



LVIV SEMINAR

“Civil society, social media, and 20th Century Jewish History in Ukraine” – Three-day conference for 50 educators, civil society activists and journalists from Ukraine, Moldova, and Germany

International Seminar for Educators and NGO representatives from Ukraine, Moldova and, Germany

April 3–5, 2018 in Lviv, Ukraine

Underwritten by the German Foreign Office

With additional support by the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter (UJE)

In partnership with “Society Initiatives Institute (SII), “Mnemonics”, the Ukrainian Center for Holocaust Studies (UCHS) and International Center for Training and Professional Development (ICTPD)

Ten take away quotes from participants

"Trans.History is a extremely useful project for the formation of consciousness of youth and for the preservation of historical memory."

— VITALIY KUSHNYEROV, KYIV

"Trans.History is a transnational playground for teachers who aspire to learn something new, to deepen their knowledge of history, to exchange experience with colleagues from abroad. This project contributes to critical thinking and a balanced memory culture, teaches tolerance and how to confront stereotypes, engages in co-operation with civic organizations, and stimulates activity in building up civil society."

— OKSANA HALANYK, LVIV

"A unique project that allows you to receive essential information about Jewish history and to learn how to use it in the classroom, how to attract students to history and scientific work, how to create films, and how to engage in the formation of civil society in Ukraine by exchanging ideas and experiences with colleagues from Ukraine and abroad."

— ANNA OLENENKO, ZAPORIZHIA

"Trans.History allows us to rethink history and the tragedy of the Jews in Ukraine, to get new ideas, methods and means in research and education, to establish useful contacts with potential partners in Ukraine and abroad, to expand our horizons on modern research and educational processes, to promote European values and to strengthen the process of democratization in Ukrainian society."

— IHOR DEREVYANYI, LVIV

"Before I attended the Trans.History workshop "Finding the lost history" by Daniel Bernsen, I had not heard much about geocaching before and was overwhelmed how interesting, relevant and easy-to-use this tool is. It's something I want to implement into my work with students."

— TETYANA DUBOK, ZNAMYANKA

"Sasha Nazar's workshop during the seminar made clear that it often takes only a single passionate individual to launch a project, but it takes partners to sustain it. Trans.History helps building this network of like-minded professionals."

— MARLA RAUCHER OSBORN, LVIV

"It's an extraordinary project providing the opportunity for cooperation with colleagues from different countries, and an exciting opportunity to use video and photos in the classroom and to participate in youth competitions."

— KATERYNA DANYLOVA, MYKOLAIV

"Trans.History is a unique opportunity to take advantage of the latest methods of teaching, and the possibility to develop a network with colleagues from abroad for joint projects."

— OKSANA SAKHNO, LVIV

"Trans-history.org is a great website to find materials that help foster democracy based on preserving the past using a trans-national approach. The website provides an excellent opportunity to becoming aware of local, regional and national history through personal stories. I find the resources section with lectures, presentations and lessons especially useful."

— NATALYA POROKHNYAK, TERNOPIIL

Executive summary

Our 8th international Trans.History seminar on “Civil Society, Social Media and Jewish History in Ukraine in the 20th Century” took place at the historic George Hotel in Lviv from April 3-5, 2018. Together with our Ukrainian partners NGO Society Initiatives Initiative (SII) from Lviv, NGO Mnemonics from Rivne, and International Center for Professional Training and Development (ICTPD) from Chisinau, Moldova we invited 50 educators, community activists and NGO representatives from the Ukraine, Moldova, Poland and Germany to share best practices on commemorating Jewish history, to promote active citizenship and to discuss how to teach 20th century Jewish history and the Holocaust to 21st century students.

Seminar highlights included:

- > Screening and discussion of Centropa’s Ukrainian film “Return to Rivne” about two Jewish girls who were saved by Ukrainian neighbors during the Second World War.
- > Marketplace of ideas with presentations from five educators from Ukraine, Moldova, Poland and Germany on how they have used our educational tools in the classroom.
- > Lecture on Ukrainian-Jewish history of the 20th century by Prof. Anatoly Podolski from the Ukrainian Center for Holocaust Studies in Kyiv.
- > Presentation of the exhibition “The Ukrainian Jewish Family Album” with special guests Andrea Stohr and Sebastian Gromig from the German Embassy in Kyiv. Fabian Rühle from Centropa and Oksana Sakhno from Lyceum “Oriyana” in Lviv introduced the exhibition while local students acted as exhibition guides for the guests
- > Full-day excursions on “Exploring Jewish sites of Galicia” led by Alex Denysenko (“A tour of Jewish Brody and Lviv”) and Marla Raucher-Osborn and Jay Osborn of NGO Rohatyn Jewish Heritage (“Recovering Jewish Memory in Rohatyn”).
- > Half-day workshops on “Promoting civil society, preserving and commemorating Jewish History” led by Sasha Nazar from Lviv Volunteer Center (“Restoration of Jewish Sites”), Natalia Ivchuk & Maksym Gon of NGO Mnemonics in Rivne (“Methods of commemorating Jewish life and the Holocaust”), Daniel Bernsen, history teacher from Plaidt, Germany (“Find the Lost History: Learning with Digital Tools”), Viktor Petrov & Taras Reptytskyi of NGO Society Initiatives Institute in Lviv (“Using Social Media to promote Civil Society”) and Christian Herrmann from Bonn, Germany (“Photographing Jewish sites for Education Projects”)

The seminar was led by Fabian Rühle, Centropa’s Director of Education in Europe. Seminar logistics were coordinated by Magdalena Farnesi with additional support by Maximilian von Schoeler. On-site logistics were supported by our Ukrainian partner organization, NGO Society Initiatives Institute, represented by Viktor Petrov, Yuliya Fedoriv and Andriy Kondratikov. We’d like to thank Yulia Mishula and her colleagues at George Hotel Lviv for their support, the Center for Urban History of East Central Europe for providing their conference room, our translators Olha Tyshkovets and Svitlana Bregman, our tour guides Marla Raucher-Osborn and Jay Osborn of NGO



Rohatyn Jewish Heritage and Alex Denysenko, and our workshop facilitators Daniel Bernsen from Plaidt, Germany, Christian Herrmann from Bonn, Germany and Sasha Nazar from the Lviv Volunteer Center.

After our seminar in Lviv we asked all participants to fill out our online feedback survey. Here are the most important findings:

- > 86% of the respondents used or will use the Centropa film "Return to Rivne" in class
- > 96% of the respondents stated that they are or will use the educational materials available on trans-history.org in their schools or institutions
- > 95% of the respondents expressed interest to bring our exhibition to their town (NOTE: after the seminar, the exhibition has already traveled to three more locations)
- > 98% of the respondents found the tours to Rohatyn and Brody pedagogically useful
- > 76% of the respondents found the lecture on Jewish Ukrainian history in the 20th century by Anatoly Podolski helpful and applicable to their professional work
- > 82% of the respondents found presentation of the exhibition "The Ukrainian Jewish Family Album" guided by school students from Lyceum "Oriyana" in Lviv very useful as a model for teaching Jewish history

Thank you for reading this report.

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