

# TEREZÍN MEMORIAL

Annual Report

# 2021

# TEREZÍN MEMORIAL

Annual Report for 2021



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Founding organization: Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic

## BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE TEREŽÍN MEMORIAL'S MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Terežín Memorial amasses and keeps a collection of material exhibits documenting the racial and political persecution during the wartime occupation of the Czech lands by Nazi Germany, with a particular view to the history of the Gestapo Police Prison in Terežín's Small Fortress, the history of the Terežín Ghetto, the history of the concentration camp in Litoměřice, earlier history of the town of Terežín, and its collection of works of art. The Memorial builds its collection on the science-based principles and in accord with its own acquisition policy.

- It administers its historic book fund (collection), a specialized library and a collection of written documents of archival nature.
- It prepares specialized written, and whenever necessary also visual, eventually audio, documentation accompanying its collection items. Collection items are professionally processed and examined to yield relevant research findings.
- It conducts scholarly research into the historical era in which its collection items originated.
- Its collection items, accompanying specialized documentation and findings obtained during their professional examination, are presented primarily at permanent exhibitions and short-term displays as well as in the Memorial's own publishing and educational projects, its lectures in the Czech Republic and abroad, and in other cultural and educational programs for the broadest public.
- In foreign countries, the Memorial provides for the operation of the Czech Republic's permanent exhibitions established in the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim (Poland) and in the Ravensbrück Memorial (Germany).
- It loans collection items to exhibitions and displays, staged by other subjects in the Czech Republic and abroad, or for their scientific study, or makes them available for conservation and restoration purposes.
- It publishes and publicly disseminates periodicals and non-periodic publications, audio and video recordings and other electronic carriers, exchanging them with domestic and foreign institutions.
- It organizes, either on its own or in association with other corporate bodies or natural persons, specialized conferences, symposia and seminars relating to the subject of its domain.
- It provides guide services on an ongoing basis.
- It systematically reviews developments in the number of its visitors, publishing data on their numbers.
- It organizes cultural and educational programs ensuing from the subject of its agenda, exhibiting objects of cultural value on loan.
- It joins professional associations, including international ones, with the aim of coordinating its own specialized activities.
- It awards certificates for the export of objects of cultural value pursuant to Act No. 71/1994 Coll., on the sale and export of objects of cultural value.
- It prepares expert opinions, researches and expertise.



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## INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report is aimed at providing a well-arranged summary of the Terezín Memorial's agenda in 2021. At the very beginning I would like to emphasize that the past year was probably the most difficult year since the establishment of the independent Czech Republic. Last year posed numerous challenges and complications in various domains and made it imperative for all our employees to cope with many complex and hitherto unknown predicaments. I am glad to say at the start of this report that my colleagues faced those challenges responsibly and their dedicated approach helped, even under such circumstances, to keep our organization going and to continue discharging the tasks stemming from the statutes of the Terezín Memorial, at least in a limited scope. This came at a time when the Terezín Memorial was closed to visitors from December of the previous year until May 12, 2021.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the valid hygienic measures some of the events planned to be held in the first months of the past year had to be canceled, other events had to be postponed to later dates or could take place at their scheduled dates only online, without the originally invited guests being physically present. This was the case of the commemorative event called *Pocta Bedrníkovi* (Homage to Bedrník) and jointly staged by the Terezín Memorial, the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes and the Pilsen Philharmonic on February 8 to honor Zdeněk Bořek-Dohalský, an outstanding figure of the resistance struggle against Nazi occupation in World War II.

For the same reason, the annual commemorative event *Yom Ha'Shoah ve ha-gvura* (Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day), originally planned for April 8, could not be held either. Instead, officials of the Terezín Memorial took part in online reading of the names of the victims of Nazi genocide of the Jews, organized by the Terezín Initiative Institute.

Following a partial easing of hygienic restrictions the *Ke'ver Avot* commemoration, dedicated to the memory of the victims of Nazi genocide of the Jews from the Czech lands, was held in the Jewish Cemetery on August 29.

The central commemoration in honor of the victims of the racial and political persecution during wartime Nazi occupation took place in the National Cemetery in Terezín on September 5, after a four-month delay also caused by the pandemic. Held on the occasion of the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this country's liberation from Nazi occupation, the traditional *Terezín Commemoration* passed in a highly dignified atmosphere, being attended by many distinguished guests in spite of the strict hygienic precautions in force. The keynote speech was delivered by Mr. Pavel Rychetský, President of the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic, who called on the rally participants as well as on those watching the gathering in a live Czech TV broadcast to show humanity, empathy, humanism and to defend the democratic values against shows of extremism and intolerance.

In September 2021, the Terezín Memorial, supported by the Terezín Initiative, an association of the former Terezín Ghetto inmates, staged a ceremony announcing the

results of the Memorial's 27<sup>th</sup> literary competition and 25<sup>th</sup> fine art contest, known as the Hana Greenfield Memorial. Last year the two competitions were held under the common title *When Help Is Needed*. This subject offered the competitors a chance to contemplate and compare the situation that had raged in Terezín during the typhoid epidemic in 1945 with the current efforts to combat the Covid-19 pandemic. In this way, participating schoolchildren could not only pay tribute to the memory of those who had struggled to save the lives of the liberated Ghetto inmates at the end of World War II but also to express their respect for and appreciation of all those who are today helping the people in need. Last but not least, they could thoroughly reflect on the actual human values and their priorities.

From October 2021 until the end of the year the Terezín Memorial was joined by many partner institutions and organizations in holding memorial events dedicated to the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of deportations of the Jews from the then Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia and the establishment of the Terezín Ghetto. Out of this range of varied events, I would like to single out at least the following three. The first one was the scholarly conference *The Terezín Ghetto and the Police Prison Terezín in the Repressive System of the Occupation Power (1940–1945)*, held early in November 2021. This was followed, on November 4, by a meeting of the former Terezín Ghetto inmates, their family members and other guests in the cinema in the Ghetto Museum in Terezín. Its program featured a performance of the well-known children's opera *Brundibár* presented by the Dismán Radio Children's Ensemble. Finally, November 24 saw *The March of the Living* organized precisely on the day of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the march of the first Jewish transport to the Terezín Ghetto. Hundreds of people of all age categories, including many distinguished guests and diplomats representing foreign Embassies, gathered in front of the Bohušovice nad Ohří train station, the erst-while destination of the Jewish transports heading for Terezín.

The event was opened by memorial addresses, with the words of Dr. Michaela Vidláková, a former Ghetto inmate, evoking greatest interest and emotions. The participants holding lit candles then set out on their march along the route traveled by the first Jewish transport to the Ghetto. The march ended with people laying down candles and flowers at the memorial plaque near the former railway siding in Terezín, and with a short cultural program.

In spite of the exceptional circumstances I have mentioned above the Terezín Memorial continued its exhibition agenda. As for the expositions staged in the Terezín Memorial last year, I would like to mention at least three events marked by distinct international outreach. The first one was the exhibition *Kaddish for Dąbrowa Białostocka* presenting the works of Mark Podwal, an American artist well-known in the Czech Republic for many years now. In his exhibition the author honored the memory of the Jewish inhabitants of a small town in eastern Poland who had fallen victims of the Nazi extermination in that country during the war. Author's mother, who also hailed from the town, managed, as if by miracle, to leave Poland and immigrate to the United States. Another impressive exhibition was the renewed and extended version of the documentary exposition by the German journalist and reporter Hannelore Brenner-Wonschick called *Girls from Room 28*, portraying the captive inhabitants of a Terezín

home (heim) for girls in the house L 410. The third display I would like to single out is the documentary exhibition staged as part of the international project MIGRAID and called *Migration and Humanitarian Aid in Europe (1919–1949)*, tracing the history of children in European wars and forcible population transfers and migration in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. One of the several most distinctive examples of humanitarian crises captured in the exhibition is the story of the Terezín Ghetto inmates, as prepared for the event by the Terezín Memorial.

