

Resources on the Roma Genocide in Croatia

➤ Educational material

The Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, in cooperation with the Shoah Foundation Visual Learning Institute, has created lessons about the Holocaust, based on testimonies of survivors. One lesson, created by Robert Skenderović, Ph.D ("The Suffering of Women and Children in Jasenovac"), describes the victimization of the Roma in the Jasenovac Concentration Camp during World War II. [The preparation manual for this lesson is available](#) and the [guidelines for teaching about Holocaust](#) can be found on the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports web page.

The teaching materials and various completed teaching units on teaching about Holocaust and Crimes against Humanity during 2nd World War [are available on the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports web page](#).

Handbooks and teaching materials published by Ana Frank House from Netherlands in cooperation with OSC/ODIHR were adopted for school teaching and translated into Croatian. In cooperation with the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports and the Education and Teacher Training Agency they were disseminated to Croatian schools. Full package of teaching materials covers the following themes: History of the Jews in Europe and anti-Semitism till 1945, Anti-Semitism in Europe today and Prejudice, discrimination, racism and anti-Semitism.

Holokaust u nastavi, priručnik za nastavnike (Teaching about the Holocaust: A Resource Book for Educators): Memorijalni muzej holokausta u Sjedinjenim Američkim Državama (translated from the original in English).

Baumgartner G., Bibermann I., Ecker M., Sigel R : „[The Fate of European Roma and Sinti during the Holocaust](#)“ Teachers' Manual is available in PDF form on www.romasintigenocide.eu in English, French and German.

➤ Information material

Croatia has been a member of the International Task Force on Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research (ITF) since 2005 and actively contributes in the research activities.

There are several research and academic institutions that have contributed to Holocaust research: [Croatian State Archives](#), [Croatian Institute of History](#), [Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Zagreb](#) as well as Jewish communities, including Jewish Community of Zagreb and the Jewish Community Bet Israel of Croatia. The most significant issues discussed include the state of the Holocaust-related material in public archival institutions of member countries, the issue of accessibility of public archives and the availability of the holdings to researchers.

Two Croatian national reports were prepared and compiled for the [Academic Working Group \(AWG\)](#) meetings in Prague in 2007: "Report on the Holocaust Related Research in Croatian Public Archives" and "Holocaust Related Archives in Croatia - Report No. 2," presenting an important overview of the field. Important resources for Holocaust researchers to be consulted in Croatia are

kept in the Croatian State Archives, as well as in the [Research and Documentation Center for Holocaust victims and survivors \(CENDO\)](#).

[The Information Portal to European Sites of Remembrance](#) online since 2011, is a project of the Foundation Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe. It is part of the exhibition of the Information Centre under the Field of Stelea of the Holocaust Memorial in Berlin. The presentation focuses on the victims of the Holocaust, but also on memorials to other victims of National Socialist crimes and the millions of victims of the Second World War. Among others, it presents memorial sites in Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia.

During the 2015's Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month, historian Rainer Schulze will remind of the systematic persecution the Roma and Sinti suffered during the period of Nazi rule in Germany and in Nazi-occupied Europe. Rainer is a Professor of Modern European History at the University of Essex and the programmer of the University of Essex's annual Holocaust Memorial Week. [See more](#)

[Jasenovac Research Institute](#)

According to the institute's website: "The Jasenovac Research Institute is a non-profit human rights organization and research institute committed to establishing the truth about the Holocaust in Yugoslavia and dedicated to the search for justice for its victims. The JRI promotes research and activities designed to enlighten the world to the crimes of genocide committed at Jasenovac and wartime Yugoslavia against Serbs, Jews and Romas and provides assistance to all groups and individuals who likewise seek justice for these victims."

(Auto)Biographies:

Bernadac, Ch. (1981). *Zaboravljeni holokaust: pokolj Cigana*. Zagreb: Globus. [Original in French]

Lacková, E. (2002). *Rođena sam pod sretnom zvijezdom: moj život Ciganke u Slovačkoj*. Zagreb: Ibis Grafika. [Original in Czech and Romani]

Novel:

Kučan, Maja: "[Jedinomoje i ostali: Pisma iz logora](#)" ("Myonlyone and the Rest!: Letters from Concentration Camps"), 2010, published by Jasenovac Memorial Site.

A book of personal narratives, records and correspondence from the inmates of the Jasenovac camp.

