Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia-Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Netherlands
North Macedonia
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

aepj association européenne pour la préservation et la valorisation de la culture et du patrimoine juifs

Cultural route of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel du Conseil de l'Europe

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

20

1999-2019

European Days of Jewish Culture

September 1st, 2019

REPORT 2019

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Letter of Appreciation

On behalf of the AEPJ board, I would like to express my deep admiration and gratitude for your work preparing and organizing the 'European Days of Jewish Culture and Heritage ' in 2019.

This year we had the opportunity to celebrate 20 years of this initiative. A great achievement, not only for the course of this major festival, but also for the role it has played and continues to play: to promote Jewish heritage as an integral part of European history and culture through dialogue and coexistence. All who have participated can be proud of having contributed a small grain of sand in the construction of a more pluralistic Europe, which celebrates its diversity and its citizens' cultural identity.

This anniversary will mark a turning point in the project. The growth and implementation of this ini-tiative in more than 30 European countries excites us and encourages us to work towards further improvement. The journey made thus far is an inspiration, we are aware of the great possibilities of the EDJC and allows us to continue thinking big. Our commitment is to continue working to improve this festival, creating participative spaces for its coordinators, deepening its promotion and commu-nication. We want to be part of the renaissance that Jewish culture is experiencing in Europe today.

This would not be possible without your collaboration, your time and your commitment to the pro-ject. We are well aware that the success of the initiative depends on everyone's work. Therefore, allow me to thank you for this tireless effort. It is an honour for the entire board to work with you on such projects.

Yours truly,

François Moyse,
AEPJ President

The AEPJ

The European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage (AEPJ) was created in 2005, encouraged by the Council of Europe, to diversify and develop the European Route of Jewish Heritage. The association is currently formed by the following institutions:

Bnai Brith Europe

B'nai B'rith Europe is a Jewish association that is present in 28 countries. B'nai B'rith means "Son of the Alliance" - the concept of alliance is a key concept in the Bible and in Judaism - and it has non-governmental organisational status. Its role is to fight racism, xenophobia and anti-semitism; to support the State of Israel; to help the needy; to promote Jewish identity; to strengthen the knowledge about the Jewish presence in Europe through culture and heritage; to encourage and train young Jewish adults for leadership in the Jewish communities.

Patronat Call de Girona

The Patronat is responsible for the physical and cultural restoration of the Jewish heritage in Girona, including the renovation, revitalization and promotion of the historic Jewish Quarter, named Call. The Museum of Jewish History and the Nahmanides Institute for Jewish Studies are the two main bodies.

Rede de Judiarias de Portugal

Rede de Judiarias de Portugal (Portuguese Network of Jewish Quarters) is a public association ruled by private law, with the intention to act jointly to defend the urban, architectural, environmental, historical and cultural heritage in connection with the Jewish heritage. It is formed by 28 municipalities and 5 Touristic regions.

Red de Juderías de España - Caminos de Sefarad

Red de Juderías de España - Caminos de Sefarad (Network of Spanish Jewish Quarters) is a non-profit public association with the goal of protect urbanistic, architectural, historical, artistic and cultural Sephardic Heritage in Spain. It is a cultural and touristy network that brings together 19 members. The association is a founding member of the AEPJ.

Unione delle Comunità Ebraiche Italiane

Unione delle Comunità Ebraiche Italiane is a non-profit organization representing 21 Jewish communities in Italy, whose millenary presence in the country has contributed to enrich the cultural, artistic and social heritage. The main purpose of the UCEI is to promote the unity of the Italian Jews ensuring the continuity and development of the Jewish heritage in religious, spiritual, cultural and social areas.

Journées Européennes de la Culture et du Patrimoine Juifs - France

Association dedicated to the promotion and preservation of French Jewish heritage and to the spreading of information about French Jewish culture. For 15 years, from September to December, JECPJ-France has been contributing to the European Day of Jewish Culture by organizing conferences, on-site visits, exhibitions, concerts, etc. in various French Regions.

Ministry of Culture and Tourism Azerbaijan

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Azerbaijan Republic is a governmental agency within the Cabinet of Azerbaijan in charge of regulation of the activities in and development of tourism and promotion of Azerbaijani culture. Since 2016 joined the AEPJ and they work in a specific itinerary through Jewish local sites.

Lithuanian Jewish (Litvak) Community

Is an association of seven regional/local communities and twenty other Lithuanian Jewish active organizations. The aim of LJC are to bring together all the Lithuanian Jews, to defend and look out for their interests in Lithuania and abroad, preserve and celebrate Jewish traditions, cultural and historical heritage, to keep the memory of the Holocaust victims alive, to promote tolerance and fight anti-Semitism and to build and nurture various relations and connections with Jewish and Litvak organizations and individuals all over the world.

Israeli House. Georgia

Its goal is to achieve solidarity by public diplomacy (Hasbara) and enhance the cooperation between Israel and friendly states (among them Georgia). At the Israeli House, lectures on topics related to Jewish Culture and Heritage are conducted regularly; meetings, exhibitions, presentations, and seminars in various spheres – cultural, economic, business, medicine, new technologies, political life, and much more are organized.

CoopCulture

CoopCulture is a cooperative operating in the heritage and cultural activities sector in Italy. CoopCulture is a qualified partner positioned to offer answers and solutions to the increasingly complex needs of a continuously evolving sector, from the perspective of integration between cultural heritage and territory and between culture, tourism and local economy.

Tarbut Sighet Foundation

Fundatia Tarbut Sighet Culture si Educatia Iudaica was Established in 2014 following the 70th Anniversary to the Jewish May 1944 deportations. A yearly Gathering for Sighet – Maramorish Region descendants from all over the world, took place in 2014 and 2015, providing a commemoration and celebration event.

Tarbut Sighet Foundation has put forth two major missions since its establishment:

To provide information to all Maramures Jewish generations about the history of the Jews pre- and post-Holocaust. And, producing and staging cultural Jewish programs teaching about the Jewish Heritage and history of the Jews in Maramures pre- and post-Holocaust, at regional high schools, libraries, community centers, theatres and at Jewish synagogues. This will result in a better understanding of the past in order to have a better relationship with the local and the World Jewry. One of the main goals of FTS is to promote Jewish Heritage in Maramures Region (Northern Transylvania), taking place at high schools, libraries, community centers, and theatres as well as at local city halls etc.

Jewish Cultural Heritage Route Association

Jewish cultural heritage route association has been established in December, 2015 by the agreement between Joniškis, Kėdainiai and Ukmergė municipalities, Museums` Association and Centre for Studies of Culture and History of East European Jews. Association seeks to: 1. to preserve and present a numerous heritage of Lithuanian Jewish culture, which is in the territories of different municipalities, while creating Jewish cultural heritage routes both on regional and national levels; 2. to encourage regional interests about Jewish culture, traditions and heritage, to promote visiting and presenting objects related to Jewish history; 3. to contribute to both national and international dissemination of unique historical, cultural and intellectual heritage of Litvaks. At this moment Association has 13 members, 8 of them are municipalities and the rest of them - public institutions and funds, working on the promotion of Jewish heritage.

Diputació de Lleida

The Diputació de Lleida is a county council institution that has its reason for being in the town councils of the Region of

Lleida, Catalonia. Presided over since 2011 by Joan Reñé, the corporation jointly with the L'Institut d'Estudis Ilerdencs, and the Tourism Board, create a project under the moto "Perseguits i Salvats". This project recovers and indicates the four itineraries used around 80,000 refugees to escape the Nazis in the World War II, it is estimated that about 20,000 were Jewish. This initiative coincides with the recovery of the Chemin de la Liberté (liberty road), route of evasion that joined the French Department of Ariège with the region of Pallars Sobirà, The routes are about 150 km. distributed around different regions in France and Spain Pyrenees.

World Jewish Heritage

The World Jewish Travel, Inc. is a non-profit organization established in 2011. The WJT mission is to preserve Jewish heritage worldwide and promote tourism to a variety of sites and cultural events around the world that are of great importance to the Jewish heritage continuity. WJT stand up for our heritage, giving it back its long-lost voice, in honor of past generations, and in favor of those to come. To do so, WJT have developed an integrated ecosystem, bringing together heritage, travel and technology, via an innovative, first-of-its-kind platform, reframing the concept of Jewish heritage and adjusting it to the 21st century.

The Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic (FJC)

The Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic (FJC) is an umbrella organisation representing 10 Czech Jewish Communities and other independent Jewish institutions across the Czech Republic.

FJC coordinates the activities of the Jewish communities' especially in religious, social, educational and cultural aspects. FJC works with Czech government institutions, state administration, local authorities, or other Czech institutions. FJC also functions and cooperates with foreign institutions and organisations.

FJC actively monitors the environment against all manifestations of anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, fascism or any other discrimination. Federation protects the memory of Shoah victims. FJC preserves and maintains the Jewish monuments in the Czech Republic, promotes the Jewish culture and heritage, educates the young people and provides care for the elderly, funds Jewish needs and supports Israel.

Haggadah Association

Haggadah Association is a non-profit organisation for preserving and promoting jewish culture and tradition in Balkan and Bosnia and Herzegovina was established to preserve and promote Jewish culture and tradition. Haggadah is dedicated to promote and preserve this heritage and to disseminate information about Balkan-Bosnian Jewish culture and heritage.

Our duty is to educate tourist guides to be able to lead the Tour «Jewish Sarajevo», Jewish Mostar and Jewish Balkan tour.

Haggadah offer new destination to preserve good memories on Bosnian's Jews: Visit original manuscript Sarajevo's Haggadah, Pilgrimage to Stolac on the TZADIK grave Rabbi Moshe Danon, Old Jewish cemetery –with specific tombstones, Bosnian Sephardic cuisine. HAGGADAH tries to preserve Sarajevo's reputation as The European Jerusalem.

Izmir Project

Izmir in Turkey is the only city in which an unusual cluster of Synagogues bearing a typical architectural style dating from the 16th century are preserved. These Synagogues built by decedents of Jews who were deported from Spain & Portugal are an historical architectural complex which is unique in the world.

The aim of the Izmir Project is to turn the compound of these ancient Synagogues into a Jewish Heritage Museum, which will tell the story of Sephardic Jews expelled from Spain and arrived in the Ottoman Empire. This future museum will expose the mutual influence of Jewish and Muslim cultures and the inter cultural dialogue between them.

This hopefully restored complex of Synagogues was confirmed in Izmir city-plan, as the future Jewish Museum of Izmir, and we at the Kiriaty foundation are working closely with Izmir Municipality and the local Jewish community to realise, and promote it.

Jewish Community of Zagreb

Today, there are approximately 1 300 members in the Jewish Community of Zagreb, who enjoy their full and equal rights along with support of the government. Although a small community, it remains very active. The Community has many things to offer, amongst which are: The "Mirjam Weiller" kindergarten, The "Lavoslav Schwarz" Foundation Retirement Home, a holiday resort on the Adriatic coast, The "Milan and Ivo Steiner Gallery", a library and archives, a Judaic collection (textile and metals), a Sunday school, a youth club, The "Maccabee" Sports Club, a women's club, a seniors' club, The "Or Hashemesh" Dance Group, Hebrew language courses, "Jewsers" Klezmer Ensemble, The "Miroslav Shalom Freiberger" Cultural Society, a Research and Documentary Centre, and various creative workshops.

Grodzka Gate – NN Theatre- Shtetl Routes

The idea of the Shtetl Routes arose from the documentary, artistic and educational work connected to the Jewish heritage of Lublin as part of the work of "Grodzka Gate – NN Theatre" Centre (Ośrodek "Brama Grodzka – Teatr NN"), Lublin-based municipal cultural institution dealing with education and cultural heritage since 1992. The Centre's work draws on the symbolic and historical significance of the building where it is located – the Grodzka Gate, which was once a passage way between the Christian and Jewish quarters, as well on Lublin's position as the meeting point of various cultures, traditions, and religions.

The Together Plan

The Together Plan is a UK charity dedicated to the rehabilitation, repair and revival of Jewish communities coming out of collective trauma in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, enabling, rather than providing, through a self-help approach.

In spite of the traumatic past, there are many who yearn to reconnect with their lost identity. It is the mission of The Together Plan charity, to help those Jews still living in the region learn how to rebuild their communities, and also to reconnect those in the diaspora to their ancestry and the homes they left behind. The Together Plan is playing a vital and much needed role in the repair and renewal process for a better connected and meaningful Jewish future for Jews everywhere.

Tikun

Tikun is a volunteer, independent, non-governmental, and non-profit association of citizens, established in Novi Sad, Serbia, in 2018.

Members of Tikun share the goal of promoting the multicultural and multi-ethnic heritage of Vojvodina – a province in the northern part of Serbia, with emphasis on the local Jewish material heritage, history, and culture. Some of the association's fields of activity include research and documentation of the Jewish legacy in Vojvodina, protection and preservation of Jewish heritage sites and promotion of the Hebrew language and local Jewish culture and tradition.

Tikun also works on the promotion and nurturing of cultural values and diversity by organising various programmes and events. Its activities rely on donations and contributions from individuals, organisations, and foundations.

Waddesdon Mannor

In 1874 Ferdinand de Rothschild bought the Waddesdon estate and commissioned French architect, Gabriel-Hippolyte Destailleur, to build a country house to entertain friends and family. The project was immense; the hill-top on which the house stands was levelled, drives and terraces were cut and the grounds landscaped and planted with mature trees. Ferdinand, like other members of his family, was an avid collector. Waddesdon is renowned for its superb collections in what became known as 'the Rothschild style' – English 18th-century painting combined with French decorative arts. Today, still managed by the family on behalf of the National Trust, it is a vibrant expression of Rothschild spirit, with thriving programmes of events and activities, changing exhibitions and growing collections of contemporary art and architecture.

The European Day of Jewish Culture: 20 anniversary

Twenty years ago, the European Days of Jewish Culture was born to combat collective forgetfulness and to dignify European Jewish heritage. This year celebrating its 20th edition, the fundamental objective of this European-wide event is to highlight the diversity and richness of Judaism, with the firm intention of promoting dialogue, recognition and exchange through conferences, concerts, performances, guided tours and other activities, which take place simultaneously throughout the continent.

We believe that this year's 20th edition was particularly important. Due to the rise of the extreme right in Europe, we are faced with a serious threat. In reaction to this rise of anti-Semitism, the EDJC acts as a strong defender of diversity and coexistence. We see the promotion of Jewish cultural heritage, and as it being an integral part of European history, as a key factor in the prevention of anti-Semitic stereotypes and prejudices taking root and increasing resilience against intolerance.

Today, more than one million Jews live in Europe. They are an integral part of multicultural Europe, active participants in almost all aspects of civic and public life in their countries. Jewish contributions to the arts and sciences continue unabated in Europe. However, the memory of the 20th century still persists, increasing the need for continuous tolerance and mutual understanding between Jewish communities and their neighbours.

Last year, more than 420 cities from 28 European countries joined the European Cultural Days Jewish, with the participation of more than 179,000 people.

This program is coordinated by AEPJ, the European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of the Culture and the Jewish Heritage, with the collaboration of the National Library of Israel, and thanks to the initiatives and the ongoing work of municipalities, Jewish communities, museums and cultural centres throughout Europe.

The European Cultural Routes and the European Route of Jewish Heritage

The programme was launched by the Council of Europe in 1987. Its aim was to demonstrate, by means of a journey through space and time, how the heritage of different countries and cultures of Europe contribute to a shared cultural heritage.

The Cultural Routes put into practice the fundamental principles of the Council of Europe: human rights, cultural democracy, cultural diversity and identity, dialogue, mutual exchange and enrichment across boundaries and centuries.

The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe are multidisciplinary projects. Each of the Routes certi ed by the Council of Europe implement innovative activities and projects pertaining to ve main priority elds of action: cooperation in research and development; enhancement of memory, history and European heritage; cultural and educational exchanges for young Europeans; contemporary cultural and artistic practice and cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development. It is a model for heritage development based on responsible tourism and sustainable development; promoting synergies between national, regional and local authorities and a wide range of associations and socio-economic actors.

