



**EHRI Newsletter - December 2023** 

EHRI Keeps on Evolving: A Look Back on 2023 and Our Ambitious Plans for 2024

20/12/2023

## Dear readers,

2023 turned out to be a busy, at times challenging, but ultimately successful year for EHRI. Thanks to the continued dedication and hard work of the whole consortium, we reached several important milestones.

The good progress is all the more remarkable given that the consortium had to operate in difficult circumstances. The Hamas-led attack on Israel on October 7 and the subsequent war in Gaza have been difficult to absorb. They have had and continue to have, a devastating impact on the lives of colleagues working in Israel. Our Ukrainian partner – the Centre for Urban History in Lviv – still finds itself in a situation of war launched by Russia's armed forces. Yet the Israeli and Ukrainian role in EHRI has not lessened. May the resilience and resourcefulness of all EHRI colleagues who are directly affected by war and conflict, and their continued dedication to EHRI, inspire us all.

Read more >

Call for Proposals | EHRI Academic Conference - Researching the Holocaust in the Digital Age

31/10/2023



International Conference | 18 June 2024 | Warsaw, Poland | Submission Deadline: 7 January 2024

The European Holocaust Research Infrastructure invites proposals for papers and interactive presentations at its international conference for

archivists and researchers evaluating Holocaust-related research in the digital age, the current state of documentation and study of the Holocaust, and the role that EHRI plays in supporting and advancing these areas.

Read more >

# New EHRI Online Edition: Postwar "Documentation Campaign" (Dokumentační akce) in Prague

19/12/2023

"We are leaving Theresienstadt. 5000 men are crowded together in the train. Bauschowitz sinks behind them. The dream of being able to stay together with the family is over. They are going, everyone feels, into the unknown. Squeezed in between rucksacks, suitcases and all sorts of luggage, they begin the recurring debate: where to?"



This is how Holocaust survivor Otto Kalwo described his experience with deportation from the Terezín Ghetto to Auschwitz-Birkenau immediately after his liberation. He submitted his testimony within the framework of the so-called "Documentation Campaign" in Prague (*Dokumentační akce*), one of the earliest postwar projects to document the events of the Shoah, collecting evidence, documents, and witness testimonies. Most protocols were compiled in 1945 and 1946 in either Czech or German language.

Read more >

## EHRI Podcast | Gita's Notes for Survival



20/12/2023

On 14 December 2023, EHRI released the last episode of its second EHRI podcast season, *Gita's Notes for Survival*. The publication of this sixth episode coincided with the seventh day of Hanukkah, when people of Jewish faith across the world light the seventh candle on the menorah.

On 15 December, all eight candles of the menorah were lit, their flames symbolizing courage, strength and hope. This is also the essence of Gita's story of survival and that of the Lithuanian ghettos, Vilnius and Kovno, who succeeded in preserving their rich cultural dynamics and heritage during the Holocaust.

Read more >

# Call for Applications CLARIN-EHRI Workshop | "Natural Language Processing Meets Holocaust Archives"

04/12/2023

Hands-on Workshop CLARIN & EHRI | Call for applicants

March 27-28, 2024 | Location: Prague, Czech Republic | Deadline: 15 January 2024



Language is central to the study of the Holocaust. The documentation of the genocide of Jews and Roma, building on war-time clandestine efforts, has grown since the liberation and today includes large corpora of testimonies, trial proceedings, letters and diaries, government documents, files of aid organisations and much more.

Read more >

# New Date EHRI Webinar: 7 February | The Digital Remembrance Landscape of Austria



14/12/2023

**Digital Mapping - Digital Memory** 

February 7, 2024 | 3.00 PM CET on Zoom

This webinar was first scheduled for 14 December 2023, but was postponed due to

illness. 7 February 2024 is the new date.

The Digital Memory Landscape Austria (DERLA) is a documentation and education project. It documents the places and signs of remembrance of the victims and places of terror of National Socialism in Austria and aims at a critical examination of National Socialism and fascism and the remembrance of them. The interdisciplinary cooperation project also aims to develop new concepts for digital remembrance education.

Read more >

EHRI Document Blog | The "Tombstones Affair": On the Fate of Jewish Cemeteries in Odessa under the Romanian Occupation (1941-1944)

16/11/2023

The latest EHRI Document Blogpost, by Svetlana Suveica, follows the story of a trial that began on 29 January 1945, after gravestones from Jewish cemeteries in Odessa had been removed and transported to Bucharest during the Romanian occupation in the Second World War.



Read more >

# EHRI Partner Belgium | Official report on the National Railway Company in Belgium and the Deportations



19/12/2023

On 8 December 2023, head of the Belgian Study Centre War and Contemporary Society (CegeSoma/State Archives in Belgium) Nico Wouters presented the final report on the role of the Belgian Railway society (NMBS/SNCB) in deportations carried out during WW2 in Belgium.

The research was commissioned by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Mobility Georges Gilkinet and the Belgian Senate, and carried out between August 2022 and November 2023.

The research presents a broader war history of the Belgian National Railway Company to put the deportations in its historic context, but also to compensate for the problematic lack of archival sources. The report confirmed that the deportation trains were executed by the Belgian Railway Company.

Read more >

Job Offer EHRI Partner Austria | Project Coordinator EHRI-IP at VWI

20/12/2023

The Vienna Wiesenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies (VWI) invites applications for the position of a Project Coordinator at the earliest possible starting date. Application deadline: 7 January 2024.

# ESENTHA AUST-STU

### **Job Description**

The Vienna Wiesenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies (VWI) is looking for a Project Coordinator to perform duties across the EHRI-IP project.

### Read more >

### **EHRI partners**

KNAW – NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies (NL)

KNAW – DANS Data Archiving and Networked

Services (NL)

Belgian State Archives/CegeSoma (BE) Masaryk Institute and Archives of the Czech

Academy of Sciences (CZ)

Yad Vashem (IL)

Leibniz Institute for Contemporary History (DE)

King's College London (UK)

Holocaust Documentation Center (SK)

Kazerne Dossin (BE)

The Wiener Holocaust Library (UK)

'Elie Wiesel' National Institute for the Study of the Holocaust in Romania (RO)

Vienna Wiesenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies (AT)

Shoah Memorial (FR)

Jewish Historical Institute (PL)

US Holocaust Memorial Museum (US)

National Research Council (IT)

Arolsen Archives (DE)

Federal Archives (DE)

Inria – team ALMAnaCH (FR)

Polish Center for Holocaust Research (PL)

Contemporary Jewish Documentation Center

Foundation (IT)

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (GR)

Vilna Gaon Museum of Jewish History (LT) Hungarian Jewish Museum and Archives (HU)

Center for Urban History of East Central Europe

(UA)

Jewish Museum in Prague (CZ)

Jewish Museum of Greece (GR)

EHRI, European Holocaust Research Infrastructure, NIOD. Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Herengracht 380, NL-1016 CJ Amsterdam, The Netherlands, +31(0)20-5233800 © 2011 EHRI

### Watch a video introduction to the EHRI Portal



