

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

STAND UP Online Teacher Seminars

Report

May 2025













Executive Summary

In May 2025, the STAND UP Consortium under the leadership of HERMES (Croatian Education and Development Network for the Evolution of Communication) organized a series of two online teacher seminars with participants from Croatia, Germany, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Hungary and Slovenia. Initially envisioned as a single seminar, the online event had to be broken up into two separate online seminars due to the high number of applicants.

The objectives of the online seminar were to introduce the participants to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Oral History Archive, and to teach them how to search the archive using keywords and geographical markers for their respective localities of interest. We also wanted to gauge teachers' interest and thoughts on which particular themes, stories or focus areas should we seek out from the archival testimonies, in the second stage of the project when teachers themselves will create lesson plans around specific testimonies.

The seminars were highly successful, attracting a total of 113 participants on the first day and 93 participants on the second day of the event. While the majority of participants came from the targeted project countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina = 50, Croatia = 51, Germany = 13, Hungary = 9, Serbia = 47, Slovenia = 27), we had 9 participants from other countries as well (Italy, Finland, Kosovo, Albania, North Macedonia, etc.), joining us for the seminars.

The seminars resulted in participants reviewing existing USHMM Archive testimonies from their respective countries, and creating a shortlist of 60+ testimonies that could be used for classroom-based lessons with high school students. This allowed STAND UP project partners to further investigate the suggested testimonies, and narrow down the final list of testimonies that will inspire future STAND UP lesson plans, to ~ 25.

Finally, given the exceptionally high interest in the STAND UP project, the online seminars also helped us with the finalisation of the participant selection process, for the attendance of in-person seminars that will take place later in the project, in Serbia (October 2025), Hungary (October 2025), Slovenia (November 2025) and Germany (January 2026).

Background Information

The STAND UP project was envisioned to begin with a consultative process with educators and teachers. An online seminar was planned for 100+ educators during which we planned to present the USHMM Oral History archive, and show educators how to search it using specific parameters and keywords.

An important part of the online seminars was also organizing a group brainstorm in national breakout rooms, identifying key Holocaust- and remembrance-related themes that educators should focus on when searching the archive, in order to identify key video excerpts. Following the online seminar, HERMES editors will cut the video excerpts, following the instructions from educators, making sure that the video excerpts are classroom-use friendly, in length and content.

Objectives of the online seminars:

- Introduce USHMM Oral History Archive to 100+ educators in an online seminar;
- Equip teachers and educators to search the archive, using specific keywords;
- Agree on central educational and remembrance themes to focus on in each of the project countries;
- Inspire educators to familiarize themselves with the archive and to send HERMES editors instructions on which videos to edit;
- HERMES editors edit series of video excerpts, for later use in the project (for creation of lesson/classroom activity plans).

Key Figures

Total participants May 27, 2025: **113**Participants/country breakdown:

- Bosnia-Herzegovina = 30
- Croatia = 21
- Germany = 7
- Hungary = 4
- Serbia = 26
- Slovenia = 17
- Other = 8

(Finland, Kosovo, Albania, North Macedonia, Nigeria, Italy)

Total participants May 28, 2025: **93**Participants/country breakdown:

- Bosnia-Herzegovina = 20
- Croatia = 30
- Germany = 6
- Hungary = 5
- Serbia = 21
- Slovenia = 10
- Other = 1 (Switzerland)

Online Seminar Agenda & Flow

Each seminar started with partner organisations' introductions, and opening statement by the seminar facilitator - President of the Croatian Education and Development Network for the Evolution of Communication HERMES, Mr. Tvrtko Pater.

Then, we were joined by Ms. Noemi Szekely Popescu from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Oral History Archive, who presented the archive website, and also shared a few testimonies as well as the stories behind their acquisition.