Comment:

A new work-in-progress documentary about the circumstances surrounding the films shot by Allied troops when they liberated Bergen-Belsen, Auschwitz, Madjanek and other concentration camps at the end of WWII. Croatian director and producer, 81 years old Auschwitz survivor and Oscar winner Branko Lustig said at the premiere in Berlin in December 2014: "I like this movie very much; this kind of movie must be shown every 25 years, to every new generation. You cannot live your life hating." [See more](#)

2014: "[Night Will Fall](#)", United Kingdom, Director André Singer, Documentary

„[Genocide of European Roma \(Gypsies\), 1939–1945](#)”, published on the website of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, says that the authorities of the so-called Independent State of Croatia, another Axis partner of Germany and run by the militant separatist and terrorist Ustasha organisation, physically annihilated virtually the entire Roma population of the country, around 25,000 people. The

concentration camp system of [Jasenovac](#), run by the Ustasha militia and the Croat political police, claimed the lives of between 15 000 and 20 000 Roma.

➤ Scientific publications

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CROWE, KOLSTI, HANCOCK: „The Gypsies of Eastern Europe“, 1992, Routledge

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FINGS, K., Lissner, C. and Sparing, F. (1992). “...einziges Land, in dem Judenfrage und Zigeunerfrage gelöst”: die Verfolgung der Roma im faschistisch besetzten Jugoslawien 1941-1945. Köln: Rom e.V. Köln.

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JEVTIC, E. (2004). Blank pages of the Holocaust Gypsies in Yugoslavia during World War II. Thesis (M.A.), Brigham Young University.

KOVAČIĆ, Ivan . Kampor 1942-1943: Hrvati, Slovenci i Židovi u koncentracijskom logoru Kampor na Rabu (Kampor 1942-1943: Croats, Slovenes and Jews in Concentration camp Kampor on the Island of Rab). Rijeka: 1998.

LACKOVA, E. (2002). Rođena sam pod sretnom zvijezdom: moj život Ciganke u Slovačkoj. Zagreb: Ibis Grafika. [Original in Czech and Romani]

LENGEL KRIZMAN, Narcisa. Stradanje Roma u Nezavisnoj državi Hrvatskoj 1942. (Suffering of Roma in the Independent State of Croatia), Spomen područje Jasenovac , Cvijet, Zagreb, 2003.

LIITUCHY, B. M. et al. (2006). Jasenovac and the Holocaust in Yugoslavia: Analyses and survivor testimonies. New York: Jasenovac Research Institute.

MIRKOVIC, D. (1993). “Victims and Perpetrators in the Yugoslav Genocide 1941-1945. Some preliminary observations”, Holocaust and Genocide Studies, 7 (3), pp. 317-332.

POLANSKY, P. (2008). One blood, one flame: The Oral Histories of Yugoslav Gypsies before, during and after WW2, sv. 3. Niš: Kosovo Roma Refugee Foundation.ŠKILJAN, Filip: „[Odnos ustaške vlasti na Kalniku i u potkalničkom kraju prema Srbima, Židovima i Romima 1941. godine](#)“ (How ustasha

authorities in Kalnik and sub-Kalnik region treated Serbs, Jews and Romanies in 1941), original scientific paper

ŠKILJAN, Filip: "[Stradanje Srba, Židova i Roma u virovitičkom i slatinskom kraju tijekom 1941. i početka 1942. godine](#)" (The suffering of the Serbs, Roma and Jews in the area of Virovitica and Slatina in 1941 and early 1942), original scientific paper, *Scrinia Slavonica*, volume 10 – number 1, 2010

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ZATEZALO, Djuro: "[JADOVNO \(The Jadovno complex of Ustasha concentration camps 1941: summary\)](#)", 2007, Belgrade, Muzej zrtava genocida

➤ Multimedia material

1977: "[Akcija stadion](#)" (Operation Stadium), Croatia, Director: Dusan Vukotic, Writers: Slavko Goldstein and Dusan Vukotic, duration 90 minutes.

This film tells a true story about events in Zagreb in 1941. Nazis and their collaborators organised the great gathering of students on Dubrava stadium. The intention was to publicly separate Jews from them which would lead to future pogrom. The event, however, took an unexpected turn.

2011: "[The other Genocide: The Persecution of Sinti and Roma in Europe 1920–1946](#)" (*Mémoires tsiganes, l'autre génocide*), France Documentary, directed by Juliette Jourdan , Produced by Marie-Hélène Ranc, Mark Edwards & Eric Darmon, duration 1:15:05

Film follows the lives of Roma from Czech Republic, France, Germany, Croatia, Slovenia, Austria, Ukraine before and after the Holocaust.