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the European Union

*Standing up for Remembrance:
Testimonies from the Past as Lessons for the Present
- Holocaust and Human Rights Education through Oral History*

STAND UP Teacher Training Seminar Šabac

Report

October 2025



Executive Summary

In October 2025, within the STAND UP project, the Holocaust Center (Serbia) organized an international in-person seminar in Šabac. The event gathered teachers from six partner countries: Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, Germany, Hungary, and Serbia. The seminar brought together 29 participants (14 female, 15 male) from Croatia (7), Bosnia and Herzegovina (5), Slovenia (1), Germany (3), Hungary (2), and Serbia (11).

The seminar aimed to train teachers to use oral testimonies in class and adapt USHMM video materials to a classroom-friendly length of up to 15 minutes. Teachers were guided to navigate the digital archive, select relevant testimonies, and identify segments suitable for lessons. The seminar supported them in transforming archival materials into engaging classroom content, with a focus on local testimonies, including one from Šabac.

The program balanced collaborative learning, historical dialogue, and local engagement. The day began with a welcome session and introductions, followed by group work developing lesson plans. After a short coffee break, participants joined a reflective discussion, "Dialogue about History and the Present," linking Holocaust education to contemporary issues. The afternoon featured a workshop by Sara Jevtić, PhD student at the University of Munich, on framing local history within global history using Šabac 1941–1945 as an example. The workshop demonstrated how to create interactive lessons connecting local narratives to broader contexts. The seminar concluded with a plenary evaluation and closing discussion.

The seminar fostered cross-border cooperation and exchange, strengthening the STAND UP consortium. Participants will continue applying the knowledge gained, designing and conducting at least one classroom lesson using oral history testimonies by autumn 2026.

Post-event survey results were very positive, with an overall rating of 4.60/5. Specifically, participants reported increased interest in the Holocaust (4.57/5), greater confidence as educators (4.57/5), improved preparedness to implement lessons (4.66/5), and better ability to handle sensitive discussions (4.61/5), confirming the seminar's impact on professional growth and commitment.

As follow-up, the project team will maintain contact with participants to support lesson plan development based on testimonies from each country. Teachers are collaborating across borders, sharing resources and ideas, and some are motivated to create and implement additional lesson plans, demonstrating the seminar's lasting influence on Holocaust and human rights education.

Background Information

Objectives of the key activity: live teacher training seminar will take place in Serbia, bringing together 25-30 educators, who will together, under HERMES and HOLOKAUST CENTAR ŠABAC trainers' guidance, create lesson plans revolving around the oral history excerpts short videos prepared ahead of the seminar. The teacher training seminar will result in at least 4 new lesson plans based on oral histories and testimonies of Holocaust survivors and World War II witnesses. Following the seminar, participating educators will implement these lesson plans in their classrooms, engaging a minimum of 500 students.

Key Figures

Total participants : **29**

Participants/country breakdown:

- Croatia: 7 participants
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 5 participants
- Slovenia: 1 participant
- Germany: 3 participants
- Hungary: 2 participants
- Serbia: 11 participants

Statistics:

Men:15

Women:14

- *Bosnia and Herzegovina: Zenica, Foča, Tuzla, Turbe → 4 locations*
- *Croatia: Đakovo, Karlovac, Rijeka, Zagreb, Daruvar → 5 locations*
- *Germany: Hattingen, Lüdenscheid, Munich → 3 locations*
- *Hungary: Budapest → 1 location*
- *Slovenia: Ljubljana → 1 location*
- *Serbia: Uzdin, Loznica, Šabac, Belgrade → 4 locations*

Key Activity Agenda & Flow

The key goal of this seminar was to train teachers to effectively use oral testimonies in the classroom and to adapt video materials from the USHMM Oral History Archive to a suitable length for educational use – ideally up to 15 minutes. Prior to the event, participating teachers were contacted and guided through the process of navigating the digital archive, enabling them to identify testimonies most relevant to their teaching context. They were encouraged to select both the testimonies and the specific segments they found most meaningful for integration into their lessons. The seminar served as practical support for this process, helping educators transform archival materials into engaging classroom content. Particularly valuable was the focus on local testimonies – stories recorded in smaller communities, not only major urban centers – including a testimony originating directly from Šabac.

