

**DISCOVER
JEWISH CULTURAL
AND HISTORICAL
HERITAGE**

European Days of Jewish Culture

September 4th 2016



**JEWISH
LANGUAGES**

Knaanic
 Giudaico Romanesco
 Ebraico
 Piemontese
 Bukhori
 Malayalam
 Lishana Deni
 Tamazight
 Haketia
 Italqit
 Kaylinina
 Golpaygani
 Tetouani
 Chouhadite
 עברית
 Lusitanic
 Tudeyt
 Bagitto
 Kivruli
 Sarfatit
 العربية يهودية
 Yiddish
 Hebrew
 Jewish Aramaic
 Marathi
 Romaniyot
 حاکتیا

Graphic by Ghidon Fiano

AUSTRIA - AZERBAIJAN - BELGIUM - BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA - BULGARIA - CROATIA - CZECH REPUBLIC - DENMARK
FINLAND - FRANCE - GEORGIA - GERMANY - GREECE - HUNGARY - IRELAND - ITALY - LATVIA - LITHUANIA - LUXEMBOURG
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA - NETHERLANDS - NORWAY - POLAND - PORTUGAL - ROMANIA - RUSSIA
SERBIA - SLOVAKIA - SLOVENIA - SPAIN - SWEDEN - SWITZERLAND - TURKEY - UKRAINE - UNITED KINGDOM

REPORT 2016



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INDEX

Introduction	4
The AEPJ	5
The European Day of Jewish Culture	6
The European Cultural Routes and the European Route of Jewish Heritage	7
The AEPJ meeting in Venice	8
EDJC 2016 subject matter: JEWISH LANGUAGES	10
New cooperation with The National Library of Israel	15
The European Day of Jewish Culture 2016:	19
Austria	20
Belgium	22
Bosnia-Herzegovina	24
Bulgaria	25
Croatia	27
Czech Republic	30
Denmark	32
France	34
Georgia	40
Germany	42
Greece	46
Hungary	48
Ireland	50
Italy	52
Latvia	60
Lithuania	62
Luxembourg	66
The former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia	68
Netherlands	70
Norway	72
Poland	74
Portugal	78
Romania	80
Russia	82
Serbia	84
Slovakia	86
Slovenia	88
Spain	90
Sweden	98
Switzerland	100
Turkey	102
Ukraine	104
United Kingdom	108
The EDJC in numbers:	
cities	114
activities	115
visitors	116
European Day of Jewish Culture 2017: DIASPORA	117

Dear friends,

The European Days of Jewish Culture have reached their 17th edition; I would like to thank, in first place, all those who contributed in any form to the huge success we achieved this year.

Jewish Languages was an exciting topic indeed and both organizers and the public reacted enthusiastically; this is even truer in this period of time, in which the expansion of information, languages and means of communication seems to reach unprecedented levels.

Europe is facing dramatical changes that will probably affect its condition for a long time. Thus the temptation of giving up to fear and closing our doors to the stranger is stronger than ever, as we see all over the continent.

I am writing these lines just days after a terrorist purposely killed or wounded dozens of citizens in Berlin with a truck, re-enacting the murderous scenario of Nice on 14 July of this year. However firm we must stand for democracy in Europe.

In this context we firmly believe that, once again, we can learn something from the Jewish experience. Just as the Diaspora of Jews enriched and contributed hugely to European culture, we are firmly convinced that this new Diaspora we are facing today, if rightly and wisely handled, will - in the long term - become a factor adding richness to European identity.

And while I am writing this introduction, we are celebrating the holiday of Hanukkah. The lesson of this holiday is that, even in the darkest hour, there is always a small light left and that the shine of this light will ultimately grow and illuminate the whole world.

In this respect, a big thank you to all those, people and organizations, that - all over Europe - are keeping the flame of the European Days of Jewish Culture so high. And a wish that that flame -however apparently small- may add to the light of this world.

Yours sincerely,
François Moyses
AEPJ Chairman

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 devise and develop the European Route of Jewish Heritage. The association is currently formed by a number of partners and members:

- **B'nai B'rith Europe**, a Jewish association 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 Jewish presence in Europe through culture and heritage; to encourage and train young Jewish adults for leadership in Jewish communities.
- **Red de Juderías de España – Caminos de Sefarad**, a non-profit public association of Spanish towns whose goal is to protect the urban, architectural, historical, artistic and cultural Sephardic heritage in Spain. Each one of its many member cities has highlighted its ancient Jewish heritage and established a programme of animations, tours, and training.
- **Unione delle Comunità Ebraiche Italiane (UCEI)**, a non-profit organisation representing 21 Jewish communities in Italy, whose millenary presence in the country has contributed to enrich the cultural, artistic and social heritage. UCEI represents and tutors, also generally coordinates and unifies Italian Judaism before the State, the Government and other authorities, as well as the general public in all matters regarding Jewish interests.
- **Rede de Judiarias de Portugal – Rotas de Sefarad**, a public association ruled by private law, with the intention to act jointly to defend the urban, architectural, environmental, historical and cultural Jewish heritage in Portugal. Founded on March 17th 2011, it includes 28 towns and cities.
- **Journées Européennes de la Culture et du Patrimoine Juifs - France (JECPJ-France)** is dedicated to promoting and preserving this heritage and to disseminating 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... in various French regions, welcoming each year thousands of visitors from all backgrounds and beliefs. This association has also developed an application for mobile devices, which locates and provides information about major Jewish sites all over France. JECPJ-France is also a member of the European Association for Jewish Heritage as well as a member of the French Federation of European Cultural Routes (Fédération Française des Itinéraires Culturels Européens).
- **The Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic** is a governmental agency within the Cabinet of Azerbaijan in charge of regulation of activities and development of tourism in Azerbaijan and promotion of Azerbaijani culture. Since 2016 they joined the association and are working in a specific itinerary through Jewish local communities.

Furthermore, AEPJ also has individual members. The association is operating in three fields:

- Coordinating the European Day of Jewish Culture, celebrated since 1999.
- Developing the European Routes of Jewish Heritage, acknowledged in 2005 by the Council of Europe as European Major Cultural Route within the COE programme of European Cultural Routes.
- Acting as interlocutor with the Council of Europe on Jewish culture and heritage issues.

THE EUROPEAN DAY OF JEWISH CULTURE

Already into its 17th edition, the EDJC was held on Sunday, September 4th, 2015. The subject matter of this edition, *Jewish Languages*, opens a whole world of concepts: in fact, the Jewish people was born – as a people – because of its relationship to the Word spoken at Sinai; Jews have always had a peculiar relationship with language, even considering the Hebrew language a part of the Universe’s structure. Later on, during their wanderings, Jews have adopted a countless number of languages for their everyday life, while keeping Hebrew for religious use: from Yiddish to Malayalam, from Judeo-Tatar to Ladino, the possibilities opened by this subject matter are endless: coordinators reacted enthusiastically to it, organizing an impressive series of amazing activities in all the 30 participating countries.

A growing trend in the last years has been for some countries, such as France, the United Kingdom, Spain, Lithuania and Italy, to expand the celebration of the EDJC to the whole weekend, to one or more weeks, or even spread it in a space of months: the EDJC’s “original” date, September 4th, became a “gravity center” around which a whole range of activities and festivals revolves.

We would like to thank the enthusiasm and efforts of all people involved in the organization and celebration of this important event, and especially all volunteers that have been contributing to the success of EDJC one more year.

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 contributes 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 key objectives of the programme are to reinforce the potential of Cultural Routes for cultural co-operation, sustainable territorial development and social cohesion, with a special focus on themes of symbolic importance for European unity, history, culture and values and the discovery of little-known destinations. It helps to strengthen the democratic dimension of cultural exchange and tourism through the involvement of grassroots networks and associations, local and regional authorities, universities and professional organizations. It contributes to the preservation of a diverse heritage through theme-based and alternative tourist itineraries and cultural projects. The Governing Board of EPA awards the “Council of Europe Cultural Route” certification and carries out regular evaluation of certified routes in conformity with Committee of Ministers, which establishes the rules for the awarding of this certification.

Currently there are 32 European Cultural Routes, among which stands the **European Route of Jewish Heritage**, which received the certification in 2005, being awarded the status of “Major Cultural Route” two years later, in 2007.

The main goals of the European Route of Jewish Heritage are to preserve, to promote and to keep Jewish heritage alive, to develop tourism around involved cities and regions, and to make Europeans aware of the cultural richness created by Jews in Europe.

The European Route of Jewish Heritage is already active in the following countries: Austria, Azerbaijan, Czech Republic, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, and more countries are on the way of activating a national Jewish Heritage Route.

The Routes mainly include archaeological sites, synagogues and cemeteries, ritual baths, Jewish quarters, monuments and memorials, archives and libraries, as well as museums specialized in Jewish culture and history. But even more important is the fact that the European Route of Jewish Heritage and the European Day of Jewish Culture connect the work of communities with the cultural, artistic, economic and social agents of different territories, thus mutually promoting their task on an international level.

THE AEPJ MEETING IN VENICE

On March 29, 2016, the ghetto of Venice grew 500 years old. This date was very special, since it was the first example of ghetto (that means not simply a Jewish quarter, but rather a place where Jews were forced to live and be locked in) in the world, thus representing the paradigm of a model that would be applied in uncounted cities all over Europe.

The concept of ghetto naturally evokes negative images – however, Jewish creativity turned the Venice Ghetto (basically an open air prison) into a hub of creativity lasting for three centuries, a place where cultures and languages met, a center of religious and secular studies and an economic and scientific workshop contributing greatly to both Jewish and non-Jewish culture and thought.

The Jewish Community of Venice, together with the city administration, decided to stage a year of events to mark the anniversary.

The AEPJ had the honour of being among the events' sponsor, and sent a delegation of its Board to attend the official opening, marked by a concert at Venice's La Fenice city theater. They were joined by various distinguished and illustrious guests, and, from March 27 to 30 2016, a tight schedule went on.

Several meetings and activities have been developed, the most significant ones were on March 29, the AEPJ meeting hosted at the Council of Europe's office in Piazza San Marco; in the evening, our delegation attended the magnificent concert in La Fenice theater: after presentations by Paolo Gnignati (President of Venice's Jewish Community), Luigi Brugnaro (Mayor of Venice), Ronald Lauder (president of World Jewish Congress), the evening opened with an exciting intervention about history of the Venice ghetto, by famous British historian Simon Schama; then, the actual concert started: La Fenice Orchestra, directed by conductor Omer Meir Wellber, majestically interpreted Mahler's symphony nr.1. The concert was followed by a gala cocktail. The event was organized in collaboration with UCEI (Union of Italian Jewish Communities) and with the help of AEPJ and WJC (World Jewish Congress).

On March 30, activities opened with a press conference at the Council of Europe's office, moderated by AEPJ President François Moysé: the conference was honoured by the presence, among other distinguished guests, of the CoE's Deputy Secretary General, Mrs. Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni.

All the group then moved to the ghetto, where, they were offered a brief tour of the Jewish Museum; following, Mrs. Battaini-Dragoni uncovered a commemorative plate to Venice's Jewish Community. Then, in the magnificent Scola Canton synagogue, the AEPJ's president François Moysé then offered Mrs. Battaini-Dragoni a medal for her contributions to protection of Jewish cultural heritage. Activities went on with the uncovering of a second plate dedicated by the AEPJ to Venice's Jewish Museum, and a third one by the World Monument Fund, for the renovation of Scola Canton.

After that, activities concluded, and participants left Venice deeply enriched and with the sensation of having lived a historic moment.



Reflections by Professor Hanna Lorer

EDJC Bulgaria National Coordinator

The origin of languages is a fundamental question in linguistics. One of the religious explanations of the formation of languages and literacy is that they were created by a holy man, loved by G-d, a righteous and trustworthy one. The question has been the subject of many discussions over the centuries. Due to a lack of authentic sources of information, the finding of solid evidence has been incredibly difficult. Ancient researchers refer to signs, engraved on plant or animal fossils or to archaeological ceramics. The data derived from these sources is not credible enough to provide answers. Researchers studying behaviour among primates conclude that they do communicate, but only through inarticulate sounds. As a result of evolution, apes progressively turned into humans. Language evolved along with the evolution of primates into what we see as modern day human beings. In 1861 Max Müller published a speculative theory on the origin of spoken language, supposing it formed on the imitation of sounds, produced by animals or birds, or as a result of exclamations, provoked by emotional reactions to feelings of satisfaction, surprise, physical pain or other. According to him sounds possess a natural vibration, resonance, which carry into effect an echo.

Presently there are about 6900 identified spoken languages in the world, grouped into about 20 families. It is supposed that the various languages stem from one parent protolanguage. The identification of this common basic language has been studied for thousands of years. There are currently 225 local languages spoken in Europe.

The studies of language genesis have established a common trend. It was proven that various languages result from the transformation of ancient basic languages, such as Semitic, Iranian, Latin, Greek, Slavic, Phoenician, Etruscan, etc. There is also a need to explain how ancient pictographs, describing the letter symbols - cuneiform, pattern, geometrical or other gradually formed into new, modern letters systematized into an alphabet.

The most widespread language group today is the Indo-European family, ranging from Hindi and Persian and to Norwegian and English. Around 2000 BCE the Indo-European speakers moved across Europe and reached the Atlantic and the Mediterranean coasts, the Iranian plateau and parts of India.

The Semitic language family was as relevant for early humankind history as it is today. Around 3000 BCE Semitic languages were widespread among nomads populating parts of the Arabian Desert reaching all the way to northern Syria, Babylonia, Assyria and Phoenicia. Aramaic was also a Semitic language and it was regarded as the language of the Middle East. The Semitic group contains at least two communities - Jews and Arabs, who played a significant role in human civilisation. The Arabic alphabet is widespread

among Muslim nations, not only the Arabic-speaking ones.

Alphabets were modified over the time when new letters were needed to describe new words related to military operations, trade deals, or religious denominations.

Another group of languages was formed as a result of modifications of Latin, language of the ancient Romans. It belongs to the Indo-European family, but it is not as flexible as ancient Greek. At first it was spoken in Rome, but later Latin became the official language of all conquered territories. Until the 19th century scientific and philosophical works were written mainly in Latin. Although it is a dead language today, it is still the official language of the Catholic Church. The origin of the Latin alphabet remains to be determined. It is believed that it was based on the Greek alphabet, adopted and modified by the Etruscans and adapted by the Romans. The Romance languages were created on the basis of the Latin alphabet – Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese. The Germanic languages, using the Latin alphabet, led to present English, Dutch, Flemish, German, Swedish and Icelandic. The Latin alphabet has been modified over the years in order to satisfy the phonetic needs of languages which adopted it. Over the past 500 years this alphabet spread over to other continents during the colonisation period. In mid-19th century Romanians adopted it as main alphabet for their own language. After the collapse of the USSR in 1991, some of the new countries using revived Turkic languages have adopted the Latin alphabet. Many Latin manuscripts written by ancient authors and over 270,000 inscriptions in Latin remain preserved until today.

The Aramaic, Canaanite and Hebrew languages are Semitic. Some of the later biblical books and the Talmud were mainly written in Old Aramaic. In the 7th century BCE the Aramaic language spread to other nations in the region and was even used by the Persian administration.

In addition to Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek are considered as biblical languages, but the Old Testament is written in the holy Hebrew language. The language of the rabbis – Talmudic Aramaic – stems from it and it is used for the Talmud literature, containing all the traditions of Judaism and is considered as the first ancient encyclopaedia.

The population of Israel is linguistically and culturally very heterogeneous. Ethnological studies of Israel suggest that the community living on the territory counts 33 languages and dialects. Hebrew became dominant again at the end of the 19th century based on the Zionist movement ideology aiming at using it as a modern common tongue. Eliezer Ben-Yehuda and his followers created the first schools where Hebrew was spoken and taught, books were printed in Hebrew as well. According to Ben-Yehuda, in the period 1905-1914, as a result of mass immigration, Hebrew became the dominant language and when in 1948 Israel became an independent state, it was proclaimed the official language, together with Arabic. Eliezer Ben-Yehuda's effort had an enormous impact on the development of Hebrew, he wrote several dictionary volumes containing ancient and modern Hebrew words to adapt this very ancient language to modern needs and exigences. Ben-Yehuda's aim was to develop Hebrew literature in Israel, but also to respect the specifics of written religious Hebrew. This idea was met with opposition by other scholars

who maintained that the language should not divert from the holy texts in the Torah and should not be adapted to a use for everyday conversations in the streets. There are many informal languages in Israel: Yiddish – the language of the Ashkenazy Jews in the diaspora; Ladino – used by the Sephardic Jews, who have Spanish roots; Polish; Ukrainian; French; Judeo-Italian – with its various dialects; Hungarian, Turkish and even Persian, Greek and other.

The original Hebrew alphabet stems from the Phoenician one, which itself is based on the Egyptian hieroglyphs. It was the most widespread writing system used by the Phoenician traders around the Mediterranean countries. The Aramaic (Syriac) alphabet originates from the Phoenician one as well, and was itself the basis of the modern Arabic alphabet.

