



**EUROPEAN JEWISH
FUND** Strengthening Jewish Communities
& Jewish Life in Europe



ANNUAL REPORT

2017 - 2018



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Dear Friends,

In the modern age, the concept of community is no longer restricted to a shared work place, religious gathering or social interaction. Community today takes on new meaning, one shared across and within continents, in physical spaces and in virtual ones.

The Jewish imperative of philanthropy, looking after our communities, providing them the building blocks to enable development and local and self-sustainability, must also look beyond older models and embrace the wider concept of community assistance.

This is what the European Jewish Fund seeks to do, to look at the broader picture, to seek to build within and across communities, to encourage creativity and to provide the financial resources to new and important Jewish projects in Europe.

Solidarity is our responsibility as Jews, in the traditions and values we learned from our forebears. Our role is to continue and enhance and to pass this message on to those who come after us.

I thank all our grantees for enabling the European Jewish Fund to be part of this Jewish life in Europe and encourage you to provide further opportunities for us to assist all our communities in our collective mission.



*Solidarity is our
responsibility as Jews,
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Moshe Kantor

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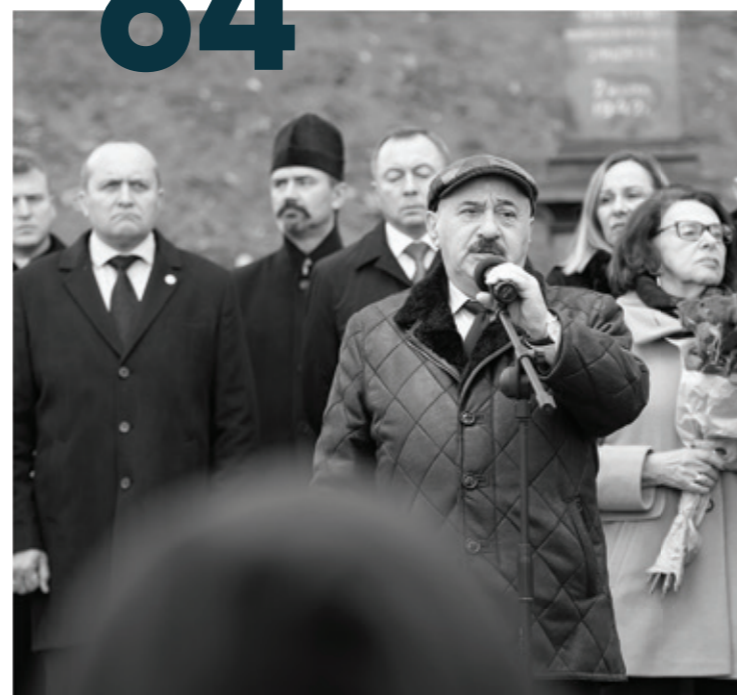
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About the European Jewish Fund

The European Jewish Fund (EJF) was founded in February 2006 by Moshe Kantor to help strengthen Jewish life and identity throughout Europe. Moshe Kantor firmly believes that assimilation is an existential and urgent threat to European Jewry, and must be addressed through programmes that reconnect Jews with Jewish life and values.

The EJF focuses especially on young people and connecting them to their Jewish peers. It supports a range of educational and leadership programmes that reinforce Jewish identity, and foster pride in religion, culture and sense of community.

The supported projects are often dedicated to educating our young people about Jewish achievements in all aspects of life, ranging from culture to science to medicine.

Mission

Promoting Jewish Identity

The European Jewish Fund, initiated by Moshe Kantor, is committed to strengthening Jewish identity. Its activities develop national pride and reinforce Jewish identity within communities. The EJF highlights and celebrates Jewish individuals and their remarkable contributions to European and global society and culture.

Bringing Jewish Communities Together

The EJF is a unique platform for donors and community leaders to come together to discuss and analyse the needs of European Jews. Annual EJF Advisory Council meetings foster dialogue between Jewish communities, with open exchanges of experience that produce cooperative solutions to shared challenges. The EJF supports and welcomes proposals and action plans for communal projects and regional and pan-European programmes. It also initiates programmes of its own to address issues concerning specific communities, or European Jewry as a whole. These EJF activities help strengthen the relationship between Europe's Jewish communities.

Shoah Remembrance

Moshe Kantor and the EJF are committed to promoting educational programmes that ensure the lessons and memory of the Shoah live on. One of the EJF's founders, the World Holocaust Forum Foundation, holds together with the



European Jewish Congress the "Let My People Live!" international forums. To date four of these forums have been held, the last two in cooperation with the President of the European Parliament:

January 2005 – The first forum, in Krakow, commemorating the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

September 2006 – The second forum, in Kyiv, marked 65 years since the atrocity in Babi Yar.

January 2010 – The third forum, in Krakow, commemorating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

January 2015 – The fourth forum took place in Prague and Terezin, commemorating the 70th anniversary since the liberation of concentration and death camps.

The EJF helps organise these high-level international gatherings to preserve historical memory and evidence, and encourage the international community to unite in the fight against hatred and xenophobia.

Objectives

The Association is established to pursue the following objectives:

> Assisting Jews and Jewish Communities throughout Europe in promoting activities relating to European Jewry, Jewish Communities, and communal Pan-European organizations.

> Supporting European Jewish culture, tradition and highlighting key Jewish contributors to society and their achievements in culture, art, music and science.

> Supporting and contributing to Jewish institutions and organizations throughout Europe, including national, regional, sub-regional and communal.

> Fighting antisemitism and other forms of religious, cultural and/or racial discrimination.

> Promoting respect, tolerance and cooperation between people of different national, cultural, ethnic, racial and/or religious backgrounds or affiliations.