In the European Route of Jewish Heritage, certifed since 2004 by the CoE, we believe and we follow this approach. We are currently working on relaunching the Route, extending it to new countries. With this objective, we created a scienti c committee with experts in Jewish history, management of heritage projects, network management and cultural tourism, to help the managers of the Routes to develop their projects in this framework and to follow this model of work. In addition to integrating the projects into a European network, we offer assistance, support and training, as well as creating a framework to explore transnational collaborations among the actors that participate.

Vision

Promotion and development of Europe's Jewish historical and cultural heritage.

Goals

i. To serve as an organisational umbrella to welcome, promote, train and help develop unique and excellent Jewish cultural routes and programs around Europe, in the frame of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

ii. To create a community and network among the managers of these Jewish cultural programs to help develop their programs, based on responsible tourism and sustainable development, to offer training in the eld of Jewish cultural tourism, to exchange good practices and to promote the development of transnational programs.

iii. To promote the programs of the European Jewish Heritage Routes for individuals and groups of tourists and institutions interested in having a meaningful Jewish experience while traveling in Europe.

הספרייה הלאומית
المكتبة الوطنية الاسرائيلية
THE NATIONAL
LIBRARY OF ISRAEL

AEPJ and National Library of Israel Cooperation

Since 2016 the European Day of Jewish Culture has the support of the National Library of Israel.

The NLI has done a fantastic job during this period, developing materials for the EDJC on very dif-ferent subjects, designed in such a way that they were easy to use. Regarding the dissemination and use of the NLI materials produced for the EDJC, there has been an exponential growth since its implementation.

For the 20th anniversary of the EDJC, the NLI made available to all coordinators all the materials that have been produced in recent years.

Thus, the AEPJ would like to express their gratitude to all the team that worked in this project from the NLI for their helpfulness, and we warmly thank all our involved coordinators: without them, this project couldn't have been as successful as it has been.

The National Library of Israel

Founded in Jerusalem in 1892, the National Library of Israel (NLI) has a distinct dual mandate, serving as the national library for both the State of Israel and the Jewish people worldwide. Its vast holdings contain a wealth of material in a variety of formats, telling the historical, cultural, and intel-lectual story of the Jewish people, the State of Israel and the Land of Israel throughout the ages.

'Gesher L'Europa' (a Bridge to Europe) is an initiative of the NLI to create opportunities for knowledge sharing and cultural exchange between the National Library of Israel and Europe.

The European Day of Jewish Culture 2019

15
Participating cities

20
Total activities

600
Total visitors

Austria

BUCKLIGEN, EISENSTADT, KITTSEE, FRAUENKIRCHEN, HOHENEMS, MATTERSBURG, KOBERSDORF, LACKENBACH, LOCKENHAUS, DEUTSCHKREUTZ, RECHNITZ, STADTSCHLAINING, OBERWART, GÜSSING, WIEN

BMB Bundesministerium für Bildung

Landesmuseum Burgenland

BURGENLÄNDISCHE VOLKSHOCHSCHULEN

BURGENLÄNDISCHE FORSCHUNGSGESELLSCHAFT RESEARCH SOCIETY BURGENLAND

ÖSTERREICHISCHES JÜDISCHES MUSEUM

österreichische gesellschaft für politische bildung

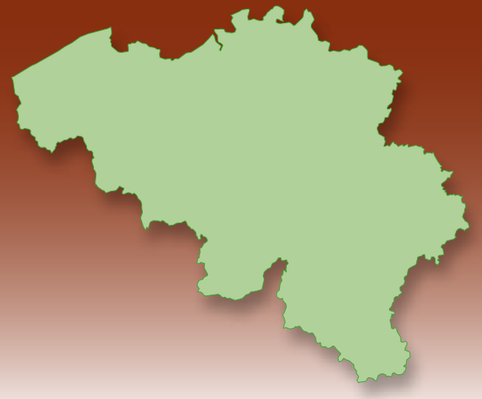
Ende der Zeitzeugenschaft?
10. Nov 2019 – 13. Apr 2020

JÜDISCHES MUSEUM HOHENEMS

In the Eastern region of **Burgenland**, the EDJC 2019 was celebrated in 13 towns (**Buckligen, Eisenstadt, Kittsee, Frauenkirchen, Mattersburg, Kobersdorf, Lackenbach, Lockenhaus, Deutschkreutz, Rechnitz, Stadtschlaining, Oberwart, Güssing**), with attendence of 600 visitors. With 20 events held in 13 towns of the federal State of Burgenland, each community sharing their former and current Jewish life, we can remark that it was very successful this year.

In Eisenstadt, the EDJC took part in the Austrian Franz Kafka Society, where a reading entitled "Judaism is still in me" was held. Various guided tours were offered, such as those organised by Jewish community of Kittsee and by Dr. Herbert Brett in **Frauenkirchen**. In the Somme communities (**Rechnitz, Kobersdorf and Mattersburg**) organised several events: lectures, guided tours, open doors, etc. In Southern **Burgenland** (**Stadtschlaining, Oberwart, Rechnitz, Stadtschlaining**) Dr. Ursula Mindler-Steiner offered a lecture in Oberwart, in Rechnitz, Dr. Engelbert Kenyeri lead a tour, publicist and moderator Paul Lendvai lead a lecture in **Stadtschlaining**. The Burgenland Research Society offered several events as well. Media coverage was average. The main papers in Burgenland (BVZ, Bezirksblätter, Kurier) announced the events as well as the main radio (ORF Burgenland).

In **Hohenems**, the Jewish Museum Hohenems presented the Exhibition "Ganz rein! Jüdische Ritualbaeder" with photographer Peter Seidel. Moreover, they offered a public guided tour through the permanent exhibition. In Hohenems, visitors discovered diverse facets of Jewish every day life and Jewish history in the Jewish Museum and the former Jewish Quarter of Hohenems, with its unique ensemble of private and public buildings, from the synagogue and the Jewish school, to the mikvah and the Jewish paupers house, most of them beautifully renovated. During the tour of the museum and through the story of the Jewish community of Hohenems, visitors could take a closer look at documents and unravel their history.



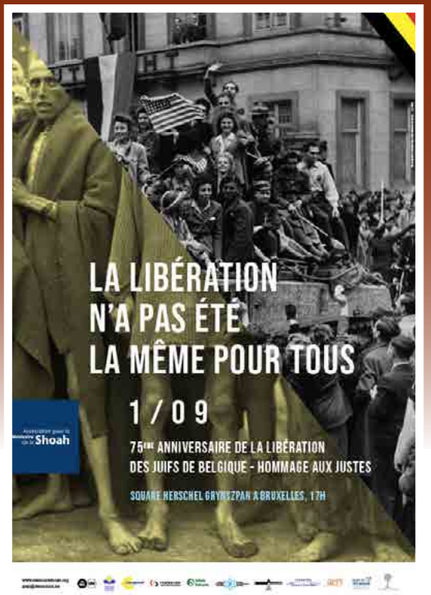
2
Participating cities

12
Total activities

800
Total visitors

Belgium

BRUXELLES, ANTWERPEN



On the occasion of the EDJC 2019, Association pour la Memoire de la Shoah (AMS) and Bnai Brith Antwerpen organized eight well-attended events. On Sunday, September 1st, Association pour la Memoire de la Shoah offered several activities in Bruxelles. All the activities were held around the Ceremony for the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Jews of Belgium (with the collaboration of the Jewish community) with attendence of some 600 people. This ceremony was part of wider celebrations marking 75th anniversary of the liberation of the country.

This was the third consecutive year that the AMS invited citizens to commemorate the special and tragic history of the country's Jews. To discuss the liberation of the Jews of Belgium in all its complexity, the AMS organized a public ceremony at Herschel Grynszpan Square with an incredible program including: the reading of 1751 names of the Righteous of Belgium; Speaking and singing with Martin Shearman; Ambassador of the United Kingdom, a tribute to the British soldiers who liberated Brussels; Simona Frankel, Ambassador of Israel to Belgium, in homage to the Righteous; Philippe Close, Bourgmestre of Brussels, Yohan Benizri president of the CCOJB on the destruction of Jewish institutions and their post-war reconstruction; historian Joël Kotek on the processes of denazification; Georges Brandstatter on the Jewish resistants of Belgium; Marcel Zalc on the Hidden child witnesses who come out of hiding; songs and poems with Amos Suchecki; UPJB Choir Rue de la Victoire, Jeunes des Marolles, Hazan Mueller and André Reinitz and the Krupnik orchestra.

On September 8th, B'nai B'rith unit Mala Zimetbaum organised three successful events in Antwerp: 1) At the Mas Museum Aan De Stroom was held a Tour "Life and Death in Judaism" 2) Romi Goldmuntz Synagogue offered a tour and a lecture by Mr. Marcel Apsel entitled " History of the evolution of Jewish family names".

1
Participating cities

3
Total activities

400
Total visitors

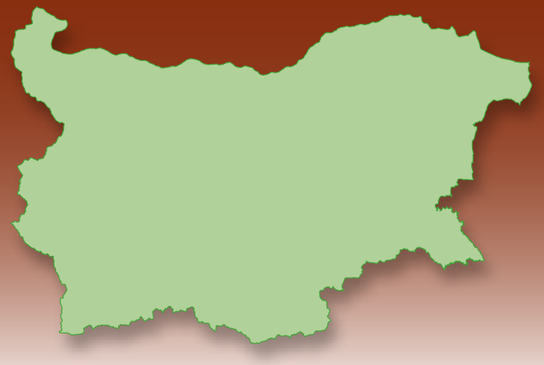
Bosnia

SARAJEVO

The Jewish cultural-educational and humanitarian association La Benevolencija and Jewish Municipality of Sarajevo took part in this year's edition of the European Days of Jewish Culture with an exhibition of art and photography about the photo-journalist Oskar Tauber.

The EDJC 2019 started with the opening of the exhibition about Oskar Tauber in the hall of the Jewish Community of BiH. Oskar Tauber, was the most prominent photographer in the journalistic-documentary style, who for decades produced photo-journalistic investigative reports documenting the Israeli public, particularly the citizens of Haifa. The president of 'La Benevolencija' association Jakob Finci welcomed visitors. The audience was delighted with Tauber's story, which related to Sarajevo.

Tauber was a press photographer, covering all current affairs, particularly in Haifa and the north of Israel, though he also traveled to Gaza, Hebron, Ismailia, and Suez during the War of Attrition in the Sinai Desert. His work included social and political photo-journalistic essays, alongside commissions from institutions, symbolic political events, and various special events at all of Haifa's institutions and in all fields — academia, sports, politics, cinema, seamanship, and the city's social and cultural life. His photographs include portraits of famous public figures, Haifa's mayors, government officials, and film stars. He documented sporting events, theatrical productions, immigrant camps in and around Haifa, demonstrations and political speeches, events such as the capture of the HMS Mendip (L60) — an Egyptian destroyer, the visit of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, the opening of the Carmelit funicular railway in the presence of Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, filming of Exodus, as well as official events at Haifa Port, at the Dagon Silos, at the Technion, and at Haifa University. At the age of 83 Tauber moved to the old folks' home in the city, but continued to take photographs. He died in 2000, leaving behind thousands of rolls of film depicting the growth of the State of Israel in black-and-white and in color.



1
Participating cities

8
Total activities

250
Total visitors

Bulgaria

SOFIA

B'nai B'rith
Bulgaria

In **Sofia**, this year's EDJC 2019 activities were devoted to two themes: 1) presentation of "Crime, Victims and Salvation. The Triumph of Humanity" by PhD Hanna Lorer, and 2) a presentation of "Almanac – book" by PhD H. Lorer, with the themes concerning the time between the early years of the EDJC up to now. This book was highly appreciated by the visitors of the event in 2019.

In addition, a rich culture-musical program was performed in the hall where the EDJC celebration was held. The activity was received with great interest by the audience. The European Day of Jewish Culture was a very successful event, attended by many non-Jewish visitors, who were extremely interested in learning about this history.

4
Participating cities

18
Total activities

1.000
Total visitors

Croatia

OSIJEK, SPLIT, ZAGREB, RIJEKA

ŽIDOVSKA OPĆINA OSIJEK

ŽIDOVSKA OPĆINA ZAGREB
הקהילה היהודית של זגרב

ŽIDOVSKA OPĆINA SPLIT
הקהילה היהודית - ספליט
JEWISH COMMUNITY OF SPLIT

ŽIDOVSKA OPĆINA RIJEKA

Rijeka's Jewish community celebrated it's third EDJC edition in a row, marking the 20th anniversary of the initiative across Europe. The celebration was held on Sunday, September 15th under the patronage of Rijeka municipality and the region Primorsko-goranska. Artist and architect David Naglić donated his artwork for the poster of our manifestation this year too (as he did last year) and was greatly appreciated. The program begun with Jewish songs performed by artists Elena Brumini and Damjan Vasiljević followed by greetings by our president Ranko Špigl, Rabbi Luciano Prelević and the representative of the Municipality, Ivan Šarar.

The first part of the program was a degustation of typical Jewish dishes and kosher wine. Some wine was donated by Bet Israel (Zagreb) and the Dajč family (Novi Sad, Serbia). Hummus and falafel were donated by Vegetarijanski bistro-catering 'Tifan Co.' (Rijeka), a vegetarian Indian bistro and hostel (Dharma) where Israeli gusts often reside when in Rijeka. The rest of the food, beverage and sweets were made, prepared, decorated, brought and displayed by women from the community coordinated by dr. Vivian Špacapan

(Ida Fišer, Zlata Šestak, Julija Goldštajn, Tanja Eraković, Silvija Fejsuloška, Nada Abramović, Elena and Rina Brumini and others).

The second part of the program consisted in the projection of the film "Tri svjedoka" (Three witnesses), produced in 2019 by the Jewish community, filmed by Boro Rakamarić, editing by Hrvoslava Brkušić and subject by Rina Brumini (2011). The projection was held in the Temple, on the ground floor where all 130 wooden seats were occupied by film viewers. The film tells the life story of three of our women (Zlata Šestak ex Flod; Agi Bezinović ex Goldberger and Anika Aladić ex Kraus Korda) who survived the Shoah and came to Rijeka rebuilding a community that, after two centuries, was declared extinct in 1946 because of WWII. Meanwhile, music and degustation went on in the Synagogue's yard.

The third part of the program was the presentation of the English translation of the book "The Jewish community in Rijeka" by Rina Brumini translated to English from Italian by Maja Lazarević Branišelj. We took the opportunity of highlighting the Italian reprint of the original released in June under the patronage of the society "Dante Alighieri" in Rijeka and the Councils of the Italian minority both in Rijeka and in the PGŽ region. Both books were edited by publisher Libertin naklada from Rijeka.

During the whole program our Mikveh were open and hosted a historic exhibition of Jews in Rijeka (Filip Kohn), a review of our publications, a film about last year's EDJC with music.

The guests left with a souvenir made by our activists and left a comment in our book of impressions. The program ended at 8 PM

About 200 visitors attended to the events. On the initiative worked about a dozen of activists with great enthusiasm and hard work, and without them such a fantastic event could not be held. Activists were not only members of the Community but also friends and colleagues, so we can say we are fully prepared in our spirit and our mind to be the Port of diversity Rijeka will represent next year, as the Capital of culture 2020.

In **Zagreb**, the EDJC's opening was celebrated with great interest and anticipation. The Open Doors Day was held on Sunday, September 1st, in the Jewish Municipality of Zagreb, and was a complete success. The Jewish Community set up several events. Activities started on September the 1st, with the opening of Zlatko Bourek's exhibition. 53 Bourek paintings from the 1950s to the 2010s were presented, divided into eight thematic pieces by Mira Wolf. An accompanying catalog with the text of Academician Tonko Maroevic was printed with the exhibition.

Secretary General of the Jewish Community of Zagreb (WPC) Dean Friedrich highlighted that the European Day of Jewish Culture celebrated its 20th birthday. He pointed out that this year the program was being held in about 30 countries and in about a hundred locations, and between 250,000 and 300,000 people would participate in September. The WPC joined the program 19 years ago to introduce the Jewish culture to the general public, especially Jewish local creativity. The exhibition was open until September 29. Following the opening of the exhibition, a concert was performed, featuring soprano Arijana Gigliani Philipp, barriot Vitomir Marof, baritone, clarinetist Bruno Philipp and Tamara Jurkić Sviben at the piano, featuring works by Jewish composers David Meisel, Aaron Mark Rothmüller and Felix-Mholdelsso.