The seminar program was carefully structured to balance collaborative learning, historical dialogue, and local engagement. It began with a welcome and introductions session, during which participants introduced themselves and the objectives of the event were outlined. Following this, during the group work session on lesson plan development, educators collaborated to design classroom activities using oral history testimonies, selecting key segments from the USHMM digital archive to create engaging, 15-minute lesson modules tailored for primary and secondary school students. After a short coffee break, participants engaged in a reflective discussion titled “Dialogue about History & Present”, focusing on how Holocaust education can connect historical events to contemporary social issues and exploring pedagogical approaches for sensitive topics.

The lunch break provided time for informal networking and reflection on the morning sessions, giving participants the opportunity to share experiences and teaching strategies. In the following workshop on the Tragedy of the Kladovo-Šabac Transport, was presented the historical context of local Holocaust events, illustrating how teachers can frame local narratives within broader historical perspectives and demonstrating methods to integrate these stories interactively into classroom lessons. This was accompanied with the walking tour, *Traces of Jewish Life*, which guided participants through key historical sites in Šabac, linking the day’s archival and workshop content to tangible locations and deepening participants’ understanding of local history and its remembrance.

Finally, the seminar closing and evaluations session provided participants the opportunity to reflect on the day’s activities, share key takeaways, and complete evaluation surveys to assess the seminar’s impact on their professional knowledge and confidence. Overall, the agenda ensured a combination of practical lesson development, reflective discussion, local historical insight, and interactive learning, giving teachers the tools and inspiration to implement oral history testimonies effectively in their classrooms.

Gallery



Evaluation

Based on the post-event survey, participants provided very positive evaluations, with the overall assessment averaging 4.60 out of 5. Respondents reported significant personal and professional development as a result of their participation. Specifically, the seminar contributed to: Increased interest in the Holocaust (4.57/5) Greater confidence as Holocaust educators (4.57/5) Enhanced preparedness to implement classroom lessons based on oral history and testimonies (4.66/5) Improved ability to handle difficult and sensitive conversations related to the Holocaust and contemporary issues (4.61/5) These results confirm the seminar's success in fostering both professional growth and a strong sense of shared commitment among educators across the participating countries.

One participant provided us with negative feedback as he stated that dialogue between teachers from different countries should be used more during the seminar. As participants were more comfortable speaking in their native language, and outputs of their lesson plans come from different legislative and contexts, we believe this would be possible if seminar was lasted at least a day more. They stated: *"This is a great opportunity of international exchange between teachers from different countries, but I had the feeling it wasn't used as much as it could, which I meant not as a harsh criticism."*

Overall, other evaluations were much more focused on how this seminar improved their own interests toward teaching Holocaust and made them more confident to develop lesson plans based on oral history.

"The most interesting thing was having time to exchange ideas about working with the interviews, and (no joke) the meals, because we came together and talked about school."

"The most interesting thing was the dialogue between colleagues and the paths of history."

"The most interesting part was lesson plan development and the walking tour."

"Group work was the part I enjoyed the most: understanding the personal (and my different) perspectives of the other participants was very useful."

"I found the dialogues about history and the workshop on the Kladovo transport most interesting."

"I especially liked the group discussion about learning through history; it was a great way to exchange opinions and stances within a productive group."

"Everything was exceptional: the organization, the hotel, the agenda. Great job organizing this. I learned a lot; it is useful and can be implemented in my work."

Conclusion


It has been a pleasure to collaborate with such an open and well-organized group of partners, led perfectly by HERMES. We had regular meetings, could consult at any time, and mutual support was always present. Through this project, we met new partners and established connections for future collaboration. This project is particularly significant for our organization, as it is the first European project we have received as a young organization. We believe that the main partners and project leaders have empowered us to pursue new project opportunities, both in partnership and individually.

What brings us particular joy is that the project continues, and we hope that new ideas will emerge as it progresses, which we can develop together. Through this seminar, we met an exceptional group of teachers, for which we are especially grateful, building on the network of contacts established through previous trainings with all partners. The teachers are motivated to implement their lesson plans in practice; some have independently expressed a desire to write additional plans and create new teaching materials. For this reason, we consider this seminar, along with the online seminar, particularly successful, as it trained teachers in a new approach to teaching history through oral testimonies.

At a time when conflicts rage across the world, it is especially important to bring history closer and show the horrors of war through individual experiences, demonstrating that people are not just numbers. We believe that the lesson plans created by our teachers and implemented in their classrooms will reach the largest number of young people most effectively, making this project an exceptional investment in the future.



