

The project «Stories of remembrance: remembering Refugees from the Yugoslav wars and building a peaceful and tolerant EU» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "Networks of Towns"

Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"

Strand 1 – "European Remembrance"

12 events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1

Readings of "Hotel Zagorje" and story writing in Šentilj and Spielfeld-Strass

Participation: The event involved 70 citizens, including 30 participants from the city of Šentilj (Slovenia) and 40 participants from the city of Strass (Austria).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Šentilj, Slovenia and Spielfeld-Strass, Austria, from 01/11/2016 to 28/04/2017.

Short description: DEZ has bought 50 copies of the book "Hotel Zagorje" in the Slovenian and German language (German title "Hotel Nirgendwo") and donated them to the schools. A couple of books remain in the school library, others have been distributed among children (some children have shared books). Readings were organised differently in Slovenia and Austria. Reading in Austria has been integrated into regular classes and all children participating in that class have read the book. In Slovenia special reading groups were organised for pupils. In both cases they have discussed the situation in former Yugoslavia before and during the war and have learned about history – children today know almost nothing about the events 25 years ago, although the event described in the book took place only 100 km away from Šentilj/Strass. In Slovenia after the reading and common discussions pupils wrote mainly essays about topics like home, displacement and war. In Austria the school every year organises a project week about a chosen topic for all pupils of same age. This year, based on our project, they have decided to dedicate the whole yearly project week (24/04/2017 - 28/04/2017) to the reading of the book "Hotel Zagorje" and the war in former Yugoslavia. Teachers of history, geography and literature participated in the project week and have dedicated their classes to this topic. Children prepared posters and were motivated to discuss the topic at home. Pupils also wrote essays about home, displacement and war. In a closing event on the last day of the project week (28/04/2017) it was planned that the author of the book "Hotel Zagorje" visits the school, but she had to cancel last minute due to personal reasons. Instead, DEZ organised a discussion with contemporary witnesses: A person from Croatia, who has experienced being a refugee during the war in Croatia as well as a Slovene, who was highly involved in helping refugees and other victims of war. The event included watching a documentary about the town of Vukovar and a tasting of culinary specialities from former Yugoslavia, which were prepared by the mother of a pupil from Bosnia. It was interesting to note, that the teacher asked pupils during the event, if they have parents or grandparents who are not Austrian and more than half of the pupils raised their hands and told the class where their grandparents were from (in this border region most families were mixed Slovenian-Austrian, but there were also children with families from other parts of former Yugoslavia as well as migrants). Two refugee girls from Syria who attend the school in Spielfeld-Strass were also present at the event. Therefore the activities in schools have had extraordinary impact on participating schools, but also on the families and friends of the pupils, who were involved in children's fact finding about the war in Yugoslavia, refugees and their own origin.

Children's texts have been exhibited as a part of the exhibition "Stories of Remembrance" in Maribor (Event 2). Participating pupils were approx. 14 years old. The event was organised by Društvo za evropsko zavest.

Event 2

Exhibition opening of children's essays in Maribor and come-together in Bad Radkersburg

Participation: The event in Bad Radkersburg involved approx. 100 citizens, including 75 participants from the city of Bad Radkersburg and other cities in Austria (country), 25 participants from different cities in Slovenia, etc.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Maribor, Slovenia, on 24/05/2017 and in Bad Radkersburg, Austria, on 21/07/2017.

