



**evz** STIFTUNG  
ERINNERUNG  
VERANTWORTUNG  
ZUKUNFT

ACTIVITY REPORT

**2018**

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# Who we are ...

The Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future” (German acronym EVZ) was established in the year 2000 to pay compensation to former forced labourers during the period of National Socialism (NS). Since 2001, the EVZ Foundation has also granted humanitarian aid to survivors, promoted a critical examination of history and strengthened civic involvement in Central and Eastern Europe.



# ... and what we do

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**Dear Readers and Friends of the EVZ Foundation,**

“Weiter erzählen” (Pass It On) is the name of a short film that the EVZ Foundation commissioned in 2018. In it, survivors of National Socialist persecution talk with young people and travel to the places where they lived through this period. Such emotional and moving encounters with historical eyewitnesses have prompted many people to examine the reasons and causes behind Germany’s crimes – and continue to impel others to do the same. However, memories can fade. In addition, memories are shaped by our personal perspectives and vary from person to person.

**“Deceptive memories” MEMO study**

The representative survey titled “MEMO Germany – Multidimensional Remembrance Monitor” (MEMO Deutschland - Multidimensionaler Erinnerungsmonitor) on the current state of remembrance culture in Germany has also revealed that personal recollections can often diverge from the historical record. In it, respondents indicated that there are more victims than perpetrators to be found among their own families – a claim that will require further discussion.

**Authentic history and real stories go digital: remembrance culture 4.0**

We know that meeting with survivors and hearing their personal stories plays a very important role, as do authentic sites such as memorials, which our survey affirms. The majority of respondents feel that such places of remembrance have the greatest impact. As a result, our aim is to combine authentic sites and historical experience with digital information and communication technology. We hope to achieve this goal through the “digital // memory” funding program, which we launched in 2018. The “digital // memory” program will make it possible to test new points of access to the past and new forms of remembrance, such as apps and virtual reality programs. This marks a first step towards establishing a funding profile in keeping with the digital age and a remembrance culture 4.0.

Besides our funding highlights, this report also provides you for the first time with quotes from project participants, revealing how they have inspired or advanced projects. In addition to external and internal evaluations, such feedback is key to helping us constantly develop and refine our funding strategy.

We wish to thank everyone who supports us in our work, because the only way to succeed in further strengthening a critical examination of historical experiences, civic involvement, and democratic values in Germany and the countries where we provide funding is by joining forces with a network of partners.

We hope this report provides you with interesting and exciting food for thought.

*Dr. Andreas Eberhardt*  
Chief Executive Officer

*Dr. Moritz Kilger*  
Director

**THE TEAM OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



*Andreas Eberhardt*  
*Luisa Maria Schweizer*  
*Monika Bertele*

*Moritz Kilger*  
*Mechthild Schmidt*  
*Jacqueline Rux*

# What we funded

A total of 325 projects received 12 million euros in support in 2018.

All facts and figures available at [www.stiftung-evz.de/facts-and-figures](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/facts-and-figures)

39 videos and films

24 publications

27 websites

32 exhibitions



Project partnerships with 17 countries



16 theater productions



Over 50 encounters with more than 190 historical eyewitnesses

A critical examination of history:  
125 projects with 3.06 million euros

Working for human rights:  
98 projects with 3.17 million euros

Commitment to the victims of National Socialism:  
102 projects with 5.81 million euros



### The Board of Trustees of the EVZ Foundation:

Jonathan Mack, Oskar Weiss, Jakub Deka, Michaela K uchler, Dr. Kurt Bley,  
Dr. Susanne Sophia Spiliotis, Greg Schneider, Dietmar Nietan, Anshelika Anoschko,  
Andreas Klugescheid, Svyatoslav Scheremeta, Arie Zuckerman, Dr. Harald Braun,  
Dr. J org Freiherr Frank von F urstenwerth, Dr. Wladimir Adamuschko, Lucia Puttrich,  
Dr. Jost Rebentisch, Christiane Reeh, Dr. Tom ař Jel inek, Shari C. Reig,  
Dr. Wolfgang Malchow, Genevieve Libonati (from left to right)

**All the members of the Board of Trustees and  
their respective deputies can be found at**  
[www.stiftung-evz.de/board-of-trustees](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/board-of-trustees)



### Tasks of the Board of Trustees of the EVZ Foundation

As the supervisory body of the EVZ Foundation, the Board of Trustees decides on all the fundamental questions regarding the activity areas of the Foundation, in particular the adoption of the budget. The Board of Trustees is composed of international members. Its 27 members serve for four years and are appointed by the German federal parliament (Bundestag and Bundesrat), German businesses, and the states and organisations involved in the international negotiations that established the EVZ Foundation. The current term of office of the Board of Trustees began on September 1, 2016. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees and his deputy are appointed by the Federal Chancellor.



*“The international character of the Board of Trustees and the funding profile are key features of the EVZ Foundation, which is why I, since taking up my post, have traveled to various countries where the Foundation provides funding in order to further strengthen ties with our partners on the ground. This year, the Board of Trustees also met for the first time somewhere other than Berlin, namely in the Czech capital, Prague. The privilege of holding the Board of Trustees meeting in such a symbolic place was a great honor for us, especially 20 years after the Czech-German Declaration.*



*Dr. Harald Braun,  
Chairman of the  
Board of Trustees*

*I would like to thank the members of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Directors, and the team in the administrative office for the trust they have shown me over the past year. I look forward to our continued collaboration.”*





# Fields of activity of the EVZ Foundation

**In accordance with its statutory remit, the EVZ Foundation funds international projects in three fields of activity:**

## **A critical examination of history**

### **Goals**

- To reflect on the history of National Socialism in the European collective memory.
- To make the experiences of victims of National Socialism sustainably accessible for historical and political education.
- To develop the culture of remembrance in Germany with a view to the challenges of a migration society. To expand the national historical perspective and to include other experiences of violence in the 20th century.

## **Working for human rights**

### **Goals**

- To support international youth projects on human rights education in conjunction with historical learning.
- To stand up determinedly against anti-Semitism, anti-Gypsyism and trans- and homophobia in Central and Eastern Europe.
- Commitment to the concerns of minorities.
- To strengthen Sinti and Roma by promoting educational projects and awarding scholarships.

## **Commitment to the victims of National Socialism**

### **Goals**

- To fund projects that allow now-elderly victims of National Socialism to lead a life of dignity and autonomy, to improve their social situation and healthcare, and to engage them in intergenerational dialogue.
- To strengthen initiatives in Israel, Central and Eastern Europe that promote greater solidarity with and willingness to help victims of forced labour and National Socialism at the local and international level.
- In addition, the EVZ Foundation is committed internationally to strengthening the sense of responsibility for the interests of victims of National Socialism and for their participation in society.





In order to react promptly to the current challenges facing society and drive the strategic development of the Foundation forward, EVZ expanded is designing new methods and forward-looking funding formats. The term “expanded” stands for a committed and “expanded” team that dares to tackle new issues methodically and topically: the Think-and-Do Tank, consisting of three women, supplements the long-term funding programmes in collaboration with our colleagues in the three fields of activity of the EVZ Foundation.