I would also like to mention several investment projects carried out by the Memorial in the past year. In the first months of 2021, during the above-mentioned closure of the Terezín Memorial to visitors, some large-scale adaptations managed to be completed that would have been impossible to implement during regular visitor traffic. A significant part of the project of revitalizing greenery in the Memorial could be completed last year. Many aged and unsightly trees were cut down and more than two hundred new trees and shrubs were planted out in their place. This project was co-financed by the European Fund for Regional Development within its operational program Environment. The entire project will have been finished at the end of 2023. The Memorial also succeeded in completing the reconstruction of a newly acquired building in Terezín's Dlouhá Street. This challenging project was financed by the investment funds of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. The conversion of the building into a dormitory for participants in our educational courses is certain to boost the capacity of our multiday educational seminars.

An architectural competition for new exhibitions to be housed in the Ghetto Museum after its reconstruction was announced at the end of last year. The new expositions will replace the current permanent exhibition, which has served visitors for more than twenty years. The project is designed to build new exhibition premises making use of the modern exhibition methods, emotionally expressive devices and audiovisual elements, while creating a user-friendly environment with adequate background facilities for visitors.

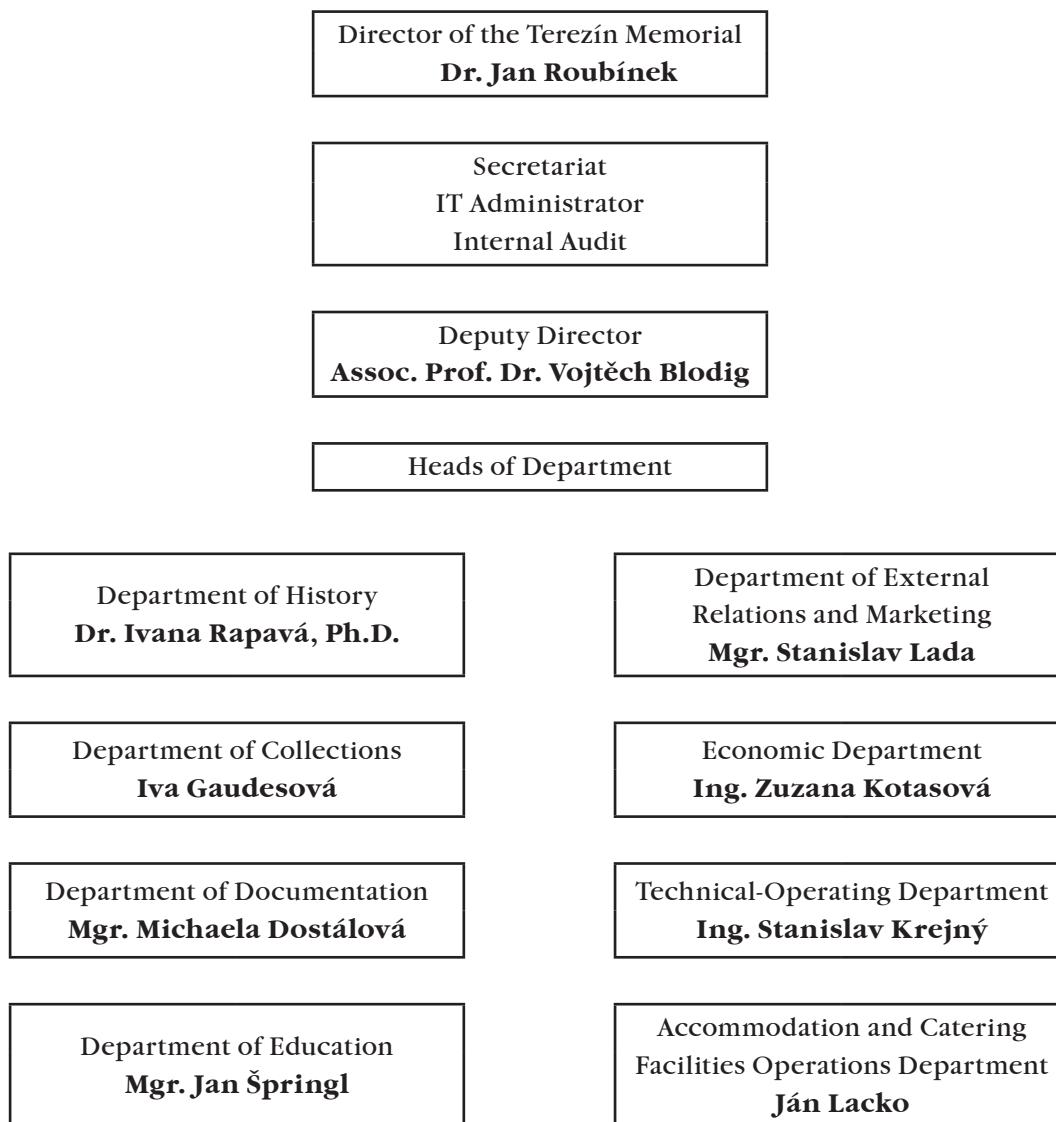
Last year the Terezín Memorial had the honor to be visited by a number of distinguished guests, including the Ambassadors of Austria and the Ambassadors of Argentina, France, India, Israel and Turkey.

In addition to greatly complicating different activities of the Terezín Memorial, the ongoing pandemic also led to cuts in the number of visitors, roughly to a quarter of the total compared with the period before its outbreak. This, in turn, brought a profound slump in the Memorial's incomes on which the existence of our organization is heavily dependent. That is why I would like to stress here that we could cope with this hard situation only thanks to the systematic financial support from our founding organization, the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. I am convinced that this support, combined with the dedicated approach by our employees to their work duties under aggravated circumstances, will prove to be a guarantee of the Terezín Memorial's successful performance in the future.

*Dr. Jan Roubínek*  
*Director of the Terezín Memorial*



## STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION



## THE TEREZÍN MEMORIAL AND ITS SERVICES TO VISITORS

1 The objects and memorial sites administered by the Terezín Memorial constitute a unique museum complex, annually visited by hundreds of thousands people. It also has to offer some genuine highlights of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century European fortification engineering attracting numerous visitors to Terezín. Still, an absolute majority of them come to see the sites associated with the suffering and death of more than 200,000 people from many foreign countries who had been deported to the repressive facilities in Terezín and nearby Litoměřice during World War II.

2 The history of the Terezín Ghetto is highlighted primarily at the permanent exhibition in the Ghetto Museum housed in the former municipal school. There are many other follow-up displays in the former Magdeburg Barracks, in the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery, and in the Ghetto's former Central Mortuary. Other memorial sites include the prayer room from the time of the Ghetto in Dlouhá Street, the Ceremonial Halls and the Ghetto's Columbarium, and the memorial site on the banks of the Ohře river.

3 In the Small Fortress, less than a kilometer from the town itself, tourists can view, in addition to the individual objects that served as the Gestapo Police Prison, many permanent and short-term exhibitions as well as the National Cemetery, spreading in the foreground of the Small Fortress. In fact, this is the Czech Republic's largest burial ground of the victims of Nazi occupation. That is why this is also the venue of the principal annual acts of remembrance in this country, staged to honor the memory of the victims of Nazi repression.



4 The Terezín Memorial also administers the Crematorium of the former concentration camp in Litoměřice with its adjoining area, plus the entrance premises to the former limestone quarry where two underground factories were built by slave laborers from that camp for Nazi Germany's war production. However, the underground premises themselves are now closed to the public because of the danger of rockslide. Visitors interested in the history of the camp and the construction of the underground factories may view a permanent exhibition on the history of this concentration camp, which is on display in the former Third Courtyard of the Small Fortress.

Visitors to the Terezín Memorial may go on guided sightseeing tours of the former Ghetto and the Gestapo Police Prison in the Small Fortress. Following prior booking, they can also undertake a guided tour of the Crematorium of the former Litoměřice concentration camp.





