religious institutions as well as schools.

Each year since 2002, the Secretariat of the National Council for Cooperation on Ethnic and Integration Issues, with the support of the Ministry of Culture, organizes a memorial service in the metropolitan cathedral in Sofia followed by a procession and commemoration ceremony at the Monument of the Unknown Soldier, attended by members of the government, public officials, civil society and representatives of diplomatic missions.

The Chairperson of the Council (at the level of Deputy Prime Minister) issues an address to the Roma community in Bulgaria, paying tribute to the memory of the innocent Roma victims of genocide, persecution and violence during World War II. Various other events, such as academic conferences, public lectures, awareness-raising campaigns, film screenings, exhibitions and other such initiatives, accompany the main ceremony. During the commemorative day, in cities and towns across the country, volunteers from the Roma-led Amalipe Center for Interethnic Dialogue and Tolerance and citizens pay tribute to the Roma victims of the Holocaust with a minute of silence and the release of red carnations, symbolizing the lost innocent lives, into rivers. These activities are organized jointly with the local authorities.

Additionally, since 2010, young Bulgarian Roma and non-Roma delegates participate in annual ceremonies to mark the day of remembrance for the victims of the genocide of the Sinti and Roma on 2 August at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum organized by the ternYpe — the International Roma Youth Network within the "Dikh he na Bister" Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative. The commemoration marks the day in 1944

when the last group of nearly 2,900 Sinti and Roma were killed in the gas chambers. Bulgarian participation is organized by the Roma-led NGO Youth Network for Development, which is a member of the ternYpe, and is supported by the Secretariat of the National Council for Cooperation on Ethnic and Integration Issues. Bulgarian public officials have also participated in this commemorative event.

Finally, through a Parliamentary Decision on 27 November 2009, Bulgaria established 23 August as the Day of Remembrance of the Crimes Committed by National Socialism, Communism and other Totalitarian Regimes and the Memory of their Victims, also known as Black Ribbon Day. No official observance ceremonies or other activities take place on this day; however, since 2010, a memorial service is held at the Memorial to the Victims of Communism in Sofia and is attended by politicians, victims' associations, civil society and citizens.

Education and Research

The Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide are subjects of academic research in Bulgaria. There are approximately ten academic institutions with active programmes specializing in teaching and researching the Holocaust including Sofia University, the Centre for Jewish Studies, Plovdiv University, Veliko Tarnovo University, the Institute for Historical Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS), the Institute for Balkan Studies at BAS, the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies at the Ethnographic Museum at BAS and State Archives. Research on Roma and Sinti genocide is conducted at the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies at the Ethnographic Museum at BAS, the Institute for the Study of Society and Knowledge at BAS, Sofia University, Plovdiv University, and Neofit Rilsky South-West University in Blagoevgrad.

The learning process and research are financially supported with subsidies from the state budget and additional funds. The Hebrew Studies Bachelor of Arts programme at Sofia University is defined as protected, meaning that state funding for the programme is not based on the number of students registered. The state budget also provides funding for research projects through a special fund for scientific projects. In addition, the state budget provides subsidies and additional funds to support the research institutions listed above, in addition to funds allocated through a special fund for scientific research projects. Holocaust research is supported by the Archives State Agency, which grants full access to its archives.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups are all subjects of education in Bulgaria and are also presented in education textbooks. These topics are taught at the secondary, upper secondary and college and university levels. Holocaust education is part of the mandatory national education curriculum.

The Holocaust is taught within the context of Bulgarian and world history during World War II at the lower (grade 7) and upper (grades 9 and 10) secondary level, and as part of the "World and Personality" (civic education) curriculum at the upper secondary level (grades 11 and 12). Teachers of other subjects, such as philosophy and literature, also include lessons on the Holocaust as an elective subject or as part of extracurricular activities.

The existing curricula and textbooks do not contain specific references to the experience of Roma and Sinti during the Holocaust. Since 2002, the project "Ethnic Folklore in Bulgaria – Roma Folklore" implemented by the Amalipe Center for Interethnic Dialogue and Tolerance with financial support from the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science, has introduced "Roma history and culture" as an elective subject for state schools. Textbooks and a set of teaching aids were published to assist in the education process, including a special section on the Roma Holocaust. The programme includes approximately 5,000 students (Roma, Bulgarians, and Turks) from more than 230 schools all over the country.

Upon a joint initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Organization of the Jews in Bulgaria "Shalom" and the Bulgarian branch of the American Jewish Congress, an important milestone for academic activity was achieved in February 2021. At an official ceremony in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, nine leading Bulgarian universities adopted the IHRA Working Definition on anti-Semitism and made a pledge to apply it in their activities.

At the university level, all university Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts programmes in European and Bulgarian history of the interwar and World War II years include the topic of the Holocaust. At Sofia University,

Holocaust studies are also embedded in a Bachelor of Arts programme established in 2015. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic affected the educational process and, accordingly, instruction occurred online. The Jewish Studies programme continued to provide courses about the Holocaust. Students from other disciplines (History, International Relations, Archives Studies, etc.) also had access to elective courses dedicated to Jewish life, Holocaust and anti-Semitism in the Master programmes at the Faculty of History.

The Jewish Studies programme has an active co-operation with the Organization of the Jews in Bulgaria “Shalom”, allowing students to participate in an internship working with the Archives of “Shalom”. A mandatory course on “Bulgaria and the Holocaust” is included in a Master of Arts programme on the topic of “Modern Bulgaria” within the Faculty of History. The Bachelor of Arts curriculum for the Public Administration degree includes a course on “Ethnic Aspects of Governance” with a special focus on the Jewish community in the context of human rights, a course on “Politics and Public Power” with the Holocaust included intensively as a philosophical and empirical basis and an English language course on “Administration and Politics of the Jewish Question in Bulgaria and the Balkans: History and Modern Aspects” (with about 30 students enrolled each year). The Master of Arts curriculum of Public Administration includes a section on the anti-Jewish repressive policies of the government and the prevention of deportations from Bulgaria within the “Leadership” compulsory course (repeated in three Master of Arts programmes with 20 students each).

The Centre for Jewish Studies (CJS), established in 1998 at Sofia University as an interdisciplinary team of scholars from various backgrounds, has become a leading academic centre for Jewish Studies, including Holocaust-related research and educational activities. The CJS has organized several teacher-training seminars and activities on the Holocaust and anti-Semitism, involving educators, university professors, secondary school teachers, educational experts from the Ministry of Education, as well as students.

In 2020, a joint project between Sofia University and Claims Conference New York on preparation and teaching of courses in several programmes was implemented. As a result, new courses have been prepared for students of the Faculties of Philosophy, History and Journalism.

Every year the Ministry of Education organizes groups of 20-25 secondary school teachers to participate in training provided by the Yad Vashem’s International School for Holocaust Studies under a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2016. Participants in Yad Vashem training serve as knowledge and skills multipliers.

Since 2015, The Olga Lengyel Institute for Holocaust Studies and Human Rights (TOLI), located in New York, in co-operation with the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and the American University in Bulgaria, conducts annual summer seminars for Bulgarian high school and middle school teachers entitled “Learning about the Past – Acting for the Future: Teaching about the Holocaust and Social Justice”.

Two joint seminars were organized by the Mémorial de la Shoah in Paris, and the Holocaust Memorial Center for the Jews from Macedonia in Skopje for history teachers from Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia on “The Holocaust as a Starting Point: Comparing and Sharing” in Skopje (2017) and Sofia (2018) with the support of the Ministries of Education of the two countries. The main goal of the seminars, involving 20 Bulgarian teachers each, was the promotion of an academic approach to studying Holocaust-related themes and events that took place in both countries during World War II and identifying common points of convergence. The format of the seminars has gradually been expanded and, in April 2021, a new edition of the webinar for teachers took place — this time as a dialogue between Greece, the Republic of North Macedonia and the Republic of Bulgaria. The event was organized by the Memorial de la Shoah, Paris and Ministries of Education in Greece, the Republic of North Macedonia and Bulgaria.

A system of inter-school, regional, and national contests and competitions for essays, poems, drawings, multimedia and posters on the Holocaust has also been developed, engaging thousands of students from all over the country. Several events are organized by NGOs. The Ministry of Education and its regional departments provide guidance, information and other resources for these commemorative and educational activities. For example, in 2018, the NGO Sofia Platform — in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Shalom Organization of the Jews in Bulgaria and the US Embassy — organized a series of open lessons in eight schools across Bulgaria, focusing on the history and fate of the Bulgarian Jews during World War II.

Around 8 April, different educational activities are held in observance of International Roma Day. These include school festivals on Roma culture and folklore, remembrance ceremonies, public lessons and discussions

on the Roma genocide and Roma history, student essay competitions, poems and drawings, thematic film screenings, sports competitions and cultural events.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- Albena Taneva and Ivanka Gezenko (eds.), *The Power of Civil Society in a Time of Genocide: Proceedings of the Holy Synod of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church on the Rescue of the Jews in Bulgaria 1940–1944* (Sofia: Sofia University Press, 2005), <http://jews.archives.bg/jews/uploaded_files/The_Power_Of_Civil_Society_In_A_Time_Of_Genocide.pdf>;
- K. Grozev and R. Marinova-Hristidi (eds.), “The Jews in Eastern Europe and the USSR during the Second World War and the Cold War, 1939-1989”, Proceedings of the international conference held in Sofia University (in Bulgarian), 2012
- Emil Cohen, “Review of ‘Anti-Jewish Legislation in Europe and Bulgaria: Legal Studies’”, Marginalia (in Bulgarian), 2 November 2016, <<http://www.marginalia.bg/analizi/istoriyata-na-faktite-sreshtu-virtualnata-istoriya-chiya-e-vinata-za-gibelta-na-11-343-evrei/>>;
- Varban Todorov and Nikolay Poppetrov (eds.), *The Seventh Chamber of the People’s Court: A Forgotten Testimony on Anti-Semitism in Bulgaria, 1941–1944* (in Bulgarian), (Sofia, 2013), <[http://jews.archives.bg/jews/uploaded_files/NARODEN-SUD-EVREI-UVODNI-DUMI\[1\].pdf](http://jews.archives.bg/jews/uploaded_files/NARODEN-SUD-EVREI-UVODNI-DUMI[1].pdf)>;
- Nadya Danova and Rumén Avramov (eds.), *The Deportation of the Jews from Vardar Macedonia, Aegean Greece and Pirot* (in Bulgarian) (Sofia, 2013), vol. 1, <http://www.marginalia.bg/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/T.1_palen.pdf>; vol. 2, <http://www.marginalia.bg/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/T.2_Deportiraneto_na-evreite.pdf>;
- Nadya Danova, “Bulgaria and the Holocaust: State of Research and Tasks,” Bulgarian Helsinki Committee website, 2012, <<http://www.bghelsinki.org/bg/publikacii/obektiv/nadia-danova/2012-12/blgariya-i-holokostsstoyanie-na-prouchvane-na-problema-i-zadachi/>>;
- Holocaust research is supported by the Archives State Agency, which has granted, for research purposes, full access to its archives and has made information about the Holocaust public for the largest possible audience of experts, citizens and international partners. In 2013, the Archives State Agency launched a special website, “The Jewish Community in Bulgaria”, with an online collection of hundreds of original documents on the fate of the Jews in Bulgaria during World War II <<http://archives.bg/jews/>>;
- D. Kolev, A. Krasteva and T. Krumova, “Curriculum in History and Civilisations for the 9th grade”, in *Roads Retold: Textbook for 5th–8th grade students* (in Bulgarian) (Veliko Tarnovo, Astarta, 2003), <<http://amalipe.com/files/file/romski%20folklor/pomagalo-5-8.pdf>>;
- Teodora Krumova, et al., “Manual on Roma History and Culture”, as part of the Contribution to the Role of Education – Educating Educators (CORE) project (Sofia, 2013), <<http://amalipe.com/files/publications/ManualFINAL.pdf>>;
- “Information Factsheets on Roma History”, Council of Europe (as part of its Education of Roma Children in Europe project) (in Bulgarian), <<http://coiduem.mon.bg/page.php?c=109&d=274>>;
- Digital Roma Archive developed by the South-West University Neofit Rilski in Blagoevgrad in 2016–2017 (in Bulgarian), <<http://roma-swu.weebly.com/>>;
- Online Holocaust Education Resource Centre (in Bulgarian), <<http://www.holocausteducentre-bg.org>>;
- Sofia Platform, New Educational Videos on “The Fate of The Bulgarian Jewish Community”, <<http://sofiaplatform.org/students/>>;

- The Archives State Agency new addition to its “The Jewish Community in Bulgaria” website – a “Persons of Jewish origin’ transits across Bulgaria (1939-1945)” section presenting documents on transit visas that saved many Jews during World War II, <http://archives.bg/jews/3-THE_PROJECT>.

Good Practices

Other

In February 2020, for the first time in 17 years, a procession of ultranationalists and neo-Nazis known as “Lukovmarch” was successfully prevented. This came after a decision by the Supreme Administrative Court upholding a ban by Sofia mayor and a decision of the Sofia City Prosecutor’s Office to file an application in court to cancel the registration under the law on non-governmental organisations of the Bulgarian National Union Edelweiss, organizer of the Lukov March. In 2021, the torch-bearing procession was prevented for a second year in a row.

CANADA

Memorial Day: Holocaust Memorial Day – Yom HaShoah (usually in April/May)

Established: 2003

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as other victim groups under National Socialism, including the Roma and Sinti

Commemoration

Canada commemorates the Holocaust on the 27th day of the month of Nisan in the Jewish lunar calendar, which usually falls in April or May. Canada’s Holocaust Memorial Day – Yom HaShoah was established by the Parliament in 2003 through the Holocaust Memorial Day Act. The Memorial Day primarily commemorates Jewish victims and survivors of the Holocaust, while acknowledging persecution of other victim groups under National Socialism, including Roma and Sinti. The day also serves to raise awareness and understanding of the Holocaust and its continuing importance, to provide a national focus for educating future generations about the Holocaust, to reflect on — and learn from — the countries’ actions and inactions during that period and to promote the values of diversity and inclusion while affirming Canada’s continued commitment to oppose racism, anti-Semitism and discrimination.

The national commemorative event is held at the National Holocaust Monument in Ottawa and is attended by members of the government, parliament and judiciary, among others.

Victims’ and survivors’ associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society organizations and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in the event. The event includes the reading of a survivor’s personal account of the Holocaust, the lighting of candles, addresses by political party leaders and musical performances. Various other events are organized across the country by community and non-governmental organizations and include participation from elected officials.

Other activities are organized by Holocaust education centres across the country — typically in partnership with Jewish community organizations. An annual theme is usually selected, and survivors are invited to share their experiences. Government officials of all levels usually participate in these events.

These events are publicized in the mainstream media and online through social media. The Government of Canada marks the day by issuing official statements, including statements from the Prime Minister, the Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Youth and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The events component of the Community Support, Multiculturalism, and Anti-Racism Initiatives Program of

the Department of Canadian Heritage provides funding to community-based events that promote intercultural or interfaith understanding, discussions on multiculturalism, diversity, racism and religious discrimination or celebrate a community's history and culture such as heritage months recognized by parliament.

Due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, in-person Holocaust remembrance events were unable to be held in 2021. Holocaust remembrance events leveraged various media tools such as Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and Zoom. These tools provided an unprecedented opportunity to collaborate with individuals and organizations across the country. A national commemorative event was held virtually in 2021. The format incorporated most of the elements of in-person events including remarks by the Prime Minister, survivor testimony, lighting of the candles, musical performances and participation by government officials and the Canadian public. The event was advertised on websites of participant organizations and through their social media. In line with previous years, official statements were made by elected officials. A hybrid model of commemorative events may take place in the future with in-person and virtual participation.

In addition to Holocaust Memorial Day – Yom HaShoah, Canada also observes Raoul Wallenberg Day on 17 January and International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January. These days are marked by statements from government officials, and various events are organized across the country by community and non-governmental organizations. The events typically include participation by survivors, the Jewish community and other religious groups, elected officials and civil society.

Canada also commemorates the Roma and Sinti victims on Roma Genocide Remembrance Day, which takes place on 2 August. The significance of the day is to officially recognize the genocide of Roma and Sinti under National Socialism and pay tribute to those murdered and the survivors. The day was established by a unanimous consent motion passed in Canada's House of Commons in 2020. In 2021, the first celebration will occur since the motion passed. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, it is expected that activities will take place virtually. However, the Government of Canada has marked the day through Ministerial statements since 2018.

Since 2009, Canada has observed 23 August as Black Ribbon Day to commemorate the victims of both National Socialism and Stalinism. Community-led commemorative and educational events are held across Canada. This day is marked by statements from the Prime Minister and other federal political leaders. Due to COVID-19 restrictions it is anticipated that commemorative activities will be virtual in 2021.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are subjects of academic research in Canada. There are six primary academic centres focused on teaching and researching the Holocaust: Carleton University's Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies, McMaster University's Resistance Collection, the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies, the St. Thomas University Holocaust Centre, University of Toronto's Chancellor Rose and Ray Wolfe Chair in Holocaust Studies and University of Western Ontario's Holocaust Literature Research Institute. These institutions also include teaching and research about the Roma and Sinti Genocide and about the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism. In addition, many other Canadian universities have programmes of study that address the Holocaust.

The Government of Canada provides financial support for post-secondary education through transfer payments to the provinces and territories. It has also funded considerable research through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, as well as several conferences.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups are studied in schools and included in textbooks at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels and at the college and university level. In Canada, provincial and territorial governments are responsible for all aspects of education. As a result, the content and timing of the provision of education varies between provinces and territories. Teaching about the Holocaust reaches most students as it is part of mandatory courses (social studies and/or the history curriculum). The Holocaust is most often taught within the context of World War II, and is integrated into teaching about racism, genocides, human rights and social justice. Holocaust education can also be included in philosophy, anthropology, psychology, arts and religious education, as well as in civic and citizenship studies. Holocaust education can begin as early as the fourth or fifth grade and continues throughout elementary and secondary school, as well as in post-secondary settings. Information about the persecution of Roma and Sinti and

other victim groups of National Socialism may be included within the context of teaching about the Holocaust or about World War II.

Teacher training on the Holocaust is almost exclusively delivered through non-governmental organizations. Training examines the history of the Holocaust placing it within the broader context of events leading up to and following World War II. In the context of teaching about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide is explored, as well as the persecution of other marginalized groups during this period, such as people with disabilities, homosexuals, Slavic people, political opponents and Jehovah's Witnesses. Opportunities for making connections between the Holocaust, Canadian History and contemporary social justice issues are explored. Guidance is given on how to teach these difficult subjects in a way that will help students reflect on the ideologies and actions that led to the Holocaust and on measures that can be taken to prevent future genocides. Opportunities are explored for ways to link instruction on the Holocaust with other curriculum areas, such as social studies, language arts and fine arts.

Many schools also organize Remembrance Day events on 11 November. As part of these activities, students of all ages often receive supplementary Holocaust education, with younger students being introduced to the topic through the personal stories of Holocaust survivors.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

Research

Library and Archives Canada holds official government records relating to the Holocaust, as well as private records donated by individuals or organizations: <<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/holocaust/Pages/holocaust.aspx>>.

Education

Major Holocaust education centres in Canada:

- Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, <<http://www.vhec.org/>>;
- Freeman Family Holocaust Education Centre, <<http://www.ffhec.org/>>;
- Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre, <<http://holocaustcentre.com/>>;
- Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship – Carleton University, <<http://carleton.ca/ches>>;
- Montreal Holocaust Museum, <<http://museeholocauste.ca/en/>>.

In addition, many other organizations provide Holocaust education, including:

- Abbotsford Community Services, <www.abbotsfordcommunityservices.com>;
- Asper Foundation, <www.asperfoundation.com>;
- Atlantic Jewish Council, <www.theajc.ns.ca>;
- Azrieli Foundation,
- B'Nai Brith Canada, <www.bnaibrith.ca>;
- Calgary Jewish Community Council, <www.jewishcalgary.org>;
- Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, <www.yadvashem.ca>;
- Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, <www.cija.ca>;

- Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre for Holocaust Studies, <www.fswc.ca>;
- Facing History, Facing Ourselves, <<http://www.facinghistory.org/offices/toronto>>;
- General Romeo Dallaire Genocide Institute
- Holocaust Awareness Committee, Jewish Federation of Winnipeg, <www.jewishwinnipeg.org>;
- Israel Experience Centre, Asper Jewish Community Campus,
- Jewish Federation of Edmonton, <www.jewishedmonton.org>;
- Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada, <www.jhcwc.org>;
- Kleinmann Family Foundation, <www.kffeducation.org>;
- Okanagan Jewish Community, <www.ojcc.ca>;
- Saint John Jewish Historical Museum
- Victoria Holocaust Remembrance and Education Society
- Winnipeg Foundation, <www.wpgfdn.org>.

CROATIA

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Commemorates: all victims of Holocaust

Memorial Day: 22 April – Breakout of the prisoners of Ustasha camp Jasenovac

Commemorates: Serbs, Roma, Jews as well as Croats who opposed Ustasha

Memorial Day: 2 August – Roma Holocaust Memorial Day

Established: 2014

Commemorates: Roma victims of the Holocaust

Commemoration

Croatia commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which was established by UN General Assembly Resolution 60/7. The day commemorates all victims of National Socialism.

The official commemorative activities are held in parliament and at memorial sites. Moreover, the activities are held at the local level, in towns and municipalities. At the local level, specific activities are organized for schools, such as visiting locations and houses from where the first Jews were taken to concentration camps.

The commemorative events are attended by the Head of State, officials at the governmental level, and members of parliament and the judiciary.

Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, civil society organizations and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in the commemorative

events. Every year civil society organizations organize numerous cultural, social and educational activities throughout Croatia.

The government promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness about the Holocaust on the day with official statements and announcements.

Moreover, on 22 April, Croatia commemorates the breakout of the prisoners of the Jasenovac camp. In April 1945, the Ustasha regime commenced the final liquidation of its camps, which implied killing all remaining prisoners, destroying the camp archives and burning camp buildings to the ground. On 22 April 1945, some 600 prisoners in Jasenovac started an outbreak armed with bricks and boards. Less than one hundred of them survived. On this day Serbs, Roma, Jews as well as Croats who opposed the Ustasha regime are commemorated. The official commemorative activities are held at memorial sites. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes laying wreaths and lighting candles at memorial sites, holding commemorative speeches, paying respect to the victims and organizing remembrance marches and cultural commemorative events.

The Head of State, officials at the governmental levels and members of parliament, the diplomatic community and religious communities attend the commemorative events. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community and civil society organizations are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in the commemorative events. This is the main event for commemorating the victims of the Ustasha regime in Croatia. All three branches of government as well as the highest state officials, representatives of national minorities, diplomatic corps, religious communities, human rights organizations, antifascist associations and local authorities take part in the commemoration. A livestream of the commemoration is broadcasted every year on public television. There are also official statements and announcements prior to the event.

Finally, 2 August is Roma Holocaust Memorial Day that pays respect to all the Roma victims of the Holocaust. On 12 December 2014, Croatia's Parliament adopted an official decision and declared 2 August as International Roma Holocaust Remembrance Day. The commemorative activities are held at memorial sites. Officials at the governmental level and members of parliament attend the commemorative events. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community and the Roma and Sinti community are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in the commemorative events.

Roma Holocaust Memorial Day is commemorated at the Roma cemetery Ustica (near Jasenovac), and gathers representatives of the Roma minority, as well as representatives of the highest state officials, diplomatic corps, religious communities, Roma society, human rights organizations, antifascist associations and local authorities. The government promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness about the Holocaust on the day with official statements and announcements, and the commemoration itself is broadcast live on public television.

The usual content of these commemorative activities includes laying wreaths and lighting candles at memorial sites, holding commemorative speeches and organizing cultural commemorative events.

There are also governmental funds available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities. Civil society organizations are allowed to receive governmental funds if they apply for the thematic commemorative project.

CYPRUS

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Established: 2007

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust as well as Roma and Sinti victims

Commemoration

Cyprus commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The day was established by decision of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus in 2007. The commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices and at memorial sites. Activities are attended by the Head of State, officials at the presidential and governmental levels, members of parliament, the Embassy of Israel in the Republic of Cyprus, the Jewish community and academic and research institutions.

Since 2009, a message is read in the classrooms of all public secondary schools on 27 January, followed by a discussion conducted by the teachers. Moreover, Cyprus's political leadership, including the President of the Republic of Cyprus and the President of the House of Representatives, participate in the Holocaust commemoration events. For example, on 23 January 2020, the President of the Republic, Nicos Anastasiades attended the fifth World Holocaust Forum in Jerusalem. Also, every year since 2017, the President of the House of Representatives makes special reference to the Holocaust in the presence of the Ambassador of the State of Israel. During the commemoration of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Holocaust survivors visit high schools over a five-day period. Speakers are Greek Jewish survivors who give their presentations in Greek to help raise students' awareness. More than 8,500 students have benefited from these talks. The lectures are made available on the webpage of the Ministry.⁶ The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth organizes an array of activities around that day:

- Visual exhibitions provided by Yad Vashem (The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem), with the support of the Embassy of Israel in Cyprus. The exhibitions remain open for five months for the public and organized school visits. Educational programmes prepared by Yad Vashem and activities are also offered to students at secondary schools;
- Creative project/competition about the Holocaust for students. The award ceremony is held at the Ministry of Education in the presence of the Minister and the Ambassador of Israel in Cyprus. Students are awarded with a certificate and Holocaust literature books;
- A circular by the Minister of Education on the Holocaust Remembrance Day is read aloud in schools;
- Screenings of films with survivors' testimonies, life-stories or movies for students;
- Screenings of Holocaust films for the public.

The Government and relevant Ministries raise awareness about the Holocaust Remembrance Day through press releases, articles in the daily press, statements and posts on their social media pages.

Many commemorative activities requiring physical presence were cancelled in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, online platforms were used for the commemoration. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth encouraged students to watch testimonies and documentaries about the Holocaust that were posted on its website and on designated sites. The President of the Republic of Cyprus, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other competent authorities issued statements and made posts on social media on Holocaust Remembrance Day. Cyprus anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future.

Cyprus also has annually recurring initiatives to commemorate other victim groups of National Socialism. For instance, 28 October is the national day commemorating World War II victims. The day was established with the independence of the Republic of Cyprus, following an equivalent commemorative day in Greece. The commemorative initiatives are held at schools. The activities focus on general commemoration of World War II and its victims in the war. These activities frequently include references to the Holocaust and to other atrocities committed under National Socialism. The government introduced online commemorative activities accompanied by social media campaigns and official statements.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of academic research in Cyprus. The University of Cyprus, a public institution, has

⁶ "Useful Materials", Istom website, <<https://istom.schools.ac.cy/index.php/el/yliko/chrisimo-yliko>>.

programmes focused on teaching and researching about the Holocaust. The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and the crimes committed against other victim groups are all subjects of education in Cyprus and are also presented in textbooks. These topics are taught at the secondary, upper secondary and college and university levels. The Holocaust is included twice as part of the history curriculum (ages 13–14 and 17–18). Lessons on the Holocaust also include literature texts such as “Mauthausen” by Iakovos Kampanellis and “The Diary of Anne Frank” with special references to the concentration camps of Auschwitz, Warsaw and Mauthausen. In primary school, the Holocaust is only taught to sixth graders during literature and history classes (ages 11–12).

Teachers can participate in training programmes on teaching about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism.

In 2013, Cyprus started a collaboration with Yad Vashem (The Holocaust Martyrs’ and Heroes’ Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem), which led to a Memorandum of Understanding that was signed in 2016. Based on this agreement, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports, in collaboration with the Embassy of Israel in Cyprus, systematically organizes a series of education activities, including:

- Bi-annual educators’ training seminars at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. To date, the programme has benefited over a hundred Cypriot educators;
- A follow-up seminar for Yad Vashem graduates is organized in Cyprus.

Good Practices

Education and Research

Lectures by Greek-speaking Holocaust survivors help students better understand the horrors of the Holocaust.

DENMARK

Memorial Day: 27 January – Auschwitz Day

Established: 2003

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti victims, and victims of genocide and other mass atrocities

Commemoration

Denmark commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January as Auschwitz Day. The day was established by the Danish Parliament in 2003 to commemorate the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as Roma and Sinti victims, and victims of genocides and other mass atrocities (Rwanda, Bosnia, Kurds).

Commemorative activities are held in the Danish Parliament, at government offices, at municipal memorial sites and in schools. Official speeches, testimonies, lectures by academics and experts, addresses by ambassadors and musical performances take place. The events are attended by members of the government and parliament, local municipalities and the judiciary. Victim communities, the Jewish community, journalists, teachers, students and the general public also attend commemorative events. The Jewish community, civil society and academic and research institutions help to develop the activities and participate in the events. Every year a new theme is chosen and activities — including lectures, concerts, debates and film screenings — are organized to raise awareness among younger generations. The activities and annual theme are publicized in advance at schools and through the media.

Local and national government officials promote these events and provide financial support to Auschwitz Day. Funding for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities is available through the Ministry of Education. Moreover, parliamentarians help raise awareness through interviews and

other public activity.

In addition to Auschwitz Day, Denmark also commemorates the rescue of Danish Jews who fled to Sweden in October 1943; it is commemorated every year in early October by the Jewish community, local communities and the Danish Government. Also, the Nazi German Occupation of Denmark is recognized on 9 April every year. Finally, 5 May is celebrated to mark Danish liberation from Nazi German occupation (“Danmarks Befrielse”) with a ceremony in the Mindelunden memorial park that commemorates the members of the Resistance. Generally, commemorative activities are held at memorial sites in Denmark.

Education and Research

In Denmark, the Holocaust is a subject of academic research at the Department for Holocaust and Genocide Studies of the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS). The Danish Government provides funding for the DIIS.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups are taught in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels, as well as at the college and university level. The Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are also discussed in textbooks. Danish teachers can participate in teacher training opportunities offered by the DIIS on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

The Ministry of Education finances a wide range of activities in relation to the Holocaust, which can be accessed at <<https://aldrigmere.dk/>>. The website deals with questions relating to the Holocaust and other examples of genocide. It also provides a wide array of films, texts and other materials that can be used in teaching these subjects.

ESTONIA

Memorial Day: 27 January – Day of Remembrance of Holocaust victims
Established: 2002
Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust as well as Roma and Sinti victims

Commemoration

Estonia commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The day was established by governmental decree in 2002 and commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as victims of the Roma and Sinti genocide. Official commemorative activities are held at memorial sites and museums and attended by representatives of the government and parliament. The Jewish community, other religious groups, civil society and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in the organization of the events and participate in commemorative activities. There are governmental funds available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities.

Estonia also commemorates all victims of totalitarian regimes on 23 August as European Day of Remembrance for Victims of Stalinism and Nazism.

Moreover, Estonia remembers the victims of the Kalevi-Liiva killing and Klooga concentration camp on 6 September and 19 September respectively. The days were established by a broad-based initiative that included the Jewish community, other religious communities and governmental officials.

Finally, Estonia marks the Day of Roma Victims of the Holocaust on 2 August to commemorate the Roma victims of the Holocaust.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of academic research in Estonia. The Estonian Institute of Historical Memory provides research on the Holocaust. The Holocaust is taught at the secondary school level. Furthermore, teachers can participate in teacher trainings on the topic of the Holocaust. The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups of National Socialism are covered in textbooks.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- Open educational materials on the Holocaust, <<https://e-koolikott.ee/et/search?q=holo-kaust&minAdded=2009&maxAdded=2021>>;
- National curriculum for basic schools (social studies) (in Estonian), <<https://www.riigiteataja.ee/aktilisa/1230/4202/1010/1m%20lisa5.pdf>>;
- National curriculum for upper-secondary schools (social studies) (in Estonian), <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/aktilisa/1230/4202/1011/2m_lisa5.pdf>;
- Essay competition for secondary school students, <<http://mnemosyne.ee/en/essay-competition-winners-announced/>>;
- Recommendations for Teaching and Learning about Holocaust (in Estonian), <<https://e-koolikott.ee/et/oppematerjal/28081-Soovitud-holokausti-kasitlemiseks-hariduses/252347>>.

FINLAND

Memorial Day: 27 January – Vainojen uhrien muistopäivä Dagen för förintelsens offer (Remembrance Day of Victims of Persecution/Pogrom)

Established: 2002

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti victims

Commemoration

Finland commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The Memorial Day was established in 2002 by decree of the Prime Minister's office and commemorates the Jewish, Roma and Sinti victims. Official commemorative activities are held in the former House of Estates. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes speeches from a Minister, the Jewish and Roma communities, Ambassadors from Israel, Germany and Poland and the chair of Holocaust Remembrance Association. These events are attended by representatives of government, parliament, high civil servants and diplomats. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community and the Roma and Sinti community are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in commemorative activities.

