

Resources on the Roma Genocide in Albania

➤ Educational material

A European workshop, "Passing on the Remembrance of the Holocaust and Prevention of Crimes against Humanity: A Cross-Cutting Approach," took place in Tirana from 5 to 8 September 2012. School teachers from Albania, Belgium, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Portugal, and Slovenia joined a group of experts to discuss the topic. Participants of the workshop gained insight into challenges related to Holocaust remembrance in Europe and in Albania in particular. Dr. Fabienne Regard, expert to the Council of Europe, presented "[Guidelines for teachers and educators](#)" for teaching about Holocaust. Roma victims are also included in the material. Roma victims are also included in the material. However, the available materials do not appear to contain specific information regarding the Roma Genocide in Albania.

➤ Information material

HACKL, E. (2001). *Lamtumirë Sidoní: novelë*. Shkodër: "Camaj-Pipa". [Original in German]

KADARE, Ismail: "*Chronicle in Stone*" (»Kronikë në gurë«), novel, 1971, in English, Onufri

SINANI, Shaban: "*Jews in Albania: The Presence and Salvation*", 2014, Naimi Publishing House and Literary Services.

In the year 2000, Centre for Documentation and Information on Minorities in Europe - Southeast Europe (CEDIME-SE) issued a [Report on Minorities in Southeast Europe on Roma of Albania](#) with support of the Greek Helsinki Committee.

At page 5, the Report states that during the Second world war, Albania was under Italian rule within the territories of "Greater Albania." Albanian Roma were not persecuted or deported to death camps, unlike the Roma in many countries in Eastern Europe. However, Albanian Roma participated in the war and many of them were fighting in the Albanian military (Kolsti, 1991:53-54). Until the German occupation of the Greater Albania in 1943, neither the Italians nor the Albanian nationalist persecuted the Albanian Roma because of their increasingly problematic international political situation. The German army's occupation of Albania lasted no longer than one year, there was insufficient time and capacity to pursue a policy of deportation or extermination of the Roma (Kovacs, 1996:19).

➤ Scientific publications

CROWE D, KOLSTI J: "*The Gypsies of Eastern Europe*", M.E. Sharpe, Armonk, NY, 1991- and in particularly part IV: Albanian Gypsies: The Silent Survivors", page 51

HORAK, Stephan M. and Others: "[Eastern European National Minorities, 1919-1980](#)" - a Handbook, 1985, Libraries Unlimited, Inc., Littleton

➤ Multimedia material

2012: "[Albania, La storia](#)" (Albania, the history) 95 min, Italy, directed by Roland Sejko, Luce Archives

Occupation of Albania by Italian fascist forces, role of Albania in WWII.

2012: "[Besa: The Promise](#)", 90 min, USA, documentary, Director Rachel Goslins, JWM Productions, LLC

A story of Muslim families of Albania who saved the lives of nearly 2,000 Jews during World War II, not only from Albania but also those fleeing from other Balkan countries to Albania.

Forced Eviction from the Train Station (2021), graphic novel supported by European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture and REDI within ERIAC's 2020 Arts and Culture Innovation Program. The novel addresses themes of displacement, exclusion, and Roma historical memory, including references to concentration camp experiences during the Second World War.

Samudaripen: Babo Kujton Gjenocidin (2022), graphic novel authored by Xhenson Cela and supported by Roma Versitas Albania, READ, and the European Union.

Source: <https://bukinist.al/sq/15919-samudaripen-babo-kujton-gjenocidin.html>

Teatri Multimedial: Samudaripen Babo Kujton Gjenocidin (2023), a multimedia theatre and animation project based on the graphic novel and focusing on remembrance of the Roma Holocaust.

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEmF-4LaB68>