



*Memory Lab*  
*Trans-European Exchange Platform on History and Remembrance*

**7th annual study trip and workshop:  
“Told, untold and retold histories” - Serbia, October 9 – 15, 2016**

Organized by:  
Youth Initiative for Human Rights BiH (Sarajevo),  
C31 – Center for Developing Children’s Rights Culture (Belgrade),  
Peace Academy Foundation (Sarajevo), Franco-German Youth Office (Paris/Berlin),  
Forum ZFD (Pristina / Belgrade / Sarajevo / Skopje)  
and crossborder factory (Berlin / Paris / Sarajevo)

In cooperation with and with the support of:  
Robert Bosch Foundation, CCFD-Terre Solidaire,  
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## FINAL REPORT



Robert Bosch **Stiftung**



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## **FINAL REPORT**

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## **I. Aims of the 7<sup>th</sup> workshop and study trip**

### **General aim:**

The trans-European exchange platform “Memory Lab” (named “Dealing with difficult pasts in Western Europe and the Western Balkans” until 2013) brings together organizations, institutions and persons working on memory sites and remembrance education in the Western Balkans and in Western/Central Europe, and promotes thereby exchange, cooperation and critical understanding of remembrance and history in Europe. The platform is mainly organized around annual study trips and workshops which are particular important occasions for mutual learning through the sharing of experiences and practices. The platform and the annual meetings aim to overcome existing gaps of knowledge, to strengthen constructive dealing-with-the-past-approaches as means for sustainable peace- and democracy-building, and to contribute to cooperation and understanding processes within South Eastern Europe and Europe in general and to the integration of the countries of the former Yugoslavia into a shared European civil society and memory space.

### **Specific aims:**

- To explore and discuss current memorialization processes in Serbia, related to the Second World War, the Socialist Yugoslavia and the Yugoslav break-up wars of the 1990s
- To explore and discuss these memorialization processes in Serbia in the perspective of *told, untold and retold histories*
- To connect the question of told, untold and retold stories with memorialization processes in other European countries and with personal experiences from the participants in relation to their respective home countries
- To deepen contacts and cooperation and to provide a space to develop future activities between the participants of the platform

## **II. Background**

Dealing with the past (DwP) is a very sensitive issue in the countries of the former Yugoslavia, as the wounds of the wars of the 1990s are still fresh and linked with often conflicting memories. In Western and Central Europe, although there has been no war in the last sixty years, memory questions often also remain sensitive, for example concerning the Second World War and the crimes linked to communism or colonialism. Even if each country has its specific situation and if the distance of war differs in Western/Central Europe and the Western Balkans, a lot of questions are nevertheless similar: How to deal with difficult past(s)? How to face the reluctance of people to deal with the past? What is the place and the role of memory sites in DwP-processes? What are possibilities and challenges of pedagogical and educational approaches at and around this kind of places, especially for young people? To what extent can memory sites bring conflicting memories together? If international cooperation in the field of DwP is quite well developed within the EU, exchanges in this field within SEE and also between SEE and the EU-countries are still quite rare. This mutual absence of relations and knowledge is reflecting the still existing gaps between the countries of former Yugoslavia and between these countries and the rest of Europe. Also in the

perspective of the European integration of the countries of former Yugoslavia, it appears to be urgent to create regular opportunities for initiatives committed to a constructive DwP to meet, to learn from each other and to develop common activities. In this framework the general purpose of the platform is to bring together initiatives in the field of dealing with difficult pasts (wars and dictatorships during different periods of the 20th century) from different countries of Western/Central Europe and the Western Balkans and to establish a long-term process of exchange and cooperation between them in order to facilitate contact, exchange experiences, overcome gaps of knowledge, learn from each other, mutually build capacities and carry out common projects and activities. The platform aims to strengthen a critical understanding of history and remembrance and constructive dealing-with-the-past-approaches as means for sustainable peace- and democracy-building, to contribute to cooperation and understanding processes within South Eastern Europe and Europe in general and to the integration of the countries of the former Yugoslavia into a common European civil society and memory space.

The annual study trips and workshops of Memory Lab alternate every year between South Eastern Europe and Western Europe. Numerous bilateral or multilateral cooperation and activities involving different participating organizations have resulted from the annual meetings. After trips including visits in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Germany, Kosovo, Macedonia and Belgium, the 7<sup>th</sup> annual trip and workshop took place in Serbia.

### **III. Participants**

Participants are representatives of memorial centers, historical museums, NGOs and other organizations/initiatives/individuals from the Western Balkans and from Western/Central Europe, acting practically in the field of dealing with the past, especially around memory sites and in the educational field. The involved persons and organizations are working on different “difficult pasts” related to the history of Europe in the 20th century (First World War, Second World War, communist dictatorships, Yugoslav break-up wars of the 1990s): this diversity reflects the complexity of European history and has also proven to be very stimulating and enriching for the working process. At the workshop and study trip 2016, 41 persons have been participating: 13 persons from Bosnia and Herzegovina, 4 from Croatia, 1 from Kosovo, 2 from Macedonia, 5 from Serbia, 2 from Belgium, 5 from France, 6 from Germany, 1 from the United Kingdom, 1 from Spain and 1 from The Netherlands). 27 of the 41 participants had already participated in one of the previous study trips/workshops, what means that 14 persons have participated for the first time. That combination of “old” and “new” participants guarantees on the one hand a continuation and deepening of the existing contacts and work, and on the other hand the integration of new participants in a group which aims to be open for new persons, contacts and ideas. Concerning the choice of the participants in 2016, for the second time, it was not done by direct invitation, but by open call for applications for interested persons to apply by filling in and sending an application. The organization team received a large number of applications, but unfortunately could not accept all those who applied, the selection of candidates on the following basis:

a) General criteria for the constitution of the group:

- Practitioners who are dealing with history and memory work in Europe, especially in memorials, museums, and civil society organizations

- The group should be constituted by approx. 2/3 of “old” participants (who have participated at one or several of the former annual Memory Lab study trips/workshops) and of 1/3 of “new” participants
  - Different countries need to be represented in the group
  - The total number of participants should not exceed 40 persons
- b) Individual criteria for the applicants:
- Concrete / practical link to memory work
  - For “old” participants: Own commitment to Memory Lab (for example organization of joint activities with other Memory Lab associates), and benefit for one’s own work / For new participants: potential own commitment to Memory Lab, and potential benefit for own work.

The list with the participants can be found in the annexes at the end of this report.

## **IV. The program**

### **1. The preparation**

The organization team gathered from 18 to 20 March 2016 in Belgrade in order to prepare the study visit and workshop in Serbia in October 2016. The detailed aims, structure and content of the 2016-program were elaborated on the basis of a) the evaluations of the study trip / workshop 2015, b) the preliminary results of a larger evaluation research about the development of Memory Lab since 2010, and c) a brainstorming about possible sites to visit, persons to meet and activities to organize during the program in Serbia in October, organized together with several additional Memory Lab partners and other persons from Serbia involved in dealing with the past. On this basis was developed the concrete program, which, in comparison to the previous years, included for example the following innovations: It was decided that

- the presentation and discussion about joint activities would take place already the first day (and then again the last day), what will give the participants much more time to think about future common activities
- the entire program of visits would be organized around one general thread: the parallelisation and interaction of “told histories, untold histories, and re-told histories”
- for the first time, the group would explore three different dimensions of the history of a town (Belgrade) in three parallel group-visits, in order to allow each participant to choose the topic he/she is the most interested in, but also to discover the other dimensions by the following gathering of the three groups and the mutual presentation and discussion of the findings.