During the day, a seminar in the Parliament is arranged by the Holocaust Remembrance Association and the Israeli Friendship group of the Parliament. A television programme is also organized by the Holocaust Remembrance Association.

The government promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness about the Holocaust on 27 January. For instance, the Foreign Ministry provides economic aid to the events. Moreover, governmental funds are available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities. These funds are distributed through applications.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person events have not been organized. The memorial event was partly organized in the synagogue and discussions were presented on television programmes. There were official

statements by Minister of Justice Henriksson and former Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen. Finland anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future.

On 2 August, the Roma Genocide Remembrance Day is commemorated..

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research at academic institutions, including the state funded University of Helsinki.

The Holocaust is taught at the secondary and upper-secondary level, as well as at the college and university level in the context of history. Teachers have the opportunity to participate in training programmes on teaching about the Holocaust. Information on the Holocaust is also included in textbooks.

GERMANY

Memorial Day: 27 January – Day of Remembrance for the Victims of National Socialism

Established: 1996

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti victims and all victims of the crimes committed under National Socialism

Commemoration

Germany commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The day was established in 1996 through a Declaration of President Roman Herzog and commemorates Jewish victims of the Holocaust, victims of the Roma and Sinti genocide and all victims of the crimes committed under National Socialism.

The commemorative activities are held in parliament, at memorial sites, and in federal states, municipalities and schools. The ceremony held in the Bundestag (the German federal Parliament) includes a keynote speech by a survivor, alternating between different victim group representatives. In 2021, the speaker was Charlotte Knobloch, who is also the former chairwoman of the Central Council of Jews in Germany. Activities are attended by the Head of State, officials at the presidential and governmental levels and by members of both parliament and the judiciary. Representatives of victim groups, of memorial sites, students and representatives from the culture and education sectors also take part in the commemorative events. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society, academic and research institutions and schools are involved in shaping the content of the events and actively participate in the commemoration activities. Additionally, numerous wreath-laying ceremonies take place at memorial sites throughout the country, such as the Memorial for the Murdered Jews in Europe, the Memorial for the Sinti and Roma and at former concentration camps. The government promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness of the Holocaust through high-visibility efforts such as the media and concerts as well as by flying flags at half-staff on public buildings.

Governmental funds are available for civil society organizations to participate in and organize commemorative activities. In Germany, the memorial sites, their operators, associations, the research and educational institutions and civil society groups are called on to participate and organize commemorative activities. The federal government, the federal states and local governments promote and fund the initiatives in the framework of their areas of responsibility. The federal states ("Bundesländer") are responsible for most of the funding. Numerous initiatives and projects take place on this basis. Municipalities, regions and local authorities are also involved in financing their own initiatives. Some memorial sites and places of remembrance are also funded by the Minister of State for Culture and the Media, according to a specific set of criteria. Moreover, the Minister of State for Culture and the media provided additional funding to memorial sites and former concentration camps to support their comprehensive hybrid and online commemoration initiatives. Both institutional and project funding is available.

Memorial ceremonies are also held to remember different historical dates, such as the November pogroms of 1938. Also, concentration camp memorials host annual commemorative ceremonies to mark the anniversary of liberation by the Allied forces. Further ceremonies take place on 8 May (the end of World War II). Survivors, second generation and third generation groups are invited to these events. The ceremonies have an educational character and usually include students or NGOs. Commemorative activities are organized at memorial sites, former concentration camps, in synagogues and at places of deportations across the country where speeches (including from survivors), wreath laying, worship services, scholarly activities and installation of commemorative plaques take place.

Activities to commemorate the Roma and Sinti genocide take place on 27 January, as well as on 2 August, which represents the day of the “liquidation” of the so-called “Gypsy Camp” in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Additionally, activities also take place on 8 April, Roma Day. A memorial ceremony is held at the final session of the Bundesrat (The German Federal Council). Commemorative initiatives are held at memorial sites and other locations and include speeches (also by survivors), wreath laying, worship services, scholarly activities and commemorative plaque dedications.

Other victims of National Socialism are also commemorated on relevant historical dates. Such activities take place at memorial sites and other locations.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many institutions organized online and hybrid commemorative activities. Under the German presidency of the IHRA, the UN, UNESCO and the IHRA held an online commemorative event together for the first time with a keynote speech from the German chancellor. The German chair of the IHRA spoke at several international events on this occasion, including the commemoration in the OSCE Permanent Council. Memorial Sites and former concentration camps have organized comprehensive campaigns with high-level speakers including officials. Germany anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future as some online events have proven to attract a broad audience. While physical meetings for commemoration will remain the best format in the future, on-line and hybrid formats can be a good supplement or addition.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide, and crimes against other victim groups are subjects of research at academic institutions in German, and the German Government provides funding for these institutions. There are several chairs and academic programmes focused on teaching and researching the Holocaust. A specific research study on the topic of academic teaching and the Holocaust is *University Teaching about the Holocaust in Germany* authored by Verena Nägel and Lena Kahle, published in 2018. Relevant institutions include: Institut für Zeitgeschichte (The Institute for Contemporary History), Fritz Bauer Institut zur Geschichte und Wirkung des Holocaust (Fritz Bauer Institute on the History and Impact of the Holocaust), Zentrum für Antisemitismusforschung (Center for Research on Antisemitism) and Leibniz-Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung Potsdam (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam). Research on the Roma and Sinti genocide and on the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism is conducted at Institut für Zeitgeschichte, NS Dokumentationszentrum Köln (NS- Documentation Center of the City of Cologne) and Forschungsstelle Antiziganismus Universität Heidelberg (Research Centre on Antigypsyism at the University of Heidelberg).

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups are taught in schools at the secondary and upper secondary level, and at the college and university level. These three topics are also covered in textbooks.

Teachers can participate in training on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups. Training is organized at the federal state level.

GREECE

Memorial Day: 27 January – National Remembrance Day of Greek Jewish Martyrs and Heroes of the Holocaust

Established: 2004

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust

Commemoration

Greece commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January to remember the abrupt end to the contribution of the Jewish community to Greek society, especially in Thessaloniki, as a result of World War II, and to remember their annihilation during the war and the Holocaust. The day also aims to raise awareness, especially among youth, of every form of xenophobia, religious or other intolerance, racism and, in particular, anti-Semitism. The National Day of Remembrance of Greek Jewish Martyrs and Heroes of the Holocaust was established in 2004 by a law passed in the Greek Parliament. A presidential decree passed in 2005 regulates the commemorative events that occur on that day each year. The day commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust and in particular the annihilation of the Greek Jewish community.

Commemorative activities take place in parliament, at government offices and at memorial sites in different regions of Greece. As part of Holocaust Memorial Day, a series of joint events are carried out in the prefectures and with the local Jewish community. Commemorative events are attended by the Head of State, officials at the governmental level, members of parliament and of the judiciary, academics and journalists. The Jewish community, local authorities, other religious groups, civil society and academic and research institutions are involved in shaping the content of events and actively participate in the commemoration activities. Wreaths are laid on behalf of the government, parliament, political parties, the local region and municipality where the events are held, the armed forces, and embassies, as well as resistance organizations, the victims of the camps and Jewish communities and organizations in Greece and abroad.

Commemorative events are organized by many local authorities around the country. Moreover, several activities take place in schools, such as visits to memorial sites including the Auschwitz death camp, every year on the anniversary of the Holocaust Remembrance Day of Greek Martyrs and Heroes. Since 2016, a circular issued by the Ministry of Education provides a two-hour lesson conducted by students that includes art initiatives (videos, paintings or essays and drama). In addition, the General Secretariat for Religious Affairs and the Jewish Museum of Greece run a video competition for students on “the Holocaust and the Greek Jews”. The competition is addressed to first- and second-year high school students of the Regional Directorates of Education in Attica and Central Macedonia. The winners participate in a special programme at the Jewish Museum of Greece, which includes an educational visit to the Auschwitz Museum.

Government officials, including members of the government, participate in the events. School students are encouraged to attend these events.

Governmental funds are available for civil society organizations to participate in and organize commemorative activities.

In Greece, there are also recurring initiatives to commemorate other groups of victims of National Socialism. A Day of Commemoration take place at Distomo (Central Greece) on 10 June, at Kalavryta (Peloponnese) on 13 December, at Kandanos (island of Crete) on 3 June and at Kommeno (Epirus) on 16 August. The commemoration was established right after World War II and commemorates thousands of victims slaughtered by Nazis on the above dates. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes speeches, wreath-laying and photo exhibitions.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all commemorative activities were conducted online via interactive platforms, such as Zoom, and included brief addresses, lectures and presentations, virtual tours, panel discussions, public

participation and Q&A sessions. Some activities were accompanied by Facebook and Instagram campaigns to improve publicity and increase attendance. On 27 January, official statements were included in the commemoration programme. Greece anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future as they offer certain advantages, such as public participation from all over the world.

Education and Research

The Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are subjects of academic research in Greece. Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Jewish Museum of Greece provide research on the Holocaust. Moreover, in many other university schools and departments there are classes on the Holocaust. University schools around the country provide research on the crimes against other victim groups under National Socialism. These institutions are funded on an annual basis.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide, and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are taught at all levels of the education system in Greece, from primary school to university. In primary schools, there are references and chapters about the Holocaust in textbooks on the Greek language and history. In secondary education, there are references and chapters about the Holocaust in textbooks on the Greek language, literature, history, religion and foreign languages. Although there is no evidence of Greek Roma victimized during the Holocaust, the genocide of Roma in Europe is included in the teaching about the Holocaust. Students are encouraged to research persecution and extermination of Roma and Sinti by the Nazis on particular websites.

Finally, teachers in Greece have the opportunity to participate in training on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism. They take part in seminars dedicated to these topics. The History Teachers' Manual of Senior High School contains references to the persecution of minority groups, including Roma. The Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are presented in textbooks.

The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs and the Jewish Museum of Greece run a video competition on the Holocaust for students in the first and second year of high school (Lyceum). The students also participate in a special programme at the Jewish Museum of Greece, which includes an educational visit to the Auschwitz Museum. The Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs communicates information on Holocaust Remembrance Day to schools and requests that two class periods be dedicated to educational activities and events on relevant themes.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

Activities of the Jewish Museum of Greece can be found on its website, <www.jewishmuseum.gr>. The General Secretariat for Religious Affairs and the Jewish Museum of Greece runs an annual video competition for students on "the Holocaust and the Greek Jews".

Good Practices

Education and Research

The use of IT technology such as videos, YouTube and Facebook is considered one of the good practices used to commemorate the Holocaust in Greece.

HOLY SEE*

The Catholic Church considers Holocaust education and the commemoration of victims to be an important matter that should be promoted at all levels of Church life. In 1974, the Holy See established the Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews to promote and foster dialogue with the Jewish people on a global level. Among the most important topics of the work of the Commission is the question of how to combat anti-Semitism and to educate about the Holocaust. The Commission gives general outlines establishing the theoretical framework for dealing with Holocaust issues, while local churches are independently responsible for initiating education, formation and remembrance activities in accordance with general guidelines. In some countries

(e.g., Italy, Austria, Poland, the Netherlands and Switzerland) national Bishops' Conferences have introduced a "Day of Judaism" in order to commemorate the victims of the Shoah and to draw attention to the Jewish roots of the Christian faith and the progress made in Jewish-Catholic dialogue. Specifically, the commemoration of the *Kristallnacht* (November Pogroms) on 9 November and the commemoration of the liberation of the camp of Auschwitz on 27 January can be mentioned in this context.

The Holy See exercises a widely recognized moral authority, centred on and mediated by the Pope. His voice is heard all around the world and his statements have worldwide repercussions. Pope Francis has repeatedly expressed publicly his concerns about anti-Semitism, stating that no Christian can be an anti-Semite. On 20 January 2020, during an audience with a delegation of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre he reiterated his concern about the current situation: "It is troubling to see, in many parts of the world, an increase in selfishness and indifference, lack of concern for others and the attitude that says life is good as long as it is good for me, and when things go wrong, anger and malice are unleashed. This creates a fertile ground for the forms of factionalism and populism we see around us, where hatred quickly springs up. Hatred and the sowing of evil. Even recently, we have witnessed a barbaric resurgence of cases of anti-Semitism. Once more I firmly condemn every form of anti-Semitism. To tackle the cause of the problem, however, we must commit ourselves also to tilling the soil in which hatred grows and sowing peace instead. For it is through integration and seeking to understand others that we more effectively protect ourselves. Hence it is urgent to reintegrate those who are marginalized, to reach out to those far away, to support those ignored for lack of resources or funds, and assist to those who are victims of intolerance and discrimination". Furthermore Pope Francis expressed his fervent hope "that by continued vigilance and positive education, the iniquities perpetrated during one of the darkest periods in our history will be eliminated from the face of the earth. Reiterating the Holy See's commitment to pursuing the path of friendship between all, I appeal to men and women of good will everywhere to remain steadfast in efforts for promoting dialogue, mutual understanding and human fraternity as the basis of Casting peace in our world . . ." (Statement of Pope Francis included in the volume "Remembering the Holocaust, Fighting Antisemitism" issued at the World Holocaust Forum, 23 January 2020).

The teaching of the Pope is deeply rooted in the Second Vatican Council's declaration *Nostra Aetate* (No. 4). This document, promulgated on 28 October 1965, explicitly outlines the Catholic Church's attitude towards anti-Semitism: "The Church repudiates all persecutions against any man. Moreover, mindful of her common patrimony with the Jews, and motivated by the gospel's spiritual love and by no political considerations, she deplores the hatred, persecutions, and displays of anti-Semitism directed against Jews at any time and from any source".

In 2015, the Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews issued a document titled *The Gifts and the Calling of God are Irrevocable (Rom 11:29)* that refers explicitly to the phenomenon of anti-Semitism, stating that an "important goal of Jewish-Catholic dialogue consists in jointly combatting all manifestations of racial discrimination against Jews and all forms of anti-Semitism, which have certainly not yet been eradicated and re-emerge in different ways in various contexts. History teaches us where even the slightest perceptible forms of anti-Semitism can lead: the human tragedy of the Shoah in which two-thirds of European Jewry were annihilated. Both faith traditions are called to maintain together an unceasing vigilance and sensitivity in the social sphere as well. Because of the strong bond of friendship between Jews and Catholics, the Catholic Church feels particularly obliged to do all that is possible with our Jewish friends to repel anti-Semitic tendencies. Pope Francis has repeatedly stressed that a Christian can never be an anti-Semite, especially because of the Jewish roots of Christianity" (No. 47).

Since 1979, three popes have visited Auschwitz and Yad Vashem — the official Holocaust memorial in Israel — including, most recently, Pope Francis in 2014 and 2016.

In 2015, the Holy See appointed a contact person to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) who attends their conferences and organizes meetings with leading officials of the Holy See. In February 2017, a conference in the Vatican was jointly organized by the Holy See and IHRA on the theme "Refugee Policies from 1933 until Today: Challenges and Responsibilities". The Holy See endorses the commitment of IHRA to foster education, commemoration and research regarding the Holocaust.

*The Holy See communicated information to ODIHR in a different format, based on the specific nature and mission of the Holy See.

HUNGARY

Memorial Day: 16 April – National Holocaust Remembrance Day

Established: 2000

Commemorates: Holocaust victims and those who tried to save them

Commemoration

Hungary commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust on 16 April, the day in 1944 when Jews were forced into ghettos in Carpathian Ruthenia prior to their deportation. The commemorative day was established in 2000 and initiated by the Minister of Education.

Commemorative activities are held at memorial sites and include speeches, wreath laying ceremonies, cultural events, school programmes, concerts, exhibitions and unveiling of plaques. The Head of State as well as representatives of the Presidency, the government, parliament and the judiciary attend the main commemorative event. Survivors, members of the Jewish community, other religious groups, civil society, academic and research institutions and the general public also participate in commemoration activities. One of the main commemorative events takes place at the Danube Shoe Memorial, where Jewish victims were shot into the Danube in 1944 and 1945. Commemorations are also held at the Holocaust Memorial Center of Budapest. Additionally, the March of the Living Foundation organizes a peaceful march in the capital city every year. Other events to mark the Holocaust Memorial Day are held in locations across the country on 16 April. Both in Budapest and in the countryside, commemorations are held in former ghettos as Jews were deported from Debrecen, Szolnok, Pécs, Székesfehérvár, Miskolc, Szombathely and Szeged.

Commemorations are promoted through the press, Jewish organizations and other civil society organizations and schools. Civil society organizations can request government funding to hold commemorative activities.

Commemorative activities mostly moved online because of the COVID-19 pandemic. On 27 January 2021, the International Holocaust Remembrance Day was held online. On the Facebook channel of the National Holidays and Memorial Days and of Holocaust Memorial Center, short films and photos were distributed with the involvement of Holocaust survivors, public figures and diplomats. A mourning prayer was distributed on the Facebook channel of the Memorial Center and on the YouTube channel of the National Holidays and Memorial Days. An online exhibition using objects and photos from the time of Holocaust was available on the website of the Holocaust Memorial Center. In connection with the central events there were films related to the Holocaust distributed on YouTube. The Holocaust Memorial Center held an educational week, including an unconventional history class on Friday. The programme and reports of the online event appeared in the press.

Hungary also commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust on other dates throughout the year, including 18 January – Liberation of the Budapest Ghetto, signifying its liberation on 18 January 1945 (established in 2005 by the UN General Assembly, which the Hungarian Government then declared a priority commemoration programme); 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day marks the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp; 4 August – the birthday of Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat who is commemorated, along with his colleagues, for saving Jews during the Holocaust; 9 November – the day of Miklós Radnóti's death commemorates the poet as a key literary chronicler of the Holocaust (established in 2014 by the Hungarian Government); and 25 November – Memorial Day of Forced Labourers, which recognizes political prisoners and forced labourers deported to the Soviet Union (established in 2012 by the Hungarian Parliament). On these days, numerous commemorative events take place at memorial sites. On National Holocaust Remembrance Day the usual content of the commemorative activities includes speeches, wreath laying ceremonies, cultural events, school programs and concerts.

Roma Holocaust International Memorial Day has been commemorated in Hungary on 2 August since 1990. In 2013, Hungary's Minister of Public Administration and Justice declared this a priority programme. The day commemorates Roma and Sinti victims deported and systematically executed during World War II. Commemorative activities are held at memorial sites, including the Holocaust Memorial Center, and involve wreath laying at commemorative plaques and memorials, speeches from high-level politicians and a vigil in memory of the victims. The commemorative activities are held both in the capital city and in the settlements of Hungary.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are subjects of research at academic institutions in Hungary. Research on the Holocaust is conducted at the Holocaust Documentation Center and Memorial Place, maintained by the Prime Minister's Office and funded from public finance sources. Research on the Roma and Sinti genocide is conducted at the Romano Instituto Foundation, which is supported by the Ministry of Human Capacities' State Secretariat for Social Affairs and Social Inclusion with public funding based on tender offers. Research on crimes committed against other victim groups is conducted by the Public Foundation for the Research of Central and East European History and Society (House of Terror) founded by the Hungarian Government and funded by public sources.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups are taught within the Hungarian education system at the primary, secondary, upper secondary and college and university levels. These topics are also covered in textbooks. The National Basic Educational Plan includes topics related to the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide.

At the primary level (grades 5–8) the following topics are covered: discrimination and exclusion of people, ethnic groups and nationalities, and the Holocaust. The secondary and upper secondary level (grades 9–12) cover the Jewish Holocaust, the events leading to the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide. At the college and university level, the Holocaust is taught if it is relevant to the specific field of study. For example, the Holocaust is part of the curriculum for an international relations specialization in the history of the twentieth century.

The USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive is available in 40 Hungarian academic and public libraries with the support of the Government of Hungary. The archive contains interviews with Hungarian victims and witnesses of the Holocaust.

The Hungarian Government ensures inclusion of education on the Holocaust in schools. Teaching on the Holocaust is part of several different subjects, including history, literature, civics, ethics, language studies and general classes. According to the educational plan for upper classes, 12 hours are allocated in history lessons to cover World War II, including the Holocaust. In secondary school, World War II is covered in over 15 hours of instruction.

Teachers can participate in teacher training on the Holocaust. The Prime Minister's Office supports civil organizations that conduct trainings related to the Holocaust. One aim of teacher training on the Holocaust is to ensure schoolteachers are familiar with general human and European rights and can transfer these values to their students. In 2017, the Ministry of Human Capacities of Hungary and Yad Vashem reached a mutual understanding and co-ordinated a series of teacher-training seminars at Yad Vashem. The Ministry officially recognized Yad Vashem's seminars for Hungarian educators, who received confirmation certificates upon completing the seminar.

Since 2001, Holocaust Memorial Day has been commemorated on 16 April in secondary schools, which decide how to commemorate the victims. The pedagogical aim of the Remembrance Day is to encourage a sense of responsibility in students to be able to avoid similar events. Some of the activities include conducting memorial walks, visiting the Holocaust Memorial Center and other memorials, holding ceremonies in the schools or arranging film screenings (e.g., *Son of Saul*, *Schindler's List* and others).

Good Practices

Commemoration

Hungary has formally adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition on anti-Semitism. The working definition is implemented in Holocaust remembrance. The government declared 2012 Wallenberg Year as it was the 100th anniversary of Raoul Wallenberg's birth — a symbolic figure of rescuers in Hungary and in Europe during the Holocaust. In 2014, in recognition of the 70th anniversary of the deportation of Hungarian Jews, the government designated 2014 Hungarian Holocaust Memorial Year.

Memorial Sites

The Hungarian Government has undertaken a number of measures in connection with the restoration and renewal of old synagogues and memorial sites. Over the last few years, the Hungarian Government has allocated substantial funds for reconstruction work of both synagogues and cemeteries. To ensure the development of Jewish pilgrimage sites and religious tourism in the country, the government has provided substantial funds for the development of these routes and the villages that stand by the road. Olaszliszka, Bodrogkeresztúr and Nagykálló are some of the well-known places on the pilgrimage route, which have been granted state-funds.

Education and Research

The Working Definition of IHRA is implemented in education and research as well as in the training of teachers, law enforcement bodies and legal practitioners. The Hungarian Chairmanship of the IHRA was a successful period because it has managed to ensure that EU's new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), published in April 2016, would not unduly restrict access to archive sources related to the Holocaust. There are a significant number of archival institutions for Holocaust research. The Holocaust Memorial Center of Budapest is one of the few institutions in the world that focuses completely on Holocaust research. In addition, at the Pázmány Péter Catholic University Faculty of Law, learning about the Holocaust is mandatory. The Jewish Theological Seminary – University of Jewish Studies is a small university conducting research into the Holocaust and studying the subject of Hungarian Jews. Its main library has received government funding for the restoration of Hebrew manuscripts.

ICELAND

Commemoration

Iceland indicated that it has not established a Holocaust Memorial Day. A resolution in the Icelandic Parliament for a Memorial Day for the victims of the Holocaust was put forth but not passed in the 2020–2021 parliamentary session. There are also no annually recurring initiatives to commemorate Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the extermination and persecution of Roma and Sinti or crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is not a subject of academic research in Iceland.

The Holocaust is present in textbooks.

IRELAND

Memorial Day: Sunday closest to 27 January – National Holocaust Memorial Day

Established: 2003

Commemorates: Jewish, Roma and Sinti, and all other victims of the Nazis and their collaborators

Commemoration

Ireland commemorates the Holocaust on the Sunday closest to 27 January. National Holocaust Memorial Day has been commemorated since 2003 and remembers the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the extermination and persecution of Roma and Sinti and all other victims of the Nazis and their collaborators, including those persecuted on the grounds of their nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, religious beliefs or political affiliations.

Commemorative activities take place at the Mansion House in Dublin and involve the participation of the Head of State and representatives from the government, parliament and the judiciary. In addition, victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community and other religious groups are involved in shaping the content and participating in the activities.

A candle-lighting ceremony is an integral part of the commemoration as six candles are lit for the victims. The commemoration serves as a reminder of the dangers of racism and discrimination and provides lessons from the past that are relevant today. Commemorative booklets reflect the ceremony and some of the history of the Holocaust. They serve as an excellent resource for schools, students and researchers.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration was held online on 24 January 2021. The commemoration took place at the Mansion House in Dublin and was broadcast online. It included speeches from professors and Holocaust survivors. Commemorative booklets, keynote speeches and social media posts were used to raise awareness of the event. Other online commemorative activities were also introduced. If the epidemiological situation is as serious in January 2022 as in 2021, the commemoration will likely be held online again.

Jewish victims of the Holocaust are also commemorated in Ireland on 8 April (Yom HaShoah). The day was established by the Holocaust Education Trust Ireland. The significance of the day is to remember the 6 million Jewish men, women and children who were murdered during the Holocaust. The commemorative initiatives are held online.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is the subject of research in academic institutions in Ireland. Research on the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti genocide and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism is conducted at Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups of National Socialism are taught at the secondary and upper secondary level, as well as at the college and university level, and are covered in textbooks. The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups are covered in history and Jewish studies courses, as well as civic, social and political education and religious education. The topics are included in the junior cycle of secondary education; those opting for history in the senior cycle study the key events leading to the Holocaust in part of one of the most popular options for the course. Holocaust Education Trust Ireland (HETI) facilitates visits to schools by some of Ireland's small number of Holocaust survivors. HETI initiated the Crocus Project, which presents crocus bulbs to children aged 11 and up to plant in autumn in memory of the 1.5 million Jewish children who perished in the Holocaust and thousands of other children who were the victims of Nazi atrocities. Teachers have the opportunity to participate in training on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups.

ITALY

Memorial Day: 27 January – Holocaust Memorial Day

Established: 2000

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust

Commemoration

Italy commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. *Giorno della Memoria*, The Day of Remembrance, was established by law in 2000 “in order to remember the Shoah (extermination of the Jewish people), the racial laws, the Italian persecution of Jewish citizens, the Italians who have suffered deportation, imprisonment, death, as well as those who, even in different camps and alignments, have been fighting against the plan of extermination, and at the risk of their own lives they have saved other lives and protected the persecuted”.

Official commemorative activities are held at the Presidency of the Republic, parliament, government offices, memorial sites, schools and cultural sites. The usual content of the commemorative activities are historical commemorations, reading of passages, testimonies and the commitment to the promotion of memory. There are also artistic representations, exhibitions, theatre performances and conferences. These events are attended by the Head of State, representatives of the Presidency and government, members of parliament and the judiciary as well as academia and teachers. The Jewish, Roma and Sinti communities, other religious groups, civil society organizations and academic and research institutions as well as schools are regularly involved in shaping the content, and actively participate in commemorative activities.

A press release is issued by the Prime Minister’s Office (*Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri*) together with UCEI (Italian Jewish Communities Union), announcing all activities that will be held on the Day of Remembrance. The Ministry of Education is an active part of the main ceremony, involving schools at all levels.

Governmental funds are made available for civil society initiatives related to commemoration of the Holocaust. Each institution involved uses its own funds for the areas of its expertise.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all events were held online, but the number of participants was nevertheless considerable. On the Ministry of Education website an article, “Day of Remembrance, on 27 January the celebrations” was published. On the Day of Remembrance, numerous initiatives were promoted to involve students in reflecting on the theme of the Shoah. For instance, in the presence of the President of the Republic, Sergio Mattarella, official celebrations were held at the Quirinale Palace. The event was also live on the Ministry’s social profiles and on Rai Uno television.

Moreover, the award ceremony for the winning schools of the national competition “Young people remember the Shoah” was organized at the Quirinale Palace. The competition is now in its 19th edition and promoted annually by the Ministry of Education under the patronage of the President, with the collaboration of the UCEI. The competition is open to all first and second cycle schools with the aim of promoting study and reflection on the Shoah among students.

On the Day of Remembrance, the Ministry sends an annual circular to all educational institutions to encourage dedicated educational initiatives on this anniversary. On 27 January, excerpts of readings from some of Primo Levi’s work are made available by the Ministry of Education, chosen from the texts “I sommersi e i salvati” and “So it was Auschwitz”. The reading was created by Fabrizio Gifuni and is placed on the website⁷ for a whole month. The reading is intended for secondary school students and their teachers. The reading is accompanied by the text “Lettura Primo Levi on the Occasion of Memorial Day 2020–2021” — available in open access and printed format — on the joint initiative of the Luigi De Gregori library and the Primo Levi International Study Center.⁸

Online activities were accompanied by social media campaigns and/or official statements. For example, newsletters were published on the School and Memory website, which is a portal aimed at raising awareness among young people on the issues of the Shoah and anti-Semitism and encouraging the exchange of educational best practices. Furthermore, a press release “Day of Remembrance, Minister Azzolina: ‘Never let your guard down.

⁷ Scuola e Memoria website, <<https://www.scuolaememoria.it/site/it/home-page/>>.

⁸ “Lettura Primo Levi on the occasion of Memorial Day 2020–2021”, Scuola e Memoria website, <<https://www.scuolaememoria.it/file/documenti/Area-didattica/LetturaPrimoLevi.pdf>>.

I ask young people to use a language of peace” was published. The Ministry of Education was also part of the campaign and posted different messages and links about the main ceremony at Quirinale and all initiatives related to the Day of Remembrance on its social media accounts.

The Day of the Righteous of Humanity is celebrated in Italy on 6 March. The aim of the anniversary is to honour the memory of those who stood up against genocide and totalitarianism. The Day of the Righteous was established by law in 2017 and takes place on the European Day of the Righteous.

On 24 March, Italy commemorates the Ardeatine massacre or Fosse Ardeatine massacre, which was a mass killing of 335 civilians and political prisoners in Rome on 24 March 1944 by the German occupation troops. The massacre was in retaliation for the partisan attack in Via Rasella, carried out on 23 March by members of the Roman GAP (Patriotic Action Group), in which 33 soldiers of the “Bozen” regiment belonging to the Ordnungspolizei, the German police, were killed. Commemorations for the massacre began in 1949. Official commemorative activities are held in parliament, at memorial sites and at schools.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research at academic institutions in Italy. According to the IHRA survey of the Italian Delegation in the Country report (July 2020), there are 210 Holocaust-related courses and they are studied in 54 universities in 17 of the 20 Italian regions. Research on the Holocaust is conducted at the Center of Contemporary Jewish Documentation, Pisa University of Studies, Interdepartmental Center of Jewish Studies, University of Naples L’Orientale, Center of Jewish Studies, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Roman Center of Jewish Studies, Union of Italian Jewish Communities and University of Rome.

In the last five years, some workshops and seminars have been implemented at Ca’ Foscari University of Venice on the Roma and Sinti genocide. Other universities, such as University di Florence, University of Verona, La Sapienza University of Rome, Catholic University of Milan, University of Bologna and University of Turin, dedicate seminar and teaching spaces to this topic.

Since 2018, the Istituto degli Innocenti has organized online courses for teachers and educators on the integration of Roma, Sinti and Caminanti children. Similar courses are organized in the most critical areas of Naples where there are Roma camps. Every year the Association Deina of Turin promotes a “Train of the Memory” that, during the trip, addresses the Porajmos. The Region of Tuscany brought direct testimony of the Porajmos for the new generations of Roma and Sinti to the stage at the Student Meeting for Memorial Day 2020 in front of 8,000 students through the voice of Dr. Eva Rizzi, a member of the Sinti community. The RSC national project, the Rise project co-ordinated by the University of Bologna and the UNAR-Formez project for the enhancement of RSC culture represent the latest useful correlation examples from communities, schools and public opinion on the history of persecution and genocide. It is also noteworthy to mention the following training projects:

- In 2019, UNAR (National Office against Racial Discrimination) started a project on the theme;^{9,10}
- The “MEMORS” project is the first Porajmos virtual museum in Italy;¹¹
- A new project is being led under the co-ordination of USC Shoah Foundation.¹²

The government supports these institutions through specific funds.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups are studied in schools at the primary, secondary, upper secondary and college and university levels, and are covered in teacher training. The Holocaust and crimes against other victim groups are also presented in textbooks. These topics are mainly present in the history, philosophy, Italian language and literature, religion and civics curricula. In Italy, the curricula are national for all levels of school education. Still, a lot of space is given to the decisional autonomy

⁹ <http://www.unar.it/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Cultura_rom_sinti_caminanti-2019.pdf>.