> Supporting organizations and institutions involved with Holocaust remembrance.

> Securing human rights throughout Europe as stipulated by the International Bill of Human Rights of the United Nations, the European Convention on Human Rights and help implement human rights programs, including those in cooperation with UNESCO.

> Developing closer ties between European Jewry, and its communal institutions, with the State of Israel.

> Fostering educational, cultural and welfare related programmes and activities for the benefit of Jews across the world, including the State of Israel.

> Organizing international conferences that openly discuss and help find solutions to the problems and challenges facing European Jewry.





01

COMMUNITY BUILDING

The European Jewish Fund (EJF) aims to ensure that the Jewish communities and Jewish life in Europe in general enjoy a long and bright future. EJF encourages and welcomes communal Jewish gatherings that foster dialogue between communities and its members with open exchanges of experience that produce common solutions to shared challenges.

Nisayon

KHARKOV JEWISH CHARITABLE

FUND HESED SHAARE TIKVA

The project “Nisayon” by the Jewish Charitable Fund Hesed Shaare Tikva of the Ukrainian city of Kharkov organises a variety of activities for 35 young people with disabilities from two local Jewish communities, Kharkov and Zaporozhye. These project include activities, such as communication training, art therapy, classes on how to lead a healthy lifestyle, as well as Jewish culture and tradition.

For young people with mental disabilities, the process of socialisation is gradual and requires considerable time. Therefore, leisure activities are a crucial catalyst in facilitating this process.

A very popular part of the project, titled “Warm Homes” are classes on self-sufficiency. Participants often lack crucial skills that would allow them to live independently, such as using domestic appliances. Elderly members of the community take on the role of teaching how to manage a household without the help of parents or other adults.

Soon enough, participants become more responsible, reflecting on how they can be useful and what they can do for their elderly hosts, preparing gifts and greeting cards and enquiring about their health and mood.



As for physically disabled participants, their needs and demands often differ radically from the group of mentally disabled participants. Therefore, the programme is tailored towards delivering training aimed at developing practical skills, such as leadership, financial literacy, as well as measures aimed at social integration. Participants from this group took active part in organising local events, such as “The Day of the Jewish community”, as well as holding held workshops for children.

Learning about Jewish tradition caused a lot of interest among participants of both groups. Every month both groups participate in “Great Shabbat”, which is held together with the Children’s programme of Hesed Shaare Tikva.

Participants to the Nisayon project experienced a warm and friendly atmosphere and a constant social circle. This means a lot to young people with disabilities. In the words of Tatiana, a young participant: “I don’t really communicate with anyone, only with our group. That is why I look forward to seeing you at Nisayon every time. Here I feel comfortable and at ease, you could say that I only find peace here”.

The EJF is proud to be a partner of Hesed Shaare Tikva, and to be part of such important and positive community-building initiatives that focus on inclusion and accessibility.





Annual Forum of Estonian Jewry "Jahad" 2018

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF ESTONIA



The Jewish Community of Estonia organised its 12th annual Yahad Conference on 7-9 September 2018 in the town of Parnu. The Yahad conference brought together over 500 Jews of all ages and walks of life in a unique atmosphere of Jewish learning and togetherness.

Participants of this three-day Jewish-themed conference took part in a Jewish film festival, numerous lectures, seminars and workshops, activities and concerts covering a wide range of topics.

The 2018 Yahad celebrated a number of anniversaries – 100 years of the Republic of Estonia, 70 years of the State of Israel, 30 years of rebirth of the Jewish Community of Estonia and 5 years of the Tallinn Jewish Kindergarten AVIV!. These dates themed most of the programme.

According to a long-standing tradition, there was a separate programme for children.

The activities were equally varied, including art workshops, sport games, dance and music classes organized by a group of youth counsellors from the Jewish Community of Estonia with the help of volunteers among parents.

Summer U

EUJS

The European Union of Jewish Students' (EUJS) annual flagship programme Summer University held its 37th edition in Bulgaria in 2018. Living up to its mission of ensuring safe, secure and confident young Jewish life, Summer U is a space where proud and positive Jewish identity is promoted.

Summer U remains the largest annual Jewish student event in Europe, almost 300 participants from 31 countries came together for an amazing week to foster Jewish diversity and learning in numbers and in spirit.

A young, dynamic team of 24 volunteers from seven countries worked for over six months at delivering an incredible programme for their peers, creating along the way not only lasting bonds, but also the inspiration to remain engaged with their respected communities and European Jewry.

The motto of this year's edition was "This Summer is all about U", as an open call for participants to speak up, share and bring Summer U in line with their realities and topics



of interest. One theme took the centre stage: Youth empowerment and giving agency to young people to shape their communities.

EUJS took active steps to ensure that member unions were given more space than ever before to display the experience specificities and experiences of youth across their respective Jewish communities. Emphasising EUJS' belief in peer-to-peer learning, dedicated timeslots were allocated to participant-lead sessions, in addition to over 30



professional guest speakers and trainers who offered the chance for participants to expand their knowledge, develop their skills and shape their attitudes.

Since this year's event took place not far away from Burgas, where five Israelis and one Bulgarian lost their lives in a terrorist attack in 2012, in order to honour the victims, a moving ceremony was organised. Special guests from the Bulgarian government, from the Israeli embassy and from the local Jewish community addressed participants

on the occasion. This was followed by the planting of an olive tree and the dedication of a memorial plaque, a special and emotional moment, which reinforced the Jewish values that guide the work of EUJS.

Through its long-standing partnership with EUJS, the EJJ underlines its commitment to fostering positive Jewish identity, empowering youth and exploring the diverse communities and identities that form the rich patchwork of Jewish life in Europe.