# EVZ expanded – laboratory for new funding formats

## “Who is responsible for democracy?” triologue series

Liberal democracies offer their citizens a degree of prosperity unlike any other political system, and yet, people have become increasingly critical of democracy on an operational level. In response to this development, the HUMBOLDT-VIADRINA Governance Platform and the EVZ Foundation organized the “Who is responsible for democracy?” series, which aimed to spark open and controversial debate on the role of business in conjunction with politics and organized civil society. Participants in the first triologue “Democracy and a market economy: strong only together?” included Robert Habeck, the federal co-chair of Germany’s Green Party BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN.

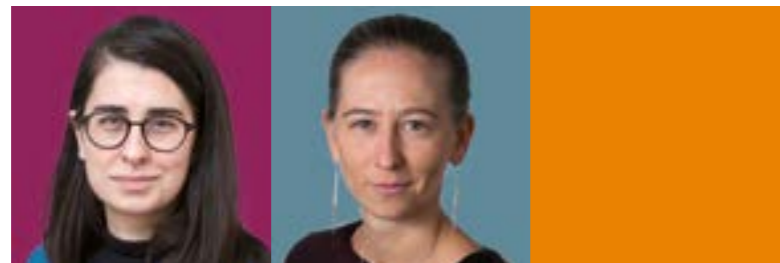
 *Short interview Robert Habeck (2 min.)*

## Conference on Holocaust testimonies on the internet

A conference titled “From the Living Room to the World Wide Web” was held at the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, Yad Vashem, in Israel from November 11 to 15, 2018. Representatives of major Holocaust archives, scholars, and history educators from Israel, the United States, and Eastern and Western Europe discussed opportunities and challenges related to the availability and use of Holocaust testimonies on the internet. The agenda included ethical and technical aspects of online archives, the perspective of survivors themselves on digitalized forms of memory and remembrance, ways to improve international collaboration, and projects on best practices. The practice of working with digital historical eyewitnesses, which has already begun to take root in the United States, was also the subject of presentations and debate. Another event on the topic will be held in 2019.



Aleksandra Janowska  
Marianna Matzer  
Friederike Niemann



## EVZ Lab: coaching, mentoring, and training

The EVZ Lab was launched in 2018 in cooperation with the Impact Hub Prague. It aims to professionalize new project ideas at the nexus between digital solutions and the EVZ Foundation’s focus areas, thereby making it possible to reach a new target group that is actively involved in society, using innovative methods to achieve the Foundation’s mission. The accelerator program includes coaching, mentoring, and training on target achievement, project management, and financing. Through hands-on guidance and support, rough ideas are polished over the course of a four-month program into a professionally organized project. Apart from the focus on a specific project, the program is also helping to establish and strengthen a network of dedicated young people.

[www.evzlab.org](http://www.evzlab.org)



*“The ‘Discovering local history’ project within the EVZ’s ‘Migration and Remembrance Culture’ program has shown that people who speak very different languages and come from different social and educational backgrounds can come together to take responsibility for yesterday and today.”*

Farschid Ali Zahedi,  
Werkstattfilm e.V.  
in Oldenburg

## YOUR HISTORY BarCamp

More than 100 people from all across Germany organized a BarCamp on the topic of migration and remembrance culture on November 30 and December 1, 2018. The program came together within the open BarCamp format over a total of 35 on-site sessions. All project participants of the “Migration and Remembrance Culture” funding program and other people active in this field were invited to take part. They analyzed the status quo and discussed how our commemorative landscape ought to be shaped in the future.



Event documentation (4 min.)

# A critical examination of history



### Short film: "WEITER ERZÄHLEN"

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of the November pogroms, the EVZ Foundation released "WEITER ERZÄHLEN" (Pass It On) – a short documentary film from the "Encounters with former forced labourers and other victims of National Socialism" funding program. Filmmaker Johannes Wissmann shows how the stories told by historical eyewitnesses come to life. The personal encounters encourage young people to learn about survivors of National Socialism and their life stories and to pass on their memories to subsequent generations.

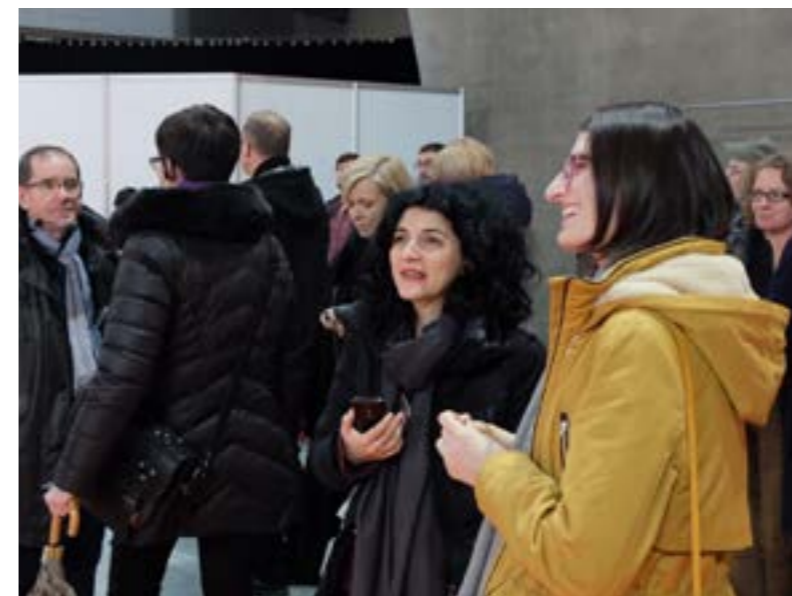
[www.youtu.be/fEjbTnBo3Fg](http://www.youtu.be/fEjbTnBo3Fg)

Annemarie Hühne  
(Team Leader)  
Evelyn Geier  
Corinna Jentzsch  
Agnieszka Pustola



### "The age of historical upheavals" memorial seminar

The 16th memorial seminar in Krzyżowa, Poland, addressed the social, technical, and economic changes wrought by modernization projects of dictatorships and authoritarian regimes. Under the heading "The age of historical upheavals. Belief in progress and repression in European dictatorships in the 20th century," participants from Russia, Azerbaijan, Poland, Lithuania, Norway, Armenia, Romania, and Germany met to discuss the various historical narratives and current approaches to dealing with such history in the respective countries. The event was held by the EVZ Foundation, together with the Federal Foundation for the Study of the Communist Dictatorship in East Germany, the Protestant Academy Berlin, the Krzyżowa Foundation for Mutual Understanding in Europe, and the Wrocław Remembrance and Future Center, in March 2018.





