

VICTIMS. PERPETRATORS. DATA.

Entity, Identity, and Documentation in Holocaust Research and Remembrance

Former Synagogue St. Pölten, Austria | 28—30 September 2026

This transnational seminar is dedicated to the methodological and ethical reorientation of Holocaust research in the digital age. The central question is how the historical identities of victims, perpetrators and those persecuted can be translated from fragmented archives and scattered data silos into precise digital entities. Using innovative techniques such as automated text recognition (HTR), spatial analysis (GIS) and data science methods, researchers will discuss the technical tools and, at the same time, their ethical limits. The programme combines practical insights into working with large databases of personal and documentary records with fundamental reflections on data protection, the protection of individual dignity and the responsibility of a victim-centred culture of remembrance.

**We would like to thank EHRI for its financial support, which made this event possible,
and the Former Synagogue St. Pölten for providing the venue.**

Organisation

EHRI-AT

Benjamin GRILJ, Sabine HÖDL (Institute for Jewish History in Austria/Injoest)

Susanne BETZ, Peter STADLBAUER (National Fund of the Republic of Austria for Victims of National Socialism)

Wolfgang SCHELLENBACHER (Documentation Centre of Austrian Resistance/DÖW)

EHRI-DE

Johannes MEERWALD (EHRI-DE/Zentrum für Holocaust-Studien/Institut für Zeitgeschichte München)

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MONDAY	28 SEPTEMBER 2026	MODULE 1	Transeuropean Entities – Names, Places, and Biographies		
TIME	NAME	INSTITUTION	TITLE	TYPE	
9:30-9:40	Philipp LENHARD Organisationsteam	Injoest EHRI-AT & EHRI-DE	Welcome	Opening	
9:40-10:35	Rachel PISTOL	EHRI UK	Transeuropean Entities and Identities - A Case Study of the Central British Fund Archive	Keynote	
10:35-11:00	<i>Coffeefbreak</i>			<i>Break</i>	
11:00-11:50	Alexander WELLÄUSER Sonja NILSON	Arolsen Archives	From Documents to Persons: Building a Person-Centric Database at the Arolsen Archives	Lab	
11:50-12:10	Barnabas BALINT	University of Oxford & Vienna Wiesenthal Institute	Mapping Lives and State Power: GIS and the Spatial Reconstruction of Late-War Hungary	Poster	
12:15-13:30	<i>Lunchbreak</i>			<i>Break</i>	
13:30-14:20	Peter HINTERNDORFER Maria Bianca D'ANNA	Historical Archaeology Research Group/Institute for Archaeologies, University of Innsbruck	Filling Gaps in Prisoners' Biographies through Archaeology. Prisoner Tags from the Mauthausen Concentration Camp as Forensic Evidence and Historical Source	Lab	
14:20-14:50	<i>Coffeefbreak</i>			<i>Break</i>	
14:50-15:40	Johannes MEERWALD Max STRNAD Miriam REICHLMAIER Lara THEOBALT	EHRI-DE	Towards a linked Memory? Matching, Connecting and Identifying Holocaust Victim Data	Lab	
15:40-16:00	Alexander PRENNINGER	Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital History (LBIDH)	Challenges of Doing Digital Oral History	Poster	
16:00-17:00	Martha KEIL	Former Synagogue St. Pölten/Injoest	The Former Synagogue of St. Pölten	Guided Tour	
18:30	<i>Dinner at Gasthof Graf</i>			<i>Dinner</i>	

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TUESDAY	29 SEPTEMBER 2026	MODULE 2	Legal Frameworks and Ethical Responsibility	
TIME	NAME	INSTITUTION	TITLE	TYPE
9:30-10:30	Florian SCHWANNINGER Peter EIGELBERGER	Memorial Site Hartheim Castle - Place for Learning and Remembrance	Unnamed Victims? Memorial Work between Research, Remembrance and Privacy	Keynote
10:30-11:00			<i>Coffeebreak</i>	<i>Break</i>
11:00-11:50	Jiajing LUO	University of Haifa	Whose Privacy, Whose Memory? Ethical Gaps in Digitizing Non-European Holocaust-Related Personal Records	Lab
11:50-12:10	Jackie OLSON	Stanford University & Vienna Wiesenthal Institute	The Case for Mixed Digital Methods: the Non-Semantic Text in Holocaust Survivor Interviews	Poster
12:15-13:30			<i>Lunchbreak</i>	<i>Break</i>
13:30-15:30	René BIENERT Kim DRESEL Svenja HEINZE Maximilian KALUS	Mauthausen Memorial & Arolsen Archives	Documenting Perpetrators: Linking Data on Concentration Camp Personnel	Workshop
15:30-16:00			<i>Coffeebreak</i>	<i>Break</i>
16:00-16:50	Anne KLAMMT	Hannah Arendt Institute for Totalitarianism Studies, Dresden	The Cataloguing of the NSDAP-Newspaper "Der Freiheitskampf" as a Source for the History of National Socialism in Saxony	Lab
17:00-19:00	Christoph LIND	Injoest	The Jewish Cemeteries of St. Pölten	Field Trip

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WEDNESDAY	30 SEPTEMBER 2026	MODULE 3	Documentation, Archives, and AI Technologies (HTR & LLM)		
TIME	NAME	INSTITUTION	TITLE	TYPE	
9:30-10:20	Pablo TOUSSAINT	Global Authentic Memory Initiative, Munich	Historical Records in the Age of Generative AI: Towards an Open Standard for Verifiable Authenticity	Lab	
10:20-10:50			<i>Coffeebreak</i>	<i>Break</i>	
10:50-11:40	Stefan LEICHT	Center for Holocaust Studies/Leibniz Institute for Contemporary History (IfZ), Munich	Holocaust Diaries and the Ethics of Data Visualisation	Lab	
11:40-12:00	Ina MARKOVA	Institute of Culture Studies (IKW)/Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna	Vienna's Forced Laborers: Data Science Analysis of Health Insurance Records of Civilian Nazi Forced Laborers	Poster	
12:00-13:30			<i>Lunchbreak</i>	<i>Break</i>	
13:30-15:30	Daniel EDELSON	Archives of the Jewish People, Jerusalem	UROSaurus: Building an AI-Driven Metadata Extraction Pipeline for the URO Holocaust Restitution Archive	Workshop	
15:30-16:00			<i>Coffeebreak</i>	<i>Break</i>	
16:00-16:50	Lizzy JONGMA Anne UHRLANDT	The Jewish Digital Cultural Recovery Project Foundation (JDCRP), Berlin	Creating a Digital Platform for Documentation of the Nazi Plundering of Cultural Objects: Challenges and Opportunities of the Use of AI	Lab	