On Sunday, September 1st, the Jewish Community of Osijek presented several activities as a reminder of the Holocaust. Specifically, more than 4,000 Jews (census of 1931) lived in the city, mostly distinguished members of society and public life. Today, only a small community of Jews lives in Osijek, 140 times smaller than the pre-war one. Behind every extinguished life and devastated family lies a personal and collective tragedy that is easily forgotten, the Voice of Slavonia wrote. One of these personal stories was the Jolan story. Jolan was born in 1926, in the family of father Sigismund pl. Schapringer and mother Anne (maiden Paunz), baptized Jews, therefore Catholics. This decision was made by her father while studying chemistry in Karlsruhe, Germany, where he returned with a Ph.D. He was the director of leather factories in Osijek and Vinkovci, and collaborated with Nobel Prize winner Lavoslav Ruzicka, and died in 1940. With the advent of the Nazi occupation and the Ustasha regime, the young Jolan had to wear a yellow David star, just like all members of her family. Jolan Strapac (born Schapringer) still lives in Osijek today. He is 93 years old.

In **Split** there were around 180 visitors. On the 1st of September the activities began with an open doors welcome from the Synagogue. The Jewish Community of Split also offered a concert by Emma Stern, a clarinet musician.

PR was done by the community via interviews on the radio, local and national TV, monthly tourist information magazines, newspapers, posters in a few strategic spots held by the Municipality and also on digital panels around the city, as well as information on our FB page. Two days prior, a news conference was held.

6
Participating cities

6
Total activities

450
Total visitors

Czech Republic

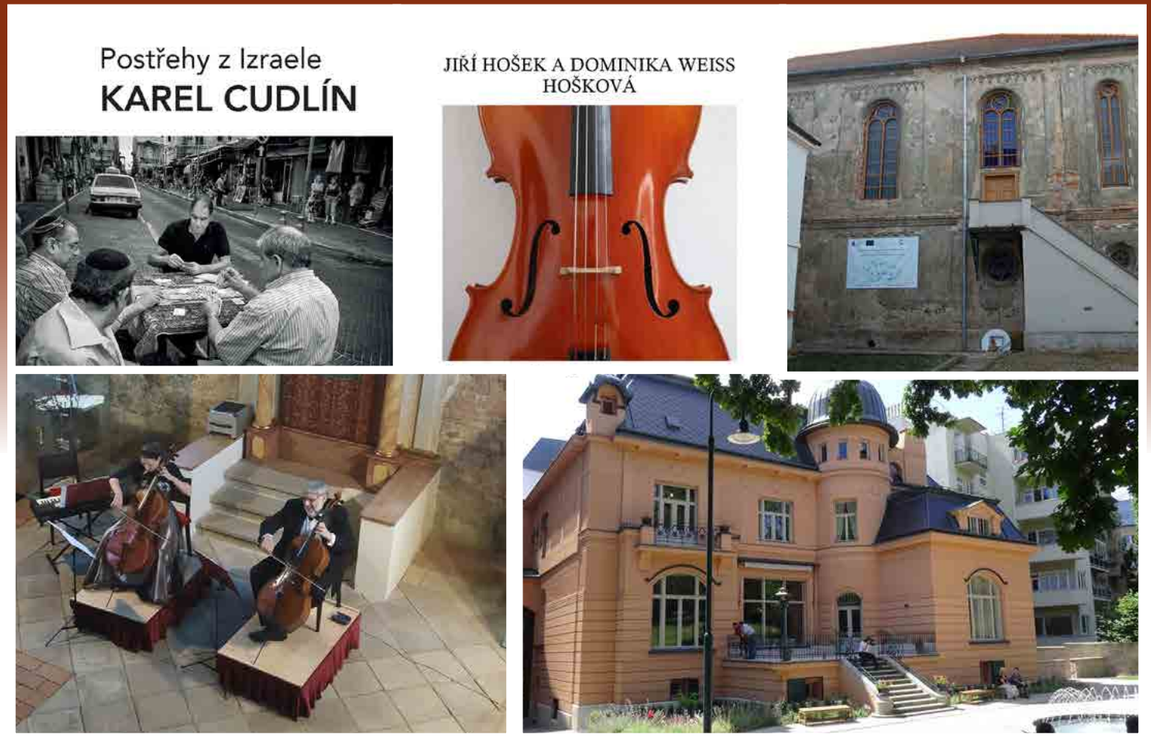
LIBEREC, BRNO, TEPLICE, POLNÁ, BRANDÝS NAD LABEM, PLZEŇ

FEDERACE ŽIDOVSKÝCH OBCÍ V ČESKÉ REPUBLICE

ŽIDOVSKÁ OBEC V PRAZE

ŽIDOVSKÉ MUZEUM V PRAZE

10 stars
Revitalisation of Jewish Historic Buildings in Czech Republic



On the occasion of the European days of Jewish Culture 2019, activities were organized in various Czech cities. The Jewish Community of **Brno** set up several events at Villa Löw-Beer. Activities started on September 1st with a cultural program for children and adults in the representative premises of Villa Löw-Beer. The event included a tour of the villa and a lecture "Who is who?". The Kashrut coordinator of the Prague Rabbi Chaim Kočí guided the visitors. A creative workshop for children was also prepared in the villa garden, organized by the Brno branch of the Jewish Museum in Prague.

Polná Synagogue held klezmer concert with two celloist, Jiří Hošek and Dominika Weiss Hošková.

On Wednesday 4th the Jewish Community of Liberec organized a concert by Jiří Hošek and Dominika Weiss Hošková, and set up a reading about the painters and surviving the shoah of Helga Hošková Weissová, by Markéta Tallerová.

Jewish Community of **Pilsen** organized several guided tours, an exhibition of a Pilsen native photographer Jaroslav Beneš, and a concert by the Chamber Orchestra HARMONIA PRAGA, which took place within the Music Festival in the synagogues of the Pilsen region.

59
Participating cities

164
Total activities

18.000
Total visitors

France

ANTIBES – BELFORT – BERGHEIM – BISCHHEIM – BOUXWILLER – CANNES - CHAMALIERES - CLERMONT-FERRAND – COLMAR – DELME – EPINAL – ETTENDORF – FEGERSHEIM – FONTAINEBLEAU – FRAUENBERG – HAGUENAU – HEGENHEIM – HOCHFELDEN – INGWILLER – LUEMSCHWILLER – LUNEVILLE – MARLY – MARMOUTIER – MARSEILLE – MENTON – METZ – MONTIGNY-LÉS-METZ MONTPELLIER – MULHOUSE – NANCY - NEUWILLER-LES-SAVERNE – NICE - NIEDERBRONN-LES-BAINS – OBERBRONN – OBERNAI – PARIS – REICHSHOFFEN – RENNES – ROSENWILLER - SAINT-AVOLD - SAINT-LOUIS – SARREBOURG – SARREGUEMINES – SCHIRMECK – SOULTZ - SOULTZ-SOUS-FORETS - STRASBOURG – STRUTH – THANN – TRAENHEIM – TRIMBACH – VERDUN – VILLÉ – WEITERSWILLER – WESTHOFFEN – WISSEMBOURG – WOERTH – WOLFISHEIM

As in previous years, the association JECPJ-France (European Days of Jewish Culture and Heritage-France) was the coordinator in France of the European Day of Jewish Culture. This coordination was relayed in the various Regions by several associations, including: JECPJ Alpes-Maritimes, JECPJ-Alsace (carried by B'nai B'rith René Hirschler in Strasbourg), JECJ-Lorraine, JECJ Nancy and the foundation IMMAJ in Marseille.

The European Day of Jewish Culture 2019 was celebrated in 59 municipalities in France by the organization of 164 events in 108 different places. They attracted around 18,000 participants and visitors. During these Days, 55 sites of Jewish heritage were either open to the public or had guided tours offered specifically for this occasion.

In addition to the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the European Day of Jewish Culture, JECPJ-France had chosen to place the 2019 Day under the sub-theme "Innovation and Transmission", which was expressed in various adaptations.

The relationships between innovation and the transmission of tradition in the Jewish religion were analysed by Rabbis in several conferences, most notably by Haim Korsia, Chief Rabbi of France, who

delivered his analysis to an audience of more than 200 people (mostly non-Jews) during the national French launch of the EDJC in Clermont-Ferrand and Chamalières (Auvergne), in the presence of the highest representative of the French government in the Region, the Mayors of the two cities, the President of AEPJ François Moyse and the board of AEPJ. This national launching, which included open doors to the old restored Clermont-Ferrand synagogue, was jointly organized by the Jules Isaac Cultural Center in Clermont-Ferrand and JECPJ-France, with the support of local authorities.

The possible interpretations of this theme implored innovation of Jewish culture and the promotion of Jewish heritage. This subject has been approached in a variety of ways, but two initiatives seem particularly worth mentioning.

The first, the creation by the artist Jean-Christophe Roelens from Metz, at the request of the JECJ-Lorraine association, with his work entitled "Salon Judaïca 2019". Inspired by the famous "Workers Club" designed by Alexandre Rodtchenko in 1925 for the exhibition of modern decorative and industrial arts in Paris, this blue and white living room brings together a bookshelf, a tree of life, a golden door, a table, chairs, panels of the Hebrew alphabet and the Jewish calendar and uses symbolic motifs from Judaism (yad, menorah).

The second initiative, a collaboration of the IMMAJ association with the Israelite Consistory of Marseille, was the open house day at the Grande Synagogue Breteuil in Marseille which was entirely reserved for young people and thus made it possible to welcome all at once and inform more than 500 high school students.

Several conferences (Metz, Nancy) dealt with the relationship between transmission and innovation in various fields of Jewish culture: philosophy, literature, music, link between science and religion. A conference (Marseille) organized by the National Memory Commission of B'nai B'rith France highlighted the role of innovation in the transmission of Jewish history and memories, and especially the possibilities offered by the rise of social media.

Finally, the theme "Innovation and Transmission" inspired musical events in all participating regions: concerts, conference-concerts, musical workshops. Such as: "Offenbach, between innovation and transmission" (conference, Metz); "Jewish music, from tradition to innovation" (concert, Nice); "Transmission of music from Shtetl, from Klezmer to Jazz" (conference-concert, Paris, Cercle Bernard Lazare).

In addition to all events related to the theme "Innovation and Transmission", JECPJ-France issued a 45 pages edition (printed and electronic) of its annual "Revue du Patrimoine Juif de France" entirely devoted to this theme.

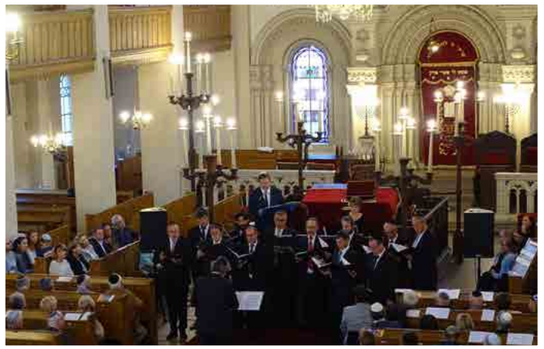
The regions of Alsace and Lorraine were the most active regions in organizing events.

In Lorraine, 48 events were organized between September 1 and December 15, including 39 in Metz.

In Alsace, a record number of 35 cities and villages (which once housed a large Jewish population) joined the EDJC 2019, most often by opening sites (synagogues, cemeteries) of Jewish heritage, but also by organizing concerts of Jewish music (often hosted in the village church).

In the south-east area of France, the Côte d'Azur (Antibes, Cannes, Menton, Nice) and Marseille were the most active. Montpellier offered guided tour of the medieval ritual bath and the old Jewish quarter. The preference given by many municipalities in the south-east of France to the European Heritage Days (September 21st and 22nd) prevented the organization of events related to the EDJC. Work will have to be done in 2020 in order to overcome this obstacle, for example by registering events simultaneously in the framework of the EDJC and that of the European Heritage Day.

Finally, in Paris, the record attendance (1,408 people on September 1st) recorded at the Museum of Art and History of Judaism (MAHJ) during the European Day of Jewish Culture is worth highlighting.



1
Participating cities

8
Total activities

680
Total visitors

Georgia

TBLISI

The 2019 Georgian EDJC edition was a great success. The event was celebrated in Tbilisi on October 21th, at the Windmill Hotel (3 L. Gudiashvili Street), organized by the Israel House. For the third year in a row, the Israel House, under the guidance of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport, lead the event. First Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Georgia Tamar Chugoshvili, MPs, Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara, Davit Gabaidze, Head of the Council of Europe Representation in Georgia, Christian Urse, representatives of the Jewish Diaspora, Culture and Business, were invited to participate. An official 30-member delegation from Israel headed by Amir Feretsi, chairman of the parliamentary party Avoda, and a journalist from the influential Yedioth Ahronoth, visited Tbilisi especially for this event. In the framework of the event dedicated to the European Days of Jewish Culture, a photo exhibition depicting Goga Chanadiri's work - Jewish Cultural Heritage in Georgia was held. The photographer took photos depicting Jewish cultural heritage in Georgia, as ordered by the House of Israel.

Isik Moshe, head of the Israel House, made sure to celebrate this year's European Days of Jewish Culture 20th anniversary. In Georgia, the Jewish Cultural Heritage Route certified by the Council of Europe, at the suggestion of the Ministry of Culture, was overseen by the Israel House. Itik Moshe confirmed the importance of cultural route stating "The route is an effective tool for Georgia in its relationship with Israel and the world Jewry. As part of the Tourism Support Campaign in Georgia, the Jewish Cultural Heritage Route has attracted high-budget tourists from around the world, which we believe will increase further". According to Moshe, this year was also the anniversary of Georgia-World Jewish Relations - where exactly 30 years ago as the head of the World Jewish Agency in the Soviet Union, Moshe organized a visit by world Jewish leaders to Georgia, which continued after the declaration of independence.

87
Participating cities

190
Total activities

13.400
Total visitors

Germany

ATTENWEILER, AUGBURG, BAD BUCHAU, BADEN-BADEN, BAD MERGENTHEIM, BAD RAPPENAU, BERGSTRASSE, BRAUNSBACH, BREISACH, BRETTEN, BRUCHSAL, BINSWAGEN, BUCHEN, BRUCHSAL, CRAILSHEIM, CREGLINGEN, DORSTEN. EFRINGEN-KIRCHEN, EMMENDINGEN, EPPINGEN, ESSLINGEN, FEILHEIM, FREIBURG, FREUDENTAL, FRISACH, GAILINGEN, GÖPPINGEN, HAIGERLOCH, HARBURG, HECHINGEN, BENSHEIM, HOHBERG-DIERSBURG, HORB-REXINGEN, KARLSRUHE, KONSTANZ, KRUMBACH, KIPPENHEIM, KUDESTERDINGEN, KEMPTEM, LAHR, LADENBURG, LAUPHEIM, LÖRRACH, LUDWIGSBURG, STUTTGART, MONCHSDEGGIGEN, MÜNSINGEN, OBERSULM, OFFENBURG, OETTINGEN, PFORZHEIM, RASTAFF, ROTTENBURG/ NECKAR, SARREBRUCK, SCHWÄBISCH HALL, SULZBURG, STUTTGART, TÜBINGEN, ÜBERLINGEN, ULM, WALDSHUT-TIENINGEN, WALLHAUSEN, WERBACH, WIESLOCH, NEURIED, ROTAMSEE, REUBACH, MÜNCHEN, ALTENSTADT, FELLHEIM, FISCHACH, HARBURG, ICHENHAUSEN, KRUMBACH, MEMMINGEN, MONHEIM, NÖRDLINGEN, WALLERSTEIN, BINSWANGEN, BOPFINGEN-OBERDORF, BUTTENWIESEN, PAPPENHEIM, RHEIN, SPEYER, SCHENHAUSEN, SCHWABISH, SCHOPFLOCH, ROTTENBURG

Sag Schibbolet!
Von sichtbaren und unsichtbaren Grenzen
18. März 2018 bis 17. Februar 2019

The European Day of the Jewish Culture took place as always on the first Sunday of September, in over 80 places and institutions across Germany. From North to South, the Jewish cultural monuments opened their gates. Synagogues, cemeteries, school buildings, ritual baths, museums and memorial sites stood, with mostly free admissions, open for viewing.