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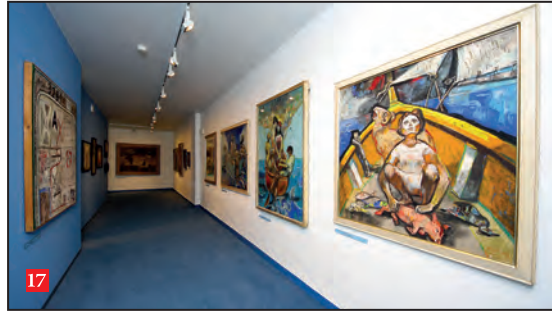
If you are interested in visiting the Terezín Memorial, here is an overview of its permanent exhibitions:

- [5] Terezín in the 'Final Solution of the Jewish Question' 1941–1945 – an exhibition in the Ghetto Museum;
- [6] Mortality and Burials in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery;
- [7] Central Mortuary and Funeral Services in the Ghetto – an exhibition in the Ghetto's former Central Mortuary;
- [8] Reconstruction of prisoners' dormitory from the time of the Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- [9] Music in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- [10] Arts in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- [11] Literary Work in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- [12] Theater in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- [13] Truth and Lies. Filming in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- [14] Reconstruction of an "attic room" of Terezín Ghetto inmates – an exhibition housed at No. 17 Dlouhá Street;
- [15] Terezín Transports. Deportations of Jews to Terezín and Transports from the Terezín Ghetto to Places of Extermination and Slave Labor – an exhibition in the former Municipal Weigh House in Terezín;
- [16] The Small Fortress Terezín 1940–1945 – an exhibition in the Small Fortress Museum;
- [17] The Terezín Memorial art exhibition – an exhibition in the Small Fortress Museum;
- [18] Litoměřice Concentration Camp 1944–1945 – an exhibition in the Third Courtyard of the Small Fortress;
- [19] The Detention Camp for Germans. The Small Fortress Terezín 1945–1948 – an exhibition in the Fourth Courtyard of the Small Fortress;
- [20] Milada Horáková 1901–1950 – an exhibition in the Memorial Hall in the Small Fortress;
- [21] The Prison Washhouse – an exhibition in the Third Courtyard of the Small Fortress.

Every year visitors can also see a number of short-term exhibitions, staged in different objects of the Terezín Memorial.

Researchers may avail themselves of the services of the Departments of Documentation and Collections and the specialized library, as well as the search engines on the Terezín Memorial's web pages ([www.pamatnik-terezin.cz](http://www.pamatnik-terezin.cz)).

The Terezín Memorial personnel provide specialist consultations on issues of the racial and political persecution during Nazi occupation, plus information on the fate of the inmates of the repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice.



## STATISTICS ON VISITORS

### OVERALL NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE TEREZÍN MEMORIAL IN 2021

Month	Visitors Total	Foreign	Youth Foreign	Czech Citizens	Youth CR
January	--	--	--	--	--
February	--	--	--	--	--
March	--	--	--	--	--
April	--	--	--	--	--
May	1,904	67	27	1,837	448
June	7,258	496	213	6,762	3,802
July	15,232	2,454	767	12,778	3,947
August	17,242	5,041	1,350	12,201	3,779
September	10,847	4,309	1,442	6,538	2,157
October	12,665	5,648	1,738	7,017	3,322
November	6,391	3,198	942	3,193	1,843
December	3,959	2,411	600	1,548	696
<b>YEAR 2021</b>	<b>75,498</b>	<b>23,624</b>	<b>7,081</b>	<b>51,874</b>	<b>19,994</b>
<b>Year 2020</b>	<b>73,720</b>	<b>31,922</b>	<b>13,314</b>	<b>41,798</b>	<b>14,059</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>+ 1,778</b>	<b>- 8,298</b>	<b>- 6,233</b>	<b>+ 10,076</b>	<b>+ 5,935</b>

### VISITORS TO THE SMALL FORTRESS IN 2021

Month	Visitors Total	Foreign	Youth Foreign	Czech Citizens	Youth CR
January	--	--	--	--	--
February	--	--	--	--	--
March	--	--	--	--	--
April	--	--	--	--	--
May	1,722	44	5	1,676	95
June	6,268	445	184	5,823	2,849
July	12,574	1,904	356	10,670	879
August	14,465	3,458	560	11,007	1,015
September	8,921	3,366	1,206	5,555	1,306
October	10,160	4,247	1,003	5,913	1,985
November	5,113	2,608	775	2,505	1,398
December	3,177	2,071	391	1,106	419
<b>YEAR 2021</b>	<b>62,400</b>	<b>18,143</b>	<b>4,460</b>	<b>44,257</b>	<b>9,946</b>
<b>Year 2020</b>	<b>65,531</b>	<b>27,475</b>	<b>9,892</b>	<b>38,056</b>	<b>5,171</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>- 3,131</b>	<b>- 9,332</b>	<b>- 5,432</b>	<b>+ 6,201</b>	<b>+ 4,775</b>

**VISITORS TO THE GHETTO MUSEUM IN 2021**

Month	Visitors Total	Foreign	Youth Foreign	Czech Citizens	Youth CR
January	--	--	--	--	--
February	--	--	--	--	--
March	--	--	--	--	--
April	--	--	--	--	--
May	424	--	--	424	47
June	1,921	--	--	1,921	1,200
July	4,197	434	63	3,763	423
August	5,519	1,850	284	3,669	462
September	4,310	1,851	441	2,459	953
October	5,008	2,183	391	2,825	1,461
November	3,285	1,576	552	1,709	1,107
December	1,789	1,052	178	739	408
<b>YEAR 2021</b>	<b>26,453</b>	<b>8,946</b>	<b>1,909</b>	<b>17,507</b>	<b>6,061</b>
<b>Year 2020</b>	<b>29,038</b>	<b>15,736</b>	<b>5,195</b>	<b>13,302</b>	<b>3,228</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>-2,585</b>	<b>-6,790</b>	<b>-3,286</b>	<b>+4,205</b>	<b>+2,833</b>

**VISITORS TO THE FORMER MAGDEBURG BARRACKS IN 2021**

Month	Visitors Total	Foreign	Youth Foreign	Czech Citizens	Youth CR
January	--	--	--	--	--
February	--	--	--	--	--
March	--	--	--	--	--
April	--	--	--	--	--
May	67	--	--	67	1
June	820	--	--	820	515
July	1,026	143	24	883	86
August	2,284	882	113	1,462	177
September	2,438	896	180	1,542	507
October	3,064	1,255	222	1,809	953
November	2,338	1,024	328	1,314	920
December	1,501	983	175	518	270
<b>YEAR 2021</b>	<b>13,538</b>	<b>5,123</b>	<b>1,042</b>	<b>8,415</b>	<b>3,429</b>
<b>Year 2020</b>	<b>12,131</b>	<b>7,443</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>4,688</b>	<b>1,464</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>+1,407</b>	<b>-2,320</b>	<b>-1,293</b>	<b>+3,727</b>	<b>+1,965</b>



## OVERVIEW OF ORGANIZED EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS. PROMOTIONAL AND PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

### LIST OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS ORGANIZED BY THE TEREZÍN MEMORIAL IN 2021

- 22 A commemorative event called *Homage to Bedrník or Blue Blood in the Anti-Nazi Resistance* took place in the lobby of the Small Fortress cinema on February 8. The Terezín Memorial, the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes and the Pilsen Philharmonic joined in paying tribute to Zdeněk Bořek-Dohalský, a distinguished Czech public figure before the war and a leading representative of the anti-Nazi resistance movement. The event unfolded on the site where his life had been prematurely extinguished. In his speech Mr. Zdeněk Hazdra, historian and Director of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, portrayed the life story of Zdeněk Bořek-Dohalský; the musical section of the program featured the chamber trio of the Pilsen Philharmonic, made up of Jana Pavlíčková (flute), Lukáš Pavlíček (oboe) and Lenka Kavalová (violoncello), Director of the Pilsen Philharmonic. The Homage was held under the auspices of the following dignitaries and institutions: Mr. Ladislav Chlupáč, Senator of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic for the Litoměřice and Slaný constituencies and the Mayor of Litoměřice, Mr. Martin Baxa, member of the House of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic and Mayor of the city of Pilsen, and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport. The program was webcast online on the Terezín Memorial's You Tube channel.
- The commemorative event *Yom Ha'Shoah ve ha-gvura* (Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day), the traditional public reading of the names of Shoah victims, originally planned for April 8, could not be held in Terezín this time due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Instead, officials of the Terezín Memorial took part in online reading of the names of the victims of Nazi genocide of the Jews, organized by the Terezín Initiative Institute.
- A commemorative rally was held on June 25 to mark the anniversary of the execution of Milada Horáková and the *Day of Commemoration for the Victims of Communism*.
- 23 The *Kever Avot* commemoration, paying tribute to the victims of the genocide of the Jews from the Czech lands, took place in the Jewish Cemetery on August 29.
- 24 The *Terezín Commemoration*, postponed from its original May date due to the ongoing pandemic, was eventually held in the National Cemetery on September 5, attended by officials of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, the House of Deputies of the Czech Parliament, the Czech Government, diplomats from many foreign embassies and other guests. The keynote address at the meeting was delivered by Mr. Pavel Rychetský, President of the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic.
- A seminar on totalitarianism, co-organized by the Václav Havel Library in Prague and the Florida International University in the United States and attended by Mr. Jan Roubínek, Director of the Terezín Memorial, was held on October 13, on the occasion of the exhibition *Fortress 1980*.

