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A black and white portrait of Éric de Rothschild, a middle-aged man with light-colored hair, smiling and wearing a dark suit and tie. He is standing with his arms crossed. The background is a solid, dark color.

Editorial

Éric de Rothschild
President, Shoah Memorial

Dear friends,

We are delighted to present to you our institution's main events and highlights from 2025.

2025 marked the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp. As the last witnesses inevitably fade away, our mission takes on unprecedented urgency. This activity report chronicles a year of collective action, a testament to our unwavering commitment to making the past relevant to the present.

This year, our institution reached new milestones: over the course of the year, the Shoah Memorial in Paris welcomed 346,000 people, a remarkable 17% increase in visitorship. Across France, 554,000 people took part in our activities. This momentum also extended online, with over 1.2 million page views on our websites and a community growing steadily on our social media channels.

Our cultural programming successfully brought together a broad, intergenerational audience around key topics: 150,000 people visited major exhibitions dedicated to previously unreleased recordings by Claude Lanzmann and to the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire.

The exhibition dedicated to *Les Immortels* (The Immortals) deeply moved 91,696 visitors. This adaptation of the series created by Éric Toledano and Olivier Nakache and available on the Shoah Memorial's YouTube channel features conversations between Holocaust survivors and young adults.

With a focus on the younger generation and the passing on of the history of the Holocaust, the January 27th ceremony brought together school choirs on our forecourt for a deeply moving moment.

Educating about and preserving the memory of the Holocaust remain our main priorities. In the face of the instrumentalization and distortion of history, education remains our best tool. We worked with 184,300 schoolchildren in 2025. Nearly 10,000 professionals received training, most of whom were primary and secondary school teachers.

Since collective memory relies on evidence, our collections have been enriched with 203,151 new archival documents, ensuring the preservation of these records for researchers and future generations.

Sadly, 2025 reminded us that our fight remains deeply relevant. During the night of May 30th–31st, green paint was splashed across the walls of the Memorial. This unconscionable act only strengthens our determination to dismantle hatred at its root and to stay the course in the face of adversity.

To continue and expand our educational mission, we look toward the future. On September 17th, we laid the foundation stone for the future Shoah Memorial museum in Nice. This milestone is proof of our determination to broaden our regional reach, enabling us to continue educating and passing on knowledge.

I invite you to discover the extent of our work as you go through these pages.

Thank you to our partner institutions, our patrons, our donors, and all of you who make our mission possible every day.

2025

in numbers

10,654

people attended

128

events held at
the Edmond J. Safra Auditorium
(compared to 9,663 participants
in 2024)

9,990

professionals received training
(compared to 10,084 in 2024),

including

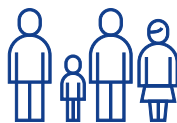
6,350

teachers across France
(compared to 6,784 in 2024)

3,640

individuals from diverse backgrounds
(compared to 3,300 in 2024)

Visitorship



554,000

people took part in an activity
organized by the Memorial
in France,



including

184,300

schoolchildren



376,500

people visited our
temporary exhibitions
in Paris and Drancy

107,795

people visited traveling
exhibitions in France



Around

35,000

people took part in an off-site
educational activity organized
by the Memorial outside Paris