In the cities on the Rhine (Speyer, Worms and Mainz), the EDJC 2019 was again organized by Schum-Staedte. Their motto for 2019 was: “And action! Your statement for ShuM”. The unique monuments and the outstanding immaterial heritage of the former ShUM communities were their spotlight in 2019. Another activity was the exhibition organized by the City of Speyer. The travelling exhibition, developed within the framework of the Federal Programme “Living Democracy!” and sponsored by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, was shown in the Historical Council Hall on opening day and can then officially be seen in the SchPIRA Museum at Kleine Pfaffengasse 20 in Speyer during normal opening hours. The exhibition used biographies to illustrate the diversity of Jewish life in Germany today. Supplementary history boards embed the biographies in the context of the almost 2000-year history of Jews in Germany.

In Augsburg, the EDJC 2019 was organized by the Jewish Culture Museum of Augsburg-Swabia and the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde Schwaben-Augsburg. In this edition 700 people visited the EDJC 2019. Participants in Augsburg enjoyed a day full of new experiences and encounters with current Jewish life and the rich Jewish heritage of the city. This well-attended program included: Book Reading of Hugo Bettauer’s “Die Stadt ohne Juden”, read by Dr. Barbara Staudinger; “Jewish post-war-communities in Augsburg”, a lecture by Sarah König; Film Screening: “Es war einmal in Deutschland”; Dancing with the Jewish Sunday school “Keshet”; Yiddish songs and shmonzes with Marjan Abramovitsch; Jewish Dances- Workshop with Irina Hueseynova; Concert with “YOUKALI”; guided tours of the museum and synagogue were offered every 30 min; Art Exhibition “20 years European Days of Jewish Culture”; Flea market; Guided tour of the current exhibition “Über die Grenzen. Kinder auf der Flucht 1939/2015” (Across Borders, Beyond Limits. Children on the Run 1939/2015); Book Reading of “Eine Insel im Meer” by Annika Thor.

In 50 cities and towns in Baden-Württemberg, a total of 97 activities were organized by the B’nai Brith René Hirschler, Strasbourg,

in collaboration with the Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Gedenkstätten de Baden-Württemberg and the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Baden-Württemberg. On both banks of the Rhine between Basel, Strasbourg and Karlsruhe connections between Jewish communities and regional culture were always very close. The programs included exhibitions, concerts, synagogues and cemetery visits, urban circuits, food tastings, film screenings and lectures

As each year, the 2019 program of the European Day of Jewish Culture was arranged by the The Jewish Museum Munich, which offered a varied event with a children's workshop and several public tours. The program included: a philosophizing and drawing workshop for children "Say Schibbolet! From visible and invisible limits" ; a tour of the permanent exhibition "Voices_Locations_Times"; a children's workshop "Kosher or vegetarian? Religious or other food laws " and a tour of the exhibition "Sag Schibbolet! of visible and invisible borders". Moreover, the Cultural Center of the Israelite Cultural Community of Munich and Upper Bavaria organized several events: a city tour entitled "In the Footsteps of Jewish life", with Chaim Frank, a guided tour through the Ohel Jakob Synagogue with lectures by Marian Offman and Ellen Presser "Where do you take (a bissele) luck?", and a yiddish concert.

In Überlingen, the association Dokumentationsstätte Goldbacher Stollen und KZ Aufkirch e. V. and the Culture Department of the city of Ueberlingen invited Dr Susanne Klingenstein. Her lecture was dedicated to a special treasure of the Leopold-Sophien-Library Ueberlingen – the Hebrew Bible by Daniel Bomberg from 1521 with handwritten remarks. In his introductory lecture the historian Oswald Burger talked about the origin of the Leopold-Sophien-Library Ueberlingen and especially about the question why there are many rare Judaica in it: Manuscripts, early prints, Hebrew Bible editions, theological books, linguistic reference books, reports of journeys to the Holy Land and Hebrew-German prayer books. Dr Susanne Klingenstein, who lives and teaches in Boston (Mass.), explained in her lecture the circumstances that led to a Hebrew Bible coming to Lake Constance: Around 1470 a Hebrew book was printed for the first time. A good forty years later, Daniel Bomberg, a rich

Christian from Antwerp, set up a Hebrew printing press in Venice. There, in the years 1515-1517, with the help of Jewish scholars, typesetters and printers a Hebrew Bible was created for the first time. In a smaller format, this Bible became very popular among Christian reformers. A copy of the 2nd edition from 1521 can be found in the Leopold-Sophien-Library Ueberlingen. How did such a work come to Lake Constance? Who used it? What was its function? The lecture will also introduce Bomberg's printing company in Venice, its employees and customers.

In Attenweilert Marlis Glaser invited appropriate speakers, mostly rabbis, and develop the thematically fitting art exhibitions with international guest artists from Germany, Switzerland and Israel. This year: innovations in science, philosophy, ethics, history and culture in Judaism, especially from texts of the Torah and the Talmud. A lecture by Dr. Tom Kučera, rabbi and scientist was held.

2
Participating cities

6
Total activities

400
Total visitors

Greece

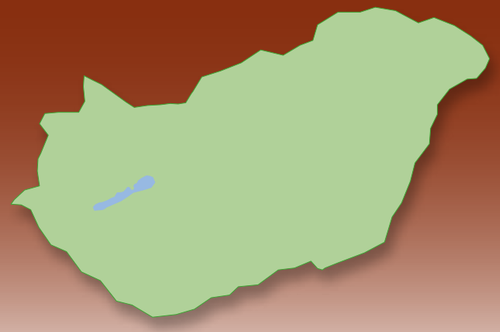
ATHENS, THESSALONIKI

ΙΣΡΑΗΛΙΤΙΚΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

ΕΒΡΑΪΚΟ ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ

On the occasion of the European days of Jewish Culture 2019, the Jewish Community of Athens organized several activities: a tour of the Jewish quarter in Athens center with a trained volunteer s of the Jewish Community in Athens, offering the history of the Greek Jews before and after the Holocaust. He also talked about the present life of the Community of Athens, its activities, social life as well as the challenges. The tour included a visit to the "book of righteous among the nations", a memorial placed in front of Beth Shalom Synagogue, the Holocaust Memorial, located a few meters from the two Synagogues and the Beth Shalom and Ets Hayim Synagogue. Leaflets with historical information were provided. One also had the opportunity to buy handmade arts & crafts whose purchases contribute to the noble philanthropic purposes of the Community (education, welfare for the needy etc).

The Jewish Museum of Thessaloniki had an 'open house' day, extending beyond the Museum itself to include the Monastirioton and Yad le-Zikaron synagogues.



1
Participating cities

2
Total activities

50
Total visitors

Hungary

BUDAPEST

EMLÉKHELYEK NAPJA

NEMZETI ÖRÖKSÉG INTÉZETE

The National Heritage Institute organized two guided walks through the Salgótarjáni Street Jewish Cemetery in Budapest. The walks addressed matters concerning Jewish life in the past as well as the present Jewish life in Budapest. It also included synagogues and other places where access is usually restricted.

1
Participating cities

3
Total activities

100
Total visitors

Ireland

DUBLIN

For the European Days of Jewish Culture the Jewish Museum of Ireland, (Dublin) set up several events. On Sunday the 1st of September, the museum organized an open doors and offered three guided tours. The museum houses a substantial collection of memorabilia relating to the Irish Jewish communities and their various associations and contributions to present day Ireland. The material relates to the last 150 years and is associated with the communities of Belfast, Cork, Derry, Drogheda, Dublin, Limerick & Waterford.

88
Participating cities

242
Total activities

68.000
Total visitors

Italy

ABRUZOS: PESCARA - CAMPANIA: NAPOLI - EMILIA ROMAGNA: BOLOGNA, CARPI (FOSSOLI), CENTO, CESENA, CORREGGIO, CORTEMAGGIORE, FERRARA, FINALE EMILIA, FIORENZUOLA D'ARDA, LUGO DI ROMAGNA, MODENA, PARMA, REGGIO EMILIA, SORAGNA - FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA: GORIZIA, TRIESTE, UDINE - LAZIO: FIUGGI, FONDI, ROMA - LIGURIA: GENOVA - LOMBARDIA: BOZZOLO, MANTOVA, MILANO, OSTIANO, POMPONESCO, SABBIONETA, SONCINO, VIADANA - MARCHE: ANCONA, FANO, JESI, PESARO, SENIGALLIA, URBINO - PIEMONTE: ACQUI TERME, ALESSANDRIA, ASTI, BIELLA, CARMAGNOLA, CASALE MONFERRATO, CHERASCO, CHIERI, CUNEO, IVREA, MONCALVO, MONDOVÌ, RIVALTA BORMIDA, SALUZZO, TORINO, TRINO VERCELLESE, VERCELLI - PUGLIA: ALBEROBELLO, BARI, BARLETTA, LECCE, MANDURIA, ORIA, SAN NICANDRO GARGANICO, TARANTO - SARDEGNA: CAGLIARI - SICILIA: PALERMO, SIRACUSA - TOSCANA: FIRENZE, LIVORNO, PISA, PITIGLIANO, SIENA, VIAREGGIO - TRENTINO ALTO ADIGE: MERANO - VENETO: CONEGLIANO, PADOVA, PORTOBUFFOLÉ, VENEZIA, VERONA, VICENZA, VITTORIO VENETO.

UCEI UNIONE DELLE COMUNITÀ EBRAICHE ITALIANE

Fondazione per i Beni Culturali Ebraici in Italia *onlus*

The Italian EDJC edition has become over the years one of the most important in Europe. Aimed mainly at local people, it has sought to educate the role of Jewish heritage, culture, and history in local, regional, and Europe-wide context, in order to demystify the Jewish world and promote understanding in countries where, in most cases, few Jews live. Since 1999, starting with a single city, today Italy has over eighty participants from north to south, distributed in sixteen regions of our country,.

Throughout Italy, this years EDJC was a great opportunity to discover the hundreds of synagogues, museums and Jewish neighbourhoods.

In the 2019 edition, the Italian EDJC chose their own theme, "Dreams, a stairway to heaven". The dream is an element that has always belonged to Jewish culture, but today it is enriched with other meanings, such as the collective dream of peace, civil coexistence and welcoming the other. A long and very high staircase that reaches up to heaven, on which angels rise and fall. Jacob's dream, one of the most enigmatic and suggestive images of the book of Genesis. Dreams, intended as a dream substance but also as hope and construction of tomorrow: "Dreams " explained Noemi Di Segni, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities "are a constant presence in Jewish history and sacred texts, starting from the Torah, to continue with the Talmud, with the mystical tradition and up to Sigmund Freud, the father of psychoanalysis, who founded his innovative therapies for neuroses on the interpretation of dreams. But dreams are also intended as hopes for the future ".

This Italian EDJC edition was celebrated on Sunday the 15th of September and once again was hugely successful. It involved 88 cities, with a wide range of very lively and well attended events: open days, talks, walks, screenings and exhibitions. As usual Italian EDJC activities were extended all over the Peninsula.

In general, the media coverage was very wide. The mass media (newspapers, radios, TV, internet, etc) produced qualified content with a positive response. The publication of a greeting from the President of the Republic Mattarella contributed to increasing media interest. Wide diffusion on the websites of newspapers, press agencies and online, on the sites of events, tourism, Jewish culture. Social media also did very well: some Facebook posts of EDJC

2019 reached 500 “likes”, many exceeded 300-400 “likes” (without any sponsorship).

This year, Parma, where a Jewish community resides whose origins date back to the fourteenth century, was the leading city. The official EDJC 2019 opening was held on Sunday at 10.00 at the Palatine Library, where the De Rossi collection, the most important collection of ancient Hebrew manuscripts and printed books, was exposed to the public, including illuminated Bibles, texts and rabbinical commentaries on philosophy and medicine. The nearby Soragna was also involved in the Parma initiatives, where the Jewish Museum “Fausto Levi” opened its doors and showed a small, evocative jewel among the Jewish itineraries in this part of Italy. In the evening, was offered a recital called “The tree of dreams”, with original music composed by Riccardo Joshua Moretti.

A hundreds of initiatives took place throughout Italy. In Rome, for example, in the ancient Jewish quarter (Portico d’Ottavia), various activities were planned: guided visits, lectures, wine and food tastings events. It started with free guided tours, in Italian and English, at the Jewish Museum of Rome, the Tempio Maggiore and the Spanish Temple. As well as an extraordinary humorous guided tour in Judeo-Roman dialect was offered. Participants also enjoyed the visit of the Youth Temple (Piazza San Bartolomeo all’Isola, 21), organized by the Israelite Hospital and Benè Berith Rome. A performance was held by the students of the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome. The visitors were also able to enjoy the exhibition “dreams of paper”, an exhibition of book-sculptures by Elisabetta Moscati. Also, in the afternoon, in the same space, a lecture entitled “Did you have a dream?”, by the psychoanalyst David Gerbi was presented. The EDJC continued at the Palace of Culture with the concert in memory of Alisa Coen, a girl from the community who disappeared at the age of eighteen. The ensemble Progetto Davka “The dream of Alisa” by Maurizio Di Veroli, and a performance by young musicians called “Let’s play together for Alisa”, Closing at 22.30 with “Kosher Wine Tours” by Lebonton Catering, to discover Jewish enolog. Various initiatives were also dedicated to children, with workshops in via Catalana and at the Temple Gardens, on Jewish dreams and feasts. At the Simone Aleandri Modern Art Gallery (Piazza Costaguti, 12), there was an exhibition of works by Antonietta Raphaël, entitled “Between signs and signs”. The Shoah Museum Foundation (Casina dei Vallati, via del Portico d’Ottavia, 29) also offered a guided visits to the exhibition “Only duty beyond duty”. A path on dreams were organized by the Jewish Center “Il Pitigliani” (Via Arco dè Tolomei, 1): “Conversations, projections and readings. From Schnizler to Kubrick: Double Dream and Eyes Wide Shut “, with Francesca Alatri and Roberta Ascarelli and readings by Francesca Rolli, and “We had an ideal and we were very happy”, meetings on Marc Chagall, curated by Davide Spagnoletto. Finally, initiatives took place in Ostia Antica, where at 12.30 the archaeological excavations and the Roman synagogue were visited with Prof. Giacomo Moscati.

In the Lombard capital, Milan, organised by the UCEI (Unione delle Comunità Ebraiche Italiane), a conference-show by Gisele Dix entitled Midsummer Night’s Dream was held. A day of visits and meetings took place at the synagogue in via della Guastalla, with a final show at the Parenti theater. At the Synagogue (which remained open all day with guided tours at 9, 12.45 and 18), Alfonso Arbib, offered a lecture called “The Dream of the Jewish community”, followed by a dialogue between Mayor Giuseppe Sala and Andrée Ruth Shammah, entitled “The Dream of Hospitality”. Among the events, a children’s story workshop led by Nurit Richetti (3pm) and a recital by Gioele Dix: “If we had not dreamed: journey through 5779 years of Jewish dreams” (5pm). In the Parenti Theater (via Pier Lombardo 14), the public were able to enjoy the final concert by Enrico Fink “A dream in the open air”. Futhermore, guided visits to cemeteries took place in Bozzolo and Ostiano.

In Bologna, the Jewish Museum and the Jewish Community joined the EDJC by promoting meetings, exhibitions, concerts and conferences, amongst them the exhibition ‘The House of Life’, on the recent archaeological discovery of an ancient Jewish cemetery in the city. On Sunday, September 15th the Jewish Museum of Bologna set up an intense program with guided tours, meetings, shows and a special tour with shuttle services to discover Jewish Bologna. While in Ferrara, at the Meis, was held a concert from Primo Levi’s poems.

