

DOCUMENTA



MEETING MEMORIES

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON
COMICS AND MEMORY

07 - 14 June 2021

MeMe

Meeting Memories:
Learning from the Past to
Confront Dehumanization
Today

Co-funded by the
Europe for Citizens Programme
of the European Union



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project **“Meeting Memories: Learning from the Past to Confront Dehumanization Today”** aims to remind European citizens of the politics of dehumanization and scapegoating happening during the 1930s and 1940s and generate a reflection on similar patterns happening today.

Its activities will be the opportunity to raise public awareness, make citizens more resilient and critical towards authoritarianism and populism and less prone to racism and radicalization, as well as to engage in confronting distortions of historical facts about the suffering in concentration camps during World War II through public events, exhibitions, and educational work.

The “Meeting Memories” international workshop offers a space for participants from six different countries to meet and discuss the themes of culture of remembrance, commemorative practices, contemporary history, and different totalitarian regimes, through the art of comics.

The workshop will consist of theoretical and practical sessions, coordinated by a trainer and associates from Documenta and the partner organizations. It will have a hybrid format, connecting online international sessions with national or regional study visits to local places of memory. All the comics created by the participants during the workshop will be presented in an online exhibition; besides, some of them will be chosen to become part of an exhibition to be displayed in Udine, Italy, in November 2021.

THE PARTNERS

1	Center for Informative decontamination of youth	Bosnia and Herzegovina
2	<i>Documenta</i> – Center for dealing with the past	Croatia
3	Jasenovac Memorial Site	Croatia
4	Max Mannheimer Haus	Germany
5	University of Udine	Italy
6	Centre for Public History	Serbia
7	Socialna Akademija	Slovenia

THE LOCATIONS

Zagreb - Croatia

The participants will take part to a 3-hour-long memorial walk in Zagreb and will be introduced to different locations connected to suffering and resistance during the Second World War in the city (Botanički vrt, Trg Źrtava Fašizma, Radio Zagreb...). The walk will start at Studenstki Centar and end at Maksimir stadion. It will include locations related to the Ustasha crimes and actions of the illegal movement. anti-fascist resistance, with a focus on personal stories.



Dachau - Germany



On March 22, 1933, a few weeks after Adolf Hitler had been appointed Reich Chancellor, a concentration camp for political prisoners was set up in Dachau. This camp served as a model for all later concentration camps and as a “school of violence” for the SS men under whose command it stood. In the twelve years of its existence over 200.000 persons from all over Europe were imprisoned here and in numerous subsidiary camps. 41.500 were murdered. On April 29 1945, American troops liberated the survivors.

Risiera di San Sabba - Italy

In October 1943, as the city of Trieste passed under the control of Nazi Germany, some buildings used for rice husking were designated as police detention camp. The building had the function to torture and sort prisoners in particular Jews who were destined to be deported to Auschwitz and other extermination camps.



In addition, many political enemies and partisans of different nationalities were killed in this building. The ricehusking factory of San Sabba was the only Italian Nazis camp with a crematory oven activated from 1944 until the end of World War Two.

After the Second World War some buildings were used as refugee camps starting from the 1950's. Today, these tragic events are remembered through a National monument and multimedia Museum.

Banjica and Topovske Šupe - Serbia



The Nazi concentration camp of Topovske Šupe was active between August and November 1941. It was one of the first camps only for Jews and Roma in World War II and it is esteemed that around 5,000 male Jews and about 1,500 male Roma passed through it. The buildings in which the detainees were housed are now privately owned and are scheduled to be demolished. At the beginning of 2020, the Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Law on the "Staro Sajmište" Memorial Center, in which the location of Topovske Šupe is mentioned as part of the future memorial.

The Banjica concentration camp was a Nazi German concentration camp in occupied Serbia. Political prisoners, were the most numerous detainees. In addition, the prisoners included peasants who failed to fulfill their obligations to the occupier, hostages, as well as Jews and Roma.