Short description: Since the planned venue at the quarry Pruh, due to changes in the implementation of the reading of the book (event 1), has turned out not to be suitable any more, this event was organised at two different places. The exhibition of children's works, related to the reading of the book "Hotel Zagorje", was organised on the same town square where two other refugees-related exhibitions "Stories of remembrance" and "On the way" were on display in two galleries in Maribor. The exhibition of children's essays was set up outdoors in a roofed area of the square, in front of the gallery where the exhibition "On the way" was held. Placing the exhibition in a public space on a small town square in the city centre of Maribor has relevantly increased its audience of passers by in the city. The exhibition was opened and on display from 24/05/2017 to 31/05/2017, while the exhibition "Stories of remembrance" was open in the gallery. During this time a larger music event was held on the square, what even further improved the reach of the exhibition. This part of the event was organised by Društvo za evropsko zavest. The other part of the event, a come-together of families and citizens from the Austrian-Slovenian border region, was held in Pavelhaus, a Slovene-Austrian cultural centre in the city of Bad Radkersburg. The city Bad Radkersburg is the Austrian part of a formerly one city Bad Radkersburg / Gornja Radgona, which was split by a boarder in 1918. On 21/07/2017, the day of the opening of the exhibition "Stories of Remembrance" in Pavelhaus, a come-together was organised as a whole day event. It was a wonderful sunny day and many people came from Austria as well as from Slovenia. Families with their children came to the event, but not only families from Austria, but also migrants living in Austria from different countries like Afghanistan, Italy, Slovenia, Bosnia, etc. The whole event was presented in two languages, in the Slovenian and the German languages. After the opening of the exhibition there was a buffet: A family from Afghanistan cooked for all participants who than shared the food. A special part of the event were philosophical cafes for children and adults. The philosophical café, is the place where all interested people can have a voice, discuss, analyse, report, criticise, supplement or simply listen. Topics, like migration, diversity, democracy, escape, human rights, responsibility, empathy were discussed that concern not only experts, but many people. It is a place of understanding. The aim is to practice skills and abilities that lead to independent analysis and judgement and encourage independent, critical thinking. On the one hand, interest in "the Other" is to be awakened and, on the other hand, the conditions are to be created for understanding complex interrelationships and acquiring action competences in order to participate actively in social processes. The proposed topics were moderated in the philosophical café by a philosopher as an inquirer in the sense of a Socratic Dialogue. The participants were confronted with controversial theses and ideas. The aim was to create a process in which dialogue and respect play a central role. More than 50 persons were involved in the philosophical café. This part of the event was organised by Österreichische Gesellschaft für Kinderphilosophie.

Exhibition "Stories of remembrance"

The European photography project "Stories of Remembrance" aimed to make citizens more aware of the fates and realities of refugees from former Yugoslavia and today's refugees coming to Europe from different countries worldwide. The wars in former Yugoslavia caused the largest refugee crisis in Europe after WWII. More than two million people were displaced from their homes and many found a temporary or permanent home outside of their country's borders. These displaced people left a trail of stories which can help us better understand the past and also the difficult fate of refugees today. It's been almost 25 years since the beginning of the wars in the former Yugoslavia, and yet these events seem to be quite far away today. Unfortunately, many of the lessons and insights that could be used to build a better European future are also forgotten. In this sense, we can understand the exhibition "Stories of remembrance" as a contribution to a more tolerant and peace-oriented Europe: The exhibition looks back into the mistakes and tragedies of the European history in order to open up the possibility of dialogue for the future, promote empathy, sensitivity and open a new perspective on the fate of refugees and developments that are much more complex than the current European discourse of the collective fear of the supposed "other". The exhibition allows visitors to see through a personal narration that shows the significance and challenges of escape and prosecution through the narrative of the affected people themselves, thereby revealing the undifferentiated understanding of the "refugee" as a homogeneous actor.

The exhibition "Stories of remembrance" presents 48 photographs of refugees during the wars in former Yugoslavia and of refugees today and shows works from European photographers Borut Krajnc (Slovenia), Florian Rainer (Austria), Istvan Bielik (Hungary) und Imre Szabó (Serbia), who accompanied those refugees at different stages of their trail. It is thus a contribution to a peaceful future of Europe. The curator of the exhibition was Matej Sitar, photographer, editor and publisher of books of photography and member of Društvo za evropsko zavest. The exhibition examines the past European mistakes and raises awareness of citizens. It reminds Europeans of the most recent war on its soil and many refugees from this war who still live among us in many places in Europe. It is supposed to be a contribution to a critical and considerate discourse around the ever so present theme of refugees in Europe. It aims to raise awareness of European citizens, who are increasingly caught in the middle of nationalistic discourses, based on the allegedly "other", that "threatens" Europe and show them individual realities of that so-called "other".

The exhibition was set up in a way that every partner could choose formats of the photographs and print them in a way to meet the needs of the space where each exhibition is held. The first exhibition was opened in Partizánske (Slovakia) in April 2017, followed by Maribor (Slovenia), Berlin (Germany), Graz (Austria) and Bad Radkersburg (Austria) as well as the projection of the exhibition in Freiburg (Germany).

