ACTIVITY REPORT 2014

REMEMBRANCE
RESPONSIBILITY
FUTURE
ACTIVITY REPORT 2014
# Table of Contents

## Introduction .......................................................................................................................... 6

## Greeting .................................................................................................................................. 8

## The Foundation EVZ .............................................................................................................. 10
  - Fields of Activity .................................................................................................................. 12
  - What Was Funded ................................................................................................................ 14

## Photography Competition .................................................................................................. 16

## Field of Activity 1: The Critical Examination of History .................................................. 21
  - German Premiere for the Concert Drama Defiant Requiem in Berlin .................................. 22
  - Travelling Exhibition “Forced Labour: The Germans, the Forced Labourers, and the War” .... 24
  - New Funding Programme: Pilot Round
  - Theatre Projects Using the Testimony of the Victims of National Socialism ......................... 26
  - Remembering the Courage of the “Righteous”: Funding for Yad Vashem ............................... 27
  - Educational Work with Victim Testimony ............................................................................ 30
  - Exhibition with Opening Reception: “Überleben durch Kunst” (Survival through Art)
  - Watercolours by the Polish Former Forced Labourer Francis Znamirowski ............................ 31
  - Forced Labour and Forgotten Victims: Remembering Nazi Injustice ...................................... 32
  - Leo Baecck Programme ....................................................................................................... 34
  - Encounters with Eyewitnesses ............................................................................................ 36

## Field of Activity 2: Working for Human Rights ................................................................. 39
  - MEET UP! German-Ukrainian Youth Encounters .................................................................... 40
  - Menschen Rechte Bilden ....................................................................................................... 42
  - Stop Hate Crime! ................................................................................................................... 44
  - Projects Against Anti-Semitism and Antiziganism ................................................................ 46
  - goEast – Festival des mittel- und osteuropäischen Films ......................................................... 48
  - Scholarships for Roma in Eastern Europe .............................................................................. 50
  - Exhibition: “Der U-Boot-Bunker Valentin: Geschichte in Beton” ........................................ 51
  - Europeans for Peace ............................................................................................................ 52
  - Jugend debattiert international ............................................................................................ 54
  - Transitional Justice: Reconciliation Means Being Sorry ..................................................... 56

## Field of Activity 3: Commitment to the Victims of National Socialism ............................ 59
  - Portraits of Victims of National Socialism ............................................................................ 60
  - Interview with Dr. Vladimir Ilyich Paniotto .......................................................................... 64
  - Donations for the Victims of National Socialism ................................................................. 66
  - Partnerships for the Victims of National Socialism .................................................................. 68
  - International Travelling Exhibition “Like a Breath of Fresh Air” ......................................... 72
  - Young Volunteers in Generational Dialogue ........................................................................ 76

## Press and Public Relations, Events ..................................................................................... 79
  - Two Million Additional Euros to Assist Survivors ............................................................ 80
  - Foundation EVZ Campaign “Ich lebe noch!” (I’m Still Alive) Kicks Off .............................. 82
  - Exhibition: Bückeburg under the Swastika, Bürgerfest, Day of German Unity, Hannover ....... 83
  - Events ................................................................................................................................... 84

## Publications Funded by the Foundation EVZ in 2014 ...................................................... 98

## Facts and Figures ................................................................................................................ 103
  - Financial Report .................................................................................................................. 104
  - Foundation EVZ Mourns Trustee Prof. Alexander P. Potschinok ........................................... 110
  - Foundation EVZ Mourns Former Trustee Valentin Yakovlevitch Gerasimov ...................... 111
  - Board of Trustees, Foundation EVZ .................................................................................... 112
  - Board of Directors, Team .................................................................................................... 114
  - Committees and Juries ....................................................................................................... 116
  - Partners ............................................................................................................................... 120

## About This Publication ....................................................................................................... 122
Dear Readers,
Dear Friends of the Foundation EVZ,

We are pleased to invite you to take a look back over the activities and work of our foundation during 2014.

The conflict in Ukraine has become entrenched as a front line that cuts across cities and residential areas. Europe once again finds itself torn by war. At the same time, animosity against Jews in Germany and in many other Western European countries is also on the rise.

The work of the Foundation EVZ touches on these aspects. In the field of activity “Working for Human Rights”, since the summer of 2014 we have been developing a new programme against anti-Semitism and antiziganism to counteract prejudice and hate against these groups. A programme for transphobia and homophobia is also being developed in the former republics of the Soviet Union.
With funds from the German Foreign Office under the auspices of the EUROPEANS FOR PEACE programme, we established a special youth encounter project entitled Meet UP! German-Ukrainian Youth Encounters in August 2014. The goal of the programme is to intensify relationships between Germany and Ukraine and to strengthen the commitment of young people from Germany and Ukraine working for democratic values, human rights, and international understanding. The funding programme also funds trilateral encounters with young people from Russia.

The foundation continued its work for victims of National Socialism in the focus countries, including Ukraine, where the now very elderly survivors need even more support in light of the current situation. One of the strengths of our programme Treffpunkt Dialog is that it is directed at Belarusian, Russian, and Ukrainian organizations and supports work for victims of National Socialism across the borders. We placed great importance on this in 2014.

2014 was also a special commemorative year, marking the 75th anniversary of the attack on Poland and the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising. The foundation funded several projects that sought to keep alive the memory of these historic injustices.

To support work in the field of activity “Commitment to the Victims of National Socialism”, in 2014 the press and public relations team launched the campaign “Ich lebe noch!” (I’m Still Alive), pointing to the life situation of victims of National Socialism in Eastern Europe. This campaign supports the foundation’s fundraising for these elderly people.

There is good news to report from the financial realm. Due to the very good results of our ethical investments in the year 2014, we are able to add an additional million euros to our funding in 2015.

Despite the political situation, we look back over a successful year and would like to thank all our partners, supports, project participants. We can only be successful together!

In news from the foundation: Martin Salm left our board of directors in March 2015 for health reasons, and is leaving the foundation with this Activities Report. He looks back at his seven years as chairman of the foundation’s board with gratitude and fondness, and would like to thank all the partners for their successful, inspiring, and enriching collaboration.

We hope you enjoy reading this report.

Dr. Martin Salm  
Chairman, Board of Directors

Günter Saathoff  
Board of Directors
Dear Readers,

With this overview of 2014, we unfortunately have to say goodbye to Martin Salm at the Foundation EVZ. For health reasons, Martin Salm was no longer able to continue in his position as chairman of the Board of Directors as of July 2014, and ended his work for the foundation on 31 March 2015. In Salm’s eight years at the foundation, working with Günter Saathoff he gave the foundation a new orientation with its three fields of activity. He was especially interested in the foundation’s human rights work as a consequence of history and a humanitarian commitment to the victims of National Socialism. He thus left an enduring mark on the foundation. By reorganizing the investment structure, Salm effectively secured the foundation’s assets and achieved reliable yields. The Board of Trustees would like to thank Dr. Martin Salm for his outstanding work.

I would also like to take this opportunity to report of the financial success of the foundation and its consequences. The Foundation EVZ achieved a performance of 7.9 percent in asset management in 2014: by reshuffling the capital investment, we were able to increase the yields available to finance our institution to 14.3 million euros. And real asset preservation was also secured.
These welcome developments in terms of assets allowed the Board of Trustees to agree to increase funding in the field of activity “Commitment to the Victims of National Socialism”. For 2015, an additional million euros were made available, and if the economic situation of the foundation allows, further increases will also be implemented in the years to come.

It was important for the Board of Trustees to set a sign in the important years of remembrance 2014 and 2015, and I am grateful that this increase in funding has made this possible. With additional funding, 6,500 additional survivors of Nazi persecution could be supported in humanitarian aid projects.

My thanks also go to the Board of Directors and the entire team of the Foundation EVZ for their work in 2014. With great commitment and passion, Günter Saathof and everyone at the foundation were able to manage the absence of Martin Salm and to continue the work of the foundation successfully.

Dr. Michael Jansen
Chairman, Board of Trustees, Foundation EVZ until 27 March 2015,
Chairman of the Board of Directors as of 1 April 2015
The Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future” (EVZ)

To honour the victims of Nazi injustice, the Foundation EVZ (Remembrance, Responsibility, and Future) works towards strengthening human rights and international understanding. It also continues to promote the interests of survivors. The foundation is thus an expression of the continuing political and moral responsibility of the German state, business community, and society for Nazi injustice.

The foundation funds international projects in the following areas:

- the critical examination of history
- working for human rights
- a commitment to the victims of National Socialism
FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

THE CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF HISTORY

WORKING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

A COMMITMENT TO THE VICTIMS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM
FUNDING PROGRAMMES

- Begegnungen mit Zeitzeugen (Encounters with Eyewitnesses)
- Geschichte(n) in Vielfalt (Histories in Diversity)
- Leo Baeck Programm (Leo Baeck Programme)
- Online-Archiv NS-Zwangsarbeit (Online Archive: Forced Labour under the Nazis)
- Dokumentation der NS-Zwangsarbeit (Documenting Nazi Forced Labour)
- Zwangsarbeit und vergessene Opfer (Forced Labour and Forgotten Victims)

GOALS

- To anchor the history of Nazi forced labour permanently in the European collective memory and to communicate the experiences of the victims
- To achieve greater understanding for various perspectives on history in Europe
- To strengthen the awareness of the role played by Jews in European history

FUNDING PROGRAMMES

- Europeans for Peace
- Menschen Rechte Bilden
- Scholarships for Roma in Eastern Europe
- Forced Labour Today
- Stop Hate Crime!

GOALS

- To strengthen the commitment to democracy and human rights by historical learning
- To initiate projects directed against right-wing extremism, anti-Semitism, and victim protection
- To strengthen the descendents of those minorities who were victims of Nazi persecution

FUNDING PROGRAMMES

- Treffpunkt Dialog
- Partnerships for the Victims of National Socialism
- Donations for the Victims of National Socialism
- Volunteers in humanitarian projects of the Foundation EVZ

GOALS

- To fund model projects that allow now elderly victims of National Socialism to lead a life in dignity and autonomy, and to improve their situation in terms of health and social contacts
- To strengthen actors in civil society who seek to promote a greater solidarity with and willingness to help victims of National Socialism
- To call upon politicians and society as a whole in Germany and Europe to accept their responsibility to improve the social situation of the victims of National Socialism
WHAT WAS FUNDED

328 PROJECTS FUNDED

Field of Activity
THE CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF HISTORY
173 PROJECTS 2.69 MILLION EUROS

Field of Activity
WORKING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
76 PROJECTS 1.88 MILLION EUROS

Field of Activity
COMMITMENT TO THE VICTIMS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM
79 PROJECTS 3.23 MILLION EUROS
## Project Results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plays</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Products</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photography Books</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Exhibitions</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations Packages</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Websites</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books/Travel Guides</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Material Packets</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Films</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Projects (Evaluations/Recommendations)</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audio Productions</td>
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## Project Partnerships:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As well as projects in:
- France, Croatia, Macedonia, Austria, Rumania, Hungary, UK, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Moldavia, the Netherlands, Serbia, Greece, Switzerland, Slovenia, Turkey, the United States

250 Historical Eyewitnesses reported about their lives in 64 different projects.
The eleventh photography competition held by the Foundation EVZ focused on our project funding programmes. Participants were called to submit photographs showing moments, impressions, or special aspects from projects funded by the foundation. The intention was to spotlight encounters, events, gestures between people, events, and successes of the project work.

364 photographs were submitted from the foundation’s projects. The jury chose the best contributions from among the submissions, awarding each 250 euros. The nominated pictures were then placed online and put up for a public vote. With his photograph Zofia Kondracka and Marta Andrzejczyk are Happy about Meeting at the Multi-Generational Encounter, You Can See It in their Eyes!, Michał Czarnecki from Poland won the Internet vote. The winning photographer was awarded 500 euros.

In this project, the dialogue between the generations is promoted in the form of a social centre. They offerings including counselling and advice, joint excursions, eyewitness interviews, a senior citizens’ hotline, and an Alzheimer’s self-help group for around 450 older people and victims of National Socialism in Warsaw.

www.stiftung-evz.de/fotowettbewerb

FRIENDS ACROSS THE GENERATIONS
Zofia Kondracka and Marta Andrzejczyk are Happy about Meeting at the Multi-Generational Encounter, You Can See It in their Eyes
Project: mali bracia Ubogich (Little Brothers of the Poor), Poland
Photographer: Michał Czarnecki
ÄNNE’S LAST JOURNEY: A PLAY ABOUT NAZISM, DOCUMENTARY FICTION | Scene photograph: in the background projections by Ulrike Oeter, edited photographs of the Lehnkering family | Project: Schattenräume, Germany Photographer: Bas Marien

JEWS IN POLAND: A MISSING PART? | Participants at the international conference of Humanity in Action in Warsaw prepare for a visit to the annihilation camp Treblinka in front of the Museum for the History of Polish Jews. The goal of the visit was to find out how the past influences the current human rights situation. Project: Fourth international Humanity in Action conference: “Transitions in a Modern World: Democracy, Human Rights, and Diversity”, Poland Photographer: Anna Rok

WITHOUT WORDS | Discrimination Yesterday and Today: Young People from Poland and Germany Visit the Concentration Camp Memorial Wöbbelin, former camp grounds | Project: Das eigene und das Fremde – ein deutsch-polnischer Jugenddiskurs, Poland Photographer: Dariusz Czerniawski

PORTRAIT | Survivor Jacek Zieliniewicz in Auschwitz Project: Close Up 2014, Poland | Photographer: Marcin Lachowicz

"IN JUSTITIA" HELPS THE VICTIMS OF RACIST VIOLENCE TO RAISE THEIR VOICES | The employees at “In Justitia” work for victims of hate crimes. Project: Legal Assistance for the Victims of Hate Crimes III, Czech Republic Photographer: Martin Faltejsek
CENTRE FOR VICTIMS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM AND INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE | Project Coordinator Sedláčková with visitor Jarmila Pláteníková | Project: Centres for victims of National Socialism and Intergenerational Dialogue in the Czech Republic | Photographer: Tomáš Šipka

INTERGENERATIONAL ENCOUNTER | Vera Vassilieva in conversation with the Belarusian concentration camp survivor Nataliya Radtchenko at an intergenerational encounter, Concentration Camp Memorial Neuengamme, 3 May 2014 | Project: Former Prisoners of Neuengamme Concentration Camp and their Family Members Visit Hamburg, Germany | Photographer: Mark Mühlhaus

FOREVER YOUNG | During the war, she was a member of a partisan movement and worked as a courier. She was arrested for her resistance and thrown into prison. | Project: Victims of National Socialism Deserve our Compassion, Belarus | Photographer: Inna Trusevich


BAR MITZVAH CELEBRATION, AMIGOUR, SENIOR CITIZEN’S HOME FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS | Yaakov Shievitz celebrates his Bar Mitzvah at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem. Yaakov and 20 other residents of Amigour were not able to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah because of the Holocaust. Amigour together with the Western Wall Heritage Foundation organized the celebration at the Wailing Wall. | Project: Amigour: Social and cultural activities for Israel’s needy Holocaust survivors, Israel | Photographer: Eyal Olivier Fitoussi

THE CZECH WINNER IN ACTION | Lively participating in the debate, Ivan Michňa convincingly argues against the presidential amnesty. Project: Jugend debattiert international 2014, Czech Republic | Photographer: Tomáš Železný
FIELD OF ACTIVITY 1:
THE CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF HISTORY

Sonja Begalke (team leader)
Martin Bock
Ulla Kux
Leonore Martin
Ulrike Rothe
Oleksandra Bienert
Evelyn Geier
Lisa Renner and Adina Dymczyk (student aids)
In 1944, Jewish prisoners in Theresienstadt performed Verdi’s Requiem as an expression of their will to survive. During the 1990s, American conductor Murry Sidlin created the concert drama *Defiant Requiem: Verdi’s Messa da requiem at Theresienstadt Ghetto*, based on these events. The German premiere took place on 4 March 2014 at Berlin’s Konzerthaus. The actors Iris Berben and Ulrich Matthes read the eyewitness accounts. Konzerthausorchester Berlin, the chorus of Junges Ensemble Berlin, and Vokalakademie Berlin performed under the direction of conductor Murry Sidlin.
More than 140,000 Jews were imprisoned in Theresienstadt from 1941 to 1945. Only very few of them survived the Holocaust, most died in the ghetto or were deported to an extermination camp and killed. But part of the camp’s history is the cultural life that developed there. There were readings, concerts, theatre performances, and exhibitions organized by the numerous imprisoned artists. One of the most active musicians in the ghetto was the Czech conductor and pianist Rafael Schächter. With 150 prisoners, he rehearsed Verdi’s *Requiem* and performed it 16 times at the camp.

The premiere was a joint event of Jüdisches Museum Berlin, the Defiant Requiem Foundation, and the Foundation EVZ.
In the Czech Republic, the international travelling exhibition “Forced Labour: The Germans, the Forced Labourers, and the War” was shown at Prague Castle in 2014. After four successful stops in Berlin, Moscow, Dortmund, and Warsaw, the exhibition was on view from 2 July to 31 October 2014 at the Belvedere in Prague Castle. The over 250 guests to the exhibition opening included almost 40 former forced labourers and their family members as guests of honour. The former forced labourer Dagmar Lieblova, chairwoman of the Theresienstadt Initiative, spoke impressively and movingly at the opening of her fate and the fate of other forced labourers.

The guests of honour at the exhibition opening included Ivana Zemanová, the wife of the president of the Czech Republic, Detlef Lingemann, Germany's ambassador to the Czech Republic, Daniel Herman, Czech Cultural Minister, and Hynek Kmoniček, director, division of Foreign Affairs, President of the Czech Republic. Bavarian Minister-President Horst Seehofer and Saxon Minister-President Stanislaw Tillich also honoured the Prague exhibition with their visit.