### **2. The general topic and structure**

The program focused on three main topics of memorialization: the Second World War, the Socialist Yugoslavia, and the period of the 1990s, with the Milosevic-regime and the break-up wars of Yugoslavia. The approach was to explore “told, untold and retold histories” in relation to these periods in today’s Serbia: “told histories” refer to the narratives which are dominating today’s culture of remembrance in Serbia, “untold histories” refer to those which

are barely visible or marginalized, and “retold histories” refer to narratives which have been or are currently changing, as for example the discourses about resistance and collaboration in Serbia during the Second World War. These questions were addressed through visits of sites, encounters with historians, curators and civil society organizations, and work within the group. The group was based in Belgrade, but the program also included excursions to Vojvodina and its capital Novi Sad, and to Kragujevac. While exploring the situation in Serbia, the program also helped to connect the topic of “told, untold and retold histories” with memorialization processes in other European countries and with the personal experiences of the participants. Furthermore, the program also offered space for networking and for further development of common activities among the participants of the program.

The program started on Monday, October 10, 2016, with an introduction and presentation of the Memory Lab platform, organizational team and overall program of the study visit. It was followed by an interactive presentation of the participants and an info-market with presentation of on-going (joint) projects and of current developments of Memory Lab, as well as with the first collection of ideas for future common activities.

In the afternoon of the first day, three presentations were delivered about “Told, untold and retold histories of Serbia”. The presentations included: *Overview of the contemporary history of Serbia, with a focus on the period from World War Two until today* by Olga Manojlović-Pintar (Institute for Recent History of Serbia, Belgrade); *Current memorialization processes in Serbia concerning World War Two and Socialist Yugoslavia* by Jelena Đureinović (Department of Eastern European History, Justus Liebig Universität Gießen, Germany), and *Current memorialization processes in Serbia concerning the 1990s (the Milošević-regime and break-up wars of SFR Yugoslavia)* by Orli Fridman (Faculty of Media and Communications [FMK] & School for International Training [SIT], Belgrade). After the presentations, a Q&A session followed with questions from and discussion with the participants.

The first day ended with an informal city walk in several groups through the wider city center with the aim of noticing, watching and recording the city’s history and memories.

### **3. Main parts:**

#### **3.1. Exploring Vojvodina**

On the second day, we travelled by bus to Vojvodina stopping, on our way, first in Batajnica, a suburb of Belgrade. In Batajnica is situated a police training center of the Serbian Ministry of Interior, and it is to this the site where 1999 bodies of Kosovo-Albanian victims from the war in Kosovo were transported and buried, in order to conceal traces of mass crimes and protect the individuals responsible from being brought to justice. The mortal remains of 700 people were found in the mass graves at Batajnica: They had been victims of crimes that took place at various locations throughout Kosovo, all of which were committed in a similar manner, and accompanied by looting and deportation of the civilian population. The bodies were exhumed in 2001 and then brought back to Kosovo to be buried there. The citizens of Batajnica did not know that they had lived so close to mass gravesites. The Humanitarian Law

Centar Serbia launched an initiative to set up a Memorial at this place, as until now there is not a single sign of a memorial to the victims in this suburb. The area in which the mass gravesites were situated is still used by members of the Serbian Ministry of Interior as a shooting range and is not accessible to the public. - In Batajnica, we were given a presentation about events that happened in this place by Jasmina Lazović from the Youth Initiative for Human Rights in Serbia.

Our next stop was the Sarmian Front Memorial in the village of Adaševci, near the border with Croatia. The Sarmian Front was an Axis line of defense during World War II, established in late October 1944 in Sarmia and east Slavonia, northwest of Belgrade. After the Yugoslav Partisans and the Red Army had reached Belgrade, the retreating Wehrmacht and the Croatian Armed Forces fortified to protect the withdrawal of German troops from the Balkans. Yugoslav Army, with some help from allied Soviet, Bulgarian and Italian forces, fought a difficult winter campaign, finally succeeding to break through the front on 12 April 1945. After breaking the Sarmian front occupied Yugoslavia was liberated. The Sarmian Front Memorial was opened as late as 1988 and was closed during the 1990s war, due to its proximity to the Croatian border. We were guided through the Memorial complex and the museum by the museum curator.

After this visit, we continued our study trip to Novi Sad, where we met Bojan Krivokapić, a local activist from the Youth Centar CK13, who gave us a guided tour through Novi Sad. We visited three sites: First the Museum of Contemporary Art of Novi Sad, which had been the Museum of Revolution in Novi Sad during Socialist Yugoslavia, but had been transformed after the 1990s. Secondly, a bridge bombed during the NATO bombing of Novi Sad in 1999, which has been reconstructed, but where big photos have been put in order to recall this event. And finally a monument to victims of Hungarian fascists' raid on the Danube shore during Second World War: this raid was actually a series of attacks by Hungarian troops against civilians in Hungarian occupied Bačka in January 1942, after the Axis invasion and partition of Yugoslavia. The raids were conducted in several places in southern Bačka region, including Novi Sad. An estimated 3,000 to 4,000 civilian hostages, mostly Serbs and Jews, were rounded up and then killed.

After the walk through the town, we paid a visit to the alternative Youth Centar CK 13 where we had a discussion with Jelena Dukaric from Vojvodina Civic Center, especially about "untold stories" regarding the 1990s in Vojvodina. These "untold stories" related on the one hand to the persecution of Croat minorities, and on the other hand to forced mobilization of Serbian refugees from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, who came to Vojvodina in 1995 and were then drafted into Serbian army and sent to other battle sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo.

The day finished with free time in Novi Sad and a return by bus to Belgrade.

### **3.2. Exploring Belgrade**

The third day was dedicated to traces of history in Belgrade and city walks in three parallel groups.

The first group was following “Told, untold and retold histories of World War Two” in Belgrade and had a guided visit to the sites of two former concentration camps, Topovske Supe and Staro Sajmište, and to the Monument dedicated to the Belgrade Liberators 1944 at the cemetery of Belgrade liberators. The guide of the group was Milovan Pissari, historian and member of the Forum for Applied History from Belgrade.

The second group was following “Told, untold and retold histories of socialist Yugoslavia”, and paid a guided visit to the Museum of Yugoslav history, together with a visit to House of Flowers or Josip Broz Tito’s grave, and to the Federal Executive Council building (today named “Palace of Serbia”), one of the most significant examples of Yugoslav post-war architecture. The group was guided by Ivan Manojlović, curator at the Museum of Yugoslav History.

The third group followed “Told, untold and retold histories of 1990s” with a guided visit to different memory sites related to the Yugoslav break-up wars of the 1990s (for example to the anti-war-protests, and to the NATO bombing in 1999). The group guides were Jasmina Lazović from the Youth Initiative for Human Rights in Serbia and Tamara Šmidling from the Peace Academy Foundation.

In the second part of the day, all three groups presented to other groups what they discovered during their memory walks, showing photos of the visited sites and discussing issues that were raised during the visits. The day finished with a feedback-round about the day.

### **3.3. Exploring Kragujevac**

On the fourth day we travelled by bus to Kragujevac, where we visited the Memorial Park Kragujevac October (Šumarice), related to the execution of an estimated 3,000 men and boys of the town by the German occupation forces on October 21, 1941. To commemorate the victims of the massacre, the whole of Šumarice, where the killings took place, was designated a memorial park. Our guide through the memorial park was Nenad Đorđević, a local historian. There are several monuments in the park, for example the monument to the murdered schoolchildren and their teachers (the "Interrupted Flight" monument), the "Monument of pain and defiance", the "One hundred for one" monument, the "Resistance and Freedom" monument, and the monument to the executed shoe cleaners. We also had a guided visit to the Museum 21<sup>st</sup> October, where we saw the permanent exhibition about the Kragujevac massacre. The Museum 21st October was founded within the Memorial park in 1976 with the aim of gathering, processing, keeping and presenting the documents concerning the shooting



and the victims, through exhibitions and printed material ; the exhibition was rearranged after the 1990s.