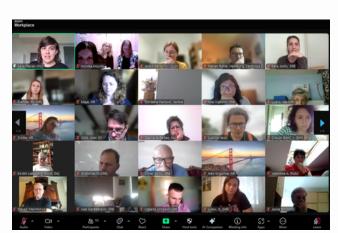
The most significant part of the webinar was a 45-minutes long breakout room session, whereby all participants went to their national breakout rooms, where each partner organisation acted as a host. The main task during these breakout sessions was to go through the testimonies by witnesses and survivors from their respective countries, to familiarize themselves with the scope and the themes, as well as geographies covered by the archive's materials. Subsequently, they then had group discussion on which key Holocaust themes, events or concepts were underexplored or not well known in their respective national contexts, so that we could identify testimonies that could help us teach about these particular stories and events.

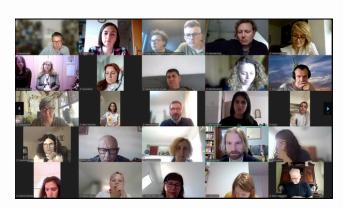
Back in plenary, each national group presented their respective key themes and focus topics they wished to focus on, from the USHMM Archive. The seminar facilitator thanked everyone for their participation, and announced the next steps of the educational project.

As the final step of the webinar, participants received a link to the official EU Survey that they were meant to fill out, giving their impressions of the event along with some wider reflections.

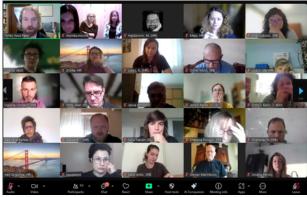
Gallery of Screenshots















Evaluation

Based on the EU Survey completed after the seminars, the overall assessment of the event averaged an impressive 4.82 out of 5.

Participants also reported significant personal and professional growth as a result of their participation. Specifically, the seminar contributed to increased awareness (4.68/5), improved knowledge (4.68/5), and enhanced skills (4.49/5) among respondents. Importantly, the seminar also strengthened collaboration and connections among educators, with the Cooperation score averaging 4.74/5. The distribution of responses shows that the vast majority of participants rated cooperation at the highest level, underlining the event's success in fostering a sense of community and shared purpose across borders.

Here are some of the open comments and reflections on the online seminars:

- "Everyone was very interested and full of enthusiasm. There wasn't much time for conversation, which is understandable given the number of participants."
- "It was a very interesting training opportunity. I learned new things and I will use them soon."
- "Everything was excellent. Interesting topics for discussion with the students."
- "I was of course familiar with the topic, but I learned today how to work in a different way. I learned about the existence of the Archive today, and definitely plan to use it."
- "This online seminar was a high-quality professional development opportunity for teachers and educators, because it enabled me to access new historical sources that I intend to use in my classroom and teaching."
- "It was a wonderful opportunity to engage with Central European and Balkan countries' educators, about the topic of the Holocaust. While engaging in Holocaust education, we haven't sufficiently paid attention to bystander testimonies, and this seminar drew my attention to this."

Conclusion

The online webinars successfully launched the STAND UP educational program. We were thrilled to see exceptionally high interest from educators across the participating countries, reflecting a strong commitment to Holocaust and human rights education.

The participants brought remarkable motivation, curiosity, and openness, which greatly enriched the discussions and set a collaborative tone for the program. Their level of engagement confirmed the relevance and urgency of the project's goals, especially in today's climate of rising intolerance and historical distortion.

This strong beginning has provided us with a dedicated group of educators who are eager to explore and apply the oral history testimonies in their teaching. We are excited to continue building on this momentum in the next phases of the project.

Annexes

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS













Call for Applications:
Standing up for Remembrance:
Testimonies from the Past
as Lessons for the Present - Holocaust
and Human Rights Education through Oral History
(STAND UP)

Educational Program for Teachers & Educators

BACKGROUND

As we approach the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, the lessons of that era remain as important as ever. In a time marked by rising intolerance and historical distortion, education plays a critical role in preserving the memory of the Holocaust and fostering democratic values. The "STAND UP" project invites educators to engage with authentic testimonies and bring these powerful stories into their classrooms.