Hebrew is the means of communication between Jews, it is the religion professing language, it is used for education and literary creation. Despite all the forced migrations in ancient times and the persecutions during the Holocaust, the language has remained alive until today. According to the Torah, Semitic languages exist as G-d's creations. The Hebrew alphabet is not just a collection of abstract linguistic elements, every letter has its name and identity, and they also bear numerical values. The letters became markers of Jewish identity and Jewish religion, differentiating G-d's different names. Can anyone say why the first letter is Aleph and the second one Beyt – all these questions provoke justified interest. Every Hebrew letter bears a specific meaning, for instance Aleph is not only the first letter, but also means “ox” as in sacrificial ox, Beyt stands for home, but it is also the letter beginning the Torah (Bereishit – beginning). It is moreover the first letter of all Jewish blessings, like Baruch – blessed, Baruch Hashem – blessed by G-d. The letter Ayin means eye, source or centre, the spiritual meaning suggests the spiritual eye.

The Hebrew language lacks the auxiliary verb “to be” and questions are formed with a question word or just by modifying the speaker's intonation. It has been modified by scribes, Talmudists and Masorettes. The ancient language experts, like Ezra, Nehemiah or the scribes from the Great Assembly – called the Soferim, are known for their remarkable efforts. The Masorettes would correct with precision involuntary mistakes, they would count the letters and the words of each book and their pedantic care would prevent any further copying of mistakes. The Soferim and the Talmudists would take great care of delicate scrolls decayed by years of use, they would store them in genizah (store room) in the synagogues or they would bury them in the ground like humans. The Hebrew of the Dead Sea scrolls is the language of the Torah and it represents a remarkable phenomenon in the culture and history of the Jewish state. Only the traditional prayer in Hebrew unites over 14 million Jews around the world. Ancient Hebrew names like Jacob, Joseph, Sarah and Miryam and old Hebrew words like Amen, Hallelujah, Shabbat or Messiah have been adopted by other languages without being translated– in Christian church corals or Muslim prayers for example.

Mendele Moycher Sforim (1836 -1917) was the first modern writer to combine in his style different elements of Hebrew and Yiddish. His work contributed to the modification of Hebrew transforming it into a modern literary language, which elevated the status of Jewish culture.

A language is a system of signs for coding and decoding information. There is a difference between language and speech. While speech is the use of language - language in action, language itself, as a system of rules, is the raw matter for speech. Programming languages are formal languages, which are used for the modern day computers to transmit information through IT. Language and thought are connected. Language being a means of communication, it is also a means for exchanging ideas. When two people communicate, it is done through the media of language, but it represents their ideas, the language is a means of representing one's thoughts. Another characteristic feature of language is its aesthetic function - poetry. It is usually found in fiction and verbal folklore. The aesthetic effect is achieved by carefully selecting words, expressions and constructions, which emphasise the aesthetic dimension. Unfortunately, language can be used for its manipulative function, i.e. its use for propaganda, indoctrination and negative effect on religious movements and values. Language manipulation is used in a speculative manner when creating racial discrimination, xenophobia and above all anti-Semitism, which was well proven in the Nazi policy.

There are various types of language - literary, national, regional, mother tongue, foreign, children's, jargon etc. As a result of historical events some human groups may disappear or be assimilated, which often leads to a loss of their language. So when we speak about a death of a language, we usually understand its disappearance either through a violent extermination or absorption of a human group, or through a non-violent assimilation by another human group.

Professor August Schleicher is the author of a theory that there was a common proto-language, which was transformed into different national languages and he also launched the idea of a language family tree.

It is commonly thought that books are knowledge and knowledge is power. Humanity could have been spiritually more elevated if only the lost books were preserved. The myths about the lost knowledge and the unread books illustrate our longing for spirituality. It is deeply saddening to imagine that while some people were collecting books in libraries, others were burning them. We have lost the Great Library of Alexandria, this respected symbol of knowledge acquired in Antiquity. Lost are the books burnt by the Chinese Emperor Qin Shi Huang. Lost are the Sybilline books, burnt in Jupiter's temple according to the legend. Gone are the pagan books, destroyed by the Christian fanaticism. Burnt are the five thousand Arabic manuscripts, as a consequence of Cardinal Cisneros' conquest of Granada. Burnt are the books by known Jewish writers due to Nazi book burnings.

There is of course the myth of the Tower of Babel featured in the Torah and meant to explain the origin of different languages. According to the story, a united humanity of the generations following the Great Flood spoke a single language. In Babel they agreed to build a tower "tall enough to reach heaven"; seeing this, the Lord confounded their speech so that they could no longer understand each other and scattered them around the world.

The fundamental importance of languages was confirmed in 2001 when 26 September was proclaimed

by the Council of Europe as the European Day of Languages and has been since organised jointly with the European Union. The studies of foreign languages improve not only the communication between people, but also overcome intellectual barriers and intercultural differences.

The Hebrew term *leshon hara* (evil tongue) is a term for derogatory speech about another person and it is considered as one of the worst sins. According to Judaism it is one of the deadly sins, and if one does not repent and does not relinquish it, one will not be allowed to G-d's Kingdom. *Leshon hara* differs from defamation in that its focus is on the use of true speech for a wrongful purpose, rather than falsehood and harm arising. Speech is considered to be *leshon hara* if it says something negative about a person or party, is not previously known to the public, is not seriously intended to correct or improve a negative situation, and is true. Speaking in this manner is against the commandment in the Torah to love our neighbour. Those who express or write evil things are often not evil people, but they don't realise that it isn't only foul what enters one's mouth, but what comes out of it, as it comes straight from the heart. As the German philosopher Lessing said: "Know that trees cut by an axe will have new shoots emerge and as they live they will become new trees. The flesh and the bones wounded by a sword will heal again, but a wound caused by the tongue cannot be healed. The tip of an arrow dipped in evil words hits the heart and it cannot be retrieved and leaves a bleeding hole, as evil words cannot be forgotten. Mercy teaches us though not to forget the received evil, but to avoid the anger and the thirst for revenge.

In a colourful rainbow made of sounds of prayer, emerging from the holy "shofar", miscellaneous languages fly towards the sky. In the colourful, glowing rainbow there is however no place for the darkness of the words of evil. This sound of the "shofar" has become the means of communication between different nations, using one or another alphabet or language, a way of connecting people in the name of mutual understanding and tolerance.

. "All made with anger breaks, evil words are like weeds, which hamper the existence of useful plants, such as languages are; so people should direct their effort towards the eradication of these weeds." (Excerpt from the Talmud)

Hanna Lorer

AEPJ AND NATIONAL LIBRARY OF ISRAEL COOPERATION

In 2016 a pilot project of collaboration between the AEPJ and the National Library of Israel (NLI) over the topic chosen for the annual European Day of Jewish Culture has been initiated. The NLI offered us their materials and expertise, and prepared a temporary exhibition about Jewish Languages, consisting of 7 roll-ups. Each roll-up was dedicated to a specific Jewish languages, with a very interesting images and research over the issue. The exhibition was proposed to all our coordinators, and more than 20 of them appointed for it: among them Eisenstadt (Austria), Zagreb, Osijek and Split (Croatia), Athens (Greece), Palermo, Soragna, Trieste, Gorizia, Milan, Meran, Rome, Genoa, Brindisi and others (Italy), Girona (Spain), Maribor (Slovenia), Novi Sad (Serbia), Sarajevo (Bosnia), Tbilisi and Batumi (Georgia), Dublin (Ireland), various places in the Netherlands, and others, that acted as a pilot group.

The exhibit has been translated to at least 6 languages (from Serbian to Catalan passing for Italian and Slovenian, under the responsibility of every coordinator and was widely appreciated,

In some places (where limited resources were available to organize activities) it was considered a major help, in some of them due to this limitation, the exhibit was partially shown and even used over different techniques as power points, lectures, or online resources.

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.

Finally, we announce that the exhibit is still in use, and we offer it up to any of our coordinators staff that may use it as a resource for their benefit.



הספרייה הלאומית
المكتبة الوطنية الاسرائيلية
THE NATIONAL
LIBRARY OF ISRAEL

THE EUROPEAN DAY OF JEWISH CULTURE 2016

7

Display Panels covering:
Introduction to Jewish Languages;
Aramaic; Judeo-Alsace; Judeo-Arabic;
Judeo-Catalan; Judeo-Greek; Judeo-Italian;
Judeo-Ladino; Modern Hebrew;
Rashi's French; Yiddish

Featuring

37

items from the
Collections of
the National
Library of Israel

Displayed in **23** cities

across **11** countries

**SEEN BY
THOUSANDS
OF VISITORS**

Austria
Eistenstadt

Bosnia
Sarajevo

Croatia
Osijek, Split,
Zagreb

Georgia
Batumi,
Tbilisi

Greece
Athens

Ireland
Dublin

Netherlands
Groningen
en Leeuwarden,
Leiden,
The Hague

Serbia
Novi Sad

Slovenia
Maribor

Spain
Girona

Italy
Gorizia, Meran,
Milan, Rome,
Soragna, Trieste



Translated into
local languages

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF ISRAEL JEWISH LANGUAGES



More than just for one day – the NLI exhibition is continuing to be shown in institutions, libraries and cultural centres attracting thousands more visitors.

It was really a success for us and not only students and local people came to see it but also quite a lot of international tourists. So, thank you for co-ordinating everything, we were very happy with the EDJC this year.

Yvonne Altman O'Connor,
Irish Jewish Museum

Visitors spent more time as usual, as they read all presented texts with great interest.

Marjetka Bedrač,
Sinagoga Maribor, Slovenia

What we intend to do very soon is to move it from the Temple to our Social Hall and make it a permanent exhibition with its nice visual appeal and the clear interesting illustrations and examples.

Eduta Jankov, Novi Sad Jewish
Community, Serbia

What's next?

Plans to expand the cooperation between NLI & AEPJ throughout the year

Work starting in December on EDJC 2017 on the theme 'Diaspora'. Aiming for 20 countries.

Will be displayed at *Limmud* Conference 2016.

Hebrew version to be displayed in the NLI, Jerusalem, early in 2017.

AEPJ AND NATIONAL LIBRARY OF ISRAEL COOPERATION 2017

Furthermore, we'd like to announce that in 2017 the collaboration will be going on! We are still working in our next project about "Diaspora". Further information about it will be available in our web site www.jewishheritage.org.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The AEPJ Coordinators Meeting will be held in Luxemburg in 24-26 March 2017.

The goal of this kind of meetings, that we hold every two years, is threefold: first of all, to share expertise and results connected to EDJC in all participating countries, while at the same time tackling the problems we might have. A second goal is the taking of decisions for the EDJC's next editions, and a third discussion axis will be centered on the creation of local and national cultural routes.

We invite our members to submit proposals over this 3 elements to be discussed and presents at the meeting. Dead line to include them on the general agenda for the meeting will be February 28th. Please submit your proposals to edjc@jewishheritage.org

THE EUROPEAN DAY OF JEWISH CULTURE 2016

**AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA
BULGARIA
CROATIA
CZECH REPUBLIC
DENMARK
FRANCE
GEORGIA
GERMANY
GREECE
HUNGARY
IRELAND
ITALY
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
LUXEMBOURG**

**THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF
MACEDONIA
NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
POLAND
PORTUGAL
ROMANIA
RUSSIA
SERBIA
SLOVAKIA
SLOVENIA
SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
TURKEY
UKRAINE
UNITED KINGDOM**



11
Participating cities

14
Total activities

600
Total visitors

AUSTRIA

BURGENLAND (KITZSEE, FRAUENKIRCHEN, EISENSTADT, MATTERSBURG, KOBERSDORF, LACKENBACH, DEUTSCHKREUTZ, RECHNITZ, STADTSCHLAINING), HOHENEMS, VIENNA





The EDJC 2016 in the Eastern region of **Burgenland** was celebrated in 9 towns (Kittsee, Frauenkirchen, Eisenstadt, Mattersburg, Kobersdorf, Lackenbach, Deutschkreutz, Rechnitz, Stadtschlaing).

Activities included visits to the famed Wolf family synagogue in Eisenstadt, a Yiddish lecture as well as guided tours through cemeteries and towns, on the traces of the now-disappeared “Seven Communities” that once thrived in the region.

In **Hohenems**, the Jewish Museum offered two different guided tours - one about the Jewish

community once living in town, and the other one exploring objects collected by the Museum in its 25 years of activity - particularly letters, where one can see how the linguistic world of those people changed through the time.

The Jewish Museum of Vienna staged a series of guided tours and workshop (including for children) about the complex world of Jewish languages, guiding visitors through this fascinating and little-known universe.

A total of 14 activities in 11 cities and towns, attracting about 600 visitors.



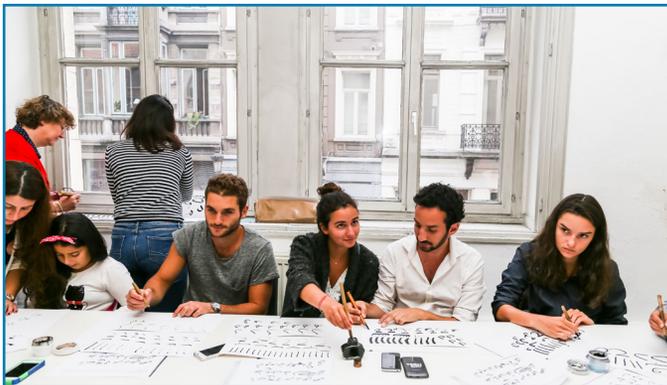
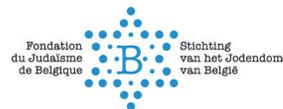
1
Participating cities

12
Total activities

1000
Total visitors

BELGIUM

BRUXELLES



EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



The Jewish Museum of Bruxelles reported an outstanding success and sent us the following report, that we are happy and proud to publish:

Juifs en Terre d'Islam. Journée européenne de la Culture Juive. Dimanche 4 septembre 2016. Jews on Muslim Lands. European Day of Jewish Culture. Sunday 4, September 2016

This day has been a great success. We welcomed over 1,000 people from all origins, religion and class. The public attended one or more of the proposed activities. The quality of the events and the warm atmosphere were really appreciated.

There was an exhibition of a hundred photographs taken by Zédé Schulmann on Moroccan Jews in the 1950s. This exhibition was complemented by a few paintings, objects, jewelry and traditional pieces of cloths from the Dahan-Hirsch Collection.

Serge Berdugo came especially from Paris to present his documentary "Ya Hessra Douk Li Yam" made with his father Mark Berdugo. This documentary was homage to Z. Schulmann. It showed how Jews and Muslims lived closed ones to the others and how traditions and cultures

were mixed in Morocco. Professor Joseph Chetrit came from Israel to give two lectures, on Jewish-Arabic and Jewish-Berber languages, and on musical traditions in Moroccan Jewish communities. Over 250 people attended his lectures.

All over the day, there were seven workshops allowing visitors to discover Arabic and Jewish calligraphy as well as oriental perfumes.

The day ended with an amazing concert of the MED orchestra, led by Tom Cohen. The virtuoso Lior Elmaleh sang in Arabic and made the whole crowd, almost 300 people, cry and smile, experience together the beauty of Jewish-Arabic music.

The photography exhibition was such a success that it is now turn into an itinerary exhibition, which will be displayed in Morocco, Molenbeek, St-Josse, Evere and other places in Brussels in 2017.

This activity was organized by the Jewish Museum of Belgium in cooperation with the Center for Jewish Moroccan Culture, with the support of the Matanel Foundation, the Fondation du Judaïsme de Belgique and the Embassy of Israel.

A total of 12 activities in one city, attracting 1000 visitors.



SARAJEVO

BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA

SARAJEVO

1

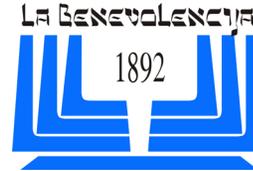
Participating cities

3

Total activities

2000

Total visitors



On the occasion of the European days of Jewish Culture 2016, Jewish Community Sarajevo and Jewish cultural-educational and humanitarian society *La Benevolencija* organized three well-attended events: lecture *Ladino in Bosnia and Herzegovina* held by prof. David Kamhi, Concert of Sephardic music which was performed by Ensemble Oskar Danon - the ensemble of the Jewish Community Sarajevo and opening of the exhibition "Jewish languages" by National Library of Israel.

All three events were organized on September 4th. The lecture and the concert were held at the Jewish Community Center and the exhibition was displayed during two weeks at the Gallery "Novi hram" (Gallery New Temple).

All events were well attended - especially the exhibition: during 13 working days there were more than 1750 visitors. Regarding the concert, the audience was so enthusiastic that the ensemble went out three times for an encore. The lecture was also very well attended, mostly by members of the Jewish community in Sarajevo and experts who have been professionally interested in the topic.

A total of 3 events, attracting about 2000 visitors.



1
Participating cities

5
Total activities

250
Total visitors

BULGARIA

.....

SOFIA



The EDJC 2016 activities in Sofia were celebrated on September 25 and included a lecture, a concert, and guided visits to the synagogue, Jewish museum and Jewish area. A total of 5 activities, attracting about 250 visitors.



EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



CROATIA

OSIJEK, ZAGREB

2

Participating cities

11

Total activities

500

Total visitors



אמוצקס אאריקסדו
אשוקס



יודווסקא אפעינא זאגרב
הקהילה היהודית של זגור



At the Jewish community of **Osijek**, activities opened with dancing: the dance group Haverim Shell Israel performed some of their repertoire, warming up the public with their choreographies. Following, clarinetist Emma Stern played a solo concert. Throughout the activities, the exhibition Jewish Language, courtesy of the National Library of Israel, was shown and appreciated by the public.

In the capital city of **Zagreb**, various activities were organized. Starting at 10 am, B'nai B'rith Croatia organized a set of lectures (by Darko Fischer and Sonja Makek) and videos about various Jewish languages.