**Turning  
history into a story:  
how theater can contribute  
to a vibrant remembrance culture**

What role can theater play in promoting a critical awareness of history? Leipzig's Theater der Jungen Welt and the EVZ Foundation invited participants to a theater workshop in Leipzig to discuss this question. From February 16 to 18, 2018, 120 theater professionals and creative minds from five countries explored the ways of staging performances dealing with the history of National Socialism with application in today's world. The highlight of the meeting was the panel discussion "Are we allowed to do that? Representations of the Holocaust on stage." The takeaway from the discussion was that a sense of responsibility and the impetus to push artistic boundaries can be in conflict. Nonetheless, art has a duty to unsettle and to provoke in order to test the limits. Afterwards, the EVZ Foundation created a prize exclusively for the participants of the theater workshop targeting particularly innovative artistic formats. The response was tremendous, with more than 30 sketches submitted. The winners were the bremer shakespeare company and the Cameo Kollektiv association in Hanover. Both projects have a strong bearing on the present and include the use of new media.

 **Event documentation (4 min.)**

*"I think it's  
important, the fact that  
the theater workshop examines  
how the recollections of historical  
eyewitnesses are dealt with on the stage. This  
is essential at a time when there are fewer and fewer  
survivors left. Theater is an effective medium for  
passing on and preserving their memories."*

Susanne Chrudina, stage and artistic director at spreeagenten Berlin

Sonja Begalke  
(Team Leader)  
Leonore Martin  
Malte Switkes vel Wittels



### Online calendar: "1938 Projekt. Posts from the Past"

The year 2018 marked the 80th anniversary of the momentous events of 1938, which constituted a radical break in German-Jewish history as virtually no other year before it. To commemorate the anniversary, the Leo Baeck Institute – New York | Berlin launched a social media campaign, in which an entry was made each day in an online calendar to go along with the corresponding date. Personal documents, including letters, diaries, and photographs saved by German Jews and their families, as well as everyday items, such as newspaper ads, were placed alongside descriptions of significant world events from the period. Over 365 days, a kaleidoscopic picture came into focus in daily increments that revealed the mechanisms behind arbitrary regulations and marginalization, as well as strategies for asserting oneself and staging resistance. The project was presented on video screens at the Rykestrasse synagogue in Berlin as part of the main commemoration ceremony organized by the Central Council of Jews in Germany to mark the 80th anniversary of the Night of Broken Glass.

Two short films of the project can be found at [www.lbi.org/1938projekt/de/about/](http://www.lbi.org/1938projekt/de/about/)



The app is available for download at [www.erinnern.at/app-fliehen](http://www.erinnern.at/app-fliehen)

Trailer for the app:  
[www.vimeo.com/251810470](http://www.vimeo.com/251810470)

### "Fleeing the Holocaust" interactive app for young people

Worldwide, 66 million people are currently fleeing war, torture, or economic hardship. Under National Socialism, people also had to flee from persecution and extermination. Displacement is therefore both a contemporary and historical experience. The "Fleeing the Holocaust. My Encounter with Refugees" app from [erinnern.at](http://erinnern.at) uses film to provide young people with access to historical experiences of people who fled their homes. An online manual is available for multipliers engaged in formal and informal education. The EVZ Foundation supported the app's development.





*“When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. led the march in Montgomery to defend the rights of black citizens, he was only 26. He is the best example for young people changing the world for the better. Therefore, do not let anybody tell you: you are not old enough, not wise enough, or experienced enough to judge what is right or wrong.”*

Lorenz Narku Laing, member of Senior Fellows Leadership Council of Humanity in Action Germany

**EUROPEANS FOR PEACE youth conference: “Right here, right now: Human rights!”**

The Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 was a fundamental response to historical injustice, especially the unprecedented National Socialist crimes and the Second World War. But where do human rights stand in 2018?

At the first EUROPEANS FOR PEACE youth conference, held from November 9 to 12, 2018, participants discussed the societal and personal importance of human rights with a focus on current issues such as displacement and migration. It was an extremely diverse and inclusive gathering of 60 dedicated young people between the ages of 16 and 26 from twelve countries. The youth conference was organized jointly by the EVZ Foundation and the wannseeFORUM Foundation.

Impressions of the conference were captured on video, on the youth blog, and on Facebook:

[www.youforpeace.org/blog](http://www.youforpeace.org/blog)

[www.facebook.com/events/283094882292088/?active\\_tab=discussion](https://www.facebook.com/events/283094882292088/?active_tab=discussion)



Conference documentation (2 min.)

# Working for human rights

**“Good. Better. Organic!”  
A German-Ukrainian meetup on  
organic farming**

The “Good.Better.Organic!” project brought together young organic farmers from Ukraine and Germany. Together, they addressed the history of forced labor in rural areas and discussed the opportunities and challenges presented by organic farming in both countries.

The trip was organized as part of the “MEET UP! German-Ukrainian Youth Encounters” funding program, the aim of which is to strengthen ties with Ukraine and to increase the active commitment of young people from Germany and Ukraine to fundamental democratic values and understanding between peoples.

**More information about the unique project is available on the travel blog:**

[www.goodbetterorganic.wordpress.com](http://www.goodbetterorganic.wordpress.com)



**MEET UP! Creative exchange and hotbed of ideas in Kiev**

The “MEET UP! German-Ukrainian Youth Encounters” funding program celebrated five intensive years at the #MEETUP2018 event, which was held under the patronage of Kiev Mayor Vitali Klitschko. From September 12 to 15, 2018, 100 young people from Germany and Ukraine met in Kiev, where they came up with new ideas for German-Ukrainian dialogue and exchange. Among those in attendance was Dirk Wiese, Coordinator of the Federal Government for Intersocietal Cooperation with Russia, Central Asia, and the Eastern Partnership Countries, who praised the young people’s impressive dedication to German-Ukrainian relations.

Prospects and challenges of a long-term German-Ukrainian youth exchange were the subject of discussion at a roundtable. Participants included the chairmen of the German-Ukrainian parliamentary groups, German MP Omid Nouripour and Serhiy Taruta, as well as Ukrainian Deputy Minister of Youth Oleksandr Yarema. A MEET UP! talk concluded the event with a presentation of memorable moments from the program.

[www.stiftung-evz.de/meetup-eng](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/meetup-eng)

 *Video documentation of the trip (5 min.)*



*Judith Blum  
(Team Leader)  
Stefanie Bachtin  
Pavel Baravik  
Kateryna Churikova  
Artem Iovenko  
Evelyn Scheer*



 *Impressions from the MEET UP! Event (1 min.)*



## Launch of the “Stories that Move” toolbox

Since June 2018, the “Stories that move” toolbox combatting discrimination has been available online. Education experts from seven countries teamed up with young people to develop the digital educational tool, available in several languages. The project received the internationally renowned Comenius EduMedia Award for outstanding teaching materials in 2018. In its decision, the panel of judges cited the impressive way in which the toolbox successfully employs interactive and audiovisual media to get young Europeans to reflect on prejudices, stereotyping, and discrimination in connection with online media. In 2019, the EVZ Foundation will be funding training sessions and webinars for teachers on the use of “Stories that move” in classroom instruction in Germany, Poland, Ukraine, and Hungary.



Trailer with application examples (1 min.)