4,812

groups took part in an activity
organized by the Memorial,

including

2,701

in Paris

754

in Drancy

and

1,202

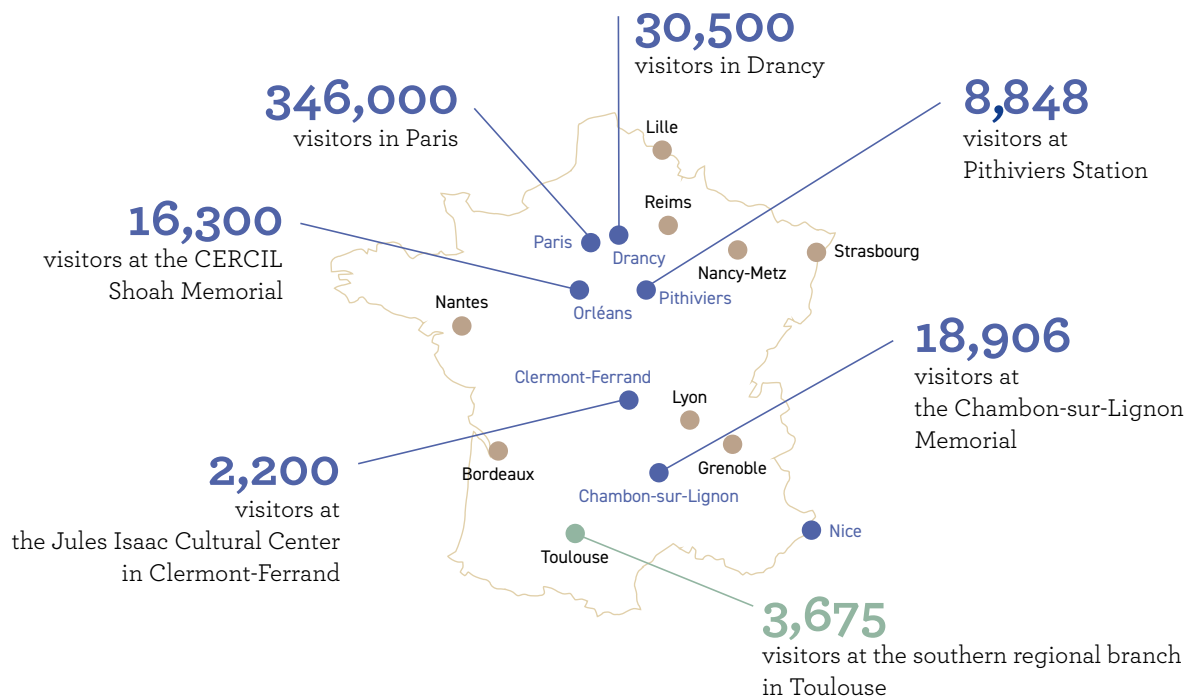
outside Paris



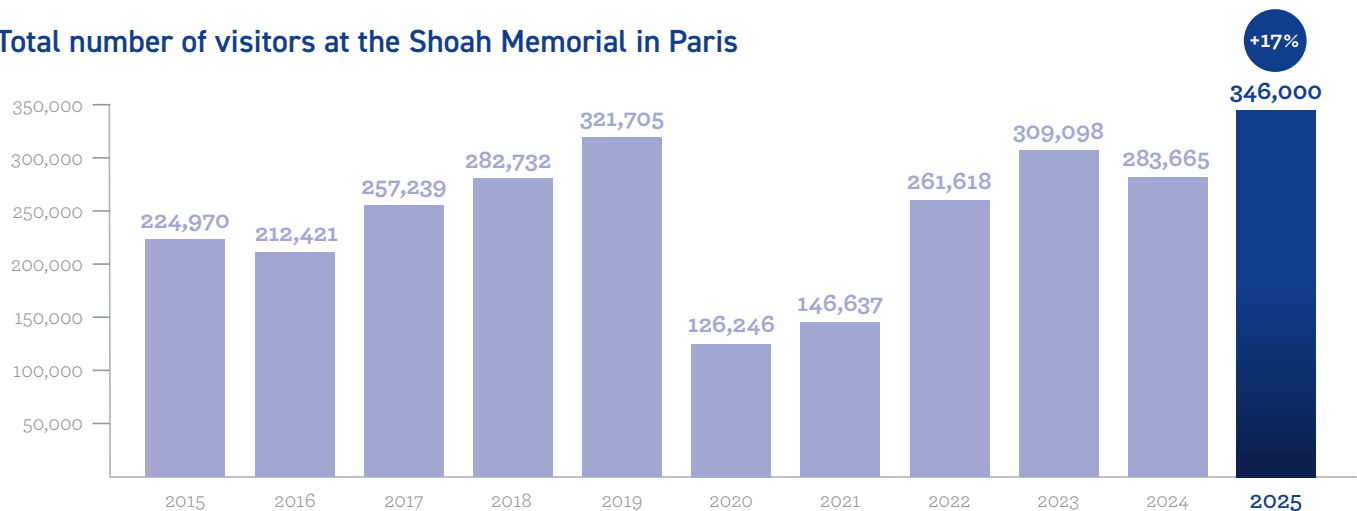
5,294

people
in the reading room
(compared to 4,919
in 2024)

