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:	2.1		
Event name:	Seminar in Krakow (Poland)		
Type:	seminar		
In situ/online:	In situ		
Location:	Krakow (Poland)		
Date(s):	17/05/2023		
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.tracerproject.eu/		
Participants			
Female:	42		
Male:	27		
Non-binary:	1		
From country 1 [Italy]:	31		
From country 2 [Portugal]:	13		
From country 3 [Poland]:	11		
From country 4 [Slovakia]:	10		
From country 5 [Croatia]:	1		

From country 6 [Germany]:	1		
From country 7 [France]:	1		
From country 8 [Spain]:	1		
From country 9 [Switzerland]:	1		
Total number of participants:	70	From total number of countries:	9

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The conference was organized by the University of Bologna with the collaboration of all partners involved in TRACER project. The event was hosted by the Italian Cultural Institute in Krakow.

It was an excellent opportunity to introduce TRACER project and the national and international partners involved to different target audience (students of Krakow University, Polish stakeholders, interested citizens...).

In addition to experts on the subject (E. Cajer, Director of the Collection Department of the Auschwitz State Museum, M. Andreola, Guide-educator at the Auschwitz State Museum and S. Kapralski, Professor of Sociology at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Pedagogical University of Kraków) some young people took part in the conference as speakers (2 leaders of the Portuguese group and 2 leaders of the Italian group) to talk about their historical research carried out in recent months on the themes of the holocaust and the extermination of the Roma people and to share personal experiences with the participants using the language of art.

Other members of the leader's groups of Braga, Figueira da Foz (Portugal) Krakow (Poland) Naples, Bologna/Modena and Florence (Italy) also joined the event with their reference adults.

Brief summary of the speeches

Matteo Ogliari, Director of the Italian Institute of Culture in Krakow: Institutional greetings

Maria Teresa Tagliaventi, University of Bologna: Introduction to the project

E. Cajer, Director of the Collection Department of the Auschwitz State Museum: Objects as storytelling

https://youtu.be/qXIAZSrAIJM

There are still a few people alive who can provide evidence of what happened in Auschwitz, but history is also documented through objects (to date: 95,000 individual objects, 80 cubic metres of materials - shoes, suitcases, kitchen tools, prisoners' prostheses and uniforms - , 2550 kg - metal objects, pots, prostheses, house keys... - have been catalogued) and various types of historical documents.

Among these objects there are also 4100 works of art (drawings, artefacts...), around 2,000 made by prisoners during the operation of Camp.

Some individual objects reveal hidden stories, These documents, if kept in good condition, also help to tell the story of the people who died in concentration camps and keep the memory of extermination alive.

Extract from the ppt presentation



M. Andreola, Guide-educator of the Auschwitz State Museum, Drawings to tell, yesterday and today

In Block 27 of Auschwitz I camp, an exhibition tells the story of the Shoah through children's drawings. The idea of the curator of the exhibition is to let the children speak through drawings made while they were experiencing that situation. Children draw what they see.

After a commentary on the various drawings in block 27, reflections are made on some contemporary situations of violence and discrimination also experienced and recounted by the children through drawings (drawings of survivors of shipwrecks in the Mediterranean, drawings of children living in countries in conflict...).

"in the past we are spectators but in the present we are the main actors"

Extract from the ppt presentation





Young people of TRACER narrates

2 young leaders of the Portuguese group (João Gonçalves and Mariana Gil) speak about the research activity that their groups did on the history of Roma people and on the holocaust, using also a video they made.

Two young women from the Italian leader group (Morena Pedriali and Teresa Marini), on the other hand, shared with those present their interest and motivation to be part of the TRACER project and to explore these issues, finally reading an extract from an autobiographical writing.

S. Kapralski, Professor of Sociology at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Pedagogical University of Kraków: The importance of history for the current young generation

Roma have been for a long time excluded from history/memory of the European societies and denied their own history/memory. They were stereotypically perceived as "people without history" who live in an "eternal present".

This mnemonic exclusion is a continuation of social exclusion of Roma in the European societies and can be described by various theoretical concepts developed recently.

Roma needs a history that presents them as important actors of important events, located in the centers of world history: Byzantine Empire, Modernization, Capitalism, Colonialism, Nationalism, Nazism, the Holocaust, Communism, Post-communist transformation.

A history that controls sources and is included in the international intellectual exchange, a history that stays in dialogue with other histories and that Roma may commemorate, reclaiming therefore their memories of the past from non-Roma.

Valuing history (or the histories of the different Roma peoples) means being able to remember and join the different histories within a common memory.