*“Based on our long-standing experience in innovative human rights education, and thanks to the support of EVZ, we created the initiative ‘Space for Actions’ to tackle hate speech! Most spectacular in terms of outreach has been the cooperation with Polish YouTubers (with over 1.5 million subscriptions) on anti-hate speech vlogs that have reached young people and triggered positive re/actions.”*

Monika Mazur-Rafał, President of the Managing Board and Director, Foundation Humanity in Action Poland





### First “Pitch & Pizza Night” of the Impact Hub in Warsaw

On April 18, 2018, the first session for pitching ideas as part of the “Impact Hub: Social Entrepreneurship & Business, Education, and Entertainment” project was held on Google’s Warsaw campus. The EVZ Foundation has been funding the two-year project of Humanity in Action (HIA) Poland since 2017. Through the new format, HIA Poland seeks to enable young people making the transition from school to university or vocational training to develop sustainable civic activities that combine social entrepreneurship with democratic values and an inclusive society. The winner of the first project-pitching session was Maria Pruszynska, who presented an idea for an online/offline project targeting young women and girls with eating disorders.

[www.humanityinaction.org/Poland/704-impact-hub-hia-poland](http://www.humanityinaction.org/Poland/704-impact-hub-hia-poland)



### Exhibition on LGBTQI rights in Ukraine

The exhibition “We were here” was on display in Kiev from August to October 2018. Photographer Anton Shebetka showed video installations and photos of LGBTQI people involved in the Ukrainian anti-terrorist operation (ATO). The exhibits were meant to spark discussions about concepts of modern heroism and to show that LGBTQI individuals are an integral part of Ukrainian society. The exhibition was part of the “Coming out of Isolation: Through Art to Visibility” project, which aims to use art to raise awareness in Ukrainian society of the marginalization of LGBTQI people. The two partner organizations, Kyiv Pride and IZOLYATSIA, jointly conducted various education programs for selected artists, who had the opportunity to develop their own projects with professional guidance that address the visibility of LGBTQI people in society in order to promote greater tolerance.



Sonja Böhme  
(Team Leader)  
Olga Daitche  
Wanja Hargens  
Christa Meyer

# Commitment to the victims of National Socialism

## 10 years of “Dialogue Forum”

The “Dialogue Forum” funding program to promote public recognition of victims of National Socialism in Eastern Europe celebrated its tenth anniversary in 2018. To mark the milestone, many young and old people alike attended the “Art Festival +60” held at Minsk’s OK16 Cultural Hub in late November 2018. The event’s organizer was the international association “Understanding,” which coordinates the program in Belarus. Visitors learned various creative techniques. Afterwards, their pictures were put on display and sold as part of a charity auction.

In Ukraine, trees were planted and benches erected in 25 cities to celebrate the anniversary. The initiative was organized by the “Turbota pro Litnih v Ukraini” (Care for the Elderly in Ukraine) association, which has managed the programme for ten years. In total, 463 elderly people who suffered under the Nazi regime took part, in addition to many young people, local residents, and representatives from local authorities.

[www.mestovstrechi.info/ru/press-center/565-ukraina-aktsiya-k-desyatiletiju-programmy-mesto-vstrechi-dialog](http://www.mestovstrechi.info/ru/press-center/565-ukraina-aktsiya-k-desyatiletiju-programmy-mesto-vstrechi-dialog)



### Project-partner meetings in Belgrade and Berlin for the “LATCHO DIVES” program

In May and November 2018, the EVZ Foundation invited its project partners receiving funding in support of survivors of the Roma genocide to meet for dialogue and networking. In May 2018, some 20 experts from Serbia, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, and the Czech Republic met for the first time in Belgrade. Their projects have been funded by the Foundation since 2017. The agenda provided plenty of opportunities for participants to discuss their initial experiences on the ground, country-specific challenges, and the different overarching issues they have in common in their work with Roma survivors. Dragana Jovanovic Arijas, who works in the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction unit of the Serbian prime minister’s office and serves as an advisory expert for the EVZ Foundation on the selection of projects to fund, discussed the national Roma strategy with participants. The meeting also kicked off a concomitant external evaluation of the program.

In November 2018, 19 project owners from Belarus, Moldova, and Ukraine met in Berlin for the second time. They were already able to report back on specific experiences they had had while carrying out the projects. The findings from a project evaluation that the EVZ Foundation had conducted in-house were also presented.

In addition, the guests learned about other EVZ programs for Roma and took part in a workshop on project planning. To gain insight into the work of Roma organizations in the West, participants visited the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERAC) and the Amaro Foro association based in Berlin’s Neukölln district.

[www.stiftung-evz.de/  
latcho-dives](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/latcho-dives)

*“For years, the house that my family and I live in did not legally belong to us. We were desperate. The project team members spared no effort (...) and now we are the legitimate owners of our house. They organized gatherings for us with young people, which we enjoy, because then we don’t feel so lonely.”*

**Elena Ivanovna Soldatenko, 88, Eliseenkovo, Sumy region/Ukraine,  
“Establishment of a Social Agency for Elderly Roma” project**



Elke Braun  
(Team Leader)  
Sigrun Döring  
Valentina Valtchuk  
Ulrike Vassel

### Training seminar on biographical work in Veliky Novgorod, Russia

In November 2018, a seminar was held in Veliky Novgorod for social workers from the “Support for Former Underage Prisoners of Fascism” project. The “Dialogue Forum” project supports elderly people with limited or no mobility in the Novgorod region. The seminar was led by Olga Agapova, author of the “Friendship Book for Elderly People.” During the seminar, Agapova presented on different methods, such as memory and mobility exercises designed to help people engage with life and the here and now. Her book aims to help the elderly be kind to themselves and their own lives.

**The book (in Russian) is available for download as a PDF from**  
[www.mestovstrechi.info/images/blogfiles/2017/Posobie\\_Radostno.pdf](http://www.mestovstrechi.info/images/blogfiles/2017/Posobie_Radostno.pdf)





**“mali bracia  
Ubogich” in Poland turns 15**

With a huge cake and a joyous celebration, old and young alike celebrated the 15th anniversary of the Polish organization “mali bracia Ubogich” (Little Brothers of the Poor) in May 2018. The upbeat music of the Warsaw Dixielanders got everyone in the mood to dance. The organization aims to spark new friendships between old and young people and to create a more modern image of old people in Polish society. With funding from the EVZ Foundation, the organization has been hosting intergenerational leisure activities and providing guidance for survivors of National Socialist persecution for ten years.

Anja Krätler  
(Team Leader)  
Stephanie Bock  
Lisa Eichhorn  
Veronika Sellner



### Publication: “Shoah – Flucht – Migration” (Shoah – Flight – Migration)

The volume contains presentations from the 6th international “Shoah – Flight – Migration” conference organized by the Central Welfare Board of Jews in Germany (ZWST), which welcomed some 200 participants from 15 countries to Frankfurt/Main. In light of the trauma experienced by refugees today, the topics and issues addressed at the conference remain highly topical, although there is still a considerable lack of public awareness. The conference proceedings are a valuable source of information for educational and academic settings, for the everyday work of professionals, and for sharing with multipliers.



*Shoah - Flight - Migration. Multiple Trauma Exposure and Its Effects. (Only available in German.)* Publisher: Central Welfare Board of Jews in Germany (ZWST). 240 pages, EUR 19.90, ISBN 978-3-95565-260-9. Hentrich & Hentrich Verlag 2018.