Event 3

Exhibition “Stories of remembrance” / “Zgodbe spominjanja” in Maribor

Participation: The event involved approx. 600 citizens, including mainly participants from the city of Maribor (Slovenia), but also some participants from Austria.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Maribor, Slovenia, from 24/05/2017 to 31/05/2017

Short description: Since DEZ has in 2017 planned two different exhibitions related to refugees it was decided to combine both exhibitions as a larger event at the same time. Two galleries on opposite sides of a small town square were chosen for the exhibitions. The opening was organised for both exhibitions together on the town square on 24/05/2017. While at the exhibition “Stories of remembrance” large photographs of refugees by 4 professional photographers, who have photographed the refugees on their way in different countries, were exhibited, the other exhibition, “On the way” / “S poti”, showed photographs taken by refugees mostly from Syria on their way from their homes to Slovenia. The exhibition “On the way” was curated by Nika Autor, internationally acclaimed Slovenian artist. These two exhibitions stood in a great contrast to each other and they excellently complemented each other. The impression they have left on visitors together was stronger and more differentiated than each of them would have done on its own. “Stories of Remembrance” showed a photographer’s view of the refugees, often as persons in suffer, presented in large format and highly impressive, while “On the way” showed a large amount of small size pictures, like from a personal photo album. There was no suffer on refugees’ personal photos, they remind the refugee of nice places and moments and for a viewer they often look rather like pictures taken by tourists or visitors of a music festival. They powerfully remind us that refugees are people like us and that those pictures could have been ours.

The development of the exhibition “Stories of remembrance” included an additional activity, involving pupils and teachers of the Vocational school of design in Maribor. Pupils have interviewed and filmed 4 refugees from different times and wars, currently living in Maribor. Three videos were set up as a part of the exhibition “Stories of remembrance”. They showed a refugee from the WWII, today in his nineties, who had to leave Slovenia with his family in 1941; a refugee from the war in Bosnia, who fled from the war in 1992 and two refugees from Iran, who are only living in Slovenia for one year now. Their stories, however, show a lot of similarities as they had to start a new life in an unknown country.

The exhibition was also part of a music event on the town square “Židovski trg”. “Jazz za mlade” is a music event which attracts visitors to the town square »Židovski trg« with concerts and art. It took place, while the exhibition “Stories of remembrance” and the exhibition of children’s essays were on display on the same square. Therefore the gallery “Fotogallery Stolp” with the exhibition “Stories of remembrance” opened its doors until late in the evening. The curator of the exhibition held a talk about the project and UNHCR refugee convention at this event. The event was organised by Društvo za evropsko zavest.

Event 4

Panel discussion “Refugees and photography - how photography co-shapes public opinion” / “Begunci in fotografija – kako fotografija sooblikuje javno mnenje?” in Maribor

Participation: The event involved approx. 36 citizens, including 29 participants from the city of Maribor (Slovenia), 4 participants from the city of Graz (Austria), 3 participants from the city of Zagreb (Croatia).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Maribor, Slovenia, on 24/05/2017.

Short description: The discussion panel “Refugees and photography - how photography co-shapes public opinion” was organised with the aim to discuss media relation to refugees and the public opinion about refugees, including the rise of xenophobia and euroscepticism due to the current refugee crisis in Europe. In Slovenia it was decided to slightly change the initial topic of the discussion panel and to invite photographers, working with refugees, rather than refugees. Panelists were two photographers, whose works were shown at the exhibition “Stories of remembrance”: Austrian photographer Florian Rainer and Slovene photographer Borut Kranjc. The third panelist was Slovene photographer and journalist Meta Krese, who has worked with humanitarian organizations such as Red Cross Slovenia, International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victim Assistance and ISOP—Innovative Sozialprojekte. All three photographers are highly experienced in the work with refugees. The discussion panel was moderated by Miha Colner. The discussion panel was very interesting and offered insights into ethical issues of photographers when photographing refugees, pictures as a means of creation of a certain representation of refugees for the audience and shaping of the public opinion about refugees by media and their use of pictures. Also, parallels between the public opinion and representation of refugees during the war in former Yugoslavia as well as current refugees were discussed. The discussion panel lasted for two hours and was followed by a long discussion with the audience. The event was organised by Društvo za evropsko zavest.

Event 5

Exhibition “Stories of remembrance” in Graz

Participation: The event involved approx. 1500 citizens, including mostly participants (visitors) from the city of Graz but also other cities in Austria as well as visitors from other countries.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Graz, Austria, from 07/06/2017 to 30/06/2017.

