Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust in the Republic of Croatia

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Programme framework
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- The National Programme of Human Rights Education, 1999 (pre-primary, primary, secondary and tertiary education)


- Curriculum for Citizen Education 2014.

Holocaust – to be taught cross curricula within History, Croatian language and literature, Religious Education, Psychology, Sociology, Ethics, Philosophy, History of Arts…
Cross-curricular Approach in Teaching about the Holocaust

- **Primary school:**
  - History, 8th grade
  - Croatian language and literature, 8th grade
  - Religious Education, 7th grade

- **Secondary school:**
  - History, 2nd and 4th grade
  - Religious Education, 1st and 2nd grade
  - Psychology, 3rd grade
  - Sociology, 3rd grade
  - Philosophy, 4th grade
  - History of Arts, 4th grade
  - Ethics, 4th grade
Totalitarian regimes between the World Wars:

- The rise of Nazism and Nazi ideology
- The characteristics of Nazi rule
- The Jews in the Third Reich
- Nuremberg laws
- Persecution based on politics, race, ethnic background, and religion
- The effects of Nazism on family, business, education
- Everyday life in totalitarian regime
- Position of women and children in totalitarian regimes
- Culture, art and sports serving the regime
History curriculum (8th grade)

World War II:

- The significance and effects of WW II on civilian population
- Holocaust – the plight of Jews during WW II; concentration camps (Auschwitz and the others)
- “Final Solution”
- Ustasha regime – the policy of terror towards Croatian citizens
- The race laws; concentration camp in Jasenovac
Croatian language and literature, 8th grade

- Anne Frank’s Diary
Religious Education, 7th grade
About the Jewish people and their Religion
The Dialogue between Jews and Christians

Postcard from Rijeka

School: “Gelsi”, Rijeka
Scuola elementare italiana

Religious teacher: Katica Dessardo, prof.

Daily lesson plan for religious education
History curriculum (4th grade)

- Croatia and the World at the beginning of the 20th century
- Reasons for the creation of Nazism and of the Nazi propaganda
- Totalitarianism
- The Ustasha movement
- Anti-fascism
- The Independent State of Croatia and the Ustasha regime

- Croatia and the World (1945 – 2018)
- Fundamental human rights and freedoms
Religious Education, 1st and 2nd grade

- Judaism and the Holocaust
- We remember and think about Shoah
- The Shoah tragedy and the duty of remembrance
- What we have to remember
- Christian and Jewish relationship
- Nazi anti-Semitism and Shoah
History of Arts, 4th grade

- Arts and their impact on society
- Arts and Nazi ideology
- Arts as a form of resistance
Psychology, 3rd grade
Social psychology: conflicts and their impact on people behaviour; stereotypes and prejudice.

Sociology, 3rd grade
Culture, society socialisation, social control and deviations, collective behaviour.

Philosophy, 4th grade
Ethics (ethical values, freedom, moral lows), philosophy of justice and the state (democracy, types of power, human rights)

Ethics, 4th grade
Religions of the World – Jewish Religion
Extracurricular activities
The Crocus Project
Poster project
Yad Vashem, Education and Teacher Training Agency and students and teachers from Croatia
Teaching materials
- Flyers for teachers on Holocaust education, Institute of Education, 2003
- Teaching about the Holocaust, a resource book for educators, USHMM, 2005
- Guidelines for Teaching about the Holocaust (ITF, Ministry of Science, Education and Sports) 2005
- Yad Vashem and ODIHR Guidelines how to commemorate the Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust and the Prevention of Crimes against Humanity, 2006
Teaching Materials on the History of Jews and Anti-Semitism in Europe

Teaching materials were developed by:

OSCE/ODIHR

Anne Frank House, Amsterdam

Education and Teacher Training Agency

Ministry of Science, Education and Sports
Three themes – one lesson pack

1. The history of Jews and anti-Semitism in Europe until 1945;
2. Anti-Semitism in Europe today;
3. Prejudice, discrimination, racism, and anti-Semitism;
   Guide for teachers.
In March 2006 joint project with the Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History from Los Angeles, USA, started.