Stari Pisker prison and Teharje memorial park - Slovenia

The visit will include Stari Pisker prison - memorial space for the victims of the Nazi violence from World War II - and the Teharje memorial park.

Teharje camp was built by the Nazi forces near the town of Teharje in the summer of 1943 to accommodate members of the Hitler Youth (Hitlerjugend). In May 1945, after the end of the war, the OZNA (Department of National Security) took over the camp and turned it into a prison camp for members of the Home Guard and other people who collaborated with the German occupiers. The memorial park is dedicated to the memory of the victims of post-war killings.



Please note:

because of Covid-19 related restrictions, the participants will visit the locations **from the partner country of their referent organization**.

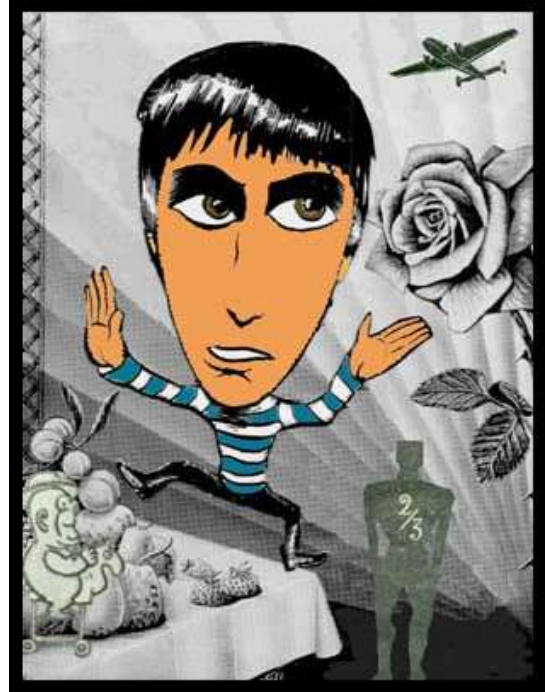
If it won't be possible even to meet in smaller groups or visit memorial places in closer towns, the participants will follow a completely online program.

Participants from BiH will follow a completely online program.

THE TRAINER

Aleksandar Zograf

Saša Rakezić, better known under the pseudonym of Aleksandar Zograf, started publishing his comics in the mid-1980s, in various Yugoslav publications. In the early 1990s, he began to exchange his self-published mini comics with American authors, who eventually forwarded Zograf's work to the editors of magazines and publishing houses around the US. Soon he had several titles with Fantagraphics Books (Life Under Sanctions, Psychonaut 1 and 2). He then extended his collaboration to European publishers, and to date has published about 50 titles in the US, UK, Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Hungary, Greece, Poland, Finland, Japan, Croatia and Serbia.



He has also published in a variety of magazines, among which are Weirdo, The Comics Journal and Seattle Weekly in the US; Internazionale, Il Manifesto and Linus in Italy; Süddeutsche Zeitung and Hinterland in Germany; Stripburger in Slovenia, and countless others. Starting from 2003, he has produced weekly comics for Belgrade's independent political magazine Vreme. Zograf has also presented his work in numerous exhibitions, the most important solo shows having been in the Cartoon Art Museum in San Francisco, the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London, the Liquid Ad Store in Munich, the Cultural Center of Belgrade, Un Regard Moderne in Paris and Mondo Bizarro in Rome. His comics range from dream stories and comics reports to autobiographical, archaeological comics, and beyond.

See more of Zograf's works at: aleksandarzograf.com

ON MAKING COMICS

You don't need to have a previous experience in drawing or making comics to take part in the program. Complete beginners are welcome!



COSTS



All the costs related to the workshop (the training, traveling to the locations for the study visit, food and beverages during the study visit, etc.) will be covered by the organizers.

The participants should cover by themselves the traveling expenses to the common meeting point for the study visit.