After that we visited the Museum of Weapon Factory in Kragujevac, which was set up in the 1950s and focuses on the history of this factory and the workers movement during SFRY and the decline of the weapon and car factory during the 1990s. We were given a guided tour through the museum by the museum curator.

In the afternoon we were given a presentation about the educational program of the organization C31, the “Museum of the Past for the Future”, presented to us by the director of the organization, Maša Avramović.

The day ended with a presentation and discussion with a representative of the workers’ union, who talked about the workers union in Kragujevac throughout history, with special emphasis on the transition period of the 1980s and 1990s, and the situation today.

A feedback round about the day was organized at the beginning of the next morning.

### **3.4. Networking / Memory Lab / Future projects**

On the final day of the program, the participants were divided into several country-groups, in which participants discussed similarities and differences between their own countries and the situation in Serbia, regarding commemorative culture and memorialization. After that, participants were divided into mixed groups and presented in these new groups results of discussion from their country-groups.

In the second part of the day, new groups were formed on the basis of project-ideas proposed by different members of the group. In these project-idea groups, participants discussed potential future projects that they might realize together and developed these ideas further. The coordinators of each group were asked to make a one-page-summary of their topic-group after the study trip, which would be sent to all participant’s of this year’s Memory Lab program. All together, five topic-groups were formed on the following topics:

**“Factories and Communities – transformations”** - the main idea of this group is to establish a research and activist program which will be open, inclusive and focused on the researching of the changing roles of factories in various Bosnian-Herzegovinian, Croatian, Serbian and French communities. The idea is to form different local teams which will research different cases, and organize and mobilize local community to create, use and share archives about the factory in the community.

**SEE — YU — MUSEUMS** - It is a platform of trust and self-awareness in the field of the museum community of South Eastern Europe, conceived as a meeting place, online archive / library / reference book, with the purpose to map the processes of the reconstruction/reconceptualization of memorial and historical museums, which are the successor museums of Yugoslav NOB (People’s Liberation War) museums and museums of revolution.

**Study visit of the Belgian teachers to Bosnia and Herzegovina** - a project offering Belgian teachers from all Belgian communities a wider knowledge on the recent Balkan history (the 1990s) so that they know what happened and why it happened, but also to give them an opportunity to learn something about their own society and what it means to co-exist in a “multi-society” (multi-lingual/ethnic/religious/cultural/...).

**Mechanisms/Processes from the Past - Points of Resistibility** - a project on learning lessons from the past for the future. The focus of the project is not (only) on crimes against humanity/conflict/genocide, but also on the principles of humanity, points of resistance: 'Culture of Resistance' (or: Culture of exclusion/inclusion).

**Commemorative practices: 5th and 6th August in Croatia and BiH** - The main idea is to follow-up, investigate and analyze commemorations in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina organized on 5 and 6th of August. The objective is to investigate and analyse to what extent the commemorative practices are opposing (especially in case of marking of military operation "Storm" from 1995), and to what extent there are elements of religious, political, artistic, traditional, militant nature, ratio between messages of hatred and messages of peace.

The summaries of these topic-groups can be found as annexes at the end of this report.

Earlier in the week, Julie Biro presented her documentary film about the youth encounter “Memory Lab Junior”, one joint project which has been developed by several Memory Lab partners (Max-Mannheimer-Study-Centar Dachau, Festival “Na Pola Puta”, YIHR BiH and CCFD – Terre Solidaire) between 2014 and 2016. The film, with the title “Exploring hidden history”, can be watched on <https://vimeo.com/190451696>

During the program in Serbia, the Memory Lab coordination team also announced a new idea for 2017: to organize, additionally to the annual study trip/workshop in fall, a workshop in spring on a more specific topic and with a smaller number of participants. This “spring-workshop” would not be organized by the Memory Lab Coordination team, but by interested Memory Lab associates who would take care about the content, the logistics and the financing. A part of this “spring workshop” could be paid from the common Memory Lab budget which was established from participation fees that participants had to pay for their this year’s participation in Memory Lab. The Memory Lab coordination team invited interested persons to contact them in the next months with concrete proposals. These project-proposals could be linked with the aforementioned topic-ideas, but could also concern other topics, as long as they are linked with questions of dealing with the past and have a trans-European dimension.

In the final plenary of the program, the coordination team announced that the next year’s Memory Lab will be held in Spain and that the preparation meeting will take place beginning of 2017. The program ended with a round of final remarks and written evaluation of the week.

#### **4. Visibility**

The coordination team of the Memory Lab – platform ensured the visibility of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the annual study trip/workshop the one hand through it’s website [www.memorylab-europe.eu](http://www.memorylab-europe.eu), and on the other hand through its new facebook-page

<https://www.facebook.com/memorylabeu/> . Information about the program was also shared on the website of different other organization, as for example the European Observatory on Memories) (EUROM (<http://europeanmemories.net/activities/told-untold-and-retold-histories/>), or the Belgian organization “Bijzonder Comité voor Herinneringseducatie” (<http://herinneringseducatie.be/told-untold-retold-stories-memory-lab-in-servie-2016/> )

During two days, the journalist Alexandra Wolters accompanied our Memory Lab program and interviewed several participants, in order to write a report for the new edition of the magazine of the Robert Bosch Foundation, with a focus on the topic “peace”. The report was published in December 2016, in German with the title “Löchrige Erinnerung – Weshalb die Aufarbeitung der Jugoslawienkriege erst am Anfang steht”, and in English with the title “Memory Gaps – Efforts to come to term with war in the former Yugoslavia”: <http://www.bosch-stiftung.de/content/language2/html/publikationen.asp?output=html&action=detail&guid=680df79a-f551-4840-bc76-dbd1c810a4f&language=en&back=back>

One participant of this year’s program, Jacqueline Niesser from the Institute for East and Southeast European Studies of the University of Regensburg, published in December 2016 the article “History as elephant in the room: Observations from Serbia’s Memory Lab”, with reflections about Serbia’s contemporary history and current culture of memory, inspired by the Memory Lab program in Serbia: <https://erinnerung.hypotheses.org/1038#more-1038>

## **V. Evaluation by the participants**

During the evaluation session at the end of the program, the participants were given an evaluation sheet with four questions (1. Your general opinion about this study trip/workshop - 2. Please chose two moments/ places/ encounters/ sentences... from this week which will probably stay in your memory, and explain why. - 3. Concerning the topic “Told, untold, retold histories”, to what extent did this week provide you with new insights / knowledge / questions? - 4. Suggestions for the future (concerning the annual workshop/study trip and/or Memory Lab in general)).

37 evaluation sheets were completed, the main results can be summarized as follows:

1. The overall opinion about the Memory Lab-program in Serbia appears to be positive, even very positive. As positive are highlighted in particularly three dimensions: the richness of the program, the excellent organization, and the constructive group atmosphere (see below point 2). Within the program, a lot of different aspects were seen as important by the participants, with a special mention to the day in Kragujevac and also to moments of exchange among the participants (see below point 3). The participants emphasized in particular that the study trip/workshop had been valuable for them because it provided them with a lot of new insights, information and experiences on the one hand, and of new contacts and encounters on the other (see below points 4 and 5). There are also critical points regarding some specific aspects

mentioned in the evaluations, but none of them is dominating one evaluation, and not one of the specific critical aspects is mentioned by more than six respondents (see below point 6). For the future editions of Memory Lab, different suggestions have been formulated, specifically concerning next year's trip to Spain, as also more in general (see below point 7).