The goal of the project is to develop teaching materials about the Holocaust and other crimes against humanity based on survivor’s testimonies owned by the Shoah Foundation or Croatian collections e.g. Jewish Community, Jasenovac Memorial Area.

6 lessons available at:

http://college.usc.edu/vhi/croatian/
or
www.mzos.hr
Croatian teachers developed the following lessons

1. Collaboration, conformism, confrontation

2. The Jews in the antifascist combat

3. Responsibility

4. The suffering of women and children in Jasenovac concentration camp

5. Deportation of population in the Independent State of Croatia to Ustasha concentration camps

6. The destiny of Lea Deutsch

7. The destiny of inmates on the Croatian territory occupied by the Fascist Kingdom of Italy
Posters created by the JFR were translated in Croatian language. /1st non-English version. These posters are used in Croatian secondary schools.

The Stories on the Righteous:

**Social responsibility** (Varian Fry - France, Jerzy Radwanek - Poland)

**Self-sacrifice** (Jadwiga Konocowicz - Poland, Aristides de Sousa Mendes - France)

**Ingenuity** (Olga Kuković - Bosnia and Herzegovina, Oscar Schindler - Poland)

**Cooperation** (Preben Munch Nielsen Denmark, Dmitar Peshev - Bulgaria)

**Courage** (Marion Pritchard - The Netherlands, Irena Sendler - Poland)

**Compassion** (Olga Rajšek - Croatia, Hasmik and Tigran Tashtsiyan – Ukraine)

**Integrity** (Chiune Sugihara - Lithuania, Eugenia Wasowska - Poland)

**Moral Leadership** (Andre Trocme - France, Raoul Wallenberg - Hungary)
Addressing Anti-Semitism: Why and How?
A Guide for Educators

Yad Vashem and OSCE/ODIHR guidelines on how to combat against the Anti-Semitism were translated in Croatian, 2008
The Fate of European Roma nad Sinti during the Holocaust

- Workshop in Zagreb – January 30, 2013
  Karen Polak and Loranda Miletic

Aims:
- To consider how to include teaching about the genocide of the Roma in lessons on the Holocaust.

- To prepare a lesson on the genocide of the Roma on the basis of provided photos, documents and information

2017 –translated and available on http://www.romasintigenocide.eu/hrvatski/home
The View from Croatia
Edited by Andy Pearce
“...it is important to remember that how national education systems choose to approach the Holocaust reflect and speak to particular local histories – both those long-term and more recent. In this paper, Andy Pearce from the IOE’s Centre for Holocaust Education summarises the range of responses received from colleagues working in Croatia. Through this overview Pearce suggests that both the specific and the generic challenges faced by Croatian educators carries relevance for all those working in the field”.

http://www.hedp.org.uk/page_viewer.asp?page=Teaching+History%3A+International+Perspectives&pid=83
Teacher Training Seminars - National

- Regional - 2014 - 2018
- International – 2007 and 2018

Seminars were organised by the Ministry of Science and Education, Yad Vashem, Education and Teacher Training Agency, Memorial de la Shoah, Jasenovac Memorial Area, Council of Europe and ITF-Croatian delegation. Lecturers came from various institutions, such as the Shoah Foundation, Yad Vashem, Memorial de la Shoah, Anne Frank House, and a number of Croatian schools.

Seminars were attended by History teachers, teachers of Religious Education, Ethics, Croatian language and foreign languages.
Teacher Training Seminars - International

USA (USHMM, JFR):
2-5 scholarships annually
2002-2018

Council of Europe:
minimum 2 annually

Yad Vashem:
annually 2005 – 2018
25 scholarships

Memorial de la Shoah,
20 scholarships annually
How to use CENTROPA video materials?

- Personal stories
  Rifka i Elvira – Coming of Age in a Time of War

- Documentaries
  El Oltro Camino: 1492
Buffet Titanic
Ivo Andrić

Workshop

History and Croatian Language

El Oltro Camino: 1492 - historical context