EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	Fundacja Ośrodka KARTA (KARTA)
PIC number:	938295842
Project name and acronym:	Education against antisemitism. Learning from the past to understand contemporary challenges. A Multimedia Educational Toolkit — (Educational Toolkit)

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	5		
Event name:	Work Package 5: „How can we engage young people in commemorating the past and combating antisemitism through memoirs?”		
Type:	mutual learning/conference		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Warsaw, Poland		
Date(s):	16.05.2026		
Website(s) (if any):	https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/projekt/edukacja-przeciwko-antysemityzmowi-multimedialny-zestaw/ https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/en/projekt/multimediakit/		
Participants			
Female:	16		
Male:	9		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Poland]:	24		
From country 2 [Lithuania]:	1		
Total number of participants:	25	From total number of countries:	2

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

We share the summary of the consultation event of the project "Education Against Anti-Semitism. Learning from the Past to Understand Contemporary Challenges. Multimedia Educational Toolkit" ("Educational Toolkit") with the objectives of WP5 in mind.

We developed the textual component of the multimedia toolkit using content from two memoir books “The Girl from the Closed City” of Larissa Cain and “Questions I am Asked About the Holocaust” of Hedi Fried (testimonies and eye-witnesses interviews), through methodological consultations with

experts specializing in testimonies and eye-witness interviews, and we facilitated knowledge acquisition and transfer. We consulted with experts on working with testimonies and eye-witness interviews to develop lesson plans and other educational materials. We facilitated knowledge acquisition and transfer related to memory work. We conducted a workshop meeting to discuss and refine lesson plans and other educational materials based on the books of Larissa Cain and Hedi Fried.

Our tasks were: methodological consultation with experts to gather methodological guidance, preparing initial drafts of lesson plans and educational material, then workshop meeting on Mai, 16 to refine lesson plans and educational materials based on the memoir books. Finally we incorporated feedback from the workshop and consultations and finalized and published educational materials on the project portal for access by educators and the public.

The project consultation event took place on Mai 16, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Educational Center of Gabriel Narutowicz Institute of Political Thought in Warsaw. The meeting, organized by the KARTA Center (consortium leader) in cooperation with the Gabriel Narutowicz Institute of Political Thought, was the next substantive event of the two-year international project.

We created and consulted a multi-perspective set of multimedia educational tools for teachers, history and human rights educators, and students aged 14–19 from Poland and Lithuania. The aim was to raise awareness of the dangers of anti-Semitism and other forms of stigmatization and exclusion, and to prevent anti-Semitic attitudes, Holocaust denial, and the distortion of historical truths.

The event involved representatives of the consortium partners, including the Open Education Foundation, the Lithuanian Jewish Community and the Pogranicze Foundation. Others excused absence.

Our programme consisted of following topics:

1. Issues and analysis of moral dilemmas: screening of the documentary *The Granddaughter of the Chief* and a lecture by Robert Szuchta on extreme situations and the dilemmas faced by witnesses to / victims of the Holocaust.

2. Workshop session – script development: practical work by teachers on materials for the books:

- “Was I Afraid of Death?” by Hedi Fried (topics: identity, mechanisms of exclusion, Allport’s pyramid).

- “The Girl from the Closed City” by Larissa Cain (topics: pre-war life, life in the ghetto, the “chain of help” in hiding, difficult returns after the war).

- Between good and evil. Man in an extreme situation – moral dilemmas, based in part on the memoirs of Hedi Fried (Robert Szuchta)

3. Panel Discussion: Exchange of experiences on incorporating personal narratives into school education and dealing with student resistance and emotional overload.

Outputs: Development of the final version of the lesson plan and worksheet package, which was published on the uczycsiezhistorii.pl portal as an integral part of the Multimedia Toolkit.

The scheme of our educational materials (core of our methode):

Step / What do we do? / Example

1. We start with an individual and describe their experience

We present an individual’s story. We discuss what that person might have gone through.

We start with a photograph, a letter, a biography, an excerpt from a diary, or the memoirs of a Holocaust survivor. We describe the individual’s difficult experiences.

2. We present the individual’s context

We explain the circumstances that person faced.

The ghetto, the occupation, prohibitions, coercion, lack of safety.

3. We connect the individual’s story with the group’s story

We show that many people of that ethnicity had similar experiences.

The individual’s fate as a starting point for a discussion about the Jewish community.

4. We analyze the mechanisms

We move on to the more complex mechanisms that shaped the lives of entire groups.

Dehumanization, propaganda, contempt, exclusion, violence, collaboration.

Outputs:

The fifth event within the project focuses on the public presentation and consultation of the textual part of the Multimedia Toolkit, available at www.uczycsiezhistorii.pl. The main goal of the meeting was to gather feedback from practitioners—teachers and educators—to ensure the functionality and suitability of the materials for classroom and workshop use.