Short description: The photographic exhibition “Stories of remembrance” presents photographs of situations of refugees during the wars in former Yugoslavia and pictures of migrants in 2015. It showed works from European photographers, who accompanied the refugees in different stages of their trail. The opening of the exhibition was on 07/06/2018 at Werkstadt Graz/Galerie Grazy, at the heart of Graz. The opening started with an a-cappella-performance by Irina Karamaković “Escape Routes”, where she was singing different songs in several languages Arabic, Turkish, Greek, Bosnian, Hungarian, Croatian and German songs of refugees and songs from the countries the people had to escape. The aim of this exhibition was to raise awareness of citizens of Europe and to promote mutual understanding among nations through intercultural dialogue. During the exhibition a round table, philosophical cafés, discussions and dialogues with the visitors of the exhibitions, citizens of Graz and of the surroundings of Graz, tourists, refugees, pupils, students, teachers, experts and many interested people, were organised. During the whole period of the exhibition, every day, except Sunday, Österreichische Gesellschaft für Kinderphilosophie organised guided tours and philosophical cafés at the exhibition and they talked to many people. It was perceived that it is very important to talk and think about the stories of displaced people who had to leave their countries. The event was organised by Österreichische Gesellschaft für Kinderphilosophie and Werkstadt Graz/Galerie Grazy.

Event 6

Discussion panel “Stories of remembrance” in Graz

Participation: The event involved 42 participants, 33 from the city of Graz and other cities in Austria, 3 participants from Afghanistan, 1 Participant from Slovenia, 1 participant from Rumania, 1 participant from Bosnia, 1 Participant from Kurdistan, 2 participants from Italy.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Graz, Austria, on 07/06/2017.

Short description: The aim of the discussion panel was to discuss different topics related to migration. Panelists were Roswith Roth, psychologist; Irina Karamaković, artist from Bosnia; 2 escaped young men from Afghanistan and Daniela Camhy, philosopher. Moderator was Hans Mehrl. Discussion topics were the difference between migration and escape, how people in Austria received the refugees from the former Yugoslavia and what happened in 2015. Following questions were discussed: How did very positive reception of refugees, the willingness to help, the sympathy suddenly turn into the opposite in some areas of Austria? How do we deal with people who have fled the war? How is it that nationalistic, racist, xenophobic rhetoric is becoming increasingly accepted? What is political discourse like in Europe today? What can we do to promote integration? What can we do against the rhetoric of exclusion? After the opening of the exhibition “Stories of Remembrance” there was much interest to have a discussion about refugees and migrants and their situation in Europe. The audience mostly agreed that refugees would never risk their lives on a journey so dangerous if they could live in peace and thrive in their home countries. The majority of the participants agreed that more solidarity is needed within Europe to ensure protection. The event was organised by Österreichische Gesellschaft für Kinderphilosophie.

Event 7

Exhibition “Stories of remembrance” / “Príbehy spomienok” in Partizánske

Participation: The event involved approx. 550 citizens, the majority from the city of Partizánske (Slovakia), including several foreign visitors (from Russia, Ukraine, Italy, Georgia, France, Czech republic, Poland). Approx. 50 participants come from the cities of Bratislava, Topoľčany, Prievidza, Nováky, Bánovce nad Bebravou (all in Slovakia), etc.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Partizánske, Slovakia, from 30/03/2017 to 12/04/2017.

Short description: The exhibition was organised as an open event in the town hall of the Slovak town of Partizánske on 30/03/2017. On the very same day, the liberation of the town after the WWII was celebrated. 25 posters/panels with 48 photos were exhibited in two large rooms of the town hall. The town’s mayor took part in the formal opening as well as approx. 30 other local politicians, public officers and soldiers, besides other citizens. It is especially interesting that soldiers and several higher ranked commanders participated at the opening of the exhibition due to their participation at the celebration of the liberation day. They belong to the target group, which is seldom reached by this kind of events for promotion of tolerance, organised by the civil society. On that occasion the Slovak translation of the book „European Identity“ by Zlatko Tišljár was presented. Several journalists attended the event: local TV station, newspaper journalists and radio-reporters. In addition to the event, Zlatko Tišljár was interviewed in Esperanto, by the chief editor of the magazine “Esperantisto slovaká”, who in collaboration with the author published a vast 4-page interview about his activities but also about the project. Therefore the event had an impact on additional citizens from whole Slovakia as well as foreigners, who read the magazine. The exhibition

was on display for two weeks in the town hall and it was an unusual exhibition in the context of the city Partizánske. The event was organised by E@I.

Event 8

Public discussion “Stories of Remembrance - discussion with high school students” / “Príbehy spomienok - beseda so študentami stredných škôl” in Partizánske

Participation: The event involved 270 citizens - mainly students of all three high schools of the town of Partizánske (Slovakia), including the teachers and some guests, participants from the neighbouring cities.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Partizánske, Slovakia, on 30/03/2017.

