

## EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

 Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)

PROJECT	
Participant:	Documenta – Centre for dealing with the past (Documenta)
PIC number:	942095526
Project name and acronym:	Power of Personal Stories in Confronting Oblivion (PPSCO)

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	WP3
Event name:	Educational activities
Type:	Training, workshops
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Dachau, Germany (A5) Different locations (A7) / see description
Date(s):	September 1-4, 2024 (A5) Different dates (A7) / see description
Website(s) (if any):	Power of Personal Stories in Confronting Oblivion - Kultura sjećanja ( <a href="http://documenta.hr">documenta.hr</a> )
Participants	
Female:	297
Male:	233
Non-binary:	2
From country 1 [Albania]:	14
From country 2 [Croatia]:	157
From country 3 [Germany]:	5
From country 4 [Greece]:	11
From country 5 [Italy]:	65
From country 6 [Netherlands]:	22
From country 7 [Romania]:	59

From country 8 [Serbia]:	44		
From country 9 [Slovenia]:	11		
From country 10 [Spain]:	144		
Total number of participants:	532	From total number of countries:	10

**Description**

*Provide a short description of the event and its activities.*

WP3 included 2 main activities: A5) Training for educators, and A7) Educational activities for youth.

The training for educators answered the following objectives: equip educators and teachers with new methods and tools for countering Holocaust distortion; build educators and teachers' capacities to work with personal stories and to involve time-witnesses in their work with youth.

The educational activities, organized by the participants of the training, had young people as the main target group and answered the following objectives: improve youth knowledge of the Holocaust and other WWII crimes; improve young people understanding of Holocaust's impact on lives of individuals through biographies and personal stories; improve young people understanding of the impact of the Holocaust on local contexts and communities.

**A5) Training for teachers and educators – Dachau (Germany), 1-4 September 2024**

From the 1st to the 4th of September 2024, the organization Max Mannheimer Haus and the project partners organized the training for teachers and educators "Power of personal stories in confronting oblivion" in Dachau, Germany. During the training, the involved educators visited with a local guide the Memorial site of the Dachau concentration camp and were involved in interactive workshops. The workshops were led by representatives of the partner organization and other relevant institutions with the aim to share with educators new methods and ideas on how to use biographies and personal stories to approach WWII through different didactic tools, such as the use of archives, comics and textiles.

The training included 31 participants from 10 different European countries

After the training, the educators and teachers who took part in the activity had the task to organize 1 workshop with their students, or with youth in their local communities. The workshops organized by the participants of the training are included in A7.

**A7) Educational activities with youth**

- The road of no return – Stefan cel Mare (Romania), 09.10.2024.**

The students of the 11<sup>th</sup> grade of the professional school of Stefan cel Mare were involved by their teacher in a workshop titled "The road of no return". The participants watched a video documentary about the Dachau concentration camp and discussed with the teacher Jewish life and the Holocaust following their textbook.

The workshop included 10 participants

- Remembrance of ancestors – Belgrade (Serbia), 16.10.2024.**

The workshop was organized with the students of the Elementary school Jovan Dučić – the students included were 14/15 years old (8th grade). In occasion of the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Belgrade, the teacher asked their students to ask their family about their ancestors who lived through this period and write a research paper. In the second part of the workshop, the students were divided into groups and, starting from names and parameters given by their teacher, they started searching

the Arolsen archives and lists of Yugoslav associations of WWII veterans. In the end the participants presented their researches.

The workshop included 22 students.

- **Greek prisoners in Dachau – Thessaloniki (Greece), 24.10.2024.**

The workshop involved the students of the 2nd High School of Eleftherio Kordelio in Thessaloniki. During the workshop, the students researched the biographies of Greek people interned in the Dachau concentration camp, using archival materials. The students wrote essays on Greek prisoners in Dachau, including Dionysios Chatzopoulos, Artemios Grigorakis, Meletios Galanopoulos, Georgios Vlantis, and Nikos Zachariadis.

The workshop included 10 participants.

- **Power of personal stories in confronting oblivion – Belsh (Albania), 31.10.2024.**

The workshop took place on Thursday, 31.10.2024, in the premises of the gymnasium "Sami Frasheri" in Belsh and involved both students of the Gymnasium, as well as teachers being part of the Social studies network of the school. The aim of the activity was to further deepen the theoretical knowledge and practical skills of the teachers and students, as well as the recognition and use, through an interdisciplinary approach, by teachers and students, of archival materials in relation to the Second World War.

The workshop included 13 participants

- **Holocaust narrative scrapbook – The Hague (Netherlands), 11.11.2024.**

The workshop was organized with Year 11 History students of the International School The Hague. After a few weeks focused on Holocaust studies, the students completed a summary called "Holocaust Narratives". Students were encouraged to choose one personal story, of someone who experienced the Holocaust (any role, including victims, perpetrators, resisters, rescuers, or something in-between in Primo Levi's *Grey Zone*, such as: witness, requisitioned, etc.). They did background research on the chosen personal story, compiled resources (documents, photographs, passports, letters, clothing, testimonies) and designed a Scrapbook to shed light on that story. Students already had knowledge of key concepts such as: discrimination, genocide, mass violence, stereotyping, single story, Holocaust by Bullets, gray zone. In this workshop they applied their prior knowledge to a new context.