The exhibition was produced by the Stiftung Gedenkstätten Buchenwald und Mittelbau-Dora, initiated and funded by the Foundation EVZ, and stood under the patronage of German President Joachim Gauck and Czech President Miloš Zeman. A cooperation partner was Deutsch-Tschechische Zukunftsfonds. The organizational partner in Prague was the Czech NGO “Forum 2000”.

The exhibition was adapted to Prague as an exhibition site. By looking at 60 case studies, the exhibition discussed the specific aspects of forced labour for the over 600,000 Czechs forced to work in Germany. Across Europe, 20 million people were subjected to forced labour by the Germans.
A total of 34 events were held to accompany the exhibition: conversations with eyewitnesses, discussions with experts, an expert conference at the Czech Foreign Ministry, pedagogical events for schools and cultural events. The extensive exhibition catalogue was published in Czech. The exhibition was visited by around 6,000 people. Starting in November 2015, the exhibition will be on view in Hamburg, then travelling to Austria in 2016.

www.stiftung-evz.de/zwangsarbeiter-ausstellung

Scan the QR code to view short films with eyewitness interviews.
NEW FUNDING PROGRAMME:
PILOT RUN “THEATRE PROJECTS USING THE TESTIMONY OF THE VICTIMS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM”

Today, almost 70 years after the end of the Second World War, there are only a few survivors of Nazism remaining who can personally communicate their memories to younger people. The testimony they offer, in the form of diaries, letters, autobiographies, poems, music, and photographs, offer us access to their fates.

For the first time in July 2014, Foundation EVZ offered funding for projects where this testimony forms the focus of artistic treatment. The project funds plays that create links to individual biographies of victims of the Nazis and find meaning for the present in their personal stories.

With this funding focus, the foundation wants to make the stories, experiences, and documents of victims of National Socialism useful for education and commemorative work. In response to the question of how the history of Nazism will be remembered in future, this approach seeks to provide an active, artistic, and creative answer with links to the present.

The call for proposals is directed at freelance directors, alternative theatres, educational and cultural institutions, and other associations. The goal is to fund professional theatre performances and theatre-pedagogical projects with young people and adults.

55 applications for funding were submitted to the foundation before the deadline on 15 October 2014, and a jury chose 10 projects for funding. These projects will begin work in 2015, and the performances will take place in 2015 and 2016.
The “righteous” are those non-Jews who selflessly helped to save Jews during Nazism, placing themselves in great personal danger. An archive dedicated to this group of brave men and women was founded in 1962 and collects testimony, photographs, and press articles on “the righteous” and saved Jews. Their individual stories were brought over the years to Yad Vashem, where they are examined and then kept. A large part of this documentary material has already been examined and forms the foundation for the encyclopaedia of the “righteous among the nations”. This archive exists largely on paper, and is now being digitalized step by step.

This process is being funded by the Foundation EVZ. This affects around 4,000 files that offer information on over 6,000 Poles and 500 Germans rescuers, including prominent figures like Władysław Bartoszewski. Wilm Hosenfeld and the saved Polish pianist Władysław Szpilman were also included: both became famous in the film *The Pianist* and a prize at Universität Lüneburg (also funded by the foundation) is named after them. But most of the archive of the “righteous” remembers unknown courageous people.

With the help of funding of the foundation, the digitalization of the archive of Polish and German files was able to begin. Since 2014, the names of these righteous are now almost all placed online and can be accessed from anywhere around the world. The foundation has reserved a total of 240,000 euros for this project until 2015.

With the funding from the foundation, Yad Vashem offers interested users, including family members, survivors, and their families, quick and uncomplicated online access to the archive. In addition, the digital data bank is available to researchers, students, and schoolchildren. The available information thus not only serves to commemorate their courageous actions, but also serves as a point of departure for pedagogical offerings that use concrete histories to explore questions of personal responsibility and the possibilities to act, looking at our own courage and our willingness to stand up for the rights of others.
Opening podium discussion: on the relationship between anti-Semitism and racism in research and public debate.
Beside podiums and workshops, the conference participants from all over Germany used the opportunity to network and exchange ideas about how to approach anti-Semitism.

A conference report was published online (www.stiftung-evz.de/blickwinkel) and in the journal *Außerschulische Bildung*; additional contributions will also be documented.

Since 2011, the conference series Blickwinkel has enabled scholars and teachers a continuous exchange on findings and experiences in their engagement with anti-Semitism. Organizations involved in various funding programs of the foundation take advantage of this offering. With this year’s event in Jena, the conference series was able to further establish its role as a regular annual forum of exchange.

For several years now, the cooperation partners of the conference series Blickwinkel have been the Zentrum für Antisemitismus Forschung, TU Berlin, the Pädagogisches Zentrum at the Fritz Bauer Institut, and Frankfurt’s Jüdisches Museum. For the first time this year, Bildungsstätte Anne Frank e. V. joined as a new partner.

www.stiftung-evz.de/blickwinkel
With the funding programme Bildungsarbeit mit Zeugnissen (Educational Work with Testimony), the Foundation EVZ seeks to fulfil its mission to keep alive the memory of those subject to Nazi persecution. Soon, historical eyewitnesses will no longer be able to report personally of their fates. But the victims of National Socialism have left behind impressive testimony of their experiences. During the time of their persecution, but also after 1945, the victims created paintings, drawings, poetry and songs, diaries, letters and other literary products, and audiovisual reports of their experiences. This programme supports projects that make this testimony useful in school and non-school education, whether in web-based learning or in the form of artistic approaches.

**BOOK PRESENTATION, DEUTSCHES HISTORISCHES MUSEUM, BERLIN**

**ERINNERUNG AN ZWANGSARBEIT – ZEITZEUGEN-INTERVIEWS IN DER DIGITALEN WELT**

On 25 March 2014, the Foundation EVZ presented the publication *Erinnerung an Zwangsarbeit – Zeitzeugen-Interviews in der digitalen Welt* (Remembering Forced Labour: Interviews with Eyewitnesses in the Digital World) in cooperation with Center für Digitale Systeme, Freie Universität Berlin (CeDiS), Deutsches Historisches Museum (DHM) and Metropol Verlag. The edited volume presents the results of the conference with the same name held in October 2012 by CeDiS with the support of the Foundation EVZ.

The authors of this volume analyse the online archive “Forced Labour 1939–1945”, which was established by both institutions in cooperation with DHM, featuring around 600 interviews from 26 countries. Issues of archiving, pedagogy, and other matters are discussed in relation to the interview archive. The conference volume also contains a series of contributions from international experts about online interview collections and their use in research and education.

As Martin Salm emphasized in his greeting:

> The online portal “Forced Labour 1939–1945” is dedicated to the millions of people who were brought to Germany by German troops from the occupied countries of Europe and subjected to forced labour. The online portal is attractive for younger users because with the videos it provides a low-threshold medium prepared in a didactically intelligent way. The biographies offer personal access to historical processes that are otherwise difficult to grasp.
CeDiS has expanded the user surface, the information on individual people, and the interviews of the online archive “Zwangsarbeit 1939–1945” by adding an English and a Russian version. Around 20,000 registered entries on sites, camps, firms, and names were translated into both languages. The multilingual online archive will first be published in a Beta version. The Foundation EVZ is funding an archive with interviews held in 25 languages. On the basis of these interviews, in coming years web-based educational offerings will be developed, initially for the Czech Republic and Poland, later for Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia.

EXHIBITION WITH OPENING RECEPTION:
“ÜBERLEBEN DURCH KUNST” (SURVIVAL THROUGH ART)
WATERCOLOURS BY THE POLISH FORMER FORCED LABOURER FRANCIS ZNAMIROWSKI

As part of the funding programme “Educational Work with Victim Testimony” the foundation presented original drawings by the Polish artist Franciszek Znamirowski, who was forced to work at Regensburg’s Messerschmidt plant in 1944 and 1945. The exhibition was opened at the headquarters of the Foundation EVZ with an introduction by art historian Michaela Haibl.

The works are testimony to everyday life at the concentration Camp Gusen, where Polish resistance fighter Franciszek Znamirowski was forced as a concentration camp inmate to build airplane parts for Messerschmidt fighter planes. At the “hell of Gusen”, as the camp has been called by survivors, the German foreman Karl Seider was one of the few to treat the concentration camp prisoners humanely. For this reason, Franciszek Znamirowski gave him an album with 10 watercolours in March 1944.

Staatliche Bibliothek Regensburg showed the watercolours, rediscovered in the 1990s, together with Universität Regensburg. The exhibition was translated into Polish with the help of the Foundation EVZ and shown at the Auschwitz Concentration Camp Memorial in Poland.
Forced labour is the only Nazi crime against society to which all the peoples of occupied Europe were subjected. For decades, Nazi forced labour was not considered unjust, neither in Germany nor in the Eastern European countries that were occupied by the Nazis. Its historical examination and treatment is thus accordingly different. The transnational experience of forced labour offers an opportunity to develop a European culture of memory by taking account of various perspectives across the borders.

In addition, there are other victim groups in Germany and in the countries occupied by the Nazi regime who have not been provided a proper place in the culture of memory. These victims are often called “forgotten” victims.

In 2014, the Foundation EVZ announced a new funding program Zwangsarbeit und vergessene Opfer (Forced Labour and Forgotten Victims) and funded 14 international projects. Among the “forgotten” victim groups, emphasis was placed on the victims of Nazi “euthanasia” and Soviet war prisoners. Alongside these projects, some of them long term, seven international conferences were funded that refer to Nazi forced labour in various disciplines and contexts.
PROJECT EXAMPLES

Travelling Exhibition: Forgotten Sites of Forced Labour in the Czech Republic
Institut Terezínské iniciativy created a travelling exhibition in cooperation with the concentration camp memorial Flossenbürg where various forms of Nazi forced labour are shown using the examples of ten authentic locations. The topographical approach adds the history of forced labour to the otherwise well-known history of these sites.

At this conference, 100 experts from the academy and from memorials in Europe, North America, and Australia presented new research results on survivor groups. The focus of this interdisciplinary conference was not only placed on the history of the persecution itself, but also on the post-war history of the reception and the social approach to Nazi injustice. The Foundation EVZ funded the participation of scholars from Central and Eastern Europe.

Conference, “Medicine in Occupied Poland in the Shadow of Nazism”
A three-day conference, organized by Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband and Universität Poznań, was directed at an international circle of participants: historians, doctors, legal experts, theologians, pedagogues, researchers, and those personally affected discussed not only historical questions, but also ethical consequences for modern medicine and biology. The focus was placed on the Nazi murder of the ill in occupied Poland, on the one hand Polish citizens who lived in psychiatric clinics and other institutions of care, and German patients who during the course of the war were sent to Pomerania, Reichsgau Wartheiland, or the region controlled by the General Government where they died in large numbers due to hunger or poor hygienic conditions. The fate of Jewish Poles was also discussed: as psychiatric patients, they were subject to a three-fold threat, and can be considered among the entirely forgotten victims of the Holocaust, along with the Polish forced labourers who were killed at Hadamar Euthanasia Centre after losing the ability to work.
In the Leo Baeck Programme, Jewish contributions to the cultural, economic, and political development of Germany are made visible and honoured. The programme funds projects that show nuanced and diverse images of German-Jewish history and contribute to transmitting knowledge on Jewish culture. The main idea behind the programme is to anchor Jewish contributions as integral components of German and European history in the general conception.

The Leo Baeck Programme is a joint initiative of the Foundation EVZ and the commission at the Leo Baeck Institut zur Verbreitung deutsch-jüdischer Geschichte. The programme bears the name of Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck (1873–1956), a prominent figure in German Judaism in the twentieth century. 18 project applications were submitted in 2014, and 13 were chosen for funding.
The cooperation with Berlin's Jüdisches Museum could be successfully continued this year. In January 2014, a two-day project organization meeting took place, where participants could get to know one another and their projects and received expert input.

Together with the education department of Berlin's Jüdisches Museum, with the Leo Baeck Programme excursions were organized dealing with the regional history of Judaism in Brandenburg. Educators from Jüdisches Museum went in search of traces of Jewish life with high school students from Brandenburg and supported them in discovering Jewish history right outside their doorsteps.

**PROJECT EXAMPLES**

**“Polish Young People Discover the German-Jewish Heritage in Silesia”**  
*(Brama cukermana, Będzin/Bendzin)*  
The goal of this project was an event series with workshops and extracurricular activities for young people from Beuthen/Bytom and Gleiwitz/Gliwice on their local history. The emphasis was placed on traces of German-Jewish life and questions about the multicultural nature of these cities.

**“Using QR Codes to Discover Jewish History at Dortmund’s Ostfriedhof”**  
*(GeschichtsManufaktur Dortmund)*  
Dortmund high school students studied the lives of four Dortmund Jews who are buried at the cemetery Ostfriedhof. They researched various stations in their lives and wrote brief texts that they placed on a website.

**“Hello and Shalom: On the Trail of Jewish Life”**  
*(Förderverein Kulturstadt Görlitz-Zgorzelec e. V.)*  
Elementary school children from Görlitz and the neighbouring city of Zgorzelec researched their archives, visited sites of Jewish life in Görlitz-Zgorzelec, and thus came to know new aspects of their joint city history. This resulted in an exhibition on Jewish concepts, holidays, and architecture. The presentation culminated with a model of Görlitz Synagogue.

www.stiftung-evz.de/leo-baeck
With the programme Begegnungen mit Zeitzeugen (Encounters with Eyewitnesses), the foundation enables cross-border encounters between young people and committed citizens with the victims of National Socialism. The main aim of the funding is to hand down the memories of the elderly victims to subsequent generations. It is the only nation-wide funding programme for encounters with eyewitnesses in Germany and the oldest programme funded by the foundation. In the framework of the programme, a total of 66 encounters were funded with 264 eyewitnesses in 2014.

**PROJECT EXAMPLES**

**A German-Polish encounter week with former forced labourers from Poland and Ukraine on the island of Rügen**

The week of encounter “Grenzen Überwinden” (Overcoming Borders) was held at Dokumentationszentrum Prora in Sassnitz on the island of Rügen from 18–23 May 2014. First, German and Polish young people explored a historical subject and engaged with the issue of Nazi crimes in conversations with Polish and Ukrainian former forced labourers. They then visited the locations where the survivors worked as forced labourers. In mixed German-Polish groups, the young people then worked on two ongoing media projects during the encounter, documenting the encounter and recording their experiences on film.

**AHAWAH: The Children of Berlin’s Auguststraße**

Berlin school children create a film-documentary on the Jewish children’s home AHAWAH and Berlin’s Jewish Girls’ School during the Nazi period.

In the project “AHAWAH – Children of Berlin’s Auguststraße”, Berlin schoolchildren created a film docudrama on the Jewish children’s home AHAWAH and the Jewish Girl’s School during the Nazi period. During the project, they examined filmic and literary sources and met still living survivors from the children’s home, preparing theatrical scenes based on these eyewitness accounts. The film was premiered on 6 October 2014 at Babylon-Mitte, a cinema in central Berlin. The project was carried out by Theaterhaus Berlin Mitte.
A delegation of Sinti and Roma Holocaust survivors visits the former extermination camp Auschwitz-Birkenau

In this project of Dokumentations- und Kulturzentrum Deutscher Sinti und Roma, 29 Sinti and Roma who survived the Holocaust travelled to the memorial Auschwitz-Birkenau on International Roma Memorial Day, August 2, 2014, marking the 70th anniversary of the SS murder of the Roma at the former extermination camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. At the same time, an international conference was held in Krakow by the Roma youth network ternYpe, which included encounters with eyewitnesses.
FIELD OF ACTIVITY 2:

WORKING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Sonja Böhme (team leader)
Wanja Hargens
Timm Köhler
Christa Meyer
Corinna Jentzsch
Judith Blum
Evelyn Scheer
Anne Berger, Mounira Ammar and
Verena Böhnisch (student aids)
With 20 funded projects and more than 520 young participants from Germany and Ukraine, the foundation carried out the special programme Meet Up! German-Ukrainian Youth Encounters, starting in August 2014. The programme Meet Up!: German-Ukrainian Youth Encounters was made possible by funding from the German Foreign Office. The projects funded were various: historical-political educational projects, theatre productions, radio workshops, or city rallies. They were organized by private initiatives from civil society, educational institutions, or urban partnerships.
The call for projects under the rubric of the MEET UP! programme was successful in both Germany and Ukraine. 50 applications within just two months show the need felt by young people in both countries to exchange ideas across borders. Over half of the funded projects were submitted by new project partnerships.

Dimitrij Torizin, project leader of djo – Deutsche Jugend in Europa, Landesverband Sachsen – on the radio workshop in Dresden: "It was easy to start up a dialogue between the German and Ukrainian young people. They were all quite open and in just a short time the radio studio was dominated by a spirit of international friendship."

“The very first meeting in Ukraine had an effect on the participants. Because of the acting, the group grew together within the shortest time like a big family”, summed up Konstantin Buchholz, project head of the funding association Haus der Jugend in Berlin.

The participating high school or university students and trainees were given a decisive experience: they were able to sharpen their awareness for a joint future and mutual understanding in Europe.
Funding Programme for Human Rights Education through History Learning

The joint declaration of human rights from 1948 was a fundamental response to historical injustice, especially the Nazi crimes and the Second World War. The establishment of human rights has since then been a long-term task. The Foundation EVZ seeks to establish links between the subject of “remembering the crimes of Nazism” and human rights education. Funding educational projects that explore this linkage was an emphasis in this programme, which ended in 2014. 16 national and international projects were carried out in 2014, largely in Germany, Poland, and Israel.