2. Three dimensions of this year's study trip/workshop have been highlighted as particularly positive by the participants in their evaluations: the program, the organization, and the group atmosphere, often all three aspects in the same time (*"I very much enjoyed the study trip. Excellent program and organization. Also, a fantastic group of people with whom I felt like in one group."* - *"Excellent organization, extremely useful paradigm, eye-opening encounters, discussions and visits, great atmosphere within the group."*) Concerning the program were mentioned the overall concept and the focus on the three topics – the Second World War, the socialist period, and the 1990s (*"It was very good that these three periods of the past in Serbia were chosen and connected with the concepts of told, untold and retold histories."*), the choice of the visited places (*"The choices of visit were done in a proper way which allowed us to reflect on different topics and to compare with what is done in different countries"*) as well as the – formal and informal exchanges and discussions – within the group (*"Good informal discussions"* ; *"All the moments of interpersonal encounters and small groups workshops are an asset of the seminar"*). Several persons underlined the good balance between the different parts of the program (*"Well organized mixture of discussions/ exchanges and trips/ visits/ new insights."* - *"The program was rich and well balanced between lectures, visits, workshops and informal conversations."*). - Concerning the organization, it was highlighted as very professional (*"Very well organized and executed, places well picked and group exercises well done."* - *"Good organization (traveling, hotel, food, translation, etc.), everything was very smooth and moved well."*) - Finally, the group atmosphere was also emphasized as very positive and constructive, also in comparison with the program last year where this had appeared as a major concern. (*"The atmosphere within the group was this year particularly nice. No divided groups. People were mixing from one dinner to the other and I personally had the chance to have long discussions with many different people."* - *"The organisation team has created an open space within the program, including good mood, warm atmosphere, and mutual respect."*) Several persons underlined that the new participants had been very well chosen and that they had contributed a lot to the positive atmosphere. (*"Great group, fantastic new people with different perspectives."* - *"Refreshing addition were the new participants, who were well selected."* - *"New participants from other /different horizons has also created a new warm atmosphere and enriched the inputs."*)

3. When looking at the answers to the question "Please chose two moments/ places/ encounters/ sentences... from this week which will probably stay in your memory", a lot of different sites, encounters and moments were mentioned by the participants. This concerned all parts of the program, be it the travel day to Vojvodina (especially with the visits in Batjanica, of the Sremski Front Memorial, and the visit and presentations in the Youth Centar

CK13 in Novi Sad), the program in Belgrade (especially the visits of the Museum of Yugoslav History, of the former Federative Executive Building/ now Palace of Serbia, and of the former World War Two concentration camp sites in Belgrade) or the day Kragujevac (the presentation of C31's "Museum of the Past for the Future", and the presentation of the labour's movement by an Union representative ). One single site is nevertheless mentioned more often than other sites, this is the Kragujevac Memorial Park (*"Memorial Park Museum Kragujevac: seeing a site I had read about added extra levels of understanding, emotions, and questions."* - *"Memorial Park and museum of Kragujevac because I really did not know this history (just on surface) of occupation and repression and I didn't really observe this form of memorialisation before. The place is so huge, the different sculptures, scattered all over the land, despite the personal taste of visitors, have a real function and are not by any mean spoiling the landscape."*) But there is also something else what is mentioned by more than ten participants: not a specific memory site, but moments of – formal or informal - discussion or exchange with other participants. (*"There are many informal moments I will also remember because of the quality and sincerity of the discussions."* - *"The debriefing discussion after the memory walks was very interesting to follow because participants reflected on their impressions and their own personal memories to places and periods of the past. - The many interesting informal talks with colleagues about their professional experiences and memory practices and discourse. It is so insightful and inspiring to hear about their experiences, what they work on, what questions drive them to do the work they do, professionally and personally."*) This second dimension underlines that the importance of Memory Lab lies not just in the discovery and exploration of memory sites, but in the encounter and exchange with other participants – or, to be more precise, in the combination of both, as appears for example in the following quotations: The visit of the Palace of Serbia *"raised a lot of questions concerning our constant interrogation: What do we want this building to reflect? The shape of it changed because it reflected Yugoslavia unity and how it is still used, but it reflects Serbia's rewriting of history/ erasing of the past. In this context the informal contributions of our group were particular enlightening."* - *"Although I knew the most about these locations before our study trip, the dynamic of the group and the group observations made me see new "moments" which I haven't noticed before , or which I did not treat with due attention."*

4. In which sense did the participants see their participation in this year's program as valuable and useful? This question had not been asked explicitly in the questionnaire, but when looking at the overall answers, it can be seen that the participants considered their participation as valuable and this mainly for two reasons: On the one hand, because it provided them with a lot of new insights, information and experiences, regarding Serbia but also beyond (*"The program was filled with informative and new insights about the history of Serbia in relation to that of other countries."* - *"This study trip offered a very interesting program with a variety of topics allowing participants like me to know really more about the history of former Yugoslavia and the way particular aspects of this history were exposed, hidden or transformed in their presentation to new generations."* - *"The study trip/workshop in Serbia,*

*I am sure, has truly offered a great amount of information on ways of memorialisation of World War Two, socialist heritage in general, i.e. how it is talked about or not talked about the war in nineties from the perspective of NGO sector, but also from the perspective of the government institutions.” - “Many new insights, much better told narratives that I already knew, and for me personally the most important questions I found inside of me.”)*

The other reason which appears is that the program provided the participants with new encounters and contacts (*“Meeting people and connecting I found again very useful for both myself, but also the Memory Lab as a whole.”*), and often it appears that the program was seen as valuable for both reasons in the same time, new information/insights and new contacts, which will possibly result in new projects. (*“In general I am very happy, lot of new ideas, contacts, information.” - “I consider this seminar was very useful for the acquisition of knowledge, the deepening of my personal and professional reflection, consolidating my professional practice, educational and scientific knowledge and competence in a Memorial site (as Foundation Camp des Milles in Provence) and creating links with great representatives of an effective network. This program will generate actions and partnerships for the Foundation of the Camp des Milles and for the participants of the Platform Memory Lab.” - “In spite the fact that I am well acquainted with context of Serbia, I’ve gained quite a few new insights, directions for thinking, and possible actions. Some personal priorities in this field have become more clear, and there are topics I would like to get to know more about, and some I would like to work on. New contacts from this Memory Lab will also be very valuable.”)*

5. In the evaluation sheet we asked more specifically the participants to what extent did this week provided them “with new insights / knowledge / questions concerning the topic “Told, untold, retold histories”. The concept of “told, untold and retold histories” was seen as well chosen and as particularly useful for different reasons. On the one hand, several participants mentioned that through the program they understood that these terms are more complicate and complex than it might seem and that it had stimulated their reflection on these concepts. (*“For me, before this program, these were just terms, which I used more or less automatically; the program made me understand for example how much told, untold and re-told stories are intertwined. After this week I will use these terms in much more conscious and also in much more careful way.” - “The greatest insight in relation to three types of narratives is the fact that each location/event /narrative holds within all three aspects. In my opinion such division is very difficult, but at the same time a useful mechanism for understanding of evolution of narratives in society.” - “Complexity even on that level – each story is told, untold, retold.” - “What I have learned during the week about this topic is, that is a lot more complicated to refer to “told, untold and retold stories” than it seems in the first place. As we have learned this week, on many levels, this work is still in progress in Serbia and this topic and the very definition of these three kinds of stories is fluctuating, especially in this country.”)* As appears in the last quotation, many also underlined that these concepts seemed particularly appropriate to approach the situation in Serbia and that it helped them to better understand memorialization processes in Serbia. (*“The topic of the workshop “told,*