At the Bet Israel Jewish community, activities started in the morning with a lecture about Ladino (by Jagoda Vecerina) and one about Jewish writers and language (by Jasminka Domas), followed by some songs performed by Anja Grabar. Activities then resumed at 8pm with a concert of Klezmer and Sephardic music by Zrinka Posavec and her band (special guest: Bruno Philipp - clarinet).

At the Jewish Community of Zagreb, activities began again at 6pm with the inauguration of the new Jewish Museum. The important event was celebrated with a harp concert (by Diana Grubisic Cikovic, and a cocktail party).

A total of 11 activities, attracting about 500 visitors.





6
Participating cities

7
Total activities

550
Total visitors

CZECH REPUBLIC

.....

BRNO, LIBEREC, OLOMOUC,
OSTRAVA, PRAGUE, PILSEN



FEDERATION
OF JEWISH
COMMUNITIES,
CZECH REPUBLIC



ŽIDOVSKÁ OBEC
BRNO

EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



This year, activities were organized in various Czech cities. The Jewish Community of Brno and the Brno branch of the Department for Education and Culture of the Jewish Museum in Prague set up a number of programs to meet together and to learn something, having fun at the same time. Activities in Brno started on September 6th, with a reading of works by Paul Celan, and then went on until September 25, including a number of interesting events (screenings, exhibitions and more) and closing with a joyous celebration of “Sukkot in the Villa”: in the wonderful setting of villa Löw-Beer, Jewish and non-Jewish families enjoyed a sunny day of activities together, centered on the meanings of the holiday of Sukkot. In Olomouc, the Jewish community invited the citizenship on an open day on September 11th: activities included a concert, guided visits, baking of challa (special bread prepared for shabbat) and an open discussion. An open day was also organized at the Community in Ostrava, with programs tailored for the visitors’ needs and questions. Even though other Czech cities participated, we encourage organizers to send the information on time to be published in the annual report. A total of 7 activities, attracting 550 visitors.





1
Participating cities

2
Total activities

50
Total visitors

DENMARK

.....

COPENHAGEN



B'NAI B'RITH
DANMARK LOGE

I anledning af

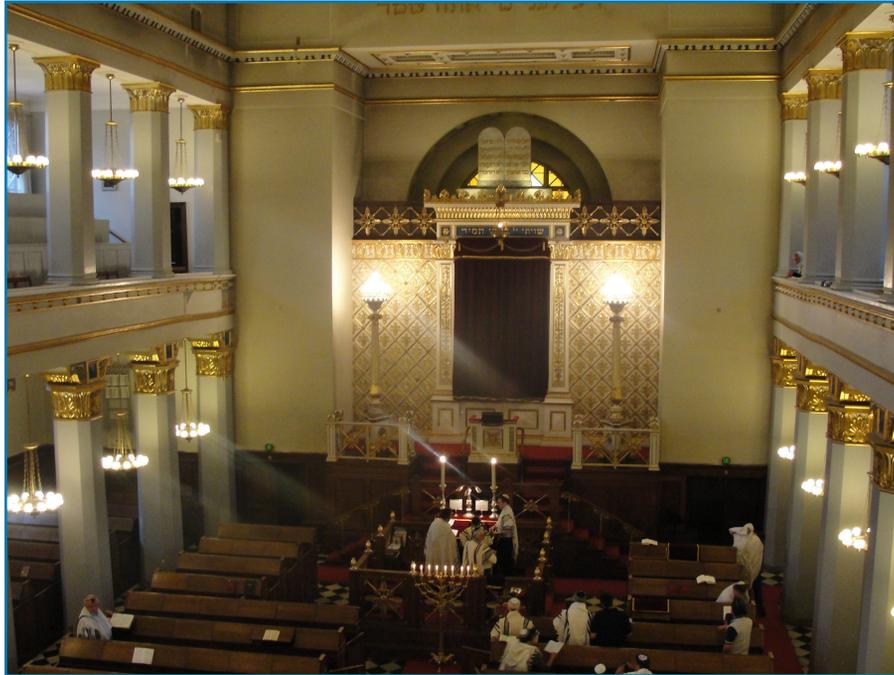
har
Danmark Loge
skænket en gave til fordel for



Præsident

Kasserer

EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



Activities in Copenhagen were organized by B'nai B'rith Denmark. They included a lecture titled Yiddish and Sholem Aleichem, by associated professor Jan Schwarz, University of Lund, Sweden. Following, guests enjoyed klezmer music performed by the founder of the “Middle East Peace Orchestra” mr. Henrik Goldschmidt and the orchestra’s co-leader, mr. Anders Singh. A total of 2 activities, attracting about 50 visitors.

55

Participating cities

186

Total activities

41000

Total visitors



FRANCE

ALPES-COTE D'AZUR (ANTIBES, BORDIGHERA, CANNES, MARSEILLE, MENTON, MONTPELLIER, NICE), ALSACE (BALBRONN, BELFORT, BERGHEIM, BISCHHEIM, BOUXWILLER, COLMAR, FEGERSEHEIM, GUEBWILLER, HEGENHEIM, INGWILLER, MARMOUTIER, MULHOUSE, MUTZIG, NEUWILLER-LES-SAVERNES, OBERBRONN, OBERNAI, PFAFFENHOFFEN, ROSENWILLER, SAVERNE, SCHIRMECK, SOULTZ, STRASBOURG, KOENIGSHOFFEN, THANN, TRAENHEIM, VALFF, VILLÉ, WESTHOFFEN), CLERMONT-FERRAND, LORRAINE (AUGNY, BRUYERES, DELME, EPINAL, FRAUENBERG, LUNÉVILLE, MARLY, METZ, MONTIGNY-LÈS-METZ, NANCY, SAINT-AVOLD, SAINT-DIE, SARREGUEMINES, SENONES, THIONVILLE, VERDUN), PARIS (Aki Estamos, Alliance Israelite Universelle, Cercle Bernard Lazare, Galerie Saphir, Mahj-Musee d'art et d'histoire du Judaisme, Maison de la Culture Yiddish, Medem-Arbeter Ring),

RENNES, TROYES



JECPJ-France, represented by its President Desirée Mayer, sent us the following report, that we are happy to publish:

Languages interacting

Langues et langages en dialogue

The 2016 session of the French EDJC was an overwhelming success, making it really worthy of attention, all the more so in times darkened by terrorist attacks, and despite the hindrance due to the resulting safety precautions.

Obviously the topic **Langues et langages en dialogue**, roughly translating as “Languages interacting”, was found to be doubly interesting. On one hand it conveys a multifaceted linguistic heritage, both stimulating and original, in so far as Judeolanguages as well as the renaissance of Hebrew turn out to be key phenomena at the crossroads of several branches of the social sciences. On the other hand the decision to take an open approach, i.e. to focus on the interplay between Jewish heritage and other popularizing or artistic languages and means of expression led to a wide panorama where one field could be highlighted by others.

Moreover, this topic made it possible to deal with the issue at quite different levels, from guided visits or multilingual concerts aimed at the general public to more learned events like conferences or lectures, in addition to artistic or socializing venues or calligraphy workshops. All of those events were most successful, with the public enjoying their discoveries and interacting.

Despite the surrounding tensions and anxiety 41,000 people attended 185 events at 94 different venues in 55 French towns and villages. Even if the coverage by the national press was far from what one would expect it to be, the regional press did report amply on the success, in which they had their share.

Not to mention the topic and its variations, the success is also due to the growing fame of those “Days” celebrating Jewish heritage, as well as to locally organized events that are always appropriate, to the energy put into them by the various coordinators and to the precious support of some municipal authorities and patrons. Even more than the reasons of the success, what must be stressed is the lesson to be drawn from it. Wherever municipal authorities, wherever men and women had decided to respond to threats and suspicion by agreeing to open-mindedness and exchanges, saying yes to life and the future, obstacles were overcome. Humaneness, courage, intelligence, art and trust contributed towards its memorable success by intertwining the links that sprang up during the festival.

We have deliberately chosen to mention two terrible losses suffered this year in this context of triumph and life. Marie-Hélène Nadin, a deputy mayor in Bayonne died in June. She was a passionate defender of France’s Jewish heritage, a founding member of JECPJ-France and the invaluable coordinator of the South West region of France. Equally violent and unexpected was the sudden death

of highly-talented Claude Hampel, our vice-president, another founding member, coordinator of the Paris-Ile de France region and editor-in-chief of our annual review. May they rest in peace. May their work inspire and enlighten us all.

In conformity with their lessons in courage and their positive contributions, we will also mention our magnificent heritage review and the JECPJ-France meeting in Metz, whose guest of honour was Claude Hagege, the eminent linguist. At this stage we also want to express our gratitude to the City of Metz and its Mayor Dominique Gros, who presides over the assembly of mayors involved in JECPJ-France. We also wish to thank AEPJ's president, Maître François Moyses, who honoured us with his presence and offered us a friendly welcome in Luxembourg.

We extend our thanks to our partners and patrons, our active members as well as the whole organization of AEPJ, wishing both courage and success in their undertakings to our French and European partners.

A total of 185 activities in 55 cities and towns, attracting about 41000 visitors.







GEORGIA

BATUMI, TBILISI

2

Participating cities

2

Total activities

60

Total visitors



For the first time in Georgia, EDJC events took place in two different cities: Tbilisi and Batumi (respectively on September 4th and 6th).

Speaker of the event was Ms. Marine Solomonishvili, who presented and explained a visual rendition of the exhibition “Jewish Languages”, courtesy of the National Library of Israel. All participants, women and youth - Georgian, Jewish and other ethnic minorities - thanked the organizers for a wonderful meeting.

A total of 2 activities in 2 cities, attracting about 60 visitors.



67

Participating cities

161

Total activities

7222

Total visitors



GERMANY

AUGSBURG, BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG (ATTENWEILER, BAD BUCHAU, BAD MERGENTHEIM, BRAUNSBACH, BREISACH, BRETTEEN, BRUCHSAL, BUCHEN, CRAILSHEIM, CREGLINGEN, EFRINGEN-KIRCHEN, EMMENDINGEN, EPPINGEN, ESSLINGEN, FREIBURG, FREUDENTAL, GAILINGEN, GERNSBACH, GÖPPINGEN, HAIGERLOCH, HECHINGEN, BENSHEIM, HOHBERG-DIERSBURG, HORB-REXINGEN, KARLSRUHE, KONSTANZ, LAHR, LADENBURG, LAUPHEIM, LÖRRACH, STUTTGART, MÜNSINGEN, OBERSULM, OFFENBURG, PFORZHEIM, ROTTENBURG/NECKAR, SCHWÄBISCH HALL, SULZBURG, TÜBINGEN, ÜBERLINGEN, ULM, WALDSHUT-TIENINGEN, WIESLOCH, NEURIED, ROT AM SEE-REUBACH), DORSTEN, MÜNCHEN, SWABIA (ALTENSTADT, FELLHEIM, FISCHACH, HARBURG, ICHENHAUSEN, KRUMBACH, MEMMINGEN, MONHEIM, NÖRDLINGEN, WALLERSTEIN, BINSWANGEN, BOPFINGEN-OBERDORF, BUTTENWIESEN, PAPPENHEIM, SCHOPFLOCH)



Israelitische
Kultusgemeinde
München
und Oberbayern



Landeszentrale
für politische Bildung
Baden-Württemberg





In **Augsburg**, the EDJC 2016 was again organized by the Jewish Culture Museum of Augsburg-Swabia, together with the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde Schwaben-Augsburg. Furthermore the Jewish Culture Museum also coordinated the program for the Netzwerk Historische Synagogenorte in Bayerisch-Schwaben. Two open doors – one in the Jewish museum at Halderstraße, the other in the museum branch in the suburb of Kriegshaber – gave the possibility to learn about the Jewish past and present of Augsburg and to get in touch with this year’s topic “Jewish Languages”. The activities in the Jewish museum at Halderstraße opened with an official welcome and a lesson by rabbi Dr. h.c. Henry G. Brandt. Between 12 and 4 p.m. five thematic guided tours through museum and synagogue were held.

Various events during the whole day – like a workshop with Hebrew, Yiddish and Ladino songs by cantor Nikola David (Munich/Stuttgart), a lecture by Wiebke Rasumny (academic at FU Berlin) about “Where is Yiddishland? Jewish Languages in the Diaspora”, the film screening of “Farewell Herr Schwarz” by Yael Reuveny, and a workshop about Jewish dances dealt with the topic “Jewish Languages” in different ways and attracted a lot of visitors. Highlights of the program were Shlomit Tulgan and the Jewish puppet theater Berlin *bubales* who presented the play “The Kosher-Machine” and the sing-along with cantor Nikola David in the early evening.

Over the whole day visitors also had the possibility to see the current exhibition “Im Übergang. Jüdische Gegenwart, 1990-2010”, that deals with the immigration of Jews from the former Soviet Union to Augsburg after 1990 or listen to music by *Duo Unterstadt* (Monika Müller and Frank Schillinger).

In the old synagogue in **Kriegshaber**, branch of the Jewish Museum since 2014, people had the possibility to take part in a workshop about Jewish gravestone inscriptions or to visit a guided tour about the Jewish history of Kriegshaber. The program ended with the film screening of “The Ladino Ladies’ Club”, a documentary about Jewish women in Sofia (Bulgaria) and Ladino language.

The Jewish Culture Museum of Augsburg and Swabia also organized a total of 31 activities in **16 towns**, most of them located in **Swabia** and connected in the *Netzwerk Historische Synagogenorte in Bayerisch-Schwaben*.

More than 1426 visitors joined the events that were offered over the whole day. Former synagogues and Jewish cemeteries were opened, and guided tours through exhibitions, towns and Jewish cemeteries gave an impression about local Jewish history.

Shlomit Tulgan and her *Bubales - Berlin Jewish puppet theater*, after Augsburg also performed in Fischach and presented their play “The Kosher-Machine” in the early evening.

Different concerts and a workshop completed these many-sided programmes.

In **48 cities** and towns in **Baden-Württemberg**, a total of 89 activities were organized by the By B’nai Brith René Hirschler, Strasbourg, in collaboration with the National Working Community of Memorials in Baden-Württemberg and the Regional Center for Political Education 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 cemeteries visits, food tastings, film screenings and lectures, all with a special focus on the theme of Jewish languages.

In **Dorsten**, at the Jewish Museum of Westphalia, activities included a short introduction about Yiddish, followed by presentation of a pivotal book in Yiddish culture: *Ze'edah uR'edah* or in short: *Zenerene* - "Go forth and see, O ye daughters of Zion". The book was written around 1600 and mixes passages from the Five Books of Moses with texts from the Talmud and the Midrash (interpretations of Biblical passages). For a long time it was believed that the Yiddish language book was intended only for women who would have been less versed than men in Hebrew, the Jewish liturgical language. But nowadays research has shown that men also studied this "women's Bible" that, with more than 200 editions, has always been an extremely popular book. Following, the opening of photo exhibition "Jewish Portraits", by Herlinde Koelbl, took place. In her large photo project combining text and images, Herlinde Koelbl portrayed German-speaking Jews who survived the Shoah. Although some of these survivors returned to Germany (East or West) or Austria after 1945, most stayed in the countries in which they had found refuge. From this project emerged a collective monument to the last generation to be born into the intellectual and cultural climate of a German-Jewish symbiosis - a generation that had to experience the destruction of this culture and that survived the Holocaust of more than six million Jews.

In **Munich**, the Jewish Museum and Jewish Community organized a wide array of activities. In the morning, visitors were guided "On the footsteps of Jewish life in Munich's Inner city" by Chaim Frank. Following, guided tours in the city's main synagogue, Ohel Jacob, were carried out, with lectures by Elisabeth Rees-Dessauer and Shimrit Sutter-Schreiber. At 3 pm, the vernissage of exhibition "Haidholzener Psalter" by Joshua Reichert and Karl Neuwirth took place. At 4 pm, J. Blumenthal read from his book "How I Conquered the German Language".

Finally, at 6 pm, the band "Voices of Ashkenaz" concluded the day with songs and melodies in Hebrew, Yiddish and German.

In **Überlingen**, the *Kulturkiste* cultural association organized various activities. At 10 am, Marco Kneuppel introduced visitors to the world of Jewish languages. Following, a number of films were screened, attracting visitors the whole day: subjects of the films ranged from Jewish life in Middle Ages Rheinland to a documentary about Yiddishland, to Jewish life in the Black Forest region at the beginning of the Third Reich, to a documentary about Daniel Barenboim's Israeli-Palestinian orchestra.

A total of 161 activities in 67 cities, attracting 7222 visitors.



3
Participating cities

5
Total activities

550
Total visitors

GREECE

.....
ATHENS, HANIA, THESSALONIKI



ΕΒΡΑΪΚΟ ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ
JEWISH MUSEUM OF THESSALONIKI
MUSEO DJIDIO DE SALONIK



The Jewish Museum of Greece

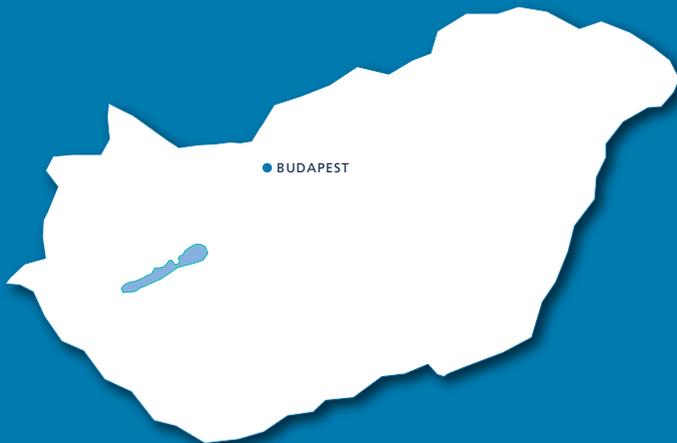
EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE
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The Jewish Museum of **Athens** organized an educational program for families, regarding the three languages used by the Jews of Greece: Hebrew, Judeo-Greek and Ladino.