SECURING RESULTS

In August 2014, the history teaching programme at Berlin’s Freie Universitat together with the American NGO Human Rights Education Associates (HREA) and the Berlin initiative Right Now Human Rights Consultancy & Training began a publication project that will be completed in the start of 2016: this publication will systematize and store the results of this programme.

TRAINING PROGRAMME, “HUMAN RIGHTS AND REMEMBRANCE”

In January 2014, two conferences were held to train and network relevant Polish actors in Oświęcim and at the Polish Parliament, the Sejm. Conceived and organized by the cooperation partners Humanity in Action (Poland), KARTA Center Foundation, International Youth Encounter Centre Auschwitz, and Jan Karski Educational Foundation, they explored the importance of history for the present and the future from a human rights perspective and how this link can be used for education. 135 participants from the realm of education attended the Warsaw conference.
PROJECT EXAMPLES

**Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte**
“The Courage and Competence for Inclusion: Historical Awareness for the Future of Human Rights”
Human rights educational project to use the online handbook “Inklusion als Menschenrecht” (Inclusion as a Human Right) and to train multiplicators. | www.inklusion-als-menschenrecht.de

**KARTA Centre Foundation, Warsaw**
“History and Human Rights”
Polish and English website for librarians and practitioners of history and human rights education with a competition for mini-projects.
In this project, the website in Polish and English was developed and training sessions were offered.

**Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial, Hamburg**
“The History of Nazism, Institutions, Human Rights: Human Rights Education for Government Employees at Memorials to Nazi Injustice”
In this project, extensive materials were developed and training sessions held with police officers, administrators, soldiers, prison workers, and lawyers. Some of the material is available in English.
www.ns-geschichte-institutionen-menschenrechte.de

**Theatre project Ännes letzte Reise, Theater mini-art**
In March and September 2014, the play Ännes letzte Reise (Änne’s Last Trip) on the subject of “euthanasia” in Nazism was performed for school classes and in evening performances in Berlin and Brandenburg an der Havel. The play tells the story of a young woman who was committed to a psychiatric clinic during the Nazi regime. The play was created by Theater Mini-Art in Bedburg-Hau, North Rhine-Westphalia. The play is based on the documented case of Anna Lehnkering, named Änne, a patient of Heil- und Pflegeanstalt Bedburg-Hau from 1936–40 who became a victim of “euthanasia” in Grafeneck on 7 March 1940. With great respect, two actors played various roles: the mother, the teacher, the siblings, neighbours, doctors, and Änne herself using documentary material and projections from Änne’s moving life history to her final transport to an extermination camp. After the performances, the audience had the opportunity to speak about the play and the story behind it with the actors and the niece of Anna Lehnkering, Sigrid Falkenstein. Additional performances will take place in various cities in 2015.

www.stiftung-evz.de/mrb
The funding programme Stop Hate Crime! works for people who are victims of hate crimes due to their ethnicity, skin colour, or religion, their working to advance human rights, their sexual orientation, or their gender identity.

In 2014, a total of six projects were funded in Poland, the Czech Republic, Russia, and Ukraine. The funded organizations take up contact with those affected, provide legal counsel, and seek to ameliorate the impact of the attacks with social and psychological support. Their public relations work sensitizes to the impact of racism, homophobia, and other forms of group-based hate. All Stop Hate Crime! projects submit the information gathered to national and international institutions, for example the OSCE.
The Foundation EVZ also offered all six funded projects additional funds to allow them to insure long-term operations. The project organizers had different levels of success. The Russian LGBT Network, the Ukrainian Social Action Centre, and the Czech media project Romea found continued funding. The Czech legal advisory In Justitia has established itself increasingly as a state-recognized and funded victim counselling organization. The Polish organization Campaign against Homophobia used the resources to build up a circle of private donors to continue their own work, which includes the advising of those affected by hate crimes, regardless of political circumstances. However, some realms of activity, the search work for Roma in the Czech Republic or the hate crime activities of the Civic Assistance Committee in Moscow, face uncertain futures.

The programme Stop Hate Crime! also supports the international networking of victim support institutions. The project of the German organization RAA Sachsen e. V. funded in 2014 promoted the European dialogue among representatives from the realm of practice and from the academic world on standards and frameworks for counselling those affected by hate crime. The large number of applications – 150 from all over Europe – shows the enormous need for international exchange. The project will continue in 2015 to its conclusion.

At the event Systemversagen? Staat und Gesellschaft im Umgang mit rassistischer Gewalt (System Crash? State and Society in Dealing with Racist Violence) on 6 November 2014, representatives from the funded projects Civic Assistance Committee and Social Action Network (Kiev) exchanged ideas with the Berlin counselling centre for victims of racist violence Reach Out.

www.stiftung-evz.de/stophatecrime
The Foundation EVZ seeks to counteract the current discrimination and exclusion suffered by Jews, Sinti, and Roma in Europe with the new funding programme “Projects against Anti-Semitism and Antiziganism”. To prepare a funding strategy, in 2014 intense consultations were held with international experts at various conferences and workshops.

PILOT PROJECTS

Anne Frank Zentrum e. V., Berlin, in cooperation with Anne Frank House, Amsterdam, Milan Simecka Foundation, Slovakia and the Austrian NGO Erinnern.at, “International Expert Meeting of Educators and Educational Policy Makers on Teaching about Anti-Semitism and Other Forms of Discrimination in Europe Aiming at Developing Teaching Tools”

In this project, 65 education experts and multiplicators from 14 European countries developed educational strategies against anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination and exclusion for faculty, multiplicators, administrators, and policymakers. The results are available in a brochure and as a website: www.storiesthatmove.org

Ukrainian Centre for Holocaust Studies: Preparation of teaching material and faculty training in Ukraine: “Teaching Materials against Discrimination, Anti-Semitism and Xenophobia”

In this project, one-day faculty trainings were held in various cities of Ukraine where teaching materials from OSCE/ODIHR are presented and their use in schoolrooms is discussed.
Humanity in Action Deutschland e. V.: Competition for Humanity in Action activists for projects against anti-Semitism and antiziganism in Europe with the online academy “From Survey Data to Action”

In this project, the organization Humanity in Action Germany offered a competition for Action Projects in their alumni network ranging from 2,000–5,000 euros. Eight projects were realized in 2015 in Greece, Poland, Turkey, Germany, in several countries of south-eastern Europe, and globally in the form of an online course.

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE): 
“NGO Forum in Berlin 2014: Enabling Civil Society’s Input into the high-level Event to Mark the 10th Anniversary of the OSCE’s 2004 Berlin Conference on Anti-Semitism”

In this project, the foundation invited 20 representatives from NGOs in Central and Eastern Europe and Israel to participate in this international conference held in November 2014 marking the tenth anniversary of the Berlin Conference against Anti-Semitism.
goEast Festival and Documentary Film Prize “Erinnerung und Zukunft”

The 14th goEast: Festival des mittel- und osteuropäischen Films presented the entire variety of Central and Eastern European cinema in Wiesbaden from 9–15 April. Together with Deutsches Filminstitut, the Foundation EVZ awarded the seventh documentary film prize “Erinnerung und Zukunft”. The 10,000-euro prize honours filmmakers who engage critically with social developments and their causes in their respective countries, showing border-crossing perspectives. From 217 submissions from 24 countries and after viewing the films at various festivals, a selecting commission chose six finalist films. The filmmakers then presented their works personally at the festival in Wiesbaden. An international jury awarded the prize to the film *Judgment in Hungary* (2013) by Eszter Hajdú.

**PRIZEWINNING FILM: JUDGMENT IN HUNGARY**

In 2008 and 2009, right-wing extremists attacked several Roma villages in Hungary. Six people died, including a five-year-old child. Cases were brought against four suspects. The film documents the two and a half year trial. In the cramped courtroom, a highly intense chamber drama develops that reveals a great deal about a deeply seated hate of Roma and Jews in Hungary. The judge presents himself as a hardliner for law and order and is equally annoyed by the emotionality of the Roma witnesses and the coldbloodedness of the other side. But the more the trial continues, the more his authority diminishes. Do the Roma in the end have to fear that justice will not be done?
The winning film *Judgement in Hungary* was broadcast on 24 June on Arte in a German version and was awarded several prizes at film festivals. It was shown on 22 September as part of the international event series Dokumentarfilmpreis “Erinnerung und Zukunft” unterwegs on tour in Berlin. At the subsequent podium discussion, the director Eszter Hajdú, Dr. Andrés Nader, head, Regionale Arbeitsstellen für Bildung, Integration und Demokratie (RAA) e. V., and Gergely Pröhle, Vice-State Secretary for International and European Affairs, Ministry for Human Resources, Hungary.

[www.stiftung-evz.de/filmpreis](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/filmpreis)
The scholarship programme of the Roma Education Fund supports Roma studying in Moldavia, Russia, or Ukraine. For the scholarship year 2014/2015, 209 applications were received. With 177 scholarships, over the eleven years of the programme’s existence a new record was achieved in terms of the number of scholarships awarded last year. The effectiveness of the programme was investigated in a detailed study of scholarship holders and alumni. According to the survey, only a minority would have attended university without the support of the programme (29 percent). The programme contributes decisively to Roma attending university and completing their degrees. 63 scholarship holders attained their degrees in 2014.

For the third time, small project funding was also awarded to scholarship holders and alumni. Of the 15 proposals submitted, four were supported with funds from the REF. In one project, a scholarship holder offered additional classes to first graders in Oblast Tula, Russia. The school provided the space for the teaching, while the project financed the additional wages of the teachers and the project management. The goal was to prepare children for the coming school year and to improve existing learning deficits.

A highlight of the year was the annual meeting of scholarships and alumni in July 2014 at Central European University Budapest. The subject of the conference was “Paths and Strategies for the Inclusion of Roma from the Perspective of Civil Society”. Numerous organizations, including the Open Society Foundation, European Roma Rights Centre, ADC Memorial St. Petersburg and International Renaissance Foundation presented their work, discussing it for two days with participants.

The scholarships are awarded each semester. In the second semester of the scholarship year 2013/14 the foundation funded 165 students with 107,250 euros. In the first semester of the scholarship year 2014/15, 177 scholarships were awarded, each 650 euros, constituting an overall funding of 115,500 euros. Most of the scholarship recipients came from Ukraine (106), followed by Russia (38), and Moldavia (33).

www.stiftung-evz.de/romastipendien
In December 1942, it was decided to build the submarine bunker Valentin in Bremen-Farge. The shipyard was built in just 20 months, and was the size of five football fields. The intention was to manufacture huge submarines on an assembly line to stop the advance of the Allies. Up to 10,000 forced labourers worked to erect the bunker, around 2,000 died due to the inhumane conditions. But just before the end of the war, the bunker was destroyed by the British Royal Air Force, not even a single submarine was built at Bunker Valentin.

A German-Israeli youth exchange project in the funding programme EUROPEANS FOR PEACE brought this long suppressed chapter of Nazi history back to public awareness. The exhibition, which was created as part of the project in 2012, contributes exemplarily to the cultural of regional and trans-regional memory. The exhibition was on view from 20 November 2014 to 20 January 2015 in the foyer of the foundation’s headquarters.
The programme Europeans for Peace funds international projects of encounter for young people from Germany and the countries of Central, East and Southeast Europe and Israel. The 2013/14 cohort discussed the subject of discrimination and worked on projects dealing with exclusion in the past and today. In the historical project work, young people dealt with the causes, mechanisms, and consequences of the discrimination, persecution, and extermination suffered by minorities during the Nazi period. The projects deal with current questions of discrimination, such as anti-Semitism, antiziganism, or homophobia, and explored how individuals can actively work against discrimination and exclusion and to promote the respect and protection of minorities. In the programme year, 33 projects were funded with a volume of 592,941 euros. Three projects were nominated by a jury for their commitment, the prize was awarded in May 2015 at the German Foreign Ministry.

JURY STATEMENT:

These three projects engage in an exemplary fashion with the subject of discrimination. In particular, they reveal the intense learning process of the young people in the course of the projects. Decisive participation in the project results and successful empowerment are both clearly shown.

THE PRIZE WINNERS 2013/14

The German-Russian Youth Project: “4 Languages + 2 Countries = 1 Programme”
Deaf and hearing young people explored the discrimination and murder of people with handicaps under Nazism and exclusion in the everyday lives of German and Russian young people. In a four-language special – in German, Russian, and in Russian and German sign language – they presented their unusual project on Volgograd school television.

Projektpartner: Sinneswandel, Berlin, with Klub UNESCO, General School 92, and Boarding School for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired No. 7, Volgograd, Russia
The Triilateral Youth Project “Sterne über Grenzen hinaus” (Stars Across the Borders)
Young Roma and non-Roma from Münster, Marseille und Belgrade engaged with the subjects of discrimination, flight, deportation and their own experiences. In intense dance, theatre, and video workshops, counter-strategies and options for action were explored. Various short films by the young people and a documentary film on the project impressively show the project work.
Project partners: Balkanbiro e. V., Förderschule Lernen Uppenbergschule, GGUA Flüchtlingshilfe, Münster, Vakti, Belgrade, Serbia, and L’Artichaut, Marseille, France.

The German-Israeli Project Ahava – Liebe – Love: Beyond Ideology
The subject of this cross-border encounters was the subject “Love and its Power to Resist Discrimination and Prejudice”. The young people reflected with historical eyewitnesses and conversation partners in Israel and Germany on Nazi history and to courage to stand up for people’s rights, and questioned their own prejudices. They acted out their own findings and reflections in various choreographies. The result was an unusual film that documents dance scenes, interviews with eyewitnesses, and discussions over the course of the encounters.
Project partners: Evangelisches Gymnasium Siegen-Weidenau, Ramot-Hefer High School, Ma’abarot, Israel.

The Foundation EVZ has been supporting the work of young people for human rights and international understanding with the programme EUROPEANS FOR PEACE for ten years now. 520 international projects have been funded with around 6.75 million euros.

www.europeans-for-peace.de · www.facebook.com/europeansforpeace
“Jugend debattiert international” is a competition for young people that takes place in eight central and east European countries. “Jugend debattiert international” seeks to inspire young people to engage with current social and political subjects. By debating in German, the students can use and improve their foreign language skills and participate in a special debate format. The best participants from eight countries then competed in the international finals in Warsaw, holding an exciting debate on the question of whether extremist parties should be banned.
The event-filled final week ended with the great final debate at the Museum for the History of Polish Jews. Anastasija Minitš from Estonia was able to convince with her strong arguments, gut listening, and impressive expressive power and was named the winner. But the other three finalists, Regina Bartha and Júlia Pőcze from Hungary and Ivan Michňa from the Czech Republic, presented their opinions in a convincing way and made the debate on extremist parties an exciting discussion.

Claudia Roth, vice president of the German Bundestag, awarded the certificates and invited the finalists to come to Berlin. Ms. Roth praised the work of the programme in her greeting: “This competition of ideas and arguments, the productive discussion is the core of democratic decision making and problem solving and is precisely the fascinating aspect that a democracy has to offer, to excite and to convince.”

The 17-year-old Anastasija Minitš was born in Tallinn and would like to come to Germany after finishing high school for her further education. “I participated because I like new challenges and try to do things outside my comfort zone”, in Anastasija’s words.

To make it to the final debate round of “Jugend debattiert international”, she and the other participants had to listen precisely and learn to debate skillfully and win on the regional and country level. The prize for the best young debaters on the country level was a trip to the international finals week in Warsaw.

“Jugend debattiert international” is a project of the Goethe-Institut, Foundation EVZ, the Gemeinnützige Hertie-Stiftung, and the Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen. The project has been taking place since 2005 and more than 10,000 schoolchildren from eight countries have participated to date. Young people between 16 and 19 from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, the Czech Republic, Ukraine, and Hungary were allowed to participate.

www.stiftung-evz.de/jdi
In 2014, the Foundation EVZ continued to pursue its interest in experiences of historical injustice. At the foreground of this interest is the question of how the foundation’s work in mastering massive injustice can be of assistance in other countries.

A group of 15 reporters for Kyodo News from all over Japan was invited to the Foundation EVZ on 7 October 2014 to speak about payments to forced labourers under the Nazi regime, the project funding of the Foundation EVZ, and the reconciliation of Germany with its neighbours. Board member Günter Saathoff was available to answer the questions of TV and newspaper journalists from Japan and South Korea. On 16 October, two human rights activists from Colombia visited the foundation. They were interested in the importance of international actors in the payments of forced labourers and the role of young people in processes of reconciliation.
Assistant to the Board Uta Gerlant was a guest at the Institute for Global Justice in The Hague on 23 June 2014. There she spoke in the framework of a Transitional-Justice-Fellowship Programme with ten representatives from seven countries on the possibilities and challenges of compensation. Gerlant spoke on the engagement with the history of Nazism in Germany, especially the payments of the Foundation EVZ to compensate forced labourers under the Nazis.

In addition, the foundation also funded two projects on engaging with historical injustice. On the one hand, a European workshop on approaching the violent past of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The project was initiated by the Maximilian-Kolbe-Stiftung. Participants from various countries and religions were able to join in conversation with one another at concrete sites of injustice, strengthening their understanding for one another.

A second funding project was the international conference “25 Years of German-Polish Reconciliation: Its Significance for Europe as a Model for the World”, held by the Foundation for Polish-German Reconciliation in Krzyżowa last November. The conference was held to commemorate the meeting of Polish premiere Tadeusz Mazowiecki and German chancellor Helmut Kohl at a reconciliation mass 25 years previously. Member of the board Günter Saathoff participated in the conference on the panel “Reconciliation Makes Good Policymaking”.