The workshop included 21 students

- **Personal stories from the Homeland war – Koprivnica (Croatia), 14.11.2024.**

To commemorate November 18<sup>th</sup>, the Remembrance Day for the victims of the Homeland War and Remembrance Day for the victims of Vukovar and Škabrnja, on November 14, 2024, two 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes from the elementary school "Braća Radić" in Koprivnica took part to the workshop "personal stories from the Homeland war". During the workshop, the students were involved in the activity "Conflict textile", which was among the workshops presented during the training course in Dachau to the educators. Starting from photos from the war, the students created dolls made of textile, and imagined their personal stories. The students became more aware about the horrors of the war on individuals, its lasting impact on common people and reflected on the senselessness of war.

The workshop included 50 students

- **How to use Archives and what to search for – Arolsen Archives example – Belgrade (Serbia), 30.11.2024.**

The workshop was organized with the students of the Third Gymnasium in Belgrade. Following the example of one of the workshops presented during the training, the teacher instructed the participants

to research the Arolsen Archives, related to the topics of WWII, and the victims of Nazi regime and their collaborators. After an introduction to the archives, the participants searched for data based on individual first and last names. The participants researched names of people related to their family history, as well as other victims. After the workshop, they evaluated the use of archives in researching personal stories, and in individualizing the victims of the Holocaust and other WWII genocides.

The workshop included 20 participants

- **Graphic novel "Max Mannheimer: Ben Jakov" – Karlovac (Croatia), 2.12.2024; 4.12.2024; and 13.12.2024**

The workshop was held in 4 classes of the School of Economics and Tourism, as an example of cross-curricular cooperation between German language and history classes. The workshops were held on 2.12.2024, 4.12.2024, and 2 workshops were held on 13.12.2024. Divided into groups, the students, with the support of the teacher of German language, read the graphic novel „*Max Mannheimer: Ben Jakov*“, created by the project partner „Max Mannheimer Study Center“. Through the novel, the students discussed words such as Holocaust, Racial laws, Final Solution, ghetto, concentration camps, death camps, Death March, Holocaust remembrance day. The students also analyzed Max Mannheimer's sentence - "*You are not responsible for what happened, but for making sure it doesn't happen again*" and presented their own thoughts on how antisemitism and hate speech can be fought, and explain why. In this context, the culture of memory is important.

81 students in total took part to the workshops

- **“Campi fascisti e topografia per la storia” and “The fabric of protest” - Caserta (Italy), 3.12.2024 and 12.12.2024**

The workshops were organized with the students of the Liceo Scientifico A. Diaz, in Caserta.

The first workshop, organized on 3.12.2024., had the purpose to present to the students the documents, testimonies, photographs and other material collected at <https://campifascisti.it>. The pupils were explored the mapping of hundreds of different camps or internment sites where thousands of Eritreans, Ethiopians and Libyans, foreign Jews, and political opponents were deported. During the two-hour workshop, pupils also researched the online repository <https://www.topografiaperlastoria.org>. The site made it possible to analyze materials and information on a little-known aspect of Italian events during the Nazi occupation, namely the places of forced labor and deportation in Italy during the Second World War. Both web-sites were presented during the training in Dachau.

In the second workshop organized on 12.12.2024 and inspired by the collection «Conflict textile», among the workshops proposed during the training, the students created their own piece of protest art in response to commemorate the bravery of the women during difficult historical periods. Learners created and shared textile responses to the topics explored.

The workshop included 38 participants

- **A personal story of Eva Akerman – Varaždin (Croatia), 03.12.2024**

The workshop was organized with the students of the Gospodarska Škola Varaždin, Class 1K. The young participants focused on the story of Eva Akerman, Holocaust survivor from the city of Varaždin, which gave them an important perspective on local histories and local dimension of the Holocaust. The workshop aimed to connect past events with current events, recognize the dangers of prejudice, discrimination, antisemitism, racism and intolerance, and reflect on the roles and responsibilities of individuals, groups, and nations when confronting the abuse of power, civil and human rights violations, and genocidal acts. At the end of the workshop, the students were able to identify and critically reflect on moral, spiritual, and ethical issues that are central to learning about the Holocaust, through analyzing written texts and images students demonstrated an understanding of the diverse

perspectives of those who experienced the Holocaust. The students used Documenta's video-interview with Eva Akerman, available on the website "Personal memories / Osobna Sjećanja".

The workshop involved 19 students.