"STAND UP" is the result of cooperation between Croatian Education and Development Network for the Evolution of Communication - HERMES (Croatia), CENTROPA (Germany), GENESIS (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Holocaust Center Sabac (Serbia), National Museum of Contemporary History (Slovenia), Subjective Values Foundation (Hungary) and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), realized through the generous support of the European Union's Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Jeff and Toby Herr Oral History Archive is one of the largest and most diverse collections of Holocaust testimonies in the world. The collection contains testimonies from liberators, collaborators, witnesses, and rescuers. The documented oral testimonies of Holocaust survivors from Central and Eastern Europe are currently not widely used in the current teaching about the Holocaust. Therefore, this project aims to create educational materials centered around the oral testimonies gathered by the USHMM from World War II witnesses and Holocaust survivors from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Serbia and Slovenia.

ABOUT THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Over the course of the educational program, the selected professors, teachers, educators from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Serbia and Slovenia will get familiarized with the USHMM Oral History archives. They will select the individual testimonies and/or topics from the Oral History archive, around which they will then develop classroom-based activities and lesson plans. In the end, the participants will be expected to organize educational activities, using the newly developed content based on the testimonies from the USHMM Oral Archives.

INIVITATION

We hereby invite history teachers, educators, non-formal education specialists in historical and/or human rights education, as well as interested teachers from other disciplines (civic education, sociology, psychology, literature, etc.) to apply for this educational programme which will last from late May 2025 until spring 2026, which consists of the following three distinct phases:

- Attending a 2-hours long online seminar, on either May 27 or May 28, 2025, between 17:00 - 19:00 CET.
- 2. Attending one in-person training seminar (arrivals on Friday morning, departures on Sunday afternoon) which will take place in 4 countries - Germany, Hungary, Serbia and Slovenia. (September '25 -January '26 - you will be able to signal preference for dates/locations);
- Classroom-based dissemination of the activity plans you will develop during the inperson training seminars. (spring 2026)

Teachers and educators are at the forefront of shaping how future generations understand and act upon the lessons of the past. By participating in "STAND UP," you will help ensure that the voices of World War II remembrance continue to educate, inspire, and stand as a warning against hatred and indifference.

HOW TO APPLY

Please fill out this application form (deadline: May 20, 2025 at 14:00)

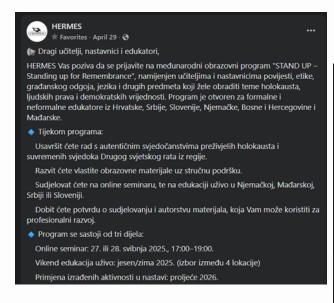
Selected participants will be notified by May 21, 2025. All the expenses relating to the participation in the Teacher Seminar will be covered by the organizers, including public transport (up to 150 EUR), meals and accommodation during the in-person seminar.

For additional questions that you might have regarding the educational program, feel free to turn to Tvtiko Noa Pater (HERMES), either via email: pater@hermes.hr or by phone +385 91 250 6151.



2

SOCIAL MEDIA CFP POST



- √ Za sudjelovanje je dovoljno osnovno znanje engleskog jezika jer će se većina aktivnosti odvijati na nacionalnim jezicima.
- 📆 Rok za prijavu: 20. svibnja/maja 2025. do 14:00 sati
- Prijavni obrazac: https://forms.gle/vdHycBuk2SvRuQ638
- Napomena: broj mjesta ograničen je na 20 sudionika po državi. Prijavite se što prije!

Za dodatna pitanja javite se na:

pater@hermes.h

Radujemo se ovoj novoj suradnji sa profesorima, nastavnicima i učiteljima, sad kad je pred nama je 80. obljetnica završetka Drugog svjetskog rata...a sjećanja te upozorenja iz prošlosti se čine važnijim nego ikad... 💘

Projekt je podržan od strane EU CERV programa.