- 25 The Terezín Memorial staged an international scholarly conference *The Terezín Ghetto and the Police Prison Terezín in the Repressive System of the Occupation Power (1940–1945)* on November 1 and 2, 2021. This marked the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Terezín Ghetto.
- 26 The principal event on the occasion of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Terezín Ghetto was a meeting of its former inmates that gathered in Terezín on November 4. The program came complete with a performance of the children’s opera *Brundibár* presented by the Disman Radio Children’s Ensemble.
- 27 The series of events marking the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Terezín Ghetto ended with *The March of the Living* on November 24. Attended by several hundred people, the gathering in front of the Bohušovice nad Ohří train station first heard about the main stages of the construction of the Ghetto. This was followed by



the symbolic march of the participants with lit candles in their hands who walked along the route taken precisely 80 years ago by the first transport (codenamed Ak I) to the emerging Ghetto. The march was concluded by a commemorative rally near the memorial plaque placed near the remnants of the railway siding in Terezín.

#### **DISTINGUISHED VISITORS TO TEREZÍN IN 2021**

- On July 15 the Terezín Memorial was visited by His Excellency Alexis Duterre, the French Ambassador to the Czech Republic, who was accompanied by M. Luc Lévy, Director of the French Institute and Cultural Councilor of the French Embassy in the Czech Republic;
- On July 16 the Terezín Memorial was visited by His Excellency Israeli Ambassador Daniel Meron with his wife on the occasion of the termination of his diplomatic mission in this country;
- On August 23 the Terezín Memorial was visited by His Excellency Hemant Kotalwar, Ambassador of the Republic of India;
- On August 26 the Terezín Memorial was visited by Her Excellency Bettina Kirnbauer, the new Ambassadors of the Republic of Austria;
- On September 14 the Terezín Memorial was visited by a delegation of the Free State of Saxony, led by Herr Thomas Feist, State Representative for Jewish Affairs;
- On September 20 the Terezín Memorial was visited by Her Excellency Lucy Hugnes, Deputy Ambassador of the United Kingdom;
- On September 22 the Terezín Memorial was visited by His Excellency Roberto Alejandro Salária, Ambassador of the Argentine Republic;
- On November 3 the Terezín Memorial was visited by His Excellency Egemen Bagis, the Turkish Ambassador;
- On November 30 the Terezín Memorial was visited by Mrs. Tami Kinberg, Director of the Beit Terezín Memorial in Israel.

#### **AN OVERVIEW OF EXHIBITIONS STAGED BY THE TEREZÍN MEMORIAL IN 2021**

- The Last Days of Imprisonment and the First Days of Freedom. Exhibition to Mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of the Nazi Repressive Facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice* – a documentary exhibition. Continued from 2020;
- Looted Art* – a documentary exhibition on loan from the Prague-based Center for the Documentation of Property Transfers of Cultural Goods Owned by the Victims of the Second World War. Continued from 2020;
- Vladimír Nosek* – an art exhibition. Preview of the exhibition was webcast online due to the Covid-19 pandemic;
- Mark Podwal, Kaddish for Dąbrowa Białostocka* – an art exhibition. Scheduled to be held in 2020, the display was moved to 2021;
- The Fortress 1980* – an art exhibition. Authors: *Jiří Sozanský, Ivan Bukovský, Petr Kovář, Zdeněk Beran, Lubomír Janečka, Oldřich Kuhánek and Ivan Dolejšek.*

Scheduled to be held in 2020, the display was moved to 2021;

- 34** *Loretta Lau* – visual installation *Cela* (The Cell) and art performance as part of the preview of the exhibition *The Fortress 1980*;
- When Help Is Needed ...* – an exhibition featuring entries sent to the 25<sup>th</sup> fine art competition for young people, known as the *Hana Greenfield Memorial*;
- Passports for Life* – a documentary exhibition on loan from the Pilecky Institute in Warsaw;
- 35** *Miroslav Vavřín, Between Life and Death* – a photographic exhibition;
- 36** *Girls from Room 28* – a documentary exhibition;
- Terezín in Heart* – an art exhibition featuring works by students of the Vocational Trade and Services School in Teplice;
- 37** *Migration and Humanitarian Aid in Europe (1919–1949)* – a documentary exhibition staged by the MIGRAID international association.

#### TOURING EXHIBITIONS ON LOAN TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic only the art exhibition *Helga Hošková, Maluj, co vidíš* (Paint What You See) went on loan to the Museum of Romani Culture in Brno, which displayed it at the Memorial of Romani Holocaust in Hodonín near Kunštát (April 8 – November 7).

#### PR ACTIVITIES

- Press releases on major events published and distributed to the regional and nationwide media, local information centers, partner institutions, and similarly focused organizations.
- Presentation of the Terezín Memorial continued to be published in specialized periodicals and other magazines devoted to tourism, both printed and electronic.
- Cooperation continued with the agency Czechtourism on a nationwide scale with an international overlap (Czech centers abroad).
- The neighboring Free State of Saxony was requested to help with the promotion of the Memorial in Germany.
- Cooperation continued with the Regional Development Department of the Regional Office of the Ústí Region.
- Cooperation continued with the information centers and tourism centers in the neighboring communities.
- As a regular member, the Terezín Memorial carried on its cooperation with the Association of Museums and Art Galleries of the Czech Republic, with the Association of Travel Agencies of the Czech Republic, and with the Association of Czech Travel Bureaus and Agencies.
- Cooperation continued with the Association of Guides of the Czech Republic within the framework of its affiliated membership.
- Tourism trade fairs in Prague and Brno had been first moved to later terms due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and later cancelled outright; as a result, the Memorial could not be presented at the events.

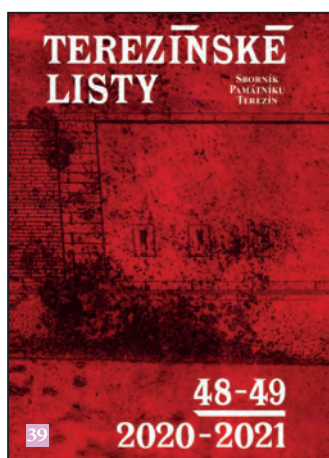


- A virtual sightseeing tour of the Terezín Memorial objects was prepared.
- The Terezín Memorial's web pages are updated regularly and on time, just as its profiles on the social media Facebook and Instagram.
- Working in association with other institutions (Jewish Museum in Prague, Memorial of Silence, Endowment Fund for the Holocaust Victims, National Theater, Endowment Fund Eternal Hope, Masaryk University in Brno), the Memorial prepared a series of events to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Ghetto in Terezín. The Memorial arranged for this particular project its media partnership with the Czech Television, which was broadcasting a spot devoted to this anniversary for two weeks at the turn of October and November 2021.
- The Terezín Memorial made video recordings of different events now available on the Memorial's own YouTube channel. Selected events were then webcast online (for instance *Homage to Bedrník*, opening the exhibition *The Fortress 1980* or Meeting of the former inmates on the occasion of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Terezín Ghetto) with foreign-language subtitles or simultaneous translation in case of events with a major international outreach.

## GUIDES

The 2021 season proved to be difficult due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Terezín Memorial was closed to visitors for almost five months and the employees working in contact with visitors were assigned, whenever possible, to alternative operations. Guides were mostly engaged in preparing virtual tours of the Memorial. In this they were joined by employees of the Department of Education who offered virtual sightseeing tours for pupils and students.

- Due to the lower number of visitors the existing pool of guides was reduced by guides of retirement age.
- The pool of curators for short-term and permanent exhibitions was changed and supplemented.
- Guides, curators, box-office clerks, ticket controllers, film projectionists and souve-



nir vendors underwent theoretical and hands-on training on security and protection of the so-called “soft targets”.

