

Memory Lab Trans-European Exchange Platform on History and Remembrance

Fifth annual study trip and workshop, 5.-11.10.2014: Kosovo and Macedonia

Organized by:

Youth Initiative for Human Rights BiH (Sarajevo), French-German Youth Office (Paris/Berlin), Forum ZFD Kosovo (Pristina), Alter Habitus (Pristina) and LOJA – Centar for Balkan Cooperation (Tetovo)

In cooperation with and with the support of: Robert Bosch Foundation, CCFD-Terre Solidaire, French-German Youth Office, Forum ZFD Kosovo, Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft



Robert Bosch Stiftung







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1. Development and aims of the platform:

The trans-European platform "Memory Lab" brings together initiatives in the field of dealing with difficult pasts (wars, dictatorship) from different countries of Western/Central Europe and the Western Balkans. The aims of this informal platform are to deepen mutual knowledge, exchange experiences, build capacities, facilitate contacts and realize common projects. Its general purpose is to strengthen self-critical and constructive approaches of dealing with the past as part of civic education and democracy-building, and to contribute to the integration of the countries of the former Yugoslavia into a common European civil society and memory space. The platform is organized around an annual study trip and workshop. The project was launched, under the name "Dealing with difficult pasts in the Western Balkans and Western/Central Europe", in June 2010 with a first workshop in Sarajevo, and continued in 2011 with a workshop in Prijedor, and a study trip to Jasenovac, Donja Gradina and Vukovar. In 2012, the next edition took place in France, including visits at the "Historial of the Great War" in Péronne, the "Mémorial de la Shoah" and of the village of Oradour-sur-Glane, and in 2013 the fourth study trip and workshop was organized in Germany (Berlin and Ravensbrück) and at the German-Polish border (Frankfurt/Oder and Slubice). - Several bilateral or multilateral cooperation and activities involving different participating organizations have resulted from these annual meetings. For more information see: http://www.memorylab-europe.eu/

2. Target group:

40 representatives of memorial centers, historical museums, NGOs and other organizations/ initiatives from South Eastern Europe (especially Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia and Serbia) on the one hand, and from Western and Central Europe (especially France and Germany) on the other hand, who are active in the field of dealing with difficult pasts (wars and dictatorships in Europe during the 20th century), especially around memory sites and in the educational field.

3. Study trip and workshop 2014 in Kosovo and Macedonia:

After France and Germany, the fifth edition of the annual study trip and workshop will return to South Eastern Europe and take place from 5th to 11th October 2014 in Kosovo and Macedonia. The specific aims of this study trip and workshop are:

- To explore and discuss current memorialization challenges in Kosovo and Macedonia related to the three following topics: Dealing with the communist past ; Dealing with the recent armed conflicts (Kosovo 1998/99, Macedonia 2001); Building of new collective identities (independent Kosovo, "Skopje 2014").
- To connect the experiences from Kosovo and Macedonia with the situations and remembrance-work in other European countries
- To deepen contacts and cooperation and to provide a space to develop future activities between the participants of the platform

Previsional program:

Sunday, 5 October 2014:

Arrival to Pristina / Hotel Begolli From 20.00 on: Welcome Dinner at hotel Begolli

Monday, 6 October 2014:

8.45: Walk to the workshop venue (EU Information and Cultural Centar)

9.00: Introduction into the program and presentation of the participants

10.30: "Kosovo, between history and memory": an introduction by Dr. Nita Luci (Cultural Anthropologist / University of Pristina)

11.30: Transfer by bus to Gazimestan, Visit of the Gazimestan-Monument commemorating the 1389-battle of Kosovo

12.45: Transfer to Prekaz, and lunch break (lunch bags)

13.30: Visit of the Memorial Complex "Adem Jashari" in Prekaz

15.00: Departure to Pristina, arrival in Pristina around 16.00

16-17.00: Break

17.00: Workshop with Saranda Bogujecvi, author of the exhibition "The Bogujevci – a visual history"

19.30: Joint Dinner

Tuesday, 7 October 2014:

Until 9.00: Check-out of the hotel

9-12.00: Memory Walk through Pristina: visits of the Monuments "Brotherhood and Unity", "Boro and Ramiz", Martyr's Cemetary Prishtina, Private School House "Sami Frasheri". In three parallel groups, with Dr. Nita Luci (Cultural Anthropologist / University of Pristina) Linda Gusia (Sociologist / University of Pristina) Hajrulla Ceku (Executive Director *Ec Ma Ndryshe*)

