

## EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Rescue Memory - Activism, Arts and Public Remembrance – ReActMem
Participant:	FUNDACJA ZAPOMNIANE (FZ)
PIC number:	890506464

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	WP 18
Event name:	Inclusive commemoration of Holocaust victims in Żelechów
Type:	workshop
In situ/online:	[in-situ] [
Location:	Poland, Żelechów
Date(s):	11.03.2025
Website(s) (if any):	<a href="https://reactmem.difficultheritage.eu/en/blog/event/inclusive-commemoration-of-holocaust-victims-in-zelechow/">https://reactmem.difficultheritage.eu/en/blog/event/inclusive-commemoration-of-holocaust-victims-in-zelechow/</a> <a href="https://reactmem.difficultheritage.eu/blog/event/inkluzywne-upamietnienie-ofiar-holokaustu-w-zelechowcie/">https://reactmem.difficultheritage.eu/blog/event/inkluzywne-upamietnienie-ofiar-holokaustu-w-zelechowcie/</a>
<b>Participants</b>	
Female:	17
Male:	10
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Poland]:	27
Total number of participants:	27
From total number of countries:	1
<b>Description</b>	
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>	
<p>On Tuesday, March 11, 2025 a commemorative event was held in Żelechów. The event was organized in collaboration with local memory activist, Magdalena Czajka, as well as with the support of the local cultural center (Miejsko-Gminny Ośrodek Kultury w Żelechowie). It consisted of a gathering in the local Memorial Hall (Izba pamięci) with representatives of the local community, including local authorities and institutions, educators, community leaders and activists from Żelechów and neighboring villages.</p> <p>It included a commemorative part, honoring the victims of the Holocaust murdered in Żelechów, as well as a lecture, led by dr Aleksandra Janus from the Zapomniane Foundation, focused on various</p>	

approaches to preserving Jewish heritage and Holocaust sites in Poland. Dr. Janus discussed innovative approaches, best practices, and the challenges of working with so-called "difficult heritage." She presented inspiring examples of commemorative initiatives and emphasized the importance of commemorative activism - grassroots efforts to preserve heritage - in preserving the memory of Jewish life in Poland and the Holocaust experience. Last but not least, it also offered a space for participants to share their local knowledge about sites related with the local Jewish history and the Holocaust in their town, ask questions and share their own perspectives on effective commemorative strategies. This event contributed to raising awareness of the importance of preserving Jewish heritage and supporting local initiatives dedicated to commemoration.

The event was also organized with the intention of empowering local memory activists - Magdalena Czajka as well as others from neighboring villages and it resulted in further collaborations. Thanks to this event, the Zapomniane Foundation is currently preparing another commemorative event in Żelechów — a community engagement workshop during which members of the local community will collectively create a new marker for the burial site of the Holocaust victims (that is not commemorated with any permanent memorial) located in Żelechów.

The event was addressed to the local community of Żelechów and the neighboring villages therefore it was promoted through local channels (mailing lists and personal invitations) thanks to collaboration with local partners.

FB post: <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=1209104794587591&set=a.363963005768445>

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2024	Initial version (new MFF).
2.0	19.02.2025	Change the name and place for Inclusive commemoration of Holocaust victims in Żelechów