¹⁰ <<http://www.unar.it/cosa-facciamo/strategie-nazionali/memoria-e-cultura/>>.

¹¹ “Memors”, Porajmos website, <http://porajmos.it/?page_id=457&lang=it>.

¹² “Rom Sinti Memory”, USC Shoah Foundation website, <<http://www.romsintimemory.it/>>.

of schools (Law 59/1997, Ministerial Decree 275/1999). The curricula are outlined in the National Indications for primary school, middle school and high school, while guidelines represent the framework for technical and vocational schools. During 2020, the Holocaust was indicated as a topic to be addressed in the context of twentieth century history and World War II history classes in the first and second cycle of education. Also, national indications for upper secondary schools dedicated special attention to the Holocaust and other genocides in 2020. In all cases, the subject is addressed in an interdisciplinary way with input from literature, figurative art, science and other forms of knowledge in intermediate classes starting in primary school. Practices and experiences go beyond what the curricula indicate.

In 2018, on the eightieth anniversary of the enactment of the “Anti-Jewish Laws” in Italy, the Italian delegation to the IHRA prepared national guidelines on “Teaching the Shoah in schools” signed and publicly presented by the Minister for Education, University and Research (MIUR). The document was also presented to the IHRA and published on the website “Scuola e Memoria”.¹³ The MIUR, in co-operation with the UCEI, created the “Scuola e Memoria” portal. The portal was created as a tool to raise awareness among students and teachers on the issue of the Shoah, anti-Semitism, discrimination and indifference. The website also aims to disseminate the work of the competition “Young people remember the Shoah” and to offer a platform for exchanging best practices on the subject among schools throughout the country.

Unfortunately, the persecution of Roma is still little dealt with in schools. Witnesses of the Shoah have talked about it and, in school, particular emphasis is given to the pages of Primo Levi who offers insight into the life of Roma in the camp in “If this is a man”.

Although the text of Law 211/2000, establishing the Day of Remembrance, does not specifically refer to the Roma, it is now a tradition to talk about the Roma and mark their sacrifice on 27 January. For some years, similar to commemorative activities for the Holocaust, the Porajmos has been remembered in schools with theatrical and musical performances, exhibitions and documentaries. The reading of the historical novel by Dario Fo, *Razza di gingaro*, published in 2016, was widespread, based on the true story of the Sinti boxer Johann Trollmann, nicknamed Ruhely, a champion in Nazi Germany whose regime he defied (he was interned and killed in Neuengamme). To enrich the study materials offered to teachers and students, recognizing that textbooks do not devote much space to the subject, UNAR has prepared and disseminated special handouts since 2014. In the past, several projects have made materials available for training on the subject. Furthermore exhibitions, competitions and journeys of memory are usually adopted in all national schools.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- The “MEMORS” project is the first virtual museum of Porajmos in Italy, <http://porrajmos.it/?page_id=457&lang=it>;
- The Sinti and Roma in Italy and Around the World, Giving Memory a Future, <<http://www.romsintimemory.it/>>. The project is conducted under the co-ordination of the USC Shoah Foundation. In 2014, UNAR and MIUR set up a working group and experimented with a ministerial decree to make the materials and the website document available for teachers and school leaders. In 2019, UNAR launched a project path that aims to develop a long-term process and includes a focus on the topic.
- <http://www.unar.it/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Cultura_rom_sinti_caminanti-2019.pdf>;
- <<http://www.unar.it/cosa-facemo/strategie-nazionali/memoria-e-cultura/>>.

Good Practices

Commemoration

- Bando Di Concorso “I Giovani Ricordano la Shoah”;
- Scuola e Memoria website, <<https://www.scuolaememoria.it/site/it/home-page/>>., website:

¹³ Scuola e Memoria website, <<https://www.scuolaememoria.it/site/it/home-page/>>.

<<http://www.romsintimemory.it/>>.

Memorial Sites

- “Rimini Città della Memoria 2021”, CDEC website, 14 January 2021, <<https://www.cdec.it/rimini-citta-della-memoria-2021/>>.

Education and Research

- Guidelines for the Didactic of the Shoah

LATVIA

Memorial Day: 4 July – Commemoration Day of Genocide against the Jews

Established: 1990

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust during the Nazi occupation of Latvia

Commemoration

Since 1990, Latvia has commemorated the Holocaust on 4 July. The Official Commemoration Day of Genocide against the Jews recalls the burning of the Choral Synagogue in Riga on 4 July 1941 and commemorates all the Jews killed during the Nazi German occupation of Latvia.

Commemorative activities take place at memorial sites. The main commemorative event is marked by the presence and participation of the highest government officials, including the President of Latvia, as well as ambassadors. Victims’ and survivors’ associations, the Jewish community, civil society, and academic and research institutions are involved in shaping the content of the events and actively participate. Funds are available for civil society organizations to participate in and organize commemorative events.

The main event takes place in Riga, at the memorial site of the synagogue that was burnt to the ground during World War II, next to the monument dedicated to rescuers of Jews. The President gives the opening speech during the event, followed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or another high-ranking government representative.

Furthermore, on 27 January, International Holocaust Remembrance Day is also marked. Events are held at different locations as well as in parliament and at memorial sites. Ceremonies and traditions of commemoration on this date are often linked to an educational or political event.

The Roma and Sinti genocide is commemorated each year as part of the events held on 27 January. It is also commemorated on 8 May, which is the Commemoration Day of Victims of World War II. Moreover, the Latvian Roma community commemorates the Roma genocide on 8 April on International Roma Day, holding commemoration events at memorial sites.

Other victim groups of National Socialism are commemorated on 8 May, which marks the defeat of Nazism. The day recalls the suffering of the Latvian people during World War II and is marked with a wreath laying ceremony at the Brothers’ Cemetery in Riga. The ceremony is attended by the President, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, along with other officials.

Additionally, since 2009, Latvia has marked 23 August as the European Day of Remembrance for Victims of Stalinism and Nazism.

On 30 November 2016, a ceremony dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust was held for the first time at the Freedom Monument (in addition to the commemorative event at Rumbula Memorial site). Residents of Riga

lit candles in memory of the 25,000 Jews who were shot in the Rumbula forest 75 years ago, on 30 November and 8 December 1941. The event dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust was inspired and organized solely as the initiative of the society. Hundreds of Latvians joined together at the Freedom Monument to commemorate the victims. Since then the candle lighting ceremony has become an annual tradition. Usually, the President of Latvia lights a candle as one of the participants.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research at academic institutions in Latvia. Institutions with active programmes focused on teaching and researching the Holocaust include the University of Latvia, the Commission of the Historians of Latvia, the Institute of Latvian History and the Museum “Jews in Latvia”.

The Centre for Judaic Studies, established in 1998 at the University of Latvia is a key tertiary education and research institution on the Holocaust. The Centre offers courses to university students on both the history of the Jewish community in Latvia and the Holocaust and engages Latvian and foreign scholars in research on selected topics. In 2008, the Centre for Judaic Studies launched the “Names and Destinies” project. This project includes a website that contains searchable information on former Jewish communities in Latvia as well as an archive of Jews who perished between 1941 and 1945. This ongoing project is a unique virtual memorial to the Latvian Jewish community of that time. Another key institution conducting Holocaust research is Latvijas Vēsturnieku Komisija (The Commission of the Historians of Latvia), established by the President of Latvia on 13 November 1998. Around 25 professional historians from Latvia and abroad conduct research through the institution. The main task of the Commission is to conduct research on crimes against humanity committed in the territory of Latvia during successive occupations. A subcommission was also established that deals specifically with the Holocaust. Since the subcommission began its work, a considerable amount of basic research has been conducted and consensus reached on many aspects of history that had previously been distorted and misrepresented by both Nazi German and Soviet disinformation and propaganda. A total of 28 volumes have been published by the Commission. The Institute of Latvian History and the Museum “Jews in Latvia” also contribute research on the Holocaust. In the past 20 years, academic research on the Holocaust in Latvia has resulted in various significant publications.

The Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups are studied in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels, as well as at the college and university level, and are also covered in school textbooks. Teaching on the Holocaust is a compulsory part of the history curriculum in Latvia’s schools and is integrated into programmes on the history of culture, civic education and politics. The topics of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, as well as related issues, feature in both primary and secondary school education, specifically in social science subjects at the secondary level. Questions on the Holocaust are included in school examinations and topics related to tolerance and stereotypes are included in the curricula of different subjects as compulsory for all schools. Textbooks, teaching materials and methodological materials for teachers are developed in accordance with the national curriculum and, therefore, also address the Holocaust and anti-Semitism. Several books on the Holocaust and the history of the Jewish community in Latvia are presently available for use by students. Every year a group of Latvian teachers participates in training about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups at Yad Vashem’s International School of Holocaust Studies.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Memorial Day: 27 January – Holocaust Gedenktage (Holocaust Memorial Day)

Established: 2006

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti victims, and all victims of the Nazi death camps and persecution

Commemoration

Liechtenstein commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. Liechtenstein's International Holocaust Remembrance Day was established in 2006 and commemorates the atrocities committed against victims of the Nazi regime. Commemorative activities are held at memorial sites. The government organizes and funds the Holocaust Memorial Day and opens the event every year with an official address. The main event is co-organized with the Society of Friends of Yad Vashem in Liechtenstein and is usually held at one of Liechtenstein's larger cultural institutions, with members of the government, parliament and officials of Liechtenstein's law enforcement agencies participating. It is generally attended by around 100 guests and well-received by the general public and media.

The Jewish community, civil society organizations and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in commemorative events.

To mark this day every year, secondary schools in Liechtenstein organize special events such as visits to Nazi death camps and exhibitions on the Holocaust or to the Jewish Museum in Hohenems (Austria) as well as classes that address the particular experiences of Holocaust victims and/or survivors, making connections to present-day events.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, several commemorative activities were moved online, including the main commemorative event and activities in schools. None of the events that usually take place were cancelled. The main commemorative event was a livestream of the official event. This event also functioned as the opening of the online art exhibition "DISTANCE – Experimental Photography by Serhiy Horoberts" featuring photographs of the Jewish cemetery in Brody, Ukraine. The events were accompanied by official communications from the government and an official statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Justice and Culture.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of academic research at the Liechtenstein Institute, which is funded by the national government and municipalities, among other sources.

Due to the pandemic, some accompanying events in secondary schools were partially moved online. However, as schools in Liechtenstein resumed in-person teaching, the Holocaust Memorial Day was also accompanied by a physical art exhibition "Darüber sprechen – Nationalsozialismus und Holocaust: Erinnerungen von Zeitzeuginnen und Zeitzeugen" in the Schulzentrum Unterland. On 27 January 2020, all pupils in the 11th grade of the Liechtensteinisches Gymnasium visited the Holocaust memorial site at the former concentration camp Dachau near Munich, Germany. On 26 November 2020, pupils from the secondary school Oberschule Eschen were the first group of pupils worldwide to participate in the interactive "iWitness" project from the University of Southern California Shoah Foundation. On 27 January 2021, all pupils in the 11th grade were able to attend a virtual visit to the former concentration camp in Dachau organized and led by the team of the Holocaust memorial site.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victims groups are taught in schools in Liechtenstein at the secondary level, covered under topics such as World War II, as well as nationalism and fascism. Textbooks also cover the topic of the Holocaust and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- Liechtensteinische Gymnasium, <<https://www.lg-vaduz.li/schule/geschichte>>;
- Gedenken an den Holocaust (Memory of the Holocaust), Liechtensteinische Gymnasium, <https://www.lg-vaduz.li/application/files/7416/2003/1412/LGnachrichten_Nr34-2_web.pdf> (pp. 8–9);
- Erste Schulklasse weltweit, die deutsches Zeitzeugnis zu Gesicht bekommt, <https://www.oberschule-eschen.li/News/Newsdetail.aspx?shmid=432&shact=39117676&shmiid=8crui37XunE_eql>;

— “iWitness”, USC Shoah Foundation, <<https://iwitness.usc.edu/sfi/>>.

LITHUANIA

Memorial Day: 23 September – Memorial Day of the Genocide of the Lithuanian Jews

Established: 1994

Commemorates: Jewish victims, in particular those persecuted during the Nazi occupation of Lithuania

Commemoration

Lithuania officially commemorates the Holocaust on 23 September, the day in 1943 on which the Vilnius Ghetto was liquidated. The Memorial Day of the Genocide of the Lithuanian Jews was established in 1990 by a ruling of the Supreme Council (the Parliament) and commemorates Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

Official commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices and memorial sites, in schools and at other educational institutions throughout the country. The events are attended by the Head of State and members of the government and parliament. Victims’ and survivors’ associations, the Jewish community, and civil society organizations as well as academic and research institutions are regularly involved in shaping the content of the commemorative events and actively participate in these activities.

The main ceremony usually takes place in Paneriai Holocaust Memorial, which is where the largest number of people were killed in Lithuania during the Holocaust. The event involves official speeches, laying of flowers and lighting candles. The ceremony is preceded by a march from the territory of the former Vilnius Ghetto to the Memorial. The march is called “Memorial Road”. The International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania, along with local Jewish communities and other partners, has invited people to unite on the “Memorial Road” across Lithuania for over a decade now. The participants, mostly schoolchildren and teachers, walk on the paths that Holocaust victims were forced to walk.

The government promotes the events by engaging civil society, schools, prominent personalities, artists and the media. The funds are available for the Jewish community and other civil society organizations through various financial instruments.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many activities were held online. An exception was the commemorative ceremony on 27 January, which physically took place in Paneriai, but was significantly reduced in scale and number of participants. On 27 January, the top political leadership and other Lithuanian organizations took part in an online commemoration of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day by lighting symbolic candles. Several online discussions were organized as well. On 4–5 June the international academic conference held in Vilnius was largely devoted to the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the beginning of the Holocaust in Lithuania. It was a hybrid event, and the Speaker of the Parliament and the Prime Minister participated in the opening of the conference. Most of commemorative activities were accompanied by official statements and the social media campaign #WeRemember. If the COVID-19 pandemic situation continues, online events might be reintroduced in Lithuania. Otherwise, most events will be held in-person.

Jewish victims of the Holocaust are also commemorated on the International Holocaust Remembrance Day (27 January), on Yom HaShoah and on the International Day for Tolerance (16 November), established by international bodies. The commemorative initiatives are held in parliament and at memorial sites.

Lithuania also commemorates Roma Genocide Remembrance Day on 2 August. It was established by the law in 2016. Commemorative activities are held in parliament and at memorial sites, museums and other public spaces. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes official ceremony at Paneriai (killing site), exhibitions and film screenings.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of academic research in Lithuania. Eight academic institutions have active programmes dedicated to teaching and researching the Holocaust, including the Lithuanian Institute of History, the Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania, the International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania, the Vilna Gaon Museum of Jewish History, the Kaunas Ninth Fort Museum, the Judaica Research Centre at Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, Vilnius University and Vytautas Magnus University. The majority of these institutions are state-funded.

The Holocaust is studied in schools at the secondary and upper secondary level in Lithuania. These topics are also covered in textbooks. The themes of the Holocaust and anti-Semitism are integrated into national strategic educational documents. Notably, the programme highlights the Holocaust and countering anti-Semitism as mandatory subjects in both lower and upper secondary education. The Holocaust is taught in the context of World War II and Lithuanian history. School history programmes require mandatory instruction about the Holocaust in grades 5, 6, 10 and 12. Essentially, Lithuanian students must learn about the Holocaust during all history classes where World War II is discussed.¹⁴ Moreover, the topic of the Holocaust is included in the History Examination Programme.¹⁵

Teachers can participate in trainings about the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide.

The Secretariat of the International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania plays an important role in Holocaust education. The Secretariat, in co-operation with Yad Vashem (Israel), holds international seminars. From 2015 to 2019, they held seven seminars (five of them for Lithuanian teachers with 127 participants). Two were targeted at local politicians (involving 16 participants, including mayors and deputy mayors) in 2016. One seminar was for reporters in 2019. One international seminar was organized by Yad Vashem (Israel) and Memorial de la Shoah (France) in Latvia in 2018.

The Network of Tolerance Education Centers is a unique educational project in Lithuania, launched in 2003. Tolerance Education Centers were established in 151 schools, local museums and education centres. Forty-eight new centres were opened between 2015 and 2020. Teachers who work in the centres support the International Commission's initiatives and are active participants in its educational programme about the Holocaust. During that period, 77 seminars with 2,671 participants were held in Lithuania. Moreover, five national conferences were organized (three of them with partners: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2018, Vytautas Magnus University in 2018 and the Embassy of Poland in Vilnius in 2019). The Secretariat holds one national conference in a school each year for Tolerance Education Center communities from all over Lithuania. Annual national conference attendees include delegates from 20–30 schools with a total of about 250–300 attendees.

There are also local, national and international seminars organized for teachers and educators who work in museums, libraries and local education centres.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

The school curricula are available online (in Lithuanian), <http://portalas.emokykla.lt/bup/Puslapiai/pagrindinis_ugdymas_bendras.aspx>.

The topic of the Holocaust is included in the History Examination Programme, <<http://www.nec.lt/375/>>.

The current educational curricula have been in place since 2008; the general educational programme is currently being revised. Draft curricula can be found online at <<https://www.mokykla2030.lt/bp-projektai/>>, where more attention is paid to national and religious diversity of Lithuania. It is the first time that the Roma genocide is mentioned. The plan is to have the curricula revised in 2022.

¹⁴ The teaching programmes are available online.

<http://portalas.emokykla.lt/bup/Puslapiai/pagrindinis_ugdymas_bendras.aspx>.

¹⁵ National Examination Center website, <<https://www.nec.lt/375/>>.

Good Practices

Commemoration

The March of the Living is organized in Vilnius and in several other municipalities on the Day of the Genocide of the Lithuanian Jews every year. The March was organized as a civic initiative in Molėtai for the first time in 2016, and approximately 70 Jews, emigres from Lithuania, took part in the March.

The “Memorial Road” initiative developed by the International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania engages teachers and schoolchildren in different municipalities.

Memorial Sites

The Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania prepared, produced and installed information stands in the sites of mass killings of the Jews in Leipalingis (Druskininkai Municipality), Zapyškis (Kaunas District Municipality), Pilviškiai (Šakiai District Municipality), Veliuona (Jurbarkas District Municipality) and Vilkija (Kaunas District Municipality) in the framework of the project funded from the state budget “The Names of the Holocaust Victims are Alive” in 2017–2019.

The “Litvak Memorial Garden” is a unique project in Plateliai (Plungė Municipality) developed on the initiative of the NGO “Jakovas Bunka Charity and Sponsorship Fund” to commemorate all Lithuanian Jews, including many that were murdered during the Holocaust.¹⁶

LUXEMBOURG

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Established: 2005

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust and all other victims

Commemoration

Luxembourg commemorates the Jewish victims and all other victims of the Holocaust on 27 January, which is the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. The significance of the day is to pay tribute to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust and reaffirm the commitment to counter anti-Semitism, racism and other forms of intolerance.

Events on this day are organized in various locations every year by MemoShoah Luxembourg asbl (an NGO) in partnership with town administrations, cultural associations, theatres, music schools, the National Museum of Resistance, the Second Generation Witnesses Association, the Jewish Congregation of Luxembourg, the Auschwitz Committee and the Luxembourg Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah. A specific event is organized by the Jewish Community of Esch, the City of Esch and the Musée National de la Résistance (National Museum of the Resistance) at the Place de la Synagogue in Esch/Alzette.

Official commemorative activities are held in parliament and at government offices, memorial sites, event and concert halls, cultural centres, theatres and schools. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes remarks by key speakers, including but not limited to government officials, wreath laying, taps and anthems, musical interludes or/and artistic performances. Commemorative events are generally attended by the Head of State and officials from the presidential and governmental level, members of parliament, members of the judi-

¹⁶ “Litvak Memorial Garden”, Visit Plunge website, <<https://www.visitplunge.com/sightseeing-places/litvak-memorial-garden/>>.

ciary as well as members of the diplomatic community. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, civil society organizations and academic and research institutions, as well as teachers, pupils and schools are regularly involved in shaping the content of the events and actively participate in commemorations.

The Government of Luxembourg promotes and publicizes commemorative events through official press releases and social media. Starting in 2009, the Ministry of Education organized activities related to commemoration on 27 January; in 2019, the newly created Centre for Political Education (ZpB), funded by the government, began organizing events. These include different workshops about the Holocaust under the name "Journée de la Mémoire" (Memory Day) around the end of January. On 27 January 2021, the Government of Luxembourg and the Jewish Congregation of Luxembourg signed a historic agreement on outstanding Holocaust asset issues.

Funds are allocated to civil society in the form of subsidies by the relevant Ministries or the Service de la Mémoire de la Seconde Guerre Mondiale (Committee for the Memory of World War II).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Luxembourg limited official participation, as well as public attendance, to guarantee a safe commemoration and asked attendants to abide by the health and safety measures applicable at that time. Luxembourg also introduced online commemorative activities. For example, the Committee for the Memory of World War II and the Luxembourg Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah recently launched their own websites. The Committee for the Memory of World War II and the Luxembourg Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah raised awareness of their websites and activities, including but not limited to social media campaigns and/or official statements. The Committee for the Memory of World War II presented its website at the same time it presented a brochure in four languages (Luxembourgish, German, French and English) on the World War II in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The brochure is accompanied by an educational guide drawn up for young people by the ZpB. At the end of the pandemic, Luxembourg will review the different possibilities for organizing commemorative events.

In addition, since 1969, on the first Sunday in July, Luxembourg marks a day of national significance in Cinqfontaines. Cinqfontaines is a monastery that was used during World War II to intern Jews from Luxembourg before their deportation to ghettos or death camps in the East. Therefore, the July commemoration is more specifically in the memory of the Jewish Holocaust victims from Luxembourg. On 27 January 2021, the Government of Luxembourg and the Jewish Congregation of Luxembourg signed a historic agreement on outstanding Holocaust Luxembourg State, acquiring the Cinqfontaines monastery and transforming it into a Holocaust remembrance and education centre.

Commemorative initiatives are held at government offices and memorial sites. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes remarks by key speakers, including but not limited to government officials, wreath laying, taps and anthems, musical interludes or/and artistic performances. This commemoration is attended by representatives of all associations of Luxembourg victims of National Socialism, who lay wreaths in front of the Auschwitz Memorial.

Moreover, since 1946, Luxembourg has marked the National Commemoration Day on the Sunday nearest to 10 October. The day recalls the census organized by the Nazi administration on 10 October 1942, in which all Luxembourgers were asked to answer, among other things, three questions concerning a clandestine Resistance campaign. In response, most people answered "Luxembourg" in all three questions. This led to greater repression against the general population by the Nazi regime.

Different ceremonies are held at the National Resistance Monument, the Notre-Dame cemetery in Luxembourg-Limpertsberg, the new Kaddish monument for the Remembrance of the Shoah at the Deportation Memorial in Luxembourg-Hollerich and at the National Monument of Luxembourgish Solidarity in Luxembourg. Also, a religious service is held in the Cathedral of Our Lady of Luxembourg. In addition, in 2020, the Government of Luxembourg unveiled a commemorative plaque in memory of the 3,614 young Luxembourg women forced into compulsory labour by the Nazis.

Various historical conferences, exhibitions, colloquiums, survivors' testimonies and visits to remembrance sites are organized throughout the year. Some of these events are organized when Luxembourg commemorates Yom HaShoah, the Day of Remembrance of the Shoah. On this day, official commemorative activities are held

at memorial sites and in Cinqufontaines. On 30 and 31 January and 25 February, the country commemorates the victims assassinated by Nazis as resistance members in Hinzert. On 30 August, the country marks the day when the Nazi administration introduced forced military conscription for young Luxembourg men in 1942. On 31 August commemorates the national strike in 1942 in Wiltz. Around 16 or 17 October, the country marks the anniversary of the first deportation train to leave Luxembourg in 1941 for the ghettos or the death camps.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are subjects of academic research in Luxembourg, with the University of Luxembourg, the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C2DH), the National Archives, the National Library and the National Literature Centre (CNL) holding where there are active programmes dedicated to teaching and researching these topics. In 2021, the overall budgeted government support for the University of Luxembourg was over 231 million EUR, about 5 million EUR for the National Archives, about 16 million EUR for the National Library and about 2 million EUR for the National Literature Centre (CNL). On 27 January 2021, the Government of Luxembourg and the Jewish Congregation of Luxembourg signed an historic agreement on outstanding Holocaust asset issues, which includes but is not limited to the Luxembourg State devoting a total of 2,000,000 EUR until 2025 for the following purposes: independent university research; provenance research; work facilitating access to the files of the National Archives relating to World War II and the Shoah. The State also committed to pay 120,000 EUR per year over a period of thirty years into the Luxembourg Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah's budget in order to promote Holocaust research and remembrance, including but not limited to financing academic research. The University of Luxembourg and the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C2DH) are also currently preparing a digital exhibition on World War II.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the primary, secondary, upper secondary and college and university levels, and are also covered in textbooks.

In addition, pupils and students have the opportunity to attend various historical conferences, exhibitions, colloquiums, survivor testimonies and visits to remembrance sites throughout the school year. Several NGOs also organize educational student trips to visit the former death camps in the East, often in the company of survivors, where pupils and students can join on a voluntary basis. In 2019, the newly created ZpB, funded by the government, began organizing events with a particular focus on pupils and students. These include different workshops about the Holocaust under the name "Journée de la Mémoire" (Memory Day) around the end of January.

Teachers can participate in training courses and conferences about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism, including those provided by the National Institute for Teacher Training.

Luxembourg and Yad Vashem – The World Holocaust Remembrance Centre signed a joint declaration of intent on 4 June 2019 to co-operate in teaching the history of the Holocaust. This is the first agreement of its kind and will include in-service training programmes for teachers and educators. Participants will be able to learn more about Jewish life before, during and after the Holocaust. In addition, Yad Vashem will provide Luxembourg school authorities with access to information and educational material on the Shoah and will co-operate in the development of educational material on the subject.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- The Committee for the Memory of World War II, <<https://cm2gm.lu/>>;
- Brochure in four languages on World War II, <<https://cm2gm.lu/pedagogie/>>;
- Luxembourg Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah, <<https://fondluxshoah.lu/>>;
- Holocaust Remembrance Day, <<https://zpb.lu/journee-de-la-memoire/>>;
- Memoshoah Luxembourg ASBL, <<https://www.memoshoah.lu/wpmsl/>>;

- Inauguration of the monument to the victims of the Holocaust in Luxembourg, <https://gouvernement.lu/fr/actualites/toutes_actualites/communiques/2018/06-juin/17-monument-shoah.html>;
- Signature de l'accord entre le gouvernement du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg et la Communauté juive relatif aux questions non résolues dans le cadre des spoliations de biens juifs liées à la Shoah, <https://gouvernement.lu/fr/actualites/toutes_actualites/communiques/2021/01-janvier/27-signature-accord-communaute-juive.html>.

Good Practices

Education and Research

One good practice in Luxembourg is the establishment of the Centre for Political Education, which holds a series of workshops on the Holocaust in Luxembourg every year near 27 January.

The Committee for the Memory of World War II developed a brochure in four languages (Luxembourgish, German, French and English) on World War II in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The brochure is accompanied by an educational guide drawn up for young people by the Centre for Political Education.

MALTA

Commemoration

On 15 July 2021, the Nationalist Party submitted a private members bill in parliament to officially and solemnly recognise 27 January as Holocaust Remembrance Day. The motion calls for specific legislation within the Criminal Code that would prohibit the introduction of any laws that could allow for the persecution of Jews or any other group. In the same statement, the party added that post-match celebrations following the Euro 2020 final sparked concern due to the racist sentiment fostered in certain circles.¹⁷

MOLDOVA

Memorial Day: 27 January – National Holocaust Remembrance Day

Established: 2015

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust as well as Roma and Sinti victims

Commemoration

Moldova commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The National Day of Commemoration in the Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust was established by the Moldovan Parliament in 2015 and commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide. The Memorial Day demonstrates Moldova's commitment to further develop co-operation with civil society in the fight against anti-Semitism, as well as any manifestations of racism, xenophobia, racial discrimination and intolerance.

Official commemorative activities are held in parliament and at government offices, memorial sites, educational institutions and other public places, with the Head of State, officials at the presidential and government levels, ambassadors and diplomatic corps, as well as members of parliament attending the events. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community, other religious groups, civil society organizations and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in shaping the content of

¹⁷ Nicole Meilak, "PN Submits Private Members Bill Recognising Holocaust Remembrance Day", Malta Today website, 15 July 2021, <https://www.maltatoday.com.mt/news/national/110925/pn_submits_private_members_bill_recognising_holocaust_remembrance_day#.YPZjQZgzlIW>.

commemorative events and actively participate in these events. It has become customary to organize a Holocaust Remembrance Week around the National Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. The commemorative activities include flower laying ceremonies at monuments dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust, commemorative gatherings, round table discussions, thematic exhibitions, press-conferences, seminars for teachers, youth forums and debates, school and public lessons as well as student conferences on the topics of the Holocaust and tolerance, film screenings and theatre performances.

The Moldovan Government promotes these commemorative events through mass media, the educational system and cultural facilities such as libraries, museums and theatres. Governmental funds are available, upon request, for civil society organizations to promote and participate in the commemorative events.

Moldova commemorates the victims of the Chisinau ghetto on 25 July, the day when it was established. Commemorative activities are held at memorial sites. The usual content of the commemorative activities are flowers laying and praying.

Finally, Moldova commemorates other groups of victims of National Socialism on 6 July, a national day commemorating the victims of mass deportations. It was established by the Parliament of Moldova in 2016 to commemorate victims of Stalinist deportations. The commemorative activities include flower laying ceremonies at memorial sites.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, activities dedicated to promoting the memory of the Holocaust were organized and carried out online or hybrid. In 2021, some commemorative activities such as public lectures and conferences, video project launches, the presentation and distribution of documentaries and video materials and virtual trips to museums were organized online. For example, the traditional round table dedicated to the National Day of Commemoration of the Victims of the Holocaust organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research took place online. The programme of the Holocaust Remembrance Week was published in advance on the websites of the state institutions responsible for its organization.

Moldova anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future as they reach a wider public and connect participants from different regions and countries.

Education and Research

The Holocaust and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are subjects of academic research in Moldova. All general educational institutions, such as the Institute of Cultural Heritage, teach about the Holocaust. Moreover, the Moldova State University, the Institute of History and the faculty of history of Moldova Pedagogical University from Chisinau are focused on researching about the Holocaust and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism. The national programme in the fields of research and innovation is the main policy document through which the government establishes the priorities and strategic directions of development in the fields of research and innovation.

The Holocaust, the experience of Roma and Sinti and crimes committed against other victim groups during the Holocaust are taught within the optional course “Holocaust: History and Lessons of Life” in schools.

Teachers can participate in training programmes on teaching about the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide. These topics are also included in textbooks.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- The curriculum for the optional course “Holocaust: History and Life Lessons”, <https://mecc.gov.md/sites/default/files/curriculum_holocaust_istorie_si_lectii_de_viata_rom.pdf>.

MONACO

Memorial Day: 27 January – Day in Memory of the Shoah and for the Prevention of Crimes against Humanity

Established: 2006

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust as well as Roma and Sinti victims

Commemoration

Monaco commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The Day in Memory of the Shoah and for the Prevention of Crimes against Humanity was established in 2006 in line with UN Resolution 60/7 for Holocaust Remembrance to commemorate Jewish victims of the Holocaust and victims of the Roma and Sinti genocide. The Memorial Day aims to raise public awareness of the importance of remembering this event and Holocaust history, and to initiate educational and informative discussions and exchanges on the topic of citizen engagement.

Official commemorative activities are held at government offices and memorial sites. Officials at the government level, members of parliament and the judiciary attend these events. The Jewish community and the Government of Monaco are regularly involved in shaping the content of the events and actively participate in the commemoration. Commemorative events also take place in educational institutions, aiming to raise awareness of the Holocaust and its victims — regardless of their religion, ethnicity or political affiliation — and reflect upon the world today. In general, activities are aimed at providing students with guidance on the issue of crimes against humanity.

In addition to the official commemoration, other activities are organized around the Memorial Day, including visits to former concentration camps. Activities, such as theatre plays, reading sessions, exhibition development, research projects and film screenings are carried out in schools to promote awareness of all genocides and crimes against humanity. All students at primary and secondary schools are involved in these activities as the national education curriculum includes the teaching of the “duty of remembrance”.