Main activities and agenda items:

1. Presentation of the dilemma-based learning (also known as the dilemma case method) by Robert Szuchta, textual introduction can be viewed here in English: https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/en/projekt/multimediakit/wprowadzenie_metoda-dylematy_robert_szuchta-en-gb/ , textual introduction can be viewed here in Polish: https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/projekt/edukacja-przeciwko-antysemityzmowi-multimedialny-zestaw/wprowadzenie_metoda-dylematy_robert_szuchta_pl/

2. To show some examples of dilemma-based learning Robert Szuchta has chosen sources texts and developed questions to pupils to 5 examples:

- What does history teach us? Does history repeat itself? Dilemma: Can the memory of the Holocaust, of which education about this event is a part, be an effective panacea against the repetition of this history?

- The duty to remember. Why remember? Dilemma: Did the memory of camp experiences help prisoners to survive?

- The concept of ‘Choices without choice’ (Lawrence Langer) Dilemma: Concentration camp prisoners faced situations in which none of the available solutions was morally ‘good’, and when assessed today, traditional ethics fall short.

- The concept of the ‘grey zone’ (Primo Levi) – the case of Calek Perechodnik, Dilemma: In extreme circumstances, can a victim protect themselves from complicity in a crime?

- The concept of the ‘lesser evil’, Dilemma: Is it permissible to sacrifice part of a community in order to save the rest?

Workshop scenario with sources in English:
https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/en/projekt/multimediakit/dylematy_moralne_scenariusz_r_szuchta-en-gb/

Workshop scenario with sources in Polish:
https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/projekt/edukacja-przeciwko-antysemityzmowi-multimedialny-zestaw/dylematy_moralne_scenariusz_r_szuchta_pl/

3. The crucial point of the event was the group work. Teachers and educators were able to share their opinions in small group discussions led by representatives of partner organizations and experts - methodologists.

While workshop session teachers and educators worked with workshop scenarios prepared by Katarzyna Niewczas. It was a practical work with workshop scenarios for students of primary and secondary schools, combined with a presentation of workshop scenarios made by Agnieszka Kudełka (KARTA) and Mariusz Sokołowski (Foundation Open Education).

- “The Girl from the Closed City” by Larissa Cain (topics: pre-war life, life in the ghetto, the “chain of help” in hiding, difficult returns after the war):

Workshop scenarios to “The Girl from the Closed City” to download in English:
https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/en/projekt/multimediakit/scenariusze-dot-larissa-cain-dziewczynka-z-zamknietego-miasta_en-gb/

Workshop scenarios to “The Girl from the Closed City” to download in Polish:
https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/projekt/edukacja-przeciwko-antysemityzmowi-multimedialny-zestaw/scenariusze-dot-larissa-cain-dziewczynka-z-zamknietego-miasta_pl/

- “Was I Afraid of Death?” by Hedi Fried (topics: identity, mechanisms of exclusion, Allport’s pyramid):

Workshop scenarios to download in English:
https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/en/projekt/multimediakit/scenariusze-dot-hedi-fried-czy-balam-sie-smierci_en-gb/

Workshop scenarios to download in Polish:
https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/projekt/edukacja-przeciwko-antysemityzmowi-multimedialny-zestaw/scenariusze-dot-hedi-fried-czy-balam-sie-smierci_pl/

4. Following the needs of teachers and educators we organised a discussion, containing psychological questions based on a practical guide entitled: “Tools for addressing resistance, dehumanisation and emotional overload in Holocaust education”, made by psychologist Alicja Kotowska.

Psychologic tools to download in English:
https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/en/projekt/multimediakit/narzedzia_psychologiczne_alicja_kotowska-en-gb/

Psychologic tools to download in Polish:
https://uczycsiezhistorii.pl/projekt/edukacja-przeciwko-antysemityzmowi-multimedialny-zestaw/narzedzia_psychologiczne_alicja_kotowska_pl/

The central point of the event was a moderated feedback session while this discussion. It was a debate on practical application of the presented tools in everyday work and exchange of good practices, with particular emphasis on the experiences of partners from Lithuania.

Evaluation and summary:

Completion of an interactive questionnaire on the usefulness of the tools, which allowed their final refinement before full publication on the portal. Participants were able to share their own suggestions and insights, contributing their input and perspective to the development of the educational materials. The participants hope that it will also translate into improving the quality of their teaching and contribute to more effective shaping of young people's attitudes. Participation in its consultation was an opportunity to deepen reflection on the challenges of historical education and human rights and to establish valuable contacts among educators from Poland and Lithuania, co-creating a network of cooperation in the field of Holocaust and human rights education.

Teachers and educators learned about opportunities to participate in future workshops and training sessions organized as part of the project. We continued to work together within a network of representatives of our target group via a Facebook group called: Cyfrowa pamięć - edukacja historyczna/digital memory - history education (https://www.facebook.com/groups/346823212967062).

Participants received free copies of two KARTA publications used in the project, a book by Larissa Cain entitled The Girl from the Closed City: Memories from the Warsaw Ghetto, and a book of Hedi Fried entitled The questions I was afraid to ask.

We also conducted a European survey. We introduced it and "trained" participants how to complete it. We will report the results at the end of the project.

The results of the meeting - the recording is presented on the YouTube Channel of KARTA:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwE7YIRPJyczEJYmiiS1VTdhzK7Z7PCsY

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).

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