*untold and retold narratives” corresponds well with context of Serbia in which we were placed.” - “During the last days I learned a lot about told, untold and retold history in Serbia. Most of the topics were completely new for me”, wrote one participant from Western Europe, but also persons from the Balkans wrote that they had heard about some “untold histories” for the first time, especially about the forced mobilizations in Vojvodina in the 1990s, and the history of the workers movements in the 1990’s.) Furthermore several participants underlined that this focus on « told, untold and retold histories » had been useful because it provided them with a concept which they can apply also for other situations and countries. (“These terms can be applied for any country.” - “The chosen topic for this year automatically made me think about how the past is addressed in my country.” - “The paradigm will be of great use in my future work. Of course, I was aware of this complex process of (non-)memorialization, but seeing it in extreme forms in this context will make me more sensitive to more subtle attempts of retelling history in my own context.” - “The paradigm in itself: “told, untold and retold” is something that I will take home and apply to my work as well as to my country’s history. Before I looked like it was told but now I am beginning to realize that most of it is retold and even untold.”)*

6. Various critical points were also raised in the evaluations, which concerned not the program in general but specific aspects of it. Most of the time these issues were raised only by one or two persons (for example one person thought that the group discussions remained too general, two respondents regretted that the Serbia-Kosovo-relations had not been treated, two other persons would have liked that at the beginning took place a discussion /clarification about the basic concepts “told, untold, retold histories”). But none of these aspects are dominating within one evaluation. Only one point was mentioned more often: six different persons estimated that some of the overview-lectures at the beginning of the program didn’t provide the participants with enough basic information about the contemporary history and memorialization processes in Serbia (“*I missed a general overview of the past and current situation in the country which made it difficult for me to follow sometime.*”) and emphasized that there should be such a basic introduction next year. Regarding other suggestions for the next years, three persons suggested that a short presentation of every participant within the plenary should take place at the beginning of the program, three other persons suggested that visits of sites should not only take place in a guided form (but for example also through self-exploration), and four persons suggested to take more time for group work and feed-back sessions in comparison to the time spent for the visits of sites. Interestingly, while many had underlined that the group atmosphere had been very good this year, two persons nevertheless did not agree with that and saw the group atmosphere as problematic. But also some persons who underlined that the atmosphere had been better this year raised the question how to deal with controversies and tensions during the program: “*The group and atmosphere was much more constructive than last year- but do we create sufficient (safe) space and time for controversial discussions?*” - “*Some remarks raise tension. My question is how to deal with it. What normally happens is that groups of same minded are built and the core of tension is*

*being discussed in groups. Maybe irritations that are linked with our topic should be integrated in the learning process, instead of being classified as an incident or an excess.”*

7. Concerning next year’s program, which is scheduled to take place in Spain, the most frequent suggestion is to tackle the Spanish Civil war and its memories, in general and regarding some specific aspects (for example: *“I think it would be interesting to work in the next Memory Lab meeting about international brigades and what it meant in the European history.”* ; *“Dealing with sites of memory from the civil war that have been erected during the dictatorship.”*). Individually also other aspects were mentioned, as Spain’s colonial past. Some suggestions are already expressed for countries where the Memory Lab-program could take place in the following years, as Croatia, Italy and Hungary.

## **VI. Conclusions and perspectives**

The program in Serbia can be considered as another successful edition of the annual Memory Lab study trip and workshop, and it can be stated that the four goals defined before the program have been met. It seems also that the problem of negative group atmosphere has been successfully addressed, which occurred last year during certain discussions, by introducing common principles and asking the participants to follow them, in order to avoid such a negative atmosphere. The common principles included respect for other speakers during discussions, listening to others, and keeping in mind that not all participants have the same level of knowledge about a certain topic.

This year’s innovation was the introduction of a participation fee (40 € for participants from South Eastern Europe, and 80 € for participants from Western Europe), which has been introduced for two reasons. First, as a sign of commitment of the participating persons to Memory Lab, and secondly, in order to create a small budget from which we could financially support an additional Memory Lab-activity during the year, which would be developed by interested Memory Lab partners. Over the years, participants mentioned in the evaluations that they would like to see some other activities taking place throughout the year, and not just the annual study trip and workshop, so therefore the Memory Lab Coordination Team decided to give participants a chance to develop themselves such an additional activity. For this, a small budget was created with money from the participation fee and this budget will be spent to support an additional activity. The concrete idea is to organize a two-or-three-days-workshop in spring 2017 on a specific topic and with up to maximum 15 participants. The Memory Lab coordination team invited interested persons to contact them in the next months with concrete proposals for this additional activity.

The next edition of Memory Lab in 2017 will be organized in Spain. As in previous years, it will be organized in cooperation with a Memory Lab partner from the “hosting” country, and that will be the European Observatory on Memories (EUROM) based in Barcelona.



Memory Lab will hopefully continue with its successful work in the coming years and see the growth of our platform not only in terms of the number of members/ participants, but also in terms of developed and implemented joint activities, future cooperation projects, and shared knowledge and experiences. Memory Lab is not a formal organization, but an informal platform gathering different individuals and organizations, and the future of the initiative will very much depend of the commitment of these organizations and individuals on the one hand, and on the continuous support by dedicated donors on the other hand. The organization team 2016 wants to especially thank the organizations which made it possible, trough their cooperation and financial support, to organize this 7<sup>th</sup> edition of Memory Lab:

- Robert Bosch Foundation
- CCFD-Terre Solidaire
- Franco-German Youth Office
- Forum ZFD
- Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft

At the end of this report, two more quotations from this year's evaluation sheets may illustrate where lies the importance and value of Memory Lab: *“Memory Lab is a great opportunity to discuss interesting places and meet very interesting people who deal with memory work in different regions. I enjoyed the exchange with other participants and to learn from their experiences.”* - *“Memory Lab gathers people from different areas, and in that way it ensures that different perspectives are reassessed at all times. The enthusiasm of this group of people for meeting at different locations, learning and creating networks of knowledge in area of memorialisation, is inspiring. In addition, Memory Lab is an excellent opportunity for meeting of interesting people and creation of joint projects for the future.”*

## VII. Annexes

### 1. The organization team 2016:

*Maša Avramović*, President, C31 – Center for Developing Children’s Rights Culture, Belgrade, [masavr@gmail.com](mailto:masavr@gmail.com)

*Tamara Banjeglav*, Freelance researcher, Zagreb, [banjeglavt@gmail.com](mailto:banjeglavt@gmail.com)

*Judith Brand*, Program director, Forum ZFD Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo <http://www.forumzfd.de/en/aboutus>, [brand@forumzfd.de](mailto:brand@forumzfd.de)

*Alma Mašić*, Director, Youth Initiative for Human Rights in BiH, Sarajevo, [www.yihr.org](http://www.yihr.org), [alma@yihr.org](mailto:alma@yihr.org)

*Nicolas Moll*, Historian, crossborder factory, Sarajevo / Paris, [www.nicolasmoll.eu](http://www.nicolasmoll.eu), <http://new21.crossborder-factory.eu/>, [moll.nicolas@gmail.com](mailto:moll.nicolas@gmail.com)

*Frank Morawietz*, Special Representative of the FGYO for South Eastern Europe, French-German Youth Office (FGYO), Berlin/Paris, [www.dfjw.org](http://www.dfjw.org), [frankmorawietz@web.de](mailto:frankmorawietz@web.de)

*Tamara Šmidling*, Program Coordinator, Peace Academy Foundation, Sarajevo, [www.mirovna-akademija.org](http://www.mirovna-akademija.org), [tamara@mirovna-akademija.org](mailto:tamara@mirovna-akademija.org)

- For the Youth Initiative for Human Rights BiH, dealing with difficult pasts and promoting reconciliation, in combination with youth work, is one of the central action fields, within Bosnia and Herzegovina and on a regional level. Activities in this field in the last years have for example been the “Srebrenica – Mapping Genocide”-project, summer camps for young activists from the region in Kozarac and Stolac, and the organization of debates around documentary films in the framework of the Sarajevo Film Festival.