In Venice, museums and synagogues were open to visitors. From 10 am to 5.30 pm, in the Ghetto Nuovo and Vecchio. For the twentieth year, the Venice ghetto came alive with many events and activities: Visit to the ancient Lido cemetery by Aldo Izzo, a meeting entitled “An uninterpreted dream is an unopened letter”, where Rav Roberto Della Rocca conversed with the psychoanalyst Luigi Boccanegra, a creative workshop for everyone called “We had a dream”, a Guided tour of the psalm exhibition by Edmund de Waal in English, a concert by Gabriele Coen musician and Francesco Poeti duo.

In Acqui Terme there was a lecture, guided visits to the cemetery and a performance. In Casale Monferrato, activities were centered around music, with a double concert in the town’s famous Baroque synagogue. A lecture and an exhibition was also offered. Furthermore, guided visits to synagogues, ghettos and cemeteries were carried out in Carmagnola.

In Verona, the synagogue, ghetto and cemetery were open to visits and hosted lectures and a klezmer concert. Also, activities for children and adults took place (food tasting, performance, exhibitions, etc). In Vittorio Veneto, participating for the third time, Comune di Vittorio Veneto, Centro Italiano Femminile and Comitato per Vittorio Veneto Ebraica organized a successful concert.

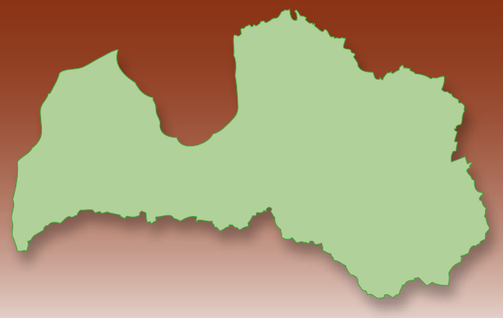
In Tuscany, many initiatives were programmed to take place simultaneously: in Florence and Pitigliano events took place on Sunday 22 September instead of the 15th), Livorno, Pisa, Siena, Viareggio. In Livorno, the activities started on Saturday 14th at the garden of the Jewish Museum, with a readings of Martin Buber’s tales “The dreams of the Chassidim”, were accompanied by the music of the Balagan Café Orkestar. There were many appointments on Sunday 15th , starting with the guided visits to the Synagogue and the ancient Jewish cemetery, by Guido Servi. In Siena, the Vicolo delle Scotte synagogue and cemetery were opened to visitors and hosted lectures and a cello concert. The day closed with a show at the Teatro dei Rinnovati, called “Gan Eden Restaurant - Six thousand years of joy and pain in traditional Jewish cuisine”, by Giuseppe Burschtein and Ugo Caffaz. A narration through their respective gastronomic traditions, the “Ashkenazi”, supported by Burschtein, and the “Sephardic” one, by Caffaz. In Pisa, a puppet show called “Il Sogno di Chagall” was held.

In the Tuscan capital, Florence, the day opened with a ceremony in honor of Daniela Misul, president of the Jewish community of Florence, who sadly died recently. There was a lecture, guided visits to the cemetery and a performance, curated by Coopculture.

Finally in Pitigliano, also called the Little Jerusalem of Tuscany, the synagogue was open all day, hosting guided tours. In the afternoon a concert was held by the Meyuhas Trio: “Dreams of Mother Earth”. In Viareggio, the synagogue opened its doors and hosted various guided visits.

In Palermo, the highlights were a guided visit of the city’s ancient Jewish quarter (including a recently-discovered medieval mikveh). Other activities included: lectures, exhibitions, debates, screenings, etc.

“The Italian edition - Di Segni concluded - has become over the years one of the most important in Europe, with tens of thousands of visitors every year and a perfectly established organizational model, which can count on the virtuous collaboration between Jewish communities, local authorities, pro loco and associations active in the area. This success is above all the result of over two millennium of Jewish history in our country”.



1
Participating cities

3
Total activities

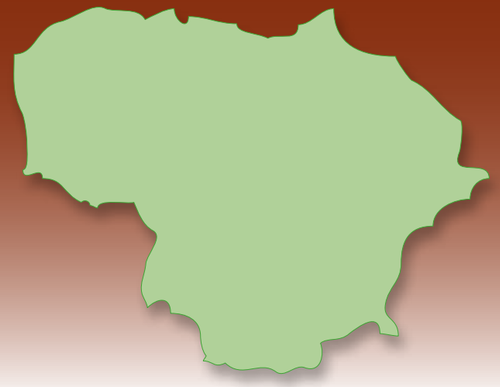
35
Total visitors

Latvia

RIGA

RĪGAS DOMES
IZGLĪTĪBAS, KULTŪRAS
UN SPORTA DEPARTAMENTS

On the European Days of Jewish Culture Riga Museum "Jews in Latvia" invited all interested to participate in a free walking tour through the center of Riga, including the museum, with the focus on Jewish stories that took place in the neighbourhood. During the tours, guests learned more about the synagogues in Riga, Riga Ghetto, Old Jewish Cemetery and other sites associated with Jewish history un Riga. Tours were in Latvian and Russian languages. Participants left comments verbally – they loved the tours and had learnt more interesting information than expected. They were active and asked a lot of questions during the 2 hour excursion. They were especially engaged due to the guide's knowledge and ability to attract attention to historical themes.



22
Participating cities

67
Total activities

4.800
Total visitors

Lithuania

ALYTUS, VILNIUS, DARBĖNAI, PAKRUOJIS, JONIŠKIS, JONAVA, JURBARKAS, KAUNAS, KĖDAINIAI, KELMĖ, KLAIPĖDA, KUPIŠKIS, PALANGA, PANDĖLYS, PASVALYS, PIKELIAI, ŠIAULIAI, ŠILALĖ, ŠEDUVA, ŠVĖKŠNA, UKMERGĖ, ŽELVA.

More than 17 Lithuanian cities and towns took part in 2019's European Days of Jewish Culture from September 2nd to the 9th with tours, lectures, concerts, exhibits, conferences and other events.

Ukmergė. September 1. The opening of the newly established Tolerance Centre of Ukmergė (previously the building belonged to Jewish primary school Talmud Tora) was held at 1pm. Presentation of travelling exhibition "Memorial to Dieveniskes" by Simon Karczman. Before the opening, there was homage of Holocaust victims at Pivonija forest, Ukmergė district, at 12 pm .

Kėdainiai. September 4. Guided tour in the Old Town "Jews in Kėdainiai: innovations in interwar period" (guide – A. Pečiulytė, director of the Kėdainiai Multicultural Centre). At 5.30 pm a presentation of musical project by percussionist A. Gotesmanas "Between past and future: Jewish cinema" at restaurant "Švenčių centras".

Joniškis. Every Tuesday evening in September there was a free screening of Israeli films in the White synagogue (now Joniškis History and Culture Museum). Also available for the month of September, Joniškis' history and culture museum held an exhibition "Lithuania – my first love, Israel – my life" by Israeli artist Gregirt Fridberg.

Jonava. September 5. Guided a tour to Žeimiai and presentation of personal collection about Jews in Jonava presented by Artūro Narkevičiaus. On September 6th, a guided tour "The lost shtetl of Jonava" (based on the novel by Grigorijus Kanovičius "The Shtetl romance").

Žagarė. September 1. Guided tour in Žagarė "Jews – a part of Žagarė community". Whats more, a concert by Rakija Klezmer Orkestar at Žagarė Cultural Centre. The was also a doll making workshop at Doll House in Žagarė. During September and October: Israeli movie screenings at Žagarė Cultural Centre.

Molėtai. September 1. Next to the entrance to the Old Molėtai Jewish cemetery, Molėtai regional museum organised communal

gathering dedicated to returning old tombstones to the Jewish cemetery: the community wass invited to find and bring back Jewish tombstones, which during the Soviet occupation have been scattered around Molėtai.

Žiežmariai. September 6. The opening of two art exhibitions at Žiežmariai synagogue– paintings by Dora Pilianskienė and exhibition "Bright women in a dark period" by Lina Mumgaudytė. During the opening there was a performace by singer Judita Leitaitė and violinist Paulina Daukšytė. After the presentation of the exhibitions there was a movie screening suggested by Israel embassy in Lithuania.

Pakruojis. September 4. Pakruojis synagogue opened exhibition "Wooden Synagogues in Lithuania" (in English), its presentation and movie screening. Guided tour in Pakruojis shtetl, with educator A.Naudžiūnienė (JHL).

Alytus. (3-6 of September). Screening of the movie "The Promise of Dawn" based on the biography of Lithuanian-born Jewish writer Romain Gary at the Great Hall of Alytus, town theater..

On the 4th of September the public library of J. Kunčinas (Seirijų str. 2) hosted evening dedicated to the Lithuanian Jewish literature and music of the 19-20th centuries, "The flowers of the North". Readings performed by L. Sušinskaitė, A. Kinderis and M. Platūkienė ir kt. Music by Gal Avraham Talor. On the 5th of September, an evening of Jewish music with a concert by the Klezmer Klangen band in the Regional museum of Alytus (Savanorių str. 6). On the 6th of September., educational guided tour "A walk in the Jewish Elite" with guide and historian Vilmantas Dunderis.

Šiauliai. September 8. Various activities at Šiauliai Aušra museum, an encounter game at the territory of Frenkeliai factory; Opening of the exhibition "Factory of Frenkeliai – a symbol of Šiauliai industry and its modernisation" (prepared by Šiauliai Aušra museum) and screening of documentary films about Šiauliai Jews "In the footsteps of lost world. Jewish Šiauliai" (directed by Jūratė Sobutienė) in the Villa of Ch. Frenkelis.

Švėkšna. September 5. Švėkšna synagogue opened an exhibition of paintings by Ilja Bereznickis and concert by pianist, composer and educator Vitalijus Neugasimovas.

VGŽM Tolerance Centre. September 1. A public lecture by Natalja Cheifec "Jewish Life Circle" at the Tolerance centre (Naugarduko st. 10/2, Vilnius) .

Judaikos centras. For EDJC, Judaica Research Centre published an article by Centre's director and research dr. Lara Lempert "Riddles

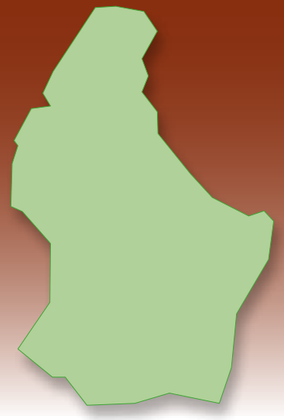
of titles of Jewish books" in their blog.

Marijampolė. September 11. Opening of exhibition "Wooden synagogues in Lithuania" and a lecture "Wooden synagogues and other vanishing objects of Jewish heritage in Lithuania" by A. Naudžiūnienė (JHL).

Šeduva. September 15. The Centre of Arts and Culture of Šeduva offered public educational festivities of baking of traditional Shabbat bread – challah (Vilniaus str. 1, Šeduva).

Eišiškės. Events organised by Šalčininkų district Eišiškių Stanislovo Rapolionio gymnasium community. 1st of September, lecture on Jewish culture and traditions at the great hall of the gymnasium. As well as educational game for students "Shtetl Eishishok". Whats more, a presentation of traditional Jewish cuisine by local chefs, and a students photography exhibition "Shtetl Eishishok - reflections" opened for public in the gymnasium during these events.

Rokiškis. September 8. Rokiškis regional museum movie screening of "Fidller on the roof" (1971, directed by Norman Jewison).



1
Participating cities

8
Total activities

140
Total visitors

Luxemburg

LUXEMBURG

Consistoire Israélite de Luxembourg

On September 8th, the 2019 EDJC in Luxembourg, organized by the Consistoire Israélite de Luxembourg, comprised a number of interesting activities, among them: a guided tour of the Grande Synagogue by the rabbi Alian Nacache, an exhibition of Jewish objects, a guided tour of the cemetery by Clausen Malakoff, a friendly aperitif with traditional culinary specialties, a lecture titled by Laurent Moyse, a concert, and finally a lecture by Francoise Moyse, the AEPJ president. Furthermore, various activities were ongoing throughout the day.

12
Participating cities

50
Total activities

2.500
Total visitors

Netherlands

AMSTERDAM, APPIGEDAN, BOURTANGE, THE HAGUE, ENSCHEDE, GRONINGEN, LEEK, LEEUWARDEN, MIDDELBURG, OVERVEEN, WINSUM, ZUIDLAREN

B'NAI B'RITH LOGE HILLEEL

syneon
Synagogen Noord- en Oost-Nederland

stichting levi lassen

Stichting Joods Erfgoed Den Haag

joods cultureel kwartier

The 2019 EDJC in the Netherlands saw some of Europe's most exquisite synagogues open to the public to celebrate the 20th edition of the annual European Days of Jewish Culture. Visitors gained access to guided tours and individual visits to synagogues that are usually closed to the general public for security reasons, as well as Jewish cemeteries and Jewish hospitals in 25 European countries. The events seek to "combat collective forgetfulness and to dignify European Jewish heritage," as written by the Council of Europe.

Among the synagogues that greeted visitors was the Portuguese Synagogue of The Hague. Less known than its larger and older counterpart in Amsterdam, the 18th-century Hague synagogue is architecturally complex and features a glass dome that spans its two buildings. On September 1, the Beth Jehoeda Liberal Jewish Community, which uses the synagogue, hosted a concert with cantorial flavors under the glass canopy.

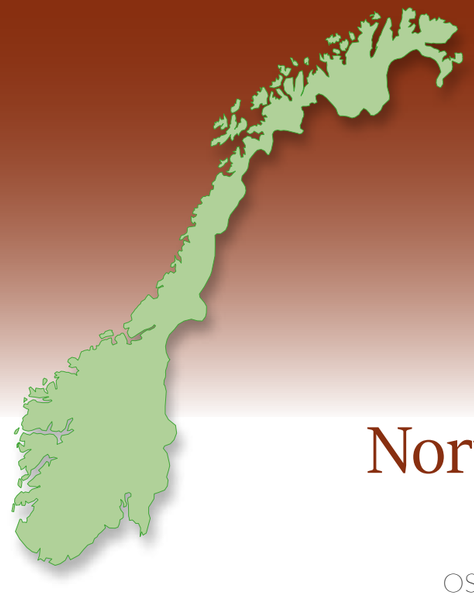
North of The Hague, the Bourtange Synagogue in the Dutch province of Friesland showed off a 200-year-old stained-glass window that the building had recently acquired in June. It had been part of the now-defunct synagogue in Oude Pekela. Nearly all Jews of Friesland, who had their own customs and dialect of Yiddish, were murdered in the Holocaust. The Bourtange synagogue, which this year hosted its second Jewish wedding since the Holocaust, featured an exhibition on the Bergen-Belsen Nazi camp on Sept. 1.

In the Netherlands main activities took place on Sunday 15 September. In 15 locations, 12 cities participated:

Amsterdam (Gerard Dou Synagogue; Uilenburgersynagoge, Zeeburg oldest Jewish cemetery within Amsterdam city; Ouderkerk aan de Amstel: Portuguese cemetery with ancient Sephardic graves)

Arnhem, synagogue, Bourtange, synagogue , the Hague, (programmed on the 1st of September) Enschede Synagogue, Groningen Synagogue, Leek, old Jewish school, Leeuwarden Synagogue, Overveen (old Jewish cemetery outside Amsterdam), Winsum, former synagogue, Zuidlaren Synagogue, Zwolle Synagogue.

Activities included: choir, singing of Sephardic and Yiddish Songs, lectures, guided tours of synagogues, exhibitions, tours of old Jewish neighbourhoods.



1
Participating cities

8
Total activities

180
Total visitors

Norway

OSLO

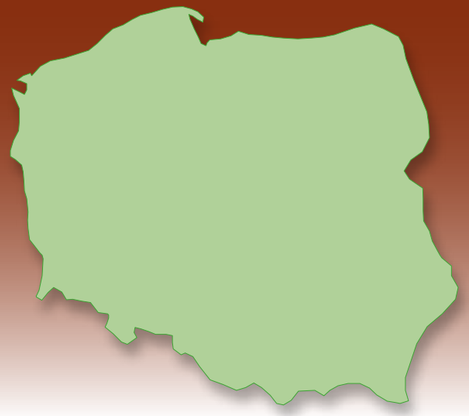
JØDISK MUSEUM OSLO

The 2019 EDJC edition marks the 15th time the Jewish Museum in Oslo organized activities for the European Jewish Culture Day. They marked this with various activities and a brief introduction to the day about the revitalization of Jewish cultural heritage that has taken place in Europe during the last quarter century.