Partneri:

Centropa Holocaust Center Šabac Genesis Project Muzej novejše in sodobne zgodovine Slovenije Szubjektív Értékek Alapítvány - We Have a Dream

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



Annexes

ONLINE SEMINAR SLIDES



Standing up for Remembrance:

Testimonies from the Past as Lessons for the Present - Holocaust and Human Rights Education through Oral History

Webinar - May 28, 2025











Short agenda:

Introductions & Opening Statements (Tvrtko Pater) Presenting the USHMM Oral History Archive (Noemi Szekely Popescu) Breakout rooms: national groups exploring national archival opportunities Presenting the chosen focus topics Next steps announcement Webinar Closing + EU Survey













Timeline:

- May webinars
- by June 5 decision on participants of the live seminars
- June and July work with testimonies and video editing
- from September live seminars in Šabac, Budapest, Ljubljana and Berlin
- after seminars classroom implementation of the created testimony-based activity plans













ONLINE SEMINAR ZOOM REGISTRATION LISTS

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 27) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
27.5.2025. 17:35:47	Maja	
27.5.2025. 17:35:47	Mihaela	
27.5.2025. 17:35:56	Pino	
27.5.2025. 17:35:57	Tjaša	
27.5.2025. 17:36:01	Sunčana Lea	
27.5.2025. 17:36:04	Marina	surnames
27.5.2025. 17:36:05	Tatjana	Samames
27.5.2025. 17:36:06	Michael	redacted
27.5.2025. 17:36:07	Dejan	
27.5.2025. 17:36:08	Jelena	for
27.5.2025. 17:36:09	Niina	privacy
27.5.2025. 17:36:09	Tatjana	privacy
27.5.2025. 17:36:12	Zerina	purposes
27.5.2025. 17:36:12	Katarina	
27.5.2025. 17:36:14	Djordje	
27.5.2025. 17:36:21	Jasna	
27.5.2025. 17:36:21	UMA	
27.5.2025. 17:36:21	Beatrice	
27.5.2025. 17:36:22	Sabina	
27.5.2025. 17:36:24	Natasa	
27.5.2025. 17:36:26	Mojca	
27.5.2025. 17:36:36	Haris	

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 27) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
27.5.2025. 17:37:48	Judith	
27.5.2025. 17:37:49	Tatjana	
27.5.2025. 17:37:52	Verislav	
27.5.2025. 17:37:57	Natalija	
27.5.2025. 17:38:00	Ines	
27.5.2025. 17:38:04	Ljubiša	surnames
27.5.2025. 17:38:08	Mirjana	
27.5.2025. 17:38:09	Duško	redacted
27.5.2025. 17:38:27	Emma	for
27.5.2025. 17:38:29	Nataša	7
27.5.2025. 17:38:34	Nejc	privacy
27.5.2025. 17:38:37	Dragana	purposes
27.5.2025. 17:38:55	Marijana	purposes
27.5.2025. 17:39:44	Brunilda	
27.5.2025. 17:39:45	Dušan	
27.5.2025. 17:39:51	Branislav	
27.5.2025. 17:39:59	Marcell	
27.5.2025. 17:40:07	Jovana	
27.5.2025. 17:40:10	Sanela	
27.5.2025. 17:40:10	Maja	
27.5.2025. 17:40:13	Janez	
27.5.2025. 17:40:17	Stana	

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 27) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
27.5.2025. 17:36:40	Biserka	
27.5.2025. 17:36:40	Liljana	
27.5.2025. 17:36:41	Milijana	
27.5.2025. 17:36:43	Milijana	
27.5.2025. 17:36:46	Alexander	
27.5.2025. 17:36:56	Hikmet	surnames
27.5.2025. 17:36:56	Elda	Sarrianies
27.5.2025. 17:37:01	Simon	redacted
27.5.2025. 17:37:01	Nikola	
27.5.2025. 17:37:03	Mirko	for
27.5.2025. 17:37:07	Ana	privacy
27.5.2025. 17:37:11	Fabian	F,
27.5.2025. 17:37:13	Hanka	purposes
27.5.2025. 17:37:19	Jelena	
27.5.2025. 17:37:25	Aldin	
27.5.2025. 17:37:28	Dijana	
27.5.2025. 17:37:35	Draško	
27.5.2025. 17:37:39	Josip	
27.5.2025. 17:37:42	Katinka	
27.5.2025. 17:37:44	Kristijana	
27.5.2025. 17:37:45	Marin	
27.5.2025. 17:37:48	Sabahudin	