- The NGO C 31 – Center for Developing Children’s Rights Culture (Belgrade) was founded by the multidisciplinary team of young professionals with aims to encourage children to think critically about society, reflect on issues of intolerance and responsibility with use of history as starting point and foster values of human rights and tolerance. C 31 is part of the long term initiative “Museum of the Past for the Future” in cooperation with the Memorial Centre “Kragujevacki oktobar” and Regional Office of the Ministry of Education which aims to develop a platform for education in human right and tolerance by use of history of World War Two and recent past.

- The French-German Youth Office (FGYO), besides its experience in activities promoting intercultural learning and cooperation, is especially since the 1990ies organizing and supporting activities in the field of memory work, not only between France and Germany, but also with third countries. Since 2000, in the framework of its South Eastern Europe Initiative, supported by the Ministries for Foreign Affairs of France and Germany, it contributes to create links between civil society actors from France and Germany and the Western Balkans, including a specific work on memory sites and reconciliation linked with French-German experiences since 1945.

- The Forum ZFD aims to contribute to a constructive debate on Dealing with the Past within the Western Balkans, as a foundation for a future which provides an alternative to the violent past. The organisation is supporting existing initiatives on DwP, launching new projects in this field, and is sharing information and promoting networking between DwP initiatives, for example through the magazine “Balkan Perspectives”.

- Crossborder factory is a European think-and-do tank which aims to strengthen intercultural competence and European commitment. crossborder factory provides a platform for European citizens who wish to actively participate in shaping a democratic, peaceful, open-minded and solidary Europe. Within this framework, crossborder factory aims to strengthen the links between the Western Balkans and the rest of Europe, and dealing with the past is one of the major working topics of crossborder factory.

- The Peace Academy Foundation, based in Sarajevo, envisions a culture of peace as a relevant characteristic of relations within the Western Balkans, in each country and between them. Their mission is to help construct and affirm a culture of peace in all social spheres by exchange of theoretical and practical knowledge, skills, and experiences; development of existing and creation of new theoretical models for peace work; education for everyone who is active or wishes to be active in the field of peace work; and fostering connections between actors relevant for peacebuilding and promotion of peace work.

## **2. Program “Memory Lab” 2016**

### Sunday 9. October:

Arrival of participants to Belgrade / check-in at

*Hotel Palace*

*Topličin venac 23, Belgrade, 00381 11 185585, <http://www.palacehotel.co.rs/en/>*

20.00 Joint dinner at the hotel

### Monday, October 10:

9.00 - 10.30 Introduction: presentation of the Memory Lab platform, organizational team and overall program of the study visit. Interactive presentation of the participants

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 - 13.00 Info-market with presentation of on-going (joint) projects and of current developments of Memory Lab / First collection of ideas for future common activities

13.00 - 14.30 Lunch in the hotel

14.30 - 16.00 “Told, untold and retold histories of Serbia”: an introduction

Three presentations:

1. Overview of the contemporary history of Serbia, with a focus on the period from World War Two until today: Olga Manojlović-Pintar (Institute for Recent History of Serbia, Belgrade)
2. Current memorialization processes in Serbia concerning World War Two and Socialist Yugoslavia: Jelena Đureinović (Department of Eastern European History, Justus Liebig Universität Gießen, Germany)
3. Current memorialization processes in Serbia concerning the 1990s (the Milošević-regime and break-up wars of SFR Yugoslavia): Orli Fridman ((Faculty of Media and Communications [FMK] & School for International Training [SIT], Belgrade)

16.00 – 16.15 Coffee break

16.15-17.00 Discussion of issues raised during the presentations.

17.30 Walking, watching, noticing: Informal city walks in several groups from Knez Mihajlova Street to Slavia Square and recording history and memories.

19.30 Joint dinner

Tuesday, October 11:

7.45 Meeting in the hotel lobby, walking to the bus parking and travel by bus to Vojvodina.

Passing through Batajnica suburban area: Explanations about the development of this Belgrade suburban area and about the history of the Batajnica mass graves related to the Kosovo war in 1999

09.30 -11.30 Visit to the memorial site Sarmian / Sremski front related to the 1944/45 battles at the end of World War Two and guided tour at the museum.

11.30 - 12.30 Traveling to Novi Sad

12.30 - 14.00 Joint lunch in Novi Sad

14.00 - 15.30 Organized city walk about local history related to World War Two, Socialist Yugoslavia and the 1990s, with Bojan Krivokapić (CK 13 Novi Sad)

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 – 17.30: Visit to CK 13 (local cultural center) and discussion with Jelena Dukaric (Vojvodina Civic Centre) about told, untold and retold histories related to the 1990s in Vojvodina, especially example forced army mobilizations and persecution of minorities:

17.45 – 18.30: Feedback about the day

18.30 - 20.30 Free time and dinner in the city

20.30 Departure to Belgrade

### Wednesday, October 12:

8.45: Meeting in the hotel-lobby

9.00 - 13.00 On the trace of histories – city walk in three parallel groups

First group: “Told, untold and retold histories of World War Two”: Guided visit to the site of the former concentration camps Tupovske Supe and Staro Sajmište and to the Monument of Belgrade Liberators. Guide: Milovan Pissari, historian and member of the Forum for Applied History Belgrade

Second group: “Told, untold and retold histories of socialist Yugoslavia”: Guided visit to the Museum of Yugoslav history and to the Federal Executive Council building. Guide: Ivan Manojlović, curator at the Museum of Yugoslav History

Third group: “Told, untold and retold histories of 1990s”: Guided visit to different memory sites related to the Yugoslav break-up wars of the 1990s. Guides: Jasmina Lazović (Youth Initiative for Human Rights Serbia) and Tamara Šmidling (Peace Academy Foundation)

13.00 - 14.30 Lunch in the city within the three parallel groups

14.30 - 15.30 Preparation of city walk presentations

15.30 - 17.00 Presentations and discussion

17.30 – 18.15: Feedback-round about the day

18.15 – 18.45: Presentation of the documentary film about Memory Lab Junior, by Julie Biro

19.00: Joint dinner at the hotel

### Thursday, October 13:

7.45 Meeting in the hotel lobby, walking to the bus parking and travel by bus to Kragujevac

10.00 - 13.00 Visit to the Memorial Park Kragujevac October (Šumarice), related to the execution of an estimated 3,000 men and boys of the town by the German occupation forces on October 21, 1941. Guide: Nenad Đorđević, historian

10.00 – 12.00: Visit of the Memorial park and guided tour in the Museum 21st October

12.15 - 13.00 Visit to the Museum of Weapon Factory in Kragujevac

13.15 - 14.30 Joint lunch

14.45 -16.00 Presentation of the C31's educational program “Museum of the Past for the Future” .

16.00 - 17.00 Discussion with a representative of the Workers Union about the workers movements in Kragujevac especially in the 1990s

17.30 Departure to Belgrade

19.30 Arrival to Belgrade, free dinner

#### Friday, October 14:

09.00 – 09.45: Feedback-round about the day on Kragujevac

09.45 - 11.15: “Told, untold and retold histories in a European context”:

Interactive-creative approach and reflection about told, untold and retold histories of Serbia, in comparison and connection with memorialization processes in other European countries and with personal experiences of participants of the group.