Limmud 2018

CZECH REPUBLIC

As in previous years, Limmud Czech Republic 2018 was a great success. The event offered a wide variety of activities for children and adults featuring lectures, workshops, discussions, discos (both for kids and adults), one woman show, sport activities, children workshops of challah bradding, Torah stories crafts, joint meals, Shabbat programme, etc. The meeting was once more very successful in creating an inclusive atmosphere where everybody can feel welcome.

The gathering reached its full capacity of 200 attendees within one day of opening the registration. Almost half of attendees were children and young people under the age of eighteen. Young Jewish leaders assisted in the realisation of children's activities, whilst also taking part in activities designed for their age group.



This year's Limmud Czech Republic 2018 offered a large choice of learning and social activities, which created a vivid atmosphere of social interaction. The event was set in an open and democratic environment where people of different approaches to Judaism were given stage to present sessions.

Nearly two thirds of all the adults applied to volunteer either in presenting learning sessions, preparing workshops for children, volunteering in the first aid team or helping with the logistics of the event.

Based on the feedback received after the event, Limmud 2019 will be organised in a larger venue allowing more participants to join in this exciting gathering.



Limmud

HUNGARY

Limmud Hungary aims at an inclusive, colorful, resilient Hungarian Jewish community which cherishes diverse interpretations of Judaism. Its mission is to provide opportunities to all members of the Jewish community to make the next step in building their Jewish identity, to help them in the study of Jewish tradition and to seek solutions to current problems based on Jewish values, to facilitate access to Jewish learning for unaffiliated Jews, to promote cooperation and inclusiveness among Jewish



NGOs and denominations, as well as opening its doors for non-Jewish citizens and promoting life-long learning, voluntary activism and active citizenship.

A successful endeavor going on for twelve years in the country, Limmud Hungary set out in to build capacity in 2018 to deliver an improved experience. Titled 'Motion/Picture', this year's Limmud festival took place between 26-28 October 2018 with great success. With nearly 400 participants from Hungary and from Israel, USA, UK, and Poland, making it the biggest Jewish civic event of the year in the country.

Participants enjoyed more than 50 lectures both in English and Hungarian, as well as the screening of 6 films – including the first Hungarian performance of an award-winning movie – along with enthusiastic debates about cinema, history, religious reform, school reform, gender equality, and other highly relevant contemporary topics. Participants observed Shabbat according to the reform and orthodox traditions, while Kiddush and Havdalah were performed together in a spirit of deep togetherness.

Furthermore, Limmud Hungary organised a multiple-day field camp in November 2018. The event offers workshops and classes in four sessions: Judaism, social-, scientific- and art topics.

Through the EJF grant, Limmud was able to provide a safe and inclusive Jewish space for the community to come together, pray together, learn together, enjoy each other's company and and debate important issues.



Help them help us

CAMPAIGN FOR ELDERLY JEWS (ESTONIA)

The Jewish Community of Estonia organized a fundraising campaign called 'Help us Help them' in order to gather 20.000 EUR in 48 hours. The funds raised provided humanitarian help for about 700 elderly Jews in Estonia.

The campaign's message wrote "Your own elderly parents or grandparents could be in their shoes if history had worked out differently. We need your help to keep up with this vital assistance."

The Jewish Community of Estonia provides humanitarian aid to about 700 elderly Jews in Estonia. Your own elderly parents or grandparents could be in their shoes if history had worked out differently. We need your help to keep up this vital assistance.



*Help us
help them!*

14-16.05.2017

**We aim to gather 20 000 euros
during only 48 hours , please join us!**

**All donations up to 10 000 euros are doubled
thanks to matching donors**

**Fundraising campaign will take place
at www.charidy.com
Follow the information!**

Limmud 2018

LJC & EJF - LITHUANIA



The goal of LJC & EJF Lithuanian Limmud 2018 was to organize an educational conference on Judaism for the Jewish community in Lithuania in order to expand knowledge of community members about the Jewish religion, issues of common concern, Jewish culture, tradition, State of Israel and its pertinent matters.

Over the course of three days a series of lectures and practical workshops were held. The event gathered over 100 participants from different places of Lithuania.

More than 10 guest speakers, lecturers, experts from Estonia, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Israel, United States were engaged in the conference.

The Lithuanian Limmud gave an opportunity for community members to experience Jewish traditions first-hand, to strengthen community spirit and promote the story of Jews in Lithuania and to have a cross-generational dialogue on issues of common interest.

Participants were offered a series of lectures by the professionals in their line of expertise, also they had the opportunity to join experiential workshops on Jewish cuisine, dance, games for children. Educational evenings were organised with various performances and screening of movies relevant to the topic of the conference.

LJC & EJF Lithuanian Limmud 2018 received extremely positive feedback from the participants who were able to experiment, improvise, enjoy, meet each other and build networks for the future activities within the community during this event.





Chaverut

NORWAY

Chaverut is a project that aims to bring life and reach out to all Jews living in Norway, from all smaller cities scattered throughout the country, such as Stavanger and Bergen, Jews who are affiliated or not to the community, in order to strengthen the Jewish Community of Oslo and enlarge it. The initiative's goal is to create awareness about the community's activities and allow all Jews to experience the embrace of the community, belonging to a group that is relevant and inclusive.

The Chaverut project was organised by the Jewish Community of Oslo, from January until October 2018, in Stavanger and Bergen, and was carried out by community's staff and volunteers.



Being a project that was carried on a long period of time, Chaverut allowed those who participated to enjoy diverse activities and celebrate numerous Jewish Holidays in a communal environment, such as: high holidays services followed by celebrations, Erev Pesach Seder and Erev Rosh Hashana Dinner, Purim and Channuka, celebration of Yom Haatzmaut, seminars, lectures and debates, opened Hebrew classes, cultural and religious studies, family and adults parties etc.