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 27) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
27.5.2025. 17:40:18	Miljenko	Last name.
27.5.2025. 17:40:20	Maša	
27.5.2025. 17:40:22		
27.5.2025. 17:40:24	Jani	
27.5.2025. 17:40:24	Edina	
27.5.2025. 17:40:26	Oliver	surnames
27.5.2025. 17:40:26	Čarna	redacted
27.5.2025. 17:40:27	Vera	
27.5.2025. 17:40:28	Jerko	for
27.5.2025. 17:40:34	Emilija	porit (a a) (
27.5.2025. 17:40:35	Brankica	privacy
27.5.2025. 17:40:36	Zorica	purposes
27.5.2025. 17:40:37	Sladjana	
27.5.2025. 17:40:40	Ljiljana	
27.5.2025. 17:40:46	Sandra	
27.5.2025. 17:40:47	Ibrahim	
27.5.2025. 17:40:49	Vesna	
27.5.2025. 17:40:50	Milica	
27.5.2025. 17:40:53	Lidija	
27.5.2025. 17:40:54		
27.5.2025. 17:40:59		
27.5.2025. 17:41:21	Borislav	

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 27) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
27.5.2025. 17:41:46	Dragana	
27.5.2025. 17:41:49	Marta	
27.5.2025. 17:41:51	Sashegyi	
27.5.2025. 17:42:06	Jelena	
27.5.2025. 17:42:14	Adisa	
27.5.2025. 17:42:23	Stella	
27.5.2025. 17:43:09	Lamprini	
27.5.2025. 17:45:36	Milica	
27.5.2025. 17:45:43	Tihomir	surnames
27.5.2025. 17:50:26	Borislav	redacted
27.5.2025. 17:55:47	Julijana	readeted
27.5.2025. 17:56:35	Milijana	for
27.5.2025. 18:01:16	Anja	privacy
27.5.2025. 18:09:10	Tihomir	privacy
27.5.2025. 18:09:42	Sabine	purposes
27.5.2025. 18:17:41	Tvrtko	
27.5.2025. 18:17:52	Selim	
27.5.2025. 18:28:50	Mirela	
27.5.2025. 18:28:56	Denis	
27.5.2025. 18:29:32	Aleksandar	
27.5.2025. 18:29:41	Monika	
27.5.2025. 18:30:26	Monika	

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 27) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
27.5.2025. 18:31:06	Irena	
27.5.2025. 18:45:11	Tihomir	
27.5.2025. 18:59:58	Sandra	

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 28) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
28.5.2025. 17:36:25	Ana	
28.5.2025. 17:36:27	Ivana	
28.5.2025. 17:36:29	Sead	
28.5.2025. 17:36:30	Ana	
28.5.2025. 17:36:31	Damjan	
28.5.2025. 17:36:36	Alan	
28.5.2025. 17:36:36	Jovana	surnames
28.5.2025. 17:36:37	Valerija	redacted
28.5.2025. 17:36:37	Darko	
28.5.2025. 17:36:38	Kristina	for
28.5.2025. 17:36:40	Vesna	privacy
28.5.2025. 17:36:41	JANJA	privacy
28.5.2025. 17:36:42	Vesna	purposes
28.5.2025. 17:36:42	Zoran	
28.5.2025. 17:36:43	Sandra	
28.5.2025. 17:36:44	Mira	
28.5.2025. 17:36:46	Danijela	
28.5.2025. 17:36:46	Martina	
28.5.2025. 17:36:46	Ivan	
28.5.2025. 17:36:48	Aljaž	
28.5.2025. 17:36:49	Andreas	
28.5.2025. 17:36:49	Gabriella	