Human rights activists from Colombia at the Foundation EVZ

Günter Saathoff at the conference “25 Years German-Polish Reconciliation”

Left: podium discussion with Prof. Dieter Bingen, Prof. Krzysztof Miszczak, Paweł Moras, Konstanty Gebert, Stephan Erb
FIELD OF ACTIVITY 3:
COMMITMENT TO THE VICTIMS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM

Elke Braun (team leader)
Anja Kräutler
Ulrike Vasel
Sigrun Döring
Stephanie Bock
Evelyn Scheer
Dr. Valentina Valtchuk
Artem Iovenko (student aid)
JARMILA PLÁTENÍKOVÁ AND DARINA SEDLÁČKOVÁ, CZECH REPUBLIC

Czech NGO Živá paměť has been operating a meeting centre for those who suffered under Nazi persecution since 2008. The centre offers various activities and an opportunity for conversation. This photograph was taken in 2013 at an event to mark the fifth year anniversary of the centre’s founding, and shows Jarmila Pláteníková in conversation with the project coordinator Dr. Darina Sedláčková. Victims of National Socialism from various regions of the Czech Republic were then invited to a concert at Prague’s HAMU (Academy of Musical Arts).

Jarmila Pláteníková, born in 1924, supported a resistance group in České Budějovice. When the members of this group were arrested by the Gestapo, her father registered her for the so-called “total mobilization”. As in other countries occupied by Nazi Germany, Czechs from the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia were forced to work in German industry. Those born between 1921 and 1924 were particularly affected: they were systematically registered and forced to work. Jarmila Pláteníková was forced to work at the factory VDM-Luftfahrtwerke in the Lower Silesian town of Sackisch (now Zakrze). When she was arrested by the Gestapo, she was placed in a camp and later the prison Prague-Ruzyn. Already condemned to death, she was saved by the end of the war.

After the war, Jarmila Pláteníková worked as an accountant. She has two children and two grandchildren. Dr. Darina Sedláčková is a founding member of the NGO Živá paměť, which has existed since 2003. Since 2009, she has coordinated the four regional centres for former victims of National Socialism that have been established in other Czech cities based on the Prague model.
YAACKOV SHIEVITZ, ISRAEL

“This Bar Mitzvah ceremony gave me a new will to live. Now I’m going to write a book about the story of my life.”

Yaakov Shievitz was born in 1926 as the oldest son of a Jewish family in Dnepropetrovsk in southeast Ukraine. At the start of the war, his father was drafted into the Red Army. At first Yaakov was able to flee from the German occupiers with his mother and his six-year-old brother. But one day in search of food, he was separated from them. Later, he learned that they were burned alive in a massacre. Left entirely to his own devices, Yaakov hid until he was able to join the Red Army and thus survive the Holocaust.

After the end of the war, he became an engineer. He moved to Israel in 1992. Since 2002, he has been living in an institution for assisted living in Kfar Saba, a city near the border to the West Bank. With the support of the Foundation EVZ, the operator of the institution, Amigour, organizes regular meetings of Holocaust survivors.

Many participants at these meetings survived the Holocaust as children and young people and had no Bat or Bar Mitzvah due to the war. With the help of the Western Wall Heritage Foundation, Amigour made it possible for a group of 20 Holocaust survivors to celebrate this important ceremony at the Weeping Wall in Jerusalem. One of them was Yaakov Shievitz, who only began speaking about his Holocaust trauma briefly before the ceremony. And it was only after the ceremony that he felt strong enough to write about it.
Tamara Ptchelenkova already began helping her father’s partisan group at age 12. In 1942, she was arrested as the family member of a partisan together with her mother and her three sisters. Like the mother, she and her two older sisters were interrogated over and over again. She was kept imprisoned in Gomel for eight months.

After being liberated at the end of 1943, Tamara Ptchelenkova was able to return to school. When she was 18, she learned to ride the motorcycle in a motorcycle club at the “Volunteers Society to Support the Army”. She continued to be active in motor sports until 1966, and won several medals at Soviet championships. “Why motorcycling? When I was young, I wanted to be able to defend my country if a war were ever to break out again. A motorcycle with a sidecar in which a shooter can sit can get through in situations when a large vehicle would get stuck. Happily, I’ve never had to use my military skills.”

As a senior citizen, Tamara Ptchelenkova has remained active. With a great deal of energy, she works in the project Self-Help and Education for Victims of National Socialism in the Gomel organization Children of War. She takes part in events, meets with young people is a member of the board of directors.
Marta Andrzejczyk (32) met Zofia Kondracka (82) while Nordic Walking. She was enthusiastic about Zofia from the very start: “Even if she wasn’t able to keep up with the group because of her sick leg, Zofia always had a smile on her face.”

Marta Andrzejczyk was born in a small Silesian town and lives in Warsaw, where she works as a schoolteacher. She is actually a gym teacher, so she is happy to be able to offer gymnastics classes for senior citizens as a volunteer for the Warsaw organization mali bracia Ubogich (Small Brothers of the Poor).

Zofia Kondracka remembers her first long conversation with Marta at the Christmas party at mali bracia Ubogich. “Marta is such a warm, affectionate person. She can listen very attentively and likes to give me advice. We can learn a lot from one another.”

Zofia Kondracka was born in Warsaw and was forced as child to watch her home town being destroyed by the German occupiers down to its foundations. She lived her whole life in Warsaw and worked for the Polish airline LOT at the check in counter. Now, she enjoys having time to cook and to read the newspaper. She always enjoyed visiting her friends, but they are becoming fewer and fewer in old age. So Ms. Kondracka considers finding new friends like Marta a great gift.
Interview with Dr. Vladimir Ilyich Paniotto, sociologist, director of the Kiev International Institute for Sociology (KMIS)

In the fall of 2014, KMIS presented the results of its survey “Victims of National Socialism in the Perception of the Ukrainian Population”. The sociologists asked 2,600 people in over 100 municipalities of Ukraine, 900 of those surveyed were over 70.

What surprised you about this study?
First of all, the high number of people in Ukraine who consider themselves victims of National Socialism: around half a million! But on closer examination, we see that many of them were actually victims of the war and were only ages five to nine at the time. Considering only those who can be classified as victims of the Nazis is the narrower sense, former forced labours, concentration camp and ghetto prisoners and former prisoners of war, then there are around 200,000 people. That’s a more understandable and expected number. Our study also shows that over the next ten years many people from this age group will still be alive. And that’s good, for it attests to the increasing life expectancy in Ukraine.

What are the most important results?
The readiness of people to help one another, for me that’s one of the most important aspects of our society. 77 percent of the adult interview partners said that they are willing to help older people. But this verbal attitude is not implemented to the same extent in practice. While one fifth of the elderly have often or always received assistance in difficult situations, 42 percent of senior citizens have only rarely or never received assistance when needed. If the adults willing to help could be provided with more offerings and contacts to organizations that are active in the programmes of the Foundation EVZ, more of these people could actively get involved. Another important result is that the people who survived the Second World War see the former enemy’s initiatives toward reconciliation in a positive light. 65 percent of those questioned respect Germany for the help it provides for the victims of National Socialism in Ukraine.
And 74 percent of the people in Ukraine feel neither hate nor feelings of revenge for the former enemies. So at least the conflict during the Second World War seems to have been solved. This can allow us to hope that people despite everything can agree and finally achieve a world in which what happened can never be repeated. Unfortunately, the current conflict with Russia shows that this path is not quite as easy as we thought.

Had KMIS already carried out similar studies about victims of National Socialism?
   No, we never did anything like this before, although I am rather familiar with the problem and it is quite important to me and the subject is still quite current.

The projects funded by the foundation in the occupied and embattled Donbass region point again and again to the difficult situation of the survivors of Nazism. They are elderly people who are often physically not able to leave the area, or even their apartment. We have heard reports that project leaders have found their clients starving at home. Can you estimate how many victims of National Socialism remain in the region?
   That’s hard to say: before the start of war operation in Donbass, around 28,000 victims in the narrow sense lived in the Donbass region. One would have to research how many have stayed, for there is a great deal of migration. Around 700,000 and a million people have travelled to Russia, at least as many have fled to other areas of Ukraine: a total of over two million.

Was anyone in your own family or among your friends a victim of National Socialism?
   My mother survived the war as a refugee, where she worked and was then able to return. But my grandparents were shot in Romanov (formerly Dzerzhinsk) in the Shytomyr region in a kind of mini Babi Yar. My mother lives in Kiev, she will be turning 94 in February.

Does she consider herself a victim?
   I asked her just recently. Yes, of course: the war changed her entire life. In the mass shootings in Dzerzhinsk, not only were her parents killed, but another 21 family members were also murdered as well. Her parent’s house was plundered and then torn down. Before the war, she had everything: a family, parents, grandparents, cousins, a home. After the war, she had nothing: she lived among strangers. And yet she now has a positive view of Germany: the people that live there now are quite different than they were then.
At the end of 2010, the Foundation EVZ received a donation of five million euros from Deutsche Bahn AG to fund humanitarian projects and to finance the support of victims of National Socialism in select countries of Central and Eastern Europe. To implement the donation, a four-year funding programme was established called “Donations for the Victims of National Socialism”.

With the funds from this large donation, from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2014 the foundation approved funding for 27 projects in ten countries with a funding volume of 4.75 million euros and assisted their implementation and successful conclusion.

The various projects contributed decisively to improving the life situation of around 20,000 victims of National Socialism. The needy were provided with food, heating fuel, medicine, and the money for necessary operations. In addition, long-term care and supply structures, social centres, and meeting points were established and people from the direct vicinity were animated to participate in helping, understanding, and shaping the future.

The projects established as part of the funding programme Donations for the Victims of National Socialism were primarily directed at needy victims in Central and Eastern Europe near the end of their lives. Those reached were primarily forced labourers under the Nazis, but include survivors of the Leningrad Blockade, war orphans, and former Soviet prisoners of war as well. Due to the severity of the persecution, independent projects were established in favour of Jewish survivors and disadvantaged Roma. Four projects of Jewish organizations and ten projects in favour of Roma victims of National Socialism in Central and Eastern Europe reached around 2,600 Roma and around 2,000 Jewish survivors.
DONATION PROGRAMME IS CONTINUED WITH FUNDRAISING

Many committed donors have followed the example of Deutsche Bahn AG and have supported the humanitarian commitment of the Foundation EVZ for victims of National Socialism, especially in Eastern Europe. In 2014, two projects were implemented in Ukraine using donated funds. In Mirgorod, 40 Roma victims of National Socialism were supported with food, medicine, and legal counselling. In Chernihiv, 50 victims of National Socialism were supported with humanitarian assistance. Furthermore, they were given opportunity to spend their leisure time at a social centre.

Through the projects, the needs of victims of National Socialism, who often require assistance and care, could be ameliorated. This is an important inspiration for the Foundation EVZ to continue collecting donations and implementing assistance programmes.

Until the end of 2014, the Foundation EVZ has collected more than 130,000 euros with fundraising solely for the field of activity “Commitment to the Victims of National Socialism”. In 2015 they were used to support three organizations in Belarus and Russia in their commitment to former forced labourers, Roma survivors, and survivors of the Leningrad Blockade.
The Foundation EVZ understands its commitment to the victims of National Socialism as an international task. With the programme Partnerschaften für Opfer des Nationalsozialismus (Partnerships for the Victims of National Socialism), we support project partners in Central and Eastern Europe, Israel, and Germany, helping elderly victims of National Socialism to age in dignity. Since 2002, the foundation has supported around 200 projects as part of this program. In 2014, 20 projects received funding for several years, and around 50 projects were supported in their implementation.

In 2014, the foundation placed an emphasis on the Czech Republic and Germany. To identify opportunities for a new commitment for those persecuted by the Nazis, the foundation invited experts from both countries to workshop conversations in Prague and Berlin. In this way, two projects in the Czech Republic and four several-year projects in Germany could be identified. In addition, the foundation EVZ funded two conferences in Germany and one in the Czech Republic, where around 300 survivors of Nazi persecution and their family members could meet and around 350 experts who work psychologically or socially with those persecuted by the Nazis could network internationally.
PROJECT EXAMPLES IN GERMANY

According to estimates, around 100,000 people in Germany who were persecuted during the Nazi period are still alive today. Beyond a narrow circle of trusted friends and family, the people around them often know nothing of their traumatic experiences. Many of the survivors of Nazi persecution avoid all contact with officials, hospitals, or senior citizens’ homes.

Bundesverband Information und Beratung für NS-Verfolgte e.V. based in Cologne and the Hamburg association Verein Psychosoziale Arbeit mit Verfolgten e. V. belong (alongside Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland e. V.) to the few organizations in Germany that works explicitly with these older people. With the funding of the Foundation EVZ, they now are expanding their commitment for a two-year time frame.

- **Cafés for those persecuted by the Nazis in Düsseldorf and Recklinghausen:**
  the good experiences of the café in Cologne, the association established two similar offerings in Düsseldorf and Recklinghausen. A group of around 20 victims of National Socialism can meet there in a secure context.

- **Home visits and companion service for 60 victims of National Socialism in Hamburg**
  Around 20 volunteers help victims of National Socialism in mastering everyday tasks like shopping, take walks with the elderly people, or accompany them on trips to the doctor or events like the monthly encounter café. Victims of National Socialism who only rarely or never leave their apartments are visited by trained volunteers.

www.stiftung-evz.de/pons
NEW PROJECTS FOR VICTIMS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The Foundation EVZ approved three new projects supporting victims of National Socialism in the Czech Republic in 2014.

Cooperation between Czech Caritas and the association Živá paměť ("Living Memory")
To improve the social situation of victims of National Socialism in various regions of the Czech Republic, two NGOs have developed a joint project. Their experience complements one another very well: Živá paměť has already implemented many projects for victims of National Socialism and is familiar with their needs. The six regional organizations of Czech Caritas (Charita Česká republika) enrich the consortium with their professional social work and experience with senior citizens.
At 13 different locations, the organizations offer various psychosocial and therapeutic services for around 350 elderly people, especially victims of National Socialism, in either senior citizens’ homes and in a domestic environment. The offerings are available to individuals who are immobile or limited in their mobility, who need individual support in their everyday lives or need to be removed from their isolation. The elderly are brought into contact with one another and invited to cultural events. Counselling on social issues and assistance in filling out applications for social services complement the offerings. At senior citizen’s homes, the cognitive skills, physical mobility, and social interaction of the residents are improved using various therapeutic methods. Alongside occupational therapy and physiotherapy, psychological therapy and art therapy are offered, which are considered especially well suited to diagnosing and ameliorating any possible late effects of Nazi persecution.

Volunteers Support Victims of National Socialism in Prague
The Czech organization ŽIVOT 90 has been working for over 20 years towards improving the life situation of senior citizens with various offerings. In the framework of the new project to be funded, the focus is placed on assisting victims of National Socialism who live alone. Select volunteers, especially young senior citizens, visit these victims of National Socialism once a week, in the course of the project 40 tandems are planned. The goal of the project is on the one hand to visit Victims of National Socialism regularly to take them out of isolation, on the other hand young senior citizens are to be activated and inspired to engage with their own family histories, which were also shaped by Nazi injustice.

In addition, six large meetings were planned for the timeframe on various subjects (history, culture, etc.), where all the victims of National Socialism and volunteers can participate.

For volunteers and project workers, regular training is planned to support them in their work.

www.stiftung-evz.de/pons
I met people who suffered unbelievably in their youth and still have been able to retain the courage to live. Today they are very elderly. Most of them were very open and showed a positive attitude to life. It was rare for them to ask, irritated, what I really wanted. I think that each of them had a survival secret. Some of them confided their secrets with me.”

Ukrainian journalist Lesya Kharchenko used these words to describe her encounters with the survivors of Nazi persecution whose portraits she first showed in May 2013 at the Foundation EVZ. She met them in projects funded by the programme Treffpunkt Dialog in Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine.

STATIONS IN UKRAINE, RUSSIA, AND BELARUS

In 2014, versions of the exhibition translated into the countries’ respective languages travelled through Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus. Many of the organizations funded in the programme Treffpunkt Dialog presented the photographs to highlight the social situation of the survivors in their local context. At the same time, they draw attention to their own commitment to these people. At these events, the project participants report about their own fate and what the projects mean for them.
In the southern Ukrainian city of Odessa, the exhibition was opened on 11 April 2014, the day marking the anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camp Buchenwald, an important day for forced labourers under the Nazis. At the same time, the organizers were commemorating the seventieth anniversary of the liberation of Odessa. Other exhibition sites in Ukraine were the cities Charkiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, and Boryslav.

In Russia, the exhibition was shown in the Siberian city of Irkutsk. The editors of the journal Sudba (Fate) organized the exhibition opening. Beside Irkutsk, a municipal social centre in the Karelian town of Petrosavodsk, a foundation in Veliky Novgorod, the city library of Slavsk, and a middle school in Ropsha near Leningrad also showed the portraits. “The exhibition has proven to be a good instrument to make the activities of the projects known in a local context”, explains Olga Tetereva, programme director of CAF.

In Belarus, the portraits were shown in the city of Grodno, in the middle school of Molodetchno, and in at IBB Johannes Rau in Minsk.

**WE MOURN THE DEATH OF MAYA KUCHARSKA**

Maya Kucharska from Kiev suffered a dual fate of persecution that moved us profoundly. After being deported and subjected to forced labour at Daimler-Benz, she was condemned to ten years of prison in the Gulag as a “collaborator”. Unfortunately, Ms. Kucharska, who was cared for by the team and volunteers at the International Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Wars and Totalitarian Regimes, died in September 2014. We are grateful that she told us her story and we will remember her fondly.