The Chaverut project offered the possibility to all participants to belong to the community, to understand and discover more about their Jewish identity and to be proud about it, to contribute and strengthen the Jewish community of Oslo.



Development of Hasmonea Jewish sports Club

JEWISH SPORTS EDUCATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR MEMBERS OF SMALL JEWISH COMMUNITIES OF POLAND



Hasmonea Jewish Sports Club in Wroclaw offers regular sports education and sports activities to the local Jewish community, promoting a healthy lifestyle without distinction of age or sex.

Hasmonea was founded in 1908 in Lviv (then Poland) and before World War II it was the second largest and the most successful sports club in Poland. Currently, the club is located in the city of Wroclaw and led by Cukunft Jewish Association. The club offers regular sports education and sports activities to the local Jewish community.

The project involves the organization of regular Jewish sports activities (basketball, volleyball, chess, badminton, bridge, horse riding and shooting trainings) for all Jews in Wroclaw, Lower Silesia Region and Lodz interested in sports and fitness, as well as an organisation of sports shabbatons and trainings in order to integrate Jewish sportsmen with other local Jewish communities and encourage a healthy lifestyle and Jewish integration through sport and outdoor activities.

The Hasmonea Wroclaw football team consists of boys and girls from small Jewish communities in the Lower Silesian Region of Poland. In June 2018, the club co-organised the Wilimowski Football Tournament for children from national and religious minorities in Poland, bringing together five U-14 teams from the German, Jewish and Ukrainian minorities.



02

CULTURE & HERITAGE

The Fund supports projects promoting positive aspects of Jewish life while also standing-up against threats to Jewish culture and heritage.

The EJJ also continues to address assimilation through funding and supporting programmes that make a range of Jewish activity accessible to all and that develop pride in Judaism and in Jewish culture past, present and future.



Empowering vibrant Jewish communities in Europe

VIA MOISHE HOUSE

Moishe House is an international organisation founded in 2006 exclusively focused on reaching Jewish 20-somethings through a peer-to-peer, home-based model of engagement. There are over 100 Moishe Houses across 27 countries around the world, with the organisation engaging more than 48,000 unique young adults each year, with more projected growth into the future.

Each Moishe House is a local Jewish community hub, facilitated by a group of 3-5 Jewish young adult leaders, who each build meaningful Jewish community via a series of 5-7 monthly Jewish programmes from a central rented home.

All programmes are peer-led and pluralistic (inclusive of Jews from all backgrounds, practice and cultures) and range from Shabbat dinners, festival celebrations, Jewish learning, volunteering, interfaith encounters, social gathering and much more.



The residents of each Moishe House, who are full-time professionals and students outside of their roles at Moishe House, in return for their monthly leadership, receive a modest rent subsidy (50% of their monthly rent), a programming stipend and continuous leadership development opportunities to support them as local Jewish leaders.

Throughout the year, the residents of each Moishe House have the opportunity to attend various Jewish Learning Retreat experiences. These Retreats are led by expert educational staff.

In 2018, Moishe Houses in Europe led more than 624 diverse Jewish programmes and in turn engaged more than 9,670 Jewish young adults in total collective attendance, with more than 2,550 being unique individuals.

Through the support of the EJF, Moishe House has grown and developed its network across of 12 Moishe Houses across Europe, including in Barcelona, Budapest, Brussels, London, Munich, Paris, Prague, Sofia, Stockholm and Vienna, each a vibrant centre of Jewish community led by local young adults from a rented home.

Famous Faces from Jewish Places

(BELARUS)



The project “Famous Face from Jewish Places” sought to strengthen the Belarusian Jewish identity, awaken the Jewish pride and promote Jewish knowledge among Jews and non-Jews by sharing information about outstanding Jewish individuals born in Belarus and their contribution to the world. The programme consisted of weekly classes, researches, session-days and seminars.

During realization of the project about 300 people from Jewish community learned about famous Jews from Belarus. Participants took part in the weekly

classes & researches that were held in the communities, exchange of materials between communities and consultations with coordinator was organized. Leaders of project reached out to the local libraries and museums with the information collected during the realization of the project with lectures and discussions about the famous Jews born in Belarus. Over 200 citizens from different towns around Belarus had opportunity to learn about Jews and Jewish community via learning about famous Jews born in Belarus.



During the first few months the organisers were surprised how warmly the idea of the project was received by the leaders of the project in different cities, the enthusiasm and willingness to learn about Jews from shtetls in Belarus. People of 35-55 years old became interested in the Jewish life and the life of Jewish community. Many people were interested to connect their knowledge about famous people and the life of Jewish community, life of Jews in Eastern Europe. For example, in Mogilev, the information about the Famous Jews was not only presented to Jews during gatherings in the community but also during “open events” in the city museum, in Grodno – also during the gathering citizens and guests of city had an opportunity to learn about the survival of World War Two from Grodno who became well known person Felix Zangman. Mr Zangman is an excellent example of a person, who knows the value of life, respect, people – no matter what religion, he is a role model of strong spirit and love to Israel and Jewish people. To make information about the famous Jews from Eastern Europe available to non-Jews helped to make impression about Jews and Jewish community as more open.

Communities from Mogilev, Gomel, Lida, Grodno, Baranovichi and Minsk were inspired by the idea of learning about the famous Jews, who had roots from Belarus, and decided to continue learning about Jews from their cities. The stories of people became a basis for learning Jewish values and wisdom, Jewish approach to life and input of Jews in different aspects of life. This project helped to involve new people in the activities of the Jewish community and helped to build connections between Jewish and non-Jewish population in the cities.