- Auditions of guides’ performances were prepared in the individual Terezín Memorial exhibitions, with exemplary comments in various foreign languages.
- The mobile application SmartGuide was extended in cooperation with the town of Terezín.

## **PUBLISHING**

- The foreign-language print guides for visitors continued to be reprinted on an ongoing basis.
- Annual Report of the Terezín Memorial for 2020* published in Czech and English.
- Double issue of *Terezínské listy* (Terezín Yearbook) Nos. 48–49 (2020–2021) was published.
- Four issues of the quarterly *Zpravodaj. Vzdělávací a informační bulletin / Newsletter. Educational and Information Bulletin* were published.
- A folding brochure was printed on the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Terezín Memorial, presenting an overview of all the events commemorating this anniversary by partner institutions and organizations.

## **MEETING THE MEMORIAL’S TASKS AS THE PROVIDER OF STANDARDIZED PUBLIC SERVICES**

The Terezín Memorial has its own “Guidelines on the Provision of Standardized Public Services”, which lay down the following:

- For each year, all types of admission fees as well as conditions for granting discounts are fixed in a directive issued by the Director of the Terezín Memorial. The list of admission fees is posted up in all box offices, and also placed on the web pages of the Memorial.
- As part of the process of dismantling physical barriers that prevent people with limited mobility and orientation from using its services, easy-access entrance has been installed in some of the exhibitions. Construction of easy access to other objects of the Terezín Memorial will continue, depending on its financial and technical possibilities.
- The objects and premises of the Terezín Memorial are open to visitors all year round in the accompaniment of guides, or individually during the following visiting hours:

### **The Small Fortress**

Winter time – daily 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Summer time – daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**The Ghetto Museum and the Magdeburg Barracks**

Winter time – daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Summer time – daily 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**The Columbarium, Ceremonial Halls and the Ghetto's Central Mortuary**

Winter time – daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Summer time – daily 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**The Crematorium**

Winter time – daily 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Summer time – daily 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Closed on Saturdays.

**The Prayer Room from the time of the Terezín Ghetto and replica of “attic room”, Former Weigh House**

Winter time – daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Summer time – daily 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**All the objects are closed from December 24 to 26 and on January 1.**

**The opening hours are changed to summer time and winter time opening hours on the day of the actual change to summer time and back (October and March).**

An overview of the opening hours is available to the public in all the objects of the Terezín Memorial and on its web pages.

**Free Admission Days**

In accordance with the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No. 96/2014 and as part of the implementation of the Key Tasks laid down by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, the Terezín Memorial provides to visitors free admission opportunities to the following selected objects and exhibitions:

**Free admission will be available to the following selected objects and exhibitions:**

The Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery, prayer room from the time of the Ghetto and replica of “attic room”, the Ghetto's Central Mortuary, Ceremonial Halls and the Columbarium, access routes to e-kiosks, and the former Municipal Weigh House showing the permanent exhibition *Terezín Transports. Deportations of Jews from Terezín and Transports from the Terezín Ghetto to Places of Extermination and Slave Labor.*

**Free admission will be available on the following days:**

June 1

September 28

October 28



**Free admission to all the Terezín Memorial's objects is guaranteed on the following days:**

On January 27 on the occasion of the *International Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Holocaust and for the Prevention of Crimes against Humanity*.

On the third Sunday in May on the occasion of the *Terezín Commemoration*.

- Information on the Terezín Memorial and its activities over the past year is published in its Annual Report, which is distributed and also published on the web pages of the Terezín Memorial. The website also contains an overview of the exhibitions and dates of the events held by the Terezín Memorial during that particular year.
- In keeping with the applicable guidelines, the collections of the Departments of Documentation and Collections are open to researchers following prior appointment.

## EXTERNAL CONTACTS AND COOPERATION

The restrictions imposed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic could hardly bypass and leave unaffected all the major spheres of activities pursued by the Terezín Memorial, namely maintaining and promoting contacts with the former inmates as well as partner institutions and organizations at home and abroad, and researching and chronicling the history of the repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice during the Second World War. The importance of this remembrance institution is accentuated by the fact that during the war inmates from thirty countries had passed through these repressive facilities, and their history naturally bears great international relevance.

In spite of the necessary restrictions and while respecting the need of strict adherence to all the anti-pandemic measures, the Terezín Memorial continued its cooperation with the former Terezín Ghetto inmates associated in the Terezín Initiative, established in the early 1990s, immediately after the democratic changes were initiated in our country. Each year, the rising average age of its members has been inevitably causing a drop in the number of those members who can actively participate in the Memorial's educational programs, an area where the Terezín Initiative's work is truly irreplaceable. Discussions of schoolteachers and students attending the Memorial's educational programs with the former Ghetto inmates always evoke extraordinary response. But the Terezín Initiative is also known greatly to assist the agenda of the Terezín Memorial in many other spheres as well. Furthermore, the second and third generations of the family members of Holocaust survivors join in its activities. Mention should be made of the Terezín Initiative's continued financial support granted to the Memorial's educational programs, making it possible for many schools to travel to Terezín even from distant parts of this country. In its training courses and programs the Memorial's Department of Education has been focused on ever more frequent use of recorded recollections and narratives by the former inmates either in written form or primarily stored on audiovisual carriers. The latter are expected to replace, at least partly, live addresses delivered by the former Ghetto inmates.

The Memorial kept in touch with its domestic and foreign partner organizations and institutions predominantly through distance (electronic) communication, with foreign colleagues almost exclusively. As for its Czech partners, it was primarily the Jewish Museum in Prague, the Memorial's traditional partner in research, exhibitions, adult education and other educational programs in general. Other major domestic partners were the Brno-based Museum of Romani Culture, the Lidice Memorial, the National Archives in Prague, the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes in Prague, the Prague-based Terezín Initiative Institute, the National Museum in Prague, the State District Archives in Litoměřice and the State District Archives Litoměřice based in Lovosice.

On the international scene the Terezín Memorial maintained its contacts with partner remembrance institutions, universities, unions and organizations as well as individual researchers in spite of the above-mentioned limitations.

The Terezín Memorial's chief foreign partner institutions in the individual countries

have been the following: in Poland, the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim, the State Museum in Majdanek and the Gross-Rosen Museum in Rogoźnica. In Israel, the memorials Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and Beit Terezin in Givat Haim Ichud; in the United States, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York, and the University of South California Shoah Foundation Institute in Los Angeles, in the Netherlands the Amsterdam-based Anne Frank House, in Germany the Flossenbürg Memorial, the Buchenwald Memorial, the Dachau Memorial, the Sachsenhausen Memorial, the Ravensbrück Memorial and the Wannsee Conference House. In Austria, the Mauthausen Memorial and the Vienna-based Dokumentationsarchiv des österreichischen Widerstandes, the Falstad Memorial in Norway, and in Slovakia namely the Slovak National Uprising Museum in Banská Bystrica, the Holocaust Documentary Center in Bratislava, the Museum of Jewish Culture in Bratislava, and the Holocaust Museum in Sered.

The Memorial also remained in contact, even though in a distance mode, with the unions of Terezín friends and supporters in the German federal lands of Saxony, Brandenburg and Lower Saxony.

In a similar vein, the Terezín Memorial's specialists kept representing their institution in the international organizations engaged in the research, museological and educational agenda devoted to the commemoration of the victims of the Nazi racial and political persecution, without interrupting their international commitments. The most prominent of these foreign institutions is the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), associating more than 30 countries throughout the world. Employees of the Terezín Memorial also serve as members of the Czech Republic's delegation to IHRA, participating in its specialized working groups (Academic and Memorials). Another major organization is the International Council of Museums ICOM where Terezín Memorial specialists are active in its IC MEMO committee that associates officials representing memorials and museums documenting crimes against humanity committed by state regimes. The Memorial also lately resorted solely to online communication when taking part in the work of the Consultative Board of Bavarian Memorials in which officials from remembrance institutions from Germany and other countries keep exchanging research and museological information and sharing experience of working with organizations of former inmates.

In the educational sector, the many programs annually prepared for Czech school-teachers before the pandemic with the partner institutions in Israel (Memorial Yad Vashem), Poland (the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim), Germany (the Ravensbrück Memorial and the Wannsee Conference House) had to be cancelled. The only exception was a seminar held in the Ravensbrück Memorial in Germany.