### Gathering place in Hanover’s Jewish community marks ten years

In April 2018, the Jewish Community Center celebrated the milestone anniversary of the gathering place for Holocaust survivors established by the Central Welfare Board of Jews in Germany (ZWST) and co-financed by the EVZ Foundation. The gathering place offers a wide range of activities, such as group outings, computer courses, movie nights, and a discussion group for people with dementia and the relatives who look after them. The visitors’ living situations are often marked by age-related loneliness and a lack of social participation that the afternoons spent in the company of others help alleviate. Dedicated social worker Alina Fejgin manages the gathering place and constantly encourages participants to play an active role in shaping the afternoons’ activities:

*“For many people, the gathering place is a kind of warm, welcoming home. It alleviates feelings of isolation and can also give elderly people a sense of stability and inclusion.”*

These encounters create a place where everyone finds understanding for the persecution they have experienced and where everyone feels welcome.





### Deceptive memories – how Germany remembers their own lives of National Socialism

Together with the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research on Conflict and Violence at Bielefeld University, the EVZ Foundation is examining remembrance culture in Germany as part of a study. The first round of findings was presented at a press conference in February 2018. The study titled “MEMO Deutschland – Multidimensionaler Erinnerungsmonitor” (MEMO Germany – Multidimensional Memory Monitor), measures how people living in Germany remember the period of National Socialism. Based on the study, memories of the Second World War are shaped by family stories. According to one of the findings of a representative survey of more than 1,000 people, the number of helpers in the narratives is just as high as the number of perpetrators. In another finding, respondents claim that there are more victims than perpetrators to be found among their own families.

The report on the study's findings is available at [www.stiftung-evz.de/eng/expanded](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/eng/expanded).

# Press and public relations

### Film premiere: "DER LETZTE JOLLY BOY" (THE LAST JOLLY BOY)



Hundreds of moviegoers invited to the Filmtheater am Friedrichshain cinema in Berlin on April 24, 2018, were moved by the story of Leon Schwarzbaum's life. Together with director Hans-Erich Viet, protagonist and eyewitness Leon Schwarzbaum was on hand as audience members watched the road movie "Der letzte Jolly Boy." They joined the Holocaust survivor on a journey to the Polish cities of his childhood and youth – Będzin and Oświęcim. Following the screening, Anne Will moderated a discussion of the film with savvy and empathy. The documentary won the DGB Film Award at the Emden Film Festival and was the opening film at the 2018 Wismar Film Festival.

 *Article on the website of NDR television (3 min.)*



### Book launch: using video testimony of victims of National Socialism in educational work

According to estimates, there are more than 100,000 video testimonies of victims of National Socialism. In April 2018, the anthology "Interactions. Explorations of Good Practice in Educational Work with Video Testimonies of Victims of National Socialism" was launched at the Austrian Embassy in Berlin. The publication addresses how to use video interviews in a modern way in formal and informal educational settings in order to teach young people in particular about the history of National Socialism and the Holocaust. Experts from memorials, museums, archives, schools, and universities provide a cross section of the international approaches to, and debates on, the issue. The volume is the fourth installment in the "Educational Work with Testimonies" series that aims to promote the international exchange of expertise in particular on dealing with testimonies and historical eyewitness reports.

[www.stiftung-evz.de/testimonies](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/testimonies)

**Other EVZ Foundation publications that appeared in 2018 may be found at**

[www.stiftung-evz.de/publications](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/publications)



Kathrin Wiermer  
(Team Leader)  
Nadine Reimer  
Sophie Ziegler







### Three questions for ... Dr. Ralf Possekel, joint project "Strengthening International Partnerships for Dealing with the Past"

Until 2002, Dr. Ralf Possekel was involved in the effort to compensate former forced laborers, before he moved over to the EVZ Foundation's project funding activities. Since 2018, he has been working on the two-year project related to dealing with the past/transitional justice with the Working Group on Peace and Development (FriEnt).

#### *What is the objective of the joint project with the Working Group on Peace and Development?*

**Dr. Ralf Possekel:** We aim to identify issues with regard to dealing with the past where a mutual exchange between German and international actors might be fruitful. Our focus here is not solely or primarily on advising international partners of German development cooperation, but also on receiving useful input for our own work. Internationally, the project is part of those efforts to establish global partnerships for sustainable development – in this case, for dealing with a violence-ridden past. This includes grappling with collective trauma, for example, or the question of how a society chooses to remember perpetrators. Our mutual exchange can also focus on commemorative practices and forms that vary between cultures or on different digital forms of remembrance.

#### *Is Germany the world's expert on remembrance?*

**Dr. Ralf Possekel:** Our history of working through the National Socialist past is not a success story, but it is a kind of laboratory. We can use it to find out what challenges a society will have to confront when dealing with the past. Germany can therefore do more than just provide technical guidance or funding when supporting international projects that aim to work through the legacies of dictatorships or civil wars – it can also bring a certain sensitivity to the societal debates that go hand in hand with such efforts.

#### *What are some specific links to the Foundation's work?*

**Dr. Ralf Possekel:** With backing from Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), efforts are currently underway in Mali to design a reparations program, while a reparations program that has already been in place for several years in Colombia is being evaluated. The EVZ Foundation's experience is sought after in these contexts. In addition, the findings from the "MEMO Germany" study conducted by Bielefeld University and the challenges and opportunities presented by digital education projects are issues where the EVZ Foundation comes directly into play.



[www.frient.de/themen-und-kompetenzen/transitional-justice-und-entwicklung/internationale-partnerschaften-zu-vergangenheitsarbeit-staerken](http://www.frient.de/themen-und-kompetenzen/transitional-justice-und-entwicklung/internationale-partnerschaften-zu-vergangenheitsarbeit-staerken)

**FriEnt**  
Working Group on  
Peace and Development

# Administration and legal counsel



## Administration

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(Team Leader)  
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Ute Scheewe  
Jürgen Taubert  
Ina Thiele  
Anne Tusche  
Ingo Wiese*

## Legal Counsel

*Susanne Sehlbach*

# Finance



## Presentations and panel discussion on investment strategy

Head of Finance Ann-Grit Lehmann presented on the EVZ Foundation's investment strategy at several events. On February 28, 2018, she participated in a panel discussion with former Federal Minister of Finance Peer Steinbrück and well-known SRI experts on misconceptions and opportunities regarding sustainability and investments. On June 7, she gave a presentation at the Institutional Pensions and Investors Summit and fielded questions from the participants from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

[www.stiftung-evz.de/finances](http://www.stiftung-evz.de/finances)

Ann-Grit Lehmann  
(Team Leader)  
Daliso Lea Cifre



Video Institutional Money  
Congress 2018 (4 Min.)



