

# Research, Networking and Public Outreach: EHRI-3 and beyond

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# The Center for Urban History (Lviv, Ukraine)



# The Center for Urban History:

An institution combining:

- **interdisciplinary research** (publications, conferences, seminars, residencies & fellowships)
- **digital history** (digital encyclopedia and digital archive)
- **public history** (exhibitions, public discussions, spatial interventions, digital storytelling, films and media formats)
- **educational** (courses, summer schools, digital platform for teaching)



# The Center for Urban History:

Team of 26 people:

- researchers (history, sociology, history of architecture, cultural studies, media history)
- project managers
- administration



# Navigating In-between

- **Legally**

- NGO, not a part of university structure or the Academy of Science
- Gives flexibility: limits and possibilities

- **Geographically**

- Founded in Vienna, operate in Lviv

- **Cooperations**

- With academic institutions: partners mostly internationally
- With culture and civil society: partners mostly in Ukraine



# Why Horizon?

**Long-term trajectory** allowing for:

- new research
- new networking
- public outreach

To work with research questions that **transcend national boundaries**:

- Holocaust history (EHRI-3, EHRI-IP)
- Adaptive heritage re-use (OpenHeritage, 2018-2021)
- Welfare (SOCIOBORD, 2021-ongoing)



# Why EHRI-3?

## The Center's aims:

- connect to existing networks of researchers and research institutions researching the Holocaust history
- advance research and awareness of the history of Holocaust in Ukraine
- focus on history of the Holocaust and Lviv ghetto as a critical part of urban history
- work across national (Jewish, Polish and Ukrainian) historiographies of World War II
- apply digital history tools for research and public outreach
- prepare long term research project on the history of Lviv ghetto



# EHRI-3 (2020-24)

6 person-months

## Initial plan of activities:

- host researchers in residency
- offline workshop with scholars working on similar topics
- focus on a collection of Lviv ghetto cards with information about almost 18 thousands Jewish forced workers
- integrate data of our archive into EHRI portal



## EHRI-3: Emergencies and Flexibility

Activities reconsidered twice, both topics and formats

### **residencies**

- postponed (COVID), then cancelled (war)

### **offline week-long workshop**

- reconfigured as a series of online meetings around the collection of the Lviv Ghetto cards (COVID)
- reconceptualized as an online workshop and a series of offline/online public lectures about war documentation

### **EHRI portal metadata**

- expanded scope (war)



# EHRI-3: Results

## Documenting the War. Past and Present (October, 3-7, 2022, EHRI seminar online)

Documenting and researching the history of the Holocaust and WWII  
on the background of experiencing and documenting the unfolding  
Russian war against Ukraine

Participants from Ukraine, Germany, Poland, Italy, USA, and  
Australia



## EHRI-3: Results

**Source As a Choice**, a series of public lectures on wars and mass violence (2023-2024):

- Billy Glew, Lancaster University
- Peter Haslinger, Giessen Center for Eastern European Studies
- Wojciech Owczarski, University of Gdańsk
- Piotr Rypson, Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw
- Mayhill Fowler, Stetson University
- Andrii Usach, “After Silence” NGO
- Albert Venger, Oles Honchar Dnipro National University
- Paul Bernard-Nouraud, Aix-Marseille University
- Alexander Langstaff, New York University
- Luiza Nader, Academy of Fine Arts, Warsaw
- Oksana Kuzmenko, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
- Emily Channell-Justice, Harvard University





# EHRI-3: Results

## EHRI Portal

- Metadata of the archival holdings and publications of the Center for Urban History integrated to the EHRI portal database (Holocaust-related sources, Urban Media Archive, Lviv Interactive)
- Ukraine museums and archives researched and described for the EHRI portal (new database entries created for i.e. local museums in Kremenchuk, Sarny or Mykolaiv)



# Long-term strategy

Connecting and continuing, cumulating and advancing:

- Infrastructure: EHRI-3 > EHRI-IP (2024-2025) > ERIC (exploring how to include Ukraine)
- Research: grants with some of EHRI-3 partners > potentially ERC

Scope of engagement: growing from the small, gaining experience, looking out for more



## Concluding Comments

- How to adjust the process of integrating into EU research infrastructures to the context of ongoing war:
  - To navigate the increase in needs and limits in capacities
  - To find people: displacement and leaving Ukraine
  - To plan for a long term: mobility, mobilization, destructions, etc.
  - To have more grant managers in academia
  - To process the load of bureaucracy, in Ukraine and from EU