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

In **Hania** on the southern island of Crete, the Etz Hayyim synagogue participated in EDJC for the first time, organizing an unusual and creative activity: the performing of a music piece titled "Voicing Etz Hayyim". An acoustic profile of the Etz Hayyim Synagogue and its community, recorded and composed by internationally renowned Australian sound artist Dr Ros Bandt using fragments of prayers, voices and other sounds, with the intention of conveying the very soul of this singular spiritual place. The initiative received an amazing degree of success and went on for various days. A total of 5 activities in 3 cities, attracting about 550 visitors.





1
Participating cities

4
Total activities

100
Total visitors

HUNGARY

BUDAPEST



EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



The Mazsikes Jewish Cultural center organized four guided walks through Budapest's Jewish neighborhoods: they were all well-attended and visitors expressed interest and many questions. The walks addressed matters concerning Jewish life in the past as well as the present Jewish life in Budapest, also including synagogues or other places where access is usually restricted. Moreover, the Center sent us the following short description of the activities they carry out not only for EDJC, but the whole year round:

We organize Jewish cultural walks throughout the entire year, but mainly from March until November. The main goal of these walks is to show Jewish culture, Jewish cultural spaces, history, stories and interesting details of the former communities. At the same time we introduce the present community and Jewish cultural life as well. Almost at all our tours we visit synagogues, places where otherwise entry would be denied or is hard to organize. That is, a very important part of the activity of our Association is organized and run according to the open doors-concept, throughout the entire year. We organize walks during cultural festivities, we organize tours for authorities, co-workers of the City Halls, and so on. We work together with several districts in Budapest and help them preserve and present their Jewish heritage by preparing brochures in different languages about their rich and interesting cultural offer. This way we reach many hundreds of people year.

A total of 4 activities, attracting a total of 100 visitors..



IRELAND



DUBLIN

1

Participating cities

2

Total activities

500

Total visitors



The Jewish Museum of Ireland hosted a round table discussion panel on the history of Hebrew and Ladino and the use of Yiddish in Ireland, followed by singing in Ladino with Katerina Garcia and Judith Mok. Furthermore, the Museum has set up the exhibition on Jewish Languages from the National Library of Israel and augmented this with a display from the museum's collection. The exhibition will be ongoing through December and has been warmly appreciated by everyone. A total of 2 activities, attracting about 500 visitors.





76
Participating cities

103
Total activities

45.000
Total visitors

ITALY

ACQUI TERME , ALATRI, ALESSANDRIA, ANCONA, ASTI, BIELLA,
BOLOGNA, BOVA MARINA, BOZZOLO, BRINDISI, CARMAGNOLA,
CARPI-FOSSOLI, CASALE MONFERRATO, CENTO, CHERASCO, CHIERI,
CORREGGIO, CORTEMAGGIORE, COSENZA, CROTONE, CUNEO, FANO,
FERRARA, FINALE EMILIA, FIORENTUOLA D'ARDA, FIRENZE, FIUGGI,
FONDI, GENOVA, GORIZIA, IVREA, LECCE, LIVORNO,
LUGO DI ROMAGNA, MANTOVA, MERANO, MILANO, MODENA,
MONCALVO, MONDOVÌ, NAPOLI, OSTIANO, PADOVA, PALERMO,
PARMA, PESARO, PISA, PITIGLIANO, POMPONESCO, RAGUSA-
CAMARINA, REGGIO CALABRIA, REGGIO EMILIA, ROMA, SABBIONETA,
SALUZZO, SAN NICANDRO GARGANICO, SANTA MARIA DEL CEDRO,
SIRACUSA, SONCINO, SORAGNA, TARANTO, TORINO, TRANI, TRIESTE,
TRINO VERCELLESE, UDINE, URBINO, VENEZIA, VERCELLI, VERONA,
VIADANA, VIAREGGIO, VIBO VALENTIA-ZAMBRONE, VICENZA,
VITTORIO VENETO



UNIONE DELLE COMUNITÀ
EBRAICHE ITALIANE



Patrocino del Ministero dell'Istruzione,
dell'Università e della Ricerca



Dipartimento Politiche Europee
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri

Fondazione per i
Beni Culturali Ebraici
in Italia *ontus*



MINISTERO
PER I BENI E
LE ATTIVITÀ
CULTURALI

Patrocino del Ministero dei beni e
delle attività culturali e del turismo



ASSOCIAZIONE
NAZIONALE
COMUNI
ITALIANI

EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



As usual, Italian EDJC activities were extended all over the Peninsula. Italian EDJC was celebrated on September 18 this year. Following, a short survey region by region.

PIEDMONT. In **Turin** there were lectures, an exhibition about humor in Judeo-Italian dialects, guided visits to the synagogue, former ghetto and cemetery. In **Casale Monferrato**, activities were centered on music, with a double concert in the town's famous Baroque synagogue. In **Acqui Terme**, on September 16th, prof. Alberto Cavaglioni lectured about *Glossaries and Jargons of shopkeepers in Jewish Piedmont*. On September 18th, a food tasting and klezmer concert took place. Furthermore, guided visits to synagogues, ghettos and cemeteries were carried out in **Alessandria, Asti, Biella, Carmagnola, Cherasco, Chieri, Cuneo, Ivrea, Moncalvo**.

LOMBARDY. In **Mantua**, on September 4th, the ideal inauguration of all EDJC in Italy took place, with opening of the exhibition Chanukka Lights, from Casale Monferrato to Mantua. Activities went on on September 18th, with guided visits to the synagogue and reading of poems in Judeo-Mantuan dialect. In **Milan**, the photo exhibition *Grand Tour. Travelling in Jewish Italy*, by Alberto Jona Falco, was inaugurated. Other activities in the city included lectures, guided tours, and a concert. In **Soncino**, Tobia Ravà's *Fogli Celesti* exhibition was opened. In **Viadana**, the synagogue opened its doors and hosted a violin concert by Marcello Bergamaschi, Susi Giaroli and Ilaria Cecchini. Guided visits to cemeteries took place in **Bozzolo, Ostiano, Pomponesco, Sabbioneta** (cemetery and synagogue).

TRENTINO ALTO ADIGE. In **Meran**, activities started in the synagogue's garden with a welcome glass, accompanied by Paolo Buconi's violin. Guided visits to the museum and synagogue went on all day. The afternoon saw, among others, a concert of Sephardic songs by Friederika Haupt, and the presentation of Michael Sfaradi's last novel, *Am Groner Freibad n.5*.

VENETO. In **Padua**, the synagogue and Jewish museum opened their doors, and various lectures took place. Activities were closed by a magnificent concert of Jewish-Italian liturgical music, by ensemble "Shire Miqdash", featuring the voice of Chief Rabbi Adolfo Locci. In **Venice**, the museum and synagogues were open to visitors. Further activities included: a photo exhibition about the Venice ghetto by Graziano Arici; lectures by Chief Rabbi Scialom Bahbout (about the "70 languages of humanity" mentioned in the Bible) and by French linguist Claude Hagège (about Judeo-Venetian dialect); theater shows. In **Verona**, the synagogue, ghetto and cemetery were opened to visits and hosted lectures (by Roberto Israel, "Origins and secrets of the Hebrew alphabet", and Ely Levy, "Aleph Bet - Hebrew is for everybody") and a klezmer concert



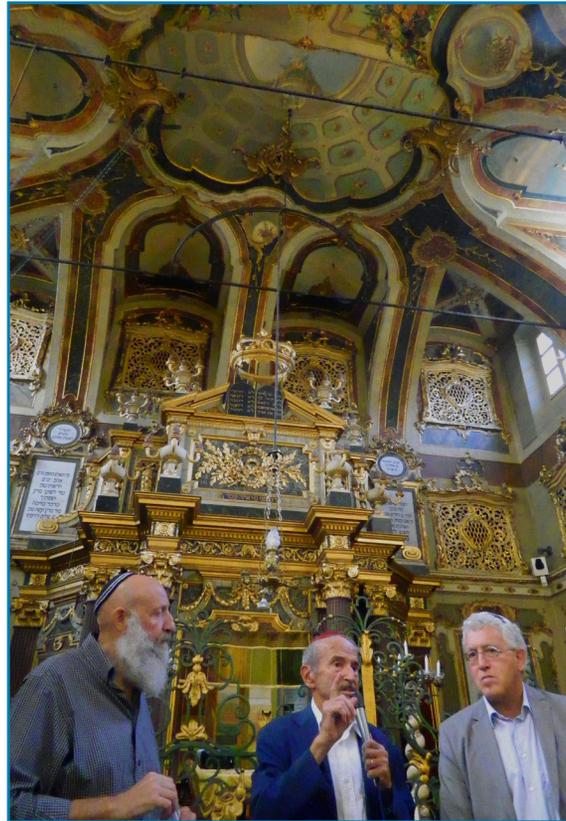
(titled “Der Zeide hat derzeit”). Also, activities for children and adults took place. In **Vicenza**, the Jewish section of the cemetery opened and hosted a lecture and a concert by Kinder Klezmer Quartet. In **Vittorio Veneto**, participating for the first time, the theater group Stellerranti Teatro staged their show “One people, many languages”, featuring songs in Ladino, Yiddish, Hebrew, Judeo-Italian and English.

FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA. In **Gorizia**, the synagogue and cemetery were opened, and a permanent exhibition about the city’s Jewish community was displayed. Furthermore, the “Jewish Languages” exhibition by the National Library of Israel was shown to the public. Ilaria Briata, from Ca’ Foscari university (Venice) lectured about “Signs, words and things – languages of Judaism”. In **Trieste**, the synagogue, museum and cemetery opened their doors attracting a wide public. In **Udine**, prof. Sarah Kaminski lectured about “The world of Jewish languages”.

EMILIA ROMAGNA. In **Bologna**, the Jewish Community was opened to visits, hosting a lecture by rabbi Alberto Sermoneta. At the city’s Jewish museum, the exhibition “Vayomer – word taking shape” was inaugurated; also, guided visits to the Museum and to Jewish heritage in the city were carried out; finally, activities closed with a concert by Minimal Klezmer. In **Carpi**, the town’s former synagogue opened and hosted guided visits, as well as the memorial to deported people and the infamous deportation camp at Fossoli. In **Cento**, the cemetery and former synagogue were opened and hosted guided tours, as well as a meeting about Jewish languages and a klezmer concert by Les Nuages Ensemble. In **Correggio**, the cemetery was opened to the public and hosted the presentation of the book “New studies about Correggio’s Jewish cemeteries”. In **Cortemaggiore**, at the municipal theater, lectures and music took place. In **Ferrara**, the public attended a high-level round of lectures, including interventions by Chief Rabbi Luciano Caro, prof. Ugo Volli, dr. Simonetta Della Seta, dr. Silvio Zamorani. In **Finale Emilia**, guided tours through the former ghetto attracted an excited public. Following, a Jewish-style lunch at *Osteria La Fefa* was widely appreciated; activities went on in the afternoon, with an exhibition of images by famous Jewish Italian artist Emanuele Luzzati, hosted at the Municipal Library; finally, *Ensemble Nodèd* made the public travel through Jewish languages, with their music, explanations, and humour. In **Fiorenzuola d’Arda**, the cemetery opened its doors and the exhibition *Yiddish, not only a language*, by *Italia Nostra* association, was staged. In Lugo di Romagna, guided visits to the cemetery were staged. In **Modena** and **Reggio Emilia**, the synagogues, community archives, old ghetto and cemetery saw various guided visits and Chief Rabbi Beniamino Goldstein lectured about Jewish languages (in the morning in Modena, in the afternoon in Reggio Emilia). In **Parma**, the synagogue hosted guided visits and a concert of music by composer Riccardo J. Moretti. In **Soragna**, linguist Davide Astori exposed his reflections about the Tower of Babel; after that, actor-musician Olek Mincer instructed and entertained the public with his Yiddish show *Lomir redn, lomir zingn!*

LIGURIA. In **Genova**, the synagogues were opened all day and hosted various guided visits. Furthermore, various conversations took place: one about Hebrew (with Felice Israel), one about Ladino (with Laura Salmon), one about the concept of *Leshon haKodesh*-Holy language (with Chief Rabbi Giuseppe Momigliano). Activities closed with a concert by *La Tenda di Abramo*.

TUSCANY. In **Florence**’s synagogue’s gardens, activities started in the morning and included various con-





versations, debates and lectures, as well as a food tasting, an afternoon concert by *Balagan Café Orkestar*, a performance by Jewish and Muslim women (that have been carrying on a long-term collaboration in the city), a dj set, and finally a concert by *Sasha Lurje and You Shouldn't Know From It*. A Jewish book shop and kosher café were open all day, as well as various exhibition, among them *Jewish languages* by the National Library of Israel. In **Livorno**, guided visits to the city's Jewish places (synagogue, cemetery, museum) were well attended. Other activities were centered about Bagitto, the unique Jewish-Livornese patois, and included lectures, poetry readings, theater and music by the Community's "Ernesto Ventura" choir. Other activities included food tastings, workshop for children, a Jewish book market, and open doors in the Jewish Museum. In **Pisa**, the day of studies *Lashon – a people, many languages* was a real success, and included interventions going on the whole afternoon, by several distinguished scholars. It was followed by a concert (by Giada Garrison and Roberto Sbolci) in the synagogue. Furthermore, guided tours of the synagogue and cemetery were widely appreciated. In **Pitigliano**, the synagogue, ancient ghetto and cemetery were open all day, hosting guided tours. Mrs. Elena Servi explained the Day's theme to the public, and activities closed with music by *New Old Klezmer Band*. During the whole day, visitors could enjoy kosher food and wine. In **Siena**, calligraphic artwork by rabbi Crescenzi Piattelli was exhibited. Various debates took place (with the rabbi himself, Anna Di Castro, Ugo Caffaz and Lamberto Piperno Corcos). Anna Di Castro also presented the epistolary of the Rieti family (1537-1564) to the public. A poetry reading, accompanied by a food tasting, was followed by a concert by Enrico Fink and the Arezzo Multiethnic Orchestra. The synagogue and bookshop were open all day long. The exhibition *Jewish Languages*, by the National Library of Israel, was widely appreciated by the public. In **Viareggio**, the synagogue opened its doors and hosted various guided visits.

MARCHE. In **Ancona**, guided visits to the synagogue were a success. Furthermore, the public attended a lecture about Jewish languages by Nahmiel Ahronne, and a dance performance by *Danzaintondo*. In **Fano's** municipal theater, a wide public attended the concert-lesson "Diasporic languages through song", with Antonella Vento (voice), Daniele Rossi (accordeon), Katia Bovo (harp), Alen Abdagic (baritone). In **Pesaro**, visits to the synagogue and cemetery were widely appreciated. In **Urbino**, the synagogue opened its doors, hosting visits and a lecture by Maria Luisa Moscati.

LAZIO. In **Alatri's** ancient Jewish quarter, a wide public attended the guided visits, that also touched the former synagogue's site and the municipal museum (where the city laws regarding Jews were exhibited). In **Fiuggi**, activities lasted 2 days and included lectures, reading, theatre and the ceremony of Menorah

Awards, this year won by Sephardic poet Meeten Nasr. In **Rome**, activities started on the evening of September 17th, with a conversation with Chief Rabbi Riccardo Di Segni and prof. Giulio Busi about Scientific and poetic language in the Talmud, followed by a concert by Eyal Lerner and projection of images from the Barcelona Code (1325), recently restored with the Jewish Community of Rome's help. On September 18th, an open doors' day with guided tours took place at the Jewish Museum, Main Synagogue, Ostia Antica synagogue ruins, and throughout the Jewish quarter. The Jewish bookshop *Kiryat Sefer* was also open all day long. Other activities included a focus about poetry in various Jewish languages (among them, Judeo-Roman, the last Judeo-Italian dialect still having a fair amount of speakers), book presentations, debates, theater shows, guided walks (one, organized by Jewish Community Center *Il Pitigliani* and focused on the ancient inscriptions scattered around the Jewish quarter, attracted a very big crowd). The *Beth Hillel* liberal community hosted a debate with interventions about several Jewish languages.

CAMPANIA. In **Naples**, activities started on September 18th and went on a whole week, turning into an actual week of Jewish culture and including lectures, screenings, book presentations, dance, guided visits and various concerts (among them, one by the Community's recently formed choir).

PUGLIA. In **Brindisi**, a panel discussion about Jewish languages witnessed the participation of several distinguished scholars and institutional guests. In **Lecce's** newly opened Jewish museum, positioned in the ancient Jewish quarter of the city, a meeting about Jewish languages took place, with a film screening and the presence of the exhibition *Jewish Languages*, by the National Library of Israel. In **San Nicandro Garganico**, a small town where a Jewish community with a unique story – one of the few cases of mass conversion to Judaism in history – lives, the cemetery was opened to visits. In **Taranto**, a debate about Jewish language attracted an attentive audience and was followed by a kosher food tasting. In **Trani**, guided visits to the famous medieval synagogue and Jewish quarter were a success.