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 28) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
28.5.2025. 17:36:50	Ksenija	
28.5.2025. 17:36:50	Sára	
28.5.2025. 17:36:51	Ida	
28.5.2025. 17:36:52	Armina	
28.5.2025. 17:36:54	Julijana	
28.5.2025. 17:36:56	Stanislava	
28.5.2025. 17:36:57	Dijana	surnames
28.5.2025. 17:36:57	Nikola	
28.5.2025. 17:36:57	Ivan	redacted
28.5.2025. 17:36:57	Dijana	for
28.5.2025. 17:36:59	Branislav	,
28.5.2025. 17:37:00	Marija	privacy
28.5.2025. 17:37:00	Tihana	purposes
28.5.2025. 17:37:02	Marija	purposes
28.5.2025. 17:37:03	Snežana	
28.5.2025. 17:37:05	Saša	
28.5.2025. 17:37:19	Danijela	
28.5.2025. 17:37:20	Vedran	
28.5.2025. 17:37:24	Sanela	
28.5.2025. 17:37:28	Krisztina	
28.5.2025. 17:37:30	Zrinka	
28.5.2025. 17:37:36	Sanja	

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 28) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
28.5.2025. 17:37:37	Sonja	
28.5.2025. 17:37:39	Snežana	
28.5.2025. 17:37:43	Maja	
28.5.2025. 17:37:46	Almedina	
28.5.2025. 17:37:50	Bojana	surnames
28.5.2025. 17:37:56	Uglješa	
28.5.2025. 17:37:57	Marijana	redacted
28.5.2025. 17:37:57	Suzana	for
28.5.2025. 17:38:00	Mirela	JOI
28.5.2025. 17:38:11	Anita	privacy
28.5.2025. 17:38:11	Kirstin	
28.5.2025. 17:38:16	Tihana	purposes
28.5.2025. 17:38:28	Selim	
28.5.2025. 17:38:36	Elvira	
28.5.2025. 17:38:48	Oliver	
28.5.2025. 17:39:07	Ines	
28.5.2025. 17:39:11	Maja	
28.5.2025. 17:39:12	Milan	
28.5.2025. 17:39:30	Jovana	
28.5.2025. 17:39:36	Jasna	
28.5.2025. 17:40:09	Zlatko	
28.5.2025. 17:40:54	Uroš	

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 28) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
28.5.2025. 18:43:41	Irena	surnames
28.5.2025. 18:44:45	Monika	redacted
28.5.2025. 18:49:34	Sara	for
28.5.2025. 18:54:00	Krisztina	privacy
28.5.2025. 18:55:44	Stevan	purposes

STAND UP Webinar - signature list (May 28) (Odgovori)

Vremenska oznaka	First name.	Last name.
28.5.2025. 17:42:03	Mirsad	
28.5.2025. 17:44:09	Snezana	
28.5.2025. 17:44:45	Milijana	
28.5.2025. 17:45:37	Goran	
28.5.2025. 17:46:28	Marija	surnames
28.5.2025. 17:46:28	Vesna	redacted
28.5.2025. 17:49:14	Selim	reducted
28.5.2025. 17:51:08	Sulejman	for
28.5.2025. 17:51:23	Sandra	
28.5.2025. 17:53:06	Andreas	privacy
28.5.2025. 17:53:30	Mirela	purposes
28.5.2025. 17:54:14	Adrienne	
28.5.2025. 18:00:17	Sandra	
28.5.2025. 18:02:20	Draško	
28.5.2025. 18:08:06	Kristina	
28.5.2025. 18:14:54	Gordana	
28.5.2025. 18:27:38	Saša	
28.5.2025. 18:28:45	Biljana	
28.5.2025. 18:30:24	Valentina	
28.5.2025. 18:30:25	Simone	
28.5.2025. 18:33:47	Darko	
28.5.2025. 18:43:06	Monika	