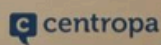



Annexes


PARTICIPANTS SIGNATURE LIST

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Standing up for Remembrance: Testimonies from the Past as Lessons for the Present - Holocaust and Human Rights Education through Oral History"
 TEACHER TRAINING SEMINAR IN ŠABAC, SERBIA
 October 10 - 12, 2025



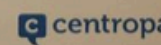



	NAME	SURNAME	ORGANISATION / SCHOOL	COUNTRY / TOWN	EMAIL	SIGNATURE
1	MASA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	CROATIA / ZADAR	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2	Judith	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Germany / Halle	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
3	SASA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Germany / Berlin	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
4	Dejan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	SERBIA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
5	TVRKO	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	DAKUVAR CROATIA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
6	NIKOLA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	OSIJEK, CROATIA SERBIA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
7	NASTJA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	JAKOVO SLOVENIA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

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	NAME	SURNAME	ORGANISATION / SCHOOL	COUNTRY / TOWN	EMAIL	SIGNATURE
8	Mirena	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	SERBIA / ZLATIBOR	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
9	MILIJANA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	MLADEN ČUČIĆ SERBIA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
10	BRAVA/SEVA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	SLOVENIA / LJUBLJANA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
11	KRISTINA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	BUDAPEST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
12	MARCELL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	MINDRECH HUNGARY	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
13	MILJENKO	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	PRELOG CROATIA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
14	NEJC	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	SLOVENIJA, LJUBLJANA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]


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	NAME	SURNAME	ORGANISATION/SCHOOL	COUNTRY/TOWN	EMAIL	SIGNATURE
15	STEVAN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	SERBIA ŠABAC	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
16	MILJANA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	OMIDA ŠABAC	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
17	Jasno	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	BiH Turbe-Travnik	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
18	Ana	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Serbia - Leskovac	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
19	HIKMET	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Bosna HERCEGOVINA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
20	NATAŠA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Šabac	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
21	TADANA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	HRVATSKA KARLOVAC	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]





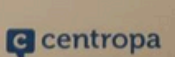


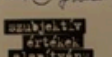







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	NAME	SURNAME	ORGANISATION/SCHOOL	COUNTRY/TOWN	EMAIL	SIGNATURE
22	DOBRAVKO	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	HRVATSKA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
23	Milan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	B.H. Foča	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
24	HERKULAC	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	SIH Trebinje	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
25	INES	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Hrvatka	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
26	Šteja	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Switzerland, Basel	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
27	Sara	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Switzerland Basel	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
28	Vida	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Tuzla BiH	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]


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	NAME	SURNAME	ORGANISATION/SCHOOL	COUNTRY/TOWN	EMAIL	SIGNATURE
29	Ana	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Serbia	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
30		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
31		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
32		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

please provide screenshots of social media posts before, during and/or after the event, both from your own organisation social media page and/or from partners' and/or from participants

 **Holocaust Center Šabac**
14. октобар у 22:21 · 🌐

Protoklog vikenda u Šapcu, u organizaciji "Holokaust centra", održan je međunarodni seminar u sklopu projekta "Zalaganje za sećanje: Svedočanstva iz prošlosti kao lekcije za sadašnjost – Holokaust i obrazovanje o ljudskim pravima kroz usmenu istoriju (STAND UP)".

Uz učešće 27 nastavnika istorije, građanskog vaspitanja, maternjeg jezika ali i drugih humanističkih nauka, obradjena su sećanja svedoka zločina u Drugom svetskom ratu, na teritoriji Jugoslavije. Ti video zapisi nalaze se u bogatoj kolekciji Američkog memorijalnog muzeja Holokausta iz Vašingtona (USHMM). U pitanju su svedočanstva koja traju između 60 i 90 minuta, pa je potrebno prilagoditi ih školskom času, koji ima kraće trajanje i tako ih učiniti zanimljivijim djacima osnovnih i srednjih škola.

U drugom delu seminara istoričarka Sara Jevtić održala je predavanje i radionicu o stradanju Jevreja u Šapcu, posle koje je usledio obilazak lokacija u gradu, koje nas sećaju na te događaje.

Do okončanja projekta, koje je planirano za jesen 2026. godine, svi učesnici imaju obavezu da održe jedan školski čas, koristeći znanje stečeno u Šapcu, kao i na seminarima koji će se održati u Budimpešti, Ljubljani i Berlinu.

Projekat je finansiran sredstvima Evropske unije.