Short description: Discussion with a former refugee during the war in former Yugoslavia took place in a large hall of the cinema for approx. 270 school pupils from three different high schools from Partizánske (gymnasium, technical high school and business high school). The panel discussion was organised as an interview in which the moderator asked questions to the guests. First questions related to the examples of terrors that people in Yugoslavia had survived and testified. Following questions related to the fate of the guest, who had to leave the country because he as a Croatian had a Serbian wife and was in danger of being sent to the war, in which he didn't want to participate. He testified about his life in another country where the main problems were related to getting a permit of residence and work (initially for work permit he had to present 8 papers annually, after 8 years, even 28 papers). Another important issue was that as an adult it is impossible to learn the language of the host country good enough in order not to be easily identified as a foreigner. Final questions were dealing with the causes of the war in former Yugoslavia and the interview was concluded with the words written in his diary during the war: "I am more and more convinced that I want to stay in mixed marriage and I'm proud of it because I want to have nothing in common with all those cruel nationalists, Serbian, Croatian or Muslim. My Croatian blood, Austrian and Czech blood of my grandparents now mixed with my wife's Serbian blood and two wise and beautiful daughters were born. What nationality do they have: only the human. And people can not live in a nationalistic, racist and religiously unhealthy society." 270 young people listened attentively and asked several questions. Another guest at the panel discussion was a Slovak diplomat and officer at the Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There was a great deal of interest in public media, local television, radio, and local newspapers. The event was taught-provoking for the young generation by discussing the war that was caused by the growth of internal nationalisms in Yugoslavia and has pointed out that currently similar nationalisms in several EU countries can be very dangerous for Europe and its citizens. Additionally, a 2-hour long discussion in Esperanto took place on 29/03/2017 in E@I's office for the workers and volunteers of the organization. The event was organised by E@I.

Event 9

Exhibition “Stories of remembrance” / “Geschichten der Erinnerung” in Berlin

Participation: The event involved approx. 3400 citizens (visitors), the majority from the city of Berlin and other cities in Germany.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Berlin, Germany, from 18/05/2017 to 09/06/2017.

Short description: The exhibition “Stories of remembrance” was on display for three weeks in the House of Democracy and Human Rights, which accommodates over 50 NGOs, associations and initiatives (among others Amnesty International, Migration Council Berlin Brandenburg), which are the perfect multipliers especially for the topic of the exhibition. The visibility of the exhibition over the entire time was thus guaranteed, as it was located on the ground floor and was seen by all visitors / employees of the complex, who also disseminated the information about the exhibition in their own networks. In addition, the exhibition was announced in the monthly booklets (for May and June) of the House of Democracy. Announcements of the exhibition and panel discussion were also published in popular city magazines (zitty and tip Berlin) and in online event calendars of relevant daily newspapers (taz, Morgenpost, Tagesspiegel) as well as announcements and contributions on relevant cultural / art / photography portals. Information about the event was primarily disseminated through online media, on Facebook and Instagram, where the contributions and the event itself were seen by over 3400 people. Invitations to the events were sent via KuBiPro's mailing list with around 800 recipients from press, culture and politics in Berlin as well as through the distributor of the House of Democracy. The event was organised by Kultur- und Bildungsprojekte e.V.

Event 10

Panel discussion “Stories of Remembrance - escape now and then” / “Geschichten der Erinnerung – Flucht damals und heute” in Berlin

Participation: The event involved approx. 38 citizens (visitors), the majority from the city of Berlin and other cities in Germany.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Berlin, Germany, on 18/05/2017.

Short description: The panelist were Sonja Breljak (Bosnian Croatian and journalist, who lives and works in Berlin after her escape in the mid-1990s, runs the news portal "Hrvatski Glas Berlin" and works in the care of refugees at the BAMF), Irena Petzoldova (psychologist and psychological psychotherapist, head of the