Vera Ermakova, chairwoman, Residents of Besieged Leningrad and Galina Kupyanskaya, association member
The mobilization of young volunteers in Central and Eastern Europe stands for the dialogue between the generations with victims of National Socialism.

In 2013/14, the association Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste e. V. (asf) sent a total of 13 young people who worked for a year for humanitarian projects in the realm of commitment to the victims of National Socialism in Poland, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, and the Czech Republic.

In November, they reported at the Foundation EVZ on their experiences in the projects: the volunteers visit two or more victims of National Socialism regularly to help them in their housework, to accompany them on errands, or just to chat over a cup of tea. “Dialogue between the generations is important for everyone”, says Franziska, who cared for “clients” of the NGO Živá paměť in České Budějovice. In light of the age difference, she thought beforehand that friendship would be impossible. But one of the elderly women became a friend: both enjoy dancing, and they even have the same shoe size. The 82-year-old Ms. P. got out her tap dancing shoes and taught Franziska how to tap dance.

For two of the volunteers sent to the Ukraine, the year was quite turbulent due to the critical situation. Lauritz wanted to spend his volunteer year in Charkiv in eastern Ukraine, caring for two former forced labourers via the ASF. But after just half a year, he was forced to leave in March. ASF brought him back to Kiev for security reasons, and he then worked for a month in an emergency hospital at St. Catherine’s Church, where those injured from the Euromaidan were cared for. This was followed by a few weeks at the ASF office in Berlin, until Lauritz was able to return to Kiev for another project. That all made for volunteer year that demanded a great deal of mobility and flexibility.
For the individuals cared for, the volunteer services not only provide concrete assistance in everyday life, but also represent a highlight in their oft lonely everyday lives. The young and old can, despite the cultural and language limitations, come closer to one another and develop an understanding of their respective life situations. The work of the volunteers is complemented by a pedagogical programme that includes offerings in historical-political training. At national meetings, the volunteers share their experiences. The intercultural competence acquired during the volunteer year and the historical awareness gained in engaging with Nazism generally shapes the choice of profession and the further life choices of the young men and women involved.

In September 2014, once again 14 young volunteers travelled to these ASF projects with the support of the Foundation EVZ. Before their departure, they were informed about the history of the foundation’s emergence and its funding activities.
The funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog funds projects each year in Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia. Its goal is to improve the life situation of victims of National Socialism. By funding appropriate projects, victims of National Socialism are to be provided with more social participation and better recognition and honouring of their fates and life paths.

The programme is implemented by three organizations that on the one hand fulfil the administrative tasks, from issuing the call projects to the final accounting and consult and assist the local organizations. At the same time, they work for the needs of the victims of National Socialism in their respective country and participate as experts in conferences and commissions.

In the framework of the programme, a total of 283 one or two year projects have been funded since 2009. In the project activities in 2014, around 6000 victims of National Socialism and 2000 other elderly individuals were involved and younger people were involved in almost every project. This year, a total of 47 projects were funded in Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine, making up a total sum of around 1.4 million euros.

THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

The war in Ukraine also had impacts on the projects funded. Several projects in the Donbass region (Luhansk and Donezk) had to interrupt or cease their activities. The office of the project Beam of Hope in Stanyzja Luhanska was destroyed in bombing. Two organizations from Crimea ended their work prematurely on 31 December 2014, since due to the Russian annexation they could no longer operate as a Ukrainian organization, but were subject to Russian NGO laws. In the fall of 2014, the organization Turbota pro Litnih v Ukraini provided humanitarian assistance for needy victims of National Socialism and other senior citizens near Altshevsk and Horlivka, two cities in the embattled Donbass region, with the financial assistance of the foundation and with the help of committed volunteers.
PROJECT EXAMPLE:

Centre for Victims of National Socialism, with Leisure Activities and Counselling

The regional Jewish welfare organization Chasdei Neshama (Mercy) implements the project with the assistance of the local association Juvenile Victims of Fascism. In this cooperation, 60 Jewish Shoah survivors and 60 non-Jewish victims of National Socialism participated in the activities at the Jewish welfare centre.

Activities

The centre provides appropriate leisure activities for the elderly. A theatre group, singing and cinema evenings, joint meals and excursions, gymnastics, consulting by psychologists and doctors belong to the offerings in question. The participants meet in small groups of six. They choose someone to organize the next meeting and to call the others. In this way, the project workers are informed if a participant is not feeling well or needs support, and can respond accordingly, organizing home visits or trips to the hospital.

The eleven-year old Anastasia about her grandma:

I want to write about my grandma. Her name is Valentina Dmitriyevna, she is 70 years old and was in a camp as a child. Just recently she was invited to a meeting at the Jewish centre. At first, she didn’t want to go, but then she went and she liked it a lot. She liked it because you can learn at the centre for free and make things. In addition, there are doctors there who tell you how you can help yourself. At the centre, you can also sing, dance, or play piano. I think it’s great. You can always learn something new! At this great centre, my grandma meets her friends, she goes there once a week to relax. We have something like that in Tula, I like that a lot!

For more information in Russian, see:
http://mestovstrechi.info/ru/rossiya/proekti/blog?year=2013 (Projekt Nr. 16)
http://www.cafrussia.ru/page/tulskii_oblastnoi_vereiskii_blagotvoritelnyi_centr_hasdei_neshama_miloserdie

Scan the QR code and view project examples and films on Facebook.
PRESS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS, EVENTS

TEAM, PRESS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Dietrich Wolf Fenner (head)
Eugen Esau
Heide Lübge/Gudrun Herz
Veronika Sellner (events)
Sanne Kaperlat (fundraising)
Sophie Heller, Grzegorz Lechowski and Paula Mangold (student aids)
Since the summer of 2013, the Foundation EVZ has been expanding its fundraising activities. Most importantly, donations are being collected for the survivors of Nazism in Central and Eastern Europe to provide them with a life in dignity. As children or young people, they suffered serious violations of their human rights, were discriminated against, persecuted, deported, and now they are old women and men in need of our support. A study carried out by the foundation in 2014 found that in Ukraine alone 100,000 victims of National Socialism were still alive.

Our goal is to gather an additional two million euros for the foundation’s humanitarian work in 2014 and the commemoration year 2015. We invite private individuals and German companies to help us achieve this goal and to set a sign for solidarity.

In the spring, members of our team here at the foundation actively worked for the campaign by running the Berlin Half Marathon. The message was clearly legible on their running shirts: “Donate for the Victims of National Socialism”. A great initiative to bring attention to the goal of the foundation!

We also asked for financial contributions with two calls for donations and a request for support in the magazine *Chrismon*. A thank you dinner at the start of the campaign Ich lebe noch! with one of the survivors, Regina Lavrovich, brought potential and future donors together on 16 October.
In many individual discussions and at lectures, the intention of the foundation was explained and multiplicators were sought out. An informational brochure on our humanitarian work features numerous examples of our projects.

This was supported by statements:

Maria Pavlina told me of her deportation as if it had been just last week. Then she said: “Thank you for not forgetting us.” That bowled me over. We both cried. For in reality, she knows that she has been forgotten in her suffering. My donation did something for the better, and I liked that. But at the same time I was ashamed, I could have thought of doing something earlier.

Christine Holch, donor and editor of Chrismon

Millions of people were killed in the twelve horrible years of Nazism. The Nazi period also shaped the lives of countless others. Many of the victims still live today in poverty. The Foundation EVZ was established late in the day to take care of those forgotten and to support them at the end of their lives: a task where it is not only worth helping, but is almost a duty of those born later. That’s why I ask you to help the humanitarian assistance of the Foundation EVZ.

Ruth Weiss, who fled from the Nazis in 1936 to South Africa, is a business journalist, writer, and human rights activist.

Although our fundraising programme is still in its initial stages, it has taken on steam more quickly than expected. In 2014, 430,000 euros were donated for the foundation’s humanitarian activities and human rights work. We are especially happy about our cooperation with Dreilinden gGmbH and a large donation from the Deutsche Post-Stiftung.

Use special occasions, birthdays, company jubilees, or start a benefit concert: with your donation you can help many of the victims of National Socialism late in their lives. Together we can achieve the goal of two million additional euros.
FOUNDATION EVZ CAMPAIGN “ICH LEBE NOCH!” (I’M STILL ALIVE) KICKS OFF

To raise attention for the victims of National Socialism, the Foundation EVZ began the campaign “Ich lebe noch!” (I’m Still Alive), which was conceived by the press and public relations team for the commemorative years 2014 and 2015. The campaign presentation for the press was held on 16 October with Regina Lavrovitch at the headquarters of the foundation.

The team began planning the campaign “I’m Still Alive!” in the spring of 2014. The idea was to gain six individuals who are closely linked to the work of the foundation, participants in funded projects, project organizers, or recipients of funds from the compensation programmes. All were asked for a quotation that sums up their experience with Nazi tyranny in their own biographies. Historical pictures were combined with research about their individual life stories. Eugen Esau and Dietrich Wolf Fenner realized the campaign with the help of graphic designer Katrin Surberg and public relations expert Kevin Kemp. Six survivors show their faces and tell their stories.

Regina Alexandrovna Lavrovitch was ten years old when she was deported in 1944 from Minsk across Europe to Cherbourg, France. As a Soviet child, she was considered subhuman in the Nazi ideology. Too small and weak for the build the Atlantic Wall, she was compelled to clean the forced labourer’s camp and do work in the kitchen. Regina Lavrovich survived Nazi forced labour. Today, she lives in Minsk and is chair of the International Union of Former Juvenile Prisoners of Fascism Dolya in Belarus.

Regina Lavrovitch is one of the faces of the Foundation EVZ campaign, and presented the campaign “Ich lebe noch!” together with member of the board Günter Saathoff and the press and public relations team. The campaign began with the support of Wall AG in Berlin on 20 October and on the website www.ich-lebe-noch.info.
On 2–3 October 2014, the central ceremony for the Day of German Unity took place in Hannover. At the festival, the Foundation EVZ welcomed those interested with a stand near the Neues Rathaus and Niedersächsisches Landesmuseum.

For two days, the exhibition “Bückeburg unterm Hakenkreuz – NS-Zwangsarbeit im ländlichen Raum” by the project group Zwangsarbeit e. V. was on view. This project group has been funded by the foundation since 2009, and has put on several exhibitions: www.projektgruppe-zwangsarbeit.de

Foundation employees informed the public about our funding in the three fields of activity: the critical examination of history, working for human rights, and commitment to the victims of National Socialism.

Beside all the federal states, all the main constitutional organs were represented at the event: Bundesrat, Bundestag, and the government. The festivities marking the Day of German Unity take place to celebrate German reunification on 3 October each year in a different state capital. In 2014, Lower Saxony was the host of the festivities.
JANUARY

16 January 2014 · Berlin · Kalkscheune
Prize Award Ceremony, Europeans for Peace
In the ninth year of funding, the Foundation EVZ commended three outstanding international youth projects for their work on the subject of human rights in the past and present. The school and youth groups from Germany, Israel, Russia, and the Czech Republic showed in an exemplary way how we can all work for human rights. At the awards ceremony, the prize winners gave insight into their projects.

23 January 2014 · Berlin · Foundation EVZ
Historical Eyewitnesses in Conversation: “Verrückt vor Hunger! Überlebende der Leningrader Blockade erinnern sich”
(Mad with Hunger: Survivors of the Leningrad Blockade Remember)
To mark the 70th anniversary of the ending of the Leningrad Blockade, an eyewitness conversation was held in which Valentina Kazarova (b. 1926) and Margarita Petrova (b. 1937) recalled this Nazi crime. They reported to the audience how a life is possible after the catastrophe and how important support from Germany still is today. The foundation supports three social projects for survivors in today’s St. Petersburg, and both women are participants in these projects. Their memories were accompanied by the chamber music ensemble Memorial e.V. This event of the programme Donations for Victims of National Socialism was part of the event series “Victims of the German War of Annihilation in the East”.

24 January 2014 · Oświęcim, Poland
International Youth Meeting Centre in Oświęcim/Auschwitz · Conference: “Remembrance and Human Rights”
Together with KARTA and Humanity in Action, the international youth meeting centre invited education experts to a conference in Oświęcim. A focus was placed on the following questions: how can human rights education and remembering the Nazi crimes be combined productively in educational projects? And what questions specific to each country are relevant? The event was funded as part of the programme Menschen Rechte Bilden.

29 January 2014 · Berlin · Kino Central
Film screening: No Comrades, a documentary by Beate Lehr-Metzger
In cooperation with Gegen Vergessen – Für Demokratie e.V., Foundation EVZ showed the documentary film No Comrades. The film deals with the mass death of Soviet prisoners of war in the winter of 1941 and 1942. The film was followed by a discussion with the director Beate Lehr-Metzger. Film critic Knut Elstermann led the discussion. The film presentation took place in the framework of the cooperation series: “Victims of the German War of Annihilation in the East”.

The series is held in cooperation with Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste e.V., Deutsch-Russisches Museum Berlin-Karlshorst, Gegen Vergessen – Für Demokratie e.V., and the Stiftung Denkmal für die ermordeten Juden Europas.

The foundation supported the following events, in individual cases with the help of cooperation partners.
FEbruary

16–21 February 2014 · Krzyżowa, Poland
Workshop: MICC School
At Model International Criminal Court (MICC), 49 young people and their teachers from Germany, Poland, the U.S., and Israel take on the roles of the defence, the prosecution, the judges, and observing media in cases tried before the International Criminal Court. The programme is complemented with training sessions, lectures, eyewitness conversations, and the creation of a newspaper and a film. The MICC workshops are funded as part of the programme Menschen Rechte Bilden.

21 February 2014 · Dormagen
Leibniz-Gymnasium
25–26 February 2014 · Cologne Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum · ‘Zeitzeugentheater’
In February 2013, Bundesverband für NS-Verfolgte e.V. initiated a project of historical eyewitness theatre with Leibniz-Gymnasium Dormagen, Begegnungszentrum Köln-Chorweiler der Synagogen-Gemeinde Köln, and the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation Inc. Under the direction of a theatre pedagogue and a psychologist, ten victims of Nazi persecution and ten young people created a work of theatre based on the life stories of these eyewitnesses to history. The project was conceived with the support of Israeli partners from JOIN-ESHEL in Jerusalem. The productions were presented on 21 February in Dormagen and on 25–26 February in Cologne.

MaRch

4 March 2014 · Berlin · Konzerthaus Berlin
Concert: Defiant Requiem
After twelve years of performances in the U.S., Europe, and Israel, Jüdisches Museum Berlin presented the German premiere of Defiant Requiem: Verdi’s Messa da Requiem at Theresienstadt Ghetto at Berlin’s Konzerthaus, together with the Defiant Requiem Foundation. Under the direction of conductor Murry Sidlin, Konzerthausorchester Berlin, Chor des Jungen Ensembles Berlin, and Vokalakademie Berlin played an unabridged version of Giuseppe Verdi’s requiem. The concert was complemented by videos of eyewitnesses, recitations, and segments from propaganda films. Iris Berben and Ulrich Matthes read the original texts. The Foundation EVZ funded the concert and the auxiliary programme.

11 March 2014 · Berlin
TiYATROM – Türkisches Theater Berlin
Theatrical performance: Ännes letzte Reise
The Foundation EVZ presented the award-winning play Ännes letzte Reise twice. The play on the subject of “euthanasia” under the Nazis was the first guest performance of the youth theatre Theater mini-art in Berlin. The production, using biographical material and projections, tells the story of the life and persecution of Änne Lehnker, who was murdered in March 1940 as so-called “inferior ballast” in Grafeneck. More than 216,000 people fell victim to the Nazis’ “euthanasia” murders inside German borders alone. After the performances, the actors Crischa Ohler and Sjef van der Linden as well as Änne’s niece Sigrid Falkenstein took part in an audience discussion. Dr. Ralf Possekel and Sonja Böhme from the Foundation EVZ lead the discussion at both events. The play was funded as part of the programme Menschen Rechte Bilden.

13 March 2014 · Leipzig
Bürgerverein Waldstraßenviertel e.V.
Reading: “Das gelbe Stück Stoff”
In the framework of the Leipzig Book Fair in 2014, Swedish writer Jovan Rajs presented his autobiographical work Das gelbe Stück Stoff, a Jewish history in Nazi Europe. Jovan Rajs was born in the Yugoslavian Banat region. His parents and his brothers were shot or gassed for being Jews by the German occupiers. He was hidden and then deported from the ghetto in Szeged, Hungary via the forced labour camp in Haag, Austria to Bergen-Belsen. On 8 May 1945, he experienced the end of the war in Theresienstadt. In 1968, he emigrated to Sweden, where he became famous as a professor for forensic medicine and as an expert in spectacular murder cases. The book project was funded by the foundation.

14–15 March 2014 · Berlin · Vaganten Bühne
16 March 2014 · Celle · Schlosstheater
Theatre performances: “Das gelbe Stück Stoff”
The guest performance of “Das gelbe Stück Stoff” of Theater Lederman from Stockholm tells the life story of Jovan Rajs: his childhood in the Yugoslavian Banat, his hiding place in Belgrade, life
in the ghetto in Szeged, Hungary, forced labour in Haag, Austria, his deportation to the concentration camp Bergen-Belsen, and his experience of the end of the war in Theresienstadt in 1945. On three evenings, Rajs stood on the stage and presented his memories to the German audience.