Mitzvah Day

(U.K)

Mitzvah Day brings people together through Jewish-led social action, galvanising volunteers to give up their time to make a real difference to their local communities. In 2018 Mitzvah Day project celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Over these years, Mitzvah Day volunteers have created long and lasting partnerships with hundreds of charities, enabling volunteers to engage in projects such as replenishing foodbank stores, preparing meals for their local homeless shelters, collecting stationery for refugees, visiting care homes, running community-led blood donation sessions, spit drives for bone marrow, gardening at hospices and many more.

Mitzvah Day believes fundamentally in interfaith social action as a vehicle for change. It enables volunteers to positively bring people together to shape their communities. It's an invitation to all to celebrate what they have in common, and give a helping hand to local causes that are on their doorsteps.

Mitzvah Day is special because it transcends the Jewish community, giving volunteers the opportunity to stretch out a hand of friendship to their neighbours of all faiths and none, and participate in Mitzvah Day. Having achieved widespread participation across the UK, Mitzvah Day developed into something bigger, gaining an international presence as British Jewish Communities shared photos from their Mitzvah Days in



Key projects of Mitzvah Day:

out to their colleagues to use their CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) time to get out of the office for an afternoon.

They engage in acts of kindness like trimming the hedgerows of burial grounds or tending to hospice gardens. No CSR hours, no bother! Offices without CSR time run 'Give Away Your Lunch' projects linking their workplace to a nearby shelter or food bank. Staff collect items to donate and build long term relationships with the charity.

- "Sunshine to Seniors" (singing, reading and performing with care home residents)
- "Collectathons" (assisting local charities with collecting items)
- "Be Our Guest" (providing refreshments and entertainment for people in need)
- "Renovate and Repair" (transforming a room in a hospice, drop in centre or care home)
- "Remembrance is a Mitzvah" (attending or volunteering at the annual AJEX Parade)
- "Renovate and Repair" (transforming a room in a hospice, drop in centre or care home) "Corporate Kindness" (encouraging office workers to donate their lunch, run a collection or use their CSR hours)
- "Save a Life" (registering with or donating to local medical initiatives)

their schools, shuls, offices and neighbourhoods. People outside the UK began to reach out asking for help taking the concept of Mitzvah Day back home, and set up the day in their own countries. In 2012, Mitzvah Day decided this growth needed to receive resource and support, resulting in the successful launches of Mitzvah Day Germany, Australia and Poland, and Mitzvah Days all around the globe.

One of the best things about Mitzvah Day is seeing so many young people getting involved, inspired by Jewish values, to help others in society. Every year, volunteers bring the celebration of Mitzvah Day to their workplace and reach



03

RESEARCH, EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP

The EJV focuses especially on young people and connecting them to their Jewish peers. It supports a range of educational and leadership programmes that reinforce Jewish identity and foster pride in religion, culture and sense of community.

The supported projects are often dedicated to educating our young people about Jewish achievements in all aspects of life, ranging from culture to science and to medicine.



Haver Srbija – Educational program for students and teachers “Knowledge=tolerance”

(SERBIA)

Established in 2013, Haver Srbija is an educational NGO, which promotes diverse and inclusive society in Serbia.

Knowledge of the Holocaust, as well as Judaism and the Jewish community is dealt very briefly or not at all in educational curricula in Serbia. The project ‘Knowledge = Tolerance’ seeks to fill that gap and confront prejudices, stereotypes, discrimination, xenophobia and antisemitism among primary/high school students and teachers in Serbia through education.

By influencing the attitude of young people, making them aware of the consequences of prejudices and discrimination, empowering teachers to teach the Holocaust, facilitating dialogue and sharing of experiences in the area of religion and culture, Haver Srbija encourages and empowers school students and teachers to actively participate in creating more educated, open and responsible society in Serbia. Since 2016, the project has been approved by the Ministry of education.



All activities are based on the methodology of informal Jewish education, which seek to actively engage participants in the educational process. Workshops are built in a way that creates safe space for dialogue, questions and processing.

Materials used during the educational activities around core content are among others testimonies of Holocaust survivors, family pictures, data about historical and contemporary antisemitism, as well as interactive synagogue visits.

Through their EJF grant, Haver was able to conduct 75 workshops covering 18 cities across Serbia, 9 synagogue visits reaching around 570, as well as a series of educational workshops on different topics by invitation of the Serbian Education Ministry between January and November 2018.

In addition, a contest in literature, art and multimedia titled „Holocaust – culture of remembrance“ for primary and secondary schools that received 94 submissions from pupils across Serbia.



College Hadracha Academy Generation Next

(TURKEY)



As every year, College Hadracha/Generation Next continues to educate junior leaders, to involve the unaffiliated youth in the community's activities and to invest in the next generation of Jewish leaders.

College Hadracha/Generation Next is both an inclusive and self-feeding educational and leadership platform. The graduates of the program not only become widespread active leaders of the community in various local and global organizations, they also become the official trainers of the C.Hadracha itself for the new recruited members at each term.

The recruitment process for the 'brain team' starts with the 'After Work Gathering' where young professionals meet to socialize and relax. After a presentation of the project, those interested are spotted and recruited. This year, five new members were added to the team.

Other ways of reaching new members are the activities organized in a natural environment, such as the so called 'Grownup Youth' programme that involved this year a ski-trip. This allowed the participants and the organisers to get to know each other face to face, in a relaxed context, far from the constraining security.

Different other activities were organised in order to reach out to new people, such as 'Kamiel' Group that works like the JCC, the GNTALKS, where experts came and talked on different topics, educational trips to Poland, visits to other European Jewish communities and supporters of the project, as well as celebration of Jewish holidays.