# Financial report

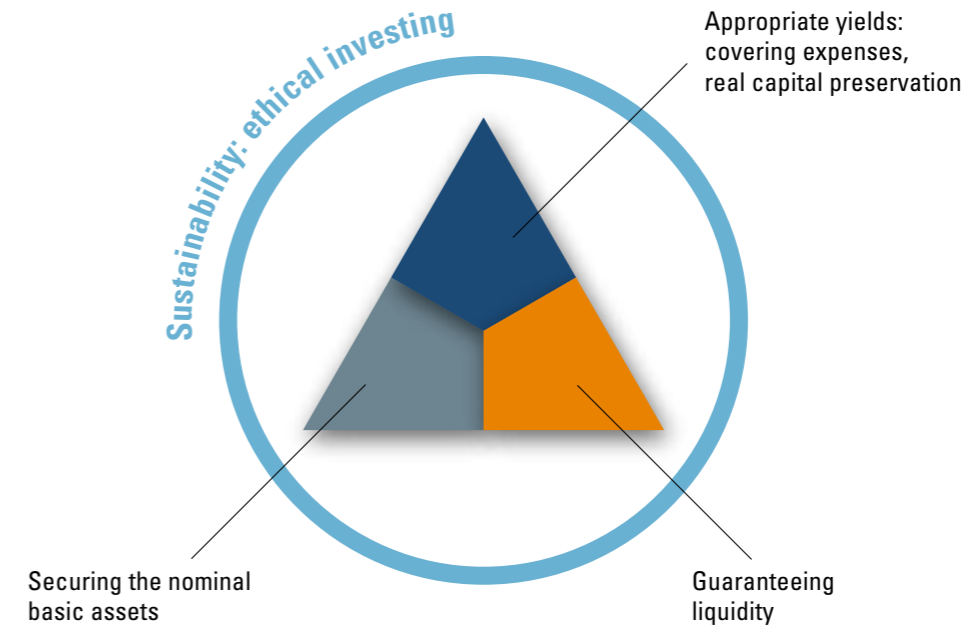
When the EVZ Foundation was founded in 2000, it was endowed with a total of 10.1 billion German marks. Of this, 9.4 billion marks (4.8 billion euros) and interest accumulated were used to compensate former forced laborers and other victims of the National Socialist regime and to cover the costs of organizing these payments. Seven hundred million marks (358 million euros) represented the capital basis for the long-term funding of the EVZ Foundation. Since payments were concluded in 2007, the main task of the Foundation has been to promote international projects in the Foundation's three fields of activity. These activities are funded exclusively from the yields of the Foundation's capital and occasionally financed by additional donations.

The capital investments of the Foundation follow ethical criteria that are derived from the purpose of the Foundation. Thematically speaking, the Foundation focuses in this respect on modern forms of forced labor and human rights violations in the working world. At companies where the Foundation invests in the form of stocks or bonds, this means human rights violations in the realms of child labor, forced labor, and discrimination. To the extent possible, the supply chain is investigated as well. The concept follows the criteria of the International Labor Organization (ILO), a sub-organization of the United Nations.

Once a year, the Foundation has its investments examined for violations of the exclusion criteria, human rights violations, and "modern forced labor". The EVZ Foundation commissioned a rating agency to develop a negative list that specifically caters to the Foundation's requirements. On the basis of this screening, all companies where violations of the defined exclusion criteria are found are confronted with the findings and asked to respond in writing. Investments are removed from those companies that do not respond. The statements submitted are subjected to further analysis until a decision can be made. In addition, the Foundation's financial service providers are examined according to ethical criteria and, if necessary, collaboration with them is ended. In recent years, investments have been removed from a number of companies due to various controversies, including Royal Dutch Shell, Apple, Walmart Stores, Barrick Gold, Exxon Mobil, Mitsubishi, Seven & I Holdings, Sony and Tepco. Next year the Foundation will start reviewing its sustainability strategy. The Foundation will deal with the 17 sustainability targets approved by the UN in 2015.

The Foundation's assets were worth 527.8 million euros on December 31, 2018.