25 March 2014 · Berlin · Deutsches Historisches Museum, book presentation · Erinnern an Zwangsarbeit

The collected volume Erinnern an Zwangsarbeit was presented, a book that presents the experiences gained in the project Zwangsarbeit 1939–1945 and links them to the current state of research. Prof. Alexander Koch, president of Stiftung Deutsches Historisches Museum, and Dr. Martin Salm, chair of the board at the Foundation EVZ, greeted the audience. The book presentation was followed by a discussion with the editor Prof. Nicolas Apostolopoulos, head of the Center für Digitale Systeme (CeDiS), and Dr. Cord Pagenstecher, historian, Freie Universität Berlin, with the filmmaker Lorettz Walz on the digitalization of the memory of Nazi persecution and forced labour. Sonja Begalke from the Foundation EVZ led the discussion.

26–31 March 2014 · Krzyżowa, Poland

Workshop: MICC University

53 students and their teachers from Germany, Poland, Israel, the U.S., Georgia, Canada, Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Netherlands, Ukraine, Lebanon, Estonia, Serbia, and Myanmar examined cases at the International Criminal Court. The goal of the workshop is to communicate knowledge about humanitarian international law and the protection of human rights on a university level.

APRIL

1 April 2014 · Freiburg · Basler Hof

Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”

As part of the event series on the subject “Children in the Second World War: Traces that Lead to Today”, the exhibition “Like A Breath of Fresh Air: Victims of National Socialism from Eastern Europe in the Programme ‘Treffpunkt Dialog’” was presented in Freiburg. This exhibition shows people whose paths through life were defined by the Second World War and German tyranny. It was on view from 1–30 April in the foyer of Basler Hof (Regierungspräsidium Freiburg).

8 April 2014 · Berlin · Aufbauhaus, Moritzplatz

Discussion and concert: “Gestatten, das sind wir!”

In the framework of the cultural week “Gestatten, das sind wir!” cosponsored by the Foundation EVZ, at Aufbau Haus located at Berlin’s Moritzplatz, this discussion and concert programme took place. Claudia Roth, Vice President of the German Bundestag, Dr. Martin Salm, Chairman of the Board, Foundation EVZ, Melanie Weiß, Verband Deutscher Sinti und Roma, Moritz Pankok, Galerie Kai Dikhas, and the musician Dejan Ivanovic all took part in a podium discussion on the subject of Sinti und Roma in Europe. A concert programme followed with the musicians Janko Lauenberger, Manolito Franz, Aaron Weiß, and Oana Chitu.

9–15 April 2014 · Wiesbaden

goEast – Festival des mittel- und osteuropäischen Films

The 14th goEast presented once again the entire diversity of Eastern European film in Wiesbaden from 9–15 April. Together with the Foundation EVZ, goEast called for submissions for the documentary film prize Erinnerung und Zukunft, that for seven years has honoured contributions that critically and constructively deal with current social developments or historical injustice. The winners of the last goEast documentary film prize Erinnerung und Zukunft (10,000 euros) was Eszter Hajdú’s film Judgment in Hungary (2013). The jury honoured the film as a “courageous concept of the art of documentary narrative” and a “committed position in exploring an important matter of our joint European future”.

10 April 2014 · Prora

Exhibition opening: “Bedrängte Existenz”

On 10 April, the photography exhibition Bedrängte Existenz – Überlebende Roma des NS-Terrors in der Ukraine of the Stiftung EVZ was opened at Dokumentationszentrum Prora e. V. The exhibition included 16 portraits by photographer Birgit Meixner showing Roma who survived German tyranny in Ukraine during the Second World War. The exhibit describes their lives during the war, the post-war period, and their everyday lives today. The projects supporting suffering Roma were funded by the EVZ programme Donations for Victims of National Socialism.
10 April 2014 · Odessa, Ukraine
Jüdisches Kulturzentrum · Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
They survived concentration camps, saw how their villages were burned to the ground by the Germans, were forced labourers or partisans. Nine eyewitnesses to history from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine report in the exhibition presented here of their fates under the German occupation and what the funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog means for them. The journalist and exhibition curator Lesya Kharchenko and Leonid Govsky, once a child prisoners at the concentration camp Buchenwald, were present at the opening. In the two-week exhibition, 200 visitors attended.

12 April 2014 · Berlin · DTK-Wasserturm
Poetry Slam: “I Am – You Are”
Under the title “I Am – You Are”: Poetry Slam, Spoken Word und Protestmusik aus Jerusalem und Berlin”, young artists from Jerusalem and Berlin presented texts on the (im)possibilities of peaceful coexistence. Motivated by the desire for a richer, more colourful and more just world, they fight against discrimination, prejudice, and exclusion. The project took place in the framework of the programme EUROPEANS FOR PEACE.

14 April 2014 · Petrozavodsk, Russian Federation
Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
In the Karelian town of Petrozavodsk, the Russian version of the exhibition “Like a Breath of Fresh Air” was on view from 14 April to 21 May. The exhibition by journalist Lesya Kharchenko shows nine figures of a generation from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine, that survived German concentration camps, had to see their villages burned to the ground by the Germans, were forced labourers or partisans.

Country finals, “Jugend debattiert international”
15 April 2014 · Riga, Latvia
16 April 2014 · Tallinn, Estonia
24 April 2014 · Moscow, Russia
25 April 2014 · Vilnius, Lithuania
The country finals of Jugend debattiert international were, as every year, the highlight of the competition in the respective project countries. Jugend debattiert international is a competition for German students from secondary schools in Central and Eastern Europe. The project seeks to inspire participants to critically engage with politically and socially relevant subjects and thus provides a contribution to political education. The international project takes place in cooperation with Goethe-Institute, Gemeinnützige Hertie-Stiftung, and Zentralstelle für das Auslands- schulwesen.

23–24 April 2014 · Minsk, Belarus
State University of Belarus
Exhibition: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
The exhibition on the victims of National Socialism from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine was on view during the two-day international conference “The Civilian Population in Archival Materials, Studies, and Memories” at the Faculty of History, State University of Belarus, Minsk. More than 100 visitors attended the exhibition.

MAY

2 May 2014 · Berlin
Deutsch-Russisches Museum Berlin-Karlshorst
Theatre performance: Die Hungerplankonferenz
Historikerlabor e. V. re-enacted the historic Hunger Plan Conference from 2 May 1941 in a piece of documentary theatre at Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen. This was the premiere performance of the second part of the documentary theatre trilogy The Invention and Annihilation of “Subhumans”: The Organized Murder of Jews, Slavs, Sinti, and Roma by Nazi Germany. The members of Historikerlabor each presented a certain historical figure who was involved in war preparations. They spoke from the perspective of today’s historian using historical sources about the individual in question, but did not take on the role itself. The premiere of the play was on 2 May, and five performances followed until 11 May.

3–10 May 2014 · Krzyżowa, Poland and Berlin
Workshop: Micc School (World)
In the framework of MICC Model International Criminal Court, 71 young people from Argentina, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Uganda, and Vietnam simulated in role-play a case at the International Criminal Court. The project was funded by the programme Menschen Rechte Bilden.
6 May 2014 · Berlin · Foundation EVZ
Exhibition: “Überleben durch Kunst. Aquarelle von Franciszek Znamirowski”

To mark the 69th anniversary of liberation from the Nazis, the Foundation EVZ presented drawings and watercolours by the Polish forced labourer Franciszek Znamirowski. The exhibition was opened on 6 May with an introduction by art historian Michaela Haibl. The artworks show everyday life in the concentration camp Gusen, where Polish resistance fighter Znamirowski had to build airplane parts as part of wartime production at Messerschmidt. In March 1944 he gave his German foreman an album with ten watercolours. In the “hell of Gusen”, the foreman Karl Seider seems to have been one of the few who showed his humanity. The Foundation EVZ, Regensburger Universität, and Staatliche Bibliothek Regensburg showed the rediscovered watercolours until 6 June in the foyer of the foundation headquarters.

9 May 2014 · Berlin · Foundation EVZ
Opening reception: MICC World : A Simulation of the International Criminal Court

The Foundation EVZ welcomed more that 80 young people and their teachers from Germany, Poland, the Netherlands, Argentina, Portugal, Uganda, South Africa, and Vietnam at a reception held in the foyer of the foundation’s headquarters. Dr. Maja Nenadović, Anne Frank Haus, held the opening lecture, speaking to the participants of MICC World about her experience growing up during the war and as a refugee. The MICC workshops were funded as part of the Menschen Rechte Bilden programme.

15 May 2014 · Dessau-Roßlau · Bauhaus Dessau

Dessau was not only the location of the Bauhaus, but also a centre for the German armaments industry and the place with Zyklon B was manufactured. In spring of 1945, the city was largely destroyed in bombing attacks. Until September 7, the exhibition showed the janus-faced heritage of the city, illustrated with photographs by Henri Cartier-Bresson, who himself was a prisoner in Germany. His photographs show French forced labourers and prisoners of war on their way home.

16 May 2014 · Berlin · Gehörlosenzentrum Friedrichstraße · Film screening:
“4 Sprachen + 2 Länder = 1 Sendung”

At Gehörlosenzentrum Berlin, the result of German-Russian youth project funded was presented as part of the EUROPEANS FOR PEACE programme. The group of deaf and hearing children from the youth club Sinneswandel Berlin, General School No. 92, and Boarding School for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired No. 7 in Volvograd presented their joint TV news programme, which reported about their experience with discrimination, to great applause. The goal of the project was to exchange ideas about exclusion and discrimination across linguistic and cultural barriers. In the process, the young people also looked at the history of their countries.

Country Finals, “Jugend debattiert international”
16 May 2014 · Kiev, Ukraine
22 May 2014 · Prague, Czech Republic
28 May 2014 · Budapest, Hungary
30 May 2014 · Warsaw, Poland

This year’s country finals of Jugend debattiert international offered once again exciting final debates. On 16 May, the young people debated whether an mandatory identification should be introduced for Ukrainian police officers. In Prague, the debate topic on 22 May was: “Should the presidential amnesty be removed from the Czech constitution?” The top two candidates from each country made it on to the international finals in Warsaw, to present their excellent German language skills and to compete against the winners of all the other country finals.

25 May 2014 · Veliky Novgorod, Russian Federation
Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”

For three weeks, the Russian version of the travelling exhibition “Like a Breath of Fresh Air” was on view in Veliky Novgorod. With the nine individuals portrayed, visitors could get an image of the fate of elderly from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine whose lives were defined by the German occupation of their home countries.

View MICC World Film (May 2014)
28 May 2014 · Prague, Czech Republic · HAMU, Bohuslav-Martinů-Saal  
Concert for Survivors of Nazism
This classical concert was organized by the organization Živá paměť together with artists from Prague's HAMU (Academy of Musical Arts) in the framework of the project “Treffpunkte” for victims of National Socialism in the Czech Republic, funded by the foundation. The annual meeting seeks to honor the Czech victims of National Socialism and to draw attention to the current life situation and the needs of survivors.

JUNE
5 June 2014 · Warsaw, Poland · Country Finals “Jugend debattiert international”
The last of the country finals of Jugend debattiert international was held in Warsaw. The top two candidates qualified for the international finals, which were also held in Poland.

12 June 2014 · Berlin · Foundation EVZ · Podium Discussion: “Why Mass Graves? Sites of the Nazi Extermination of Roma in Rumania and Ukraine”
The research on the Nazi persecution of Roma reveals many “blank spots”. This was one finding from this colloquium of the annihilation of the Roma in eastern and Central Europe, that the Foundation EVZ hosted in 2013 with the help of various partners. As a consequence, the Foundation EVZ invited representatives from two funded projects that studied the Nazi persecution of Roma in Romania and Ukraine to Berlin. Yahad – In Unum und das Ukrainain Centre for Holocaust Research presented their approaches and discussed them with a Roma representative. The podium discussion took place in the framework of the funding programme “Forced Labour and Forgotten Victims”.

20 June 2014 · Slavsk, Kaliningrad Region, Russian Federation · Library, Sklavsky District · Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
The Russian version of the travelling exhibition funded by the programme Treffpunkt Dialog opened at its next station in Slavsk in Kalingrad Region, where it was on view for a month to the users of the District Library.

27 June 2014 · Skidel, Grodno Region, Belarus City Library · Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
The Belarusian version of the travelling exhibition was shown on 27 June at Skidel City Library. The goal of the women’s organization Nadeshda, funded as part of the programme Treffpunkt Dialog, was to show the exhibition on victims of National Socialism in Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine in rural areas as well.

JULY
1 July 2014 · Prague, Czech Republic · Prague Castle · Exhibition opening: “Forced Labour: The Germans, Forced Labourers, and the War”
The international travelling exhibition “Forced Labour: The Germans, Forced Labourers, and the War” was opened on 1 July at a festive act at Prague Castle. The Czech version of the exhibition was held under the patronage of the presidents of the Czech Republic and Germany. Alongside the exhibition, numerous additional events took place, including eyewitness conversations with former Czech forced labourers. The exhibition was planned by Stiftung Gedenkstätten Buchenwald und Mittelbau-Dora. For the Prague exhibition, the Deutsch-Tschechische Zukunftsfonds joined as a partner in supporting the exhibition. The exhibition was on view from 2 July to 31 October.

2 July 2014 · Berlin · Martin-Luther-Kirche Konzert: “Es fuhr ein Zug nach Sobibor”
During the memorial concert, Jules Schelvis, a survivor of the extermination camps Sobibor and Auschwitz and seven other concentration camps, spoke of his 72 hour “trip” to the extermination camp Sobibor. His eyewitness report was accompanied by music played by the Dutch National Symphony and Chamber Orchestra. The event was visually complemented by historical images from the archive of the Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision. The concert in Berlin was the second in a series that led from Amsterdam through Berlin to Sobibor. The third and last concert took place in Lublin, near the camp. These three concerts symbolized Schelvis’ “trip”. On 1 June 1943, Schelvis along with his wife Rachel and 3,000 other Jews from the Netherlands were transported in cattle cars to the extermination
Jules was one of the 81 young men chosen as "work Jews" for Poland and Germany, and was the only one to survive.

**AUGUST**

2–3 August 2014 · Oświęcim, Poland

**Memorial: Remembering the 70th Anniversary of the Liquidation of the So-Called Gypsy Camp at Auschwitz Concentration Camp**

The murder of the last 2,900 surviving Sinti and Roma on the night of 2–3 August 1944 was remembered at this event. The Foundation EVZ made it possible for a delegation of German Sinti and Roma who survived the Nazi persecution to take part in the ceremony. In the framework of the funding programme EUROPEANS FOR PEACE, Amaro Drom e.V., an intercultural organization of Roma and non-Roma, allowed young people from Macedonia, the Czech Republic, and Germany to participate.

17 August 2014 · Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina

**Film screening: Dokumentarfilmpreis “Erinnerung und Zukunft” unterwegs – Zelim’s Confession (2013)**

For the seventh time, the international event series Documentary Prize "Erinnerung und Zukunft" went on tour: goEast: Festival of Central and Eastern European Film and the Foundation EVZ presented at Sarajevo Filmfestival the competition entry Zelim’s Confession (Deutschland 2013). The screening was followed by a conversation with director Natalya Mikhaylova.

24–27 August 2014 · Berlin · Conference: "Justice, Respect and Peace": 25th World Conference of the Child Survivor

For the 25th anniversary of its founding, the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust & Descendants held its annual conference for the first time ever in Berlin. Around 300 participants from 18 countries dealt in various workshops with the consequences of the Holocaust – and were also given a positive impression of modern Germany. German President Joachim Gauck was the patron of the conference.

26 August 2014 · Charkiv, Ukraine · V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University

**Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”**

The Ukrainian version of the exhibition on nine eyewitnesses from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine, held as part of the funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog, was held at the library of Kharkiv National University. The opening was attended by the journalist and exhibition curator Lesya Kharchenko, representatives of the city government, and Igor Malizky, former prisoner of the concentration camps Theresienstadt, Auschwitz, Mauthausen, and Linz. The exhibition was on view until 18 September.

26 August 2014 · Berlin · Foundation EVZ

**Lecture: “Zwangsarbeit in Dessau. Fotografien von Henri Cartier-Bresson”**

Dessau was one of the most important sites for the production of armaments in the Third Reich as the home of the Junkers airplane and motor plant. When American and Russian troops met here in 1945, Henri Bresson filmed and photographed prisoners of war and forced labourers on their return home. The photographs and films on the one hand and the development and destruction of Dessau were explored in the exhibition Dessau 1945: Modernism Destroyed at Bauhaus Dessau, funded by the Foundation EVZ. The curator of the exhibition, Philipp Oswalt, spoke about Dessau’s dual heritage as the city the Bauhaus and a site of armaments production. The filmmaker and journalist Thomas Tode analyzed Cartier-Bresson’s work, looking at sequences from the film The Return. The event took place in the framework of the funding programme Forced Labour and Forgotten Victims.

26–28 August 2014 · Erkner bei Berlin · Workshop: “Facing Anti-Semitism and Antiziganism in Europe”

Institut für interdisziplinäre Konflikt- und gewaltforschung (IKg) at Universität Bielefeld in cooperation with the Foundation EVZ organized a workshop with 17 experts from Europe and Israel on developing a several year project on the subject of “Anti-Semitism and Antiziganism in Europe”.

26 August 2014 · Charkiv, Ukraine · V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University

**Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”**
1 September 2014 · Berlin · Lecture Hall, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin · Lecture and podium discussion “1 September 1939: The Second World War in European Memory”

In 2014, the outbreak of the First World War 100 years ago was at the foreground of public memory, and the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall was also celebrated. The 75th anniversary of the start of the Second World War, in contrast, was given short shrift. Historian Prof. Ulrich Herbert, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Prof. Nicholas Stargardt, Oxford University, and Włodzimierz Borodziej, University of Warsaw, discussed at the invitation of the Foundation EVZ whether German and European memorial culture has changed. The discussion was led by journalist Stefan Reinecke. The event took place as a part of the series “Victims of the German War of Annihilation in the East” and was organized by the Foundation EVZ.