The Government of Monaco promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness about the Holocaust through educational activities for schoolchildren and press releases.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, educational activities were maintained during the 2020–2021 school year.

On 27 January 2020, a Monégasque delegation took part in the commemorations of the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp. The Government invited the Jewish Community and two students to participate in this event. On 23 January 2020, the Monégasque Government was present at the World Forum on the Holocaust in Jerusalem. Within UNESCO, Monaco annually supports the Holocaust Remembrance Fund and the organization of the International Day dedicated to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. Monaco provides occasional financial support to the Auschwitz Foundation.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in school at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels; these topics are also discussed in textbooks and covered in teacher training.

Instruction at the primary school level offers a broad introduction to these topics. At the secondary school level, these topics are taught in history classes on World War II, as well as through various activities such as theatre plays, art exhibitions, film screenings and reading texts.

In January 2020, a theatrical show entitled “Je reviens de la vérité”, was offered at the Lycée Albert Ier by the

Compagnie Miranda. This show centred on Charlotte Delbo, an Auschwitz survivor and writer.

In October 2020, a conference for students of the Lycée Albert Ier, dedicated to the “Dreyfus Affair” and to the commitment of Prince Albert I in this context, was given by Vincent Duclert, researcher in charge of a study mission in France on studying and teaching about genocides and mass crimes.

In 2021, during a video conference, 11 public and private high school classes were able to converse with the author Emmanuelle Pirotte whose novel *Today we live* deals with World War II and the theme of the Holocaust. Along with the activities carried out within educational establishments, the National Resistance and Deportation Competition is offered every year to middle and high schools. The essential objective is to perpetuate the duty of remembrance so that young people can learn civic lessons from this historical period and integrate them into their daily life.

MONGOLIA

Commemoration

Mongolia indicated that it has not established an official Holocaust Memorial Day.

Mongolia indicated that on 10 September each year commemorative activities are organized to mark the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Political Repression. However, they are not connected with the victims of Holocaust.

Education and Research

Crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism is the subject of education in Mongolia and is studied in school at the secondary and upper levels. The topic is also presented in textbooks. Historical topics such as National Socialism and World War II are taught in Mongolian elementary schools.

MONTENEGRO

Commemoration

Montenegro has no officially established Holocaust Memorial Day.

The government co-operates with the Jewish community to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January each year, as part of a 2012 agreement with the Jewish community. Commemorative activities take place in parliament, in government offices, at memorial sites, within the Jewish community, and at cultural centres and schools.

Annual commemorations of the extermination of Roma and Sinti victims are held in April on Roma Day. The Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights – Directorate for Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians, in co-operation with the Montenegrin National Theatre, organized an event on 29 July 2021, to mark the 2 August as International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Montenegro and the Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation to Montenegro, spoke about the significance of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Commemorative activities are held in parliament, government offices and memorial sites and include a short film about the suffering of Roma and Sinti during the Holocaust, digital exposition of photographs depicting the suffering of Roma and Sinti, and a performance by an opera singer. The day was established by the Action Plan to implement the Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians in Montenegro 2021–2025.

On 13 July, Montenegro marks its Statehood Day, in memory of 13 July 1878 — when it was recognized as an independent state at the Berlin Congress — and the same date in 1941, when the popular uprising against fascism began. Annual initiatives commemorating victims of National Socialism are held on this day with commemoration occurring in parliament, in government offices and at memorial sites.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups are subjects of research in Montenegro.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the secondary and upper secondary level and are also presented in textbooks. In high school, these subjects are covered within the history programme.

Teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

On 29 July 2021, in accordance with the Action Plan, the Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights – Directorate for Inclusion of Roma and Egyptians, in co-operation with the Montenegrin National Theatre, organized an event at the Montenegrin National Theatre on the occasion of 2 August, the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, <<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vladacg/albums/72157719617856477>>.

NETHERLANDS

Memorial Day: 27 January – Holocaust Memorial Day

Established: 2011

Commemorates: Victims of the Holocaust and the extermination and persecution of Roma and Sinti

Commemoration

The Netherlands officially commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The Holocaust Memorial Day was established by the Auschwitz Committee and commemorates the victims of the Holocaust and the extermination and persecution of Roma and Sinti during this period.

The day also serves to warn against intolerance in order to prevent future acts of genocide. Official commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices and memorial sites, with the Head of State and representatives of the Presidency and government attending the events. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community, other religious groups, civil society and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in developing and actively participating in the events.

The government promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness about the Holocaust on the day by attending the events and by funding the commemorations and educational activities. There are also governmental funds available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities. Funds for civil society-organized commemorations are allocated by the Ministry of Welfare.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many events were held online as just a few participants could attend the commemoration in person. Online commemorative activities were introduced on museum websites, Facebook and social media. Moreover, several social media campaigns organized by different museums and organizations have been conducted. The Netherlands anticipates holding a mix of online and offline commemorative activities in the future.

Additionally, the Netherlands marks the National Remembrance of the Dead Day on 4 May.

Commemorative events are held on both 27 January and 4 May, with the last Sunday of January dedicated to Holocaust remembrance. On the last Sunday of January, a ceremony commemorating the victims of Nazi concentration camps is organized by the Netherlands Auschwitz Committee. The ceremony has been held since

1952 and takes place at the Auschwitz Monument in Wertheim Park in Amsterdam. During the event, wreaths are laid, the Keddish (the Jewish prayer for the dead) is recited and speeches are given. The ceremony is open to the public and is also attended by at least one Dutch minister and the chairpersons of both houses of parliament.

The principle commemorative event on 4 May is attended by the Royal Family, as well as the Prime Minister and other members of the Dutch Government. The ceremony takes place at the National Monument on Dam Square in Amsterdam, where memorial wreaths are laid and speeches given. Holocaust survivors, resistance fighters and former political prisoners are invited to the event as special guests. The event is attended by thousands of people and broadcast on national television. Since 1946, silent commemorative marches have been held throughout the country on the evening of 4 May. The marches end with two minutes of silence and a performance of the Dutch national anthem. In addition, almost every town organizes its own commemorative event on 4 May. On the Thursday before 27 January, a lecture titled “Never Again Auschwitz” is delivered. As a private initiative, a new national monument will be opened in September 2021 with the names of 102,000 Dutch victims of the Holocaust, including Jewish and Roma and Sinti victims. A government initiative, set up by the National Committee for Remembrance of 4 and 5 May, includes the organization of public events and debates, held across the country, on new approaches to remembrance. This coincided with the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II in 2020.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are a subject of research by academic institutions. The University of Amsterdam (NIOD), Vrije Universiteit (VU), HAN Hogeschool van Arnhem en Nijmegen and Hanzehogeschool conduct research on the Holocaust.

The Holocaust, the extermination and persecution of Roma and Sinti and crimes committed against other victim groups are taught at all levels of the education system from primary school to university. These subjects are a mandatory part of the curricula for grades 7–8 and 11–12 and are covered in textbooks. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) is responsible for education including cultural education, museums, heritage and policy on archives. Several museum visits are conducted by school groups. Teachers are supported through teacher training on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide, and crimes committed against other victim groups. They take part in workshops and teacher training programmes conducted by universities and museums. Teacher trainings on the Roma and Sinti genocide are supported by the staff of Herinneringscentrum Kamp Westerbork.

NORTH MACEDONIA

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Established: 2011

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust

Memorial Day: 11 March – Day of Deportation of the Jews from North Macedonia

Established: 1946

Commemorates: North Macedonian Jews, victims of the Holocaust

Memorial Day: 2 August – International Roma Genocide Day

Established: 2017

Commemorates: Victims of the Roma and Sinti genocide

Commemoration

North Macedonia commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January, recognizing International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The official commemoration was established in 2011 to commemorate Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Activities take place in parliament, at memorial sites, at the Holocaust Memorial Center and at the premises of Minister of Foreign Affairs, Secretariat for European affairs. The Head of State, officials at the presidential and governmental level, members of parliament, the diplomatic corps, as well as foreign guests, members of the academia, students, civil society organizations and the media attend these events.

Commemorative activities usually include addresses by high-level state and government officials, such as the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Education and Science or the Minister of Culture as well as speeches from representatives of the Jewish community, the diplomatic core, academia, civil society and others. Additional activities include thematic conferences and workshops, the promotion of books and exhibitions and the broadcasting of movies and documentaries. The Jewish community, civil society, academics and research institutions are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in the commemorative events. The North Macedonian Government promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness of the Holocaust by actively participating in the cultural events and delivering addresses and messages.

In 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in co-operation with the Academy of Science and Art and the Holocaust Memorial Center, organized a Commemorative Academy with addresses of the President of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia, the President of the Jewish Community, the President of the Academy and the ambassadors of Sweden and of Poland. The event programme included the opening of an exhibition of graphic designs made by students of certain faculties in North Macedonia on the theme “Memory of the Holocaust – Never Again” and the presentation of awards to the five best works.

The highest state and government officials and local authorities took part at the commemorative events held in Skopje, Bitola and Shtip on 10 and 11 March 2021. The President of the Republic of North Macedonia, addressed the main commemorative online ceremony, planted a Macedonian oak tree and inaugurated a memorial plaque with the message “We forgive, but we do not forget” in the Presidential Office garden. At the same time, on his behalf, and in co-operation with the Embassy of Israel, a tree was planted in the Peace Forest Amandav in Jerusalem. Government officials laid wreaths and flowers in front of the Monument of the Deported Macedonian Jews in the former “Monopol” tobacco factory and at the Skopje and Shtip Jewish Cemeteries. In memory of the Bitola Holocaust Jews victims, city Mayor Natasha Petrovska addressed the commemorative event held in front of the Holocaust memorial where a tree was planted and flowers were placed.

In 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, organized an online commemorative event with addresses from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the President of the Assembly of the Jewish Community, the ambassadors of Germany and the State of Israel and the co-ordinator of the project “History – Lessons for Today” from the NGO Youth Educational Forum. A short film on the new exhibition of the Holocaust Memorial Center for the Jews of North Macedonia was also broadcast.

On 11 March, North Macedonia marks the Day of Deportation of the Jews from North Macedonia. The day commemorates, pays respect to and remembers the 7,144 Jews of North Macedonia deported and exterminated in the Treblinka death camp in March and April 1943. The day has been commemorated since 1946 at the initiative of the Jewish community and with support of the authorities. Commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices and memorial sites, and at the Holocaust Memorial Center, as well as at cultural and academia institutions. The Head of State, officials at the presidential and governmental level, members of parliament, diplomatic corps members, as well as foreign guests, members of academia, students, civil society organizations and the media attend the events. Commemorative activities include: “A March of Living”; addresses from the President of the Jewish community, government high-officials and foreign guests; and exhibitions. The Jewish community, academic and research institutions and civil society are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in the commemorative events.

In the past few years other government institutions such as the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Culture, the Secretariat for European Affairs and the state Institute of Spiritual and Cultural Heritage of the Albanians – Skopje (ISCHA) have also organized various commemorative events on 11 March and 27 January.

For example, under the auspices of the Vice Prime Minister for European Affairs Memorial Academy and event was organized at the Secretariat for European Affairs and the book *My Life under the Nazi Occupation* by Mimi Kamhi Ergas-Faraxhi, a Holocaust survivor, was promoted. Also, a commemorative stamp, made under the initiative of the Holocaust Fund and Acta Non Verba, was issued by the Post of North Macedonia. Furthermore, the Minister of Culture opened the exhibition “More than a duty – Diplomats recognized as righteous among nations” at the Cultural Center – Skopje.

On 2 August, North Macedonia commemorates International Roma Genocide Day. The official commemoration was established in 2017 and pays respect to and remembers the victims of the Roma and Sinti genocide. Activities are held at the Holocaust Memorial Center, with the Head of State, officials from the Presidency and governmental level and members of parliament in attendance. Moreover, the diplomatic corps, members of academia, students, civil society organizations and the media attend these events. The Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society and academia and research institutions are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in the commemorative events.

A commemorative ceremony was held in front of the Holocaust Memorial Center on 1 August 2020. The President of North Macedonia sent a special message, while the Prime Minister of North Macedonia and others physically participated and addressed the event. The National Roma Centrum from Kumanovo organized another commemorative event on the Vardar River banks in Skopje. At the end of both ceremonies, symbolic messages “Not to repeat” were sent by releasing black balloons into the sky and throwing flowers in the Vardar River.

In addition, in April or May each year, North Macedonia also commemorates Yom HaShoah, thus marking the Warsaw ghetto uprising in 1943. In November, North Macedonia commemorates the Night of the Broken Glass, marking the 1938 November Pogroms. Activities are held at the Holocaust Memorial Center. Yom HaShoah is usually commemorated by holding different events organized by the Holocaust Fund and the Jewish Community with participation of relevant government representatives.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research in North Macedonia at the Macedonian Academy of Science and Arts and at the Institute for National History, which are funded by the State. The political commitment of the Government regarding to Holocaust has also been expressed in the education process where the main actors are the Ministry of Education and Science and the Bureau for Development of the Education. Furthermore, other state institutions — such as the Institute for National History at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University (INH), the state Institute of Spiritual and Cultural Heritage of the Albanians – Skopje (ISCHA), state universities and, in specific cases, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs — contribute to the Holocaust education and research. The Holocaust is a subject of education at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels. Textbooks cover the topic of the Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism.

Learning about the Holocaust is an important part of the educational process in North Macedonia. Therefore, the Ministry of Education and Science and the Bureau for Development of Education undertake different activities: a) supporting regular school classes; b) supporting extracurricular activities and encouraging schools to work on different Holocaust-related projects; and c) supporting the education of teachers within the framework of Memorandums for Cooperation signed with the Holocaust Fund, Yad Vashem, The Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, state universities and NGOs. The current syllabi for primary and secondary education include topics related to the history of the Jewish people, especially the Holocaust, in the history curriculum. The Holocaust is covered in: a) mandatory subjects of history and civil society; b) elective courses, such as Introduction to Religion and Ethics of Religions; and c) as part of integrated teaching under the subject of mother tongue, namely for Macedonian, Albanian, Turkish and Serbian language and literature.

The Ministry of Education and Science and the Bureau for the Development of Education issued a recommendation that an appropriate text about the Holocaust should be read in all schools on 11 March for the Day of Deportation and on 27 January for International Holocaust Remembrance Day, and that an appropriate activity should be organized to mark these days. The types of activities and the method of implementation are left to the choice of the schoolteachers.

Furthermore, the most important IHRA documents such as “Why teach about the Holocaust”, “How to teach

about the Holocaust in Schools”, “What to teach about the Holocaust”, “Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion” and “International Memorial Museums Charter” were translated into Macedonian language by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and were distributed to schools throughout the country. Recognizing the importance of the new IHRA educational initiative “Recommendations for Learning and Teaching about the Holocaust”, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Bureau for Development of the Education and the ISCHA/Department for Holocaust Education and Research have this has been translated into Macedonian, Albanian, Serbian, and Turkish. The translated documents were officially promoted at an event organized by the ISCHA and with addresses of the government officials.

Teachers can participate in teacher training on the topic of the Holocaust. The courses are implemented mainly through the Holocaust Fund and with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In general, there are three principle mainstreams. In addition, there are training seminars in the framework of the project “The Holocaust as a Starting Point: Comparing and Sharing” as well as training seminars within the project “Balkan Jewish History and Digital Story-telling” and a national online workshop “Addressing anti-Semitism through Education”. North Macedonia continues to make use of bilateral and tri-lateral training seminars for educators from North Macedonia, Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia and Albania.

Many schools organize different educational and commemorative Holocaust-related projects in the framework of extracurricular activities, such as participation in drawing or essay competitions, visiting memorial sites, or exploring different information sources. One of the most illustrative examples is the ongoing and successful school project “The Holocaust through the Lens of Children’s Eyes”, implemented by the Holocaust Fund. The main goal of the project is to support the education process on the topic of the Holocaust. It involves pupils from primary and secondary schools (aged 13–16) and covers several educational subjects: history, civil society, religion and mother tongue as well as the English language

Many students participated in different educational and training activities from other projects. From 2016 to 2020, about 500 secondary school students were trained to become exhibition guides within the project “Anne Frank – History for Today”.

Good Practices

Commemoration

The commemoration activities, in addition to official addresses, are regularly accompanied by other events, such as the promotion of books and exhibitions focused on attracting younger generations. As an example, the commemoration of 27 January 2020 was accompanied by an exhibition of posters on the theme “Holocaust – Never Again” made by graphic design students from North Macedonia.

Memorial Sites

Organizing visits to the Monopol — the transitory concentration camp at the tobacco factory in Skopje — as well as to the Holocaust Memorial Center is a good practice in North Macedonia.

Education and Research

The Bureau for the Development of Education instructs schools to pay particular attention in regular academic classes to the Holocaust and to anti-Semitism, to use the commemorative days of 27 January and 11 March as special opportunities for teaching about the Holocaust, and recommends schools organize visits to the Holocaust Memorial Center as well as implement different extracurricular projects.

NORWAY

Commemoration

While there is no Memorial Day established by law, Norway annually commemorates International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January. On 26 November, Norway also commemorates the largest deportation of

Jews from Norway, which took place in 1942. Both commemorations are state financed and attended by government officials, even though the Norwegian Government has not designated them as official Holocaust Memorial Days by law.

On 27 January, the Norwegian Government, institutions and organizations, as well as the media, schools and the general public pay respect to the victims of the Holocaust. The importance of the day has grown, as has increased research and knowledge on the fate of the Jews in Norway as well as of other groups, including homosexuals, Roma, Romani/Tater, people with disabilities, communists and others persecuted by the Nazis. Commemorative activities are held in parliament, at memorial sites and in schools. The Norwegian media provides broad coverage of the commemorations, and the day has become an important part of Norwegian culture and history.

The commemorations on 26 November take on different forms, adapted to local history.

Since 2002, the Center for Studies of Holocaust and Religious Minorities (the Holocaust Center) has organized International Holocaust Remembrance Day activities on 27 January. In 2004, upon request from the government, the Holocaust Center assumed responsibility for organizing the annual commemorations in Oslo. Additionally, since 2005, in many cities and smaller towns across the country, institutions and schools have developed local commemoration ceremonies. Politicians and other representatives give speeches and various methods are employed to educate children about the significance of this day. In many places, survivors are interviewed. Every year, new schools and institutions hold ceremonies, often adapted to the local history.

In Oslo, International Holocaust Remembrance Day takes place at the harbour of Akershus near the memorial dedicated to the deported Norwegian Jews. The programme at the harbour includes speeches from the government, representatives of the Jewish communities in Norway and representatives of other groups who were persecuted or suffered during the Holocaust. Norwegian Jewish schoolchildren light torches in commemoration and there are usually one or two artistic performances — often a song, musical piece or poem. The memorial event ends with the Jewish cantor from the synagogue reciting the Kaddish.

Over the years, the audience at the ceremony has increased. After the ceremony, the Holocaust Center invites everyone to the Akershus Fortress, where a meal is served and the rest of the cultural programme takes place. An educational programme developed and conducted by the Holocaust Center accompanies the official commemoration each year. This includes teaching materials, conversations between pupils and survivors and online materials.

Commemorations for International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January outside of Oslo are also organized annually by other institutions.

Annual ceremonies take place at The Falstad Centre, a state-sponsored institution devoted to historical research, human rights education and commemorative activities. The Centre is located on the grounds of the former Nazi Camp Strafgefangenenlager Falstad, which functioned as a forced labour camp, internment camp for political prisoners and transit camp to Auschwitz for Norwegian Jews.

The Stiftelsen Espeland Fangeleir (Espeland Prison Camp Foundation) commemorates International Holocaust Remembrance Day every year with a ceremony in the borough of Arna in Bergen. It also organizes workshops for students together with Rafto Stiftelsen (The Rafto Foundation). In addition, Nordsjøfartsmuseet (The North Sea Maritime Museum) organizes annual ceremonies, including the lighting of candles in Telavåg, Hordaland county, a town that was destroyed by the Nazis in 1942. Meanwhile Stiftelsen Arkivet (The Archive Foundation) as well as The Rafto Foundation arrange annual ceremonies in Kristiansand, Vest-Agder County, each with several hundred pupils in attendance.

Other annual commemorations dedicated to the Jewish victims of the Holocaust take place on 9 November in connection with the Night of the Broken Glass and on 26 October, the date when Jewish men were arrested in Oslo in 1942.

Political dissident victims of National Socialism are commemorated annually on 8 May (Norway's Liberation Day) and often also on 1 May as well as on 17 May, which is Norway's National Day. Some of those com-

memorations were established shortly after 1945, and some were established more recently. The commemorations are held in parliament, at government offices and at memorial sites. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes speeches, musical performances, witness statements and celebrations. Commemorations present a wide range of local variations. Commemorations for the prisoners of war from the then Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and the former Yugoslavia are held on specific dates.

The Norwegian Government has also adopted an Action Plan against Anti-Semitism.¹⁸

Education and Research

The Holocaust, Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are a subject of research by academic institutions in Norway. These include the Norwegian Center for Studies of the Holocaust and Religious Minorities, the Stiftelsen Arkivet Peace and Human Rights Center and The Falstad Centre, which are government funded. The state also funds several other institutions that conduct research on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and other victim groups.

The Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies (The HL Center) in Oslo is a research, education and documentation centre on the Holocaust, other genocides, extremism, anti-Semitism, hate speech and the situation of minorities in contemporary societies, established by the Storting (Parliament) in 2001. It has a permanent co-operation agreement with the University of Oslo, participates in research projects and collaborates with institutions in many countries.

The HL Center also plays an active role in the development of relevant education in Norway and other European countries. Teacher training, professional seminars and events for the public are part of the Center's educational activities. The HL Center also provides knowledge services to the public and receives approximately 7,000 students a year.

In addition, the HL Center leads DEMBRA (Demokratisk beredskap mot rasisme og antisemittisme/ Democratic preparedness against racism and anti-Semitism), a government-funded project for the prevention of anti-Semitism, racism and undemocratic attitudes in schools. The project springs from the assumption that participation and knowledge-based reflection are key factors in preventing group hatred and exclusion. Schools are guided in developing local action plans for prevention, which are based on local surveys and teachers' own experiences. The HL Center also hosts a permanent exhibition about the fate of Norwegian Jews during World War II with changing temporary exhibitions related to the Holocaust and other genocides.

Stiftelsen Arkivet, the peace and human rights centre in Sørlandet, is in the former State Archive building, which was the Gestapo headquarters in Sørlandet from 1942 to 1945. Since opening in 2001, Stiftelsen Arkivet has hosted events and conferences that convey the building's history under the slogan "Greater space for human dignity". Sharing stories of what happened at the archive during World War II reflects a commitment to learning. The teaching themes include topics such as racism, human rights and persecution, with a focus on values such as democracy, human rights and human dignity. Through interdisciplinary research, the foundation seeks answers to issues related to society's preparedness for historical and contemporary forms of radicalization and anti-democratic currents. The knowledge is used in preventive and attitude-related work, as well as history dissemination and teaching, and contributes to learning, memory and critical reflection.

The Falstad Centre teaches students, adults and other groups about the Falstad prison camps, World War II and human rights. Human rights and history are central topics covered with the intent to contribute to an increased understanding of the relationships between past, present and future. The history of the site is the basis for promoting reflections on human rights and democracy. The main research at the Falstad Centre focuses on prison history from World War II, both from Falstad and the rest of the Nazi camp system. The Norwegian prison history has close links to the European Holocaust, the extermination war in the east and the concentration camps in Nazi Germany. The research contributes to increased knowledge and commitment to democracy and human rights and is directed towards collective memories of the prison's history and the Holocaust.

¹⁸ "Action Plan Against Anti-Semitism", Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation, December 2016, <<https://www.regjeringen.no/contentassets/dd258c081e6048e2ad0cac9617abf778/action-plan-against-antisemitism.pdf>>.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels, as well as at the college and university level in Norway.

The Norwegian educational system employs an approach focused on the acquisition of competencies, rather than a list of specific content. According to the new Core Curriculum, which was published in September 2017, the teaching and training shall impart knowledge about Norway's national minorities to students. In Norway, Jewish, Roma and Romani/Tater peoples are three of five groups with national minority status in accordance with Norway's international obligations.

New subject curricula will be implemented. In the last draft curriculum for social sciences, the Holocaust was explicitly mentioned as one of the competence objectives at the secondary and upper secondary level. Drafts of the new social sciences and history curricula state that pupils should be able to describe the reasons for terrorist acts and genocide like the Holocaust and reflect on potential outcomes of extreme ideology. Pupils should be able to reflect on how Norway and other states have treated minorities and indigenous peoples and what arguments were used to justify these actions. Additionally, pupils should be able to relate to past injustices and explain how the ideologies and mindsets of the twentieth century have contributed to repression, terror and genocide, including the Holocaust.

The Holocaust is included in textbooks in Norway. Teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching about the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide. These trainings are provided by the HL Center, The Falstad Centre and the Stiftelsen Arkivet. The educational department at the HL Center holds voluntary teacher training courses, ranging from basic Holocaust education to specific topics like Nazi extermination policies, other genocides, group focused enmity and minority issues. Teaching material and web-based teaching resources developed by the HL Center are accessible by teachers nationwide. The material covers various themes related to the Holocaust and other genocides. Furthermore, as part of the DEMBRA project, knowledge-based teacher courses are offered at all the participating schools.¹⁹

Educational programmes and resources available to students that promote awareness and teaching about the Holocaust are also provided by the Jewish Community in Oslo and the Jewish Museum in Oslo.

In 2018, the Jewish Community in Oslo launched a new website on Judaism and Jewish life in Norway.²⁰ The Jewish Community in Oslo also operates, with state support, a "Jewish Guides" programme. As few Jewish people reside in Norway, and many of today's school students have never met a Jewish person, the "Jewish Guides" programme has guides travel around the country so the students meet two young Jewish Norwegians who are comfortable with their Norwegian and Jewish identity. The guides can tell the students about Jews in Norway and their history, life and challenges. The guides also engage in dialogue with the students about other relevant themes such as identity, belonging and prejudice. The long-term goal of the programme visiting schools and educational institutions is to bring young Jewish Norwegians to the forefront, disseminate knowledge and help remove prejudices.

The Jewish Museum in Oslo provides various educational offerings aimed at primary and secondary schools. These educational offerings include courses on topics, such as Judaism and Jewish traditions, Holocaust and Norwegian-Jewish history, Jewish life today and anti-Semitism. The teaching programmes are adapted for different educational levels and are relevant for meeting competence goals within several subjects.²¹

POLAND

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Established: 2005

¹⁹ "Democratic preparedness against racism and antisemitism", Dembra, <https://www.hlsenteret.no/undervisning/dembra/dembra_eng.html>.

²⁰ Jødedommen website, <<https://www.jødedommen.no>>.

²¹ "School and Teaching", Jødisk Museum website, <<https://www.jodiskmuseumoslo.no/skole>>.

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti victims and all victims of the Auschwitz Concentration Camp
Memorial Day: 14 June – National Remembrance Day for Victims of the German Nazi Death and Concentration Camps
Established: 2006
Commemorates: Victims of Nazi concentration camps
Memorial Day: 2 August – Remembrance Day of the Roma and Sinti Extermination/Anniversary of the Zigeunerlager Liquidation
Established: 2011
Commemorates: Victims of the Roma and Sinti genocide

Commemoration

Poland has officially designated three memorial days to commemorate victims of National Socialism: 27 January, 2 August and 14 June.

Poland observes International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January, which has been officially celebrated since 2006. Earlier, since 1955, commemorations were regularly organized with the participation of the IOC (International Auschwitz Committee) on the premises of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim.

In Poland, International Holocaust Remembrance Day commemorates the genocide of the Jews by the Nazi Germans during World War II and the victims of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death concentration camp. It thus commemorates Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the extermination and persecution of Roma during this period, as well as all victims of Auschwitz: Poles, Czechs, Belarussians, Germans, Austrians, French, Slovenians, Yugoslav citizens (mainly Slovenians), Ukrainians, Russians and Soviet prisoners of war, as well as smaller groups of victims/prisoners of Auschwitz, such as Albanians, Belgians, Danes, Greeks, Spaniards, Dutch, Lithuanians, Luxembourgers, Latvians, Norwegians, Romanians, Slovaks, Swiss, Hungarians and Italians (there were also Argentinean, Chinese, Bulgarian and Estonian prisoners).

Official commemorative initiatives are held at memorial sites with the Head of State and officials from the presidential and governmental level as well as members of parliament and the judiciary attending the events. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community, other religious groups, civil society organizations, academic and research institutions, representatives of civil services, the media, museums and memorial sites, as well as volunteers, students and others, are regularly involved in developing the content and actively participate in the commemorative events. On 27 January, the main commemorative event is held in the State Museum Auschwitz/Birkenau.

Commemorative events pay tribute to victims at the Death Wall of former Auschwitz I, at the ruins of the crematoria and gas chambers in the former Auschwitz II-Birkenau and at the Monument to the Victims. Eucumenical prayers are also held and occasional publications are prepared. Participants of commemorative events include, among others, Holocaust survivors, representatives of the Polish Government and Parliament, representatives of governments and parliaments of other countries and of European institutions, the diplomatic corps, the Jewish community, representatives of regional and local authorities and of various foundations and associations, as well as directors and employees of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim.

On 29 July 2011, Poland's Chambers of Deputies designated 2 August as the Day of Remembrance of the Extermination of Roma and Sinti. The memorial day commemorates the Roma and Sinti who were murdered in gas chambers following the liquidation of the Zigeunerlager, a "Gypsy family camp" within Auschwitz II-

Birkenau concentration camp, on 2 August 1944. Since 1993, commemorative ceremonies with the participation of the Roma Association in Poland are regularly held on the grounds of this former camp.

Commemorations are also held in parliament, at government offices and at memorial sites, with officials from the presidential and governmental level, as well as members of parliament and the judiciary attending the events. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society organizations, academic and research institutions, representatives of civil services, the media, museums and memorial sites, as well as volunteers, students and others, are regularly involved in developing the content and actively participate in the commemorative events.

Commemorative activities include paying tribute to the victims in front of the monument commemorating the extermination of the Roma and Sinti at the site of the former camp in Auschwitz II-Birkenau, with the participation of, among others, survivors of the Holocaust, representatives of Roma organizations, the Polish Government and Parliament, governments and parliaments of other countries, European institutions, the diplomatic corps, the Jewish community, regional and local authorities, foundations and associations and the directors and employees of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim.

One of the activities organized by civil society organizations and at the local and regional level is the International Roma Caravan Memorial Rally through sites where Roma and Sinti were killed in the Małopolska region, organized by the District Museum in Tarnów and by Center of Roma Culture in Tarnów.

The government promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness about the Holocaust through a wide range of actions such as publications, exhibitions, education activities including sample lessons and a database on places of memory concerning the extermination of the Roma and Sinti.

Another officially designated day in Poland is 14 June, or National Remembrance Day for the Victims of the German Nazi Concentration Camps. The day was established by the Polish Sejm (Parliament) on 8 June 2006 and commemorates Jewish, Roma and Sinti and Polish victims of Nazi concentration camps.

The day was established in remembrance of 14 June 1940, when Nazi Germans sent a group of 728 Poles from the prison in Tarnów to Auschwitz. Among these victims were soldiers of the September campaign, the members of underground independence organizations, junior high school students as well as a small group of Polish Jews. Commemorative activities are held at memorial sites with the Head of State, officials from presidential and governmental level, as well as members of parliament and the judiciary attending the events. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society organizations, academic and research institutions, and representatives of the media, museums and memorial sites, as well as volunteers, students and others are regularly involved in developing the content and actively participate in the commemorative events. Commemorative activities include paying tribute to the victims of the Wall of Death of former Auschwitz I. Participants at the ceremonies also include Holocaust survivors, the Jewish community, representatives of regional and local authorities, and the directors and employees of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim.

There are also numerous annually recurring commemorative events at the state and local level.

For example, on 17 March 1942, the first transports of Jews deported from the ghettos in Lublin and Lviv arrived at the Bełżec death camp. These deportations marked the start of Aktion Reinhardt, the extermination plan devised and carried out by the Third Reich occupation authorities. The Museum and Memorial Site in Bełżec commemorates about 2,000,000 victims of this genocidal operation. The commemoration ceremonies on 17 March are usually attended by members of the Government, including a representative of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, members of the diplomatic corps, regional authorities, local administrators, universities, military and veteran organizations as well as school students.