The program included; the opening- on the revitalization of Jewish cultural heritage in Europe, followed by performance "An evening without whining" by Swedish comedian Roll Elfors Lipsker and Tobias Kessler, a food break, and performance by SAMECH klezmer from Krakow. The band SAMECH, where several members recently moved to Norway, were welcomed to their debut performance on a Norwegian stage.

During the spring, the Jewish show "En kväll without gnäll" played to sold out houses in Sweden. The audience was taken on an emotional journey, which through music, comedy and some seriousness, both touches and comforts. Even Ronn Elford Lipsker and Tobias Kessler.

The Samech group was formed in Krakow, the current "capital" of Jewish culture in Poland. Now several of Samech's members live in Norway and would like to convey their music and culture to Norwegian scenes. First off is the Jewish Museum in Oslo. Samech combines klezmer with different world music traditions. The result is a fresh and exciting musical expression with melodic value and strong rhythmic drive.



2
Participating cities

15
Total activities

1.400
Total visitors

Poland

WARSAW, WROCLAW

In Warsaw, the POLIN Jewish Museum participated in the EDJC for the fifth time, with several amazing events: 1) a Comedy performance, on the Leśmian's Meadow. Actors of the Comedy Club invited the audience to an optional and non-standard interpretation of poetry, prose and events in the life of Bolesław Leśmian. Leśmian's Meadow is an outdoor installation inspired by the poem 'The Meadow' 1920 by Bolesław Leśmian. It is a place where you can relax, listen to poetry, watch a film, take part in literary and artistic workshops or yoga classes. From June to the end of August, POLIN Museum and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland invited the visitors to take part in cultural and recreational events on the green square at the POLIN Museum from the side of Lewartowskiego Street. Co-Organizer: Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland; 2) a city tour - Warsaw September 1939. During the walk, the visitors looked for places related to the events from the beginning of World War II in Warsaw. They looked at them from the perspective of Jewish residents who actively participated in the defense of their city; 3) a Guided tour, 'Last days of peace. First days of war'. This walk led through sections of the exhibition 1000 Years of the History of Polish Jews devoted to the interwar period and the Holocaust of Jews during World War II. They started in the streets of Warsaw's Muranów in the summer of 1939. They talked about Polish Jews' everyday worries on the eve of the outbreak of war, but also about how great politics gradually entered their lives: how did they react to the news from Nazi Germany about the persecution of their brethren in faith? How did they try to help them? How did they get involved in Polish defense preparations?

From the 18-to 28th of September the European Day of Jewish Culture was held in Wroclaw for the third time. This third edition of the EDJC was organized by The Bente Kahan Foundation and the Jewish Community of Wrocław. The organizers participated in this EDJC with amazing events: two concerts at the White Stork Synagogue; September 23 rd a multilingual concert of the Ostinato Chamber Choir and a multilingual singing workshop (Conductor – Liliana Jędrzejczak, Piano – Anita Tashkinova) and September 26 th, a concert of the children and youth from Lower Silesian and Wrocław schools "Multilingual Europe. From 23 to 27 September offered a unique opportunity for children and young people to take part in French language workshop Le français? J'adore. On September 24, a film feast at the Russian Language Center of the University of Wroclaw was held. On the same day, the Institute of Romance Philology at the University of Wroclaw conducted translation workshops entitled Romance languages in the song.

September 28 Staszic Park for an outdoor event Playground without borders, which was a combination of a football tournament with the promotion of multiculturalism and many other attractions.

4
Participating cities

12
Total activities

850
Total visitors

Romania

CLUJ, IASI, MOINESTI, SIGHET

The EDJC 2019 was celebrated in various cities in Romania. In Sighet, the Tarbut Foundation organized a musical celebration in honor of Jewish Women, attracting about 50 people.

In Cluj the event took place in collaboration with the Jewish Community of Cluj at the only synagogue, Templul Memorial alui Deportetilor, which is used for High Holidays and special days. "Assosiatia Siebenburgen Opera" Singers performed to an audience of over 400 people. Most were non-Jews.

In Lasi visitors had the opportunity to visit the restoration lab inside the Great Synagogue of Iasi and meet the project team. Restoration of the synagogue, which had been stalled for years, resumed and a scaffolding that had covered the building for almost a decade was removed.

In Moinesti an Open Door was organised, as well as an artistic program with Jewish prose and poetry, prepared with the support of a local school. The event was a performance and it was held by students from Tristan Tzara School, coordinated by Leolam volunteers.

5
Participating cities

11
Total activities

1.600
Total visitors

Serbia

BELGRADE, NOVI SAD, PANCEVO, SABAC AND KOSOVSKA MITROVICA

Задужбина Илије М. Коларца
Установа културе од националног значаја

European International Cultural manifestation the European Day of Jewish Culture was celebrated in Serbia through programs organized by some local Jewish Communities and beyond. With this year's theme event "Twentieth Anniversary", all participants were invited to choose what topic they would present the diverse Jewish cultural, historical, ordinary and material heritage to the general public. This year's event took place in Belgrade, Novi Sad, Pancevo, Sabac and Kosovska Mitrovica.

The Jewish Community of Belgrade, with its President Alexander Jinker, hosted and organized several events. The first was concert of the Istanbul Night group, which took place in the ceremonial hall of Communiti building. In the presence of some fifty members of the Community and guests, on behalf of JO Belgrade, Davor Salom, chairman of the Cultural Commission, and Aaron Albahari, project coordinator of the European Day of Jewish Culture for Serbia, addressed guests on the history of this important European cultural event, whose partner since 2004 become the Jewish community of Serbia. Citing basic information about the concept of the event and the topics covered, they spoke about the participation of Jewish municipalities from Serbia in this event for the last fifteen years, and the participation of valuable individuals, such as historian Milos Damjanovic from Kosovska Mitrovica, or this year participation of the Museum of Sabac Jews and the town of Sabac in organizing a six-day event on this occasion.

They then introduced the members of the Istanbul Night project group. This music trio, founded in 2013 and consists of Roni Beraha, Denis Nikicic and Aleksa Milijanovic, explores world music, ambient music, ethno jazz and covers of Sephardic songs. They performed with a one-hour concert, with their own authorial and interesting processing of Sephardic music. Soloists Milos Milojevic - baritone and Iva Latovic - mezzosoprano participated as guests at the end of this program, accompanied by Marin Bulgar with violin.

Also, as part of the EDJC event in Belgrade the Jewish Chamber Orchestra, sponsored by the B'nei B'rit Lodge of Serbia 676, the Federation of Jewish Communities in Serbia and the Jewish Cultural and Humanitarian Fund "Sabitaj Buki Finci", performed in the famous Concert hall "Kolarac". This chamber orchestra was made up of members of Jewish community and our artist community. This time they played classical music by Jewish authors, under the direction of maestro Stefan Zekić and led by Ladislav Mezei. Several hundred guests attended the concert at the Kolarac Hall.

The Jewish Community of Belgrade (Alexander Jinker) hosted one more EDJK event. A promotion of the book "The Jews of Novi Pazar and its Surroundings" by Menta Mentovic and Mirjana Ajbl. Promotion was held in Community Gallery. This interesting

and content-rich book brings us to date the most complete insight and information about the life of Jews in this southern Serbian city. Attendees were also addressed by the authors, detailing the chronology of writing and collecting material for this interesting and valuable book. It should be noted that the book is an edition of the Jewish History Museum, and was realized according to a project approved by the Federation of Jewish Communities in Serbia, from the funds obtained under the Law on Removal as a consequence of the confiscation of property of Holocaust victims who have no legal heirs.

The Jewish Community of Novi Sad also organized and presented a project program called “Innovation”, on the occasion of the EDJC. The program was held in the Jewish Community Hall with the presence of an impressive number of citizens and members of the community. On this occasion, the Multimedia Guide to the Jewish Historical Heritage of Novi Sad - a mobile phone application, was presented.

The project was introduced by Edita Jankov, cultural program coordinator, Ivana Neskov Repić, art historian and assistant director of the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments of the City of Novi Sad, and Goran Gajić, director of the company from Belgrade, where the application was produced. This will make the Jewish-related sights of the city accessible in the form of texts and audio footage in Serbian and English, as well as through photographs. As part of this ceremony, an exhibition of paintings by Cecilia Hajzler and a display of paintings and sculptures by Irma Mikeš were organized. The exhibition was opened by Gabriela Hajzler, a visual artist.

After addressing the audience, a cocktail party followed.

The event was recorded by Television of Vojvodina. An interview with program participants was also published in the evening news.

The Jewish Community of Pancevo organized a program called “Retrospective”. The program was presented with a video representation of all the programs and topics that the Community in Pančevo has implemented over the last 15 years.

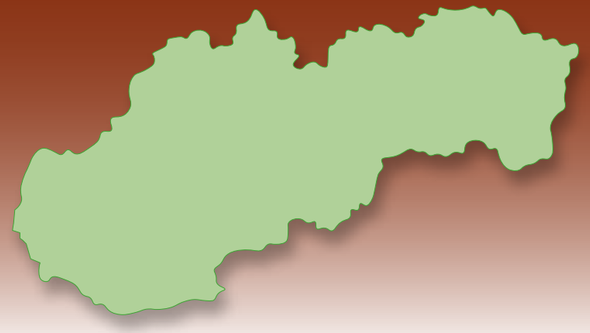
After video presentation, musician Nikola Salacinin played Jewish songs on guitar. All guests were then honored with Jewish traditional cuisine. A local newspaper reported the news of the event.

This year a special refreshment in the implementation of the EDJC program in Serbia was, for the first time, the participation of the Museum of Sabac Jews, from Sabac. On the initiative of the member of the City Council of Sabac, Igor Marsenic, and the director of the National Museum in Sabac (which also houses the Museum of Sabac Jews), Nela Tonkovic, a six-day program was devised with rich content that touched on various aspects of Jewish heritage in general, as well as the lives of Jews in Sabac itself. The hosts, through contact with the Federatin of Jewish Communities in Serbia, and in particular the Haver Serbia organization, as well as the Belgrade Institute of Philosophy and Social Theory, have developed a rich multidisciplinary program in the form of lectures, concerts, workshops (on Jewish culture, the Holocaust, cuisine, humor), theater performace, guided walks through “Jewish Sabac” and exhibitions on Hilda Daich. Speakers and guests, Haver Serbia (Sonic Vilicic) and the Institute of Philosophy, included: historian Jelena Pjevac Nenadovic, journalist and researcher of the Jewish past of Šabac Zivana Vojinovic, Rabbi of Serbia Isak Asiel, Brane Popovic, Hanika Gasic-Montillo, muzic composition The Greater Utfil and the Pannonia String Quartet. On the third day of the event, the Ambassador of Israel in Serbia, H.E. Alona Fischer Kam, who opened the exhibition “Letters of Hilda Daich”, and attended the premiere of the theater play “Ana Frank: Historical Anti-fairytale for Children and Adults”, directed by Jelena Bogovac, which was performed at the Sabac Theater.

It should be noted that most of the programs of this multi-day event took place at the Museum of Sabac Jews, located in the building of the former synagogue. A local TV media and newspaper reported the news of the events.

The EDJC program was also held on 3 September in Kosovska Mitrovica. For the second time, the Cultural and Media Center European House was the venue for this event in Kosovo and Metohija. This time again, the organizer and host was professor of history, Milos Damjanovic, representative of the younger generation of researchers of Yugoslav Jewish history, and especially the history of Jews in this southern province of Serbia - Kosovo i Metohia. This year’s theme was a lecture and an exhibition of photographs about “Prominent Jewish figures who lived, worked or traveled and visited Kosovo between the two World wars” - Avram Levic, Avram Beraha, Stanislav Vinaver, Vane Ivanovic, David Albala, Ernst Toler, Bernard Berenson, Gertrud von Puttkammer. In the presence of about twenty visitors and listeners, after the lecture was completed, the conversation on the subject continued, with the serving and sounds of Jewish ethno music.

The set exhibit remained open for visitors throughout the whole month September.



1
Participating cities

4
Total activities

500
Total visitors

Slovakia

BRATISLAVA

B'nai B'rith Tolerancia Bratislava

SLOVAK NATIONAL MUSEUM
MUSEUM OF JEWISH CULTURE

university library in bratislava

Bruno Walter MUSIKTAGE
Verein der Freunde der Bruno Walter Musiktage

ŽIDOVSKÁ NÁBOŽENSKÁ OBEC BRATISLAVA
קהילה יהודית ברטיסלאבה

The European day of Jewish culture in Bratislava took place on 8th September 2019.

The 20th edition of the European Day of Jewish culture in Bratislava presented 3 important figures whose lives are connected with Bratislava:

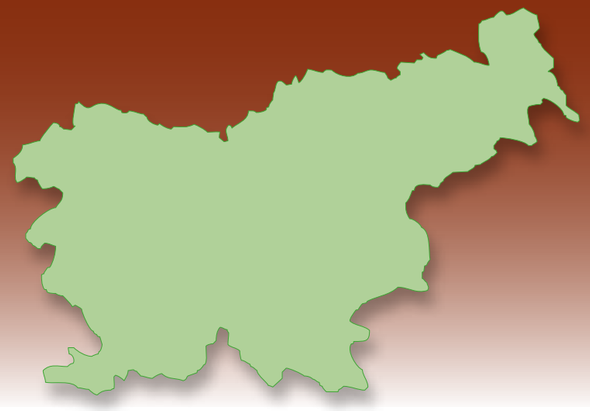
Chatam Sofer was an important rabbi of 19th century, a scholar of world importance. From 1806 till 1839 he was active in Bratislava and he is buried in the old Jewish cemetery in Bratislava. On today´s nábrežie armádneho generála Ludvíka Svobodu one part of the old ortodox cemetery remained . The grave of Chatam Sofer in the rabbinical part is an important monument and it´s visit enabled to the visitors to become acquinted with this personality and the era when he was active in Bratislava.

Bruno Walter (1876 – 1962) is without doubt one of the greatest, best-known and most influential conductors of the 20th century. For more than 50 years he helped to shape the musical landscape of Europe. Bruno Walter was active also in Bratislava and he was presented by the exhibition "Bruno Walter and his age" on the Baroque courtyard of the University Library in Bratislava which was inaugurated on 3rd September 2019. The exhibition lasted till the end of September.

Eugen Bárkány was a civil engineer who besides his occupation devoted his free time to collecting Judaica and to the documentation of Jewish monuments like synagogues, cemeteries and other objects of Jewish religious life. His collection of Judaica became the base of the Jewish museum in Prešov. The exhibition under the title "Treasures of the Jewish Museum in Prešov" in the women´s gallery of Bratislava synagogue in Heydukova street presented 70 unique objects from this collection. It presented beautiful papercuts as well as other artefacts. Visitors also became acquainted with the history of the synagogue, it´s architecture and religious life of the Jewish community of Bratislava.

The Slovak national museum – Museum of the Jewish culture in Žižkova street, Bratislava, presented important moments of the Jewish religious life as well as different periods of Jewish history in Slovakia.

More than 500 visitors visited the Chatam Sofer memorial, the exhibition of Judaica in the synagogue and the Museum of the Jewish Culture. The number of the visitors of the exhibition in the University Library is not known, as it was opened publicly. However, the inauguration was honoured by the attendance of the charge d´affaires of the state of Israel in Slovakia and further 40 visitors attended. In the frame of the inauguration they had the possibility to take part in the lecture about the work of Bruno Walter.