Cooperation continued with Germany's organization Aktion Sühnezeichen/Friedensdienste and the Austrian Gedenkdienst, who have been sending volunteers to Terezín for more than twenty years to help in the Memorial's educational programs for German-speaking groups. After a one-year break, the routine inspection of the Czech Republic's permanent exhibition in the former Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Oświęcim could be made in 2021. The Terezín Memorial had been commissioned by the Czech Ministry of Culture to build and administer this particular display.

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

The Department of History carried on its research of the Nazi repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice, making its results available to the public. In its research focused on the Terezín Ghetto, the Department of History further studied the structure of the Terezín Ghetto's so-called Jewish Self-administration and examined the numbers and causes of suicides of the Jews in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. Key preparations were completed for the publication of an annotated version of the so-called Mahler Diary. The database listing the former Terezín Ghetto inmates as well as the database registering other Holocaust victims from the Czech lands, who had not passed through the Terezín Ghetto, were being systematically supplemented in 2021. The actual form and structure of a calendar of the Terezín Ghetto as well as the technical possibilities for its elaboration were hammered out. Between November 1 and 2, 2021 the Terezín Memorial staged an international conference *The Terezín Ghetto and the Police Prison Terezín in the Repressive System of the Occupation Power (1940–1945)* to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Terezín Ghetto. Its agenda included papers originally planned to be delivered at a working seminar on the occasion of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Police Prison Terezín. Scheduled for June 2020, the working seminar had to be canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In view of the ongoing unfavorable epidemiological situation, which made it difficult for the delegates' personal attendance, particularly of our foreign colleagues, the Terezín Memorial prepared online webcast of the conference proceedings, with simultaneous translation on the second day. A recording of the entire conference proceedings was also made.

The project tracing the history of the Gestapo Police Prison in Terezín continued with its research into the changes of annual numbers of inmates in the Police Prison. The database listing the former Police Prison inmates was further supplemented and enlarged, while research continued in a bid to clarify the circumstances of the actual arrest, imprisonment and further life stories of the inmates during the years of Nazi occupation. Research probing the topic of foreign nationals imprisoned in the Police Prison was also carried on, the same applied to research into the postwar investigations and punishments of the cases of so-called everyday collusion with the Nazis as well as of the serious crimes committed during the occupation, plus the proceedings of the postwar extraordinary people's courts and of the criminal finding commissions. The specific form and structure of a calendar of the Police Prison Terezín as well as the technical possibilities for its compilation were discussed. Initial preparations got under way for the installation of a new exhibition to be housed in the former SS canteen in the Small Fortress in Terezín. This smaller display will offer visitors an insight into the private life of the SS guards of the Police Prison. Preparations were also launched for a documentary exhibition marking the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Terezín Memorial; this is designed to trace the principal moments in the latest history of the institution since 1989.

Research into the history of the Litoměřice concentration camp has been focused, on a long-term basis, primarily on supplementing the database of its former inmates. Preparations continued for uploading files of documents (scans) of the original card index of the Litoměřice concentration camp into the database.

As part of the Memorial's digitalization process, specific files of documents (scans) were being added to the individual records in *The Database of Politically and Racially Persecuted Persons*. In another two projects, core works were completed on extending the database of the Czech inmates kept in the Buchenwald concentration camp (1937-1945) and preparations got under way for elaborating a new database of the Czech inmates in the Flossenbürg concentration camp (1938-1945). There were discussions on updating, supplementing and then posting the database of the Czech inmates in the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp (1940-1945) on the Terezín Memorial's web since this particular database still exists only in a printed form.

Within preparations for the project *The Terezín Ghetto Museum*, libretto was drafted for the planned new exhibitions to be built in the Museum after its reconstruction; work got under way on the actual scenario, while contacts were already established with the relevant remembrance institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad on eventual loans of collection items. In cooperation with architect Igor Kovačević, project administrator, necessary documentation had been prepared for the announcement of the competitive dialog, which was duly published at the end of 2021. As many as 22 architectural design studios, three from abroad, have entered the competition. In view of the scheduled closure of the Ghetto Museum during its reconstruction (2023-2025) it was decided to install a new temporary display tracing the history of the Terezín Ghetto. A script was prepared for this exhibition and competition for the best architectural solution was held.

As a representative of the Czech Republic, the Terezín Memorial kept participating in the agenda of the international organizations (IC MEMO ICOM – section of memorials and memorial museums attached to the international museums organization and IHRA, an international association for education, research and remembrance of the Holocaust). Discussions were held in the Terezín Memorial on its own presentation during the forthcoming meeting of the ICOM General Conference to be held in Prague between August 20 and 28, 2022. Foreign delegates will be invited to visit regional museums and other institutions, including the Terezín Memorial.

The Department of History experts attended working meetings within the EHRI-CZ project, linking up to the European research infrastructure EHRI (2010). EHRI-CZ is aimed at collecting, integrating and making accessible to the public documents and data pertaining to the Holocaust, and at devising methods and tools for processing such sources.

The Memorial maintained its contacts with the J.E. Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem in specialized and educational matters, and occasionally with the Technical University in Liberec. The Department of History employees participated in scholarly conferences and seminars, which usually proceeded online due to the ongoing epidemiological restrictions. The results of their research were made available not only in publications and specialized periodicals but also in the Memorial's educational pro-

grams, in online lectures and debates for schoolteachers, students and pupils from the Czech Republic and abroad.

A double issue of *Tereziínské listy* (Terezín Yearbook) Nos. 48 and 49 (2020–2021) was published early in November 2021, with the Department of History's considerable participation in its preparation and editing. Following discussions the editorial board of the Terezín Yearbook decided to reduce its print run from the original 600 to 450 copies, while using a more economical but still good-quality type of paper (offset) instead of the coated paper used so far.

The Department also kept providing its specialized consultations for researchers from home and abroad, while sending requested information to the media and other interested parties.

Certificates on wartime imprisonment were issued either directly for the former inmates or their relatives, for various authorities and courts.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to its research, collection-building and museological agenda, since 1993 the Terezín Memorial has also been involved in staging educational programs for pupils and students from home and abroad. Just as the Memorial's many other activities, its educational programs in 2021 were adversely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

As a result of the government's anti-pandemic measures and restrictions classroom seminars for school groups could not be held in the Terezín Memorial up to early June 2021. That is why the Department of Education managed to hold in 2021 only 52 one-day and 17 multiday classroom seminars for Czech schools (all in all catering for 2,296 persons). Similarly affected were seminars for school groups from abroad, traditionally held under the guidance of responsible Department of Education employees and led by volunteers from the organizations Aktion Sühnezeichen/Friedensdienste from Germany and Austria's Gedenkdienst. Only 13 classroom seminars (10 one-day events and three multiday seminars) for a total of 346 persons could be held last year. For the sake of comparison, given below is a table showing the numbers of schoolchildren attending classroom seminars before the pandemic (2019) and during the first year of the pandemic.

	2019		2020	
	Number of classroom seminars for youth	Number of participants	Number of classroom seminars for youth	Number of participants
Multiday - Czech Republic	54	6,008	12	1,567
One-day - Czech Republic	101		34	
Multiday - foreign	24	924	1	241
One-day foreign	11		8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>6,932</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>1,808</b>

At a time when no classroom events could be held in the Memorial in 2021, just as at the end of 2020, the Department of Education set its sights on providing online educational courses for schoolchildren in Czech schools as part of their distance teaching. The offer covered lectures, workshops and virtual real-time visits to the Terezín Memorial's exhibitions, supplemented with pictorial didactic materials, screenings of documentaries or video testimonies recorded by Holocaust survivors. In fact, the programs were based on an interactive teacher-pupil communication pattern. During the period in question, as many as 286 online distance teaching programs were prepared for Czech elementary and secondary schools and were viewed by 7,523 schoolchildren, plus 18 seminars for groups from the Federal Republic of Germany catering for a total of 346 people. Most of these webinars (98 %) were running from January to June, i.e.

during the strictest anti-pandemic restrictions affecting the standard school tuition, which was then replaced by distance (online) teaching. When comparing the number of pupils and students viewing online programs with the number of schoolchildren attending classroom seminars before the pandemic, we find that the totals are not only comparable; in case of webinars the number of participants is even higher by approximately 100 persons. If we add up the number of pupils and students attending classroom seminars and online programs for youth staged in 2021 (without the entrants into the competitions mentioned below) the total accounts for 10,511 schoolchildren who attended at least one educational event prepared by the Terezín Memorial in the given year. This, in turn, is by 3,579 persons more than in 2019 and by 7,363 people more than in 2020. The online teaching programs remained in the offer by the Department of Education in 2021, even after the resumption of classroom teaching at Czech schools, still being used in some schools, even though to a much smaller extent.