1 September 2014 · Brandenburg an der Havel · Brandenburger Theater

The play, funded as part of the programme Menschen Rechte Bilden was performed three times by Theater mini-art in Berlin and Brandenburg to mark the 75th anniversary of the attack against Poland. The play tells the story of Änne Lehnker-ing, who was persecuted and murdered according to the Nazi racial hygiene as “inferior ballast”. The discussion was then led by Ingrid von Randow, Lebenshilfe Berlin and Rainald Purmann, Parität Berlin. The two actors Crischa Ohler and Sjef van der Linden, as well as Änne’s niece Sigrid Falkenstein, joined in the discussion. The organizer of the theatre performance was the Gedenkstätte für die Opfer der Euthanasie-Morde in Brandenburg an der Havel.

1 September 2014 · Irkutsk, Russian Federation · Headquarters of the newspaper Sudba

Exhibition opening: “Like A Breath of Fresh Air”

For the whole month of September, the Russian version of the travelling exhibition was on view at the headquarters of the magazine Sudba in the Siberian town of Irkutsk. Sudba means “fate”. The visitors could learn about the fate of nine victims of National Socialism from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine who participate in the funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog.

1 September 2014 · Grodno, Belarus · Exhibition opening: “Like A Breath of Fresh Air”

From September to November, the Belarusian version of the Treffpunkt Dialog exhibition visited Grodno, the fifth-largest city in Belarus. The show was on view in September and November for a Belarusian-Polish-Ukrainian meeting and a conference on the subject of senior citizens’ education. In October, it was shown at the university to open the new academic year. A total of over 600 visitors could inform themselves about the victims of National Socialism portrayed in the exhibition.

3 September 2014 · Berlin · Parish Hall, Evangelische Friedensgemeinde · Project presentation: “Working for Peace and Tolerance”

The first project with Greek and German youth funded by EUROPEANS FOR PEACE was held at Charlottenburg’s Friedensgemeinde and at Kulturverein Prophet Elias Lechovo. The German and Greek project participants researched the rise of Nazism in Germany and its role in occupied Greece. They discussed the villages ravaged by the Nazis in Greece and looked at the consequences of German rule during the Second World War. The goal of the project was to create a documentary as the foundation for a multi-media guide on several of the victimized villages.


Together with the Serbian partner organization Labris and the Forum for Ethnic Relations, the Hirschfeld-Eddy-Stiftung (HES) held a conference in Belgrade on the human rights of sexual minorities in Serbia. After similar events in Kiev (2008), Riga (2010), and St. Petersburg (2012), this was the fourth human rights conference held by HES. Serbia is currently undergoing an important phase of transformation, but the situation of LGBT people remains problematic. During the conference, two Serbian publications were published, one on strategies against violence and a handbook on the inclusion of LGBT on a local level. The conference was funded by the Foundation EVZ and the German Foreign Office.
19 September 2014 · Schwalmstadt
Exhibition opening: “Bedrängte Existenz”
On 19 September, the exhibition “Bedrängte Existenz” opened in Schwalmstadt. 16 Roma, who survived German tyranny in Ukraine during the Second World War, reported of their lives during the war, the postwar years and on their everyday lives today. In 2012, photographer Birgit Meixner portrayed Roma in Ukraine who participated in the projects of Foundation EVZ. Meixner’s portraits show images of a minority still threatened today. The project is funded by the programme “Donations for Victims of National Socialism”.

22 September 2014 · Berlin · Kino Arsenal
Film Presentation: Dokumentarfilmpreis “Erinnerung und Zukunft” unterwegs – Judgment in Hungary (2013)
This year’s winner of the documentary prize “Erinnerung und Zukunft” at the film festival goEast was presented once again to the Berlin audience at Kino Arsenal. Judgment in Hungary (Hungary/Germany, 2013) documents the two and a half year trial against four right wing extremists who attacked several Roma villages in Hungary in 2008 and 2009. Six people died, including a five-year-old child. Following the screening, the director Eszter Hajdú, producer Sandor Mester and Dr. Andrés Nader, RAA Berlin discussed the film and the current situation in Hungary with writer and curator Grit Lemke and the audience.

160 participants from the realms of education and scholarship, social work, and non-profit foundations met for the fifth time this year at a Blickwinkel conference. The series of conferences has since 2011 been a central forum providing an annual opportunity for exchanging ideas on scholarly research and pedagogical practice dealing with anti-Semitism. The city’s mayor Dr. Albrecht Schröter and Dr. Ralf Possekel, Foundation EVZ, opened the Jena conference, where speakers questioned the relationship between anti-Semitism and racism. The conference dealt with VER with German colonial history and the phenomena of today’s prejudice against Muslims. Accompanying the conference, the exhibition Homestory Deutschland: Schwarze Biografien in Geschichte und Gegenwart (Home Story Germany: Black Biographies in the History and Present) was shown. The series Blickwinkel is organized by Bildungszentrum Anne Frank e.V., Frankfurt/Main, Pädagogisches Zentrum, Fritz Bauer Institut, Jüdisches Museum Frankfurt, the Foundation EVZ, and Zentrum für Antisemitismusforschung, TU Berlin.

23 September 14 · Borislav, Ivano-Frankivsk Region, Ukraine · Municipal Museum for Regional History · Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
To open the exhibition on nine victims of National Socialism from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine who participate in the funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog, at the Borislav Municipal Museum for Regional History, three additional former “eastern workers” from Borislav and the surrounding region were invited, Katerina Kopatsch, Omeljan Seleckij, and Miroslawa Pawljuk. The exhibition was on view until 2 October.

30 September 2014 · Berlin · Foundation EVZ
Podium discussion: “‘Despite Everything, I Remain an Optimist’: Remembering Noach Flug”
The journalist Bettina Schaefer presented her edited volume Erinnerungen an Noach Flug. As a Holocaust survivor, Noach Flug worked tirelessly from 1984 to 2011 for the interests of survivors and forced labourers and for reconciliation between Israel and Germany. At the Foundation EVZ, Flug was a member of the international Board of Trustees from 2006 to 2011. In Schaefer’s book, Ich bleibe Optimist, trotz allem 26 eyewitnesses (family members, classmates, friends, and acquaintances) talk of their encounters with Noach Flug. Among them, the member of the Board of the Foundation EVZ Günter Saathof, who met Noach Flug for the first time in the late 1980s and worked closely with him until 2011. The journalist Gemma Pörzgen led the discussion with Noach Flug’s wife Dorota, his daughter, his grandchild, and Christoph Heubner. The event took place in cooperation with the International Auschwitz Committee, of which Heubner is vice president.
OCTOBER

2–3 October 2014 · Hannover · Maschpark Bürgerfest, Day of German Unity
On 2–3 October 2014, the central festivities for the Day of German Unity under the motto “United in Diversity” were held in Hannover. At their stand located between Neues Rathaus and Niedersächsisches Landesmuseum, the Foundation EVZ presented itself at the Bürgerfest to all those interested. The exhibition Bückeburg unter Hakenkreuz – NS-Zwangsarbeit im ländlichen Raum by the project group Forced Labour was on view for two days. The project group funded by the Foundation EVZ has held several exhibitions since 2009.

2–5 October 2014 · Berlin National Youth Meeting, Amaro Drom e. V.
Amaro Drom e. V. is an intercultural youth association of Roma and non-Roma and organizes an annual national youth meeting, this year held in Berlin. Over 100 young people attended the meeting, discussed the issues and networked with one another. Workshops on the subjects of Roma identity and fighting antiziganism on the Internet and in the German media were held. The Foundation EVZ funded the 2014 meeting.

6 October 2014 · Berlin · Kino Arsenal · Film premiere: "AHAWAH – Kinder der Auguststraße"
“Ahawah” is Hebrew for “love”. This film tells the story of the Jewish children’s home AHAWAH and the former Jewish Girls’ School on Berlin’s Auguststraße, from the early 1920s to their end under the Nazi dictatorship. The institutions were among the most modern at the time. The trail of history leads from Auguststraße to Israel, where the founder lived after the Nazi regime. Former students from the school and the 96-year-old former AHAWAH resident David Markus met with children from a Protestant school in Berlin. The film premiere was screened at Kino Arsenal. In the subsequent discussion, the filmmakers Nadja Tenge and Sally Musleh Jaber spoke about the making of the film, funded as part of the programme Encounters with Eyewitnesses.

6 October 2014 · Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine Galerija “Bastion” · Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
This exhibition portrays nine individuals whose lives were defined by the events of the Second World War. From Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia, they are all participants in projects funded by Treffpunkt Dialog. The two-week presentation of the exhibition, created by the journalist Lesya Kharchenko, was organized by Caritas, which runs a project to support victims of National Socialism in Ivano-Frankivsk.

10 October 2014 · Vienna, Austria · Actor’s Studio Film presentation: Dokumentarfilmpreis “Erinnerung und Zukunft” unterwegs – Nepal Forever (2013)
At the LET’S CEE Film Festival in Vienna, Dokumentarfilmpreis ‘Erinnerung und Zukunft’ unterwegs made another stop with the help of the Foundation EVZ. The Russian competition entry Nepal Forever (2013) was screened in the presence of the director Aliona Polunina, who was then available for questions.

For a second time, the German competition entry for the documentary film prize Erinnerung und Zukunft Zelim’s Confession (2013) was shown, this time at Filmfest Osnabrück.

17 October 2014 · Warsaw, Poland · Museum of the History of Polish Jews International finals: “Jugend debattiert international”
The eventful week of finals, in which all 16 first and second place candidates from the participating countries learned a great deal and made new contacts, was held at Warsaw’s Museum of the History of Polish Jews. Estonian candidate Anastasija Minitš convinced with her strong arguments and was named the winner. But the other three finalists, Regina Bartha and Júlia Pőcze from Hungary and Ivan Michňa from the Czech Republic also effectively argued the pros and cons and made the debate on banning extremist political parties an exciting encounter.
24–26 October 2014 · Prague, Czech Republic
Conference “Trauma and Home” and the Awarding of “Prix Irene”

20 years ago, a group of Jewish therapists under the name Families after the Holocaust began supporting survivors of the Holocaust and their family members. To mark this anniversary, the founders of the Rafael Institute founded a few years later and the Prix Irene Committee invited experts to participate in a conference, where the Prix Irene was awarded for special achievements in the work of international reconciliation.

2–5 November 2014 · Frankfurt/Main
Ignatz Bubis-Gemeindezentrum
Conference: “hilfe den helfern”

At the annual conference of Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland e.V. (ZWST), experts from Germany, and Central and Eastern Europe and Israel discussed forms of qualified care and counselling for Holocaust survivors and their families. This year, they discussed in particular the question of what support helpers need to care for survivors as best as possible. The Foundation EVZ is a partner in supporting family members and support providers in the psychological and social care of Shoah survivors.

2 November 2014 · Berlin · Jüdisches Museum
Podium discussion and Concert: “Mazel tov, Warshe!”

On 28 October 2014, the permanente exhibition at the Museum of the History of Polish Jews opened in Warsaw. To celebrate this event, Jüdisches Museum Berlin and Polnisches Institut Berlin held a podium discussion on contemporary Jewish life in Poland. In her 2013 book Return to the Jew: Identity Narratives of the Third Post-Holocaust Generation of Jews in Poland, Dr. Katka Reszke provided unique insights into interesting phenomena of today’s Jewish world: the resurrection of a society that was destroyed by the Holocaust and suppressed by the Communist regime. She offers a new perspective on the question of who is a Jew, and what it means to be a Jew in today’s Poland. Reszke discussed these and other issues with Dr. Dariusz Stola, director of Warsaw’s Museum of the History of Polish Jews, and Raphael Rogiński, a musician in Trio Shofar. Cilly Kugelmann, Jüdisches Museum Berlin, led the discussion.

3–4 November 2014 · Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine
Cultural Palace of the Machinists · Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”

The exhibition, which portrays nine victims of National Socialism from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine who participate in the funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog, was on view for two days in Dnepropetrovsk. 100 visitors learned about the lives of these survivors: concentration camp prisoners, forced labourers, and partisans. Some of the visitors were former prisoners from Dnepropetrovsk.

6 November 2014 · Berlin · Foundation EVZ
Podiums discussion: “Systemversagen? Gesellschaft und Staat im Umgang mit rassistischer Gewalt”

Russia, Ukraine, and Germany are all constitutionally required to protect the rights and liberties of all on their territory. At the same time, their structures reflect the existing inequalities in society. The state and social approach to racist discrimination is rather contradictory: an official agenda of anti-discrimination and institutional racism, the support of those affected and control. The counsellors of those affected by racist violence Anastasya Denisova, Civic Assistance Committee, Moscow, Irene Fedorovych, Social Action Centre/No Borders Project, Kiev, and Biblap Basu, “Reach Out” Berlin, reported on the challenge of supporting those affected in creating justice, and how more equal treatment can be achieved by state structures. The conversation was led by Timm Köhler, Foundation EVZ.

11–12 November 2014 · Tel Aviv, Israel
International Conference: “Current and Future Challenges for the Support of Holocaust Survivors in Israel”

In Israel today, ca. 190,000 Holocaust survivors are still alive. A growing number of them requires assistance, presenting the state and society with ever greater challenges. At this expert conference in Tel Aviv, various problems in the support of survivors and their families were discussed and possibilities for improving the future were shown. Experts and scholars who work with Holocaust survivors were invited to attend.
10–12 November 2014 · Magdalinovka, Ukrainian Historical Museum
19–20 November 2014 · Novomoskovsk, Ukraine

Exhibition openings: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
For two additional days respectively, the exhibition on nine victims of National Socialism from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine, who participate in the funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog was on view in the Ukrainian towns of Magdalinovka und Novomoskovsk. The photographs and texts were created by Lesya Kharchenko.

13 November 2014 · Berlin · Foundation EVZ
Reading and project presentation: “Jewish Female Identities Today”
At this joint event with the Stiftung ZURÜCKGEBEN, six fellows presented their projects that deal with Jewish female identities. Photographer Sharon Adler and journalist Judith Kessler reported and read from their project “Jüdische Frauen geschichte(n) in Berlin – Writing Dirls”. Marina B. Neubert read from her Roman Vier Tage. Aufzeichnungen aus Mutterstadt. Editor Lara Däm mig presented the “Bet Deborah Journal” on the issue of generations. Konstanze Ameer, Stiftung ZURÜCKGEBEN, led the discussion and presented “Mein erstes jüdisches Bilderbuch”. Finally, filmmaker Julia Poliak provided insight into her current project “Emigracija”, a digital network for women migrants. The projects were funded by Stiftung ZURÜCKGEBEN with funds from the Foundation EVZ.

20 November 2014 · Berlin · Foundation EVZ
Exhibition opening: “Der U-Boot-Bunker Valentin: Geschichte in Beton”
This exhibition on the history of the submarine Bunker Valentin was developed jointly by students from Gymnasium Obervieland, Bremen, and the Alliance School, Haifa. In December 1942, it was decided to build the submarine bunker Valentin in Bremen-Farge. The shipyard was built in just 20 months, and was the size of five football fields. The intention was to manufacture huge submarines on an assembly line to stop the advance of the Allies. Up to 10,000 forced labourers worked to erect the bunker, around 2,000 died due to the inhumane conditions. But just before the end of the war, the bunker was destroyed by the British Royal Air Force, not even a single submarine was built at Bunker Valentin.

A German-Israeli youth exchange project in the funding programme EUROPEANS FOR PEACE brought this long suppressed chapter of Nazi history back to public awareness. The exhibition, which was created as part of the project in 2012, contributes exemplarily to the cultural of regional and trans-regional memory. The exhibition was on view from 20 November 2014 to 20 January 2015 in the foyer of the foundation’s headquarters. The project was presented by Dr. Jens Winter, teacher at Gymnasium Obervieland, Bremen, and Dr. Marcus Meyer, academic director, Denkort Bunker Valentin, with three participants Corinna Gaartz, Vivien Sbach, and Nora Spöttel. Dr. Elke Gryglewski, Gedenk- und Bildungsstätte Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz, led the discussion.

21 November 2014 · Ropsha, Leningrad Region, Russian Federation · Middle School Ropsha
Exhibition opening: “Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
From 21 November 2014–1. February 2015, Ropsha Middle School in the Leningrad Region showed the Russian version of the travelling exhibition on the lives of nine people from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine who suffered under Nazi occupation and were cared for as part of the funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog.

28 November 2014 · Berlin · Schwulenberatung Fachtag: “Regenbogenphilanthropie”
The human rights of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgender people (LGBT) are violated over and over. This makes the continuous, need-based support of actors in civil society who work to realize human rights all the more important. The Regenbogenphilanthropie Report 2013, presented at the sixth Fachtag Regenbogenphilanthropie provides information on the activities of German donors in the ”global South and East”. The Foundation EVZ is one of the German donors for Eastern Europe. Two rounds of discussion at the conference, on the situation of LGBT in eastern Europe and the challenge of the increasing FLUC and migration of LGBT people to Germany, illustrated the challenges and the need. The conference was organized by Dreilinden gGmbH and the Foundation EVZ.
28–29 November 2014 · Warsaw, Poland
Conference: “On Linking Historical Education and Human Rights Education in Warsaw”
To mark the 100th birthday of Jan Karski, Humanity in Action Poland, the Jan Karski Educational Foundation, the Central Polish Teacher Training Institute, and other partners sponsored a conference at the Polish Parliament for 100 Polish educational experts, teachers, and students. Jan Karski was a Polish officer and courier in the Polish resistance. The lawyer and diplomat was one of the most important witnesses of the Holocaust. The two-day event illustrated how Jan Karski’s biography can be used in education to teach tolerance and how to stand up against xenophobia, anti-Semitism, and hate speech.