Moadon – the right camp for Jewish children – Building Identity

(SLOVAKIA)



programmes or attended Szarvas camps. Educational topics follow Jewish traditions according to the seasons of the year. Activities include Hebrew lessons, Jewish culture and religion, art, as well as fun interactive games that stimulate creativity and social interaction. The aim is also to develop the next generation of young leaders in Slovakia with a strong Jewish identity.

Two important factors play a contributing role in the continuing success of the project. On the one hand the support of the community in the preparation of the camps, and on the other hand the enthusiastic involvement of older in preparing activities for younger ones.

Moadon organises educational camps 4 times a year for children aged 6-15 living in Slovakia and providing for them innovative Jewish educational activities that are unique in the country.

Through the EJF grant, the community was able to develop a programme focused on building a strong Jewish identity. This is essential in a community where the majority of children grow up in a secular environment.

The educational programme and peulot are designed and coordinated by Rabbi Misha Kapustin. The project also relies on the creativity and dedication of madrichim from across the country who had previously taken part in Hadracha



Jewish Education & Youth

(PORTUGAL)

It is a tradition for the Jewish Community of Lisbon to carry its educational program every year for the young Jewish members of the community, with the aim of building and developing their Jewish identity, preventing further assimilation and teaching more about the Jewish culture and religion. The project is also big help for the integration of new families arriving in Portugal, from France and especially from Brazil.

Over 60 participants took active part in the 31 weekly activities held on Sundays and more than 30 people attended the "Machané Kaitz" - 16^o Summer Camp held on 11 -16 July 2017.

As every year, the youth participated in diverse courses and celebrated all major Jewish holidays, as well as Yom Hashoah

and Yom Haatzmaut. The programme included Hebrew classes (on three levels), courses on basic concepts of Judaism, Jewish Holidays, life cycle of Jewish life, Judaism and Jewish culture.

This year, the project implemented a new and modern teaching method in partnership with ULPAN OR and marked the 16th year of continuous activity of the Chadash Youth Movement, already close to 500 activities carried out, more than 25 young leaders formed (madrichim) and about 150 participating children.



Make it Happen Initiative

(DENMARK)

In 2018 the Jewish Community in Denmark launched the “Make It Happen Initiative” a professional leadership capacity building program for young Jewish adults between 16-25. With this project the Jewish Community wishes to strengthen the participation of youths in shaping the future of the community by investing in a group of young Jewish adults. They have succeeded in creating a unique and goal-oriented program that will strengthen the development of the participants’ professional skills in various areas and prove to be a valuable investment in the future leaders of the community.



To this date a core group of 22 young adults between the ages of 18 and 26 have been assembled. The group completed creative and challenging workshops in the Make It Happen program, in fields such as branding, idea development, public affairs, entrepreneurship & project management, creative process & performance.

All workshops have been developed and completed in collaboration with some of Denmark’s foremost experts and professionals in the various fields.



The series of events concluded with a joint workshop between the ‘Make It Happen’ group of Copenhagen and the ‘Mozaika’ group of Barcelona over the first weekend of December in Spain. This gathering provided with an opportunity to establish bonds between two likeminded groups with similar goals, exchange best practices in order to work together on social and cultural projects.

The Make It Happen Workshop-program focuses on developing the participants’ skills in various fields, engaging them in discussions and reflections on Jewish life in Denmark, creating social bonds that will further connect them to the Jewish Community, and laying the foundation for their own projects, internships in the Jewish Community, etc.



EJF Leadership Programme 2017/2018

(PAIDEIA INSTITUTE: EUROPEAN
INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH STUDIES)

As one of the European Jewish Fund's flagship initiatives, the EJF Leadership Programme at the Paideia Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden combines academic excellence with creativity and passion in order to create a network of dynamic and knowledgeable Jewish leaders keen on contributing to the flourishing of Jewish life in Europe.

The project has two components, Leadership Development within the Paideia One-Year Jewish Studies Programme, and the development of concrete action in the Project-Incubator. The 2017/18 academic year saw 8 fellows from 4 different countries take part in the EJF Leadership Programme. In addition to the regular course of study at Paideia, which is an intensive immersion into Jewish text, language and culture, they were engaged in a curriculum of courses in leadership, project development and pedagogical courses, as well as focusing on individual projects.



These studies were supplemented by a 3-week immersive study trip to Israel including dedicated study at Yad Vashem and at the National Library of Israel. The fellows were also active in various events and organisations during the year, such as Limmud, European Day of Jewish Culture and the Global Day of Jewish Learning.

The Paideia Project-Incubator remains Europe's leading programme for fostering social innovation in the Jewish sphere. Each year, Paideia recruits individuals with great ideas for European Jewish culture, providing them with the support, the tools and the community to be able to achieve their goals. In 2017 edition 16 individuals from 8 countries took part in the programme.

Participants graduating from the 2017/18 One-Year Jewish Studies programme demonstrated competence in text study from major Jewish sources across the gamut of Jewish history, improved fluency in Hebrew, familiarity with Jewish cultural, historic, religious and sociologic currents. Students have learned how to learn using classical Chevruta style, among other teaching methodologies.

They have become comfortable with Hebrew, allowing them not only access to advanced academic settings for Jewish learning, but also to pursue opportunities both professional and personal that involve interaction of Israelis and Europeans across varied fields.



A comprehensive survey of the Project-Incubator graduates from 2017 shows that all of the participants agree or strongly agree that they have concretized goals, needs and the target group for their project and around 80 % of respondents feel that the programme gave them more than expected.

Paideia continues to be an engine of Jewish cultural and academic renewal, providing individuals with the skills necessary to become leaders in their communities and to reinforce their connectedness with the Jewish people.