psychosocial center for refugees in the State of Brandenburg. Since the 1990s she has been taking care of refugees), Suvad Čehić (escaped from Bosnia to Berlin in 1993, author of several books, e.g. on the War in Bosnia and his imprisonment in the Keraterm and Trnopolje prison camps) and Ahmad Alkurdi (student of computer science from Syria, lives in Berlin since 2015 and is involved in various integrative cultural and film projects). The discussion was moderated by Rüdiger Rossig, a Balkanologist, journalist and editor, who publishes in various German, Serbian/Croatian and English media, and was from 1995 to 1998 staff of UN and OSCE in Zagreb and Sarajevo. The panel discussion was an intensive and very intimate discussion about the experience of escape of the participants (Irina Petzoldova has worked as a psychologist both with Čehić and Breljak for years) which are ultimately comparable today and then: From the administrative hurdles and the long wait for official recognition of a refugee status, to everyday life and the challenges in refugee camps, the problems of employment without appropriate documents or recognition of professional qualification. The participants talked about their lives and found many connecting factors and similarities in the approach of the society to them as "refugees" - whether in the 1990s or today - after arriving in Germany. Especially with regard to the question: what can we learn from the wars in former Yugoslavia for today, on the bottom line it came out that Germany, especially in administrative terms, since the 1990s has barely learned anything, committing the same mistakes and thus additionally burdening people with the experience of escape. The trauma specialist Petzoldova concluded that trauma and psychosomatic complaints are exactly the same today as they were then, and due to the above-mentioned problems (no possibility to work / to be active in the learned profession, years of waiting for recognition and the build-up of pressure, everyday life in asylum seekers' hostel, racist insults, etc.). The focus was also on the question of the attribution "refugee", which all found problematic and strange and felt that it was a great hurdle for the integration. At the same time it became clear that the perception of the Syrian participant differs from that of the Bosnian participants. He has to deal with racism on everyday basis because of his religion and background (even by professors of his university), while for the two Bosnian participants then as today this was not often the case. Discussion took over 2 hours, followed by questions of the audience, which gave a very positive feedback on the topic of the discussion, the selection of participants and the topics discussed ("Most productive and interesting discussion in a long time"). Above all, it was noted that it is surprising that there were no more (art) projects, discussions or even articles on this topic, since it is actually so close and still very present. The event was organised by Kultur- und Bildungsprojekte e.V.

Event 11

Exhibition "Stories of remembrance" in Bad Radkersburg

Participation: The event involved approx. 1000 citizens, including the majority of participants from the city of Bad Radkersburg (Austria), Gornja Radgona (Slovenia) and other mainly Austrian and Slovenian cities.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Bad Radkersburg, Austria, from 21/07/2017 to 26/08/2017.

Short description: The opening of the exhibition "Stories of Remembrance" in Pavelhaus was on 21/07/2017. The opening started with an a-cappella-performance "Escape Routes" by Irina Karamaković. She was singing different songs in several languages Arabic, Turkish, Greek, Bosnian, Hungarian, Croatian and German: songs of refugees and songs from the countries where refugees had to pass on their way. The aim of this event was to connect the European photographic exhibition "Stories of Remembrance" that presents photographs of situations of refugees during the wars in former Yugoslavia and pictures of migrants in 2015 by European photographers, who accompanied the refugees at different stages of their trail, with two other exhibitions: the exhibition "Stories of the Presence", where pictures and texts showed the engagement of people and NGOs for refugees and stories about personal fates in four languages, and the exhibition "Metamorphose" by Christine Kertz, who was artist in residence in Ljubljana/Slovenia, where she worked with migrants. The aim of this exhibition was to raise awareness of citizens of Europe and to promote mutual understanding among nations through intercultural dialogue. On 24/08/2018 a guided tour for citizens by the curator of the exhibition, Matej Sitar, was organised. The event was organised by Österreichische Gesellschaft für Kinderphilosophie and Pavelhaus.

Event 12

International public discussion "Stories of remembrance" in Freiburg

Participation: The event involved 43 citizens from 8 EU Member States, the majority from different cities in Germany.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Freiburg, Germany, on 04/06/2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to present the project and to discuss with the participating partner organisations and an international audience the results of the project "Stories of remembrance" at the yearly congress of the Eŭropa Esperanto-Unio. In the beginning the project idea and development of the activities were presented, followed by presentations by project partners of finished project activities and events and their impact in Partizánske, Maribor and Berlin. The photographs of the exhibition were shown as a projection without comments, with only a brief introduction into the topics of the photographs and a presentation of the photographers. After the presentations an open discussion was organised with the aim to motivate the participants, who are predominantly very active citizens in their cities/countries, to organise similar events or develop new concepts with the aim of the

promotion of intercultural dialogue, development of tolerance and understanding towards “the others”. Participants have contributed with their own ideas and reports on what kind of activities were already organised in their cities in order to help refugees to integrate in the host society and the host society to be able to accept the refugees. All national member organisations of the Eŭropa Esperanto-Unio can now ask to be sent the materials for the exhibition “Stories of remembrance” in order to show it in their country. The event was organised by Eŭropa Esperanto-Unio.