DECEMBER
4 December 2014 · Berlin · Topographie des Terrors · Film and podium discussion: “Lebensunwert, unerwünscht”
At this event, a joint collaboration with Stiftung Denkmal für die ermordeten Juden Europas, director Guillaume Dreyfus presented his film Lebensunwert, unerwünscht as part of the series “Patientenmorde 1933–1945. Die NS-‘Euthanasie’-Zentrale in der Tiergartenstraße 4”. The film explored the racist intentions behind forced sterilization and “euthanasia”. The highly traumatized children of those killed only escaped these Nazi crimes because they were too young or survived in orphanages or in care institutions until the end of the Third Reich. Both groups are victims of the racist policies of the Nazis. Guillaume Dreyfus interviewed members of the Bundes der ‘Euthanasie’-Geschädigten und Zwangssterilisierten and in his documentary gave the victims a voice. Günter Saathoff, member of the board of directors of the Foundation EVZ, greeted the audience.
5–6 December 2014 · Minsk, Belarus  
IBB “Johannes Rau” · Exhibition opening:  
“Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
In the framework of the fifth festival of Extra-curricular Education at IBB “Johannes Rau”, the Treffpunkt-Dialog exhibition was presented on the fates of victims of National Socialism in Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine to the over 300 festival visitors.

11 December 2014 · Berlin · Jüdisches Museum  
Public Lecture: “The Future of European Jewry – revisited”
This public lecture funded by the Foundation EVZ by the historian Dr. Diana Pinto, Paris, took place as part of the conference “Contemporary Jewish Life in a global Modernity. Comparative European Perspectives on a Changing Diaspora”. After the Holocaust, we can again speak of a “European Jewry” in the context of a united Europe. Pinto is one of the most important voices who supports a strong European-Jewish identity. 25 years after the peaceful revolution in Eastern Europe, she drew a balance in her lecture “The Future of European Jewry – Revisited” and asked about the conflicts, challenges, and perspectives posed for a Jewish present in Europe. Günter Saathoff, member of the board of directors at the Foundation EVZ, greeted the audience. Dr. Isolde Charim, Philosopher and journalist from Vienna, was not able to attend, but commented in writing.

16–23 December 2014 · Molodetchno, Belarus  
Middle School No. 5 · Exhibition opening:  
“Like a Breath of Fresh Air”
The Belarusian version of the exhibition then moved on to its next station at Middle School No. 5 in Molodetchno. 500 to 600 students, teachers, parents, former juvenile prisoners and senior citizens informed themselves about the funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog and the people who suffered under the Nazi occupation using the examples of nine victims of National Socialism from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine.
Publications funded by the Foundation EVZ in 2014


A second, revised edition has been published of this “handbook on the subject of antiziganism”. It is the first comprehensive handbook on the subject and was developed with support by the Foundation EVZ for teachers, social workers, educational and memorials, universities, and schools. With 27 tested, well-described practice modules, it invites educational work on the subject. All necessary materials are prepared on an accompanying DVD. The handbook begins by presenting a pedagogical concept and contains information on historical and current antiziganism in Europe, in Germany in particular, and the structure and function of antiziganist feelings.

168 pages, paperback, 19.80 € · ISBN: 978-3-89771-571-4


The Anne Frank Zentrum has been concerned in recent years with the question of how the subjects of Nazism and Jewish persecution can be presented to elementary schoolchildren. Combining pedagogical practice and didactic reflection, this teaching material packet was created for work in learning workshops and non-school projects. The learning material offers insights on the subject of Nazism for children as of grade 4. It is based on everyday stories and photographs of seven school-age children who were persecuted by the Nazis. It does not focus on the crimes of the Nazis, but rather on how these children’s everyday lives were gradually destroyed. Examples of discrimination and loss from the past are combined with the articles from the UN children’s rights convention and are thus given current relevance. A pedagogical handout complements the material.

48 pages, 19.90 euros · ISBN: 978-3-86331-166-7

The publication from December 2013 presents the results of the conference “Erinnerung an Zwangsarbeit – Zeitzeugen-Interviews in der digitalen Welt” (Remembering Forced Labour: Eyewitness Interviews in the Digital World) held in October 2012 from the Center für Digitale Systeme, Freie Universität Berlin with the support of the Foundation EVZ. The publication presents Zwangsarbeit 1939–1945 (Forced Labour 1939–1945), the online archive established by both institutions in cooperation with Deutsches Historisches Museum with around 600 interviews from 26 countries. Several authors discuss archival-technological, pedagogical and other questions related to this interview archive. The volume also contains a series of contributions from international experts on interview collections online and their use in the realm of research and education.

296 pages, 22.00 Euros · ISBN: 978-3-86331-156-8


For decades, former forced labourers of the Nazi regime remained without success in their demands for compensation from the Federal Government. It was only with the broadcast of the television series Holocaust that the fate of these and other “forgotten victims” of Nazism came to public consciousness in the early 1980s. Henning Borggräfe describes the debates over the question of forced labourer compensation, that culminated with the founding of the Foundation “Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft” and the compensation payments. The study takes a look at the role of politics and business, the representatives of the persecuted, history activists and historians using a variety of sources, explaining why the conflict over compensation can be understood as a contribution to German’s self-reconciliation with their own history.

562 pages, bound, 42.00 Euro · ISBN: 978-3-8353-1413-9

Ever since antiquity, forced labour has been an important war resource. This volume dares to compare premodern and modern and European and East Asian regimes of forced labour. Organizational structures and forms of violence are studied, patterns of legitimacy and criteria of efficiency as well as the later juridical processing and remembrance. The history of the relations between war and forced labour is explored. Attention not just placed on profiteers and actors, but always on the victims as well. The question at the focus is whether core factors can be defined that make it possible to grasp forced labour analytically across the epochs and continents.

471 pages, bound, 58.00 Euro · ISBN: 978-3-506-77727-0


This publication, including a DVD, would like to contribute to making the history of Nazism understandable for young people. The question is posed what individual points of access young people today still have to the subject of Nazism. Authentic locations, especially in the immediate vicinity of the young people, and historical material and authentic stories help to create a link to the present and to the lifeworld of the young people. Pedagogues and those interested are to be encouraged to set on a lively and creative search with “their” young people – and especially for discussing Nazism include local histories and current links to human rights. This material can assist in this process.

66 pages and DVD, bound, 6.00 Euro


The city of Dessau was not only the site of the Bauhaus, but also a point where industrial modernism culminated. In the thirteen years of the Nazi regime, the city experienced an incomparable rise and fall that still shapes it still today. Dessau was an armaments capital, Gau-capital, and the “company town” of Junker’s airplane and motor works as well as the main production site for the poisonous gas Zyklon B that was used to kill hundreds of thousands in the concentration camps. This volume tells the contradictory story of the Bauhaus city under Nazism. It looks back at the contexts of the destruction and explores destroyed modernism and its destructive potentials.

39 photographs by French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson, who in June 1945 captured the return of the forced labourers from Dessau with his camera, round out the image of this era, along with many previously unpublished photographs.

360 pages, bound, 34.00 Euro · ISBN: 978-3-944669-57-1

This publication represents the conclusion of the project "NS-Geschichte, Institutionen, Menschenrechte" (Nazi History, Institutions, Human Rights). The project, located at the Concentration Camp Memorial Neuengamme, planned training for officials working at state institutions dedicated to remembering Nazi injustice. The preface discusses the background and the project’s theoretical approach and framework. It is followed by personal views of the project from several participants. In addition, seven essays by historians present the latest research results and current issues from this new area of research. The heart of the book consists of nine course modules presented with information on possible target groups, subjects, and teaching materials. The book includes a CD with select teaching materials.

232 pages with CD, 14.90 Euro · ISBN: 978-3-86331-099-8


In December 2014, with the support of the Foundation EVZ, Metropol Verlag published Volume 23 of the Jahrbuch für Antisemitismusforschung, edited by Stefanie Schüler-Springorum for the Zentrum für Antisemitismusforschung, TU Berlin (ZfA). The texts published, which are based on contributions to a conference held on 8–9 November 2013 in Berlin together with Jüdisches Museum Berlin, ZfA, and the Foundation EVZ, “Anti-Semitism in Europe Today: the Phenomena, the Conflicts”, concentrates on the following emphases: anti-Semitism in today’s Europe, the role of emotions in modern anti-Semitism, and historical anti-Semitic phenomena. The contributions are published online in English at the website of Jüdisches Museum Berlin: www.jmberlin.de/main/EN/05-Publications/07-online-publications.php


This book explores the participation of military and civilian authorities in forced labour and deportation and explores the many links between child forced labour, occupation and Germanization policies. The focus is placed on experiences of deportation and forced labour, as reflected in the memories of former forced child labourers.

306 pages, paperback, 29.95 Euros · ISBN: 978-3-8375-0896-3
FACTS AND FIGURES

TEAM FINANCES
Dr. Harald Schneider (head)
Ann-Grit Schulze

TEAM ADMINISTRATION
Dirk Gerls
Manuel Kowalewski
Ute Scheewe
Jürgen Taubert
Anne Tusche
Ina Thiele
Ina Krause
Franziska Reymann
The capital investments of the foundation follow ethical criteria that are derived from the purpose of the foundation. Thematically speaking, the foundation focuses here on modern forms of forced labour and human rights violations in the working world. At companies where the foundation is invested in stocks or bonds, at issue are human rights violations in the realms of child labour, forced labour, and discrimination. To the extent possible, the supply chain as well is investigated. The concept follows the criteria of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), a sub-organisation of the United Nations.

Once a year, the foundation has its investments examined for violations of the exclusion criteria human rights violations and “modern forced labour”. The Foundation EVZ commissioned a rating agency with developing a negative list that is especially catered to the specifications of the foundation. On the basis of this screening, all companies where violations of the defined exclusion criteria are found are confronted with the accusations and in writing asked to respond. Those companies that do not respond are removed from the investments. The answers submitted are subjected to further analysis until a decision can be made. In addition, the foundation’s financial service providers are examined under ethical criteria and, if necessary, collaboration is ended. In the year 2014, three companies were removed from the investments.
PHILOSOPHY

In September 2014, a second special assets fund was established with a volume of 10 percent of the allocation to generate attractive dividend yields for the foundation in the framework of an “buy and hold” stock mandate. The titles were entered into the balance sheet as continuous acquisition costs.

The foundation’s assets were worth 485 million euros on 31 December 2014.
INVESTMENT GOALS

In its investment policy, the Foundation EVZ pursues three main goals. On the one hand, sufficient funds should be available to cover funding activities and the administrative costs with a manageable risk. In so doing, this is to avoid covering running costs with a high-risk reshuffling of assets. On the other hand, the capital is to be maintained at its real, that is, inflation-protected value. Finally, it must be insured that at any time sufficient liquidity is available for the running costs. All three goals were more than fulfilled in the fiscal year 2014.

MEMBERS, ASSETS COMMITTEE (DECEMBER 2014)

Dr. Wolfgang Weiler (chair), chair of the board of directors, HUK-COBURG Versicherungsgruppe
Dieter Lehmann, co-managing director and head of the Assets Department, Volkswagen Stiftung
Dr. Michael Leinwand, Chief Investment Officer, Zurich Gruppe Deutschland
Gerhard Schleif, former managing director, Bundesrepublik Deutschland Finanzagentur GmbH
Martin Wieland, head, Market Analysis and Portfolio Division, Deutsche Bundesbank
Prof. Uwe Wystup, Frankfurt School of Finance and Management – Centre for Practical Quantitative Finance

MEMBERS, INVESTMENT COMMISSION

Dr. Martin Salm, chairman, Board of Directors, Foundation EVZ (as of 1 August 2014: Günter Saathoff)
Dr. Harald Schneider, head of finances, Foundation EVZ
Dieter Lehmann, co-managing director and head of the Assets Department, Volkswagen Stiftung

The illustration on p. 106 depicts the structure of financial administration at the foundation. The financial goals, derived from the charter, statues, and directives from the Board of Trustees, are implemented by the foundation’s Board of Directors. The Board in term consults with various committees to assist in decision-making. The Assets Committee advises the foundation’s Board of Directors in strategic questions of capital investment, the Investment Commission is responsible for tactical investment decisions. In addition, specialized consultants also support the decision-making process.

In daily operations, assets management is handled by a capital management company in a so-called “master KAG” with a central deposit. The key part of assets management is handled by specialized investment managers. The investment class liquidity is held directly by the finances division and administered accordingly. The consolidation of both realms to ascertain performance and other key variables takes place by way of external reporting. This specialized service provider also has the task of managing running investment controlling. The admissible decision-making framework directors, is stipulated in detail for all those involved in the form of investment guidelines, contracts, internal process descriptions decided by the Board of Directors.

The several eye principle and the requirements of corporate governance in the realm of capital investment are implemented across the board. All decision-making processes are recorded in writing and subject to external examination. In recent years, the investment organisation of the Foundation EVZ has been awarded with distinction several times by renowned expert journals.
FUNDING ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL FUNDING (IN MILLIONS OF EUR)

*third-party funds/donations

From the beginning of funding in 2001–2014 (in millions of euros)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funding Volume</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>1.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
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<td>2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>9.17</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>6.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>7.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the report year 2014 (in millions of euros)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field of Activity</th>
<th>Funding Volume</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Critical Examination of History</td>
<td>33.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working for Human Rights</td>
<td>35.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitment to the Victims of National Socialism</td>
<td>29.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*third-party funds/donations

FUNDING VOLUME ACCORDING TO FIELD OF ACTIVITY (INCLUDING THIRD-PARTY FUNDS AND DONATIONS)
COSTS OF ASSET MANAGEMENT

In 2014, the costs of asset management were 1.15 million euros, consisting of costs for the depot bank, capital management company, manager fees, costs of consulting and investment reporting and controlling. These costs are paid directly using the special fund of the foundation and calculated against running yields.

AUDITING

The annual balance sheet of the Foundation EVZ is calculated according to the principles of the German Commercial Code by an accounting firm. The Federal Office for Central Services and Unresolved Property Issues (BADV) audits annually the foundation’s calculations, budgeting and business management. Audits comply with the regulations of the German Commercial Code with the assistance of the Federal Central Tax Office. The auditing of budgeting and business management complies with the regulations of the Federal Budget Code. At irregular intervals, audits are performed by the Federal Audit Office.

KEY FIGURES, 2014

EXCERPT FROM THE BALANCE SHEET
(in compliance with the German Commercial Code)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>422.1 million euros</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial assets</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assets maintenance fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred liabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities due to project funding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Balance | 426.6 million euros |

EXCERPT, BALANCE OF YIELDS AND COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Costs</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation management costs</td>
<td>7.36 million euros</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staffing costs</td>
<td>2.12 million euros</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public relations</td>
<td>0.13 million euros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other administrative costs</td>
<td>0.88 million euros</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Alexander Potchinok, the representative of the Russian Federation in the Board of Trustees of the Foundation EVZ, died on 16 March 2014. He was a member of the board for twelve years, and is survived by a wife and three children.

“The unexpected death of our colleague Alexander P. Potchinok saddens us all at Foundation EVZ, the members of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Directors, and the entire foundation team. Our sympathy goes to his family, which has lost a husband and father”, in the words of Dr. Michael Jansen, chairman, Board of Trustees. “In the foundation’s Board of Trustees Alexander P. Potchinok placed a great emphasis on the goals of the funding programme Treffpunkt Dialog. The commissions and the management of the foundation will remember Alexander Potchinok fondly and respectfully as an energetic proponent of the commitment to the victims of National Socialism.”


The Board of Trustees of the Foundation EVZ, of which Potchinok was a member since 2002, decides all fundamental questions related to the Foundation EVZ’s realm of activity, in particular the budget.
On 14 July, three days before his 71st birthday, the former deputy Belarusian trustee of the Foundation EVZ Valentin Yakovlevitch Gerasimov passed away.

Since November 1995, Valentin Gerasimov was a member of the Board of Directors of the Belarusian Republican Foundation “Forgiveness and Reconciliation”, which since 2001 has been distributing funds from the German Foundation EVZ to former forced labourers under the Nazis in Belarus and Estonia. Valentin Gerasimov worked with great commitment for the needs of survivors in Belarus and Estonia. Beyond the payments to former forced labourers, he also initiated several humanitarian projects for them. A great many survivors knew him personally. In his work with the victims of National Socialism, he contributed to the reconciliation between Belarus and Germany.

The Board of Directors and the entire team at the Foundation EVZ join with his widow Raisa Andreyevna Gerasimovna and her children Aleksandr and Elena in mourning the death of Valentin Gerasimov.
# The Board of Trustees, Foundation EVZ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>DELEGATE</th>
<th>DEPUTY DELEGATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Jansen</td>
<td>Dr. Jörg Freiherr Frank von Fürstenwerth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stiftungsinitiative der deutschen Wirtschaft</td>
<td>Dr. Jörg Freiherr Frank von Fürstenwerth</td>
<td>Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stiftungsinitiative der deutschen Wirtschaft</td>
<td>Dr. Wolfgang Malchow</td>
<td>Dr. Helen Müller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stiftungsinitiative der deutschen Wirtschaft</td>
<td>Thomas Wessel</td>
<td>Dr. Manfred Grieger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stiftungsinitiative der deutschen Wirtschaft</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Hans Heinrich Driftmann</td>
<td>Dr. Susanne Sophia Spiliotis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bundestag</td>
<td>MdB Ulla Jelpke</td>
<td>MdB Petra Pau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bundestag</td>
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<td>MdB Sven-Christian Kindler</td>
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