11.15 – 11.30: Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00: Continuation of the dialogue about joint activities and projects / creation of topic-groups

13.00 - 14.30 Lunch at the hotel

14.30 - 16.00 Evaluation of the program and perspectives for the future

16.00 – 20.00: Free time

20.00 Joint Farewell Dinner

#### Saturday, October 15:

Departure of participants

<b>First and last name of participant</b>	<b>Organization/Institution</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Town</b>
<b>Srdjan Amet</b>	Association MIR – Skopje	Roma genocide expert	Skopje (MK)
<b>Maša Avramović*</b>	C31 – Centre for the development of childrens rights culture; Department of Pedagogy, University of	President of the organization, PhD candidate	Belgrade (SRB)
<b>Gruia Badescu</b>	University of Oxford	Departmental Lecturer	Oxford (UK)
<b>Tamara Banjeglav*</b>	University of Rijeka	Post-docotral research fellow	Zagreb/Rijeka (HR)
<b>Daniel Bernhardt</b>	Forum Civil Peace Service (forumZFD)	Project manager	Skopje (MK)
<b>Julie Biro</b>		Documentary film-maker	Paris (F)
<b>Ervin Blažević</b>	Optimisti 2004 Kozarac	President	Prijedor (BiH)
<b>Judith Brand*</b>	Forum ZFD BiH	Program Manager	Sarajevo (BiH)
<b>Griet Brosens</b>	Belgium Nationals Institute for War veterans	Historian, in charge of educational remembrance-projects	Brussels (BL)
<b>Slobodanka Dekić</b>	Mediacentar Sarajevo	Senior project coordinator	Sarajevo (BiH)
<b>Amir Djuliman</b>		Interpreter	Sarajevo (BiH)
<b>Mirsad Duratović</b>	Camp inmates association “Prijedor 92”	Association president	Prijedor (BiH)

<b>Erla Gjinishi</b>	Alter Habitus	Associate	Prishtina (KS)
<b>Alain Gueraud</b>	Altea-France		Limoges (F)
<b>Miriam Hannig</b>	Landesstelle für die nichtstaatlichen Museen in Bayern	Research assistant	Augusburg (D)
<b>Elma Hašimbegović</b>	Historical museum of BiH	Director	Sarajevo (BiH)
<b>Nataša Jagdhuhn</b>	Europäisches Kolleg Jena, Historisches Institut	Research associate and PhD candidate	Jena (D)
<b>Steffen Jost</b>	Max Mannheimer Study Center, Dachau	Educational assistant	Dachau (D)
<b>Rodoljub Jovanović</b>	University of Amsterdam; EUROCLIO (European Association of History Educators)	Tutor, researcher	Amsterdam (NL)
<b>Dragana Latinčić</b>	City of Belgrade Museum	Curator for educational and pedagogical activities	Belgrade (SRB)
<b>Jasmina Lazović</b>	Youth Initiative for Human Rights Serbia	Coordinator of the Transitional Justice Program	Belgrade (SRB)
<b>Dražana Lepir</b>	Citizens' association 'Oštra nula'	Association president	Banja Luka (BiH)
<b>Carine Leveque</b>	ONAC National office for war veterans and war victims	Memory and Communication Coordinator	Montpellier (F)
<b>Oriol Lopez Badell</b>	European Observatory on Memories (EUROM)	Coordinator	Barcelona (S)
<b>Katja Lorenz</b>	Youth Initiative for Human Rights Croatia	Intern	Zagreb (HR)
<b>Ružica Marjanović</b>	Festival „Half way“	Programme editor and festival founder	Užice (SRB)



<b>Alma Mašić*</b>	Youth Initiative for Human Rights BiH	Director	Sarajevo (BiH)
<b>Christian Melka</b>	National Education Academie d'Aix-Marseille and Foundation of Camp des Milles-Remembrance and Education Marseille	counsellor of the President of the Foundation Camp des Milles- Shoah Memorial Site- Aix-en-Provence	Aix-en-Provence (F)
<b>Sven Milekić</b>	Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN)	Jouranlist and researcher	Zagreb (HR)
<b>Nicolas Moll*</b>		Historian and Consultant	Sarajevo (BiH) / Paris (F)
<b>Frank Morawietz*</b>	French-German Youth Office	Special coordinator for the activities of OFAJ in SEE	Berlin (D)
<b>Jacqueline Nießer</b>	Institute for East and Southeast European Studies, University of Regensburg	Researcher	Regensburg (D)
<b>Ljubinka Petrović-Ziemer</b>	University of Sarajevo, Department for German language	Assistant professor for German language, theatre and cultural history	Sarajevo (BiH)
<b>Edin Ramulić</b>	Association of citizens of Prijedor "Izvor"	Vice president	Prijedor (BiH)
<b>Christian Savary</b>	The Path of Memory	History teacher	Coutances (F)
<b>Günter Schlusche</b>	Berlin Wall Foundation	Architect, Planner	Berlin (D)
<b>Tamara Šmidling*</b>	Peace Academy Sarajevo	activist and researcher	Sarajevo (BiH)
<b>Aleksandra Stamenković</b>	C31 – Centre for the development of childrens rights culture	organization deputy-president	Belgrade (SR)

<b>Aleksandar-Ivan Tatić</b>	Memorial centre 'Lipa remembers'	curator intern	Lipa (HR)
<b>Marjan Verplancke</b>	Kazerne Dossin, Memorial, Museum and Documentation Centre on Holocaust and Human Rights	Head of Education and Outreach	Mechelen (BEL)
<b>Goran Zorić</b>	Youth centre "KVART"	executive director	Prijedor (BiH)
<b>Tamara Zrnović</b>	Helsinki Committee for Human Rights RS	Coordinator of peace-building and dealing with the past projects	Bijeljina (BiH)

\* = Member of the organization team

#### **4. Summaries of the topic-groups :**

##### ***1) Working title – “Factories and Communities – transformations”***

###### **Summary:**

The main idea is to establish research and activist program which will be open, inclusive and focused on the researching the changing roles of factories in various Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, French communities.

From the examples of few Bosnian communities (Velika Kladuša, Foča) it appeared to be that big factories/companies from the socialist era still plays a critical role in the narratives of the local population, in spite of major transformation that these factories/communities have been through. These factories were the main economic resource for it's local communities, then some of them were transformed into atrocity sites during the 90's war, and after the war they were constituted as specific (although complex and multilayered) nostalgia sites.

The idea is to form different local teams which will research different cases, and organize and mobilize local community to create, use and share archives about the factory in the community.

We are completely aware that there are major differences in contexts but we think that we can communicate and learn from mutual sharing. Therefore, this is more idea for mid-term platform, than for one single project cycle.

###### **Current state of affairs / what are (possible) next steps concerning this project:**

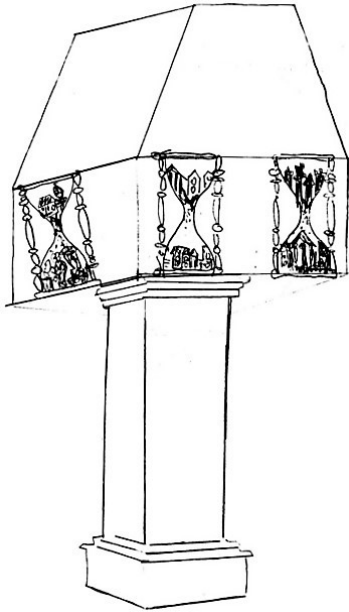
First of all, we have to clarify who is still interested in this idea. The second step would be to decide upon methodology and probably to choose 2-3 cases as the pilot project.