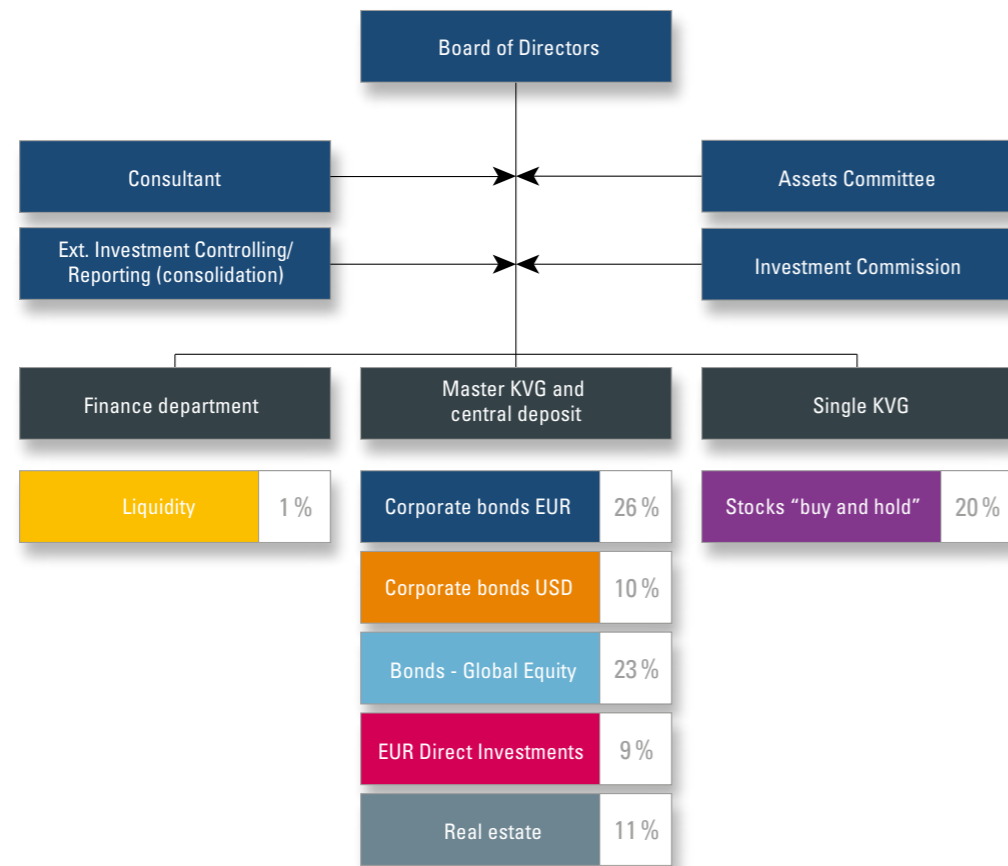
## Investment principles



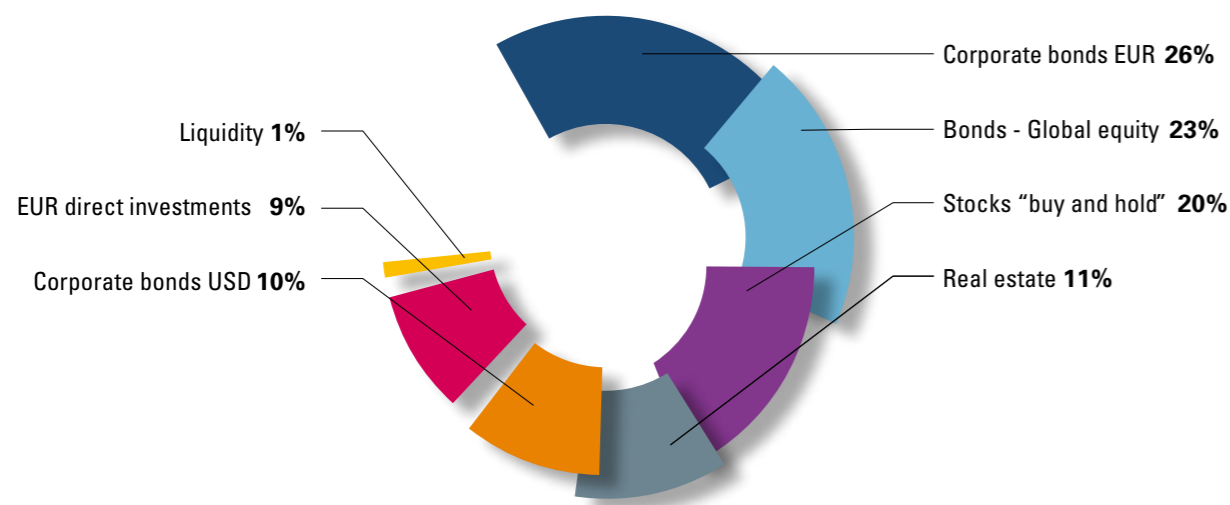
## Philosophy

The EVZ Foundation pursues three main objectives in investing its assets. First, sufficient funds are to be generated in the sense of ordinary net income to cover the funding activities and the administrative costs at a manageable level of risk. In doing so, the Foundation aims to avoid deriving current expenditures from the risky reallocation of assets. Second, the capital is to be preserved in its real, i. e. value-protected, value. Third, it must be ensured that adequate liquidity is available at all times for ongoing business operations. All three objectives were met in fiscal year 2018.

## Investment organisation



## Investment classes



## Members, Assets Committee (as of December 2018)

**Dr. Wolfgang Weiler** (Chair), President of the Gesamtverband der Deutschen Versicherungswirtschaft (GDV)  
**Dieter Lehmann**, Co-Managing director and head of the Assets Department, Volkswagen Stiftung  
**Dr. Michael Leinwand**, Chief Investment Officer, Zurich Gruppe Deutschland  
**Gerhard Schleif**, former Managing Director, Bundesrepublik Deutschland Finanzagentur GmbH  
**Martin Wieland**, Head, Market Analysis and Portfolio Division, Deutsche Bundesbank  
**Prof. Dr. Uwe Wystup**, Frankfurt School of Finance and Management – Centre for Practical Quantitative Finance

## Members, Investment Commission

**Dr. Andreas Eberhardt**, Chief Executive Officer EVZ Foundation  
**Dr. Moritz Kilger**, Director EVZ Foundation  
**Dieter Lehmann**, Co-Managing Director and Head of the Assets Department, Volkswagen Stiftung

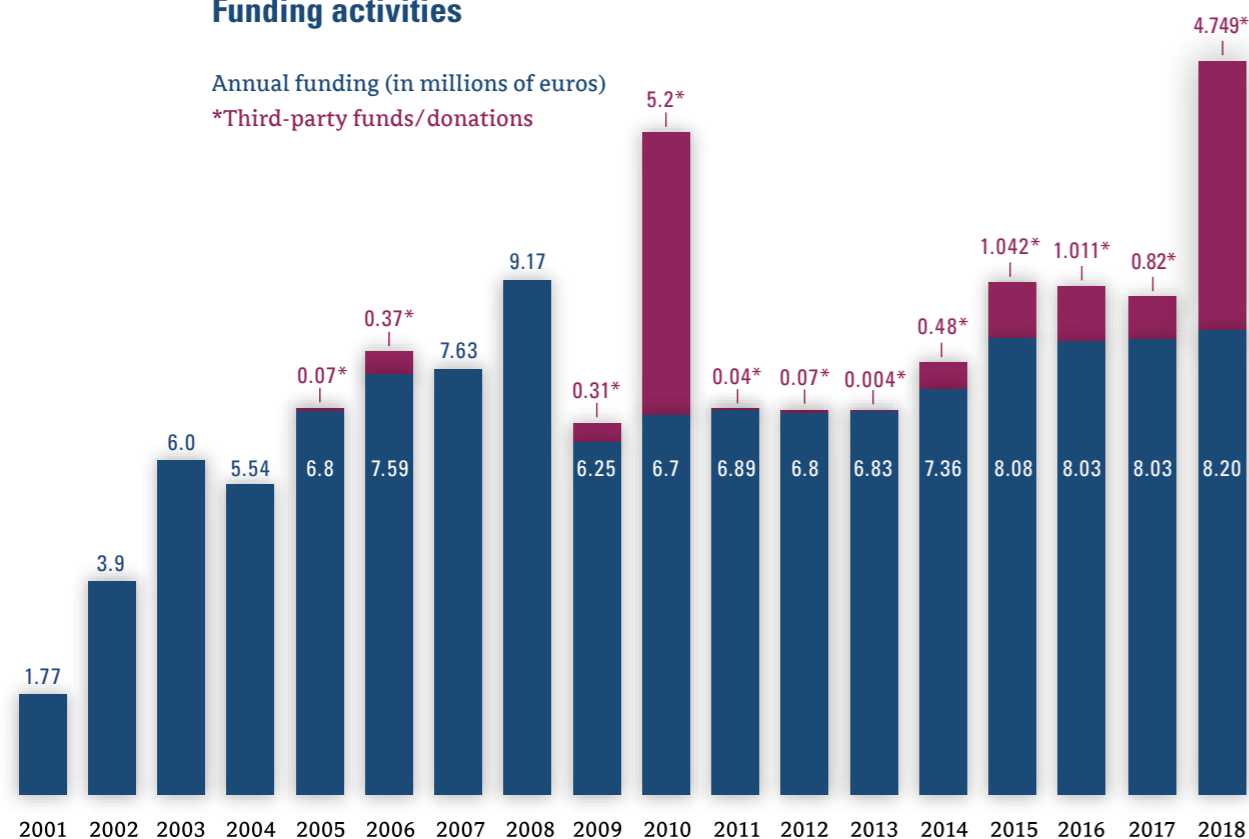
The illustration on page 54 depicts the structure of financial administration at the Foundation. The financial goals, derived from the charter, statutes, and directives from the Board of Trustees, are implemented by the Foundation's Board of Directors. The Board in turn consults with various committees to assist in decision-making.

The Assets Committee advises the Foundation's Board of Directors in strategic questions of capital investment, and the Investment Commission is responsible for tactical investment decisions. In addition, specialised consultants support the decision-making process. In daily operations, asset management is handled by two capital management companies with a central deposit. The key part of asset management is handled by specialised investment managers. The investment class "liquidity" is held directly by the Finance department and administered accordingly. The consolidation of the two realms to ascertain performance and other key variables takes place by way of external reporting. This specialised service provider also has the task of managing and running investments. The admissible decision-making framework is stipulated in detail, e.g. for all those involved in the form of investment guidelines, contracts, and internal process descriptions decided by the Board of Directors. The "many eyes" principle and the requirements of corporate governance in the realm of capital investment are implemented across the board. All decision-making processes are recorded in writing and subject to external audits.