The Polish National Day of Remembrance of Poles Rescuing Jews under German Occupation (24 March) is the anniversary of the Markowa tragedy, when the Ulma family of eight was murdered along with the Jews they were hiding on their farm, including the Goldman family. The formula of commemoration includes artistic events, a concert, a theatrical performance and a ceremony unveiling plaques mounted on the Museum's Memory Wall, bearing names of Poles who saved Jews.

On the Day of Commemoration of Victims of the Holocaust and of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising (19 April), the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews organizes the nationwide “Daffodils” action. The Day is also honoured locally, for example at the Majdanek State Museum, which commemorates the Jews killed in the Krępiecki Forest — a place of mass executions. In 2021, official ceremonies were organized by the Warsaw Ghetto Museum, the Social and Cultural Association of Jews in Poland and the Jewish Historical Institute. They were held with the participation of the President of the Republic, representatives of the government and other institutions and organizations. In addition, there are many grassroots national Holocaust commemoration initiatives organized by scientific organizations, museums and NGOs. In many cases they also take place outside the designated day of national celebrations and depend on specific places and anniversaries of events. Furthermore, schools prepare special commemorative projects.

In addition to these events, Poland also marks other anniversaries relating to the commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust and Second World War. The events are implemented on various tiers of political and social organization and depend on established traditions, historical awareness and local context. The most important ones are the anniversary of the liberation of KL Stutthof (9 May), the anniversary of the liberation of KL Lublin-Majdanek (22 July) and the anniversary of outbreak of World War II (1 September).

The ceremonies are held at many sites across Poland, with those listed above conducted on the state level and others (in numerous minor historical sites) on the province level. The majority of these commemorations have a nationwide character and are assigned the highest level of importance, often involving the participation of the President of the Republic of Poland, the Prime Minister, members of the government, especially the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, whose ministry is responsible for national remembrance sites, as well as members of veterans’ associations, Jewish organizations, delegates of other religious denominations, non-governmental organizations, scientific and museum institutions and educational facilities.

Many events are also organized to commemorate prisoners of concentration or death camps. For instance, the prisoners of the Gross-Rosen camp system are commemorated every year on the first Sunday in September. The commemoration includes: speeches from the members of Government and Parliament; a moment of silence for former prisoners who died in the preceding year; Mass; Roll Call for the Fallen; and the laying of flowers, wreaths and candles under the Monument-Mausoleum. At the same time, a tendency to decentralize the commemorations can be observed — the number of individual and local initiatives that build narratives around their own histories and micro-histories is growing. The pluralistic nature of the commemorative context supports the animation of local remembrance communities.

Ceremonies to commemorate the Roma genocide include annual remembrance events to commemorate the Holocaust, including the Porajmos, take place on both the national and the local level. The former are attended by the highest state authorities and the latter by voivods (provincial governors) and delegates of local authorities and communities, including school students and scout organizations. These commemorative events take place at museums and remembrance sites.

Other initiatives of local governments, museum institutions and NGOs related to commemorating the Porajmos include:

- Every year the Municipal Office in Bełżec organizes numerous educational initiatives such as conferences, workshops, museum lessons and exhibitions to accompany the commemorative events at the Museum and Memorial Site in Bełżec;
- In 2019, the Institute of National Remembrance organized an outdoor exhibition titled “Stolen childhood” and displayed in three cities (Wrocław, Przemyśl and Białystok). The exhibition presents the stories of children from many ethnic and national minorities living on the territory of the Second Polish Republic — Jews, Roma, Ukrainians, Belarusians, Poleshuks, Karaites, Armenians, Huculs, etc., relating their traumatic experience of ghettos, camps, forced labour and executions during the German occupation of Poland;
- In 2019, the Museum of the History of Polish Jews (POLIN), in collaboration with the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERAC) organized a debate devoted to commemorating the Porajmos;

- The annual 2 August commemorations held at the so-called Zigeunerlager are accompanied by international reunions of Roma youth organized by terYpe (International Roma Youth Network), hosting an extensive offering of conferences, meetings, debates, concerts, etc.;
- In 2019, the commemorative events in Poland also involved the participation of the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIAC), which organized the international conference “Is Auschwitz only Sleeping? Sinti and Roma Narratives after the Holocaust” on 31 July and 1 August 2019, accompanied by the “Tears of Gold/Sownakune Jasfa” exhibition. All these initiatives took place thanks to funding received from the state budget and the budgets of local governments and relevant institutions, as well as collaboration with the state administration, local administration, museums, the Institute of National Remembrance and Roma organizations.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are a subject of research by academic institutions in Poland. The University of Warsaw, Jagiellonian University, the University of Łódź, the University of Gdańsk and the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń provide research on the Holocaust. Research on the Roma and Sinti genocide is conducted at the University of Szczecin, the University of Gdańsk and Jagiellonian University. Universities and agencies subordinated to the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, such as the National Academic Exchange Agency and the National Science Centre and the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAS), provide research on the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism. A total of 48 scholarly publications on or relating to the Holocaust and Roma and Sinti extermination have been published.

Programmes and projects financed by the Minister of Science and Higher Education (Activities to Popularize Science, Excellent Science, Dialogue and National Humanities Development Programme — NHDP) include four projects related to Jewish history and the Holocaust approved in 2019 and 2020. Moreover, from 2019 to 2020, the National Academic Exchange Agency organized two bilateral exchange programmes.

The Poznań Centre of Human Rights at the Institute of Legal Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences has overseen the Polish contribution to the European research consortium Memory Laws in European and Comparative Perspective (MELA) for three years financed by Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA) funds, whose studies focused largely on issues related to IHRA efforts. The issues of the Holocaust and Porajmos form an important component in research conducted by Polish scholars. Fellows of the Polish-U.S. Fulbright Commission specializing in this area are currently working at the Centre of Holocaust Research of the Faculty of International and Political Studies at the Jagiellonian University, the Polish Centre for Holocaust Research at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Auschwitz Birkenau Memory Site and Museum.

Holocaust and Porajmos studies are conducted by numerous academic and scientific centres in Poland. It should be noted that scholarly projects involving Porajmos issues have undergone development in recent decades. The first details on the Porajmos are found in the scholarly work of Jerzy Ficowski in 1953. Knowledge on these issues started to expand in the 1970s. In 1994, Roma from around the world gathered at KL Auschwitz-Birkenau to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Roma annihilation in the concentration camp. These meetings have since been repeated every 2 August. In the late 1990s, numerous organizations uniting the Roma were established in Poland, and recalling the tragedy of war was one of the main objectives. These organizations include the Institute of Roma Memory and Heritage and Holocaust Victims. The Institute, researching the Holocaust as part of its interdisciplinary studies, has a documentary, scientific and research character.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels, as well as the college and university level in Poland. These subjects are also presented in textbooks in accordance with, and to the extent required by, the national curriculum — adjusted to the specific level of education. Approval of textbooks for school use requires content compliance with the national curriculum.

Teachers follow teaching programmes that reflect the scope of general and specific requirements included in the national curriculum. However, teachers choose the methods to implement the programmes. Education system reform since the 2017–2018 school year has focused on strengthening history education, among other

aspects. Poland is one of few countries in the world where teaching about the Holocaust is obligatory at all stages of education.

The educational objectives and teaching content related to the Holocaust are included in the national core curriculum for general education in primary and secondary schools. The core curriculum for history includes the ideological basis of the extermination of Jews and other ethnic and social groups by Nazi Germany and aims to identify the main sites of extermination of Polish and European Jews and other ethnic and social groups on the territory of Poland and Central and Eastern Europe. By following the teaching content related to World War II and its stages, 8th grade students gain knowledge about decisive political and military events of the period, the policy-making in occupied Europe, the extermination of Jews and Roma and other groups and examples of heroism from Polish people who saved Jews during the Holocaust, as well as the direct effects of World War II, including the change of borders and resettlements.

In the new national curriculum for secondary schools (applied to both general and technical secondary schools) the education requirements related to the twentieth century have been significantly extended and expressed more explicitly, including topics related to the extermination carried out by Nazi Germans during World War II.

According to the national curriculum for the basic-level programme, a learner should be able to: (1) present ideological bases of the extermination of Jews and other ethnic and social groups performed by Nazi Germany; (2) describe the stages of the extermination of Jews (discrimination, stigmatisation, isolation and the Holocaust); (3) recognize the main places where Polish and European Jews and other ethnic and social groups were exterminated in Poland and Central and Eastern Europe; (4) describe the attitudes of the Jewish population towards the Holocaust, including the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising; (5) describe the attitudes of Polish society and the international community towards the Holocaust, including the “righteous”, such as Irena Sendlerowa, Antonina and Jan Żabiński or the Ulma family. A learner following an advanced-level programme (extended programme) will also be able to: (1) distinguish the terminology used in research to describe the German extermination policy during World War II (e.g., the Holocaust, Shoah and Porajmos), (2) explain religious, cultural and political roots of racism and anti-Semitism; (3) describe racist and anti-Semitic policy of Nazi Germany before World War II; (4) present and discuss the actions of the Government of the Republic of Poland in response to the tragedy of the Holocaust, including the mission of Jan Karski and the role played by the ‘Żegota’ organization.

Teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other groups of victims of National Socialism.

As part of “The Ambassadors of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews” project in 2015 through 2018, the museum worked with the Centre for Education Development to build a network of teachers collaborating with the museum. The project included participation in seminars, workshops and conferences organized by the museum, national and international study visits and training sessions, meetings with foreign educators, free visits to the museum and discounts for exhibitions on the history and culture of Polish Jews, as well as opportunities to co-create educational and informational materials published by the museum and its partners.

Since 2004, the Centre for Education Development (ORE), through the project “Preserving the Memory: History and Culture of Two Nations”, has been executing obligations arising from the agreement between the Government of Poland and the Government of Israel on cultural, scientific and educational co-operation. As part of a project focused on education about the Holocaust, the ORE co-operates with Yad Vashem to promote teaching about the Holocaust and its commemoration while supporting teaching about the Holocaust at schools, universities, in local communities and other institutions. Yad Vashem organizes training seminars twice a year for a group of 18 educators from Poland, focusing on the teaching about the Holocaust and Jewish history and culture. Networking seminars for Polish and Israeli teachers also take place.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the teacher seminars have been suspended. Teachers who were selected to participate in the programme were invited to take part in webinars. Yad Vashem, in co-operation with ORE, has also been offering online workshops, lectures and meetings with special guests, including Holocaust survivors, throughout the pandemic.

The ORE also co-operates with the Mémorial de la Shoah in Paris to promote Holocaust education and commemoration, as well as to support teaching about the Holocaust in schools, universities, in local communities and other institutions. An annual four-day seminar at the Mémorial de la Shoah in Paris is organized for 20 Polish schoolteachers involved in teaching about the history and culture of Polish Jews. The programme includes the topic of discrimination against the Roma. A five-day training seminar on education about the Holocaust and the history and culture of Jews is also organized once a year for a group of 15 teachers from France and 15 teachers from Poland.

Another component of “Preserving the Memory” is the network of regional co-ordinators focused on education about the Holocaust as well as on Jewish history and culture in each region of Poland. The co-ordinators are responsible for the organization of activities in each of their regions, which includes: planning trainings, conferences, meetings and exhibitions; creating a school database of interested teachers; co-operating with schools in Israel to co-ordinate Polish-Israeli meetings and exchanges of young people from Poland and Israel. Since the network’s establishment in 2006, the ORE has supported the systematic development of these co-ordinators in acquiring new knowledge and competences. By supporting teachers and educators involved in the implementation of projects on Jewish issues through regular meetings featuring special guests, workshops and educational materials, ORE has created a substantive and organizational support network for teachers who want to teach about the history and culture of Jews, including the Holocaust, throughout the country.

Many other activities and programmes are carried out in Polish schools to promote awareness and teaching about the Holocaust as part of the “Preserving the Memory” project. For instance, every year thousands of young Jews visit Poland and meet their Polish youth counterparts. In preparation for such meetings in Polish schools, Polish and Israeli teachers take part in networking seminars to better facilitate meetings between Polish and Israeli teenagers in Poland. The youth meetings include workshops as well as joint visits to Polish and Jewish memorial sites. By 2019, more than 20,000 students and 500 teachers from more than 450 schools had taken part in the programme.

In addition, the “Memory for the Future” programme has been carried out by the ORE in co-operation with the Children of the Holocaust Association in Poland since 2003. Its purpose is to support schools in organizing educational projects related to Holocaust Remembrance Day. In 2019, the 16th edition of the programme a contest entitled “Sierpień i wrzesień 1939 roku w mojej miejscowości” (August and September 1939 in my home town/village) was organized. The contest required participants to prepare reports presenting local historical events that took place in that time period, including memories of individuals, as well as to develop a better understanding of the situation of the Jewish population in occupied Poland in order to foster positive attitudes towards otherness and a proactive attitude in providing help and sensitivity to the fate of persecuted groups of the society. The project is carried out every year in co-operation with the Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute.

Every year the Ministry of Education supports an educational project — “Judaism: History and Culture of Polish Jews – Holocaust” — carried out by the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and Yad Vashem, co-financing a trip to Israel for Polish teachers selected to participate in the seminar in Jerusalem. The aim of the seminar is to learn about the other culture, traditions, mentality and history, particularly in the context of the Holocaust, as well as to fight against prejudice and stereotypes. The knowledge gained by Polish teachers, pedagogues and educators during training sessions in Israel, which is subsequently transferred to young people, helps make them more sensitive to the suffering of other communities and nations. The seminar, covering 120 teaching hours, includes: lectures on topics such as the history and traditions of Polish Jews, Judaism, anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial; interactive activities; workshops on the history and culture of Jews, the methodology of teaching about the Holocaust and contemporary issues related to Israel; study visits in Israel; meetings with witnesses. Yad Vashem also shares with participants didactic tools and methods of teaching about the Holocaust it uses at various stages of education.

The Ministry of Education also recommends adolescents visit memorial sites bearing particular importance to the common history of Polish and Jewish people, in particular the Museum of the History of Polish Jews (POLIN), and the Ulma Family Museum in Markowa on Poles Saving Jews in World War II.

Every year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs organizes and finances the travel of youth around Poland to Oświęcim in order to participate in an educational project — “The March of the Living” — organized by the

International March of the Living Foundation titled. Approximately 1,000 upper secondary school students attend the March of the Living, accounting for more than 10% of the participants from all over the world. The recruitment of Polish school students to March of the Living 2020 was carried out in February/March. The list of participants included 30 groups for a total of 1,222 people (students and teachers/guardians) from a total of 6,510 applications. However, the March of the Living was not organized in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The organizers temporarily moved the programme activities online.²² For example, a project entitled ‘Virtual Plaque’, which refers to the custom of leaving plaques with the names of Holocaust victims and the Righteous Among the Nations as a memory of the former Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camp by the Jewish youth participants of the March of the Living, was moved online. The project is also a part of an international campaign “Never Means Never”, which aims to inspire young people to actively oppose all manifestations of hatred in the contemporary world.

The Polish Ministry of Education also provides patronage for educational programmes as well as social and educational initiatives. The Ministry has undertaken “The International Youth Exchange”, supporting international youth exchanges in order to strengthen dialogue. Since 2011, the Ministry of Education has financed more than 50 projects for youth exchanges with Israel, allocating 250,000 PLN every year. Part of the co-operation with Israel, the projects implemented cover one of the following topics: a) learning about the contemporary reality of the other country on the basis of the common interest of young people; b) learning about the history and culture of Polish Jews; c) learning about Poles saving Jews during World War II, such as Irena Sendlerowa, the Ulm Family, and Jan and Antonina Żabiński; d) strengthening contacts and co-operation between schools based on the Centre for Education Development programme — “Preserving the Memory: History and Culture of Two Nations”. In 2020, due to COVID-19 pandemic, these projects were organized online.

Polish youth also participate in an international educational project entitled “Convoi 77”, addressed to secondary school students in 37 countries. The task of the students participating in this project is to recreate the biographies of 1,300 people deported in Transport No. 77 from Drancy to KL Auschwitz to broaden their knowledge about local history. Thanks to the project, thousands of young Poles and Europeans have the opportunity to better understand World War II and the Holocaust. Through June 2021, students at Polish secondary schools from Radomsko, Włocławek, Warsaw, Lublin, Poznań and Tomaszów Lubelski participated in the project. The Convoi 77 project has been implemented since 2015 at the initiative of Georges Mayer, the son of a survivor of the last Transport No. 77 from Drancy to Auschwitz. Since 2019, the project has been implemented under the honorary patronage of the minister responsible for education. The results of the work of young people are published on the project website.²³

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

Ośrodek Rozwoju Edukacji (The Centre for Education Development (ORE)) maintains the website <https://polska-izrael.edu.pl/> for the “Preserving the Memory” programme. The site includes news and information on Polish and Israeli youth visits and exchanges, teacher seminars and the network of regional co-ordinators focused on Jewish history and culture in Poland. Scenarios for student workshops and lessons focused on the Holocaust are included in a 2008 publication, “Preserving the Memory”. An updated version of the publication will be released in late 2021 or early 2022. In 2019, the Association of Polish Roma, an organization whose main objective is researching and commemorating the Porajmos, published the first ever guide for visitors to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memory Site and Museum devoted to the Roma inmates of KL Auschwitz. This guide — “Zagłada europejskich Romów w KL Auschwitz” [Extermination of European Roma in KL Auschwitz] — includes a historical overview showing the origin and progress of the Nazi persecutions of the Roma, as well as a description, richly illustrated with photographs, of sites within the camp that played a major role in the plight of Roma inmates deported to KL Auschwitz. The guide reflects recent scientific discoveries concerning the Porajmos and also describes the life and extermination of the Roma in the camp from the viewpoint of the inmates themselves, based on their memories.

²² International March of the Living website, <<https://www.motl.org/>>.

Good Practices

Memorial Sites

One of the best practices is extending the network of museums. Poland implemented a policy of ensuring that important memorial sites are placed under regular care, especially through forming relevant institutions. Experiences of the Ministry of Culture, National Heritage and Sport (MCNHS) show that continuous and professional care can be guaranteed only when it is entrusted to a cultural institution. In particular, the Ministry intends to complete the map of important remembrance sites, which still contains gaps caused by neglect and suppression during communist times. Poland's museum network is currently being expanded under the "Heritage builds communities" project — part of the official government strategic programme Strategy for Responsible Development 2020. The purpose of establishing a network of history museums is to relay the history of Poland from different viewpoints. Providing support for the activities and initiatives of cultural institutions commemorating the Holocaust and Porajmos forms a very important feature of the history of the Polish Republic, because its territories, conquered and occupied by the wartime enemy, served as the stage for World War II's largest drama: implementation of the Third Reich's vicious policy of extermination of the Jews, Roma and Sinti and many others.

Further initiatives are listed below:

- The Warsaw Ghetto Museum was established by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage in 2018. The Museum's mission is to popularize knowledge on the annihilation of Polish Jews and their struggles during the German occupation. The Museum, despite still being under development, is already an active participant in the formation of historical awareness and social attitudes. Its future headquarters will be the building of the former Bersohn and Bauman Child Hospital founded by Jewish philanthropists at Sienna Street 60 in Warsaw.
- The Ulma Family Museum of Poles Saving Jews in Markowa opened in 2016 and since 2017 has operated jointly by the MCNH and the Podkarpackie (Subcarpathia) Province. The Museum's mission is to present the history of Poles saving Jews during World War II, Polish-Jewish relations during the Holocaust and the fate of the Ulma family from Markowa — Wiktoria, Józef and six of their children killed by German gendarmes on 24 March 1944 for hiding eight members of the Jewish Goldman family, who were also executed. Other Poles in Markowa were able to save 21 Jews.
- The Oświęcim Land Residents' Memory Museum, has been in operation since 2018 by the MCHN together with Oświęcim County. The object of the Museum's activities is to present Oświęcim Land's centuries of history through the lens of the fates of its inhabitants, reflecting the ethnic and cultural diversity contributing to the local identity. The key motif in local history is the aid provided to prisoners by Oświęcim Land residents and the Polish resistance when faced with the terror of German occupation, in the context of the extermination plan implemented at the camp.
- The Treblinka Museum for the Nazi German labour and death camp (1941–1944) has existed since 7 December 2018, when the Minister of Culture and National Heritage entered into an agreement with the Masovia Province for the co-operative management of this cultural institution. In popular imagination, Treblinka is recognized only as a German Nazi death camp. In addition to the death camp, however, the Treblinka I labour camp was also operated from mid-1941 to 23 July 1944, leading to the extermination of about 10,000 people. The death camp, known as SS-Sonderkommando Treblinka or Treblinka II, was used to kill about 900,000 Jews, 90% of whom were Polish nationals.
- The Gross-Rosen Museum in Rogoźnica for the Nazi German concentration and death camp (1940–1945) has been operational since 23 January 2019, when the Minister of Culture and National Heritage entered into an agreement with the Dolnośląskie (Lower Silesia) Province for the co-operative management of this institution. Gross-Rosen, both the main camp and its approximately one hundred branches, was used to contain a total of more than 125,000 prisoners, some of whom were never registered but executed immediately upon arrival — e.g., 2,500 Soviet prisoners of war. The largest minority groups in the Gross-Rosen complex included Jews, nationals of various European states, Poles and Soviet Union nationals. The estimated number of Gross-Rosen victims is about 40,000. In the case of Gross-Rosen, the *raison d'être* of the camp complex was not so much extermination itself but rather

the implementation of the Third Reich's economic and wartime plans, with extermination due to lethal work conditions as a side effect.

Holocaust awareness also includes the awareness of the historical presence of the Jewish community in Poland that vanished due to the Holocaust. Respect for many centuries of shared history obligates Poland to ensure that Jewish cemeteries located within its boundaries are effectively protected, maintained and commemorated. Among Poland's activities fostering the memory of Jewish heritage are the following:

- A subsidy of 100 million PLN/22.5 million EUR was granted by the Ministry of Culture for the Cultural Heritage Foundation to replenish its perpetual capital, which serves to maintain and renovate monumental gravestones and to care for greenery at the Jewish Cemetery at 49/51 Okopowa Street in Warsaw. Among other activities, a total of 23 gravestones were renovated in 2018 and 51 in 2019, along with expert studies and stock taken of the cemetery's tree stand;
- An agreement was entered into by the General Conservator of Monuments, the Union of Jewish Religious Communities in Poland, and the Chief Rabbi of Poland on the standards of preservation and commemoration of Jewish cemeteries in the territory of the Republic of Poland;
- Guidelines were issued by the General Conservator of Monuments to Provincial Conservators of Monuments and provincial governors on the treatment of Jewish cemeteries as a prioritized category of monuments, along with a recommendation to enter all still unregistered Jewish cemetery sites into the registry of monuments in order to guarantee their legal protection;
- An increase in the powers of monument protection authorities by giving conservators the authority to block commercial investments on Jewish cemetery sites;
- The first complete stock-taking and marking of all Jewish cemeteries within the territory of the Republic of Poland in 2017 from the Minister of Culture and National Heritage implemented in collaboration with specialized cultural institutions dealing with this topic — the Institute of National Heritage, the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, and the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute — as well as with the regular participation of the Chief Rabbi of Poland, the rabbinic cemetery commission, the Jewish Religious Community and the Jewish Heritage Protection Foundation.;
- An information board was designed in 2018 with QR codes linked to <https://zabytek.pl> and a description of each cemetery in Polish, English and Hebrew. Work was completed to mark six pilot-stage sites, i.e., Jewish cemeteries in Góra Kalwaria, Lublin, Siedlce, Tykocin, Warsaw (at Okopowa Street) and Brok. The programme was continued in 2019. Data obtained from on-site verification of Jewish cemeteries were added to the geospatial database of the Institute of National Heritage and a folder entitled "Marking Jewish cemeteries in the Republic of Poland" was published to demonstrate the methodology used for the verification and marking of cemeteries. Four Jewish cemeteries were marked — in Wyszogród, Łomża, Nasielsk and Orla. The monumental cemetery in Wyszogród was fully restored and had its fencing repaired.

Education and Research

In January 2020, the then Ministry of National Education (now Ministry of Education and Science) Poland held a meeting of representatives of the European Jewish Association and the Action and Protection Foundation with the Plenipotentiary of the Minister of National Education for Polish-Jewish Relations and the participation of representatives of the Social and Cultural Association of Jews in Poland (TSKŻ) and the Warsaw Ghetto Museum (MGW). The meeting was dedicated to the exchange of experience concerning activities carried out within the national education systems in Poland and Hungary, aimed at counteracting anti-Semitic attitudes. At the meeting, the decision was made to implement the "European Curricula and Textbook Project Against anti-Semitism" in Poland. A review of educational materials used for teaching history, the Polish language and civic/social studies (available for download from Zintegrowana Platforma Edukacyjna (the Integrated Educational Platform))²⁴ — aimed at evaluating the presence and manner of content related to Jewish history and

²⁴ Zintegrowana Platforma Edukacyjna website, <https://zpe.gov.pl/>.

culture and Polish-Jewish relations — started on 13 February 2020.

Numerous research projects concerning the post-war memory of the Holocaust and Porajmos were subsidized from the state budget and carried out in 2019–2021., include:

- Jews and Germans in Polish collective memory: Two case studies of memory formation – University of Wrocław (20.01.2016–19.09.2020);
- Motivated history: Representations of groups' history as a function of current motivations – University of Warsaw (01.03.2016–31.12.2019);
- War relived and War retold: Interpretation of Polish records of personal traumatic war experience of World War One and World War Two (records of therapy and medical treatment, medical discourse, testimonies and memoirs, oral history) – Jagiellonian University in Cracow (17.01.2017–16.01.2021);
- Historical cultures in transition: negotiating memory, history and identity in the contemporary Central and Eastern Europe – Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences (15.03.2017–14.03.2021)
- Memory and ideology in the linguistic landscape: Commemorative (re)naming in East Germany and Poland 1916–2016 – Uniwersytet im. A. Mickiewicza – Poznań (16.04.2018–31.07.2021);
- The origins of negative stereotypes of social groups perceived as hostile: A comparison of anti-Roma and anti-Semitic prejudices in Poland and Germany – University of Warsaw (1.08.219–31.07.2021);
- Auschwitz in the social memory of Poles after 75 years after: In the context of changes of the memory of the Holocaust and World War II, and the politics of memory in Poland, Europe and the world – Jagiellonian University in Cracow (1.04.2019–31.03.2022);
- Migrant Memory: Post-Soviet Jewish American Literature – University of Warsaw (26.07.2019–25.07.2021);
- New Polish historical museums – Jagiellonian University in Cracow (26.07.2019–31.03.2023);
- Polish “Folk Art” and the Holocaust: Perpetrator–Victim–Bystander Memory Transactions in the Polish-German context) – Jagiellonian University in Cracow (01.04.2020–31.02.2023);
- What's New? What's Next? Innovative Methods, New Sources and Paradigm Shifts in Jewish – Museum POLIN (2019–2021);
- Edition of English translation of Alina Molisak, Jewish Warsaw – Jewish Berlin – Peter Lang – Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Science (2019).

In 2021, the Minister of Education and Science decided to establish an Advisory Council for Holocaust Education, an ancillary body supporting the minister. The aim of the council is to ensure a platform for exchanging views, carrying out consultations and voicing opinions and suggestions by people involved in the activities for Holocaust education. It is composed of members of outstanding knowledge, involvement and experience in the area of Holocaust education. A representative of the Ministry of Education and Science participates in the Education Working Group of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). Membership in the group enables presentation of Polish experiences in teaching about the Holocaust and an exchange of information on educational projects carried out in this area by IHRA member states. The IHRA recommendations on teaching and learning about the Holocaust were presented in January 2020 during the ORE seminar for regional education co-ordinators on Jewish history and culture and the session of the Opinion and Advisory Council for Holocaust Education, and in April–June 2020 as part of on-line seminars and trainings for teachers carried out by ORE. The Recommendations were translated into Polish and submitted to the IHRA Office on 9 June 2020. The document has been available on the IHRA website since July 2020.

A diverse educational offering of regional vocational training institutions, national research institutions, museums and universities support teachers in improving the knowledge and skills necessary to educate about the Holocaust. Funds for their implementation come from the state budget, local government units' budgets and EU funds.

An example of educational activities from the aforementioned institutions is Zintegrowana Platforma Edukacyjna (the Integrated Educational Platform) of the Ministry of Education and Science.²⁵ The e-materials are available free of charge, and offer a wide range of materials helpful in teaching about the Holocaust.

As well as training courses, s carried out by the ORE in 2020 include:

- Feminism of Jewish women in the interwar period in Poland — an open lecture addressed to both graduates of the Yad Vashem seminary and teachers interested in the subject.
- “Me and teaching about the Holocaust”: Reflections on the usefulness of the content of the Yad Vashem seminar in the didactic work of a teacher — a training aimed at graduates of Yad Vashem educational seminars and teachers interested in participating in future editions of the Yad Vashem seminar in Jerusalem, teachers dealing with Holocaust education, Jewish history and culture and civic education aimed at counteracting racism and anti-Semitism. The meeting is a part of the project “Preserve Memory. History and culture of two nations”.
- Kindertransports – a workshop that broadened knowledge about the Holocaust for graduates of the training seminar at Yad Vashem.
- Jewish sport in the interwar period in Poland) — an online training/lecture that presented an outline of the history of Jewish sport in Poland in the interwar period: its beginnings, ideological foundation, development and examples of achievements of Jewish sportsmen and sport clubs.
- Museum and Memorial Site in Bełżec — pedagogical activities of the museum aimed at various groups of recipients, reflecting not only on the past, but also on contemporary issues related to discrimination, intolerance and hatred based on race and culture.

there are also museum lessons, historical workshops, study stays and educational seminars for teachers and students that focus on the Holocaust. including:

- Galicia Jewish Museum — The educational offerings include various educational activities devoted to Judaism, Jewish culture, history and the Holocaust, as well as anti-discrimination workshops. Classes take the form of workshops, museum lessons, presentations, lectures or field classes. They are always adjusted to the level of knowledge and age of the participants and encourage dialogue and reflection.
- Warsaw Ghetto Museum — The educational offerings of the museum include lessons on religion, tradition and culture of Polish Jews, as well as lessons on Holocaust, including lessons on the Warsaw ghetto such as everyday life in the ghetto, difficult moral dilemmas and the political and historical Shoah. The proposal also includes activities that: deepen sensitivity, empathy and willingness to help; shape attitudes of openness, tolerance and acceptance for ethnic, religious and cultural diversity; raise awareness of the dangers of stereotyping and prejudices; show the causes and consequences of racism and anti-Semitism.²⁶ All lessons are free of charge and can be used on school premises during regular class or extra-curricular activities for students in grades 4–8 of primary school (aged 11–14).
- “Judaism without secrets”;
- “What does it mean to be closed against your will – what was the ghetto like during the Holocaust?”;
- “When a child takes over the role of an adult...: Children in the ghetto” for secondary school students

²⁵ Zintegrowana Platforma Edukacyjna website, <<https://zpe.gov.pl/>>.

²⁶ Warsaw Ghetto Museum website, <<https://1943.pl/oferta-edukacyjna/>>.

- (aged 15–19);
- “The heroes of the ghetto: Anna Braude-Hellerowa, Adina Blady-Szwajger, Janusz Korczak, Irena Sendlerowa, Emanuel Ringelblum, Marek Edelman”;
 - “Can you judge people in critical situations?: Adam Czerniaków, Artur Rosenzweig, Chaim Rumkowski” (the lesson is intended for students of the last grade of a secondary school).
 - “Two Warsaw Uprisings: What were the ghetto insurgents fighting for, what was the purpose of the Warsaw Uprising?”
 - “Help, report or pass by indifferently: Various attitudes of the Polish population towards the tragedy of the Jews.”
 - Art degenerated during the Nazi era. Educational project (implementation deadline - June 2021). Tasks under the project:
 - for schools located in the former ghetto: describing/reconstructing the place where the school is currently located.
 - for schools currently located near the borders of the former ghetto: describing the connections with the history and culture of Jews where the school is currently located.
 - “Jews during World War I: selected issues” – a seminar for humanities teachers (jointly organized by the Museum and “Przystanek Historia”);
 - Workshops: “Before the creation of the ghetto: Jews in the first year of the war in Warsaw” and workshop scenarios, e.g., “Hostility. Indifference. Help”²⁷;
 - The educational programme²⁸ includes activities aimed at families with children, schools and kindergartens, students and adults, which combine historical education with civic and anti-discrimination education;
 - The interactive portal Niemilknażę Echa²⁹ contains proposals for interactive activities based on the accounts of Holocaust survivors of Jews and Roma, selection of source texts, iconography and additional aids for teachers. Students have the opportunity to learn about history from the perspective of people who experienced the cruelty of the Nazis and their helpers;
 - International conference “Emotions and history. How to talk about difficult topics at school” (26–28 November 2020), with expert speakers from Poland, Norway and the United States;
 - Second Level Summer School “Teaching about the Holocaust” is for teachers, employees of cultural institutions and NGO activists who in their communities and workplaces act as the experts in the field of education about the Holocaust. The school, organized since 2015, commemorates the victims of the Holocaust and preserves Jewish heritage. Participants wonder how to effectively counteract contemporary anti-Semitism and racism, how to talk to young people about difficult issues — e.g., about different attitudes of Poles towards the Holocaust — how to effectively use ICT and audio-visual materials when teaching about the Holocaust and human rights, how to use local memorial sites in activities aimed at restoring Jewish memory and heritage. The formula of the classes includes practical workshops, presentations, lectures and panel discussions with active participation of the programme participants. The lecturers are eminent experts on the subject from Poland and abroad;

²⁷ “Hostility. Indifference. Help.”, Museum of the History of Polish Jews website, <<https://sprawiedliwi.org.pl/pl/edukacja-i-zrodla/edukacja/scenariusze-warsztatow/wrogosc-obojetnosc-pomoc/wrogosc-obojetnosc-pomoc>>.