CALABRIA. A series of debates and panel discussions were organized in the Calabrian cities of **Bova Marina** (where the ruins of second oldest synagogue in Western Europe have been found), **Cosenza**, **Crotone**, **Reggio Calabria**, **Vibo Valentia-Zambrone** and **Santa Maria del Cedro**, this last one being the proud homeland of citrus fruits used by Jews all over the world during the holiday of Sukkot. Activities included interventions by important scholars, and a special place was given to music: worth mentioning, the re-discovering and performing of an ancient song secretly kept for generations by Calabrian *marranos*.

SICILY. In **Palermo**, the highlights were a guided visit of the city's ancient Jewish quarter (including a recently-discovered medieval mikveh), and a panel discussions with rabbi Pinhas Puntarello, and professors Angela Scandaliato and Rita Calabrese. The *Jewish Languages* exhibition by the National Library of Israel was also staged. The day closed with a concert by ensemble *Tahev Shir*. In **Siracusa**, where a medieval mikveh was discovered years ago, dr. Nicolo Bucaria lectured about the role of Hebrew in Middle Ages Sicily. Following, a book about the city's mikveh's discovering, by Amalia Daniele, was presented to the public. **Camarina**, in the territory of Ragusa municipality, holds the record of being the southernmost participating town in Italy. The local archaeological museum organized a guided visit to its collection, focused on Jewish presence in the territory and completed by the screening of videos about Jewish culture.

A total of 103 activities in 76 places, attracting about 45000 visitors.

LATVIA



RIGA

1

Participating cities

3

Total activities

31

Total visitors



The Museum “Jews in Latvia” organized an open doors’ day, complete with guided tours and a reading of Israeli poetry. A total of 3 activities, attracting 31 visitors.





LITHUANIA

EIŠIŠKĖS, JONAVA,
 JONIŠKIS, KAUNAS,
 KĖDAINIAI, KURKLIAI,
 LEIPALINGIS, MOLĖTAI,
 PRIENAI, PANDELYS,
 ROKIŠKIS, SEDA, ŠIAULIAI,
 ŠILALĖ, ŠVĖKŠNA, VILKIJA,
 VILNIUS, ZARASAI



EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE

18

Participating cities

66

Total activities

5300

Total visitors



E DJC activities, organized by the Lithuanian Ministry of Culture, were took place this year in 18 Lithuanian cities and towns, and included the following:

Concerts:

3 Concerts by Rakija Klezmer Orkestar (Vilnius), Concert by Esti Kenan-Ofri (voice, dance compositions, Israel) and Arkadijus Gotesmanas (percussion, Lithuania) "Motion-language-music" (Joniškis, Kėdainiai, Zarasai), Concert-performance by Esti Kenan-Ofri (voice, dance compositions, Israel), Arkadijus Gotesmanas (percussion, Lithuania) and Arnas Malikėnas (accordion, Lithuania) "And all this is language..." (Leipalingis), Meeting and concert "Šalom", dedicated to Jews of the Prienai region, Concert by Rafailas Karpis (tenor, jidish songs) and Darius Mažintas (piano) "Letters from the Past" (Šiauliai).

Open doors

Visits were carried out, among others, at synagogues in Švėkšna (Šilutė district), Žemieji Šančiai (Kaunas), at the wooden synagogue in Kurkliai (Anykščiai district) and in Alytus.

Guided tours:

"New Jewish world in the Vilnius New Town" (Vilnius), "Old Jewish Cemetery in Užupis: Reflections and Stories of the Past" (Vilnius), "Readable Heritage: inscriptions highlighting the life of the Vilnius Jews" (Vilnius), "Jewish Vilnius", "Multilingual literature in the Jewish Vilnius", "My town and its inhabitants the Jews: history and destiny" (Eišiškės), A guided tour around Jewish heritage of Žemieji Šančiai (Kaunas), Presentation of an information stand and a guided tour through Jewish Seda, "Jewish Šiauliai" (Šiauliai), "Jewish Vilkija" (Kaunas district), Jewish heritage tours in the Zarasai region (Zarasai, Dusetos, Salakas ir Kuitenių village), "Jewish Rokiškis", "Jewish Alytus".

Exhibitions:

Exhibition "Žakas Lipšicas (Jacques Lipchitz). Living in a sculpture", Exhibition of Ester Lurie's engravings "Living witness", Presentation of exhibition "Our local Jews" (Molėtai), Presentation of architectural exhibition "Vanished and vanishing heritage: architecture of wooden synagogues" (3D models) (Šilalė), Opening of exhibition "A look to the Past", open discussion with participants (Švėkšna), Opening of comic-strips reproductions by famous American cartoonist Al Jaffee, who spent his childhood in Zarasai.

Conferences:

Presentation of historical information about Jews in Šilalė Region (Šilalė, Kaltinėnai, Kvėdarna, Laukuva, Upyna) and cultural changes during the period XVII cent.-1941.

Theatre/Cinema:

Introduction to life and work of the famous Lithuanian lexicographer, translator and Lithuanian dictionary compiler Chackelis Lemchenas. Public review of documentary film "Unckle Chackelis" (Joniškis).

Food samplings:

Breakfast at Bagel Shop Café "Boker Tov - בוקר טוב - A guten morgn-Labas rytas!" (Vilnius), Bagel brunch "Ze taim - זה טעים - Geshmak - Skanaus"! (Vilnius), educational activities "Jewish languages, customs and traditions. Introduction to Jewish traditional cuisine" (Seda), Presentation of traditional Jewish festivals and cuisine in Yiddish and Hebrew (Šilalė), Presentation-degustation of kosher food in Vilkija (Kaunas district)

Round tables/panel discussions:

Open discussion "Do we actually have glossary of Jewish history and culture? Social and cultural consequences of philological decisions" (Vilnius), Open lecture "Nachman Šapira: biography and works" (Vilnius), Educational activities – Hebrew lessons for families (Vilnius), Open discussion on Lithuanian Jewish heritage preservation initiatives (Vilnius), Lecture-discussion "Song of Vowels". Characters of the Sacred Language in the Sculpture of Žakas Lipšicas (Vilnius), Open lecture "Jewish languages" (Jonava), Discussion at the synagogue "Jews lived together with us" (Kurkliai), Open lecture about interwar life and languages of the Jewish community in Kaunas; Jewish theatres and richness of dramaturgy; moments and stories from

the Jewish actors/actresses lives, Educational activities "How to read macevas?" (Kėdainiai), Educational activities "Caligraphy of Hebrew" for adults and children (Leipalingis), Open lecture "Why did Jews speak Yiddish in Eastern Europe?", lecturer assoc. prof. Jolanta Mickutė.

Others:

Presentation of mobile application "Discover Jewish Lithuania" (Vilnius), Official EDJC opening event at the J. Heifetz Hall (Vilnius), Evening of Sutzkever poetry with Dr. Mindaugas Kvietkauskas, Presentation of the project "My town and its inhabitants the Jews: history and destiny": exhibition of drawings, impressions of community, Jewish music and literature, virtual tour "Stetl Eishishok", Presentation of mobile applications "Discover Jewish heritage in Joniškis region", Cleaning of the territory around the Kurkliai wooden synagogue, Art composition in the Kurkliai synagogue, Presentation of map with inscribed places, where Jews lived in Kurkliai until the Second World War, Reading of fairytales from the book "The Ring of Solomon" in the schools of Kėdainiai district, Presentation of mobile application "Discover Jewish heritage in Kėdainiai", Presentation "Synagogues of Pandėlys"; presentation of creative works "Sinagogues" and map "Houses of Jews in Pandėlys", Presentation "The Former Jewish Community in Seda", Presentation of the book „Diary of Jewish Princess" and meeting with the author Saulius Šaltenis (Seda, Mažeikiai district), Lecture "The Lithuanian language's influence on Lithuanian Yiddish dialect" and presentation of educational activity "My name in Yiddish" (Švėkšna, Šilutės district), Orienteering activities in Vilkija (Kaunas district).

A total of 66 activities in 18 cities and towns, attracting about 5300 visitors.





LUXEMBOURG

LUXEMBOURG

LUXEMBOURG

1

Participating cities

7

Total activities

50

Total visitors



The EDJC in Luxembourg comprised a number of interesting activities, among them: visits of the synagogue; 2 visits of the old Jewish cemetery of Clausen Malakoff; a lecture by Baron Julien Klener titled “Semitism and anti-Semitism, the drift of a linguistic concept”. Furthermore, various activities were ongoing throughout the day: an exhibition of liturgical objects; a sale of kosher and Jewish food; a presentation of bookbinder Mr. Pardo; and finally, a presentation about various Jewish languages (Aramaic, Yiddish, Ladino, biblical and modern Hebrew...) and their evolution. A total of 7 activities, attracting around 50 visitors.



THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF

MACEDONIA

SKOPJE

1

Participating cities

1

Total activities

350

Total visitors



Еврејска заедница во Република Македонија
Jewish Community in the Republic of Macedonia



As usual in the last years in Skopje, the EDJC was celebrated with a theatrical play, staged in the Macedonian National Theater. This year, we received the following report from the Jewish Community in the Republic of Macedonia: 'Jewish Languages: the more languages you speak, the more of a person you are' Continuing the tradition of theatrical performances for the European Day of Jewish Culture, this year's play de-

EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



picts turbulent times in the history of the Jewish people - on the very eve of the Shoah. Set on the stage of the Macedonian National Theatre, the play presents a kaleidoscope of languages, customs, extraordinary music and vivacious dancing by the Mois Hason Choir and Macedonia Dancing Ensemble, and indelible acting by some of the finest actors in the country. With elegance and subtlety, it tells the story of a friendship between a Jewish and a Roma family in Bitola, trapped in their fear for the uncertain future. In the background, the history of the European Jews resonates in the parallel story of the rabbi and his two disciples in Belgrade. Woven into the very fabric of the play are the aphorisms, songs, abundant and impassioned words of Judeo-Spanish, Romani, Hebrew, Macedonian and Serbian, which enchanted the hearts of the large audience in the theatre. The project was co-financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia. A total of one activity, attracting about 350 visitors.



NETHERLANDS

APPINGEDAM, BOURTANGE,
GRONINGEN, THE HAGUE, LEEK,
LEIDEN, LEEUWARDEN, WINSUM,
ZUIDLAREN, ZWOLLE

10

Participating cities

15

Total activities

1100

Total visitors

Stichting Joods Erfgoed Den Haag
מוסד למורשת יהודית בהאג

syneon
Synagogen Noord- en Oost-Nederland



The EDJC 2016 was celebrated in various cities in the Netherlands, on Sep 11th. There were unexpectedly many visitors in the small, beautiful synagogues in Groningen and Bourtange, in the country's Northeast. The small Jewish school in Leek also received an unexpected affluence of visitors. In the Hague and Zwolle, the public was captured by the wonderful singing of Shura Lipovsky, who sang and explained Jiddish and Ladino. Lectures and guided vitits were also carried out in other cities, among them notably Leiden and Leeuwarden. A total of 15 activities in 10 cities, attracting a total of about 1100 visitors





NORWAY

OSLO

1

Participating cities

4

Total activities

300

Total visitors



JØDISK מוזיאון OSLO



The Jewish Museum of Oslo sent us the following report, that we are happy to publish:

European Day of Jewish Culture was celebrated with a full day of activities and events for children and adults at the Oslo Jewish Museum.

Museum director Torill Torp-Holte welcomed the audience and opened this year's edition of the annual event. The theatre group Fusentast performed their moving play "Sand between your toes", an innovative piece of puppet theatre dealing with the true story of a Holocaust survivor in Amsterdam.

delicious smells and lively klezmer sounds. Traditional Jewish dishes from the Sephardic and Ashkenazi culinary traditions were served, and the trio Calmeyer Kapelye, formed for the occasion, entertained with klezmer tunes. As the theme of 2016's European Day of Jewish Culture was "Jewish languages," the Oslo Jewish Museum invited a renowned expert on Jewish languages to give a talk on the topic. Professor Sarah Bunin Benor (Hebrew Union College) is founding editor of *Journal of Jewish Languages* and author of *Becoming Frum: How Newcomers Learn the Language and Culture of Orthodox Judaism*. Professor Benor gave an engaging, entertaining and interesting talk, followed by a panel discussion in which she talked about her research on Jewish English with fellow experts on Jewish languages. Joshua Lebenswerd (Stockholm University) talked about Jewish Swedish, and Olav Gjertsen Ørum discussed his research on Egyptian Judeo-Arabic. About 300 people found their way to the museum on this sunny Sunday. The Oslo Jewish Museum is already looking forward to European Day of Jewish Culture 2017!



POLAND

KRAKOW, WARSAW

2

Participating cities

31

Total activities

10200

Total visitors



The Galicia Jewish Museum joined in this year's edition of the "European Day of Jewish Culture" by organizing four events: a few free guided tours in different languages, a workshop for children (Shadow Theatre), a Hebrew calligraphy workshop and a lecture on Szmonces - Jewish Humour. They sent us the following report:

This year the theme of EDJC was languages. While working on the programme of the events we wanted to go beyond literal understanding of the term but approach

a subject in a more symbolic way. A language is a main tool of communication; but we wanted to emphasise that sometimes we can communicate without words, and still be understood by people from different countries or cultures. What is important, the programme of the events was addressed to a wide range of audience (in different age and background) and the event content was adjusted in relation to the age group and the level of knowledge of the participants. But for us, the organisers, it was extremely important that even people with no extensive



knowledge of the Jewish culture and history could take part in the programme. Our goal was not only to carry out an interesting programme of the events, but also to use fun, interactive, and interesting learning opportunities to promote the knowledge of history and culture of Polish Jews as well as tolerance, curiosity and openness. During the free guided tours of our Museum's permanent exhibition the participants could not only acquaint themselves with the history of the Museum and the wide range of our activities, but also they could get basic knowledge of the history of Polish Jews, preservation of Jewish heritage in Poland or the basis of Judaism. As a result, the participants broadened their knowledge in a very attractive and plain way.

In our programme we had the workshop dedicated specially to children. While playing in the shadow theatre, the children explored the world of signs and symbols and told a story without words, using the script written by the workshop participants themselves! We believe that this activity promoted the use of different skill sets: imagination through the creation of art, kinesthetic through motion and communication (cooperation with others through group work). The workshop took place at the Galicia Jewish Museum, therefore even the youngest children would be comfortable and accustomed to the specific environment of the museum. Furthermore, the museum space would serve as the first contact with Jewish culture, traditions and history for the children who attended the programme.

What the participants appreciated the most was the lecture on Jewish humour. The lecture was of great importance not only because of answering the question about what did pre-war Jewish communities in Poland laugh at, but also the lecturer focused on a contribution of Jewish artists in the development of cultural life in Poland and how the Polish and Jewish culture permeated each other.

A large number of participants during the whole programme, as well as a great interest in the programme



itself confirm the need for organization of similar events in the future. The meetings organized by the Galicia Jewish Museum gave the participants the opportunity not only to broaden their knowledge but also attracted their attention to the topic of coexistence of various cultures and religions in Poland.

In Warsaw, the POLIN Jewish Museum participated in the EDJC for its second time, with a guided walk titled "Let's talk about Warsaw; a walking tour of the languages of the pre-war capital".

The tour touched places featured in the POLIN Museum core exhibition. The idea was to find out which places were filled with murmurs of prayer and where it was more likely to hear popular songs of the period; what types of people we would meet in the streets of Warsaw at the time; which language would we hear: Hebrew, Yiddish, or maybe Polish? The walk was guided by Katarzyna Jakubowicz, a guide and educator at the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews. The walk is one of the events of the 13th edition of "Singer's Warsaw" (*Warszawa Singera*) Jewish Culture Festival, organised by the Shalom Foundation. The Foundation honored the AEPJ by inserting all activities of September 4th, the last day of the 9-days-long Festival. The amazing program of the day included, among others: a guided visit to Nożyk Synagogue with Bolesław Zająć; an exhibition of arts and crafts by the Warsaw Manufactures Association; a meeting with prof. Szewach Weiss, former head of Israeli Knesset and Yad Vashem museum, Israeli ambassador to

Poland in 2000-2003; a Klezmer music workshop with Merlin Shepherd; a food tasting; a walking tour with Jagna Kofta and architect Wojciech Poplawski; the theater show *The Last Demon - Return*, by NN Theatre; an Yiddish language workshop with dr. Jacob Weitzner; the concert *Yiddish Tango*, by Olga Avigail and Tango Attack band; the meeting "Berlin as the center of European culture in the 1920's and today", by Adam Baruch; a poetry meeting about poet Mascha Kaléko, with Ewa Dąbrowska and Joanna Przybyłowska; a lecture by dr. Amalia Reisel about Oriental elements in Jewish sepulchral architecture; a concert of contemporary string music (Katarzyna Duda-violin, Katarzyna Budnik-Gałązka-violin, Marcin Zdunik-cello) in the Nożyk Synagogue; a presentation of Lineage, book by Ester Kreitman; a guided walk on the traces of Jewish writers, with Jan Jagielski; the lecture *Is vodka kosher?*, by Andrzej Szumowski; a meeting with Anna Azari, Israeli ambassador to Poland; a poetry meeting dedicated to poet Nelly Sachs; a lecture about Kabbala in the teaching of Hasidi leares, by Hanna Kossowska, the meeting *A Hundred questions for the Rabbi*, with Chief Rabbi of Poland Michael Schudrich... and many more performances, screenings, guided walks, readings, meetings and other activities. Activities closed with a Grand Finale: the concert by world-renowned US band, ambassador of neo-Klezmer music: The Klezmatics!