Reflections on the connection between history and memory were also deepened through the narration of the story of Krystyna Gil, a child of a mixed Polish-Roma couple, who survived the holocaust and later became President of the Association of Roma Women in Poland and was a role model and inspiration for many Roma women.

Extract from the ppt presentation

The importance of history for the current young generation

Presentation at the Italian Institute in Kraków May 17, 2023 Dr hab. Sławomir Kapralski, Prof. UP

Szczurowa 2016. Liberating Roma memory from non-Roma control.



Krystyna Gil (at that time 78) speaks to the European Roma youth, participating in the educational program Na Bister (Don't forget).

Krystyna Gil was a president of the Association of Roma Women in Poland and was awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. She was a role model and inspiration for many Roma women

Krystyna Gil passed away on April 1, 2021 at the age of 83. Lokhi phuv lenge.

Why is it important to have history and to remember?

- To fight racism, essentialism and stereotypes
- To get agency and control of the memory production (especially the institutions of cultural memory)
- To construct vertical, historical identities: identifications with the past generations: 'We, in the present, make their story our own'
- To unify different Roma groups. Problem: they often have different histories and here is the role of memory: different histories can be replaced by common memory

To remember = to belong

- 'Remembering is a realization of belonging, even a social obligation. One has to remember in order to belong' (Jan Assmann 2008, 114)
- This kind of memory is described in different ways in Memory Studies: as postmemory (Hirsch), prosthetic memory (Landsberg), travelling memory (Erll), multidirectional memory (Rothberg), transnational memory (Rigney), invented tradition (Hobsbawm), 'authentification of the past' (Smith)
- Sometimes when people say "We remember", they mean: "We want to belong" – to a group which indeed remembers the past in a certain way and this is its living memory. Because to belong to a group means to share its memories and identity.







17th May 2023 h. 17.30 Institute of Italian Culture Grodzka 49, 31-001 Kraków

Crossing Auschwitz

A journey of memory through art and objects between past and present

17.30 Institutional greetings

Matteo Ogliari, Director of the Italian Institute of Culture in Krakow

Introduces and coordinates

Maria Teresa Tagliaventi, University of Bologna

17.50 Objects as storytelling

Elzbieta Cajzer, Director of the Collections Department of the Auschwitz State Museum

18.10 Drawing to tell, yesterday and today

Michele Andreola, Guide-educator at the Auschwitz State Museum

18.25 Young people of TRACER project narrate...

18.40 The importance of history for the current young generation

Slawomir Kapralski, University of Krakow

19.00 Poetry reading

Morena Pedriali, writer

19.10 Conclusion

Maria Josè Casa-Nova, University do Minho

























17 Maggio 2023 ore 17.30 Istituto Italiano di Cultura Grodzka 49, 31-001 Cracovia

Attraversare Auschwitz

Un viaggio nella memoria attraverso arte e oggetti tra passato e presente

17.30 Saluti istituzionali

Matteo Ogliari, Direttore dell'Istituto Italiano di Cultura a Cracovia

Introduce e coordina

Maria Teresa Tagliaventi, Università di Bologna

17.50 **Gli oggetti come racconto della storia** Elzbieta Cajzer, Direttrice Dipartimento Collezioni del Museo Statale di Auschwitz

18.10 Disegnare per raccontare, ieri e oggi Michele Andreola, Guida-educatore del Museo Statale di Auschwitz 18.25 Giovani del progetto TRACER raccontano...

18.40 L'importanza della storia per le attuali giovani generazioni

Slawomir Kapralski, Università di Cracovia

19.00 Lettura di poesie Morena Pedriali, scrittrice

19.10 Conclusioni

Maria Josè Casa-Nova, Università di Minho



















Links to websites where news of the events were published:

https://www.tracerproject.eu/news/international-seminar-krakow

https://www.tracerproject.eu/it/news/seminario-internazionale-cracovia

https://www.tracerproject.eu/pl/news/miedzynarodowe-seminarium-w-krakowie

https://www.tracerproject.eu/pt-pt/news/seminario-internacional-em-cracovia

https://iiccracovia.esteri.it/it/gli_eventi/calendario/conferenza-attraversare-auschwitz/

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https://foromondo.it/attraversare-auschwitz-conferenza-17-maggio-2023/

Notes:

A form was used to collect participants' signatures. Sensitive data are held by the Department of Education of University of Bologna.

Other materials of the international seminar (included the event description sheet) are posted on TRACER website

https://www.tracerproject.eu/news/international-seminar-krakow