²⁸ “Educational Program”, Muzeum Historii Żydów Polskich website, <<https://www.polin.pl/pl/edukacja>>.

²⁹ Eternal Echoes website, <<https://www.eternalechoes.org/pl>>.

- National Conference “Auschwitz and the Holocaust against the background of the crimes of genocide in the twentieth century” – a cyclical event attended by scientists, teachers, educators and youth workers. In 2020, due to COVID-19, the conference was hybrid: some speakers and participants joined participants online.³⁰

Some examples of regional activities:

- Łódź International Holocaust Remembrance Day — organized since 2011 — includes concerts, theatre performances, exhibitions, documentary film screenings, lectures, meetings and discussions. On this day, the Warsaw Ghetto Museum conducts online workshops and lessons for schools (students aged 15–18);
- “Faces of Dialogue: Young Assisi. Youth for tolerance and peace” – creates a platform of understanding for interreligious and intercultural dialogue, promoting activities and attitudes open to other cultures and religions, fighting stereotypes. The project is focused on getting to know and coexisting with other people. It has been implemented since 2014–2015 school year. The project operator is the Institute of Intercultural Dialogue John Paul II in Krakow.

PORTUGAL

Memorial Day: 27 January – Holocaust Remembrance Day

Established: 2010

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust and all other victims

Commemoration

Portugal commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The Holocaust Remembrance Day commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti victims, as well as all other victims including LGBTI people and people with disabilities or political opponents. This is a day for remembering and paying tribute to the victims, ensuring that the past is not forgotten and that lessons are learned so that it does not repeat itself.

Raising awareness about the Holocaust is a permanent and on-going activity. Official commemorative activities are held in parliament. Some events take place at the municipal and local levels as well. Normally there are two separate events: (i) a plenary session of the Parliament with the adoption (by unanimity of all political parties) of a resolution remembering and honouring the victims; (ii) an evocative session, under the auspices of the Speaker of the Parliament, with interventions from the Speaker, the leader of the Jewish Community of Lisbon, the representative of a Holocaust education NGO, the Ambassador of Israel to Portugal and, occasionally, the chairs of some of the Parliament Permanent Committees. It also includes cultural events, such as exhibitions by students, films, concerts or a theatre play. Although attendance is by invitation, the session can be followed on the Parliament television channel, on YouTube and on other social networks. Also on 27 January, the Government issues a communiqué through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs remembering the Holocaust, honouring the victims and recalling how important the lessons of the past are to the present and to the construction of a future free from hatred and intolerance.

In addition, both the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister often use 27 January to recall the date and the importance of remembrance and of lessons learned. On the same day, the Ministry of Education organized a webinar on Holocaust-related issues that can be accessed by anyone and is used by teachers in schools. The “*Projeto Nunca Esquecer – Programa Nacional em torno da Memória do Holocausto*” has been raising awareness on this issue, *inter alia*, through events organized by its interministerial commission and through partnerships with municipalities and civil society organizations.

³⁰ International Youth Meeting Center in Auschwitz website, <<https://mdsm.pl/edukacja/konferencje>>.

Activities are attended by officials at the governmental levels and by members of parliament. The Jewish community, civil society and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in developing the content and actively participate in the commemorative activities. A plethora of commemorative events usually take place around 27 January, many organized by schools. Some examples in 2021 included:

- An evocative session at the Faculty of Arts, University of Lisbon;
- A conference on the Holocaust at the Judiciary Training Centre (“Centro de Estudos Judiciários”), in situ and online, by historian Irene Flunser Pimentel;
- An article by the Minister of Foreign Affairs in one of the major national newspapers;
- An article by the Commissioner of the Projeto Nunca Esquecer, Marta Santos Pais, in another major national newspaper;
- Publication of the edition of the Official Journal of 27 January in yellow;
- A launch by the Lisbon Municipality of the “Journey of the Refugees in the Centre of Lisbon”, a guided tour through some of the neighbourhoods where World War II refugees found housing, food and support;
- Illumination of Lisbon’s main square in yellow;
- An exhibition on Holocaust documentation by the Central National Archive (Torre do Tombo);
- An exhibition on Portuguese diplomats, namely the “Righteous among the Nations” and the Holocaust by the Historical and Diplomatic Archives (AHD) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted commemorative activities in 2021. The official commemoration at the Parliament had only three guests (the Rabbi of Lisbon, the President of the Jewish Community of Lisbon and the Portuguese Head of Delegation to IHRA) and no social events. Many of the events usually organized by schools did not take place due to the closure of schools. At the national level, conferences and debates that were planned had to be turned into online events, occasionally with the physical presence of a very limited number of guests. The media departments of all Ministries involved in the “Projeto Nunca Esquecer” made broad spread of all related events. Holding online commemorative events in the future is not excluded in Portugal, although the preference would be to organize in presence events again next year.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research by academic institutions in Portugal. For example, Holocaust-related subjects are topics of Master’s and PhD theses and dissertations. No institute is formally providing research on the topic in a structured way. Lately, academic studies on Holocaust-related subjects are becoming more frequent, in particular in the History and the Social Studies departments of every university, public and private.

Public universities are funded from the national budget but they have independence and autonomy in how they use the funds. At the same time, both private and public universities may receive funds for specific projects. Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) is the main government institution in charge of funding research projects. In 2021, FCT selected six projects on Holocaust-related subjects in its collaboration with the “Projeto Nunca Esquecer” for funding. A large group of projects have been submitted.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels. The school curricula in Portugal are defined at the national level by the Ministry of Education (ME). Three documents are of particular importance: the Education Act; the Students’ Profile by the end of Compulsory Schooling; and the National Strategy for Citizenship Education. The Education Act (Law No. 46/86 of 14 October 1986) clearly states that all Portuguese citizens have the right to education and the principle of freedom to learn and to teach is guaranteed to all. Fully aligned with the Education Act, two core documents for primary and secondary education were recently issued and implemented, namely the Students’ Profile by the End of Compulsory Schooling and

the National Strategy for Citizenship Education. Stimulating democratic values and participation and promoting values of tolerance and mutual respect are at the core of these documents. Thus, Holocaust education in Portugal is an obvious consequence of that broad humanistic vision. In addition, the teaching of the Holocaust is compulsory in lower secondary education for all students, in the subject of History at the 9th grade. In upper secondary education, the Holocaust is also a compulsory topic area in the subjects of History B in the 11th grade and History A in the 12th grade. In addition, throughout the compulsory curricula, the Holocaust is alluded to in several other subjects: Portuguese, foreign languages, philosophy, law, political science and anthropology. Moreover, the study of this topic area is a cross-cutting component in the subject citizenship and development, mainly in the scope of a human rights education where systematic teaching and learning is present throughout the whole 12 years of compulsory education.

Teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching students about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and the crimes committed against other groups of victims under National Socialism. These topics are also covered in the textbooks. Teachers benefit from a high degree of autonomy in the implementation of the curricula. Schools/teachers can use both the classroom and extra-curricular activities to raise awareness and teach about the Holocaust. Two examples: (i) after learning about both the Death Marches and the March of the Living, students from schools in the north of the country promoted a local March of the Living. With the support of their teachers, their families and the Municipality, over a thousand students marched through the city and gathered at the central square where the Mayor's Office is located for speeches and leaflet distribution to the population; (ii) following a presentation in the classroom on Portuguese victims of Nazism, which comprised people coming from their region, students from schools in the south of the country decided to research the local archives with the support of their history teachers. They managed to trace a few of the victims and their collected data were added to a roving exhibit on the subject that was opened at the city library and that was covered by the local press. Later, around sixty of these students, with the support of the Mayor and accompanied by teachers and researchers, travelled to Mauthausen to participate in the yearly commemoration of the liberation of the camp. This visit was covered by the national television and is the subject of a documentary.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- Parliament Resolution No.10/2010, <<https://dre.pt/web/pesquisa/search//details/normal>>;
- Students' Profile by the End of Compulsory Schooling, <https://dge.mec.pt/sites/default/files/Curriculo/Projeto_Autonomia_e_Flexibilidade>;
- National Strategy for Citizenship Education, <https://dge.mec.pt/sites/default/files/Projetos_Curriculares/Aprendizagens_Essenciais/estrategia_cidadania_original.pdf>;
- Journey of Refugees in the Centre of Lisbon, <https://www.agendalx.pt/events/event/itinerarios-culturais-lisboa-dos-refugiados/?fbclid=IwAR18pQDu969z_SIL-3QTIhP_8n1J5jQKv5nCKv0cxLclBP-S6X6HHJDTTol>.

ROMANIA

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Day of Commemoration of the Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust
Established: 2005
Memorial Day: 9 October – National Day of Commemoration of the Victims of the Holocaust in Romania
Established: 2004
Memorial Day: 2 August – International Day of Commemoration of the Victims of the Roma Genocide/National Day of Commemoration of the Holocaust against the Roma/Samudaripen

Established: 2015

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust as well as Roma and Sinti victims

Commemoration

Romania has officially designated several Holocaust Memorial Days: 27 January, 2 August and 9 October. International Holocaust Memorial Day is observed on 27 January.

Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society, academic and research institutions, as well as the government, parliament and local authorities are regularly involved in developing the events and actively participate in commemoration activities.

One of the activities organized by civil society organizations and at the local and regional level of authority is the participation of Romanian schools and NGOs in the International March of the Living.

The International Day of Commemoration of the Victims of the Roma Genocide/National Day of Commemoration of the Holocaust against the Roma/Samudaripen is commemorated on 2 August. The commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices and at memorial sites. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes laying wreaths at the memorial of the Holocaust and are organized in the parliament. The National Agency for the Roma is the co-ordinator of these activities. On 2 August, victims' and survivors' associations, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society, academic and research institutions, the National Agency for the Roma and the Elie Wiesel National Institute for the Research of the Holocaust in Romania are regularly involved in developing the events and actively participate in commemoration activities.

Finally, Romania commemorates the victims of the Holocaust in Romania on 9 October. The day marks the date when the deportation of Romanian Jews to Transnistria started. The Memorial Day was established by a government decision in 2004. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society, academic and research institutions, the Romanian Government, the Romanian Parliament, local authorities and the Elie Wiesel National Institute for the Research of the Holocaust in Romania are regularly involved in developing the events and actively participate in commemoration activities.

Official commemorative activities during 27 January, 2 August and 9 October are held in parliament and at government offices, memorial sites, synagogues, Jewish institutions, schools, academic institutions and cultural institutions. The commemorative activities include educational, cultural and scientific events and the presentation of stories of victims, perpetrators, bystanders and rescuers. The commemorations are attended by the Head of State, officials at the presidential and governmental level, members of parliament and the judiciary, representatives of religious communities, diplomatic corps, students, civil society, academia and artists.

The government promotes the commemorative events through public statements and public awareness campaigns, hosting commemorative events, participating at events organized by other partners and including the commemoration of the Holocaust in the educational curricula. Governmental funds are available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities. The Romanian Government hosts commemorative events and partially or fully funds events organized by educational, research, academic, religious and Jewish institutions, as well as civil society. It also finances documentaries, concerts and exhibitions related to the Holocaust and Roma Genocide/Samudaripen.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, commemorative events were organized either with restrictions or online. For example, the Federation of Jewish communities of Romania, in co-operation with the Special Representative in the Parliament, organized an online commemoration event in January 2021. The event was advertised online on social media platforms. Romania anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future if pandemic conditions require this format.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of academic research in Romania, with several institutes conducting research on these topics. For instance, Babes Bolyai University of Cluj, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, University of Bucharest, Western University of Timisoara and Vasile Goldis University of Arad provide research on the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide. The first four universities mentioned are state-funded universities.

The Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide are studied in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary level, and at the college and university level. The crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism, the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide are also covered in textbooks. For the secondary and upper secondary there is an optional curricula. At colleges and universities, faculties with social studies such as history and political science have compulsory and optional courses on the Holocaust.

Teachers can participate in training programmes on teaching about the Holocaust and the Roma and Sinti genocide.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- Institutul Național Pentru Studierea Holocaustului Din România “Elie Wiesel” (Elie Wiesel National Institute for the Research of the Holocaust in Romania), <www.inshr-ew.ro>;

Good Practices

Commemoration

Romania has adopted a dedicated national strategy to prevent and combat anti-Semitism, which is accessible online <<http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/242372>>.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Commemoration

In 2012, the Russian Jewish Congress, the Holocaust Center, the Federation of Jewish Communities of Russia, and the Human Rights Bureau called on the President of the Russian Federation to establish a National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Holocaust and Soldiers-Liberators. The Presidential Administration of the Russian Federation chose 22 June (Day of Remembrance and Sorrow) as the date of commemoration.

The Russian Federation has not officially established a national Holocaust Memorial Day. However, Russia marks International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January. This date is of federal significance and was included in the 2016 calendar of educational events, which is updated annually by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.

Commemorative events are held at the initiative of individual educational organizations, as well as from the Charitable Foundation “Russian Jewish Congress” and the Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Center with the support of the Government of Moscow, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Federal Agency for Ethnic Affairs. Commemorative initiatives take place in parliament, at government offices and at memorial sites. Since 2015, the Russian Jewish Congress (RJC), the Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Centre and the Government of Moscow — with the support by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Federal Agency for Ethnic Affairs — carry out an annual series of memorial and cultural-social events called “Memory Week” in the capital city and other regions. These events are held at prestigious Moscow venues such as the Central House of Cinema, the Central House of Writers, the Victory Museum and Helikon Opera Theatre. Representatives of federal authorities, various ethnic and religious groups, NGOs and academic organizations participate in these events. Memory Week activities are widely reported in the federal and regional media. The activities include: 1) educational events for pupils and teachers at secondary schools; 2) exhibitions and excursions; 3) theatre performances; 4) memorial evenings; 5) commemorative candle lighting in regions across the Russian Federation; 6) international conferences on research and practice; 7) an annual competition of research projects among schoolchildren and students; 8)

film screenings; 9) online webinars and research labs for a wide audience.

On 22 June, the Russian Federation commemorates the Day of Remembrance and Sorrow marking the day of the beginning of the Great Patriotic War (World War II). The Memorial Day was established by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of 8 June 1996. Additionally, on 24 October 2007, President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin signed amendments to the law “About the Days of Military Glory and Memorable Dates of Russia”, which included a new date, 22 June, as the Day of Remembrance and Sorrow. According to the text of the Decree: “The twenty-second of June 1941 is one of the saddest dates in our history, the beginning of the Great Patriotic War. This day reminds us of all those people who died, who were tortured in fascist captivity, and died in the rear from starvation and deprivation. We grieve for all those people who, at the cost of their lives, fulfilled the holy duty to defend their homeland [. . .] Throughout the country on the Day of Remembrance and Sorrow: the national flags of the Russian Federation are lowered; in cultural institutions, on television and radio all entertainment events and broadcasts are cancelled throughout the day.”

Commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices and at memorial sites. On this day, the country’s leaders lay mourning wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Moscow. In many cities, the first commemorative events are held at the hour when the war began. The annual youth-patriotic event “Train of Memory”, dedicated to the Day of Remembrance and Sorrow, occurs on the eve of the anniversary of the beginning of the Great Patriotic War. Trains from Moscow and St. Petersburg go to Minsk and then Brest. This event creates an opportunity for direct communication between different generations in the train, giving young people the opportunity to listen to the stories of veterans of the war. According to tradition, at four o’clock in the morning on 22 June, the commemorative gathering “Bow to those great years” is held on the Ceremonial Square of the memorial complex in the Brest Fortress with the passengers from the “Train of Memory” taking part in this event.

Since 1996, “Memory Watch: Eternal Flame”, a patriotic campaign, is held annually near the Eternal Flame in the Alexander Garden in the centre of Moscow. During the event, each participant lights a Memory Candle to pay tribute to the feats of the brave Soviet people who fought during the Great Patriotic War. In 2015, the event became official nationwide and was held in the same manner in hero cities and in cities of military glory. In 2009, “Memory Alley” was opened on the Sparrow Hills in Moscow and now, at 4 a.m. on 22 June, young people and veterans light candles in the Alley in memory of the victims. Also, since 2009, “Candle of Remembrance on June 22 – A candle of remembrance on my window” has been held annually with more than 1,200 cities and towns in the Russian Federation traditionally participating.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research in academic institutions in the Russian Federation: at the Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Centre and at the Centre for the History of the Holocaust and Genocides at the Russian State University for the Humanities. These institutions are supported by the government through grants, subsidies, information support and participation of top governmental officials in thematic events.

The Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups are studied in schools at the secondary and upper secondary levels as well as at the college and university level and are also discussed in educational textbooks. State standards on general history for secondary schools include teaching the Holocaust. Students (age 15) study this topic in the history and literature programmes. In 2002, the Ministry of Education published a list of textbooks recommended for teaching about the Holocaust. In 2010, the publishing house “Russian Word” issued the study guide *Holocaust: Memory and Warning*, which included documents and guidelines for use during lessons and in extracurricular activities. The same year, the Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Centre published *The Topic of the Holocaust in School Books*, a book containing recommendations on learning about the Holocaust within the framework of the school curriculum. In higher education, Holocaust-related topics are mainly taught in specific university courses, as well as more systematically within the educational programme of the Centre for the History of the Holocaust and Genocides of the Russian State University for the Humanities. This centre conducts advanced training courses for teachers as well as courses for Bachelor’s and Master’s degree students.

Teachers are supported with teacher training programmes about the Holocaust. The Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Centre, with the support of the Russian Jewish Congress, regularly organizes: 1) an

international student research competition on “Memory of the Holocaust – The Path to Tolerance”; 2) an international conference for schoolchildren and students titled “Holocaust: Memory and Warning”; 3) internships for teachers in the Russian Federation and abroad; 4) regional seminars for teachers; 5) a distance learning course — “Teaching the Holocaust in the context of the history of the Great Patriotic War in institutions of general and professional education” — for employees of general and professional education systems; 6) development and publication of teaching aids for teachers.

Furthermore, school events within the framework of the Memory Week are organized by schoolteachers. In 2021, events were held in 54 regions.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- Memorial projects of the Russian Jewish Congress, <<https://rjc.ru/ru/projects/1>>;
- Research and educational programmes of the Russian Research and Holocaust Education Centre, <<https://holocf.ru>>;
- International Scientific and Educational Centre for the History of the Holocaust and Genocides of the Russian State University for the Humanities, <https://www.rsuh.ru/education/hg_center/>.

Good Practices

Commemoration

On 27 January, the “Keeper of Memory” prizes were awarded at the Helikon Opera Theater, during the memorial evening. Award recipients included: the head of the Federal Agency for Ethnic Affairs Igor Barinov; Governor of the Stavropol Territory Vladimir Vladimirov; playwright, screenwriter and public figure Alexander Gelman; the partner of the project of the RJC “Return dignity”; the director of the “Even-Ezer” foundation Boris Vasyukov for the significant contribution to preserving the memory of the Holocaust and the heroic acts of the Red Army. The evening also included an award ceremony for the winners of the annual “Holocaust: Remembrance and Prevention” international competition, which has been held by the Holocaust Center for 20 years. For the first time, within the framework of the “Memory Week”, commemorative events dedicated to the genocide of the Roma people were held. In the RJC Memorial Synagogue on Poklonnaya Gora, the Russian Jewish Congress joined with the Romen Theatre to hold several events on this topic. The exhibition “Gypsy Tragedy” and the book *Gypsy Tragedy* by the researcher Nikolai Bessonov, dedicated to the fate of the Roma people in the Nazi-occupied territory of Europe, were presented. The synagogue also hosted the Romen theatre performance “The Moon - Sister of Sorrow” directed by Valeria Bessonova. It showed the story of Roma people trying to escape the Nazis by hiding in the forest. Also in Moscow, the Second Holocaust Film Festival “Chronicles of the Catastrophe” was held alongside the “Memory Week” and dedicated to the history of the Warsaw ghetto.

RJC and the “Gypsy History and Culture Foundation” have been co-operating since 2018, including within the framework of the Restore Dignity programme. During this time, a monument to the Roma victims of Nazism was unveiled in the village of Alexandrovka, in the Smolensk region. In 2020, representatives of this foundation and Romen Theatre unveiled a memorial sign to Jewish and Roma victims executed by the Nazis in Bryansk on the Trial Field.

Fifty-nine regions of the Russian Federation supported an initiative of the Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Centre and the Russian Jewish Congress to hold a “Memory Week” for Holocaust victims. A wide variety of memorial and educational events also took place in Vladikavkaz, Samara, Birobidzhan, Tula, Murmansk, Chelyabinsk, Syktyvkar, Taganrog, Izhevsk, Yekaterinburg, Kazan and other major cities of the Russian Federation.

Other relevant events organized in Moscow included the Meyerhold Theatre Centre’s performance “The Black Book of Esther” directed by Evgenia Berkovich;

Other events during the 2021 “Memory Week” included:

- A scientific-practical conference at the Russian State Humanitarian University and the RJK Memorial Synagogue on Poklonnaya Gora “Holocaust: Memory and Prevention”;
- An online evening of the RJC and the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania in Moscow, dedicated to the Lithuanian Righteous Among the Nations;
- A special educational course “Jewish frontline poets” and the online laboratory of the “Return Dignity” project;
- Methodological webinars of the Holocaust Center for Moscow and regional educators on the history of the Holocaust;
- RJC webinars for schoolchildren and teachers, including “Saviours: A feat in spite of” about the Righteous Among the Nations;
- An online campaign of the Israeli Embassy and the Russian Jewish Congress “We Remember Together” (“Zikaron ba-Salon”).

Also, from 18 to 31 January, the Russian Federation hosted the international campaign “We Remember”, organized by the World Jewish Congress and supported by the Russian Jewish Congress. People who participated in this event took photos with the sign “We Remember” and posted them on social media networks using a hashtag with the same name to demonstrate their solidarity with the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. At the proposal of the Russian Jewish Congress, Jewish communities in 54 different cities of the Russian Federation joined this event. It was supported by dozens of Jewish schools in different Russian cities. The event was attended by 22 Jewish schools in various regions.

- “Holocaust Victims Memory Week”, <<http://memoryweek.ru/>>;
- Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, <<http://council.gov.ru/events/news/123485/>>;
- Holocaust: Destruction, Resistance, Salvation, <<https://www.mos.ru/news/item/85393073/>>.

Memorial Sites

In 2009, the Russian Jewish Congress launched the “Restore Dignity” project in order to build memorials and monuments, install plaques with the names of victims at grave sites, search for and restore grave sites and identify the names of the dead. The project also includes the building and repair of monuments at the sites of mass executions of the Jewish population during the Holocaust; 86 monuments have been erected at sites of mass shootings. One of the best examples of the project, which demonstrates the mechanics of its implementation, is the installation of a monument in the former Trial Field in Bryansk. It is one of the largest burial places of Jews and Roma people (more than 7,500 people) in Russia, and is the largest in the Bryansk region. During World War II, Bryansk was a major transport hub where refugees from the west fled from the Nazi occupation. It was not possible to establish the names of the victims, as they were all evacuated, their names were not preserved in the Russian archives and they are not listed in the Yad Vashem archives. This site has always been a symbolic place for the memory of the victims of World War II. In 1966, a small stone with a red five-pointed star was placed by relatives of the victims at this site. This stone has the status of an object of cultural heritage of federal significance and is protected by the state. In 2006, another small stone was installed. The burial place in Bryansk was designated one of the most important places of remembrance in the territory of the modern Russian Federation and certain needs were outlined:

- collecting archival data on the execution of Jewish and Roma victims in Bryansk and the place of their burial;
- developing a draft of a memorial sign;
- approving the project by the administration;

- installing a memorial with the names of the victims that meets the scale of the tragedy.

Some activities have been completed:

- information was collected from the State Archives of the Bryansk region, and the execution of more than 7,500 civilians, mainly Jewish and Roma people, was confirmed;
- a draft memorial and draft text were developed;
- the draft was approved by the city administration;
- permission was obtained for the installation.

The opening ceremony of the memorial took place on 25 November 2020. More information is available at: “Return Dignity”, Russian Jewish Congress, <<https://vernudostoinstvo.ru/>>.

Education and Research

The Holocaust Centre and the International Scientific and Educational Centre for the History of the Holocaust and Genocides of the Russian Federation State University for the Humanities organized the 20th international “Holocaust: Memory and Warning” conference for schoolchildren. The conference was attended by 33 people, including scientific leaders and schoolchildren from 15 regions of Russia.

An international conference — “Holocaust: Memory and Warning” — was attended by students and postgraduates from 13 regions of Russia, as well as students from Belarus and Kazakhstan (online). In total, 20 people made presentations.

The webinar “Preparations for the events of the ‘Memory week’” was organized at the site of the Moscow City Methodological Center. The webinar gave participants recommendations on how to prepare and conduct memorial events, lessons or homeroom hours dedicated to the memorial date on 27 January. About 450 people took part in the event, including 121 teachers from Moscow. After the seminar, many teachers held their own classes and shared their methodological developments and lesson scenarios.

The online laboratory “Return Dignity” gathered participants from different regions in Russia who worked to reconstruct the history of places related to the Holocaust in the territory of modern Russia. The laboratory work was preceded by lectures on the history of the Holocaust on the territory of the USSR, read by I. Altman, A. Zeltser and I. Rebrova. Under the guidance of mentors, each of the groups was engaged in the study of regional cases: the urban-type settlement Kletnya in the Bryansk region; the Dzhiginka and Petropavlovskaya villages in the Krasnodar Territory; the urban-type settlement Khislavichi in the Smolensk region. The presentation of the final projects of the groups is available online <<https://www.facebook.com/memoryweek/videos/479869710070278>>.

Lectures for the course “From Ehrenburg to the Unknown Soldier: Jewish Poets on the Fronts of World War II”, were devoted to texts written on the frontlines by Jewish authors. The poets brightened up the hardships of frontline life with poems and songs, which they wrote not only in Russian, but in the Hebrew language — Yiddish. Humour and sadness, love and bitterness were intertwined in these poems. The lecturers were Genady Estraiikh, Mikhail Edelstein, Mordechai Yushkovsky and Anna Shternshis. The course partner was the International Yiddish Center of the World Jewish Congress. An online concert “Lomir oysklogun undzer nign” [Let’s weep out our song . . .] was also organized as part of the course.

A webinar for teachers, “Righteous Among the Nations”, gathered more than 300 participants including teachers at secondary schools and teachers engaged in non-formal education. Students received recommendations for studying the “Righteous Among the Nations” in history lessons, social studies classes, extracurricular activities, refresher courses for teachers, projects and research activities. Participants learned how to search for the saviours and the rescued (their relatives), identify documents confirming salvation, register documents for the commission of Yad Vashem and receive a positive decision on the awarding of the title of “Righteous Among the Nations” in the Pskov region. The topic was presented by teachers who participated in seminars and foreign internships with the Holocaust Center.

An online master class for youth, “The Righteous: Reconstruction of Stories”, gave participants from Russian regions (students of Jewish general education and Sunday schools) the opportunity to learn how the Holocaust is remembered in the modern world and how this memory is realized in digital formats, as well as where and how to seek and collect information about the Righteous Among the Nations and the saved ones.

SAN MARINO

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Memorial Day

Established: 2006

Commemorates: All victims of Holocaust

Commemoration

San Marino commemorates all victims of the Holocaust on 27 January. The aim of the day is to increase efforts to reject the use of violence and oppression under any circumstances and to refuse any form of incitement to hatred, racism and discrimination, in remembrance of the tragedy of the Holocaust and in order to honour its memory. The day was established by Decree of the Grand and General Council (Parliament) in 2006. Official commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices, memorial sites, theatres, public squares and schools. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes a “walk of memory” (walking through all the main memorial sites), presentations of books, conferences, photo exhibits and theatre performances. The commemorative activities are attended by the Head of State and representatives of the presidency, government and parliament. Civil society, academia and research institutions, NGOs and associations are regularly involved in shaping the content, and actively participate in commemorative activities. The Government promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness about the Holocaust on the memorial day through the offices of Department of Social and Cultural Activities.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, all activities were carried out while respecting health restrictions. The “walk of memory” did not take place. The State Archive of San Marino shared a video called “La Meravigliosa Bugia” (The Wonderful Lie), on social platforms. Another documentary film called “Memorie dalla piccola Repubblica neutrale” (Memories from the Little Neutral Republic) was also shared online. All the initiatives were accompanied by press releases and covered by local media. San Marino anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future, and its all-online initiatives are currently in the design phase.

San Marino commemorates the victims of all genocides on 21 September. The day is called Giornata della Pace (Peace Day). It was established by the agenda of Grand and General Council (Parliament) in 2015. The commemorative activities are held in parliament.

Education and Research

The Holocaust and crimes against other victim groups are studied in schools and included in textbooks at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels and at the college and university level. In primary schools the Holocaust is taught through lessons, videos and testimonies of former deportees. Moreover, school trips to cities where the Holocaust took place are organized for students in the secondary level.

In 2021, Giunta di Castello di Faetano (a local entity of San Marino) promoted an initiative for *Un Libro per Ricordare* (A Book to Remember), which is a book about the Holocaust for primary school students.

Good Practices

Commemoration

“Walk of memory” is a night walk that takes participants through the places of San Marino connected to the

Holocaust and World War II. An expert acts as a guide and talks about what happened at these places during that period.

SERBIA

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Memorial Day
Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust as well as Roma and Sinti victims
Memorial Day: 22 April – National Holocaust, World War II Genocide and other Fascist Crimes Victims' Remembrance Day
Established: 2011
Commemorates: Serbs, Jews and Roma victims of World War II

Commemoration

Serbia commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The second commemorative day marked in Serbia is 22 April – The National Holocaust, World War II Genocide and other Fascist Crimes Victims' Remembrance Day dedicated to the memory of Serbs, Jews and Roma.

The central commemorative ceremony is held in Belgrade, at the Monument to the Victims of Genocide in World War II at Staro sajmište. On 5 December 2011, the National Parliament of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Law on State and Other Holidays in the Republic of Serbia, which established the National Holocaust, World War II Genocide and other Fascist Crimes Victims' Remembrance Day. The date of 22 April was chosen in memory of 22 April 1945, when a group of inmates attempted to break out of the Ustaše-operated Jasenovac concentration camp.

Official commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices and memorial sites and include public classes in schools, lectures, testimonies of survivors and documentaries. Commemorative events are attended by the Head of State, officials at the presidential and governmental level and members of parliament and the judiciary. Victims and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, Roma and Sinti communities, other religious groups, civil society and academic and research institutions are involved in shaping the content of events and actively participate in the commemoration activities.

Governmental funds are available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all activities were organized online. Many teachers attended online trainings, while the Minister and his colleagues participated in all important gatherings related to the commemoration of the Holocaust. For instance, the Ministry participated in a large commemorative conference organized by European Jewish Community, where the Minister personally presented a video message. All employees and teachers participated in the #NotOnMyWatch campaign. Teachers organized a public lesson on the Holocaust in all schools. All activities were posted on the Ministry's website, and on social networks such as Instagram and Facebook. Serbia will continue to organize online events if the pandemic situation is not favourable to holding events in person.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research at academic institutions in Serbia. The Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade and Novi Sad have active programs focused on teaching and researching the Holocaust. The Institute of Contemporary History provides research on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism. It is a state institute and is fully funded by the state.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied at the primary, secondary and upper secondary school levels and are also part of the curriculum, textbooks and work materials.

Teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism. Training is free for teachers and mandatory.

Good Practices

Education and Research

For more than a decade, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development has been providing systematic support to teachers and students who carry out teaching and extracurricular activities dedicated to the topic of World War II and the Holocaust. Between 2019 and 2020, new teaching and learning programmes were adopted for primary and secondary schools, where the topic of the Holocaust is included and represented in programmes for the eighth grade of primary school and the fourth grade of high school, as well as in programmes for secondary vocational schools in the final grades.

The Catalog of Approved Professional Development Programs, approved by the Institute for the Advancement of Education and Upbringing for 2018–2020, includes approved programs in social sciences dedicated to the Holocaust.

The Center for the Study of Jewish Art, dedicated to the research and development of curricula related to questions of Jewish art and culture, was established by the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade in 2016. In the broadest sense, the Center is dedicated to contextualized study of Jewish material and visual culture. All activities of the Center are based on internationally recognized methodology, with particular emphasis on intercultural, comparative and multidisciplinary approaches typical to contemporary culture studies and an awareness of all the achievements of relevant humanistic disciplines. Another significant goal of the Center is the realization of academic co-operation through joint research projects conducted with similar research centres, universities, academic networks and cultural institutions at home and abroad. As an institution also involved in education and popularization of science in the field of Jewish studies, the Center strives to enhance the development of this academic field at the University of Belgrade and to answer the needs of its students through study programs, educational activities, workshops and specialized courses.

Founded in 1993, the International School for Holocaust Education organizes educational programmes and produces educational materials for diverse target populations and educational institutions in Israel and throughout the world. Every year, more than a hundred employees work together with teachers, students, soldiers and students to promote education and remembrance of the Holocaust.

In 2020, in co-operation with the Memorial Institution of Holocaust Victims and Heroes in Yad Vashem, a seminar for primary and secondary school teachers on the Holocaust and anti-Semitism was attended by 50 Serbian teachers, 15 of whom travelled to Israel in 2019.

For the first time, experts and historians of the Museum of the City of Belgrade and the Institute of Contemporary History participated in the training programme. Co-operation was established with the Memorial de la Shoah Museum in Paris, which expressed a special interest in signing a co-operation agreement with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development. This organization realized two webinars — “Holocaust as a starting point” — which were attended by 50 teachers and 10 expert historians in the twentieth century. The Ministry regularly pays attention to the celebration of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January as well as the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust, Genocide and Other Victims of Fascism in World War II, which is celebrated on April 22 and regularly participates in events organized by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs partly funded a translation of the Holocaust Learning Guidelines, which were prepared and made available in English by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). All work related to translation and preparation for publication was conducted by the organization Terraforming from Novi Sad, which works on promoting modern education about the Holocaust, strengthening the culture

of memory, protecting places of memory and combating the manipulation, politicization and distortion of history.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, in co-operation with the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade Center for the Study of Jewish Culture and Arts, organized a two-day webinar — “Roots and Consequences of the Holocaust through Historical and Cultural Perspective” — from 21 to 22 May 2021. Conceived as a multidisciplinary programme that examines the roots and consequences of the Holocaust and anti-Semitism in general and local contexts, it looked at a broader historical perspective relating to the history and culture of the Jewish and Serbian peoples from ancient times to World War II. As a basis for creating a general concept of the programme, the authors were guided by the Recommendations for Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust, adopted by the International Alliance for Holocaust Remembrance, while the programme contents were realized by experts and outstanding teachers who have been writing, researching and implementing numerous activities, both domestically and internationally, for many years.

Teachers at primary and secondary schools greatly contributed to the realization of the programme, showing exceptional examples of good practice, which demonstrated that teaching and extracurricular activities related to the history of the twentieth century are carefully realized in the educational system of the Republic of Serbia. Over 400 teachers from across the country who teach the mandatory subjects and elective programs in primary schools, gymnasiums, secondary vocational schools and secondary art schools applied for the program, with the Ministry recognizing this programme as a “programme of special significance”. Teachers were instructed on how to prepare a lesson or extracurricular activity based on the material or narrative presented at the webinar. The Faculty of Philosophy Center for the Study of Jewish Culture and Art allows all teachers to publish a paper on history, art history or literature in the Menora magazine. The centre also organizes free walks around Belgrade for teachers, with expert guidance to all places of suffering in World War II.

SLOVAKIA

Memorial Day: 9 September – National Commemoration Day of Victims of the Holocaust and Racial Violence

Established: 2000

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as Roma and Sinti victims

Commemoration

Slovakia officially commemorates the Holocaust on 9 September. The National Commemoration Day of Victims of the Holocaust and Racial Violence was established by the Slovak Parliament in 2000. In general, national holidays, work holidays and commemorative days in Slovakia are determined by a specific 1993 Act of Parliament, as amended. The date was established to recall the day in 1941 when the wartime Slovak Government issued the so-called Jewish Codex, which marked the beginning of the persecution of Jews in Slovakia during World War II. The day commemorates Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as the victims of the Roma and Sinti genocide.

Official commemorative activities are held in parliament and at memorial sites, with officials at the presidential and governmental level, members of parliament and the judiciary attending the events. Victims’ and survivors’ associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, civil society, and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in developing the events and actively participate in the commemorative activities.

The Museum of Jewish Culture of the Slovak National Museum organizes an annual national commemorative event in Bratislava at the site of the main memorial for the victims of the Holocaust in Slovakia. This commemoration is traditionally held under the auspices of the President of the Slovak Republic or the Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic. A minute of silence is kept in commemoration of the day at the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Parliament) and in Slovak schools. On this day, numerous events are held in Slovak towns, along with commemorations, thematic exhibitions, conferences, seminars, lectures and cultural and

educational events taking place in schools, libraries and institutions among other places. The Holocaust Documentation Center, a Slovak NGO, organizes many activities, including a public reading of the list of the victims of the Holocaust from Slovakia. Slovak Public Radio and Television also devote airtime to commemorate the event.

The highest state officials actively participate in the commemorative ceremony by delivering speeches devoted to the Holocaust, its victims, its legacy and the dangers of extremism and hatred. The government runs several grant schemes for which civil society organizations can apply in order to organize commemorative activities.

Slovakia also holds other annually recurring activities to commemorate the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, including International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January and the Commemoration of the Victims of the First Transport from Slovakia to the Auschwitz concentration camp departing from Poprad, which occurred on 25 March 1942. Nine hundred and ninety-nine Jewish girls and young, single women were forced onto the transport. The Slovak National Museum, in association with local Poprad institutions, organizes an annual commemorative event for the victims of this transport.

Commemorative activities are held at memorial sites, in schools and at libraries. The highest state officials, such as the President of the Slovak Republic, often participate in commemorative ceremonies held at the memorial site.

Slovakia also holds a Memorial Day for the Roma and Sinti victims of the Holocaust on 2 August, marking the Commemoration of the Roma Holocaust. The date refers to the night of 2 August 1944, when around 3,000 Roma men, women and children from the “Gypsy family camp” of Auschwitz-Birkenau were murdered in the gas chambers. They were among hundreds of thousands of victims of the Roma genocide killed by the Nazis and their allies.

The first memorial for the victims of the Roma genocide was unveiled in Dunajská Streda in 2006. Since 2005, the subject of the Roma genocide has been further developed as part of the “Ma bisteren!” project, mainly by the non-governmental organization In Minorita.³¹ The project was supported through governmental funds in 2014 and 2015. Gradually, additional memorials and memorial plaques dedicated to the Roma genocide were unveiled in numerous Slovak cities, such as Banská Bystrica, Dubnica and Váhom, Hanušovce and Topľou, Nemecká, Zvolen, Slatina and others.

Commemorative ceremonies are held at memorial sites and are usually organized by civil society organizations in co-operation with local municipal officials, with frequent participation from the highest state officials.

Several annually occurring initiatives in Slovakia commemorate other groups of victims of National Socialism. Commemorations take place on dates connected to the specific event being commemorated, usually linked to the Nazi reprisals after the Nazi suppression of the Slovak National Uprising in 1944, and the burning of Slovak villages and murdering of resistance fighters and civilians, in villages such as Ostry Grun, Klak, Kremnicka, Nemecka, Tokajik, Zvolen and Brezno. Commemorative events have taken place for several years, initiated by the local communities, local officials, civil society, survivors and others. Commemorative ceremonies are held at memorial sites and are usually organized by civil society organizations in co-operation with local municipal officials, often with participation from high state officials.

Education and Research

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are subjects of academic research in Slovakia. Several institutions conduct this research, specifically: the Slovak Academy of Sciences, the Slovak National Museum, the Nation’s Memory Institute and the Museum of the Slovak National Uprising. These institutions receive funding from the State budget.

These topics are also studied in school at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels, as well as at the college and university level. The Holocaust is taught in history classes in the 9th grade of primary school and the 3rd grade in secondary grammar school and is also part of the history component of the graduation exam-

³¹ In Minorita, <www.romaholocaust.sk>.

ination, occurring in the 2nd grade for secondary technical schools and in the 1st grade for secondary vocational schools. The Holocaust is also covered in courses on world and national history in the twentieth century. The Holocaust is covered in civics courses in the 7th grade of primary school, specifically under the topic “World religions – the need for tolerance between people with various views”. In the 8th grade, the Holocaust is covered under the topic on “The rights of minorities, dangers of racism, anti-Semitism, and intolerance – the need for national, racial, and religious tolerance”.

In secondary schools, courses such as civics and ethics deal with human rights issues, where students are familiarized with the topic of the Holocaust. A national contest for students from secondary schools, “The Olympics of Human Rights”, has been held annually in Slovakia since 1997, and also regularly receives student projects dealing with the topic of the Holocaust.

The Roma and Sinti genocide is a part of Holocaust education in primary and secondary schools. This topic is covered in history course books as well. The Roma genocide is covered along with the fate of other ethnic groups, specifically during lessons on the Auschwitz concentration camp. It is taught by working with texts or other historical documents, such as photographs, documentaries or dramatic films about the Holocaust, as well as prose. Teachers exercise professional discretion when determining methods used for lessons on this topic as educational standards for history courses allow space for discussion on this subject.

Teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other groups of victims of National Socialism. These topics are also covered in textbooks.

Since 2003, based on orders for pedagogical organization issued by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research, and Sport of the Slovak Republic, 9 September is observed every year as Holocaust Remembrance Day throughout all primary and secondary schools in Slovakia. Schools are asked to organize events in remembrance of the Holocaust, including a minute of silence.

SLOVENIA

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day
Established: 2008
Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti victims, and all victims of Nazism and Fascism

Commemoration

Slovenia commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The International Holocaust Remembrance Day was established by a government decision in February 2008 and commemorates Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti victims, and all victims of Nazism and Fascism. The intention of the day is to remember the victims and educate people about processes that can lead to mass atrocities in order to prevent them.

Official commemorative activities are held in parliament, memorial sites, the office of the President of the Republic, museums, synagogues, schools, exhibition areas and theatres. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes cultural and educational events. The Head of State, officials from the presidential and governmental level and members of parliament attend the events. Also, the public at large, children and youth, victims, veterans and their families take part in the commemorative activities. Victims’ and survivors’ associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society, academic and research institutions, Synagogue Maribor, museums and other cultural institutions are regularly involved in the organization of the events and participate in commemorative activities.

In 2021, over 75 events throughout the country took place under the umbrella of the annual project “Shoah – we remember”. The government supports the events and takes part in some of them in order to promote the

commemorative events and raise awareness about the Holocaust. There are also governmental funds available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many events were virtual or hybrid in 2021. On the virtual events there were more attendees than in previous years when the events were only held in-person. Every online commemorative event had its own format and structure. These activities were accompanied by social media campaigns and/or official statements. Several statements were issued, including from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Other annually recurring initiatives are held in Slovenia to commemorate other groups of victims of National Socialism: 27 April is recognized as the Day of Uprising Against Occupation; 17 August is the Day of Unification of Prekmurje Slovenes with the Mother Nation; 15 September is recognized as the Day of Restoration of the Primorska Region to the Motherland; 23 November is Rudolf Maister Day; 9 May is celebrated as Liberation Day. These days were established by the parliament. The significance of these days is the commemoration of heroes and victims. The commemorative initiatives are held in parliament, at memorial sites, and at open and closed spaces, including cultural institutions. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes remembrance speeches and cultural programmes. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the commemorative events were online, and every event was different. These commemorative events are held by the government and civil society groups.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research at academic institutions in Slovenia. The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary, and college and university levels in Slovenia. These subjects are also covered in textbooks and are taught during history classes and extracurricular activities.

Teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism. Training programmes are covered within curricula and organized in co-operation with Yad Vashem in Israel and other international and national organizations, as well as NGOs. Education for teachers within the framework of the Maribor Synagogue, together with the Institute for Education.

Good Practices

Commemoration

- Project “Shoah - Let us Remember”.

Education and Research

- Teacher training.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- “Recommendations for teachers before Holocaust Remembrance Day 2021”, National Education Institute Slovenia, <<https://www.zrss.si/novice/svetovni-dan-spomina-na-zrtve-holokavsta-2/>>.

SPAIN

Memorial Day: 27 January – Day for Holocaust Remembrance and Prevention of Crimes against Humanity

Established: 2004

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti victims, people with disabilities, Spanish deportees, and LGBTI people

Commemoration

Spain commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The Day for Holocaust Remembrance and Prevention of Crimes against Humanity was established by a decision of the Cabinet on 10 December 2004. The commemorative events are held at government offices, memorial sites and in the Spanish Senate. Commemorative Holocaust events include speeches by government representatives, the lighting of six candles and musical intermissions. In all official state commemoration events, the first speech is given by the President of the Jewish Communities of Spain, followed by a representative of the Roma community and a representative of the Amical Mauthausen for deported Spanish people. The central and most emotional part of each Holocaust Remembrance Day is the lighting of six candles by Holocaust survivors, their descendants or representatives of victim groups. Rescuers and their descendants as well as high-level officials also participate in the lighting of candles. These events are attended by representatives of the Presidency and Government as well as members of Parliament and the judiciary. The Jewish and the Roma and Sinti communities, other religious groups, civil society organizations, and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in shaping the content, and actively participate in commemorative activities. Governmental funds are available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Spain has started to transmit commemorative events on social media. Commemorative events took place either online or with limited in-person participation. Online activities involved speeches, lighting of candles and musical performances. This allowed more outreach to a larger public. While it was not possible to invite any Holocaust survivors to the physical commemorative activities, there were online meetings with Holocaust survivors from other places such as Venezuela. Spain anticipates that it will continue holding both in-person and online commemorative events.

The number of Holocaust remembrance events in Spain is increasing every year, as more schools and towns are organizing events on 27 January that include concerts, exhibitions, conferences, film screenings and official speeches.

Spain also observes Yom HaShoah to remember the uprising of the Warsaw ghetto. On 9 November, Spain commemorates the Victims of the November Pogroms. The commemorative initiatives are held at government offices, memorial sites and different institutions.

On 2 August, the Roma Genocide Remembrance Day is commemorated, with the participation of government representatives. The commemorative initiatives are held at government offices and public spaces.

Finally, on 5 May, tribute is paid to all the victims of Nazism in Spain.³² This date remembers the Spanish deportees to the Nazi camps on the day of the liberation of the Mauthausen camp, in which most Spanish deportees were imprisoned. The commemorative activities are held at government offices and memorial sites.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research at academic institutions in Spain. The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups of National Socialism are taught in schools at the secondary and upper secondary level, as well as at the college and university level. The Holocaust and crimes against other victim groups of National Socialism are covered in textbooks. The “study of the Jewish Holocaust as a historical fact” is included as a mandatory topic in the official secondary education curricula. The educational law mentions the need to learn “prevention and peaceful solving of conflicts in the sphere of personal, family and social life as well as learning the values that support democracy and human rights, which must include in any case the prevention of gender violence and the study of the Holocaust as a historical fact.” Moreover, teaching about “anti-Semitism” is included at the high school level.

Teachers have the opportunity to participate in training to equip them with the skills and knowledge to teach and raise awareness about the Holocaust, the experience of Roma and Sinti during the Holocaust and crimes committed against other groups of victims of National Socialism.

³² “Declaración del Gobierno con motivo del Día de homenaje a todas las víctimas del nazismo en España”, La Moncloa, 5 May 2020, <<https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/consejodeministros/Paginas/enlaces/050520-enlace-nazismo.aspx>>.

Centro Sefarad-Israel, in co-operation with other institutions, organizes meetings with Holocaust survivors, both Jewish and Roma and Sinti.

SWEDEN

Memorial Day: 27 January – Holocaust Memorial Day

Established: 2001

Commemorates: All who perished during the Holocaust

Commemoration

Sweden commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January, which has seen a growing awareness of commemoration activities for the Holocaust Remembrance Day. The Living History Forum (LHF), a governmental agency, was tasked by the Swedish Government to spread awareness about this day and, since 2003, has worked to inform, promote and support the commemoration of the Holocaust Remembrance Day. Every year events, seminars and other activities are arranged across Sweden. The LHF works to spread knowledge about Holocaust Remembrance Day and support organizers who carry out such activities.

A new downloadable mini exhibition is produced every year ahead of Holocaust Remembrance Day, which can be used by organizers around Sweden to draw attention to Memorial Day. The 2020 mini-exhibition was entitled “I came alone - Jewish refugee children in Sweden”. In 2020, it was downloaded as many as 3,400 times.

Every year, the LHF presents a theme for the commemoration in connection with the Memorial Day. All over Sweden different kinds of ceremonies and programmes take place in municipalities, libraries and schools, with some organized by non-governmental organisations as well as church communities. National radio and television channels also pay attention to this day.

In 2020, 169 activities were registered in 77 localities, which is an increase compared with 2019 — especially since some activities may not have been reported to the agency.

In Stockholm, the LHF arranged a memorial ceremony on Raoul Wallenberg Square that included lighting candles, cultural elements and speeches from survivors of the Holocaust. More than 600 people participated in the ceremony, which was covered by several media, including SVT. The agency was also a partner in the Jewish congregation’s memorial ceremony in the Great Synagogue in Stockholm and in the ceremony organized by the Roma organization É Romani Glinda in Hedvig Eleonora Church in Stockholm.

In connection with Holocaust Remembrance Day, the agency invited Professor Jan Grabowski from Canada, an international authority on Holocaust research with a special focus on history revisionism. Professor Grabowski participated in several seminars and similar programmes, including seminars hosted by the Secretary of State of the Ministry of Culture and the Swedish Foreign Ministry.

On 23 January 2020, the Speaker of Parliament gave a speech at a memorial service in the Riksdag (Swedish Parliament) for the victims of the Holocaust. One organizer of the event was the Riksdag network: In memory of the Holocaust (Minnets av Förintelsen).

On 27 January 2020, the Prime Minister and other dignitaries attended a memorial service in Auschwitz-Birkenau to mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camp. In addition to the Prime Minister, Crown Princess Victoria, the Speaker of Parliament Andreas Norlén and Holocaust survivors from Sweden also participated. The Minister of the Interior Mikael Damberg spoke at the Holocaust Remembrance Day 2020 in Stockholm. The Minister for Foreign Affairs Ann Linde spoke at the lighting ceremony at the Raoul Wallenberg square.

In connection with Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Minister of Democracy Amanda Lind visited the Jewish congregation of Gothenburg to honour the victims of the Holocaust. The Minister also spoke during a memorial service in Gothenburg during the evening.

On 27 January 2020, the government also announced that the Swedish Museum on the Holocaust will be established in July 2022 and will be located in Stockholm.

On 27 January, the Nobel Prize Museum in Stockholm arranged lectures and programme activities for teachers in collaboration with Raoul Wallenberg Academy.

In Sweden, 27 August is celebrated annually as Raoul Wallenberg Day. It honours the memory of Raoul Wallenberg, who saved the lives of tens of thousands of Jews during World War II. Events are organized by the Raoul Wallenberg Academy, which awards an annual Raoul Wallenberg prize. With each passing year, more and more of the country's 290 municipalities organize their own events. In 2020, the prize went to the authors Dina and Jovan Rajs who spread knowledge about personal experiences of the Holocaust.

SWITZERLAND

Memorial Day: 27 January – Holocaust Memorial Day

Established: 2003

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti victims, and other victims of National Socialism

Commemoration

Switzerland commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The Holocaust Memorial Day is a day of remembrance and dignity for all the victims of the Holocaust. It commemorates Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti victims and other victims of National Socialism.

The Holocaust Memorial Day was held in Swiss schools for the first time on 27 January 2004. This was based on a decision of the plenary assembly of the Conference of the Ministers of Education (EDK) on 12 June 2003. The decision reflected a statement of the Ministers of Education of the member states at the Council of Europe Ministerial Conferences in Krakow in 2000 and Strasbourg in 2002 to establish a day of remembrance and commemoration on 27 January in all member countries. As a member state of the Council of Europe, Switzerland participated in these two ministerial conferences mentioned and approved the decision to organize a "Day of Remembrance". In 2020, the Ministerial Committee of the Council of Europe recommended its member states (Recommendation CM/Rec(2020)2) include the history of Roma and/or Travellers in school curricula and teaching materials. This is also in recognition of the fact that at least 500,000 Roma, Sinti, Yenish and members of other communities referred to as "Gypsies" are estimated to have been exterminated by the Nazi regime and its allies during the Second World War.

With Resolution 60/7 on 1 November 2005 for a "Holocaust Remembrance Day", the UN General Assembly also decided that the United Nations would observe 27 January of each year as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Switzerland has been a member of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) since 2004, chaired the IHRA from March 2017 to March 2018, and actively participates in the activities of its various working groups. The FRB and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (EDA) support activities, especially in schools, organized on 27 January, on the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust. The EDK Information and Documentation Center (IDES) has been providing Official government educational material for International Holocaust Remembrance Day related to xenophobia, tolerance, racism, human rights and intercultural and interreligious dialogue was last revised in 2021.

Commemorative activities are held in schools and museums and are attended by the Head of State and representatives of the presidency, government, parliament and Education Ministry. In 2020, the Swiss President

spoke at a memorial ceremony for the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust in Auschwitz. Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society, academic and research institutions and embassies are regularly involved in developing the events and actively participate in commemoration activities.

The usual content of the commemorative activities includes several celebrations around the country, some initiated by civil society, as well as events organized in international embassies in Switzerland, special exhibits in schools and in museums and testimonies from Holocaust survivors.

The government promotes the commemorative events and raises awareness about the Holocaust on the day. Governmental funds are also available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities. Since 2002, various projects related to the commemoration of the Holocaust have been supported financially by the Swiss anti-racism office. Recent examples include:

- 2019: “Borderline Cases - Basel 1933–1945” – The exhibition not only deals with Switzerland’s attitude towards National Socialism and its persecution of European Jews, but also addresses the Nazi policy as a whole, i.e., the additional persecution of Sinti and Roma, homosexual people and political dissidents;
- 2020: “Holocaust. Descendants Tell.” – Pilot year with test classes and a reflection seminar on oral history in school classes, organized by the Education and Tolerance Foundation;
- 2016: “The Last Swiss Holocaust Survivors” – organized by the Gamaraal Foundation.

The federal government is committed to long-term and sustainable prevention and awareness-raising work against racism and for human rights. The FRB can financially support projects on these topics if they explicitly deal with racial discrimination and racism (including anti-Semitism) and fulfil further criteria.

During International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January, dozens of diplomatic missions in Bern, which are also members of the IHRA, participate in the organization of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day in Switzerland. The commemorative initiatives are held in parliament, at government offices and at memorial sites.

The main co-ordinators in 2021 were the Embassies of Israel and Germany. Various Swiss institutions, the Gamaraal Foundation and the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities helped with the preparations. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the memorial evening was broadcast live on social networks. Other activities on Holocaust Remembrance Day 2021 included the launch of a free web application “Fuir la Shoah” by the University of Teacher Education in Lausanne (HEP) with support from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (EDA); and two webinars by the Zurich College of Education on “Holocaust images”, which highlighted the thematization and representation of the Holocaust in popular games and series and how to deal with it in the classroom.

In 2021, the commemorative event included speeches by the National Council President as well as representatives of the diplomatic corps and the Swiss Jewish community. The ceremony was accompanied by the prayers of Rabbi Michael Kohn and the songs of opera singer Nikola Pinko-Behrends. Another part of the programme was a report from the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp by Holocaust survivor Ladislaus Löb, Swiss emeritus professor of German studies.

Travellers (in Switzerland mainly Sinti, Yenish and Roma) are commemorated within the framework of the Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January. On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Society for Threatened Peoples (GfbV), the Roma Foundation, the Association Sinti and Roma Switzerland, the Roma Jam Session Art Collective, the association Roma Visionen Konkret and the Association Romano Dialog asked the Federal Council to commemorate all victims and to commit itself to ensuring that the history of the Holocaust is taught comprehensively in schools. On 27 January, various activities have been held in recent years that specifically address the persecution of Roma, Sinti and Yenish. The last event supported by the EDI was entitled “Roma, Sinti and Yenish in schools and the public”. The EDI remains ready to support new initiatives

of this kind. In addition, a multilingual website,³³ with a “Switzerland” section financed by the EDI and the EDA, is available to teachers. The motion Munz Martina (17.3400) “Recognizing the International Roma Holocaust Memorial Day” should also be mentioned.

Victims of National Socialism are commemorated within the framework of Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January. In addition, political agreements for the creation of a place of remembrance explicitly for all victims of National Socialism were submitted in both the Council of States and the National Council. In 2021, motions were submitted in both councils calling for the creation of an official Swiss memorial site of remembrance for the victims of National Socialism: Motion Jositsch Daniel (21.3172) “Swiss place of remembrance for the victims of National Socialism” and Motion Heer Alfred (21.3181) “Swiss place of remembrance for the victims of National Socialism”. The motions were supported by more than a third of all Council members, including 106 members of the National Council, all parliamentary group presidents and all party presidiums.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research by academic institutions in Switzerland. The cantonal directors of education agreed to commemorate a “Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust and Prevention of Crimes against Humanity” in schools starting in 2004. Since 2004, IDES, the EDK’s information and documentation center, has produced an annually updated “Day of Remembrance” dossier has been produced and publications and activities on the subject documented, with the aim of supporting teachers in commemorating Holocaust Remembrance Day in the classroom, to provide ideas, and to offer access to additional teaching materials. In addition to references to educational tools that can be used directly in the classroom, the dossier also contains references to background information and information platforms. In January 2020, the IHRA adopted a declaration on the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration and extermination camp, in which it also emphasized the genocide of the Sinti and Roma (“remember the genocide of the Sinti and Roma. We acknowledge with concern that the lack of recognition of this genocide has contributed to the prejudice and discrimination from which many Sinti and Roma still suffer today”). This has been taken into account in this dossier with the integration of relevant documents on the history of the Sinti and Roma. The dossier is accessible via the Swiss document server education <<https://edudoc.ch>> (IDES dossiers) as well as via the digital school library. The dossier is updated once a year following the day of commemoration.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are the subject of education and are studied in school at the primary, secondary and upper secondary level and at the college and university level. Teachers have the opportunity to participate in training on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups. The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are also presented in textbooks.

TURKEY

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Established: 2011

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti victims and all victims including people with disabilities

Commemoration

Turkey commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January. The Memorial Day commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the victims of the Roma and Sinti genocide and all victims including people with disabilities.

³³ “The Fate of European Roma and Sinti during the Holocaust”, Roma Sinti Genocide website, <<http://www.romasinti-genocide.eu/en/home>>.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti communities, civil society organizations and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in developing the commemoration events and actively participate in commemorative events.

The official commemorative event is hosted by a prominent university in Turkey and attended by officials of the Turkish Government, including members of parliament, the Corps Diplomatique, civil society and representatives of the Turkish Jewish community. The keynote speech is often delivered by a high-level official. The programme mainly consists of two parts. The first part includes speeches made by the host (President of the University), the keynote speaker (at the Ministerial level), the Head of the Turkish Delegation to the IHRA (Ambassador from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs), the Chief Rabbi of the Republic of Turkey and the Chairman of the Turkish Jewish community. , while the second part is the cultural section, which includes a dance and a musical performance related to the Holocaust as well as a display of short films about the Holocaust. At the end of the programme, the representatives of the government, together with the Turkish Jewish community and the Chief Rabbinate, light candles in memory of the victims. The Turkish media covers the event. On Remembrance Day, a press statement is also made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Turkish diplomatic missions abroad also organize and/or attend commemoration events. In 2021, with the organization of the Turkish missions, Turkish Jewish pianist and composer Renan Koen gave concerts both in New York and Cape Town where she performed the music of the Jewish artists who were held at the Theresienstadt Concentration Camp. The Turkish Jewish community and the Quincentennial Foundation Museum also organized special events on this day.^{34,35}

On 27 January 2021, the Directorate of Communications of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey introduced a webpage³⁶ entitled “We Remember”, which includes informative materials and documents about the Holocaust and the crime of genocide, as well as a video message from the President of the Republic of Turkey. The webpage also includes video messages from the Minister of Culture, the Head of the Turkish Delegation to IHRA, the President of the Turkish Jewish community, the Chief Rabbi and the Representative of the Turkish Roma community on International Holocaust Remembrance Day.³⁷ Through this website, IHRA Recommendations on teaching about the Holocaust are also shared with the public. Due to the pandemic, an in-person event was not held, yet the pre-recorded programme was aired on the “We Remember” website. The contents of the programme are still available on this website. These activities were accompanied by social media campaigns and/or official statements. For example, the Government as well as civil society, mainly the Turkish Jewish community, shared messages on social media outlets. The Presidential offices, as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs delivered press statements. The “We Remember” webpage will continue to air commemorative events in the future. Additional online events could also be held using this platform.

Governmental funds are available for civil society organizations to participate and organize commemorative activities.

Turkey also annually commemorates the Jewish victims of the Holocaust on 24 February in connection with the Struma incident, when the small ship Struma, carrying Jewish refugees fleeing the persecution of Nazis and their allies during World War II, was torpedoed in the international waters of the Black Sea on 24 February 1942, resulting in the deaths of 768 people. Commemorative events are held at Sarayburnu Pier in İstanbul, at the shore nearest to where Struma was docked at one point. Speeches are delivered by the Governor of İstanbul and by a representative from the Turkish Jewish community. The Deputy Chief Rabbi prays for the souls of the victims and the event concludes with a wreath laying ceremony. The ceremony is attended by a senior member of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey (representing Turkey at the IHRA). On this day, a press statement is delivered from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Governorate, Turkish Jewish community and the media also cover this event.

³⁴ “Positive Resistance through Holocaust Reality”, Muze 500 website, <https://www.muze500.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=219&Itemid=163&lang=en>.

³⁵ Turkish Jewish Community website, <<http://www.turkyahudileri.com/index.php/en/>>.

³⁶ We Remember website, <<https://weremember.gov.tr/>>.

³⁷ “Activities”, We Remember website, <<https://weremember.gov.tr/activities.html>>.

Education and Research

The Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are the subject of research by academic institutions in Turkey.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the secondary and upper secondary level, as well as at the college and university level, and are covered in textbooks. History textbooks for 12th grade contain chapters on the Holocaust and the subject is also covered in the History of the Modern World courses taught in Year 1 at Turkish universities.

Teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching students about the Holocaust and crimes against other victim groups of National Socialism.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

IHRA Recommendations on the teaching of Holocaust are shared with the public via the government sponsored website “We Remember”, <<https://weremember.gov.tr>>.

Good Practices

Memorial Sites

In addition to the existing memorial plaque in the Mauthausen Concentration Camp, another one is planned to be placed in the Hartheim Concentration Camp commemorating the victims of the Holocaust who were born in the Ottoman Empire. There is also a similar initiative for the Terezin Concentration Camp.

Education and Research

Turkey has sponsored the production of two documentary films titled “Turkish Passport” and “The Story of Holocaust Survivor Lina Amato”, which recount the role played by Turkish diplomats in saving Jewish people during the Holocaust. Through the website “We Remember”, the IHRA Recommendations on the teaching of the Holocaust are also shared with the public.

UKRAINE

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust

Commemoration

Ukraine has officially designated one Memorial Day commemorating victims of National Socialism, which is observed on 27 January. Official commemorative initiatives are held at government offices and memorial sites with officials from the governmental level. Victims’ and survivors’ associations, the Jewish community, the Roma and Sinti community, other religious groups, civil society and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in developing the events and actively participate in commemoration activities. Moreover, lessons are organized in schools during the commemoration day.