Nosilac projekta je [HERMES](#) iz Hrvatske, a partneri su: [Centropa](#) (Nemačka), [Genesis Project](#) (Bosna i Hercegovina), [Muzej novije in sodobne zgodovine Slovenije](#) (Slovenija), [We Have a Dream](#) (Mađarska) i "Holokaust centar" (Srbija).



 **Holocaust Center Šabac** је на локацији **Zasavica II**.
12. октобар у 20:25 · 🌐

Po završetku međunarodnog seminara "Stand Up", Stevan Marinković, predsednik UG "Holokaust centar" iz Šapca i Saša Martinović (Nemačka), predstavnik učesnika seminara, posetili su Zasavicu i odali počast Jevrejima i Romima, koje je 12 i 13.10.1941. streljala nemačka vojska.



Holocaust Center Šabac



8 followers

1w • Edited •

Šabac, Serbia

This past weekend, an international seminar was held in Šabac, organized by Holocaust Center, as part of the project "Standing up for Remembrance: Testimonies from the Past as Lessons for the Present – Holocaust and Human Rights Education through Oral History (STAND UP)".

The seminar gathered 27 teachers of history, civic education, native languages, and other humanities to work with eyewitness testimonies of crimes committed in Yugoslavia during WWII. These testimonies are part of the extensive video collection of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) in Washington, D.C. Since the testimonies are between 60 and 90 minutes long, participants explored ways to adapt them for classroom use, making the stories more accessible and engaging for primary and secondary school students.

In the second part of the seminar, historian Sara Jevtić delivered a lecture and workshop on the persecution of the Jewish community in Šabac, followed by a guided visit to the city's memorial sites connected to these events.

By the end of the project, planned for autumn 2026, each participant will be required to conduct at least one class applying the knowledge gained in Šabac and at upcoming seminars in Budapest, Ljubljana, and Berlin.

The project is funded by the European Union.

● Lead partner: HERMES (Croatia) <https://lnkd.in/dSc27PS9>

● Project partners:

Centropa (Germany) — <https://lnkd.in/dQUPfhRY>

Genesis Project (Bosnia and Herzegovina) — <https://lnkd.in/d-6cs5Zb>

Muzej novejšje in sodobne zgodovine Slovenije (Slovenia) — <http://www.muzej-nz.si/en/>

Subjective Values Foundation (Hungary) — <https://lnkd.in/dGKgxtKM>

Holokaust centar (Serbia)

This project is co-founded by European Union.

#HolocaustEducation #OralHistory #HumanRightsEducation #Teaching #STANDUPproject #EUFunded #Education #Memory #Remembrance #Šabac #HolocaustStudies #Partnerships #Teachers

<https://www.glaspodrinja.rs/aktuelno/51943/svedocanstva-stradanja-i-njihova-implementacija-u-nastavu>

Šabac, RS

12°

19.11. CET

Pretežno oblačno

» ZAGAĐENJE VAZDUHA



» GDE VEČERAS



učesnice i učesnici Seminara u Šapcu (foto: D. R.)

Svedočanstva stradanja i njihova implementacija u nastavu

Udruženje građana "Holokaust centar" Šabac ugostilo je 29 učesnika iz šest država na međunarodnom seminaru posvećen prikupljenim svedočanstvima o stradanju različitih naroda tokom Drugog svetskog rata i prilagodavanju materijala nastavi, kako bi se kroz školski program čuvalo sećanje. U Šapcu su boravili učesnici iz: Bosne i Hercegovine, Hrvatske, Slovenije, Nemačke, Mađarske i Srbije.

Ideja celokupnog proejekta nastala je u UG "Hermes" Zagreb. Muzej holokausta u Vašingtonu, drugi najvažniji svetski muzej sa ovom temom, dugo je prikupljao svedočanstva svedoka vremena i svedoka zločina. U arhivi imaju svedočanstva iz cele Evrope, što je

» NAJNOVI
23. oktob





HERMES

15. октобар у 14:41 · 🌐



🌐 Prošlost i njezin utjecaj na sadašnjost

Protoklog vikenda, HERMES i partneri organizirali su prvi seminar za nastavnike uživo u sklopu projekta podržanog od strane EU CERV programa, „STAND UP – Zalaganje za sjećanje: svjedočanstva iz prošlosti kao lekcije za sadašnjost.“

Domaćin seminara bio je naš partner **Holocaust Center Šabac**, a okupio je 28 nastavnika i edukatora iz Srbije, Slovenije, Bosne i Hercegovine, Hrvatske, Mađarske i Njemačke. Zajedno smo istraživali kako usmene povijesti preživjelih Holokausta i svjedoka iz arhive USHMM-a mogu postati snažan alat u suvremenoj nastavi.