Regrettably, not even the training courses for Czech schoolteachers on different approaches to teaching about the Holocaust could be held in their standard format either. They have been regularly organized since 2000 by the Terezín Memorial with the financial support of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Czech Republic and held in this country as well as abroad in cooperation with many domestic and foreign institutions. The original plan reckoned with organizing one first-level seminar (Czech Republic, Prague / Terezín), one second-level seminar led by foreign lecturers (Czech Republic, Terezín), one third-level seminar in the Ravensbrück Memorial (Germany) and one fourth-tier seminar in Yad Vashem (Israel, Jerusalem). Only first-level seminars (held in September) and third-level ones (in October) eventually materialized due to the complications and restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. In view of the overall concept and program of these seminars, whose backbone is formed by workshops based on hands-on teaching methods, these training courses could not be held online, as a distance-teaching tool. Instead, a two-day online webinar called *Teaching about the Holocaust*, accredited by the Ministry of Education, was streamed on two occasions at the end of the year. Taking part in the webinars were not only lectures from the Terezín Memorial but also from the Jewish Museum in Prague and the Open Eye company, service organization of the USC Shoah Foundation - Institute for Visual History and Education (USA).

On the other hand, the Memorial fully met its stated goals in staging the 27<sup>th</sup> literary and 25<sup>th</sup> art competitions for youth, this time on the theme *When Help Is Needed*, combining the current pandemic experience with the situation in Terezín at the end of World War II when a spotted fever epidemic broke out in the Ghetto. Competitors were invited to reflect in general terms on the actual motivations of volunteers who decide to risk their own health and even their lives in helping the sick. A total of 252 entries from young people all over the Czech Republic came to the contest. The award-giving ceremony was successfully held in Terezín even though it had to be postponed from June to September due to the pandemic. Six displays featuring the works, sent to the youth art competition not only in 2021 but also in previous years, were eventually installed in Děčín, Žlutice, Terezín, Teplice and Most.

The Department of Education was involved in preparing all four issues of the Me-



morial's quarterly *Zpravodaj. Vzdělávací a informační bulletin / Newsletter. Educational and Information Bulletin* which, unlike in pre-pandemic years, had to be published, for financial reasons, only in an electronic version. Work also continued on updating the website of the project *Searching for Memorials* that illustrates the current status of the sites of the former Nazi camps and mass wartime graves in the Czech Republic, and seeks to find out whether small memorials or individual commemorative plaques are installed at such sites. The project is designed to broaden public awareness (especially among young people) of those tragic places and of the wartime events that had happened there.

Background materials were also collected as part of the project *Schoolchild in the War Years* and, working in conjunction with the Hungarian foundation Zachor, the mobile application IWalk of the USC Shoah Foundation - Institute for Visual History and Education was extended by adding didactic materials (filmed testimonies of Holocaust survivors, texts, photographs etc.) relating to the former Terezín Ghetto. The application is freely available for downloading to all people interested in the Ghetto's history.

## DOCUMENTATION AND ALL COLLECTIONS

The Terezín Memorial's acquisition policy is aimed at systematically building up its collections. These receive all-round care in terms of professional processing and treatment, their storage as well as eventual restoration. The ultimate goal is to make the collections accessible for research, museological and exhibition purposes, and to preserve them for future generations.

### DEPARTMENT OF DOCUMENTATION

Six new items of written documents, comprising 25 individual documents, plus one new item of photographic material containing 89 photos, were entered in the Department's historical-documentary sub collection in 2021. These include, for instance, prisoners' correspondence, and photographs from the estate of Jan Podracký, an architect and painter from Duchcov, executed in Berlin-Plötzensee in September 1943.

One hundred and eighty-one inventory numbers of written documents and 48 inventory numbers of photographic material were processed in the systematic records of collection items.

One new item, comprising a collection of short amateur films showing various events in the life of the Terezín Memorial in the years 1976 and 1977, was entered in the Department's collection of auxiliary photographic material. The footage was shot by Jiří Maleninský, a former employee of the Terezín Memorial. Twenty-five new numbers containing 58 individual documents not included in the official collections were processed in the past year.

During a periodic stocktaking of the collections, a total of 976 inventory numbers of collection items were checked in 2021. Out of these, photographs kept in the photo archive, were registered under 86 inventory numbers. Written documents were registered under the remaining 890 inventory numbers. No serious shortcomings were found during the stocktaking. One hundred and eleven inventory numbers of collections items or parts thereof were handed over for conservation.

External conservators treated written documents selected during the periodic stocktaking in the past years, plus some items from the new accessions urgently needing conservation. All in all, 1,273 sheets of written documents, 13 covers and 32 envelopes were also treated. These accounted for 356 registration numbers or their parts.

Last year 12 researchers and 3 non-professional people seeking information on the imprisonment of specific persons visited the archive in spite of its temporary closure. Requests for information, eventually for copies, photographs or written documents, were answered by email.

The Department's documentalist made a total of 2,117 digital photographs predominantly chronicling the Memorial's activities, i.e. acts of remembrance, previews of exhibitions, VIP visits and other events.

As for services rendered to external researchers, the Department made more than

1,350 scans, over 1,000 scans were made for the Terezín Memorial's researchers.

Within the Department's digitalization plan, 98 inventory numbers of written documents and 2,787 inventory numbers of photographic materials were digitized; no newly made scans were fed into the databases due to the reconstruction of the Terezín Memorial's website.

Altogether, 5,036 scans of written documents and 5,816 scans of photographic materials were made.

The Memorial's library continued its regular book collection to enlarge its fund by adding specialized domestic and foreign books. One hundred and sixty-nine book titles were purchased.

In an effort to improve the protection of its books more than 2,000 volumes received new signatures and were covered in a protective foil. The new Tritius library cataloging system was purchased in 2021. One hundred and sixty-nine books were cataloged in this automated library system. Periodicals and daily newspapers were cataloged, archived and distributed continuously. Three international identification numbers were assigned within the ISBN (International Standard Book Number) system.

## **DEPARTMENT OF COLLECTIONS**

Just like in 2020, last year too, the Department of Collections had to cope with the adverse effects of the Covid-19 pandemic (with its employees frequently on sick leaves and home office work). Yet the Department managed to meet most of its planned tasks in time.

It continued in its active acquisition agenda focused on obtaining new collection items. The collection was enriched by processing new accessions and supplementing information on the collection items acquired in the past. Other tasks included primarily presentation of the collection items and care for their physical condition.

Specifically, 27 new numbers, most of which also processed in the systematic register, were entered in the chronological filing system. These were primarily works of art purchased in the fall of 2020 and during 2021, which required restoration treatment before their professional processing. Most new accessions come from the Terezín Ghetto, with the works by painter Otto Ungar prevailing. Prewar works created by František Petr Kien, a distinguished Terezín artist, were purchased thanks to a financial contribution from the ISO II/C program. Other new arrivals include drawings by Josef Kyliés who was imprisoned in the Police Prison in the Small Fortress. The Memorial's collection of postwar art was expanded primarily by the works of Arnošt Paderlík, Vladimír Sychra and František Jiroudek. Two works by Jaroslav Král were also added to the collection. Some of the recently purchased artworks will be displayed in upcoming exhibitions.

Three hundred and eighteen inventory numbers of collection items were checked during a hand-over stocktaking. As many as 1,468 collections items under inventory numbers PT 12,501 – PT 14,000 were checked during a periodic stocktaking that got under way at the end of September 2021. Due to the necessity of completing other pri-

ority tasks it was impossible to finish the periodic stocktaking in time, and its deadline was, therefore, prolonged until January 31, 2022.

In April 2021 the Memorial's employees started digitizing collection items in a newly built digitalization center in Dlouhá Street. New accessions and large-format works of art were given priority in the digitalization process. In view of its frequent use, the so-called Heřman Collection was also newly digitized, giving rise to 4,416 scans. A Department of Collections employee took photographs of 30 inventory numbers of 3D and other collections items that could not be scanned (producing 162 photos). The Department's documentalist made 617 photos (mostly of 3D objects).