12-13.00: Exchange about the visits

13.00: Joint lunch

15-19.00: "Memory market" and public discussion at the University of Pristina

- 15-16.00: Informal "Memory Info Market" presenting different organizations participating at Memory Lab
- 16-18.00: Public discussion: "Memory challenges in Kosovo and the region"
 With Bekim Blaqaj (Executive Director, *Humanitarian Law Centar Kosovo*), Ljiljana Milić (President *Božur*); Marie-Ursula Kind (Senior Adviser on Transitional Justice, *United Nations Kosovo Team*), Orli Fridman (Academic Director, *Peace and Conflict Studies in the Balkans*, Belgrade), Kusthrim Koliqi (Executive Director *Integra*), Abdulah B. Ferizi (DWP Project manager, *Forum ZFD Kosovo*)
- 18–19.00: Reception buffet

19.30: Departure by bus to Skopje, arrival at Hotel Continental in Skopje around 21.30

Wednesday, 8 October 2014:

9.30–10.00: Introduction "Exploring Skopje 2014" / Giving of tasks

10.15–14.30: Exploration of the city centar of Skopje, in small groups. Lunch in small groups 15.00-18.00: "Skopje 2014" – exchange of impressions from the exploration and discussion with Dr. Goran Janey (Social Anthropologist, Sts Cyrils and Methodius University, Skopje), Coffee break from 16.15-16.45.

18.45: Joint dinner

20.15: Documentary films screening about Skopje 2014 (optional)

Thursday, 9 October 2014:

9–10.15: Discussion about Memory Lab

10.15-10.30: Coffee break

10.30–12.00: Parallel working groups / Planning of joint activities and projects

12.30: Travel by bus to Tetovo

13.30: Lunch in Tetovo

14.30–17.15: Visit of Memory Sites: Museum of Communist Party of Macedonia ; Albanian Memorial of 2001 Conflict; Macedonian Memorial of 2001 Conflict in Neprošteno Village 17.30: Transfer to Skopje / arrival in Skopje at 18h15

Free evening / individual dinner

Friday, 10 October 2014:

9-10.00: Feedback session about the visits in Tetovo

10–11.30: Mapping Similarities and Differences in Memorialization in Europe : Preparation in country-groups, including coffee break

11.30-12.30: Plenary: Mapping Similarities and Differences in Memorialization in Europe presentation and discussion, Part 1: Dealing with Communist Past, and Dealing with Recent Armed Conflicts

12.45–14.30: Joint Lunch

14.30–15.45: Plenary: Mapping Similarities and Differences in Memorialization in Europe: presentation and discussion, part 2: National Identity Building, and Additional Topics 15.45–16.00: Coffee Break

16–17.00: Evaluation of the workshop and study trip, and Conclusions

17–18.00: Additional time for planning of joint activities and projects

18h15: Joint Diner

Evening: Participation at the Opening of the German Film Festival in Skopje (optional)

Saturday, 11 October 2014: Departure of the participants

4. Working Languages:

English and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian (with simultaneous or consecutive translation). Some presentations will take place in Albanian, with translation into English and B/C/S. The public discussion in Pristina the 7th October will take place in English, Albanian and B/C/S, with simultaneous translation.

5. Accomodation and workshop venues

Accomodation in Pristina (from 5th to 7th October) and in Skopje (from 7th to 11th October):

Hotel Begolli

Maliq Pashë Gjinolli 8, 10000 Prishtinë, Republic of Kosovo Tel : 00381(0)38244277, 00377(0)44308093, 00386(0)49308093 Email: hotelbegolli@gmail.com http://www.hotelbegolli.com/

Hotel Continental

Boulevard Aleksandar Makedonski bb, Skopje 1000, Macedonia (FYROM) **Tel:**+389 2 313 3333, +389 2 3 116 599, + 389 2 3 206 000 Email: info@hotelcontinental.com.mk <u>http://www.hotelcontinental.com.mk/</u>

The accommodation is foreseen in double-rooms or single-rooms.

The workshop venue in Pristina is: EU Information and Cultural Centar Pristina (EUICC) Str. "Mother Teresa" nr.16, 10000 Pristina 10000 Tel: +381 (0) 38 25 99 99 http://www.euicc-ks.com/

The workshop venue in Skopje is Hotel Continental (address see above)

5. Practical information

Arrival is foreseen Sunday 5th October 2014, and departure Saturday 11th October 2014. The organizers will cover the costs for the accommodation and meals for the length of the program, the program, the translation, the transport during the study trip and the workshop. The travel costs to Pristina / Skopje for the participants from the Western Balkans will be reimbursed by the organizers on the basis of the cheapest possible travel prices and on presentation of the bills/receipts. For the participants living in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a bus trip will be organized the 5th October from Sarajevo to Pristina, and the 11th October from Skopje to Sarajevo. For the participants coming from Western/Central Europe, it is expected that that their travel costs are covered by their institution ; if the institution cannot take over the travel costs, the travel ticket might be reimbursed up to a certain amount, depending of the available budget.

6. Organization team / Contact:

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