

**INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP  
AND STUDY VISIT:  
"STARA GRADIŠKA: 1942 - 2022"**



**BETWEEN  
MEMORY  
AND  
OBLIVION**

**ZAGREB, JASENOVAC, STARA GRADIŠKA  
09 - 11/07/2022**

## **INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP AND STUDY VISIT “STARA GRADIŠKA: 1942 – 2022”**

The **international workshop and study visit “Stara Gradiška: 1942 – 2022”** aims to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Diana Budisavljević in the camp Stara Gradiška, and remember its young victims and survivors, through an educational, and musical program.

The event will take place in **Zagreb, Jasenovac, and Stara Gradiška, Croatia, from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> of July.**

### **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **1) ATTACK ON KINGDOM OF YUGOSLAVIA AND ESTABLISHMENT OF INDEPENDENT STATE OF CROATIA (NDH)**

On April 6, 1941, the joint German, Italian, Hungarian and Bulgarian armed forces attacked the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. The “April war” lasted for a mere ten days, during which time the Kingdom of Yugoslavia ceased to exist as a territorial state. Its king and government emigrated to Great Britain, and on April 17, 1941, the representatives of the Royal Yugoslav Army signed an unconditional surrender. Slovenia was occupied, after which it was divided between Germany, Italy and Hungary. In line with an agreement between Germany and Italy, the puppet-Independent State of Croatia (NDH) was declared, covering the central area of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. Hungary occupied Baranja and annexed Međimurje. On May 18, 1941, the fascist Italy, which had held Istria and its islands since 1920, annexed parts of the Kvarner Littoral and the Gorski Kotar region (the Sušak, Kastav, Čabar districts, as well as the western part of the Delnice district, the town of Bakar and the Krk and Rab islands), annexing them to the then-Kvarner province whose administrative centre was the city of Rijeka.

#### **2) THE CAMP SYSTEM IN NDH**

The first legal provisions of Independent State of Croatia (NDH) manifested its acceptance of the ideological guidelines of German Nazism and Italian Fascism, with an emphasis on Croatia's national and state specificities. The camp system in NDH started to take shape as early as April and May 1941. Concentration Camps were places of isolation, confinement, forced labour, and liquidation based on the racial laws and legal decrees that discriminated Serbs, Jews and Roma, as well as political opponents, primarily Communists and anti-Fascists regardless of their racial or religious affiliation, and also served to intern the members of their families for retaliation purpose.

The camp of Jasenovac was the largest Ustasha camp, both in terms of area it occupied and in the number of killed persons, operating almost throughout the existence of NDH (from August 1941 - April 22nd 1945). It was a place of interment, forced labour and liquidation, primarily of the Serbian Orthodox population, which was to

be completely eradicated from the territory of NDH in order to create an ethnically pure state, as well as Jews and Roma as populations discriminated by the racial laws.

Before the end of 1941, the Stara Gradiška Penitentiary, not far from Jasenovac, served the Ustasha authorities both as penitentiary and as collection place for internment. In February 1942 Penitentiary was transformed in Camp. The main difference with regard to the Jasenovac camp was that there were numerous anti-Fascists, communists and members of the League of Communist Youth of Yugoslavia (SKOJ), members and associates of People's Liberation Movement from all over Croatia and Bosnia-Hercegovina, women (Croats, Jews and Serbs and from June 1942 also children, mostly Serbs.

### 3) KOZARA OFFENSIVE

After the successful Wermacht and collaborating forces (Ustasha, Domobrans, Chetnics) offensive against Partisans in the area of Kozara during June and July 1942 (also known as Operation West Bosnien), a large number of people were killed on the spot and the rest captured. Of approximately 70,000 mostly Serbian people who ended in various camps, more than 20,000 children were taken, mostly to the Jasenovac camp complex and Stara Gradiška camp, where many of them perished. A large number of captives (men, women and older children) were deported to labour camps in Germany and Norway. Consequently, several thousand Serbian children (from infants to children aged 14) were taken away from their mothers before their deportation and left on their own with no care at all. Many have been kept in Stara Gradiška concentration camp.

### 4) DIANA BUDISAVLJEVIĆ ACTION

Some have been saved by Diana Budisavljević and her colleagues. She led very complex private operation, known under the German title of "Aktion Diana Budisavljević", launched in October 1941 in attempt to support women and children first in Loborgrad and later in other Ustasha camps. When she heard for children left without their mothers she seeked way to save them. With her team she entered Stara Gradiška on July 10 1942. She saved thousands of children.

Texts are from Exhibition "If I forget you" by Nataša Mataušić, author of concept and text, organised by Croatian History Museum and Croatian State Archive (2020) and "Diana Budisavljević prešućena heroína Drugog svjetskog rata" by Nataša Mataušić, Profil, Zagreb (2020)

## The project

The project **Between memory and oblivion: WWII places of remembrance (BMO)** aims to foster a discussion on WWII places of remembrance (former concentration camps, forced work camps, killing sites, prisons..) and combating the status of abandonment and forgetting these places often are facing and consider places of memory in different European countries, focusing on the transnational dimension of the Holocaust and other WWII genocides/systematic murder, while considering its local and regional aspects.

## THE PARTNERS

1	<i>Documenta</i> – Center for dealing with the past	Croatia
2	Jasenovac Memorial Site	Croatia
3	Max Mannheimer Haus	Germany
4	Regensburg University	Germany
5	Associazione 4704	Italy
6	Topografia per la storia	Italy
7	APIS Institute	Slovenia
8	Socialna Akademija	Slovenia

## COSTS

Traveling to Zagreb and back, accommodation, meals and all program activities during the event are fully covered by the organizers.

