



EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Remember Together to Understand each other better (RETOUR)
Participant:	Berlin-Brandenburgische Auslandsgesellschaft e.V., (BBAG e.V.)
PIC number:	948423515

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	2		
Event name:	WORKSHOP/IN-SITU MEETING IN POTSDAM		
Type:	in-situ meeting with workshops, experts and visits		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Germany, Potsdam		
Date(s):	7th to 10th of June 2022		
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.bbag-ev.de/project/retour-remember-together-to-understand-better/		
Participants			
Female:	16		
Male:	10		
Non-binary:	/		
From country 1, Czech Republic:	2 women, 1 man		
From country 2, Bulgaria:	3 women		
From country 3, France:	3 women		
From country 4, Poland:	3 women		
From country 5, Greece:	2 men		
From country 6, Germany:	5 women and 7 men		
Total number of participants:	26	From total number of countries:	6

Description**General description:**

On the 7th of June 2022, all participants arrived in Potsdam and gathered for a common dinner to get to know each other in an informal way. During the dinner, first contacts and exchanges happened among the participants of the different countries. On the 8th of June 2022, all European participants and further more German citizens from the City of Potsdam met for the official start of the meeting. After a short presentation of the project leader BBAG e.V. and of each partner organisation and each participant, an ice-breaking game was played to know better the name of each person. After this first exchange, the group experienced a guided tour through the memorial place „Gedenkstätte Lindenstraße“. Located in the city centre of Potsdam, this memorial site bears witness to the history of political persecution and violence under the different dictatorships in the 20th Century in Germany. Centre stage are the citizens who were sentenced and imprisoned there for political reasons during the National Socialist dictatorship, the Soviet occupation and the East German communist dictatorship, as well as those who played a part in bringing down this regime in 1989/90. After lunch, the impressions of the guided tour were exchanged among the participants and a discussion about the topic of totalitarian history and how it is taught in civic education in Germany, Bulgaria, Greece, Poland, Czech Republic and France took place. In the afternoon, an Actionbound in small and national mixed-up groups was offered to all participants to discover memorial sites in Potsdam in an interactive way (like the place where books were burned in 1933 or Stolpersteine to remember Jew citizens who were deported into Concentration camps or the former site of an old synagogue etc.). During the common dinner in the evening, experiences and impressions of the day were shared among the participants. On the 9th of June 2022, Dr. Benjamin Kuntz and Dieter Rutsch gave an input about „The story of the orphanage in Caputh and its Jewish children“. They also showed a short movie about this story and very interesting exchange about this topic took place together with the participants.

Link to the movie: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WaXRW_oVtjw&feature=youtu.be

After lunch, an oral evaluation took place and each participant could give his or her feedback. A written evaluation was sent afterwards via mail. Besides, the next steps concerning the preparation of the in-situ meeting in Jáchymov in August 2022 and ideas and proposals for the online-meeting in October 2022 were discussed together. A last informal exchange took place before the group said goodbye. Since most of the flight connections were only joinable in the morning and to have a bit more time in Potsdam to discover the city, the participants stayed one more night.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/retour.remembrance.project>

Results of the project:

- Promotion of a better and mutual understanding of historical turning points and changes in Europe in the 20th century, especially the German perspective through personal exchanges, testimonials, workshops, visits on memorial sites and exhibitions in Potsdam
- knowing, learning and teaching about these historical events in an interactive way (Actionbound) and connect general learning from the past with local history and memorial sites (Memorial place of Lindenstraße)
- raising awareness among European citizens of their common history, cultural heritage and values through dialogues, discussions and participative activities (see above)
- involving all interested citizens regardless their gender, culture, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status and geographical area
- promoting cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue through activities involving 26 different people from 6 different EU countries
- fighting anti-democratic, racist, xenophobic, homophobic and other tendencies in our societies by explaining the importance of our common European values through the remembrance about societies where these values and rights were not existing.

The project activities were designed to meet the specific needs of women and men. There participated more women than men to the first meeting.



**Funded by
the European Union**