TAU Kantor Centre for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry

(ISRAEL)



The Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry, inaugurated in May 2010 at Tel Aviv University, provides an academic framework for the interdisciplinary research of European Jewry from the end of World War II until the present day. The Center includes the Moshe Kantor database for the Study of Contemporary anti-Semitism and Racism, and offers a platform for the diverse needs of researchers, students, governmental and civil service personnel, professionals, activists and the public at large, both in Israel and abroad, and cooperates with academic and state agencies and institutes, and with Jewish communities and their leaders worldwide.

The Center initiates, encourages and coordinates research projects, conferences, seminars, publications and public events in the following areas: demographic processes and their ramifications; legislation against racism, hate crimes and hate speech, and



antisemitism (particularly Holocaust Denial); mutual contacts between Jewish communities and their leaders and the local societies and other minorities; preserving the national memory and communal legacy, and its implications on the present-day; monitoring, analysis and study of contemporary anti-Semitism and racism worldwide.

The executive board of the Center is chaired by Adv. Arie Zuckerman, and the academic legal board is chaired by Prof. Yoram Dinstein. The staff, headed by Prof. Dina Porat, includes a dozen of researchers, a number of exchanging interns and three research fellows. This year Dr. Giovanni Quer joined the staff as a future director of the center.

Selected activities in 2018

- On 21 January, the Israeli government held a special session, marking the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. During the session, the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs handed to the government a report on antisemitism in 2017 that was prepared in cooperation with the Kantor Center.
 - On January 28 Prof. Porat participated in study sessions for Israeli Judges, and on the next day she took part in the OSCE conference in Rome, where the participants were welcomed by the Pope.
 - On 18-22 of February an exceptionally large-scale conference, titled "An End to Antisemitism!" was convened in Vienna, organized by New York, Tel Aviv (the Kantor Center) and Vienna universities, and supported by the European Jewish Congress. More than 150 scholars and leaders delivered their presentations, and attracted a large audience. The conference ended with a commitment to assemble a catalogue of means to combat antisemitism, and to establish an international organization of antisemitism scholars.
 - On 11 April, the Kantor Center released its Annual Report on Worldwide Antisemitism 2017 in a press conference held at Tel Aviv University, with the participation of Dr. Moshe Kantor, President of the EJC. The event received worldwide press coverage. On the 26th, the US Congressional Bipartisan Task Force for Combatting Antisemitism
- relied on the Kantor Center report in its appeal to President Trump to appoint a special envoy for antisemitism, and so did 119 US congress members who sent on May 24 a joint letter to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, again quoting the report.
- On August 8-9, Prof. Porat participated in a study seminar for judges and prosecutors in Vienna, in order to deepen their knowledge about antisemitism and the history of World War II. This is an ongoing effort that started in 2015, and there is a request to have similar seminars in Italy.
 - On August 26, a gala dinner organized by the Friends of Tel Aviv University in Canada, took place in Montreal. The theme chosen for the evening was contemporary antisemitism, and the Kantor center activities were at the central stage. Prof. Irwin Cotler was awarded an honorary Ph.D on that occasion.
 - On November 19-20, the Austrian Presidency in the Council of the European Union held a conference in Vienna. Dr Kantor presented the catalogue of policies to combat antisemitism, announced in February, to the conference's participants; and together with its authors he presented the catalogue to Chancellor Sebastian Kurz. On November 21, a study day, organized by the Chancellor's office, dealt with contemporary antisemitism, and the catalogue's authors presented it to the media.
 - The Kantor Center, together with colleagues from three European universities, won the prestigious Erasmus research scholarship, that will enable research on Jewish demography in three major European cities.

EU Activism Seminar

(EUJS)

The EU Activism Seminar is one of EUJS's flagship programs that brings together Jewish students for a chance to hear from world-renowned experts, learn from influential global activists including the European Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith International and discuss with key decision-makers in the EU.

20 activists from all over Europe, the US and Israel were given the unique

opportunity to experience the EU at first hand and to get acquainted with the workings of the European institutions. They met with Members of European Parliament, assistants, interns, consultants, diplomats, activists, fellow students, Jewish advocacy organizations and for the first time the participants were offered the unique chance to meet with two EU Commissioners.

In a time where there are worrying trends in the rise of racist, xenophobic and antisemitic attitudes – especially online – the participants had an opportunity to grasp the Commission's role in the prevention of far-right extremism in

countries such as Hungary, Poland and Austria. Both Commissioner Věra Jourová – Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality, and Commissioner Tibor Navracsics – Education, Culture, Youth and Sport – guided their interventions by bringing to the table the role of Jewish students in shaping the EU agenda on Holocaust education, as well as in preventing antisemitism and bringing about inclusive societies.

This 5-day seminar was an important platform to tackle other important topics such as female empowerment in the current context; the adoption of the IHRA working definition of

antisemitism; coalition-building in the field of Human Rights and Youth or countering the delegitimization and demonization of Israel from the EU perspective.

The key aim of the EU Activism Seminar is to provide young activists with the tools to engage on a social and political level, to provide understanding that Europe is accessible to young people and give the inspiration to work together for a better Europe.



04



SHOAH MEMORY

EJF is committed to promoting educational programmes that ensure the memory of the Shoah lives on and the that lessons of the history are learnt.

The EJF helps organising high-level international gatherings to preserve historical memory and evidence and encourage the international community to unite in the fight against Antisemitism and any forms of intolerance.