5
Participating cities

16
Total activities

1.510
Total visitors

Slovenia

MARIBOR, LJUBLJANA, NEGOVA, LENDAVA, MURSKA SOBOTA

Marjetka Bedrač, EDJC Coordinator for Slovenia, sent us the following report, that we are happy to publish:

Slovenian organisers joined the EDJC project for the first time in 2006 thus this year we celebrated the 14th edition of the EDJC in Slovenia. Although we haven't been part of the project since its beginning, we endeavoured to appropriately mark the 20th anniversary of the project itself as well. This is probably presented at best in a short video, which was made specially for the EDJC anniversary occasion. Within the framework of EDJC 2019 project, Slovenian organisers prepared a diverse programme encompassing open doors days, professional guided tours of exhibitions and museums, openings of several exhibitions, theatre performances, concerts of Jewish music, presentations and interactive workshops. As a part of the project we also placed Stumbling Stones (Stolpersteine) for 43 people in three Slovenian cities. Together we organised 16 different events, which were visited by 1510 people. The events took place between 25 August and 18 September.

According to the statistics, in average about 93 visitors visited each of the EDJC 2019 events in Slovenia. Well visited were in particular open events connected to the Stumbling Stones (Stolpersteine) placements, concerts, and theatre performances.

The aim of organisers in five Slovenian towns - Maribor, Murska Sobota, Lendava, Negova and Ljubljana was to enable visitors to learn about the beauty and richness of Jewish culture and to promote their awareness of the importance of preserving and protecting Jewish heritage as an important part of Europe's cultural heritage.

All collaboration organizations published PR announcements, invitations and corresponding material of the EDJC 2019 project activities on their home webpages, as well as Facebook profiles, and Instagram and Twitter accounts.

23
Participating cities

165
Total activities

72.750
Total visitors

Spain

ÁVILA, BARCELONA, BESALÚ, CÁCERES, CALAHORRA, CASTELLÓ D'EMPÚRIES, CÓRDOBA, ESTELLA-LIZARRA, GIRONA, JAÉN, LEÓN, LUCENA, MADRID, ONDA, OVIEDO, PALMA DE MALLORCA, PLASENCIA, SAGUNTO, SEGOVIA, TARAZONA, TOLEDO, TUI, VALENCIA.

Exhibitions, concerts, lectures, book presentations, guided tours, workshops, gastronomic events, the cities of the Jewish Network of Spain (Red de Juderías) scheduled dozens of activities to celebrate the 20th edition of the European Days of Jewish Culture.

On Sunday, September the 1st, the 20th edition of the EDJC took place in several cities. Through the EDJC, Red de Juderías showed the diversity and cultural richness of Judaism, as well as to promote dialogue, mutual recognition and the exchange of ideas through conferences, concerts, performances, guided tours and other activities.

Almost 43,000 people attended the big variety of events, consisting of more than 130 activities in 30 different cities.

In Barcelona, on September 1st an open-doors took place at the MUHBA El Call, the museum welcomed many prospective students, parents and guests who were interested in the EDJC. Furthermore, for the second time, The Barcelona Jewish Film festival offered their activity as part of the European Days of Jewish Culture. It was a complete success.

As every year, Córdoba presented a month of September full of activities, including the EDJC in the Autumn Sefardí festival program, which took place from September 1st to the 23rd. In its sixth edition, the Autumn Sefardí festival participated with the most varied events: Sephardic music concerts, book presentations, lectures, guided tours and cycle routes, cooking and pastry workshops, oil and kosher wine tasting, exhibitions and a photography contest. More than fifty activities were programmed. The fact that they participated in the Córdoba International Sephardic Music Festival, offered us the guarantee that it is an interesting and novel project, which sought to unite tradition, through Sephardic music, and innovation, with electronics. In addition, one of the members of Mosáfieres Live, guitarist Abel Sánchez, is from the area and known by many of us, made his participation in the European Day of Jewish Culture even more interesting.

In Castelló d'Empúries, activities offered from 31th August to September 1st, with a Hebrew writing workshop, a Sephardic music concert; following with an open day at the Museum d'Història Medieval Cúria-Presó and a guided visit to the town's Jewish heritage, ending with an exhibition "Els jueus del compte d'Empúries".

On this occasion of the anniversary the city of Girona, through the municipal board Patronat Call de Girona, organized an extended programme over the month of September. The program began with the traditional Open Doors, on the official Day, Sunday Sept. 1st.

Visitors could also visit the temporary exhibition on show, “Pedres amb nom” (Stones with a name) and join the guided tours “The Jewish quarter”. Concert “Fugir i salvar-se” (Escape and Save). Presentation of the new album by Josep Tero (voice and guitar), accompanied by Ferran Martínez (keyboards) and Juan Aguiar (strings).

An emotive work based on ancient Catalan Jewish songs from the 12th-13th centuries preserved in Thessaloniki, Izmir, Constantinople. Words and songs recalling exodus, but also of love and celebration. Open round table conducted by professionals of arts, photography and history over the central piece of the temporary exhibition “Pedres amb nom” (Stones with a name).

The photograph, taken by Valentí Fargnoli (ca. 1910), shows a photograph of five Hebrew tombstones. Today these tombstones are part of the collection of the Museum of Jewish History. However, this early photograph invites us to think about whom the gravestones belonged to, or what we know about the lives and work of the people they remember. An interesting approach to Jewish heritage from the arts and artistic point of view. This original activity combined a lecture with inserted songs inspired by the texts of the Kabbalah. Performed by Blanca Rosa Domínguez (International Kabbalah Society) and Girona musicians Tati Cervià (jazz and Sephardic music singer) and Jaume Fulcarà, (guitarist). The 4th edition of the Jewish Book Festival had a stop in Girona, with an open round table based on memory, history, literature and poetry in Jewish Culture, conducted by Ana Bejarano (professor of literature and Hebrew language at the University of Barcelona), Alejandro Dardik (Club Editor), Verónica Nieto (writer) and Arnau Pons (philosopher and poet). A festive and meaningful ceremony, conducted by Toldot Barcelona, explored Jewish heritage and history through a culinary and cultural experience. 25 participants shared a meal around a table, as a space for meeting, celebration, debate and learning. The menu was a surprise and was revealed during dinner along with the symbolic meaning of each meal, food or preparation. A total of 8 activities, attracting about 635 visitors.

Estella-Lizarra presented very diverse activities to join the celebration. Throughout the weekend the public visited the exhibition “Refranero popular Sephardic” and enjoyed the guided tour experience “Visiting the aljamas”.

In Jaén, gastronomy opened the Days with an amazing celebration in the Taberna Pilar del Arrabalejo and the Parador de Jaén. Also the Jaen activities included: a guided tour, a conference titled “Telling stories: legends and traditions of the Judería de Jaén”, a screening of the documentary “The Last Sephardi” and a concert “Sefarad en el corazón” at the Patio of the Municipal Palace of Culture.

Throughout the weekend, León celebrated the Days with different activities. From Friday 30st to Sunday 1st, the municipality set up ten of activities: workshops on medieval games, a theatralized visit through the Jewish Quarter, a concert, etc.

A concert was held on September 8 in Hervás, There was a large influx of public, about 150 - 170 people, but unfortunately many of them did not tune into the aesthetic and audiovisual proposal of Mosáfires Live, and a large number left the room.

In Lucena, many activities were organized that occupied all the month of September: a book presentation by the Official Chronicler of Lucena, Francisco López Salamanca (“Eliossana, the Jewish Lucena”), a lecture by Arnoldo Liberman (“How difficult it is to be a Jew! Paths of identity”), and a theatralized visit to the Castle of Lucena.

In Madrid, Casa Sefarad-Israel - with the collaboration of Casa América - organized several lectures. The event was a great success.

In Monforte de Lemos, on September 6th, the municipality commemorated the European Jewish Culture Day at Falagueira Street. The event was chaired by the Mayor of the city, José Tomé Roca, who was accompanied by the 1st Deputy Mayor, Gloria Prada, the Councilor for Culture, Marina Doutón, as well as the Councilors of Sports (José Manuel Mougán), Environment (Miguel Tomé).), Services (José Luis Losada), Consumption (Regina López) or Women and Equality (Margarita López). At the event, various descendants of Jewish families, such as Gaibor, and historian Felipe Aira were also present.

The event consisted of planting an olive tree, as well as the reading of a tribute text, by Sephardic author Mois Benarroch, a reading by Gloria Prada . There was also a performance by string and wind quartet who performed two pieces under the direction of Fernando Sanmartino, director of the Monforte Conservatory. The aim of this act, in the words of the Mayor of the city, “is to honor and remind the Jewish and Jewish Community Monforte Conversation that, over the centuries, with their experiences and their work, have contributed to the construction and existence of Monforte de Lemos” . In this sense, the municipal councilor, stressed that “the act is part of the commemorative day that today is dedicated throughout Europe to claim and value Jewish culture.” Monforte belongs to the Spanish Judicial Network. In Galicia, the cities of Ribadavia and recently Tui are also integrated in this network.

Plasencia celebrated the Days with two activities: a free activity for children and a guided tour including the Jewish Quarter, Jewish Cemetery and the Historical Center of Plasencia.

In Oviedo, the Beit Emunáh Synagogue (Fontán Street, 11) opened its doors to host an exhibition of books and a session of Jewish storytellers.

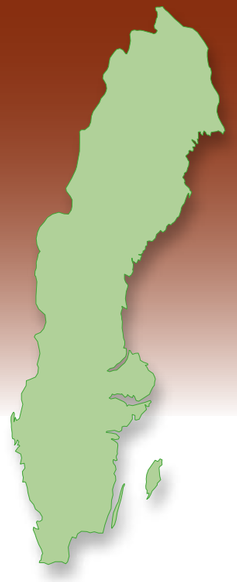
Tarazona, for its part, organized a guided tour of its Jewish quarter.

In Palma de Mallorca, activities included a guided tour through the medieval Jewish quarter, a concert by Mazic Duo, a lecture, an open doors at the Jewish Community of the Balearic Islands, a tasting of Sephardic food and a cinema session.

In Segovia, activities included two guided tours through the Jewish Quarter, a lecture, a workshop, a performance (a dramatized tour), a Sephardic music concert and a food tasting experience.

Toledo organized a guided tour through the old Jewish Quarter, an activity for children and a lec-ture.

In Valencia, two guided tours to the city’s Jewish heritage took place. As every year, the Havura congregation took charge of the organisation of the EDJC events, which were open to all citizens.



1
Participating cities

10
Total activities

750
Total visitors

Sweden

STOCKHOLM

PAIDEIA folkhögskola

Judiska Församlingen i Stockholm

JUDISKA MUSEET

In Stockholm's Jewish Community, all the activities took place on Sunday, September 1st. It started in the morning with a successful Food Tasting activity, continued with two lectures "Intro-duction, what is Jewish culture?" and "How has Jewish culture developed during the last 20 years?", and ended with a children program. The bulk of activities took place in the afternoon, including: a Short film by one of the young members in the community; teaching how to dance to klezmer music; a documentary film by Amos Oz: The Nature of Dreams, which follows Oz through two years of his life as meets readers in Israel and all around the world and works to promote the two-state solution to the Israeli–Palestinian conflict. During the film, Oz meets fellow-writers, like Salman Rushdie, Paul Auster and Nadine Gordimer, offers advice to the Israeli president Shimon Peres, and conducts a long dialogue with Palestinian intellectual Sari Nusseibeh. It also follows his memoir A Tale of Love and Darkness, which brings his family's biography and his own stations in life, merged in the Jewish and Israeli collective history.

8
Participating cities

45
Total activities

2.850
Total visitors

Switzerland

BASEL, BERN, ENDINGEN/LENGNAU, GENÈVE, LA CHAUX-DE-FONDS, LAUSANNE, ZÜRICH, BADEN.

On the whole, the 20th European Day of Jewish Culture 2018 in Switzerland was a very successful event with 2.850 participants. We got positive feedback from all coordinators, who prepared their programs with a lot of dedication. The EDJC 2019 took place in eight cities and towns: Basel, Bern, Delémont, Endingen-Lengnau, Genève, la Chaux-de- Funds, Lausanne and Zurich.

Under the motto «Anniversary. 20 years of European Day of Jewish Culture » The European Day of Jewish Culture 2019 was a real success. All local organizers were truly enthusiastic about their day and the public, which appreciated the wonderful variety of programs a lot. All concerts attracted a broad public and we must say the quality of the ensembles were outstanding. As the concerts, the guided tours through the Synagogues are very popular and attracted many visitors. Programs which included Jewish food seem to be a hit as well as the variety of lectures and guided tours through the museum.

Both newspapers and radio stations announced the program and paid attention to the jubilee of the EDJC (e.g. “Basler Zeitung”, the main newspaper of Basel, “Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen”, the main Swiss radio and TV broadcast, and “Le quotidien” in Delémont published a whole inquiry into the topic of the conference).

In Basel, the very well prepared and attractive programs for all ages at the Jewish Museum of Switzerland delighted the audience (on the whole 285 participants), the wonderful concert at the Basel Jewish Community IGB reached an enthusiastic public (200 participants).

In Bern,120 participants attended the show, guided tour and reading. 30 people came to the guided tour through Endingen-Lengnau.

In Geneva, the events were also well received. The organizers prepared a rich program, which included not only a comedy show and concerts, but also guided tours and degustation (food tasting). The panel at the Communauté Libérale de Genève (GIL) was attended by 100 people, while the lunch beforehand attracted 60 people.

1
Participating cities

8
Total activities

2.300
Total visitors

Turkey

ISTANBUL

500.YIL VAKFI
TÜRK MUSEVİLERİ
MÜZESİ

A Record Participation at the European Day of Jewish Culture in Istanbul.

Celebrated in Turkey since 2001, The European Day Of Jewish Culture was open to public and free of charge, in The Quincentennial Foundation Museum Of Turkish Jews and the Neve Shalom Synagogue on Sunday November 24. 2.300 visitors attended the event with a record participation.

The event enabled participants to travel into the culture and heritage of the Turkish Jewish community with concerts, documentaries, various presentations, book presentations, exhibitions and dishes of the Turkish Jewish cuisine, where the visitors spent a fulfilling day.

The European Day Of Jewish Culture began with a presentation by author Aaron Nommaz about his book "The Story That Questions The Conscience : Struma" followed by Süzet Herman, Şeli Gaon and Silvyo Ovadya on

"The Judeo-Espaniol Language and It's Interaction With The Turkish Language".

During the day, the audience had the opportunity to listen to the Turkish Sephardic Synagogue Hymns by the Yako Taragano and Sephardic Hymns Choir. Another concert was The Sephardic Tangos from the Bottom of the Chest by Karen Gerson Şarhon and İzzet Bana.

In her presentation titled "Why Should The Holocaust Be Taught To Everyone?", Süzet Sidi, an expert on the subject, talked about why the Holocaust is not only a matter of Jewish history, but a matter of humanity.

"Jewish Humor in Cinema" from Seyfi İşman opened a different window for the moviegoers. Speaker and educationist Alper Almelek entertained guests with his presentation "Perseverance + Imagination = ? ".

Yusuf Altintas answered curious questions about Judaism in his conversation "Face To Face With A Jew". İzzet Erş, on the other hand, talked about the differences of understanding, told about in his book "Differences in Understanding in Bible Reading" and a book signing. The documentary film "Izmir Weddings", also shed some light on Jewish culture at the Museum.

In addition to these, Nüket Franko and Lina Eskenazi's presentation titled "The Quest Of The Cuisine From Spain To İzmir" and Gilda Kohen's presentation "Let Us Witness The Journey Of Taste In The Sephardic Cuisine" took place. A selection of Turkish Sephardic cuisine at lunch offered a delicious experience to the taste buds.

Also, an arts and craft activity to raise environmental awareness for children aged 5-12 was held throughout the day, under the leadership of a Youth Group from the community.

The most popular section of the day was the representative wedding ceremony in the Neve Shalom Synagogue, revived with all its traditions and rituals. Rav Isak Alaluf led the wedding ceremony where even the balcony of the Neve Shalom Synagogue was packed.

The participants were happy about the events, and asked to have such events planned more frequently.

1
Participating cities

5
Total activities

250
Total visitors

Ukraine

LVIV.