Program je uključivao obilazak povijesnih lokacija u Šapcu te izuzetno predavanje i radionicu povjesničarke Sare Jevtić, koja je predstavila svoja najnovija istraživanja o židovskoj zajednici u Šapcu tijekom 1941.–1944.

U vremenu kada se sve češće suočavamo s iskrivljavanjem povijesti i porastom netolerancije, prisjećanje ovih priča podsjeća nas da je obrazovanje jedan od najsnažnijih lijekova protiv ravnodušnosti.

🙏 Od srca zahvaljujemo našim domaćinima i partnerima – **Holocaust Center Šabac**, **Centropa**, **Genesis Project**, **Muzej novejše in sodobne zgodovine Slovenije** i **We Have a Dream** (Subjective Values Foundation) – na izvrsnoj suradnji, predanosti i kolegijalnosti. Posebna zahvala ide našoj domaćici i izvanrednoj koordinatorici Ani Vujković Šakanović, koja nas je sve okupila u Šapcu i s osmijehom upravljala svim zadacima. 💜 🌟

📍 Sljedeće postaje STAND UP seminara za nastavnike: Budimpešta, Ljubljana i Berlin.

#STANDUPproject #HolocaustEducation #LjudskaPrava #UsmenaPovijest #Nastavnici #Obrazovanje #Partnerstva #EUFunded #CERV #Sjećanje #Povijest

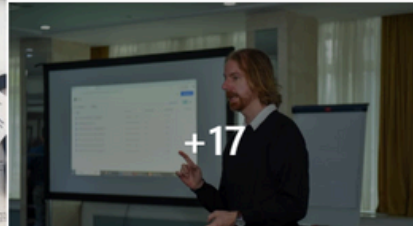
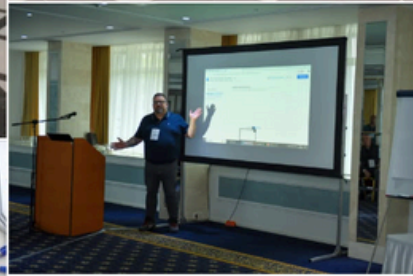


We Have a Dream

15. октобар у 11:40 · 🌐



Visiting **Holocaust Center Šabac** last week, this weekend the group is coming to Budapest.



+17



HERMES - Croatian Education and Development Network ...

231 followers

1w • 🌐

🌐 **Reflecting on the past and its impact on the present.**

Last weekend, HERMES and partners organized the first in-person Teacher Training Seminar within the EU-funded project "STAND UP – Standing up for Remembrance: Testimonies from the Past as Lessons for the Present."

Hosted by our partners at the [Holocaust Center Šabac](#), the seminar brought together 28 educators from Serbia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Hungary, and Germany. Together, we explored how oral histories of Holocaust survivors and witnesses from the USHMM's Oral History Archive can become meaningful learning tools in classrooms today.

The seminar included a city walk through Šabac's historical sites and a powerful session led by historian Sara Jevtić, who shared her latest research on the Jewish community of Šabac during 1941–1944.

In times when historical distortion and intolerance are once again on the rise, reflecting on these stories reminds us that education is one of the strongest antidotes to indifference.

🙏 Deep thanks to our hosts and partners – [Holocaust Center Šabac](#), [Centropa](#), [Genesis Project](#), National Museum of Contemporary History Slovenia (<https://lnkd.in/ePD2p8Ev>), and [Subjective Values Foundation](#) – for their collaboration, dedication, and collegiality. A special note of gratitude goes to the host and project coordinator extraordinaire, [Ana Vujković Šakanović](#), for bringing us all together in Šabac, and for handling multiple parallel tasks, all the while keeping a smile on her face. ❤️ 🌟

Next stops for STAND UP teacher seminars: Budapest, Ljubljana, and Berlin.

[#STANDUPproject](#) [#HolocaustEducation](#) [#HumanRights](#) [#OralHistory](#) [#Teachers](#)
[#Education](#) [#Partnerships](#) [#EUfunded](#) [#CERV](#) [#Remembrance](#) [#HistoryEducation](#)

PARTICIPANT NAMETAG, AGENDA AND CERTIFICATE