Austrian Delegation for the March of the Living 2017

(AUSTRIA)

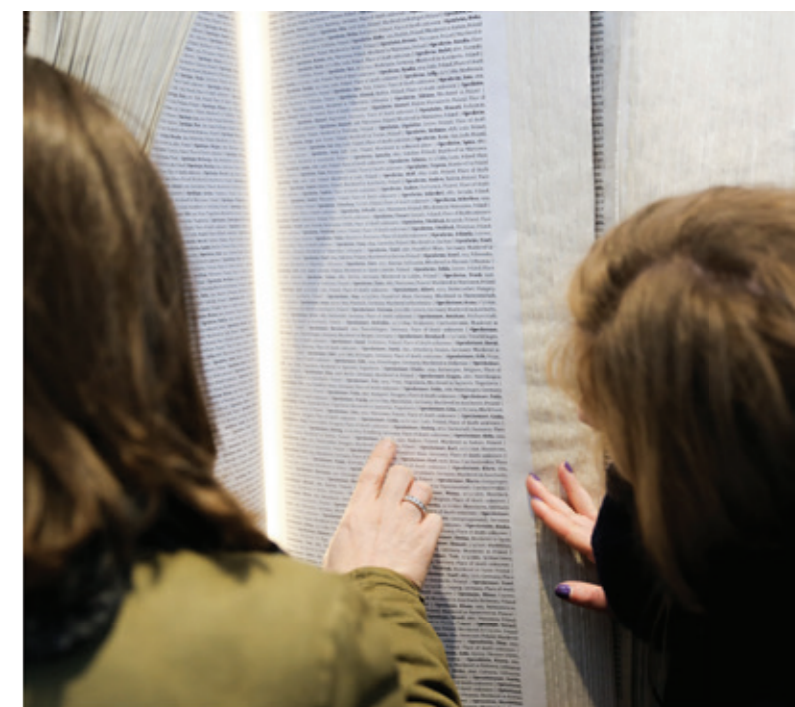
A group of almost 40 Austrian Jewish community members participated at the March of the Living 2017. The group consisted mainly of students aged 16-20 who were accompanied by two members of the organisational and educational staff. On the one side, visiting the six hundred year old Jewish quarter of the old town of Kazimierz, and on the other side visiting the places, which witnessed the horrors of the Holocaust deeply moved all participants.

The participants had the unique opportunity to see and understand the cruelty of the Nazis and the dimensions of the genocide on the Jewish people, while walking on the same railroads through which millions of women, men and children arrived just to be murdered.



The Austrian delegation for the March of the Living was part of ten thousand participants from all over the world— young and old. A new generation of young, successful, optimistic, life-loving Jews, which with thousands others of their kind and with many high level politicians and the Chief Rabbi of Israel, Rav Meir Lau, who himself went through the hell of the Holocaust, came together in order to remember the murder of six millions Jews. This was a feeling of strength. A feeling of deep hope.

The aim set by the organisers - to study the process of prejudice, intolerance and hate and understand what happened - was reached. Students participated in a series of workshops and seminars before going to Poland. Learning about the Holocaust and looking deep into history to get a background of it. Upon its return to Vienna, the group continued to meet in order to reflect on their collective experience.



In only four days the group had a fully booked programme, which included the visit of the Museum of Schindler's fabric, the concentration camp museum in Auschwitz, Kazimierz, the former Jewish Ghetto of Krakow, the Jewish Synagogues in Krakow, the Jewish museum of Krakow and had a joined event with MORAH, a group of over 400 non-Jewish students from Austria, also participating at the March of the Living. There students discussed with non-Jewish young people from Austria, who are in their age, the history of the Holocaust and what they had seen so far.

The feedback received by the organisers after this trip was just overwhelming. 90% of participants said that having joined the March of the Living has changed their life, has strengthened their Jewish Identity and their connection to the Jewish community and to Israel, the homeland of all Jews. They also would recommend any other students to join the future delegations.



75th Anniversary of the Liquidation of the Minsk Ghetto

(BELARUS)

The date of 22 October 2018 marked 75 years since the final liquidation of the Minsk ghetto, one of the largest in Europe.

In order to commemorate the victims of the Minsk ghetto as well as of all the Jews who were killed in the ghettos of hundreds of cities and towns across Europe, the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Union of Belarusian Jewish public associations and communities held Memorial Days in Minsk.



The main official events were the Commemoration rally at the “Yama” Memorial Complex, as well as a memorial evening held in honour of former ghetto prisoners and Righteous Among the Nations in the Belarusian State Philharmonic Hall.

In addition, within the framework of these Commemoration Days, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus organised an international round table “The Tragedy

of the Minsk Ghetto: Memory and Lessons”, which was attended by presidents of European Jewish communities, representatives of the diplomatic corps, former prisoners of the Ghetto and other stakeholders.



The events held in Minsk gathered about 1,000 people coming from all over Europe and Israel.

The participants at the Memorial Days were former prisoners of the Minsk ghetto from Belarus and other countries, officials of the Republic of Belarus and the State of Israel, representatives of religious denominations, numerous ambassadors, representatives of international Jewish organizations and leaders of European Jewish communities.



At the Commemoration Rally, the Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Belarus Vladimir Zhevnyak, read out a special address from the President of the Republic of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko, followed by Vladimir Makei, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, Vladimir Chernitsky, President of the Union of Belarusian Jewish public associations and communities, Sofa Landver, Minister of Aliyah and Integration of the State of Israel and Peter Dettmar, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to

the Republic of Belarus. Raya Kalenova, Executive Vice President and CEO of the European Jewish Congress also addressed the participants. The speeches of the surviving prisoners of the ghetto were particularly moving.

At the Memorial Evening, two families from Belarus were awarded with diplomas and medals of the Righteous Among the Nations. Beautiful musical and theatrical performances by Belarussian artists made it an unforgettable event for all participants.

One hundred thousand victims, 825 days of tragedy and heroism, 75 years of memory.





Annual Report 2017 - 2018

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