TERRITORY OF TERROR

Center for Urban History of East Central Europe

On Sunday, September 22, the Jewish community of Lviv as well as some non-Jewish organizations of the city, joined the European Day of Jewish Culture. An exhibition entitled "Janowska: the Slave Labour Camp as the Industry of Terror" was held. The exhibition introduced the history of Janowska, the slave labour camp, which was one of the base centers of Nazi terror in Lwow and Western Ukraine in 1941 – 1944. The program included: A guided tour (area of Janowska), the slave labour camp; "The Hour of Memory", memorial ceremony in Valley of Death; The voices of Space of Synagogues, reflections on quotations from reminiscences of the pre-war life in Lwow, the Holocaust, and the life after it; a performance of the "Strudel" band.

33
Participating cities

95
Total activities

23.500
Total visitors

United Kingdom

ABERDEEN, ARRAN, BIRMINGHAM, BRADFORD, BRIGHTON, BRISTOL, CANTERBURY, CHELTENHAM, DEVON, DUNDEE, EDINBURGH, FALMOUTH, GLASGOW, MANCHESTER, HULL, INVERNESS, KENT, KINGSTON, LEEDS, LEICESTER, LINCOLN, LIVERPOOL, LONDON, MAIDENHEAD, OXFORD, PLYMOUTH, READING.

Michael Sobell JCC part of JEWISH CARE

B'nai B'rith UK

wavelength

Another successful series of activities for this year's B'nai B'rith UK European Days of Jewish Culture and Heritage

This year, B'nai B'rith UK celebrated the 20th anniversary of its annual European Days of Jewish Culture and Heritage which were once again very successful, with a wide range of very lively and well attended events. Many synagogues and organisations followed this year's theme of simply 'Heritage' by holding open days, talks, guided walks and exhibitions.

B'nai B'rith UK was especially delighted this year to welcome some new participants to the heritage activities, including the Victoria & Albert Museum, Worth Park History Society in West Sussex, the Stained Glass Museum in Ely and Mottisfont, a National Trust property in Hampshire which is a former Augustinian priory founded in 1201, becoming a private home in the 16th century. Its last owner, Maud Russell, was the daughter of German Jewish immigrants who helped several of her Jewish relatives in Europe during WW2. All participants held events, exhibitions and talks on specifically Jewish themes/connections to mark this year's heritage days.

The V&A ran three 'In-Focus' talks and a separate 'Lunchtime Lecture', organised by Alice Minter, the curator of the Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Collection. All of the talks celebrated the V&A's Jewish heritage, Judaica collection and Jewish patrons. Alice described the talks as 'hugely successful.'

The Jewish Music Institute's annual Klezmer in the Park attracted a massive 6,000 visitors who all enjoyed a wonderful day of music and dancing in the sunshine in Regents Park.

At the Spanish & Portuguese Holland Park Synagogue, Lyn Julius, co-founder of Harif (the UK Association of Jews from the Middle East and North Africa) gave a fascinating talk on 'Who owns Jewish Heritage in the Middle East?' Nearly 40 people attended and everyone very much enjoyed her talk.

The Wiener Library ran a behind-the-scenes tour of archives of Leo Baeck (London) Lodge and an exhibition entitled 'London/Berlin: The Lost photographs of Gerty Simon'. Of those who attended the Leo Baeck exhibition, some had come to see whether they could recognise photos of relatives and friends: one brother and sister were happy to spot photos of their parents and another saw a photo of her aunt. The guide told the group about the life of Dr Arthur Wiener, the founder of the Library, who was a member of B'nai B'rith in Germany, as were his daughter and son-in-law in London, the parents of Lord Finkelstein, the Times journalist and broadcaster. The group was led to a basement storeroom where the guide revealed the archive

of photos, letters and documents (still to be digitised) and then led everyone to the vast Wiener Library with its collection of books, papers and journals on the Holocaust and genocide.

London walking tour guide Rachel Kolsky, who runs Go London Tours, reported that her 'Radicals to Rinkoff's' Whitechapel walking tour was a complete sell-out with 30 people attending. The tour explored the radical history of the East End's revolutionaries and activists, including the Siege of Sidney Street and Rachel's favourite anarchist couple, Rudolph Rocker and Millie Witcop. Esther Rinkoff joined her, to help weave into the walk the sites and story behind the only surviving Jewish family-owned baker in Whitechapel, Rinkoff's, founded in 1911. The tour ended at the bakery for refreshments and delicious Danish pastries.

JW3 held two very successful events: a talk on 'Jewish Heroes of the Royal Air Force', in partnership with the RAF Museum, attended by 70 people.

It was described as a 'wonderful atmosphere in the room' and a 'very emotive evening'. Joshua Levine presented stories of Jewish RAF pilots followed by a Q&A with Joshua and Benny Goodman, an actual RAF pilot now 98 years old.

One attendee said 'he was so articulate and had the audience in the palm of his hand.' Their other event, a film screening of 'The Promise: the story of Roman Halter' sold out, with 201 people attending. However, JW3 advise that it is being shown again at 7.30pm on 25th November if anyone missed it!

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain were delighted with the attendance for their workshop and guided walk, with at least 20% of attendees non-Jewish.

B'nai B'rith UK held its own event, a screening of an excellent and thought-provoking film produced and directed by Canadian John Curtin, called 'Why the Jews?'. The event was a sell-out with over 100 people attending. The film featured a number of high-profile commentators from around the world and looked at the incredible achievements and successes of the Jewish people across the years, despite enduring horrific persecution and antisemitism.

The film was followed by an interview via Skype with the producer from Canada by author and journalist, Jeremy Havardi. Some very lively questions followed from the audience and the event was described as a huge success and very enjoyable by all who attended.

Rabbi Alexandra Wright of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue reports that around 170 people attended a talk they held in conjunction with the charity, Rene Cassin, which works to promote and protect universal human rights, drawing on Jewish experience and values. The talk was on human rights and was given Professor Francesca Klug. On Shabbat 14th September, at their 'Nosh 'n' Drosh' on Sharia Law, they welcomed between 50 and 60 people including some non-Jewish guests. They were delighted with the response to both events.

B'nai B'rith's Shlomo Argov Lodge held a talk at Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue attended by over 40 people, at which the speaker was historian Helen Fry, talking about 'The London Cage'. She gave an insight into the interrogation section of MI5 and described the premises in Kensington Palace Gardens which were used during World War 2 to elicit information from senior enemy prisoners of war and which helped to shorten the war by at least 6 months. The Colonel in charge of the operation had in fact spent time in Germany for many years and had acquired a good knowledge of the German psyche. Everyone who attended described it as a very successful and interesting evening.

Around the UK

Another newcomer to heritage days, the Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre's Professor Joe Goldblatt, led a 3-hour walking tour, 'Two Worlds', which included all of the historic Jewish sites in Edinburgh and described how for 200 years Jewish people contributed to the growth and development of Scotland's capital city. He was delighted with the turnout for the tour, for which the final stop was the Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation. All attendees were non-Jewish and one person was from Shanghai, China! Everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

At Cheltenham Synagogue's open doors event, chair Jenny Silverston reported that the singing was so well received that they might build in some little performances with their choir another time. They had a few children who completed simple activity sheets and engaged very well with their exhibits and hosts. The open doors was especially valuable for home schoolWed children: one mother who had contacted Jenny in advance to find out if the event was suitable for her 12 year old son said that she and her son were really pleased with their visit. The synagogue also held a talk on 'Jewish Communities in the South West' presented by Jessica Shapiro, in which she gave an illustrated talk on the social history of Jewish life in the provinces from the Norman Conquest to modern times, including communities in Bristol and Gloucester, 18th century migration to ports in Devon and Cornwall and 19th century trade and professional life in small towns such as Cheltenham and Exeter. The talk was very well attended by almost 70 local heritage visitors.

The Salamons Estate (Broomhill) in Tunbridge Wells, which was the country home of the Salomons family, held a very successful talk

on the background to the Estate, attended by over 100 people, 95% of whom were not Jewish.

Deane Road Cemetery in Liverpool received 50 visitors all expressing great interest and fully appreciating the tours. Princes Road Synagogue ran tours attended by 130 visitors who all enjoyed the tours. They report that it was a mixed faith audience with mostly non-Jewish visitors.

20 people attended Professor David Newman's talk at yet another new participant, the Stained-Glass Museum in Ely. Attendees found it fascinating to learn about David Hillman and the stained-glass windows that he designed for synagogues and to learn how many still survive. Professor Newman provided some family history of the Hillman family which placed the stained-glass windows in more context: Newman is the great nephew of one of the artists who is represented in the collection. It is the only piece of stained glass in the collection made by a Jewish artist and his talk was very well received.

Another newcomer to heritage days, the Worth Park History Society, is a public park of around 50 acres in West Sussex and the Society ran a series of open days, exhibitions and talks across the period of a week. Worth Park House has been demolished but the stable complex built in 1882 remains with the visitor centre located in the courtyard. The James Pulham Formal Gardens and Italianate terraces were restored during a Heritage Lottery Fund Project. Elizabeth Steven, chair of the Worth Park History Society, reports that their visitors were very impressed. She says: 'The feedback and comments were truly lovely and so inspiring for us.' She was delighted to receive this email after the week was over: 'Thank you so much for showing us around the visitor centre today and for the information we gained from you. We found it very interesting indeed and the work done on the park is absolutely beautiful. We didn't expect to enjoy our visit as much as we did and hope to come back and visit again soon.'

Oxford Jewish Community report that 50 people attended their open day of which the majority were not Jewish.

Newport Synagogue and Cemeteries in South Wales held an open day, where guests could visit the historic synagogue and beautiful cemeteries, with walks, talks, oral history, displays hands-on artefacts and refreshments. They were overwhelmed to have 300 visitors, 50%

of whom were not Jewish.

Waddesdon Manor near Aylesbury held a guided tour and a talk on how to build and collect like the Rothschild family with an introduction to the building of Waddesdon and its collection. Organisers were delighted with the attendance.

Norwich Synagogue's open day attracted over 200 visitors and they are very keen to take part in the heritage activities again next year.

Nymans National Trust property in Sussex had a display in the dining room of a small number of artefacts, which belonged to Alfred Messel, the architect brother of Ludwig Messel, the owner of the house. These were collected by the granddaughter of Ludwig. As well as the objects, there were designs for social housing and other urban buildings which were pioneered by Alfred in Germany in the 1890's and which he subsequently brought to England. One of his most iconic buildings was the Wertheim department store in Berlin, which was destroyed during World War II and never rebuilt. Ludwig, a banker, remained Jewish throughout his life but towards the end of his life, Alfred converted to Protestantism before he died in 1909. There were 2,500 visitors each week over the 4-week period and Nymans report that they were delighted with the response.

Reading Hebrew Congregation were delighted to welcome over 100 visitors to their open day, of which most were not Jewish.

Valerie Bello, B'nai B'rith UK Co-ordinator for EDJCH for the past 20 years, commented: "We believe that heritage plays an increasingly significant role in our national life, strengthening people's connection with their locality, making them conscious of their history and identity, and forging bonds between individuals and their communities. We're encouraged that many people enjoyed the events that took place during the first two weeks of heritage activities. We were delighted to welcome large crowds to events, open days, exhibitions and guided walks. Some of the open days received non-Jewish visitors of all ages and, of course, we're always delighted when this potential for interfaith understanding is achieved, while providing a rare opportunity for our own community to explore our heritage."

The EDJC in numbers
Countries / activities

	Music	Lectures	Exhibitions	Guided Tours	Open Doors	Theatre	Screening	Food Tasting	Activity for kids	Performance	Total
Austria	0	4	0	8	2	2	0	0	0	4	20
Belgium	2	1	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	3	12
Bosnia & H.	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Bulgaria	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	8
Croatia	3	1	1	1	5	0	0	2	3	3	18
Czech Repu.	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	6
France	22	20	17	39	14	12	9	9	7	15	164
Georgia	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	8
Germany	18	25	5	85	12	1	4	2	7	31	190
Greece	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	6
Hungary	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Ireland	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Italy	28	49	14	46	19	13	22	14	15	22	242
Latvia	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Lithuania	4	12	3	15	10	0	0	2	2	19	67
Luxembourg	4	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	8
Netherlands	13	6	2	17	4	0	0	2	2	14	50
Norway	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	8
Poland	0	6	3	1	3	0	0	2	2	0	15
Romania	0	3	1	1	2	0	1	0	2	2	12
Serbia	5	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	11
Slovakia	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	11
Slovenia	1	2	3	2	2	0	4	0	2	0	16
Spain	21	24	5	31	17	3	29	3	4	28	165
Sweden	2	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	10
Switzerland	5	8	2	6	2	2	5	0	3	12	45
Turkey	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	8
Ukraine	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
United Kingdom	5	14	18	4	25	0	1	0	2	26	95
TOTAL											**1211**

The EDJC in numbers
Participating cities

	Cities
Austria	15
Belgium	2
Bosnia & H.	1
Bulgaria	1
Croatia	4
Czech Repu.	6
France	59
Georgia	1
Germany	87
Greece	2
Hungary	1
Ireland	1
Italy	88
Latvia	1
Lithuania	22
Luxembourg	1
Netherlands	12
Norway	1
Poland	2
Romania	4
Serbia	5
Slovakia	1
Slovenia	5
Spain	30
Sweden	1
Switzerland	8
Turkey	1
Ukraine	1
United Kingdom	33
TOTAL	**403**

The EDJC in numbers
Visitors

	Participants
Austria	600
Belgium	800
Bosnia & H.	400
Bulgaria	250
Croatia	1000
Czech Repu.	450
France	18000
Georgia	680
Germany	13400
Greece	400
Hungary	50
Ireland	100
Italy	68000
Latvia	35
Lithuania	4800
Luxembourg	140
Netherlands	2500
Norway	180
Poland	1400
Romania	850
Serbia	1600
Slovakia	500
Slovenia	1510
Spain	72750
Sweden	750
Switzerland	2850
Turkey	2300
Ukraine	250
United Kingdom	23500
TOTAL	**220,045**

2019 subject matter: Jewish Journeys

The theme chosen for this year's edition is Jewish Journeys. This topic was chosen by the majority of coordinators through an online survey in July 2019.

Journeys are a big part of the Jewish story. Since the Exile from the Land of Israel in AD70, Jews have moved through and lived in different lands in search of religious tolerance and economic opportunity.

Arrivals in different parts of Europe led to the creation of the two main cultural and ethnic strands of the Jewish people: Muslim Spain (Sepharad) and the Rhineland (Ashkenaz) emerged as leading Jewish centers in the tenth century. Even as the Jewish communities flourished, persecution, invasions and inquisitions led to more departures and new beginnings.

Merchants and traders have also moved between cultures and acted as conduit and connector between different communities. Cities that were centers for trade and commerce have a rich and diverse Jewish heritage (Venice, Livorno, Amsterdam, Constantinople, Salonika) as different communities came together with a common goal.

Pilgrimages to the Land of Israel and later, the State of Israel, is another journey taken by Jews – from individuals and groups who made their way to Israel in the Middle Ages to the immigration to the Land of Israel in the aftermath of World War II in the face of the British Mandate's immigration restrictions. The movement of Jews after the breakdown of the Soviet Union once again changed the Jewish map in Europe and transformed the population of Israel.

Jewish life and the culture of the communities where they found shelter came together in a sort of fusion as the Jews adapted to and adopted local customs creating a constantly evolving and enriched mosaic of Jewish customs, traditions and languages (See the NLI's 2016 Jewish Languages exhibition).

In addition to journeys taken due to persecution or religious intolerance, throughout the centuries, Jews have also journeyed to pay homage to religious leaders. Jewish journeys can also be viewed in the spiritual sense – the rise of different movements within the faith - Sabbataism, Hassidism, Secularism - have influenced Jewish communities and the way they interact and coexist. There are religious practices relating to journeys including prayers recited as journeys are begun, and blessings after safe arrivals. Additionally, journeying and carrying luggage are prohibited on the Sabbath and holy days. For people who need to be away from home over these days, 'travelling' versions of ritual books and objects are created. Hospitality towards travelers arriving in a strange place is a basic tenet of Jewish communal life.

Another type of more personal journeys, are journeys of discovery as people who had to deny their Jewish identity or had their past hidden from them, reveal their Jewish identity later in life and explore their individual Jewish heritage.

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