A total of 31 activities in 2 cities, attracting about 10200 visitors.





PORTUGAL

BELMONTE

1

Participating cities

5

Total activities

3000

Total visitors



Comunidade Judaica de Belmonte



הליהקיתידוההטנומלב



Rede de Judiarias de Portugal, one of the partners of AEPJ, celebrated the European Days of Jewish Culture on September 11th, in the northern town of Belmonte, famous for its Jewish community, that hiddenly maintained their Jewish identity – risking the Inquisition’s flames - during the last 500 years. The activity consisted in the widely popular K kosher Market (already in its 6th edition), organized in collaboration with the Municipality and Jewish Community of Belmonte.

This event is aimed at being not only a marketplace to promote kosher products (wine, cheese, bread, sweets, marmalades, honey, olive oil – among others, for a total of 22 producers from all over the country), but also a place where the public can experience various aspects of Jewish culture, through guided visits, Sephardic music, handicraft and exhibition.

Activities included guided visits to the synagogue, street music the whole day and a concert of Sephardic music, that took place in Belmonte’s gorgeous castle. We are also glad to announce that, during the day, the project of the new Jewish Museum of Belmonte was presented to the public.

The event attracted the attention of national and international media (particularly, it enjoyed the presence of Italian and German journalists).

A total of 5 activities, attracting about 3000 visitors.





ROMANIA

BAIA MARE, BUCHAREST,
IASI, SATU MARE, SIBIU,
SIGHETU MARMATIEI,
CLUJ, ORADEA, BACĂU,
PIATRA NEAMT, TULCEA

11

Participating cities

14

Total activities

3300

Total visitors



In **Bucharest**, the concert of “Haz-amir” choir, Bucharest Klezmer Band and Oana Sarbu was a great success: the public was delighted to hear traditional Jewish songs in Ladino, Hebrew, Yiddish and Romanian. People who came to the concert were not only Jewish, but also many Romanian Christians friends eager to know Hebrew traditions.

The open doors’ day at the Choral Temple was a success, about 500 people came to see the most beautiful synagogue in Bucharest.

In **Iasi**, the cultural matinee on “Yiddish, Hebrew language into the street to Iasi another time” included three conferences (by Abraham Chiltman, Silviu Sanie, Martha Eșanu) and presentation of books “Hasidic Tales” and “Looking to Jerusalem”, by Baruch Tercatin. Furthermore, doors were opened -with guided tours - at the Apple Farmers’ synagogue.

In **Piatra Neamt**, activities took place in remembrance of 100 years from the death of great Yiddish writer Shalom Aleichem (1859-1916). Events included a presentation of the author, and a film screening inspired by Aleichem’s work.

In **Sibiu, Bacau** and **Tulcea** synagogues were opened to the general public and widely visited.

In **Sighetu Marmatiei, Cluj** and **Oradea**, the *Tarbut Foundation Sighet* sponsored a series of concerts by Joshua Nelson, a Jewish cantor of African-American origin, known as “the creator of kosher gospel music”. Audiences just loved him as he developed his musical repertoire at every city so differently, according to the feelings conveyed by each audience. Nelson was also taken to schools, to interact with Romanian students: the results were excellent.

Particularly in Cluj and Oradea the concerts were so successful that the audience didn't even let Joshua leave the stage, asking for more music again and again: the halls were completely full.

The Foundation also sponsored the presentation (in **Sighetu Marmatiei, Satu Mare, Baia Mare, Cluj** and **Oradea**) of “In Our Hearts we were Giants”, a book telling the story of the Ovitz family, the famous “European Lilliput Troup”, succeeded to survive the Shoah. The story of the Ovitz family has been a new discovery for the young generation. The lesson we are trying to transmit beyond the historical data and facts what has happened during the Holocaust in the Maramures Region, is the fact that every person has a “Godly” gift which has the greatest potential and has to pursue it.

A total of 14 activities in 11 cities, attracting about 3300 visitors.





RUSSIA

MOSCOW

1

Participating cities

5

Total activities

35

Total visitors



MUSEUM
OF JEWISH
HISTORY
IN RUSSIA



Russia is participating in the EDJC for its second time, with activities organized by the Museum of Jewish History in Russia; a Moscow-based, private museum situated at some distance from city center, tourist routes and Jewish community centers. The Museum opened its doors, organizing two guided tours and two workshops (one about Hebrew, one about Yiddish). They sent us the following report:

We believe that European Day of Jewish culture truly helped to increase Museum's visibility on the cultural scene of Moscow. During the event Museum not only presented itself through organized guided tours but also has hosted two language workshops that usually take place in other venues. Overall attendance reached about 35 participants with about 25 people present at the same time. Due to limited space this number is actually maximum number of people that Museum can comfortably accommodate. Most visitors, though satisfied with the content of guided tours, expressed the desire to know more about Jewish culture. Many people made plans to come back to the Museum and continue exploring. This kind of conscious interest is the exactly the result we wanted to achieve. A total of 5 activities, attracting 35 visitors.



MAP BASED ON EUROPEAN UNION SOURCES

SERBIA

NOVI SAD

1

Participating cities

3

Total activities

350

Total visitors



קהילה יהודית בנורי סאד
JEWISH COMMUNITY NOVI SAD
JEVREJSKA OPŠTINA NOVI SAD

The subject matter of this year's EDJC was illustrated to the public in Novi Sad through a lecture titled "The Language of Sephardis in the Balkans in the 20th century", a concert of Sephardic music played by the orchestra "Shira U'tfila" from Belgrade and the exhibition "Jewish Languages" provided by the National Library of Israel. The exhibition - translated into Serbian - was displayed in the entrance hall of the Synagogue, so visitors could see it both prior to the beginning and at the end of the program on stage. Mr. Goran Levi, president of the Jewish Community in Novi Sad addressed the audience first, then a short overview and introductory notes followed presented by EDJC coordinator Edita Jankov. After that the lecture was delivered on a video-beam in powerpoint format. The concert closed the program, which was overall a real success. The warm evening continued in the community's Great Hall, where guests could chat over a glass of wine. A total of 3 events, attracting about 350 visitors.

SLOVAKIA

BRATISLAVA, KOMÁRNO

2

Participating cities

9

Total activities

800

Total visitors



Židovská náboženská obec v Komárne
Komáromi Zsidó Hitközség
הקהילה היהודית בקומארום



In Bratislava, the Chatam Sofer Memorial, synagogue and museum opened their doors to visitors. In Komárno, the Menhaz Jewish Community Center staged a whole days of activities: the Day opened with a commemoration of dr. Mor Lipscher, former director of the local hospital; following, guests enjoyed a kosher lunch and then the afternoon activities started. The new book by writer dr. György Sági was presented, followed by a lecture (delivered by Jozef Dukes) about synagogues in Slovakia. Then researcher dr. Sonja Racher Komoróczy gave the public a presentation about the Yiddish language. Following, rabbi Zev Stiefer offered a lesson about the Hebrew month of Elul. After that, the Kehila and Kehila Haver Awards ceremony took place, then activities closed with a concert by Judit Klein and her friends.

A total of 9 activities, attracting about 800 visitors.



SLOVENIA



MARIBOR, LJUBLJANA,
LENDAVA, MURSKA
SOBOTA, NEGOVA

5

Participating cities

12

Total activities

550

Total visitors



Judovski / Jewish
Kulturni / Cultural
Center Ljubljana
מרכז תרבות יהודי



SEZAM

ZDRUŽENJE MLADIH,
STARŠEV IN OTROK



4. 9. – 4. 11. 2016
JUDOVSKI
JEZIKI
2016



Pomurski muzej
Murska Sobota

MINI
TE
AT
ER

SINAGOGA
CENTER JUDOVSKO KULTURNE
DEDIŠČINE SINAGOGA MARIBOR



GRAD  NEGOVA

LENDAVA
Občina Lendava | Občina Murska Sobota | Občina Murski Novi Mesto

EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



Our Slovenian national coordinator, Marjetka Bedrac, sent us the following report:

In Slovenia, the EDJC project has been traditionally hosted by five Slovenian towns: Maribor, Lendava, Ljubljana, Murska Sobota and Negova. This year, we started with the EDJC programme on 2 September in Lendava Synagogue with the opening of an art exhibition by renowned Israeli artist and graphic designer Dan Reisinger and a concert of Klezmer music. On the central day of the project – Sunday, 4 September – visitors were invited to join various activities performed in Maribor, Ljubljana and Negova. In Maribor Synagogue, the programme started at 9 a. m. with the open doors day, which was followed by two guided tours of the exhibition “Vid Morpurgo and his lifetime”, creative workshop for families “Make yourself a book” and a lecture by Valentina Petaroš Jeromela “Vid Morpurgo and Ampelea: Jewish entrepreneurship in 19th and 20th century”. With great pleasure, we can report that the members of the Morpurgo family, who are descendants of the Jews of Maribor, visited the lecture also. In Ljubljana, the EDJC events were organized at three different venues: on Novi trg Square children, and their parents as well, were invited to join the creative workshop “Babblings in the City Room” performed by Dejan Koban, while at the same time visitors were invited also to the Jewish Cultural Centre and the Mini Theatre. There the programme started with the open doors day of the Jewish Museum Ljubljana, continued with the lecture by famous Israeli writer and poet Hava Pinhas Cohen

“Being a Sephardi Jew today. What does it mean?”, and concluded with the theatre performance “MI HA ISH – WHO IS THE MAN?” by Polona Vetric and Saša Tabakovič. Visitors to Negova Castle attended the opening of an art exhibition by Irena Zemljič Gajser “The emanation of symbols” and a concert of Jewish music performed by group Tribidabo. On next day, 5 September, the programme continued with two lecture that were organized in Murska Sobota. The first one was lecture on Jewish language by Dr Bojan Zadavec, while Franc Kuzmič performed the second one - the topic was Jewish literature. Finally, the Slovenian organizers concluded the project EDJC 2016 with the project’s main event - the opening of the exhibition “Jewish languages” - on 6 September, in Maribor Synagogue. The exhibition, prepared by the National Library of Israel, was on behalf of the honorary patron of the EDJC 2016 in Slovenia - Anton Peršak, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia, opened by the State Secretary Damjana Pečnik. In the EDJC 2016, following Slovenian organizers collaborated: Center of Jewish Cultural Heritage Synagogue Maribor, Kultprotur – Institute for Culture, Tourism and Promotion Gornja Radgona, Negova Castle, Gallery-Museum Lendava, Lendava Synagogue – Slovenian Holocaust Museum, Pomurje Museum Murska Sobota, SEZAM – Association of youth, parents and children, Jewish Cultural Centre Ljubljana, Mini Theatre. The national coordinator of the EDJC project was Center of Jewish Cultural Heritage Synagogue Maribor. A total of 12 activities in 5 cities, attracting about 550 visitors.





15
Participating cities

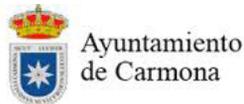
103
Total activities

27000
Total visitors

SPAIN

.....

BESALÚ, CASTELLÓ D'EMPÚRIES,
CORDOBA, ESTELLA-LIZARRA, GIRONA,
JAÉN, LORCA, MONFORTE DE LEMOS,
PALMA DE MALLORCA, RIBADAVIA,
SEVILLA, UTRERA, CARMONA, VALENCIA,
TORTOSA



EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



As always Spain is one of the countries where participation during the EDJC is most important. Red de Juderías de España, one of the core organizations members of our association, underwent a deep structural change this year, and this has been reflected into the final figures. Nevertheless, almost 27.000 people attend the big variety of events, more than one hundred in 15 different cities. Sure enough that many more have been doing small celebration that at the time of closing this rapport still missing.

In **Besalú**, activities included 4 guided theatrical visits to the former Jewish quarter, tasting of typical Sephardic food, a concert by Pedro Burruezo & Bohemia Camerata. All activities were really successful, leaving both organizers and visitors fully satisfied.

In **Castelló d'Empúries**, activities opened on September 3rd, with the presentation of the book "Erets Catalunya. Una crònica hebrea del segle III fins al segle XXI", by Carles Basteiro-Bertolí; following, the public enjoyed the concert "De metamorfosis i viatges. Els cants jueus de Gionvanni-Obdiah, el proselit normand", by Antoni Madueño & Ensemble ClusTrobar. Activities went on on the following day, with a guided visit to the town's Jewish heritage.

In **Córdoba**, activities started from Friday September 2nd and included guided tours, exhibitions, concerts, open doors, lectures, and a debate. However, as it's usual in Cordoba, all this went beyond the EDJC, to extend to the Otoño Sefardi (Sephardic Autumn): a magnificent festival with activities lasting till mid-October and including workshops, concerts, food tastings, theater, lectures and much, much more! An important moment for the city currently holding the presidency of Red de Juderías.

In **Estella-Lizarra**, the EDJC is already a consolidated event. The town's Jewish past is very rich, and one of the Municipality's goals is to promote it, both among tourists and town residents. This year, given the subject matter, coordinators had the idea of organizing a poetry reading and combining it with a wine tasting, realizing a great success. It wasn't the only activity, though: there was a visit to the ancient Jewish quarter, with theatrical performances that helped convey the town's history to the public. Finally, thanks to the collaboration of Escuela Taller de Hostelería de Estella-Lizarra, a tasting of Sephardic style sweets was offered to an enthusiastic public.

In **Girona**, activities were rich and diversified over the weekend: they included an open doors' day in the Jewish Museum, two guided special performances visiting the Jewish quarter, presentation of installa-





tion “In Memoriam”, by artist Elyn Aviva, two workshops and an Instagram photo contest about Jewish culture. Activities were closed by concert “Languages of Judaism”(a repertoire of ancient Jewish songs performed in different languages such Yiddish, Hebrew, Ladino and Judaeo-Catalan) , performed by Rosa Zaragoza, Rusó Sala, Gabriela Ahumada and Tamara Prezek. An important feature was the partial exhibit under the same name, created by the National Library of Israel, and shown until the end of the year .

The city of **Jaén** has celebrated the 16th European Day of Jewish Culture with a set of activities that have touring around the theme ‘Jewish Languages’. The inaugural activity was the master class “Jews and Languages” by professor José Ramón Ayaso. Sephardic music group “Klezmorim” displayed his first self-titled record and played their songs in the heart of the Jewish Quarter of Jaén. Furthermore, it should be noted the Sephardic Gastronomy Days as one of the most important culinary activities of the city.

Finally, the city has payed tribute to its most illustrious Jewish citizen, Hasday ibn Shaprut, who, in addition to doctor and statesman, was a brilliant translator and connoisseur of different languages and cultures: a perfect embodiment of the spirit of the theme chosen for this year.

In **Lorca**, many activities were organized in the city castle. Starting with a theateralized visit to the castle itself, including the castle’s synagogue (the only one in Spain that wasn’t turned into a church following 1492) and King Alfonso’s tower. Following, a tasting of Sephardic food and a screening of Israeli movies took place. A guided visit also took place in the city museum, where objects found in the synagogue are kept. Finally, on September 10th, activities closed with a kosher wine tasting.

In **Monforte de Lemos**, two guided visits to the ancient Jewish quarter attracted a wide public.

In **Ribadavia**, two walking tours of the Jewish quarter were organized (one in Castellan, one in Galician). The public learnt about the Jewish presence during the Middle Ages, when this ancient town was the wine-making capital of Galicia.

Throughout the day groups of musicians from all over Spain and Portugal performed klezmer, blues, jazz, folk and traditional music. There was also a food market offering gourmet products from different nations and cultures. Finally, the Jewish Museum of Galicia had an Open Doors Day: the public found





out about the history of Jews and their presence in Galicia throughout history. An interesting exhibition helping to understand a people who for centuries were part of Galicia.

In **Palma de Mallorca**, activities included a guided tour through the medieval Jewish quarter, open doors at the Jewish Community of the Balearic Islands, a tasting of Sephardic food, and a bibliographic exhibition on Jewish culture.

In **Valencia**, two guided tours to the city's Jewish heritage took place. As every year, the Havura congregation is taking in charge the organisation of the EDJC events, open to all citizens.

In **Sevilla**, the BeSepharad association organized a number of activities lasting various days, and extending to nearby towns. Activities opened on September 24th, with a lecture about Jewish languages and a concert of Sephardic music. This was followed by an homage to late Elie Wiesel. On the following day, the public was guided through a tour of the city's ancient Jewish quarter, a tour including songs and lyrics in Judeo-Spanish.

But Sevillian activities went beyond the city's borders: in the nearby town of **Utrera**, on September 30th, the public was instructed and at the same time entertained by a concert-lecture titled "The travels of a Sephardic wise man". On October 18th, in **Carmona**, a debate about Sevilla's Jewish quarter took place, followed by a didactic concert: "Traditional songs in Jewish languages".

In **Tortosa**, traditional dancing took place with the traditional masks known as "Giants", Bonjuhà and Caxixa on Saturday, September 3rd. On September 4th, a guided visit to the ancient Jewish quarter, with theatre performances helping to illustrate Tortosa's Jewish history.

A total of 103 activities in 15 cities and towns, attracting about 27000 visitors.



1

Participating cities

5

Total activities

1000

Total visitors

SWEDEN

.....