PROGRAM – June 2021

Monday 7:	Tuesday 8 <u>or</u> Wednesday 9:	Thursday 10:	Friday 11:	Monday 14:
10:00 – 10:45	<p>Study visit in a national place of memory*; *if permitted by current regulations on Covid-19</p>	10:00 – 11:00	10:00 – 11:00	10:00 – 11:30
<p>Introduction to the project; Getting to know each other</p>		<p>Second part of the workshop „Memory and comics” with the trainer</p>	<p>Practical session with the trainer: creating your comics!</p>	<p>Online discussion with the trainer open to the public; Opening of the online exhibition with the comics</p>
10:45 – 11:00 Break		11:00 – 11:15 Break	11:00 – 11:15 Break	
11:00 – 13:00		11:15 – 13:00	11:15 – 13:00	
<p>First part of the workshop „Memory and comics” with the trainer</p>		<p>Practical session with the trainer: creating your comics!</p>	<p>The participants present their comics and experience</p>	

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

You can take part in the workshop if you are 18+ years old and if you are living in one of the project's partner countries.

If you would like to participate to the workshop please send a **Word or PDF file** indicating (in English or in the language of the partner country) your **NAME, SURNAME, DATE OF BIRTH, ACTUAL PLACE OF RESIDENCE, E-MAIL** and a **SHORT MOTIVATIONAL LETTER** (max. 800 characters) to your country referent.

This call is open until the 3rd of June.

Because of different restrictions related to Covid-19, different countries involved in the project have a different participant base, please follow this table:

1 BiH	Participants from the whole country can take part in the online program. Referent: Alice Straniero, alice.straniero@documenta.hr
2 Croatia	Participants from the whole country can take part in the program, including the study visit. The meeting point for the study visit will be in Zagreb . Referent: Alice Straniero, alice.straniero@documenta.hr
3 Germany	Participants from the whole country can take part in the program, but depending on Covid-19 restrictions, it is possible that only people living in Dachau will be able to take part in the study visit. The meeting point for the study visit will be in Dachau . Referent: Magdalena Geier, geier@mmsz-dachau.de
4 Italy	Participants from the whole country can take part in the program, but depending on Covid-19 restrictions, it is possible that only people living in Friuli Venezia Giulia will be able to take part in the study visit. The meeting point for the study visit will be in Trieste . Referent: Elisa Copetti, elisa.copetti@uniud.it
5 Serbia	Participants from the whole country can take part in the program, including the study visit. The meeting point for the study visit will be in Belgrade . Referent: Milovan Pisarri, milovan.pisarri@gmail.com
6 Slovenia	Participants from the whole country can take part in the program, including the study visit. The meeting points for the study visit will be in Ljubljana and Celje . Referent: Sabina Belc, sabina@socialna-akademija.si

If you have other questions on the project in general please contact the project coordinator Alice Straniero at alice.straniero@documenta.hr



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International workshop on photography and memory “Meeting Memories”

07/14 June 2021 (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Serbia, Slovenia, online)

Documenta – Centar za suočavanje s prošlošću / Documenta – Center for dealing with the past
Selska Cesta 112c, Zagreb, Croatia

Layout, text and photos by Alice Straniero, with the exceptions of:

Page 2

Dachau:

text: [Homepage | KZ Gedenkstätte Dachau \(kz-gedenkstaette-dachau.de\)](#)

photo: Magdalena Geier

Risiera di San Sabba:

text and photo: [San Sabba Rice Mill National Monument and Museum – Risiera di San Sabba \(risierasansabba.it\)](#)

Page 3

Banjica and Topovske Šupe:

text: [The Banjica camp - Holokaust \(holocaust.rs\)](#); [Topovske šupe \(topovskesupe.rs\)](#)

photo: [Topovske šupe \(topovskesupe.rs\)](#)

Stari Pisker prison and Teharje memorial park:

text: Sabina Belc

photo: [Remembrance Park Teharje - Teharje - TracesOfWar.com](#)

Cover: “Blooming Avenue” by Saldacani (@saldacani) // Original photos from: *Epoca*. Vol. 706. Arnoldo Mondadori Editore, 1964. 55. and Muench, David. *Desert Springscape*. In *The Desert Realm*. National Geographic Society, 1982. p. 64. Edizione italiana, 1987

Zagreb, May 2021