

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

UNDERSTANDING EUROPE FELLOWSHIP 2026 II

Decisions under Pressure: Holocaust remembrance, antisemitism, antigypsyism and civil courage

Before the Second World War, around 10,000 Jews lived in Sarajevo. Under the Ustaša regime, a large part of the Jewish population of Bosnia and Herzegovina was deported and murdered, and Roma were subjected to systematic persecution and extermination. In France, state institutions of the Vichy regime took part in the persecution of Jews, while Roma and people persecuted as “nomades” were interned. Antisemitism and antigypsyism have not disappeared. Antisemitic incidents are rising in several European countries, Roma continue to face discrimination and social exclusion in many forms, and in Bosnia and Herzegovina structural disadvantages for Jewish, Roma and other minority communities persist to this day.

At the same time, historical knowledge alone does not sustain democratic values or social participation. Young people need spaces where they can connect historical experience with present-day challenges, and where responsibility, solidarity and civil courage become questions about their own actions rather than abstract ideals. Transnational formats make this possible in a particular way: they bring different cultures of remembrance into dialogue and open up shared European perspectives on confronting exclusion and discrimination.

How do people behave when others are excluded? What room for action did individuals have then, and what room do we have now? How can remembrance education speak to young people who are confronted with antisemitism and anti-Roma racism in their own schools, feeds and neighbourhoods?

We are looking for an educator who wants to answer these questions in practice. If you want to design learning spaces where young people examine historical persecution, recognise its continuities in the present, and work out what civil courage can mean for them, this call is for you.

Apply to become a **2026** Fellow and help shape how the next generation learns from this history.

Funded by the German Foreign Office, the [Schwarzkopf-Foundation](#) awards one fellowship for **October-December 2026** as part of the educational network [Understanding Europe](#).

What is the aim of the fellowship 2026 II?

The aim of the fellowship is to support a young European educator in developing a new educational module on Holocaust remembrance, antisemitism, antigypsyism and civil courage. The module is designed for students aged 14 and older and should be accessible, diversity-oriented and responsive to the interests and lived experiences of young people. It will be used in both formal and non-formal educational settings.

The fellowship is unusual in that the module grows out of direct encounter rather than desk research alone. The Fellow works alongside mentors, experts and the project team, and draws on two international project formats: an international study trip to Sarajevo, with encounters with representatives of the Jewish community and a Roma self-organisation, visits to sites of remembrance, and workshops bringing together young people from Bosnia and Herzegovina, France and Germany; and a youth conference in Orléans following the model of the European Youth Parliament, where a thematic committee works on Holocaust remembrance, resistance, the genocide of Roma and Sinti, and present-day antisemitism and antigypsyism, and adopts concrete recommendations in a resolution.

The insights from both formats feed directly into the module, which is then piloted, revised on the basis of feedback, and published in English, French and German, with a short version in Bosnian. Alongside the module, the Fellow develops a facilitation guide, background materials and interactive peer education methods.

For the Fellow, the programme offers an opportunity to professionalise their commitment and their educational practice, to work with experts and communities across three countries, and to produce a resource that will be used across the network well beyond the project.

Who can apply?

- You are between 18 and 27 years old
- You have substantial experience in peer-to-peer education and civic education
- You have first experiences in developing educational content for young people
- You have expertise and interest in one of the three topics mentioned above in order to bring your passion and knowledge to the Fellowship programme
- You are willing to design new workshop materials in a diversity-oriented way and based on the needs of the network
- You speak, write and read English at least at B2-level
- First hands-on experience in the usage of audio-visual media and digital tools is a plus

What are the conditions that the fellowship offers?

- Your fellowship is compatible with your vocational training/apprenticeship, studies or work (approximated 60- 70 hours per month)
- All travel, accommodation and food costs for in-person events are covered.
- You are provided with collaborative software for innovative educational material development.
- You receive a financial support of **3.000,00 euros** for the work during three months, (October-December), so **1.000 euro/month**.

What are your personal outcomes?

- You will strengthen your skills in developing educational materials and formats
- You'll receive support through pedagogical training, coaching, and mentoring, along with input from network members to help identify and address the network's needs.
- You gain hands-on experience by testing your formats in different learning settings.
- You get the opportunity to publish your work as an Open Educational Resource.

What are your obligations as a fellow?¹

- You are required to develop a new peer-to-peer workshop (~90mins) for the educational network Understanding Europe.
- You are committed to approximately 60-70 hours of work on the fellowship per month between October and December 2026
- You will have to test your workshop at schools or in non-formal learning settings and with the network. Afterwards a re-evaluation will take place (approx. 10 hours).
- You are required to build your workshops on the reports of two events:
 - International Study Trip to Sarajevo (in the first half of November)
 - Youth Conference in Orléans, France (organised by the European Youth Parliament, EYP)
- You are in regular contact with the project manager, and you receive counselling by mentors.
- You produce monthly short videos or social media posts (including 3-5 interviews with selected experts and civil society) about your fellowship and your focus topic for the communication channels of the Schwarzkopf Foundation.
- You will support the publishing process of your educational material in English in November/December.
-

¹ If for any reason, whether personal or professional, your continuity in the project is affected, it is expected that the compensation for work not performed or completed ahead of schedule will be refunded.

Voices from fellows

Have an insight and read personal statements of fellows from the previous cycles and get an impression about their motivation and work – click here: [2025](#) and [2023](#)

How do I apply?

Please apply **until October 25th, 2026 (23:59 CET)**, using this [online form](#) and attaching the following documents:

- A sketch that introduces your ideas for a workshop centring on the outlined topic. Please write approx. half a page or make a 3-4min video statement. You can find a current overview of our materials and some inspiration [here](#).
- Curriculum Vitae/Resume and proof of experience related to the abovementioned topics and/or educational work (e.g. certificates, letter of reference, your own educational material, social media links)

We welcome applications from all interested persons, regardless of their origin, religious affiliation, sexual identity or disability. As a positive measure against socially existing disadvantages (§5 Allgemeines Gleichbehandlungsgesetz), we particularly welcome applications from Black people, people of colour, people with experience of racism or antisemitism and/or applicants with a history of flight or family migration.

We are deeply committed to fostering diversity and inclusion within our fellowship cohorts. We endeavour to assemble groups that reflect the multifaceted realities of European society, ensuring that our materials and methodologies are informed by a broad spectrum of perspectives. By embracing this diversity, we aim to cultivate a collaborative and inclusive environment where every voice is valued and heard.

After reviewing all the applications, we will get back to the applicants with a decision by the end of October.

If you have any further questions regarding the fellowship, application process, accessibility, diversity and inclusion, please do not hesitate to contact Nora Korte – Project Manager Understanding Europe (n.korte@schwarzkopf-stiftung.de).

We look forward to getting to know you!

The Understanding Europe fellowship 2026 II is funded by: The German Foreign Office.