STOCKHOLM



The Jewish Community
of Stockholm



JUDISKA MUSEET
STOCKHOLM

In Stockholm's Jewish Community, activities started on Saturday September 5 in the evening, with a concert by cantor Isidoro Abramowicz and two musicians, recorded by the Swedish public service television. The main part of activities took place on September 6, including a flea market, (collected money went to young refugees coming to Sweden without parents), guided tours of the Great synagogue and Jewish Stockholm, offering of sandwiches to the public, a bookstore, newly writ-

ten Jewish texts read by actors and the Swedish Interior Minister, a monologue about "My Jewish grand mother", music, a talk about Bridges from a Jewish perspective, Jiddish poetry, tales by I B Singer and finally a concert in the Big Synagogue with music by B. Bartók, J. Brahms, A. Piazzolla, R. Schumann and folk music and klezmer. The Jewish Museum of Stockholm also staged an open doors' day.

A total of 15 activities, attracting about 1000 visitors.





8

Participating cities

33

Total activities

2500

Total visitors

SWITZERLAND

BASEL, BERN, DELÉMONT,
ENDINGEN-LENGNAU, GENÈVE,
LA CHAUX-DE-FONDS, LAUSANNE, ZÜRICH



EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



In Basel, the Jewish Museum of Switzerland opened its activities in the morning, with a reading titled *Voices to Emancipation*, with Yael Schüler and Patrik Süess. Following, activities included an introduction to a special exhibition by the Museum for its 50th anniversary (mazal tov!) Activities went on with a concert: *Liberation songs from Blues to Soul*, by Maya Alban-Zapata, also performed - after the guided tours - at the Jewish Community of Basel. In the frame of CJP (Christlich-Jüdische Projekte im Forum für Zeitfragen), a large public attended the meeting *In the beginning, there was the Word*, with dr. Yuval Rabin. In Basel's Liberal Jewish Community, the public was invited to the meeting titled *Life in a multilingual Jewish Community*. At the Jewish Community of Bern,



activities included the debate "*Chutzpe und Mameloschen, and Jewish influx on German language and literature*". Following, Denise Alvarez-Braunschweig and the Bobbe Maisses band delighted the public with a *Yiddish lesson with Klezmer*.

At the synagogue of Delémont, activities were focused on exploration of culture of Ethiopian Jews. They included a film screening and a recital by Marianne Studer-Becker.

In Endingen and Lengnau, both towns' synagogues were opened with guided visits, as well as the cemetery in Endingen.

In Genève, a bus tour titled *La Genève d'Albert Cohen*, with commentaries and readings by actress Nelly Uzan and writer André Klopmann registered a big success. At the Great synagogue Beth Yaacov, the ensemble "Me la Amargastes Tu" performed Judeo-Spanish songs. At Genève's Liberal Community, the synagogue was opened to visits and a buffet was offered to guests. Following, Mme. Sarabella Benamran-Wajenberg and Roberto Brog-

gini (piano) offered the public a conference-concert to travel at the heart of Yiddish.

In La Chaux-de-Fonds, EDJC was celebrated on September 11 with a Jewish music concert by Alter Ego band.

In Lausanne, the synagogue was opened to visits, with a guided tour. In the Community Center, Tsipi Geron and Rosine Lob introduced the public to the world of Jewish languages, and Keren Esther performed Judeo-Spanish music.

In Zürich's Liberal Community, the public flocked to a concert of Jewish and secular music from Medieval Italy, by Corina Marti and Doron Schleifer. In the Omanut Jewish Art Center, activities went on the whole day; they included lectures, film screenings (*Romeo and Juliet* in Yiddish and *Baba Joon*, about an Israeli family of Iranian origin), debates, a drink, and finally the concert (in collaboration with BB Loge Augustin-Keller) of famous Jewish-Moroccan artist Vanessa Paloma and her orchestra.

A total of 33 activities in 8 cities, attracting 2500 visitors.



1
Participating cities

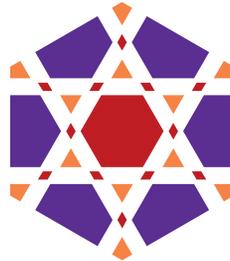
10
Total activities

600
Total visitors

TURKEY

.....

ISTANBUL



500.YIL VAKFI
TÜRK MUSEVİLERİ
MÜZESİ



The Turkish EDJC 2016 was realized on November 27, in Istanbul's Jewish Museum.

As this year's concept was Jewish languages, most of the lectures held during the days were about Ladino and one about Yiddish & Ladino.

The program included a famous Turkish Jewish novelist, Mario Levi (who among others, has also written about Pandispanya, a dish Jews have brought to Ottoman Empire), who lectured about Ladino; a movie about young Turkish Jews and their relation to Ladino language, and a talk with movie maker and writer Rita Ender; a Turkish Jewish lady, Anna Eskenazi, has given a speech about the humour that

is being lost with the dying languages (Yiddish & Ladino); another movie about a Jewish wedding in the diminishing community of İzmir; a special question & answer program entitled "Do you know your Jewish neighbour?"

An exhibition curated by Metin Delevi, about "Jewish sportsmen in the Turkish sports history", was also launched.

The Museum's coffee shop offered Sephardic appetizers to all visitors, and served a Sephardic lunch with explanations.

People had the opportunity to a guided visit in the Museum during the day, and some of the attended the guided tour in the area following traces of Jewish presence.

Since the museum is adjacent to the biggest synagogue in Istanbul, where weddings usually are held, the day was concluded with a theatricalized Jewish wedding, and as *bonbonnières* women were given bookmarks on which some Ladino proverbs and their Turkish and English translations were written, whereas men were given a cartoon kippah with explanations written inside.

The participants were happy about the event, and asked to have such events planned more frequently. Furthermore Turkish media has also covered the event. A total of 10 activities attracting about 600 visitors, mostly Turkish Muslims from the universities, but also some Koreans, Taiwanese, Dutch and others.



• LVIV

1

Participating cities

3

Total activities

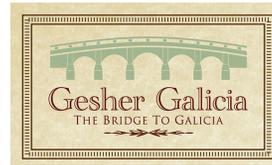
3000

Total visitors

UKRAINE



LVIV



EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE



The “Space of Synagogues” opening was organized by Lviv City Council, Center of Urban History and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in collaboration with three organizations from Lviv - Hesed ArieH, Hillel Lviv, and Bnei Brit Leopoldis from Lviv, as well as three organizations of descendants in the USA and Israel - Geshet Galicia, Association of Descendants and Former Residents of Lwów, Association for the Commemoration of Lwów Jewish Heritage and Sites. The program lasted for the whole day and consisted of three activities: a workshop, an official inauguration and an art program.

The workshop “Mapping Presence: Jewish Heritage Sites, Initiatives and Experiences in Ukraine” that took place at the Center for Urban History, has gathered about 20 participants from Ukraine, Israel, Hungary, Poland, and the UK. Practitioners and researchers presented, discussed and reflected on projects related to Jewish heritage in Ukraine. The workshop consisted of three panels - “From Traces to Presence: Making Jewish Heritage visible”, “From Borders to Bridges: Jewish History in Art and Cultural Initiatives”, “From Sites of Violence to Rites of Mourning: Commemorating the Holocaust”, - and has attracted a small but highly interested audience of approx. 50 people.

The official memorial inauguration led by the head of the Hesed ArieH Society Adel Dianova, has featured many speakers, including Lviv mayor Andrii Sadovyi, historian Sergey Kravtsov, Holocaust survivor from Lviv Leszek Allerhand, as well as Consul of Israel in Western Ukraine Oleg Vishnyakov, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Ukraine Dr. Ernst Reichel, the Counsellor of the Embassy of Israel in Ukraine Henadii Polishchuk. The ceremony concluded with the reading in Yiddish by one of the eldest members of the Lviv Jewish commu-



nity Borys-Baruh Dorfman and a prayer by Rabbi Siva Fainerman. It has gathered more than 3 thousands people at the finally completed site of "Space of Synagogues". A new memorial includes the conserved remnants of the Golden Rose Synagogue, marked site of the destroyed Beth Hamidrash and the memorial installation "Perpetuation". The completion of the memorial was possible with the financial contribution from Lviv City Council and the GIZ, individual donations and a grant from the World Monuments Fund (USA).

Art program "The Art of Memories: Voices of the City", which brought together media artwork and a chamber orchestra concert, became an artistic invitation to rethink and deeply comprehend the importance of cultural and social diversity both in the past and the present. Concert curated by Oleh Manulyak (Lviv Conservatory) was dedicated to two composers who's life and work are related to Lviv, and were later unrightfully erased from Ukrainian musical discourse - Jozef Koffler and Mark Kopytman. Media installation by Oleh Voronko and James Fidler, that projected citations of philosopher Martin Buber and poet Debora Vogel onto the walls around The Space of Synagogues, emphasized the significance of an individual life in the ways we think about and engage with the past. Together they revived the multiplicity of memories and Jewish experiences in relation to the city and reflected the importance of appreciating diversity in societies, both in the past and today.

Visitors came not only from Lviv or Ukraine, but also from Israel, Poland, USA, Germany, Canada and other countries to participate in the opening.

A total of 3 activities, attracting more than 3000 visitors.







UNITED KINGDOM

BIRMINGHAM, BRADFORD, CANTERBURY,
CHATHAM, CHELTENHAM, EXETER,
GLASGOW, HARROGATE, HULL,
LIVERPOOL, LONDON, MANCHESTER
(HIGHER CRUMPSALL), OXFORD,
RAMSGATE, READING



15

Participating cities

32

Total activities

10000

Total visitors





Our British national coordinators, Lydia Drukarz and Valerie Bello of B'nai B'rith UK, sent us the following report:

A **nother successful series of activities for this year's B'nai B'rith UK European Days of Jewish Culture and Heritage fortnight**

This year, B'nai B'rith UK's 16th annual European Days of Jewish Culture and Heritage was incredibly successful, with a wide range of very lively and well attended events, when many of the synagogues and organisations followed this year's theme of 'Jewish identity through language and culture' by holding open days, talks, walks and exhibitions.

West London Synagogue's magnificent building was a fitting place for their storytelling event, 'Midwives of Freedom'. Adele Moss and Jumana Moon, Jewish and Muslim storytellers respectively, told the story of Moshe/Musa and the way women connected with one another across the divides of status, ethnicity and faith, bound together in a conspiracy of freedom. The event was open to all faiths and the 100+ audience listened spellbound to the story from Exodus that was familiar to us all, but told in a way that one never had imagined it until now. The storytell-

ers brought the story to life and left their audience wanting more. The synagogue does a lot of interfaith work with the local churches and with the Muslim community. 75% of the audience were not Jewish and even members of the Salvation Army attended. The **Museum of Immigration, 19 Princelet Street** in East London held an open day and an exhibition entitled 'Suitcases and Sanctuary', an internationally acclaimed exhibition exploring the history of the waves of immigration that shaped Spitalfields, seen through the eyes of today's children. It is the story of one area in London and of the making of multicultural Britain. The Museum created the exhibition in collaboration with 9 and 10 year old children, from six local schools, who worked with actors, poets and artists to discover and celebrate the richness of our shared past.

This was a rare opportunity to see inside this unique immigrant site, not normally open to the public. This Grade II* listed building, the second oldest purpose built synagogue (1869) in London, is tucked away behind a 1719 Huguenot silk merchant's house in the heart of Spitalfields, and contains many memories and touching details, capturing the imagination of all 200 visitors who

attended, around 20% of whom were not Jewish. Jewish community centre, **JW3**, held a very successful talk and were delighted with over 55 attendees, especially as it was an afternoon and not an evening session. A number of new faces came along and the feedback was very good.

Harif, the Association for Jews from the Middle East and North Africa, reported that 20 people attended their film screening and discussion about the film 'The Forgotten Refugees'.

Around 100 people attended the **Jewish Museum's** exhibition, 'Jukebox, Jewkbox! A Century on Shellac and Vinyl'. The exhibition continues until 16th October. In the late 19th century, a German-Jewish emigrant to the USA changed the world. With Emil Berliner's invention of the gramophone and the record, the age of mass entertainment found its first global medium. Visitors to the Museum were invited to go on a musical journey through popular culture, featuring records and technology that changed lives. Many found the Yiddish choir performing on the day very moving.

The Museum's 'Yiddish Story and Song' event focused on the language of Yiddish for their celebrations. Families were entertained in a concert by singer and songwriter Nick Cope, while Grethe Jensen took visitors back to the traditional art of oral storytelling with her recollection of Yiddish folk tales. Barry Davis gave a basic introduction to Yiddish, while the London Yiddish Choir and Brighton and Hove Chutzpah Choir performed Yiddish songs old and new for all the family. Families took part in a self-guided trail of the Yiddish objects in the museum, handled Yiddish objects from the Museum's collection and then made their own mask and puppet inspired by the Yiddish Theatre Karaoke Show.

The **Ben Uri Gallery and Museum** held a tour of a major, multi-piece installation by Komar and Melamid, two of Russia's most important twentieth century Jewish artists, founders of the SOTS movement, responding to Pop and conceptual art. 'Yalta' uniquely

and controversially commemorates the end of the War and the historic peace conference in 1945.

60 people attended a talk on 'A good Jew and a good Englishman' plus a walking tour by Elkan Levy of **Willesden Cemetery**, with anecdotes about people he knew and a chance to hear about this unique place, which the United Synagogue is working to conserve, and which has charted the life and times of Britain's Jewish community since 1873. There was an opportunity to see inside ceremonial buildings designed by Victorian architect Nathan Solomon Joseph.

Three B'nai B'rith lodges held a joint event entitled: 'Your Loyal Subjects - The National Portrait Gallery'. The event at Pinner Synagogue attracted well over a 100 people in this joint meeting between **Yad B'Yad, Shlomo Argov, Yitzhak Rabin Lodges and Pinner Synagogue**. Brian Eisenberg, chairman of Pinner Synagogue, welcomed everybody and there followed a fascinating presentation by Rachel Kolsky. Rachel was well known to many of the audience as a professional London guide, who specialises in tours with a Jewish theme.

Rachel gave a brief history of the National Portrait Gallery, which has a collection of 160,000 portraits, of which only a small number are on display. Rachel's focus during her talk was on the 150 portraits on permanent display that have Jewish associations. Using a selection of slides to illustrate her talk and speaking without notes, she started in the 1820's with the economist David Ricardo and in chronological order told the group about the work, sculptures and portraits of Ludwig and Alfred Mond, Benjamin Disraeli, Nicholas Pevsner, Jacob Epstein, Lucien Freud, Jacob Rothschild and Sigmund Sternberg. Her talk was accompanied by humorous anecdotes and little known facts. Coming right up to date, she ended by discussing portraits of Amy Winehouse, who died in 2011.

Around 6,000 people attended the annual **Klezmer in the Park** music event in Regents Park, run by the

Jewish Music Institute, for which the sun shone and everyone had a wonderful time. A number of live acts performed on the bandstand, and there were exhibitions and displays of Jewish culture, kosher food and crafts and gifts for sale. Highlights included Klezmatics' Lorin Sklamberg and London band The Turbans, as well as face painting and a craft table for kids.

B'nai B'rith's own **First Unity Lodge** held a charity concert, 'The Jewish Violin' with Haia Livni, at Chai Cancer Care, featuring the Jewish violin with a personal touch through poetry, stories and sound. A soloist in the Israel Chamber Orchestra, Haia has toured with them worldwide to great acclaim. Her programme described the historical backgrounds of the violin, using Jewish classical, folk and soul music. 80 people attended in a room that normally holds 70!

The evening's programme described the historical background of the violin introducing the great Italian makers but informing the group that the best bows came from France. Using classical, folk and soul music, Haia demonstrated the wide variety of Jewish violin music. She skilfully interlaced poetry and stories into the evening; Tchernichovsky's 'Sachaki Sachaki', translated as 'all the world laughs at my dreams' and Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav's poem 'all the world is a very narrow bridge' were presented with great feeling.

Haia told visitors of the Jewish composers and violinists like Fritz Kreisler renowned for a sweet tone and expressive phrasing, and also of Pinchas Zukerman and Jascha Heifetz, each presenting unparalleled standards of playing to which violinists around the world aspired. Haia's emotional playing illustrated many different moods from Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons'. Three melodies from the shtetl, the lullaby 'Raisins and Almonds' and a beautiful rendering of the religious piece, 'Oseh Shalom Bimromov', demonstrated just how much music is a basic part of Jewish life. For **B'nai B'rith First Lodge's** event, around 30 people attended a fascinating lecture on 'Living in Yid-

dish' given by Dr. Helen Beer, lecturer at University College London's Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies, who informed visitors that the very first meeting of B'nai B'rith in 1843 was conducted in Yiddish and that, at a UNESCO Conference in New York in 2012, through the influence of B'nai B'rith, Yiddish was the subject of a whole session, attended by 500 people. Dr Beer traced the development of Yiddish in all its different variations in Central and Eastern Europe over the centuries. Before the Holocaust there were 12 million Yiddish speakers, today, sadly, only 1 million. Nevertheless, there has been an upsurge in people wishing to study Yiddish, and there is a treasure trove of Yiddish literature out there to be read and appreciated.

At Willesden Cemetery, a large crowd of 60 people turned out for the walking tour, so the groups were divided with Rachel Kolsky leading one and Hester Abrams the other.

Over 30 visitors attended the **Wiener Library's** lecture by eminent composer and scholar Professor Adam Gorb of the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, on the subject of the music scene at Theresienstadt concentration camp. The lecture focused on the work of composers such as Viktor Ullmann, Hans Krasa, Gideon Klein and Pavel Haas. An original copy of the libretto (by Peter Kien) of Viktor Ullmann's opera composed in Theresienstadt, 'The Emperor of Atlantis', is held in the library's collections.

