

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Rescue Memory - Activism, Arts and Public Remembrance – ReActMem
Participant:	EESTI JUUDI KOGUKOND MTU (Eesti JKM)
PIC number:	882528505

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	WP 45
Event name:	Visit and Seminar in Tallinn: Commemorating Jewish Heritage and Holocaust Memory in the Baltic Region
Type:	workshop and seminar
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Estonia, Tallinn
Date(s):	18.09.2025, 20.09.2025
Website(s) (if any):	https://reactmem.difficultheritage.eu/en/blog/event/visit-and-seminar-in-tallinn-commemorating-jewish-heritage-and-holocaust-memory-in-the-baltic-region/ https://reactmem.difficultheritage.eu/blog/event/wizyta-i-seminarium-w-tallinie-upamietnianie-dziedzictwa-zydowskiego-i-pamieci-o-zagladzie-w-regonie-baltyckim/
Participants	
Female:	38
Male:	36
Non-binary:	
From country 1 Estonia:	70
From country 2 Latvia:	2
From country 3 Lithuania:	1
From country 4 Poland:	1
Total number of participants:	74
From total number of countries:	4
Description	
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>	

Two events were held in Tallinn: one to commemorate the Holocaust and another, a seminar dedicated to the commemoration of Holocaust memorial sites in the Baltic countries and Poland.

As part of the preparation for the events, the "Jewish Tallinn" map was published. The map, available at <https://museum.jewish.ee/kulastamine/voldikkaart-juudi-tallinn/>, includes memorial sites related to the Holocaust among the objects of Jewish heritage in Tallinn. This resource was used to plan a walk to the Patarei Prison. The first event on 18th September was organized as an outside workshop near the Holocaust memorials at the former Patarei Prison in Tallinn. Students, leaders of the Jewish community, local politicians, and local residents participated in the workshop.

In the front of the memorials for Estonian and French Jews, Mr. Avi Dobrysh, the researcher of Estonian Jewish history, spoke about the events that took place in the building during the Holocaust. Mrs. Alla Jakobson, a member of the Council of the Estonian Jewish Community, urged attendees to study and remember the history of the building and the events that occurred there. Participants lit memorial candles for the victims of the Holocaust and placed stones in their honor.

On September 20, an international seminar was held on "Online Resources for Preserving the Memory of Jewish Heritage in the Baltic Countries and Poland."

The seminar's goal was to demonstrate how the internet can be used to learn about the rich and diverse history of the Jews in these countries and to exchange experiences on creating such resources. Each country's Jewish past has its own unique features. While Jews have lived in Poland and Lithuania for nearly a thousand years and in Latvia for almost five hundred years, a permanent Jewish presence in Estonia only began two centuries ago. Unfortunately, the Holocaust destroyed once-thriving Jewish communities in many places across the region. In each country, efforts are being made to preserve the heritage of these Jewish communities, including commemorating the tragedy of the Holocaust.

In Poland, the Museum of the History of Polish Jews created the "Virtual Shtetl" <https://sztetl.org.pl/en/about-the-project> online resource, which contains a vast amount of information about the cultural heritage of Polish Jews. Lithuania has created an interactive atlas of the Holocaust of Lithuanian Jews <http://holocaustatlas.lt/EN/#project/>, which also provides information about the country's lost communities. In Latvia, with the participation of the "Jews in Latvia" Museum, a map was also prepared and supplemented with a database of Latvian Jews <http://memorialplaces.lu.lv/map/>. So far, the achievements in Estonia are modest, but a group of students and teachers from Tallinn University have been developing an interactive map of the Holocaust in Estonia <https://holokaustitahised.ee/>.

Speakers at the seminar included Ms. Joanna Król-Komla, Head of the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews; Ms. Neringa Latvyte, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Communication at Vilnius University; Mr. Ilya Lensky, Director of the "Jews in Latvia" Museum; and Ms. Eneken Laanes, Professor at Tallinn University. The working languages of the seminar were English and Estonian with simultaneous translation. The seminar was attended by leaders of the Jewish community, a member of the Tallinn City Council, representatives of the Ministry of Culture of the Estonian Republic, students and professors from Tallinn University, community members from Tallinn, Tartu, Kohtla-Järve and Narva, representatives of non-profit organizations, and local residents.

Program of events https://drive.google.com/file/d/1V-AqEbAkR_xs074em8f09D0pefkD1U5f/view?usp=sharing

The information about the event was promoted on the website and on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/jewish.ee/posts/pfbid0ovwW7pVEgDYG6ht6wddd4BDCmdpmDfSbrxtKOssFjwAtwKfcTCMLE76JMteKtaji>

<https://museum.jewish.ee/seminar-200925/>

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).
2.0	1.02.2025	Change the delivery date from July to October