## TRAVEL COSTS

The travel costs will be reimbursed based on the cheapest and closest to the venue possibilities (second class railway tickets, bus tickets, low-cost flights), accompanied by the receipt of complete and original tickets, invoices, bills, receipts, or boarding cards.

Travel by car is acceptable if costs are shared by at least two participants. Please contact us to link you with other participants.

The maximum contribution for travel costs for one person, from hometown to Zagreb and back is the following:

Country	Maximum contribution per person in Euro
Germany	180 euro
Italy	180 euro
Slovenia	180 euro

For participants from other countries, please calculate your maximum contribution based on this calculator: [Distance Calculator | Erasmus+ \(europa.eu\)](#), indicating your hometown as start and Zagreb as end. The contribution depends on the kilometers, following this table:

Kilometers	Maximum contribution per person in Euro
0 – 99 km	23 EUR
100 – 499 km	180 EUR
500 – 1999 km	275 EUR
2000 – 2999 km	360 EUR

The project team will reimburse the tickets to the participants **after** the conclusion of the event.

#### CHECK LIST FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT:

##### 1. Regular plane tickets must be accompanied:

- by the **original invoice** (signed and stamped)/receipt/pay order/proof of payment
- the **boarding pass** (the small ticket with QR code you receive before boarding the plane)
- the **prices** stated in the invoices, receipts etc. must **coincide** with the price on the ticket

##### 2. Electronic air tickets must be:

- **printed out** and include your **name, the exact fare you paid, details of your flight on the same page**
- provided along with **the credit card receipt for the payment or a copy of your bank statement** (clearly showing the payment has been made)
- given in with the **boarding pass** (ticket with QR code)

##### NOTES:

- Some airlines print “passenger receipt” at the top of the cardboard ticket. It is not accepted as a receipt of proof of payment. Therefore, if you book your tickets online, please, make sure to print out the e-mail you receive from the airline company upon the payment, stating how much and how you paid.
- If you use an App for booking your plane, be sure to save or screenshot the boarding passes, as they disappear from the application after you have used them.

##### 3. Train/Bus tickets

- It is important that that **arrival and departure time** as well as **the price** are visible (+ invoices if available)

##### Other important details:

- Missing or lost tickets are not reimbursed

- Booking paper alone is not enough
- Any costs for taxi are not reimbursed
- Return tickets must be bought in advance before the journey

The travel must take place on the direct way within **maximum 2 days** from the dates of beginning and ending of the event. In case of long pauses or indirect routes (holiday travel), there is no reimbursement of travel costs.

## TRAVELING TO ZAGREB

We would like to welcome you all on the **9<sup>th</sup> of July**, to start with the program.

**By plane**, you can fly to the **Airport "Dr. Franjo Tuđman" in Zagreb**. The Zagreb airport is connected to different European cities via the low-cost line Ryanair, you can check the routes on their site: [Ryanair.com](https://www.ryanair.com). For general research of the flight connections we recommend Skyscanner: <https://www.skyscanner.net>.

If you arrive at the Zagreb Airport, you can find a shuttle bus from the Airport to the Central Bus Station. The buses are usually white, with the writing "Croatia Airlines" on the side. The Central Bus Station is the last station of the tour, the drive takes around 35 minutes. You can find more info here: <https://plesoprijevoz.hr/en/zagreb-croatia/>.

If you are planning to travel by bus, you can check the connections on Flixbus ([FlixBus](https://www.flixbus.com)) or [getbybus.com](https://www.getbybus.com). You can check this site for the train connections: [thetrainline.com](https://www.thetrainline.com).

## ACCOMMODATION

The participants will be accommodated in the **Hotel Laguna**, Kranjčevićeva ul. 29 ([Hotel Laguna](https://www.hotel-laguna.hr)), in single and double rooms. The breakfast will be at the hotel.

## HOW TO APPLY







The event is open to participants with **residence in the European Union member states**.

To apply, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/vxRWZUmde8RPvzEu9> until the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2022.

If you have other questions connected to the project please contact: [alice.straniero@documenta.hr](mailto:alice.straniero@documenta.hr).

Saturday 09/07	Sunday 10/07	Monday 11/07
	Breakfast	Breakfast
Arrival in Zagreb	Traveling to Stara Gradiška and guided visit  Commemoration and art program in occasion of the 80th anniversary of beginning of Action of Diana Budisavljević at former Stara Gradiška concentration camp	Workshop on music and resistance
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Introduction: the concentration camp system in Croatia	Traveling to Jasenovac memorial  Guided visit to Jasenovac memorial  Presentation of didactic materials	Departure from Zagreb
Stara Gradiška: an approach through movies – the example of Diana Budisavljević  Concert in park ALU (if weather allows)	Traveling back to Zagreb	
Dinner	Dinner	

## PARTNERS AND DONORS

 <p><b>DOCUMENTA</b> CENTAR ZA SUOČAVANJE S PROŠLOŠĆU</p>	<p>SPOMEN PODRUČJE <b>jasenovac</b> MEMORIAL SITE</p>
 <p><b>Max Mannheimer Haus</b> Studienzentrum und Internationales Jugendgästehaus</p>	 <p>Universität Regensburg</p>
 <p>quarantasette   zeroquattro</p>	<p>T·p·S to·po·gra·fi·a/ per·la/ sto·ri·a/ luoghi e percorsi del '900</p>
 <p><b>APIS</b> Umetnost za pozitivno družbeno spremembo</p>	 <p><b>socialna akademija</b></p>



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Documenta – Centre for dealing with the past.