Last year the Department of Collections was visited by 7 researchers (5 Czech and 2 foreigners), two of them coming repeatedly. However, replies to most requests from researchers and individuals seeking information were sent by email. Responding to researchers and written requests, the Department of Collections provided 423 copies, scans and photographs of collection items for study, exhibition or publishing purposes. Three original collection items were used during the shooting of a documentary.

Eight inventory numbers of collection items newly went on loan to exhibitions abroad (exposition in Karlsruhe, permanent exhibition in the Buchenwald Memorial). One object from the collection of auxiliary materials went on loan to Brno, while loans made to domestic and foreign institutions in the past are ongoing.

Authentic collection items were made available for the commemorative program *Homage to Bedrník* and the exhibition of the works by Mark Podwal in the Terežín Memorial.

Early in 2021 the Department of Collections personnel were involved in the renovation of the exhibition *Literary Work in the Terežín Ghetto*, later preparing background documentation for the collection items to be displayed in the new expositions in the Ghetto Museum. At the end of the year the Department was engaged in preparing a short-term exhibition to be installed in the courtyard of the Magdeburg Barracks during the reconstruction of the Ghetto Museum.

During the past year preparations got under way for three exhibitions to be staged by the Terežín Memorial in 2022. These include an art exhibition featuring the works by Jaroslav Král, an exhibition of new accessions obtained in the years 2017–2021, and an art display called *Seven in October*. These expositions will present collection items of the Terežín Memorial plus items on loan from other institutions and private collections.

A Department of Collections employee participated, as an executive editor, in compiling *Terežínské listy* (Terežín Yearbook) Nos. 48–49.

Some internal and external members of the “Consultative Board of the Terežín Memorial's Director for Collection-building” were partly exchanged in 2021, and the Department of Collections staff were engaged in preparing the Board's session held in November.

The Department continued its search, tracking down heirs to copyrights, and its efforts to obtain permissions for further use of works of art and objects (for publication, exhibition, provision of copies of artworks to researchers etc.) from different copyright holders and their heirs.

Our restorer of paper items treated 10 inventory numbers of collection items, mostly challenging restorations of new acquisitions. Another 8 collection items were conserved. The Memorial's restorer carried on her work on disinfecting items found in Terezín (documents from the attics of the barracks and a house in Komenského Street).

## ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES, DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

The Terežín Memorial's economic management record in 2021 finished with a balanced result thanks to an increased contribution for its operating costs provided by the Czech Ministry of Culture. Overall income from the services rendered by the Memorial registered a drop of 73.61 percent against 2019, which adds up to only 26.39 percent of the total yields in 2019. This was caused primarily by the closure of the institution due to the restrictions against the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic from the beginning of the year until May 12. That was also why the number of visitors in 2021 reached a mere 24.30 percent of the total in 2019. As compared with the previous years, the rate of visitors was drastically reduced primarily because of fewer foreign visitors who, in pre-pandemic years, accounted for up to 80 percent of the total. As a result, the epidemiological situation in the Czech Republic impacted particularly incomes from admission. Other incomes stayed more or less on the level of the previous years. Seen in this light, without the government assistance, specifically without the above-mentioned higher contribution for operating costs, the Memorial's overall economic result would have ended in a loss of some 32 million CZK against 2019.

The overall expenses in 2021 were increased by 3.76 percent against 2019, especially in the category of other costs and in services. An increase in other costs for the Memorial's activities was due to the implementation of the project known as Revitalization of Greenery in the Terežín Memorial whose total costs reached the sum of 11,105,001.14 CZK. Other expenses for energies, repairs and other items remained more or less at the level of the previous years. There was an 11.06 percent rise in personal expenses.

### INCOME AND EXPENSES IN 2021 IN CZK

**Income:**

a) proceeds from sale of services.....	13,046,229.14 CZK
b) funds provided by the Czech Ministry of Culture.....	100,899,515.00 CZK
c) use of reserve funds.....	607,296.74 CZK
d) other incomes.....	2,244,830.44 CZK
<b>Total incomes:</b>	<b>116,797,871.32 CZK</b>

**Expenses:**

a) material expenses and energy.....	8,986,424.76 CZK
b) personal expenses.....	61,467,199.02 CZK
c) other expenses (services, repairs) .....	46,344,247.54 CZK
<b>Total expenses:</b>	<b>116,797,871.32 CZK</b>

## DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2021

The overall funds obtained in 2021 from donations and contributions totaled 193,184.03 CZK.

The following donors sent the largest contributions:

- Patrick Mehr and Helen Epstein, USA
- Martin Junek, Czech Republic
- Anna Sophia Zimniak, Germany
- Vratislav Brožek, Czech Republic
- Lenka Bartošová, Czech Republic
- Trong Huan, Czech Republic
- Blanka Raclová, Czech Republic
- Marek Šteigl, Czech Republic

Many other donors, most of whom have remained anonymous, made smaller contributions. Nonetheless, our sincere thanks are due to them, just as to all those mentioned above.

The funds obtained from donations and contributions were used for the following purposes:

donations for salaries and other personal costs of the Terežín Memorial ...136,654.00 CZK  
donations for activities of the Department of Education ..... 109,882.00 CZK  
donations for competitions of the Department of Education ..... 35,618.74 CZK

## TECHNICAL AND CONSTRUCTION WORK

The Technical Department provides yearlong maintenance and restoration of the areas and objects of the former repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice.

### ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE AND TECHNICAL WORK

- 41 42 House No. 121 in Dlouhá Street in Terezín was reconstructed and converted into a dormitory for participants in Terezín Memorial's educational programs. The project was finished and the building officially approved.
- 43 Repairs of the roof and rafters in the Workshop Courtyard in the Small Fortress were finished.





- 44 The roof of the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery was repaired.
- Sanitary facilities in the cinema in the Small Fortress were repaired.
- The original canteen in the Small Fortress was repaired and preparations got under way for installing a new exhibition in its premises.
- Monuments continued to be repaired in the Jewish Cemetery.
- Preparations continued for the new digitalization center.
- Project documentation was drawn up for the scheduled extension of the kitchen in the former Magdeburg Barracks.
- Work started on the reconstruction of house No. 232 in Terezín and its conversion into a facility to be used by the Department of Education.
- 45 Overall restoration of green areas continued throughout the Terezín Memorial, primarily planting out new trees and other cultivation arrangements.
- Security measures to protect the Terezín Memorial as a “soft target” were implemented.
- 46 Routine upkeep of all the objects and areas of the Terezín Memorial continued.
- Routine upkeep of all green areas in the Terezín Memorial continued.
- Vital technical measures were carried out to provide for the Memorial’s remembrance, cultural events and educational programs, complete with car transport and other logistic requirements necessary for the regular operation of the Terezín Memorial.

## OUTLOOK FOR 2022

- Terezín Commemoration* to be held on May 15, 2022.
- Other acts of remembrance (*Yom Ha'Shoah ve ha-gvura*, anniversary of the last wartime execution in Terezín, *Ke'ver Avot*) to be staged.
- Remembrance events to be held to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Terezín Memorial.
- Installation of 10 short-term art and documentary exhibitions.
- Continued research into the history of the Nazi repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice.
- Continued digitalization of the Terezín Memorial's collections and posting the digitized content on its website.
- Supplementing the databases listing the former inmates.
- Publishing *Terezínské listy* (Terezín Yearbook) No. 50.
- Publishing the quarterly *Zpravodaj, vzdělávací a informační bulletin / Newsletter, Educational and Information Bulletin*.
- Holding seminars for schoolteachers, pupils and students.
- Organizing the 28<sup>th</sup> literary and 26<sup>th</sup> art competition for youth on the subject *To Paint and To Survive*.
- Continued implementation of the project documenting the current status of the sites of the former Nazi camps and mass graves in the Czech lands, called *Searching for Memorials*.
- Continued implementation of the research project for Czech pupils, called *Schoolchild in the War Years* and held in association with other institutions.
- Extending the mobile application of the project IWalk in cooperation with the USC Shoah Foundation and the Hungarian organization Zachor - Holocaust Remembrance Foundation.
- Remembrance event to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of deportations from Terezín to Auschwitz.



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**Annual Report for 2021**



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