EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	3 – Transilvania University of Brașov (UNITBV))
PIC number:	999904131
Project name and acronym:	SURVIVE: Stories of Women and Children's Resilience in World War II

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	WP3		
Event name:	Commemoration and Cultural Preservation, Romania		
Type:	Commemoration event		
In situ/online:	in-situ		
Location:	Romania, Brașov		
Date(s):	November 21, 2025		
Website(s) (if any):	https://survive-cerv.eu/		
Participants			
Female:	72		
Male:	32		
Non-binary:	-		
From country 1 Italy:	2		
From country 2 Poland:	3		
From country 3 Latvia:	2		
From Romania :	97		
Total number of participants:	104	From total number of countries:	4

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

On Friday, November 21, 2025, the Commemoration Day event: the Sufferings of Jews of Transylvania during World War II took place in Brașov, an activity within the CERV SURVIVE-Stories of Women and Children's Resilience in World War II project. The event was organised by Transylvania University of Brașov and brought together local, national, and European perspectives on Jewish persecution and memory during the Second World War.

The Jews of Brașov. Commemorative moment at the ”Beith Israel” Synagogue

In the first part of the day, representatives of the partner organizations in the project, YouNet (Italy), SPARK (Poland), and World-Our Home (Latvia), together with students and teachers from the Faculty of Sociology and Communication and the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, participated in the commemoration of the Jews born in Brașov and deported from Northern Transylvania. The commemorative moment took place at the Beith Israel Synagogue, one of the most important symbols of Jewish presence in the city, and included a tribute at the monument dedicated to Jews from Brașov who were deported during the war.

Representatives of the Jewish Community of Brașov highlighted the different situation of the Jews from southeastern Transylvania, which remained part of Romania after the Vienna Dictate, and that of the Jews from Northern Transylvania, which was part of Hungary. Being on one side or the other of the border drawn by the Dictate meant in many cases the difference between life and death. Jews from southeastern Transylvania were forced by anti-Semitic laws to give up their small businesses and perform compulsory labor for the benefit of the Romanian state and local communities. Jews from Northern Transylvania were concentrated in ghettos and then sent to extermination camps. During this moment, participants also met a Jewish professor, born in Brașov, who shared personal reflections and historical insights on the fate of Jews affected by the Vienna Dictate and the lasting consequences of these political decisions.

Following the commemorative event held at the Beith Israel synagogue, in the courtyard of which stands the monument to the Jews of Brașov who lived and were deported from Northern Transylvania, the participants were accompanied to the old synagogue of the city, which is in ruins. This was followed by a guided walk through the historic Old Center of Brașov, led by a museographer from the “Casa Mureșenilor” Museum, focusing on the visible and invisible traces of Jewish life in the city, the locations of the two synagogues, and the area where the Jewish community historically lived.

The Jews of Transylvania during World War II. Panel Discussion

In the second part of the day, starting in the afternoon, a panel discussion was held at the "Casa Mureșenilor" Museum, organized by the university in collaboration with the museum. The museum, a key cultural and historical institution in Brașov, provided an appropriate setting for dialogue and critical reflection on local and regional history.

The discussions were based on communications held by the author of a volume on local Jewish history, by teachers and students from the Faculty of Sociology and Communication. Speakers addressed long-standing stereotypes regarding Jews in Eastern Europe and Romania, the development and impact of antisemitic legislation during World War II, and the different trajectories of persecution experienced by Jewish communities in Northern and Southern Transylvania. Particular attention was given to the deportation of Jews from Northern Transylvania, the mechanisms of exclusion and persecution, the role of local media in shaping public attitudes, and the recent history of the Jewish community in Brașov.

Before the commemorative event and after its completion, students from the Faculty of Sociology and Communication participated in sessions presenting the results of the activities of scanning and 3D reproduction of objects significant for the contemporary local history of Jews. These activities, carried out by the team of the project partner SPARK (Poland), demonstrated how digital tools can contribute to the preservation of memory and the transmission of difficult heritage to younger generations.

Following each event, all participants were promptly provided with essential project data and a link to access the EUSurvey platform.

Social media communication about the Commemoration Event in Romania:

Instagram SURVIVE

Facebook SURVIVE

Facebook Muzeul Casa Muresenilor Brasov

Website articles:

https://survive-cerv.eu/remembering-the-jews-of-transylvania-the-survive-project-in-brasov/

https://socio.unitbv.ro/ro/stiri-si-evenimente/803-eveniment-cerv-survive-la-brasov.html

https://socio.unitbv.ro/en/news-and-events/804-cerv-survive-event-in-brasov.html

Publication of the EDS:

https://you-net.eu/eu_project_history/prova/

https://survive-cerv.eu/what-we-do/

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

Brașov, November 21, 2025

COMMEMORATION DAY: THE SUFFERINGS OF JEWS OF TRANSYLVANIA DURING WORLD WAR II

10:00 a.m.:
The Jews of Brașov

Commemorative moment at the ”Beith Israel” Synagogue, followed by a walking tour of the Old Center

source: https://www.holocaustmuseum.ro/

source: Manațe, C., Fiul, S., Oprea, V.: *Comunitatea evreilor din Brașov. Secolele XIX-XX*

2:30 p.m.:
The Jews of Transylvania during World War II

Panel discussion hosted by the Mureșenilor House Museum

Funded by the European Union

Transilvania University of Brasov