

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	Multidirectional Memory: Remembering for Social Justice – [MultiMemo]
Participant:	FUNDACJA DOKUMENTACJI CMENARZY ŻYDOWSKICH (FDCZ)
PIC number:	931350642

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	WP 31
Event name:	MEMORY POLES. STRATEGIES OF REBUILDING THE IDENTITY OF THE BRÓDNO JEWISH CEMETERY
Type:	EVENT
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Poland, Warsaw
Date(s):	June 18th 2023
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.facebook.com/events/646380460294327/?ref=newsfeed
Participants	
Female:	31
Male:	13
Non-binary:	0
From country 1 [Poland]:	44
From country 2 [name]:	
From country 3 [name]:	
...	
Total number of participants:	44
From total number of countries:	1
Description	
<p>The aim of the event was to make the participants aware of what makes the Jewish Cemetery in Bródno, the most damaged cemetery in Warsaw, a unique place. We contacted professional guides of the capital city Warsaw and enthusiasts of local history, to draw their attention to the unique</p>	

status of the cemetery, which is a monument to destroyed Jewish cemeteries, as it is the most spectacular example of this phenomenon. We realized that an attractive form of presentation would be to show both the destroyed cemetery and the one saved from destruction. That is why we proposed visiting the Jewish Cemeteries in Bródno and the Trench Cemetery during one event.

We started the guided tour with the proper gate of the cemetery in Bródno, in order to emphasize the problem of the incompatibility of the current and historical borders. After entering the current gate, we followed the main path to show the unobvious traces of the cemetery in a forest-like space, to reach the end of the cobbled path, where a pile of thousands of tombstones was once ripped from their original state. Locations need to be found. At the end of this part, the event group walked the newly reconstructed path surrounding Sector 2 to get acquainted with the archaeological work that helped reveal the pre-war bricks and gravel.

Later, the whole group left the cemetery and boarded a bus that took them to the Jewish cemetery in Okopowa, 6 km away. Here, in addition to meeting well-known rabbis, intellectuals, politicians, etc., the participants could learn about the everyday problems of the cemetery, which is not only a monument, but also an active burial place serving the needs of the Jewish community. We drew attention to the paradoxes faced by the cemetery director when he is obliged to protect monuments and trees, and trees, after several decades of neglect, have created an environmentally valuable ecosystem.

Thanks to its survival, the Trench Cemetery is a very lively place. Participants had the opportunity to learn about many stories from the past and present. Unfortunately, in the case of Bródno, all this is overshadowed by almost complete destruction.

Comparing both cemeteries, we talked about how to restore the cultural character of the necropolis in Bródno. We encouraged guides and lovers of local history, many of whom were represented at the event, to join the process of restoring the memory of the Bródno cemetery. Including this place in the program of trips organized by them and showing the inhabitants of Warsaw this beautiful and unknown place.

The deliverable was achieved as planned.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).