- **Learn about historical sites through biographies – Bescanò (Spain), 12.12.2024**

The workshop was organized for the students of the Institute La Miquela, in Bescanò. It emphasized the importance of getting to know personal stories in order to understand complex historical periods. Students worked in collaborative groups (4 members) and geolocated places of historical interest related to the Holocaust. They used the "Mobile History Map tool" to research to location of former concentration camps and uploaded on the website a short description of the place and a video of a time-witness. Through the workshop, the students developed their awareness of WWII crimes, learned to consult diverse sources, to develop their critical thinking and to exchange opinions on social issues, and became more aware of the need to keep values such as democracy, tolerance and human rights.

The workshop included 20 participants

- **Holocaust Education: Understanding History, Combating Antisemitism, and Preserving Memory – Florence (Italy), September – December 2024**

The workshop was introduced as a part of a cycle of 5 lectures held in the Post-Academic Course on Holocaust Education, organized by the University of Florence. The post-academic course is planned for teachers and educators, who aim to deepen their knowledge of the Holocaust, through insides on the historical context, critical discussions, and practical activities. Participants to the course engage in promoting awareness, empathy, and a commitment to remembering and learning from the Holocaust, and to developing innovative and engaging teaching proposals for their students. One of the lectures was titled "Keeping the memory alive: The power of memory" and focused on survivors' interviews and using the I-witness archive as a tool for learning.

The workshop included 23 students.

- **The wall against oblivion – Peralada (Spain), 04.01.2025.**

The workshop took place between November and December 2024, and involved the students of the State Secondary School in Peralada, Catalonia, Spain. The School is only 30 km from the French border and the students frequenting the school come from the surrounding towns. Because of this geographical closeness to the border, most of the towns' population suffered exile and Franco's repression during the Spanish Civil War (1936-1937). Divided into 10 groups of 4 to 5 students each, the participants carried out research in their own town, based on the General Cause (an extensive research process promoted by the Francoist Minister of Justice and a tool of repression that was used until the 1960s), that is today available online. Based on these documents and a subsequent fieldwork they have carried out, the students created a short biography of different people who were retaliated against by Franco in different ways.

The workshop included 58 students

- **Echoes of resilience: Stories of survival and humanity in wartime Romania – Petrila (Romania), 21.01.2025.**

The workshop was organized for the students of the Constantin Brancusi Technical College in Petrila, Romania. The students explored the untold personal stories of Holocaust survivors from Romania during WWII, shedding light on the impact of Nazi collaboration and the resilience of those who endured persecution. Through these personal stories, participants gained a deeper understanding of

history, the dangers of prejudice, and the power of human courage and empathy.

The workshop included 24 students.

- **Stories of Survival: Empowering Youth to Preserve the Truth of the Holocaust – Timisoara (Romania), 27.01.2025.**

The workshop was organized in collaboration with the students of Școala Gimnaziala Nr. 27 Timisoara. The workshop aimed to educate young people about the importance of preserving the memory of the Holocaust and the stories of survival through two key activities: 1) Research and Presentation of Survival Stories. The students used various sources to gain a deep understanding of the experiences of survivors. Each student group chose a different story, which they then presented to their peers. After each presentation, the students discussed the impact of these stories within the historical context of the Holocaust, highlighting resilience, courage, and the importance of keeping the memory of those affected alive. 2) Creation of a „Memory Wall”: the students added images, quotes, and information about Holocaust survivors, emphasizing the importance of preserving the memory of these tragic events. The wall also included an interactive component where students were able to write their own thoughts and reflections on what it means to never forget and to continue educating future generations about these historical events.

The workshop included 21 students

- **Power of personal stories: Roser Fluvià, a brave life – Manresa (Spain), 28. and 29. January 2025.**

The workshop was organized with the students of the high school Institut Pius Font i Quer of Manresa, in Catalonia. The students researched the life story of Roser Fluvià, a Catalan woman who went through the difficult years of the Spanish civil war, exile in France and the Nazi occupation with unique courage and dignity. The students could choose between presenting her story in group through a comic of 6 panels or pages, or a leaflet brochure. They could also work individually, by making a map of her life story in the web-tool “StoryMaps”.

The workshop included 62 students

- **Work with sources: Documents from concentration camps – Maribor (Slovenia), 03.02.2025.**

The workshop was organized with students of the Secondary school of design in Maribor. The students were divided into groups and received archive documents from the Arolsen Archives. The archive documents reported information about people from Maribor, who had been imprisoned and captured during WWII, and sent to concentration camps. The students had the task to find out personal data about the people and discuss in group about the reasons why they were imprisoned, the system of concentration camps, and other related topics.

The workshop included 9 students.

The activity proved to have a deep impact on the participants – its format highlighted the role of teachers as multiplier actors, and their importance and responsibility in the process of engaging young people in dealing with memory and remembrance. In their workshops, the teachers were able to directly involve 501 young people and students from all over Europe. Because of the geographical diversity of the participants in the training, the involved educators were able to engage youth in many different countries, including larger and smaller communities, to put a focus on local history, and the local stories of victims and survivors of the Holocaust. This geographical diversity was mirrored by a

diversity of methods and interdisciplinary approaches, which reflected the different needs and context of the students, still keeping the methods shared during the training and the use of biographies as a commonalities.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).