**Contact person:** Tamara Šmidling, [smidlingova@gmail.com](mailto:smidlingova@gmail.com),

###### **Involved persons:**

Tamara Banjeglav  
Elma Hasimbegovic  
Aleksandar Ivan Tatic  
Boba Dekic  
Ružica Marjanović  
Alain Gueraud  
Carine Leveque  
Rodoljub Jovanović

## 2) SEE— YU — MUSEUMS



As a horizontal *link-up* of museum professionals and individual researchers, **SEE — YU — MUSEUMS** encourages dialogue, discussion, exchange of knowledge and experiences. It is a *platform* of trust and self-awareness in the field of the museum community of South Eastern Europe, conceived as a meeting place, online archive / library / reference book, with the purpose to map the processes of the reconstruction/reconceptualization of memorial and historical museums, which are the successor museums of Yugoslav NOB (People`s Liberation War) museums and museums of revolution.

Current state of affairs:

- web page under construction <http://see-yu-museums.com/> (collection of 24 video lectures)
- mailing list [see-yu-museums@googlegroups.com](mailto:see-yu-museums@googlegroups.com)

What are (possible) next steps concerning this project?

Establishing the coordination team who will work on strategic plans for the further development of the platform and gathering of financial support for the achievement of the following, long-term, projects:

- **Reference book:** WWII memorial museums / memorial houses / memorial exhibitions after the dissolution of Yugoslavia with the subcategory *erased museums*.
- **Museums of revolution - Revolution in museums:** research project/network: reevaluation of the museum collections; cooperation between former museums of this type (exhibitions, online archive, publications)
- **Museum & War:** "Fate" of the museums during the wars of the nineties (interviewing curators/witnesses)
- **E-Library**
- **Workshops**

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### 3) Study visit of Belgian teachers to Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Contact person:** Griet Brosens, [griet.brosens@warveterans.be](mailto:griet.brosens@warveterans.be)

#### **Partner organizations**

- History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Elma Hašimbegović)
- Dossin Baracks (Marjan Verplancke)
- Belgian Institute for War Veterans (Griet Brosens)

In partnership with Prijedor '92 (Mirsad Duratović), and other local partners (e.g. Kwart, Srebrenica Memorial Center)

#### **Who?**

10-15 teachers, preferably consisting of Dutch and French speaking persons.

#### **When?**

Spring/or Autumn 2017

#### **Why ?**

Offering to Belgian teachers from all Belgian communities a wider knowledge on recent Balkan history (1990's) so that they know what happened and why it happened. But also to give them opportunity to learn something about their own society and what it takes to co-exist in a "multi-society" (multi-lingual/ethnic/religious/cultural/...).

#### **What?**

- Study trip that includes program in Sarajevo (2 days), Prijedor (1 day) and Srebrenica (1 day)
- **Topics to explore:** recent Balkan history (90's), history of BIH and Sarajevo as "Jerusalem of Europe" – living in multiethnic/multireligious society (pre-1992), Siege of Sarajevo 1992-1995, challenges of living in post-war society, role of education, war and conflict in history teaching and museums, Prijedor 1992, concentration camps, camp detainees' testimonies, challenges of living as a minority and with denial of the crimes, examples of good practices in dealing with the past and multiethnic cooperation, genocide in Srebrenica, memorialization of genocide and dealing with the past.

#### **Current state of affairs:**

Marjan and Griet have talked to their bosses and both organizations are enthusiastic about the idea of this trip. Next step is to further determine the group, the period and the budget. Provisional/draft program has been made. Marjan and Griet will have a meeting at the end of November. They will be in touch with Elma.

## **4) Mechanisms/Processes from the Past - Points of Resistibility**

### **Discussants:**

Jacqueline Nießer, Julie Biro, Ljubinka Petrovic-Ziemer, Rodoljub Jovanovic, Günther Schlusche, Srdjan Ahmet, Judith Brand

### **Summary:**

The discussion first clarified the specific points of interest of the participants and collected several points to define the approach/question they are interested in:

- learning lessons from the past for the future (as e.g. laid out in Masa's presentation on C31's work): 'The Past for the Future'
- focus not (only) on crimes against humanity/conflict/genocide but look at principles of humanity, points of resistance: 'Culture of Resistance' (or: Culture of exclusion/inclusion)
- concept of "Eigensinn"

The group concluded that in the area of Dealing with the the past, a shift of paradigm might be useful - instead of starting to deal with the "end"/outcome (e.g. genocide), Dealing with the Past should deal with mechanisms, with processes that paved the way and emphasize the importance of dialogue, values, and a culture/spaces of dissent

### **Proposals for further engagement:**

- collect material/publications on this topic/question (mapping of existing research, initiatives, activities)
- create platform on ML website/use ML as hub? - for exchange of material and ideas
- workshop, meeting, visiting of concrete projects were mentioned as possible future activity, but not further detailed



## 5) Commemorative practices: 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> August in Croatia and BiH

The main idea is to follow-up, investigate and analyse commemorations in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina organised on 5 and 6<sup>th</sup> of August. Memory Lab team would participate in the following commemorations:

- Central event for marking "Oluja" action in Knin (Croatia ), August 5<sup>th</sup>
- Commemoration of victim of "Oluja", Croatia (selection of location in cooperation with the Serb National Council), August 5<sup>th</sup>
- "Noć u Trnopolju", alternative commemoration, Prijedor, BiH, night of August 5<sup>th</sup>
- Commemoration of victims of bombing of Serbian refugees column, Svodna village, Novi Grad, BiH, August 6<sup>th</sup>
- Visit to former concentration camp, Prijedor, BiH, August 6<sup>th</sup>

The objective is to investigate and analyse to what extent the commemorative practices are opposing (especially in case of marking of "Oluja"), and to what extent there are elements of religious, political, artistic, traditional, militant nature, ratio between messages of hatred and messages of peace... are they mono-ethnic or they also include other identities, what is the attendance, what is the media coverage, etc.

The entire activity could be implemented in four days: preparation and division into teams on August 4<sup>th</sup> in Zagreb, visits to commemoration locations on 5 and 6<sup>th</sup> August, joint meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> in Banja Luka or Prijedor. Information, photos, impressions and analyses could be shared during the forthcoming major Memory Lab workshop or a report could be developed and distributed to all, published on the Memory Lab website or similar.

Memory Lab's regular annual program did not include (with one exception) participation in commemorations. However, in some countries they are much more represented in influential than memorialisation, Commemorative practices are interesting as they often compensate lack of memorialisation infrastructure. Out of five proposed events, the three match this statement.

In Belgrade, this initiative was discussed and agreed by: Mirsad Duratović, Goran Zorić, Katja Lorenz, Sven Milekić and Edin Ramulić. At later point Judith Brand, Ervin Blažević and Dražana Lepir were involved.

It is necessary to determine interest of other Memory Lab members and identify approximate number of potential participants and countries. It is also necessary to assess a potential cost and develop a programme. Once that is done potential partners could be contacted, such as:

- Croatia : "Documenta", Serb National Council and YIHR Croatia
- BiH: "Kvart", "Izvor", "Prijedor 92", "Oštra nula", Forum ZFD, YIHR BiH, "Optimisti2004", organisation of veterans from Novi Grad.

It would be economic to deal with the logistics separately for Croatia and BiH. The three commemoration locations in BiH are within radius of 20 km, which makes the organisation easier. The partner-organisations have resources for organisation of meetings, so the potential cost would exclusively include travel, meals and accommodation.

Contact persons

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