B'nai B'rith UK Young Professionals group held a very successful Moroccan-style picnic at the Klezmer in the Park event and were lucky to have such fantastic weather! 70 people attended, with the picnic area packed at the busiest time, around 5.30pm.

The **New West End Synagogue** were delighted to have 140 visitors for their open day, 95% of whom were not Jewish.

Around the UK

Over 40 people attend the discussion at **Hull He-**



brew Congregation, to mark 250 years of Jewish life in Hull.

At **Bradford Synagogue**, some 20 people came for the visit and then went on a walking tour of Jewish Bradford. They had visitors from Bradford, Corby, Harrogate and Leeds.

Harrogate Synagogue opened its doors to the public and welcomed all to take a peek inside. Synagogue members were on hand to explain and answer questions. The beauty of the stained glass windows and scrolls, the prestigious history of the shul and more attracted a wide variety of visitors and it was a delightful day.

Singers Hill Synagogue in Birmingham had 124 visitors who had pre-booked and another 26 turned up. The vast majority were not Jewish. There was a talk on the radio that morning on the religious programme and 20 came as a result of the programme.

Garnethill Synagogue in Glasgow had in excess of 850 people through the door. Most were mixed faith, with the event held in conjunction with Glasgow Building Preservation Society who gave them an advertising banner to put alongside their front during the week. It was also associated with the Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre.

The Old Synagogue, Kings School in Canterbury had 119 visitors. Many of the visitors were from Canterbury but some had travelled from the local area, with quite a few were unaware of the Synagogue or its history.

At **Exeter Synagogue**, 120 people visited and the synagogue was delighted with the turnout.

Higher Crumpsall and Higher Broughton Park Synagogue hosted 40 people, mainly in a coach party, with mixed faith. The rabbi gave a talk.

Chatham Synagogue had a steady flow of around 60 people, 85% of whom were non-Jewish. They came via an interfaith forum and social media.

Cheltenham Synagogue were delighted to welcome over 200 visitors to their open day, reporting that 90% of them were not Jewish. In addition, 40 people attended a talk on 'Yiddish in the UK' with a discussion led by Jessica Shapiro. Here are some quotes from visitors to Jessica Shapiro's talk "Yiddish in the UK" and from the Synagogue's open day:

- Extremely interesting. More please.
- Fascinating talk - excellent speaker.
- Beautiful building, wonderful it is still in use.
- A wonderful building and lovely people. Many thanks.
- Thank you for sharing your beautiful space and for all the information.
- Most helpful with planning the visit and spending time with us during the visit. Many thanks.
- Beautiful building. Friendly hosts.
- Wonderful reception and planning and the building is superb.

Liverpool Old Hebrew Congregation had around 180 people at their open day, around 95% of who were not Jewish. The Synagogue was featured as part of a TV programme entitled 'The Streets of Liverpool' shown on Bay TV in Liverpool.

Oxford Hebrew Congregation had over 100 people attending, and it also coincided with their regular Open Doors.

Ramsgate Montefiore Synagogue were delighted to have 150 visitors, multi-faith, linked to English Heritage, a local advert and posts on Facebook.



The **Ramsgate Montefiore Heritage** organisation also held a very successful talk attended by over 40 people, 65% of whom were not Jewish. **Reading Hebrew Congregation's** open day had 80 visitors, multi-faith, linked to the English Heritage Reading Trail. 95% were not Jewish.

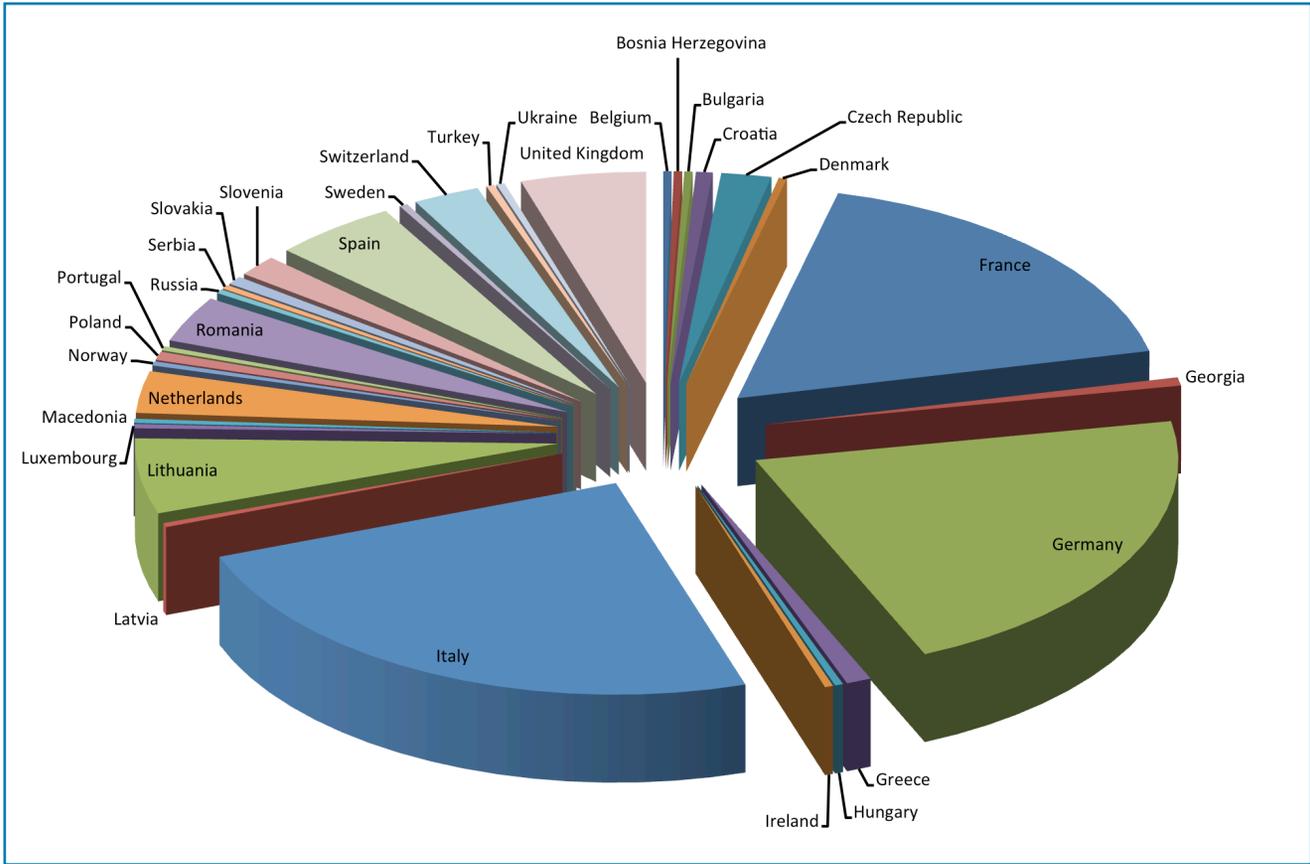
Valerie Bello, B'nai B'rith UK co-ordinator for EDJCH for the past 16 years, commented: "We believe that heritage plays an increasingly significant role in our national life, strengthening people's connection with their locality, making them conscious of their history and identity, and forging bonds between individuals and their communities.

We're encouraged that many people enjoyed the events that took place during our fortnight 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."

A total of 32 activities in 15 cities, attracting about



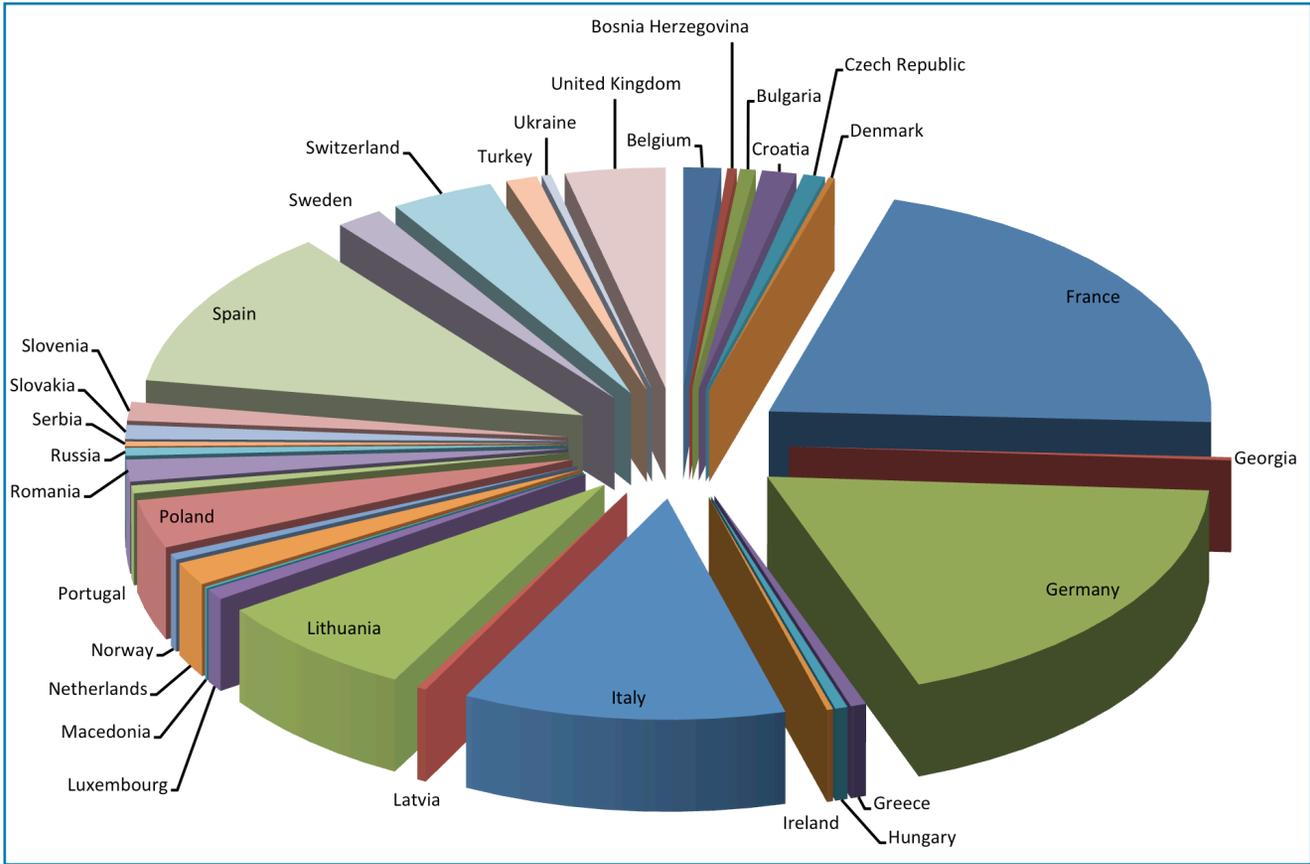
THE EDJC IN NUMBERS: CITIES



Austria	11	Germany	67	Netherlands	10	Spain	15
Belgium	1	Greece	3	Norway	1	Sweden	1
Bosnia Herzegovina	1	Hungary	1	Poland	2	Switzerland	8
Bulgaria	1	Ireland	1	Portugal	1	Turkey	1
Croatia	2	Italy	76	Romania	11	Ukraine	1
Czech Republic	6	Latvia	1	Russia	1	United Kingdom	15
Denmark	1	Lithuania	18	Serbia	1		
France	55	Luxembourg	1	Slovakia	2		
Georgia	2	Macedonia	1	Slovenia	5		

TOTAL 324

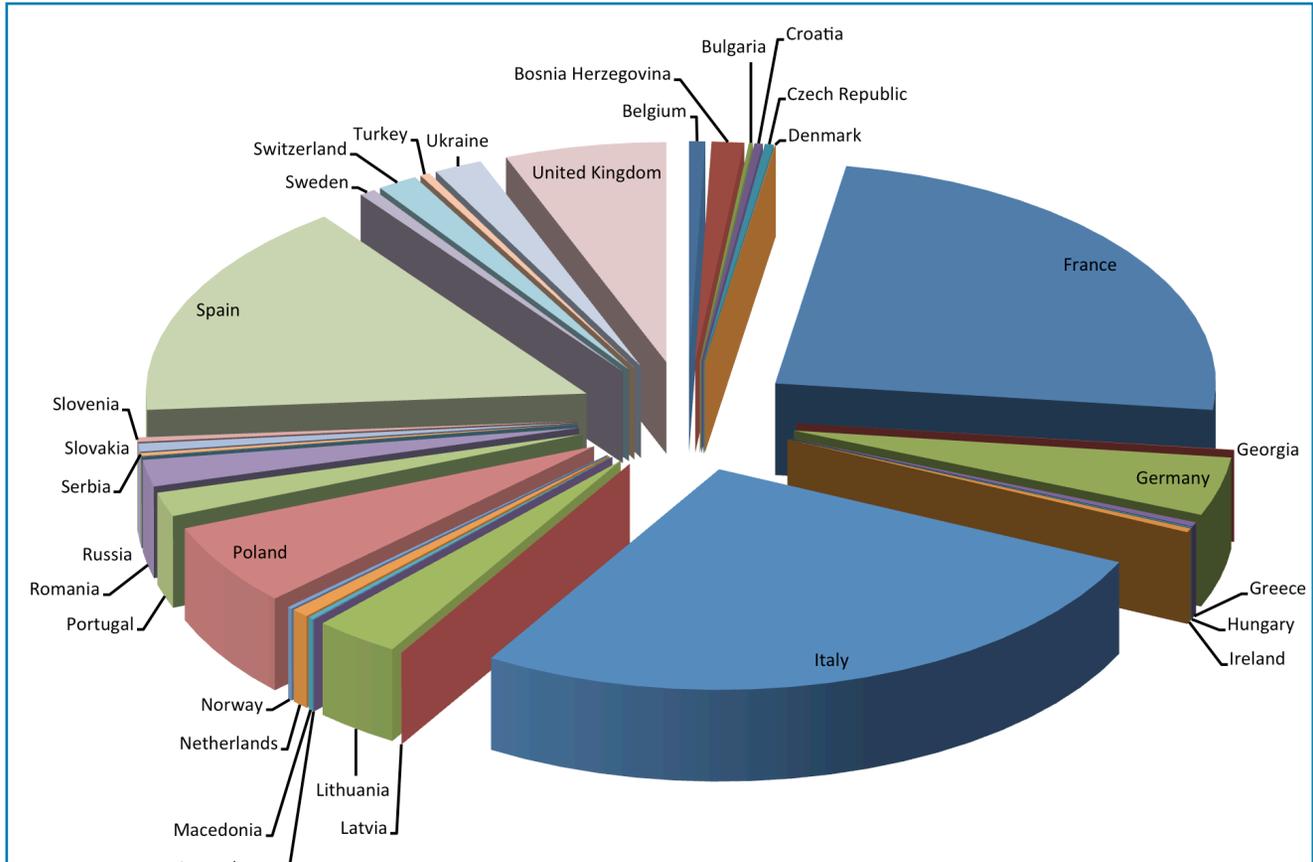
THE EDJC IN NUMBERS: ACTIVITIES



Austria	14	Germany	161	Netherlands	15	Spain	103
Belgium	12	Greece	5	Norway	4	Sweden	15
Bosnia Herzegovina	3	Hungary	4	Poland	31	Switzerland	33
Bulgaria	5	Ireland	2	Portugal	5	Turkey	10
Croatia	11	Italy	103	Romania	14	Ukraine	3
Czech Republic	7	Latvia	3	Russia	5	United Kingdom	32
Denmark	2	Lithuania	66	Serbia	3		
France	185	Luxembourg	7	Slovakia	9		
Georgia	2	Macedonia	1	Slovenia	12		

TOTAL 887

THE EDJC IN NUMBERS: VISITORS



Austria	600	Germany	7222	Netherlands	1100	Spain	27000
Belgium	1000	Greece	550	Norway	300	Sweden	1000
Bosnia Herzegovina	2000	Hungary	100	Poland	10200	Switzerland	2500
Bulgaria	250	Ireland	500	Portugal	3000	Turkey	600
Croatia	500	Italy	45000	Romania	3300	Ukraine	3000
Czech Republic	550	Latvia	31	Russia	35	United Kingdom	10000
Denmark	50	Lithuania	5300	Serbia	350		
France	41000	Luxembourg	50	Slovakia	1000		
Georgia	60	Macedonia	350	Slovenia	550		

TOTAL 169048

2017 subject matter: DIASPORA September 3, 2017

What does it mean to lose one's homeland? To be forced to escape and be scattered all over the world? How can identity be maintained when living in the middle of another culture? How can one create a beneficial relationship within longtime residents of a country and newcomers from somewhere else? All these questions are tremendously actual in today's Europe, and all these questions form part of the Jewish experience.

Keeping one's identity, feeling at home and a stranger at the same time, longing for a faraway land that one has never seen, and turning all this into a positive experience – both for the minority and the majority. That's the lesson that Jewish history can teach to today's Europe, keeping in mind that the Greek word Diaspora also means to disseminate, to spread seeds: seeds of mutual knowledge, seeds of wisdom, seeds of culture...seeds for the future.



Кнаanic Кърымчак Chouhadite
Giudaico Romanesco Lusitanic עברית
Ebraico Tamazight Tudayt Ladino
בֹּחֹרִי יִזְרְעֵל Bagitto Sarfatit
Piemontese Haketia Kivruli ערבית יהודית
Malayalam Italqit Kivruuli Yiddish
Lishana Deni Tetouani ערבית יהודית
Golpaygani Hebrew
Marathi Jewish Aramaic
Romaniyot חאקית

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