On 27 January, the Government promotes the commemorative events and raise awareness about the Holocaust through television and social media.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there were fewer visitors to memorial sites to commemorate the victims than in previous years. Ukraine anticipates holding online commemorative events in the future.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of research at academic institutions in Ukraine. The Institute of History of Ukraine at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine provides research on the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary level, as well as at the college and university level, and are covered in textbooks.

The Holocaust, the experience of Roma and Sinti and crimes committed against other victim groups during the Holocaust are taught in the educational system through lessons, lectures and books. Moreover, teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching students about the Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes against other victim groups of National Socialism.

Other activities carried out in schools to promote awareness and teaching about the Holocaust, including the experience of Roma and Sinti, include watching documentaries, participating in memorial events and having excursions to memorial sites.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

- National Historical Memorial Preserve “Babyn Yar”, <www.babyn-yar.gov.ua>.

Good Practices

Commemoration

Ukraine also commemorates the Day of Remembrance of Ukrainians who saved Jews during World War II; children shot in Babyn Yar; the memory of the Pinsk military flotilla; and the International Day of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps, honouring the memory of Ukrainians executed by the Nazis in Babyn Yar.

Memorial Sites

- National Historical Memorial Preserve “Babyn Yar”.

Education and Research

- Ukrainian Institute of National Memory, Institute of History of Ukraine of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

UNITED KINGDOM

Memorial Day: 27 January – Holocaust Memorial Day

Established: 2000

Commemorates: Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti victims, LGBTI people, political opponents, people with disabilities and victims of subsequent genocides

Commemoration

The United Kingdom commemorates the Holocaust on 27 January, the day Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated. Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) was established following the Stockholm Declaration in 2000. The first HMD was hosted on 27 January 2001. The UK memorial day recognizes Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Roma and Sinti victims, people with disabilities, LGBTI people and political victims as well as victims of

subsequent genocides.

Commemorative activities are held in parliament, at government offices and at various large halls in the capital.

Each HMD has a theme. In 2021 the theme was “Light the Darkness”. The theme for 2022 is “One Day”. Each event broadcasts films about Holocaust survivors and other victims of Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides. Also, speeches and messages from the Prime Minister and other dignitaries are delivered. There is also a lighting of six candles followed by El Male Rachamim.

Official commemorative activities are attended by the Head of State as well as representatives of the government, parliament and the judiciary, senior civil servants and civil society. Victims’ and survivors’ associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, the Roma and Sinti community, civil society organizations, civil servants and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in developing the events and actively participate in commemoration activities. Each government department hosts an HMD event in the weeks leading up to HMD. Several events are also organized by Holocaust remembrance and education organisations. Before the pandemic, over 10,000 local HMD events occurred across the country. In addition, an annual HMD debate occurs in the days leading up to HMD.

The government funds the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust to deliver the annual Holocaust Memorial Day and thousands of local activities across the country. The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust provides free resources to organisations and individuals across the country.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 event was hosted online. However, it also introduced a new initiative called “Light the Darkness”, which encouraged people to light a candle in remembrance at 8 p.m. This was well received. For example, a candle was lit at No. 10 Downing Street, the home of the UK’s Prime Minister and in many other homes across the country. In addition, several iconic buildings were lit up in purple to remember the victims of the Holocaust and other victims of Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides. The candle lighting and the lighting of iconic buildings across the country will now form part of Holocaust Memorial Day events going forward. It should be noted that the online format followed the same pattern as the in-person event.

These activities were accompanied by social media campaigns and/or official statements as well as wide coverage in the broadcast media, newspapers and social media. The general public were encouraged to share their lighting of candles on social media. The UK plans to have hybrid commemoration events — in-person and online — in the future.

Other annually recurring initiatives dedicated to the Jewish victims of the Holocaust are held on Yom HaShoah. Yom HaShoah is observed as Israel’s day of commemoration. The first official commemorations took place in 1951, and the observance of the day was anchored in a law passed by the Knesset in 1959. It is held on the 27th of Nisan (which falls in April or May), unless the 27th would be adjacent to the Jewish Sabbath, in which case the date is shifted by one day.

The commemorative activities are held at memorial sites. The usual content of the commemorative activities includes choral music, candle lighting, El Male Rachamim and speeches by second and third generation Holocaust survivors. The Chief Rabbi also speaks at these events.

The Roma Holocaust Memorial Day (Porajmos) is commemorated annually on 2 August. It was established in 1990 and marks the persecution of the Roma and Sinti Camp at Auschwitz and the murder of the Roma and Sinti during the Holocaust.

The commemorative initiatives are held at various venues including St John’s Church in Waterloo. The usual content of the commemorative activities include speeches, testimonials and music.

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of academic research in the United Kingdom. Eleven academic institutions have active programmes focused on teaching and researching about the Holocaust. The institutions providing research on the Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism include:

the Holocaust Research Institute (Royal Holloway, University of London), the Stanley Burton Centre for Holocaust and Genocide Studies (University of Leicester), the Parkes Institute (University of Southampton), the Centre for German-Jewish Studies (University of Sussex) and the Pears Institute for the Study of Antisemitism (Birkbeck, University of London). Master's courses are offered by Royal Holloway, University of London (Holocaust Studies), the University of Birmingham (Holocaust and Genocide) and Nottingham Trent University (Holocaust and Genocide). The University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education has recently launched an online course that addresses Britain and the Holocaust leading to a Postgraduate Certificate in Holocaust Studies.

A major research project focusing on public memory in the UK and beyond is Transnational Holocaust Memory, an interdisciplinary project based at the University of Leeds and working in collaboration with academic and non-academic partners in Europe, the United States and South Africa. The University of the West of Scotland has been delivering an online Masters module, Citizenship and Holocaust Education, since September 2019. In addition, the British Association for Holocaust Studies (BAHS) annually brings together academics, teachers and other educators in an effort to further the knowledge and teaching of the Holocaust in the United Kingdom.

The Government contributes towards the teacher training offered by the UCL Holocaust Centre. Post graduate work on the Holocaust is funded by research councils, e.g., the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

The Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary level, as well as at the college and university level.

Each nation of the United Kingdom has its own curriculum, leading to significant variations on the role of the Holocaust.

In England, the statutory National Curriculum for England mandates the study of the Holocaust in Key Stage 3 (ages 11–14) history, which is commonly taught towards the end of this period, i.e., at ages 13–14. In fact, the Holocaust is the only specific historical event whose study is compulsory in the curriculum. However, due to wider changes in education policy in recent years, most state schools are not obligated to follow the National Curriculum. Only schools under local authorities (which currently represent 25% of state schools) are required by law to follow the National Curriculum. Other state schools, academies and free schools, which are directly accountable to the Department for Education rather than local authorities, and independent schools have no statutory duty to teach the National Curriculum. However, limited research carried out on the issue suggests that most broadly follow the National Curriculum, including teaching about the Holocaust. Beyond the National Curriculum for history, the Holocaust is often taught at the discretion of individual schools in several other subjects at Key Stage 3, notably religious education, English, citizenship and personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE). Leading Holocaust education organizations encourage schools to adopt a cross-curricular approach to ensure that study in these varied subjects is integrated.

Holocaust-related issues may also be taught in the later stages of primary schools, which typically educate children up to the age of 11, again at the discretion of individual schools. The most commonly taught issues for this age group are the Kindertransport and the story of Anne Frank. At higher levels, the Holocaust may be taught within examination courses for General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) examinations, taken at age 16, and A Level examinations, taken at age 18. This depends on decisions made by schools, which first choose from one of four examination boards and then choose from a range of optional modern history units offered by that board. There are currently five GCSE History syllabi, four of which offer optional units on German history and include the Holocaust, while the fifth looks at Nazi Germany up until 1939. In addition, three of the syllabi offer further optional units on the history of migration to Britain, with content on Jewish refugees to Britain as well as medieval anti-Semitism. All three A Level History syllabi include optional units on German history, which include content on the Holocaust. Finally, some religious studies GCSEs and A Levels offer optional units on Judaism, which include theological responses to the Holocaust, although these are only studied by a small proportion of schools.

In Northern Ireland, the National Curriculum is compulsory for all state schools; it does not mandate the study of the Holocaust but it is suggested as an example in Key Stage 3 history (for the same age range as in England),

to meet the statutory requirement to “investigate critical issues in history or historical figures who have behaved ethically or unethically”. Other relevant content examples given are “slavery, the use of atom bomb, the decision to declare war”. In addition, Oskar Schindler is named as an example for the statutory requirement to “investigate individuals who are considered to have taken a significant moral stand and examine their motivation and legacy”. In other respects, the inclusion of the Holocaust in the curriculum is similar to England — i.e., schools may choose to address the topic in late primary and/or in secondary school subjects beyond history, notably in religious education, English and citizenship. Northern Ireland has only one examination board, which offers optional units on Weimar and Nazi Germany at both the GCSE and A Level examinations (taken at the same ages as in England), although the GCSE unit only covers the period up to 1939.

Scotland’s Curriculum for Excellence, which is compulsory for all state schools, does not contain any prescribed historical events. However, it does include a number of broader requirements that could facilitate learning about the Holocaust, including: “how the exercise of power affects the rights and responsibilities of citizens”, “a major social, political or economic change in the past”, “a significant turning point”, “a significant historical event”, and “a past conflict and [. . .] the impact it has had on the lives of people at that time”. In practice, the Holocaust is most commonly taught in history classes at S2, for students aged 13–14, as in the other nations. It may also be taught in religious and moral education, English, modern studies, history, modern languages, art and design and drama in primary schools, which continues to age 12 — unlike the other nations of the United Kingdom. Holocaust education is included as part of citizenship education, which is not a discrete subject but is embedded across the curriculum and is the responsibility of all teachers. Responsible citizenship is one of Scotland’s National Priorities. Scotland only has one examination board, which includes optional units in history on Nazi Germany for both National Exams (at age 16), and Higher Exams (at age 18), but both units stop in 1939.

In Wales, as in Scotland, the National Curriculum is compulsory for all state schools but does not prescribe specific events in history, although there is a requirement to study at Key Stage 3 (the same age range as England and Northern Ireland) “how some twentieth century individuals and events have shaped our world today”. As in the other nations, some schools also choose to teach Holocaust-related issues at primary school or in secondary subjects beyond history, including religious education, English, and personal and social education (PSE). As in Northern Ireland and Scotland, there is only one examination board. It offers optional units on Nazi Germany for GCSE and A Level examinations, both taken at the same ages as in England and Northern Ireland, although the GCSE unit only covers the period up to 1939.

In the Channel Islands, study of the Holocaust is compulsory. The National Curriculum in Guernsey is currently being revised but is expected to include a requirement to study the Holocaust, following pressure from members of the States of Guernsey in 2016. Teaching of the Holocaust is currently done but to varying degrees.

Teachers can participate in training programmes for teaching about the Holocaust, the experience of Roma and Sinti during the Holocaust and crimes committed against other groups of victims of National Socialism. Leading organizations in the field of Holocaust education have increasingly come to recognize that teacher knowledge and expertise is as important as the choice of textbooks and other educational resources. As a result, innovative teacher training programmes are available across the country. The majority are organized by specialised centres and NGOs. The UCL’s Beacon Schools programme and the University of the West of Scotland’s Vision Schools programme encourage teachers to take part in professional development courses and share their expertise with colleagues in neighbouring schools. The Holocaust Educational Trust organizes multi-day training courses in the United Kingdom and at authentic Holocaust sites in Europe.

The Holocaust and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are presented in textbooks. However, there are no state-prescribed textbooks; schools choose from a wide range of textbooks provided by several different educational publishers. Most textbooks are tailored to specific national curricula or examination requirements. As a result, no textbook titles predominate across the United Kingdom. Most textbooks, especially in England, have been published in the last five years in response to significant changes in the National Curriculum and examination syllabi, which represents a general pattern — textbooks are typically updated when curricula change rather than in response to developments in historical research.

A wide range of teaching materials are offered by specialist Holocaust education providers and the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET) offers resources to schools across the United Kingdom for students ages 10–18. In

particular, the HET's "Exploring the Holocaust" resource is a comprehensive cross-curricular package of lessons and teaching materials for students ages 13–14. All these resources are downloadable free of charge from the Trust's website, which currently has more than 12,000 registered users of its teaching resources. In addition, the UCL Centre for Holocaust Education provides an extensive selection of lesson plans and accompanying materials for teachers in England. Some are freely available to all users of its website. Most materials are accessible to the several thousand teachers who have taken part in its teacher training programmes over the last five years.

The UCL Centre for Holocaust Education is producing a textbook for secondary schools, which will draw on the resources of The Wiener Library. The Wiener Library is currently redeveloping its website, <<https://www.theholocaustexplained.org/>>, which is one of the most visited websites on Holocaust education in the world, designed with the British school curriculum in mind. The website aims to answer student questions in an accessible, reliable and engaging way based on extensive research in the Library's collections. It also incorporates significant documents, photographs and other primary sources from the Library's collections. The Wiener Library regularly runs school workshops and tours for secondary students, teachers, professionals, university students and adult learners.

Supporting Documents and Additional Materials on Education and Research

Links are to Holocaust education materials at various institutions:

- Anne Frank Trust UK, <<https://annefrank.org.uk/education/>>;
- Centre for Holocaust Education, <<https://holocausteducation.org.uk/>>;
- Holocaust Education Trust, <<https://www.het.org.uk/education/>>;
- Holocaust Exhibition and Learning Centre, <<https://holocaustlearning.org.uk/learning/>>;
- Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, <<https://www.hmd.org.uk/take-part-in-holocaust-memorial-day/schools/>>;
- Imperial War Museums, <<https://www.iwm.org.uk/events/the-holocaust-galleries/>>;
- Jewish Museum London, <<https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/schools/>>;
- Manchester Jewish Museum, <<https://www.manchesterjewishmuseum.com/>>;
- National Holocaust Centre and Museum, <<https://www.holocaust.org.uk/>>;
- Scottish Holocaust-Era Study Centre, <<https://sjhc.org.uk/the-scottish-holocaust-era-study-centre/>>;
- University of the West of Scotland, <<https://www.uws.ac.uk/research/research-impact/holocaust-education-vision-schools-scotland/>>;
- Wiener Holocaust Library, <<https://wienerholocaustlibrary.org/>>.
- Yad Vashem, <<https://www.yadvashem.org.uk/education/>>;

Good Practices

Commemoration

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust is funded by the government and its initiative of light the darkness is conceived as a way to encourage grassroots participation. Moreover, the lighting of iconic buildings takes place to remember the six million Jewish men, women and children murdered during the Holocaust, and all other victims of Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides. During the pre-pandemic period there were over 17,000 local HMD events organized by local communities.

Education and Research

The UK has encouraged all organisations to adopt the IHRA's best practice document on teaching and learning about the Holocaust.

The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) in the UK is the biggest funder of educational projects outside of government. All grant recipients must sign on to the IHRA guidelines of teaching and learning about the Holocaust. In addition, the UK Government is partnering with AJR to map all memorials, museums, plaques relating to Jewish Life in the UK. This resource will be available online at the end of November 2021.

In 2015, the UCL Centre for Holocaust Education published "What do students know and understand about the Holocaust?", the largest ever study of its kind. Building on the centre's previous research of teachers' aims and understandings (2009), the mixed methods study surveyed 8,000 secondary school students in England and conducted additional in-person interviews with around 250 students. The research suggested that teaching and learning about the Holocaust in England was not always successful in overcoming common myths and misconceptions shaped by popular and political culture and sometimes shared by teachers themselves. Examples included a limited conception of responsibility for the Holocaust (largely restricted to the Nazis or even Hitler), confusion over the specific experiences of different groups of victims of Nazi persecution and an overly Auschwitz-centric perspective. At the same time, the study also showed high levels of engagement amongst students with the subject and improvements in knowledge and understanding as they got older. In addition, a significant number of postgraduate theses have been or are being written by students at the UCL Centre for Holocaust Education and other institutions, focusing on specific aspects of the impact of teaching and learning about the Holocaust. Vision Schools Scotland have conducted an evaluation on their first year and will be expanding on this in the coming year. Cowan and Maitles have published research on the impact of Holocaust education in Scotland (Eckmann, Stevick and Ambrosewicz-Jacobs 2017:164) and their book *Understanding and Teaching Holocaust Education* was awarded Best Praxis Publication 2017 by the Children's Identity and Citizenship in Europe.

In 2014 and 2015, the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust commissioned an impact study from Sheffield Hallam University on the impact of Holocaust Memorial Day in the UK. It a study found that:

- 93% of respondents went on to take some form of action as a result of attending a Holocaust Memorial Day event;
- 70% of respondents said that attending a Holocaust Memorial Day event increased their knowledge of the causes and conditions that can lead to genocide;
- 66% of respondents said that attending a Holocaust Memorial Day event was responsible for them feeling more sympathetic to people from different backgrounds;
- 66% of respondents surveyed a year after Holocaust Memorial Day 2014 had encouraged young people to learn about the Holocaust and/or genocide in the period between 2014 and 2015.

Research done by the Jewish Policy Research Institute in 2017, in collaboration with the CST, found that the most offensive and extreme forms of Holocaust denial are especially rare: about 2% of those surveyed in the UK maintain that the Holocaust is a myth, with 4% either strongly believing or tending to believe that the Holocaust has been exaggerated. However the same survey (JPR, 2017) found that 30% of respondents agreed with at least one statement that would be considered anti-Semitic by Jewish communities. This report is based on the largest and most detailed survey of attitudes towards Jews and Israel ever conducted in Great Britain. It harnesses a dataset containing 5,466 observations to produce insights of direct relevance for Jewish communal discourse and national political debates on anti-Semitism. The analysis that underpins this study is unprecedented in its depth and the amount of detail it provides about the multiple ways in which uneasiness, negativity and hatred towards Jews are expressed.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Memorial Day: 27 January – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Established: 2005

Commemorates: Jews, Roma and Sinti, and other victims of the Nazis and their accomplices, including but not limited to people with mental and physical disabilities, ethnic Poles, Slavic peoples, Jehovah's Witnesses, LGBTI people, trade unionists, political opponents and other victim groups

Memorial Day: April or May – Days of Remembrance

Established: 1979

Commemorates: Victims of the Holocaust who were murdered by the Nazis and their accomplices, European and North African Jewry and other victims groups, including the Roma and Sinti, people with mental and physical disabilities, Jehovah's Witnesses, African Europeans, LGBTI people, political opponents, trade unionists and ethnic Poles.

Commemoration

The United States officially commemorates the Holocaust on International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January as well as during the Days of Remembrance that occur either in April or May, depending on the Jewish calendar.

Each year, the White House and other major US governmental bodies promote International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the Days of Remembrance by issuing statements and holding commemorative programmes. The US Government honours these commemoration days with major events, which include a federal interagency Holocaust remembrance programme and separate programmes at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Congress, the US Department of State, branches of the US Department of Defense, the US Department of the Interior and other agencies.

In his 4 April 2021 statement for Days of Remembrance, the President recognized the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as the millions of others, including Roma and Sinti, Slavic peoples, the disabled and others who were “systematically murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators in one of the cruelest and most heinous campaigns in human history”. He noted the importance of engaging with the Holocaust as a subject to “understand the depravity that is possible when governments back policies fuelled by hatred, when we dehumanize groups of people, and when ordinary people decide that it is easier to look away or go along than to speak out. Our children and grandchildren must learn where those roads lead, so that the commitment of ‘never again’ lives strongly in their hearts.”

Roma Genocide Remembrance Day is 2 August. Each year the US Secretary of State issues a statement on 2 August commemorating the savage and senseless murder of Romani men, women and children by the Nazis during World War II. The US Holocaust Memorial Museum also commemorates Roma Genocide Remembrance Day, which is recognized in varied local commemorations as well.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day

In 2005, UN General Assembly Resolution 60/7 designated 27 January as International Holocaust Remembrance Day to ensure that the Holocaust “will forever be a warning to all peoples of the dangers of hatred, bigotry, racism and prejudice.” The date of International Holocaust Remembrance Day signifies the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration and death camp, on 27 January 1945, and primarily focuses on the murder of European and North African Jews by the Nazis and their accomplices, but also commemorates the murder of other victim groups including the Roma and Sinti, persons with mental and physical disabilities, Jehovah's Witnesses, African Europeans, LGBTI persons, political opponents, trade unionists and

ethnic Poles.

The US Holocaust Memorial Museum, US government agencies, US military installations and US embassies and consulates around the world organize commemorative ceremonies attended by national and local governmental officials, diplomatic personnel as well as representatives of the Jewish, Roma and other victim communities. In 2021, the US Secretary of State issued a video on Holocaust Remembrance Day³⁸ that affirmed the Administration's commitment to making Holocaust issues a US foreign policy priority, emphasizing that "it's so important that we speak the truth about the past, to protect the facts when others try to distort or trivialize Holocaust crimes, and to seek justice for the survivors and their families."

The US Holocaust Memorial Museum organizes the main US event for International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The Museum engages victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, the Roma and Sinti community and academic and research institutions in developing commemorative events and actively participate in these activities.

Recent programmes at the Museum on 27 January have included speeches by dignitaries, including the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United States and Holocaust survivors. These programmes are often buttressed by public statements from US government agencies and senior government officials, including the US President.

In 2021, due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the International Holocaust Remembrance Day programmes planned by the US Holocaust Memorial Museum migrated online. Susan Eisenhower, a well-known policy analyst and granddaughter of General Dwight Eisenhower, launched the morning with a Facebook Live programme discussion that focused on the need to protect the truth of the Holocaust from distortion and abuse. The formal ceremony emphasized the responsibility to protect the history and legacy of the Holocaust. That ceremony featured the reading of victims' names by prominent representatives of major Holocaust institutions in Europe, notably the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum, Memorial de la Shoah, and Topography of Terror. Two US Senators who spoke both emphasized that Holocaust memory is a bipartisan concern that rises above politics. These programmes were supported by a robust social media campaign (#WeRemember) that included recorded statements by Holocaust survivors.

The US Holocaust Memorial Museum uses multiple approaches to promote International Holocaust Remembrance Day. These include targeted media relations, the promotion and development of content across the Museum's digital and social channels (many of which are livestreamed and amplified with hashtags for social media platforms) and engagement activities for onsite visitors and online audiences using hashtags, onsite signage and social media prompts.

Various commemorative programmes are also organized throughout the year and on the official dates of commemoration in the United States — International Holocaust Remembrance Day and Days of Remembrance (Yom HaShoah) — by most members of the Association of Holocaust Organizations, which consists of more than 370 members, with at least 200 members in the United States. Given the scope and number of Holocaust organizations in the United States, there are too many initiatives to mention succinctly in this document.

Days of Remembrance

In addition to International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Government of the United States also observes a weeklong period called Days of Remembrance, recognized during the week surrounding 27 Nisan (Yom HaShoah) on the Hebrew calendar, varying between April and May, depending upon the year. The week of remembrance begins on the Sunday before Yom HaShoah and ends the following Sunday. The date is partially connected to the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising of April 1943 and was first commemorated in 1951 by an act of the Israeli Parliament. In the US context, it also partially connects to the American military liberation of the Dachau concentration camp. This memorial week is devoted to the commemoration of Jews, Roma and Sinti and other victims of the Nazis and their accomplices, including people with mental and physical disabilities, ethnic Poles, Slavic peoples, Jehovah's Witnesses, LGBTI people, trade unionists, political opponents and other victim groups. During that week, commemorative activities are organized in Congress, at government offices and at memorial sites, and are attended by officials at the presidential and governmental

³⁸ "Holocaust Remembrance Day", U.S. Department of State, <<https://www.state.gov/holocaust-remembrance-day/>>.

level, members of Congress and members of the US military.

The US Holocaust Memorial Museum annually organizes a major ceremony that is often held at the US Capitol. Each year, several specific US government agencies, the US military and communities across the country organize similar programmes around Days of Remembrance, often making use of commemoration resources created by the US Holocaust Memorial Museum available online, <<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/days-of-remembrance/resources>>.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum's Days of Remembrance activities were moved online in 2020 and 2021. In 2021, the Museum's commemoration focused on the legacies of Holocaust survivors and the ways that their works and words continue to compel us to confront the rising tide of anti-Semitism, Holocaust denial and extremist ideologies. The commemoration ceremony featured remarks by US Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken³⁹ who spoke on the importance of Holocaust remembrance and the personal impact of his family's experiences of the Holocaust.

In 2021, the Department of State's Yom HaShoah event took place virtually as a webinar and featured an array of American and international experts from the diplomatic community in Washington and around the world. Hosted by the Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues and the acting Special Envoy for Anti-Semitism at the US Department of State, the global webinar featured Holocaust survivor Irene Weiss, International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Honorary Chairman Dr. Yehuda Bauer, experts from the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, foreign ambassadors and two members of Congress. Similar programmes were organized by US embassies and consulates around the world and in individual communities throughout the United States. In 2021, the Department of State hosted additional professional exchanges on Holocaust remembrance through the International Volunteer Leadership Program that brought together museum directors, archivists and educators from 20 European countries with their American counterparts.

The Department of State provides online access to the congressionally mandated "Justice for Uncompensated Survivors Today" (JUST) Act Report, which includes sections on Holocaust remembrance, archival access, research, memorial sites and education for 46 countries that endorsed the Terezin Declaration of 2009, with additional narrative on the United States. The report is available online, <<https://www.state.gov/justice-for-uncompensated-survivors-today-just-act-report/>>.

Yom HaShoah is also commemorated each year by the Federal Inter-Agency Holocaust Remembrance Programs (FIHRP). FIHRP also commemorated Yom HaShoah virtually in 2021 as a webinar event hosted by the US Patent and Trademark Office in Washington DC and featuring the stories of two Holocaust survivors — Alfred Münzer⁴⁰ of the Washington, DC area and Max Glaubien⁴¹ of Dallas, Texas — along with speakers from the US Department of Education.

The goals of these programmes commemorating Remembrance Day are not only to ensure that Americans and American leadership continue to reflect on the relevance of the Holocaust as a part of world history, but also to provide an opportunity to recall that the Holocaust is an indelible part of world history and of American history, even though the Holocaust did not occur in North America.

Victims' and survivors' associations, the Jewish community, other religious groups, civil society organizations and academic and research institutions are regularly involved in shaping the content and actively participate in the commemorative events.

When it comes to availability of funds for civil society to participate in and organize commemorative events, most US civil society organizations and NGOs receive private support, including from foundations, not the federal government. Still, various US government grant programmes can fund and inform commemoration-related activities. In addition, several organizations receive US federal and state grants for work that informs

³⁹ Anthony J. Blinken, "U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Days of Remembrance Commemoration Remarks", U.S. Department of State, <<https://www.state.gov/u-s-holocaust-memorial-museum-days-of-remembrance-commemoration/>>.

⁴⁰ "Alfred Münzer", U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum website, <<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-survivors/volunteers/alfred-muenzer>>.

⁴¹ "Oral History Interview with Max Glaubien", U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum website, <<https://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/irn506598>>.

Holocaust education and commemoration. At the local level, there are occasional funding initiatives for work on Holocaust education and commemoration from state and municipal governments, but such funding is typically neither permanent nor uniform across the country.

Beyond funding, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum provides several programmatic outlets for subject matter experts, many of whom use their experiences in these programmes to develop commemorative programmes at sites located in the places where they come from. Additionally, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum provides training to all US military Equal Opportunity Advisors on how to organize Holocaust remembrance events at military bases in the US and abroad. Finally, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum provides a wide array of resources for the thousands of local governments and communities that organize annual Holocaust Remembrance Day programs and feature Holocaust survivors.

The US Holocaust Memorial Museum also organizes other activities related to Holocaust remembrance in association with both domestic and international partners. In 2020–21, the Museum and the US Department of State co-hosted two webinars known as “Trans-Atlantic Dialogues” for teaching Holocaust in challenging times and ways to confront Holocaust distortion that were seen by teachers and community educators in some 40 countries and the United States. The webinars may be viewed online, <<https://www.state.gov/events-office-of-the-special-envoy-for-holocaust-issues-3/>>.

International Engagement in Remembrance

The United States plays a major role in the work of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, and other international fora, such as the 11 nation International Commission for the International Tracing Service/Arolsen Archives, where Holocaust commemoration, education and research are major points of emphasis. In addition to these multilateral engagements, the United States also engages bilaterally on a range of Holocaust remembrance and education issues, and in 2021 established a bilateral forum for the discussion of Holocaust concerns with the Federal Republic of Germany. This forum includes both governments and their primary Holocaust institutions, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (for the United States) and the Denkmal für die ermordeten Juden Europas (Germany).

Education and Research

The Holocaust is a subject of academic research in the United States.

The Holocaust, the Roma and Sinti genocide and crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are studied in schools at the primary, secondary and upper secondary levels as well as at the college and university level.

Teachers can participate in training programmes on teaching about the Holocaust and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism. The Holocaust and the crimes committed against other victim groups under National Socialism are also covered in educational textbooks.

While no explicit reference is made to the Roma and Sinti in any state standards for education, that is not to say that it does not implicitly exist. For instance, the New Jersey curriculum for teaching about the Holocaust and genocide presents the Roma under “other victims”. Schools that have adopted the “Facing History” curriculum also teach about the murder of the Roma. In addition, many teachers who have been trained in Holocaust education take time to teach about the genocide of the Roma.

Education in the United States is decentralized, and the US Government does not have a national education curriculum. Many state governments, however, have adopted Holocaust education mandates, and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum provides Holocaust education training and resources for teachers in all 50 US states and in the 14 US territories. At the secondary school level, studies show that teaching about the Holocaust focuses primarily on the Holocaust and the Jewish experience. Some teachers mention other victims, but do not often have the time to provide considerable detail. Other teachers note the other victims of Nazism simply by listing them or explaining that while these groups were not targeted for total annihilation like the Jewish populations of North Africa and Europe, they were nevertheless persecuted by the Nazis and their accomplices.

At more than 1,350 universities, students can study the Holocaust as a specific area of research at the graduate

and doctoral levels. Beyond these institutions, courses that teach the Holocaust and genocide are available at the majority of the approximately 2,200 colleges and universities found across the United States.

Good Practices

- “Addressing Anti-Semitism through Education: Guidelines for Policymakers,” OSCE/ODIHR and UNESCO, <https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/8/0/383089_0.pdf>;
- “Addressing Anti-Semitism in Schools: Training Curricula,” OSCE/ODIHR and UNESCO, <<https://www.osce.org/odihr/470712>>;
- “Education about the Holocaust and Genocide: A Policy Guide,” United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization, <<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000248071>>;
- “Events Page, US Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues,” US Department of State, <<https://www.state.gov/justice-for-uncompensated-survivors-today-just-act-report/>>;
- “Fundamentals of Teaching the Holocaust,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, <<https://www.ushmm.org/teach/fundamentals>>;
- “Guidelines for Teaching about the Holocaust,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, <<https://www.ushmm.org/teach/fundamentals/guidelines-for-teaching-the-holocaust>>;
- “Guidelines for Teaching about Testimony,” USC Shoah Foundation, <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHSma47VUCE>>;
- “Holocaust Encyclopedia,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, <<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org>> (content translated from English into 17 languages);
- “IHRA Recommendations for Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust,” International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, <<https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/educational-materials/ihra-recommendations-teaching-and-learning-about-holocaust>>;
- “Organizing a Remembrance Event,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, <<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/days-of-remembrance/resources/organizing-an-event>>;
- “Recognizing and Countering Holocaust Distortion: Recommendations for Policy and Decision Makers,” International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, <<https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/reports/recognizing-countering-holocaust-distortion-recommendations>>;
- “Remembrance Day Calendar,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, <<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/days-of-remembrance/resources/calendar>>;
- “Resource Documents on the Holocaust and Trans-Atlantic Dialogue II: Teaching the Holocaust in Challenging Times — A Webinar Resource List”, US Department of State, April 2021, <<https://www.state.gov/resource-documents-office-of-the-special-envoy-for-holocaust-issues/>>;
- “Resources for Educators,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, <<https://www.ushmm.org/educators>>;
- “Strategies for Using Testimony,” USC Shoah Foundation, <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOgbg6srJt8>>;
- “Using Visual History Testimony in the Classroom,” USC Shoah Foundation, <<https://i-witness.usc.edu/sfi/Data/EducatorData/Using-Testimony-in-Classroom.pdf>>;
- “Why We Remember the Holocaust,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, <<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/days-of-remembrance/resources/why-we-remember>>.

