## **EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET**

PROJECT		
Project name and acronym:	Trasformative Roma Art and Culture for European Remembrance — TRACER	
Participant:	ALMA MATER STUDIORUM - UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA (UNIBO) IN COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE (UNIFI), CENTRO DI ANIMAZIONE TRICCHEBALLACCHE (CAT), ASSOCIAZIONE CHI ROM E CHI NO (chi rom chi no), ALTO COMISSARIADO PARA AS MIGRAÇÕES I.P (ACM IP), OPEN GROUP Società Cooperativa Sociale ONLUS (OPEN GROUP), STOWARZYSZENIE ROMOW W POLSCE (StowRomPL), RIBALTAMBICAO - ASSOCIACAO PARA A IGUALDADE DE GENERO NAS COMUNIDADES CIGANAS (RIBALTAMBICAO) and UNIVERSITY OF MINHO (CIEd UNIMINHO).	
PIC number:	999993953; 999895789; 919475320; 905981626; 910603118; 939023342; 888258489; 910767533; 999995505	

EVENT DESCRIPTION		
Event number:	10.1	
Event name:	Visit to Auschwitz - Birkenau	
Туре:	Travel and visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum	
In situ/online:	In situ	
Location:	Poland	
Date(s):	14 <sup>th</sup> may – 17 <sup>th</sup> may 2023	
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.tracerproject.eu/	
Participants		
Female:	31	
Male:	20	
Non-binary:	1	
From country 1 [Italy]:	32	
From country 2 [Portugal]:	14	
From country 3 [Poland]:	4	
From country 4 [Spain]:	1	
From country 5 [Croatia]	1	

Total number of participants:	52	From total number of countries:	5			
Description						
Provide a short description of the event and its activities.						
On 15 <sup>th</sup> May, several young leaders from Italy, Portugal and Poland (with their accompanying adults) took part in a visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum. The visit was organised in 2 groups, one with a guide in Italian (for the Italians and Croatian people) and one with a guide in English (for Portuguese, Polish, and Spanish people).						
In the morning (from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.) the groups were taken to visit Auschwitz I.						
The Auschwitz I camp began its operation on 14 June 1940. It was here that the first experiments in the extermination of humans with the use of Cyklon B (a toxic agent used in gas chambers) took place, the first medical experiments were carried out on prisoners, and most of the shootings were commanded (Wall of Death). This camp also hosted the prison for all camp prisoners and the general camp command. Its main gate has the famous inscription 'Arbeit Macht Frei' which means 'Work makes you free'.						
Particularly significant for the young people were some of the places and moments they visited in Auschwitz I:						
- the story about the inverted B on the entrance inscription to Auschwitz I as an act of silent resistance by Jan Liwacz. Master blacksmith and prisoner of the camp.						
- the exhibition set up in Block 13 on the extermination of Roma and Sinti, an exhibition that begins by recounting the everyday life of Roma and Sinti in Germany (around 25,000 present at the time) and continues by telling historical facts and stories of the families and people who were first marginalised and excluded from social life, then deported to the camps and exterminated.						
- the part of the camp now dedicated to the collection of the deportees' objects and works of art (authorised, illegal, post-war) as a narrative and testimony of what happened in history. This metaphor was then used to recall the role of the young leaders in this European project which aims to leave a trace and to speak to the new generations by means of art and history.						
- the book in Block 27 that contains some 4 million names and surnames of people who lost their lives in concentration and extermination camps.						
In the afternoon (from 14:00 to 17:30), the visit moved to the Auschwitz II - Birkenau camp, the largest concentration camp (with more than 300 rudimentary barracks, most of them made of wood), in which more than 90,000 prisoners were interned in 1944: Jews, Poles, Roma, citizens of the Soviet Union and others.						
Here young people felt the emotional impact when entering the barracks that hosted the prisoners, walked along the roads that connected the camp and identified, with the help of the guides, the camp dedicated to the Roma and Sinti internees (Zigeunerlager). Moreover young people were very impressed by the Memorial to the victims, which displays a series of 23 plaques written in the languages used by the prisoners. In front of the plaque in Romanes, representatives of the 3 national groups (Italy, Poland, Portugal) stopped for a long time, taking turns reading and interpreting the terms, discovering common roots in the evolution of the language.						
Photos, videos and the documentation collected will soon be available in a dedicated area of the project website.						

Some relevant pictures have been posted on an Instagram page dedicated to the project @tracerproject https://www.instagram.com/tracerproject/?igshid=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ%3D%3D

Links to websites where news of the events were published:

- https://www.tracerproject.eu/news/young-leaders-meet-poland-0
- https://www.tracerproject.eu/it/news/giovani-leader-si-incontrano-polonia
- https://www.tracerproject.eu/pl/news/mlodzi-liderzy-spotykaja-sie-w-polsce
- https://www.tracerproject.eu/pt-pt/news/encontro-de-jovens-lideres-na-polonia
- https://unacertaideadi.altervista.org/2023/06/attraversare-auschwitz-il-progettotracer-viaggio-della-memoria-sul-porrajmos-attraverso-le-generazioni/
- https://www.facebook.com/chiromechino/posts/pfbid0Xtz3tAWgqNrjbmqkm7wbn94 VZyPkrcjMKuXhvkLHMdRCB8VgSVYj37y8j6g7H1Vrl?\_cft\_[0]=AZUYyXv2SYddb 2God67lg2zYozfdLq6izGLitZ01noqXrZdEFCSPeKbDrAOitwLvwznMTrB6D1DGmj4 mzJgOmv4hr210PS4\_42YDAgtVo2D2NPDUUIqdN2SznroI73KScueEhRPwvzcC4 Mqh39JePQOp4efQ0-MdX0sGSYuwIET7R5ZzGRbUPTR1aemnKTI0\_gw6fQxaZyjA55Kf3MxkzZWherscw 4qLZ-bK5frE19FLA&\_tn\_=%2CO%2CP-R

Notes:

Sensitive data are held by the Department of Education of University of Bologna and by each local partner.

Other materials (included the event description sheet) are posted on TRACER website https://www.tracerproject.eu/news/young-leaders-meet-poland-0