## Funding activities

Annual funding (in millions of euros)

\*Third-party funds/donations



## Funding volume according to field of activity (including third-party funds and donations)

### 2001–2018

Commitment to the Victims of National Socialism  
50.4m euros

A Critical Examination of History  
43.7m euros

Working for Human Rights  
39.9m euros

### 2018

Commitment to the Victims of National Socialism  
5.8m euros

A Critical Examination of History  
3.1m euros

Working for Human Rights  
3.2m euros

## Key figures, 2018

Excerpt from the Balance Sheet (in compliance with the German Commercial Code)

<b>Assets</b>	
Financial assets	458,5 million euros
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Foundation capital	357,9 million euros
Assets maintenance fund	65,4 million euros
Result carried forward	7,8 million euros
Deferred liabilities	2,6 million euros
Liabilities due to project funding	9,7 million euros
<b>Balance</b>	<b>465,1 million euros</b>

## Excerpt, Profit and Loss Account

Foundation management costs	12,98 million euros
Staffing costs	3,30 million euros
Public relations	0,10 million euros
Other administrative costs	1,32 million euros

## Costs of asset management

In 2018, the costs of asset management were 1.1 million euros, consisting of costs for the depositary bank, the capital management company, manager fees, costs of consulting and investment reporting and controlling. These costs are paid directly using the Foundation's special fund and calculated against running yields.

## Auditing

The annual balance sheet of the EVZ Foundation is calculated according to the principles of the German Commercial Code by an accounting firm. The Federal Office for Central Services and Unresolved Property Issues (BADV) annually audits the Foundation's calculations, budgeting and business management. Audits comply with the regulations of the German Commercial Code with the assistance of the Federal Central Tax Office. The auditing of budgeting and business management complies with the regulations of the Federal Budget Code. At irregular intervals, audits are performed by the Federal Audit Office.

*“When the Internet creates new possible ways of exposing marginalized groups to intolerance, prejudice, violent communication and hate we need to encourage young people to counteract these phenomena and strive for a culture of respect for human dignity and the valorisation of diversity. That’s why I initiated a transnational exchange: together with young people from Romania and Germany we developed and launched the social media campaign #LikeShareDiversity Log out hate speech! Sign in Love!”*

**Irina Ilisei, Plural Association,  
Project Lead "LikeShare-  
Diversity"**

*“Thanks to the funding from the EVZ Foundation we were able to offer a high-level training program for Polish teachers of humanities about effective ways of teaching about discrimination on grounds of ethnic origin as well as other types of exclusion. We are proud to see that graduates of the Academy continue to teach about anti-Semitism, anti-Gypsyism and other cases of exclusion after their course is over. The lasting impact of the project is the new model of teacher education that we plan to further develop in face-to-face and online environments.”*

**Maciek Zabierowski, Project lead  
for the Academy of Antidiscrimination  
Education, Auschwitz  
Jewish Center**

*“I’m the coordinator of the travelling exhibition ‘Anne Frank. History for today’ in Voronezh and Saint Petersburg. I have been working with this exhibition for 5 years. I believe that working with schoolchildren is a very important element of human rights education. Working with an exhibition allows you to go to schools and talk about important topics. Permanent work in the city allows you to create a community of guides, to involve them in interschool projects. I see how the guides open the children's eyes and help them realize the importance of their opinions, their experience. The format of the work allows them to open up in a new way.”*

**Lada Burdacheva, International school of human rights and  
civil actions, Russia**

*“Remembrance and interpretations of history are subject to dispute – a fact that we are witnessing right now over and over. It is therefore all the more important to make the plural society a topic that is both seen and heard in historico-political education. And the best way to do this is by providing plural society or its representatives with opportunities to acquire skills and, if we want to be resolute in our efforts, by giving them jobs as well. The ‘Remembrance Culture and Migration’ funding program has enabled us to do this.”*

**Jennifer Farber, Education Officer  
at Vogelsang IP**

*“We would like to thank the funders and especially the MEET UP! team for their generous support and for making this fantastic project possible. We hope that even more people from both countries will be able to take part in such exchange programs. As the Erasmus program in Europe has shown, going abroad not only has the potential to expand people’s horizons, but also to foster a deep and lasting understanding of European community. The 30th anniversary of Erasmus in 2017 is a good motivator for ensuring at least 30 years of MEET UP! We would be on board with that.”*

**André Patten, German-Ukrainian “Face to face:  
Human rights in the age of digitalization”  
MEET UP! project**

*“We believe it is important to discuss topics like human rights on an international level. That's how we can create common ground for thinking. Only when people are exposed to international experiences will they begin to value diversity and togetherness. The more people we meet, the more we will develop into global citizens instead of national citizens.”*

**Eylam, 22, participant in the EUROPEANS  
FOR PEACE youth conference "Right  
here, right now: Human  
rights!"**

*“There is almost no institutional support in the Czech Republic for online media NGOs, and the state offers no programs for combating anti-Gypsyism, which is why the EVZ’s support in this area is so crucial. With this support, we have not only been able to monitor and debunk hoaxes and fake news, but also to correct one-sided information presented by mass media outlets – and ultimately prevent the escalation of aggressive attitudes towards Roma that could turn into open conflicts like we witnessed with the anti-Roma demonstrations in summer 2013.”*

**Eva Zdařilová, Romea Association, Prague**

## About this publication

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**Interior:** pages 2, 4, 8/9, 10 (top), 11 (bottom left), 12/13, 46, 47 (right), 48/49 Raum 11/Amélie Losier | p. 10 (bottom), p. 11 (bottom right) Petr Wagner | p. 11 (top) Raum 11/Nadine Borau | pp. 14/15 Branislav Ješić | p. 16 Yad Vashem | p. 17 EVZ Lab for Civil Society, Impact Hub Prague/Lucie Březinová | pp. 18/19 Lena Siebrasse | p. 21 Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany/Anna von Arnim | pp. 22/23 Theater der Jungen Welt/Florian Liebetrau | p. 25 erinnern.at | pp. 26/27 Ralph Pache | p. 28 Willi Lehnert | p. 29 Andriy Volgin | pp. 30/31 Anne Frank House/Swen Rudolph | p. 32 Humanity in Action Poland | p. 33 Izolyatsiya/Dima Sergeev, Valeriy Miloserdov | pp. 34/35 Aleksander Zadorin, Alisa Akhramovitsch | p. 36 Lesya Kharchenko | p. 37 Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) Russia | pp. 38/39 Michał Czarnecki | p. 41 Jewish Community of Hanover | pp. 42/43, 45 Sophie Ziegler | p. 44 Kathrin Wiermer | p. 47 (top) photo Phil Dera | pp. 50/51 Christoph Hemmerich, Institutional Money

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