Visitors



Total number of visitors at the Shoah Memorial in Paris



Activities



185

training sessions
for teachers,

including

174

for primary and secondary
education



33

training sessions
abroad for

1,920

teachers

representing **32** European
countries, both in person
and online



School workshop
© Florence Brochoire / Shoah Memorial

10

exhibitions
were created by the team
at the Shoah Memorial



128

events at the
Edmond J. Safra
auditorium

180

venues hosted traveling
exhibitions in France

13

major
commemorations
were organized

38

study and remembrance trips, primarily to
Auschwitz-Birkenau, from Paris and beyond,

for a total of

4,989

participants

(individuals, school groups, teachers)



1,299

off-site workshops were
conducted in schools
outside Paris

Acquisitions for the archives

203,151
documents

4,190
written works

89
posters



© Shoah Memorial / coll.
Sylvie Dittmann

95
objects

51
graphic works



177
cinema documents

784
movies or documentaries

135
audio archives



10,611
photographs

532
external and internal
projects used
photographs from the
Memorial's collection

Visibility



3,094
pieces of
media coverage

including
771
in print media

886
on radio

410
on television

1,027
online



65
shoots

63
newsletters
sent throughout
the year (both
educational and
general)



Across sites:

920,788

sessions
(interactions between a
site or an application and
a visitor having loaded at
least one page)
and

1,296,635
page views



46,505
followers
on Facebook



53,925
subscribers
on YouTube



40,468
followers
on Instagram



8,924
followers
on LinkedIn



14,621
followers on X



20,833
followers
on TikTok





2025 highlights

January 27th, 2025, school choir concert
in the forecourt of the Memorial
© Shoah Memorial

2025 highlights



January 27th, 2025

80th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp

The 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp was commemorated on January 27th, 2025, as part of the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, with numerous commemorative events organized throughout January in Paris, Drancy, and at all the Memorial's sites.

Bringing together remembrance institutions, state officials, cultural figures, teachers, and students, these events combined official ceremonies, exhibitions, film screenings, special broadcasts, and educational activities focused on passing on the memory of the Holocaust.

A highlight was the ceremony on January 27th, 2025, which took place in two parts: first, a ceremony attended

by the President of the Republic, Emmanuel Macron; then a ceremony centered around youth and the transmission of memory, attended by Éric de Rothschild, President of the Shoah Memorial, Élisabeth Borne, Minister of State and Minister of National Education, Higher Education and Research; and actor Jacques Weber, who read a letter by Hersz-Hermann Strasfogel.



January 27th, 2025,
school choir concert in the forecourt of the Memorial
© Shoah Memorial



January 26th, 2025,
screening of *Les Immortels* at the Concorde Theatre
© Shoah Memorial

January 27th, 2025,
opening of the Ambassadors of Memory gathering at the National Assembly
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial



January 22nd, 2025, inauguration of the exhibition
dedicated to the Auschwitz photo album
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial



January 30th, 2025, event at the Sorbonne with the Paris V
© Laurent Bagnis / Shoah Memorial



January 27th, 2025,
ceremony marking the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial

Ten songs chosen by Holocaust survivors were performed during this ceremony. These melodies evoked memories of their deportation: from Jean Ferrat's *Nuit et Brouillard* (Night and Fog), selected by Esther Senot, to *Chant du soir* (Evening Song) chosen by Yvette Lévy, *Le Chant des marais* (The Peat Bog Soldiers) chosen by Ginette Kolinka, and, finally, *C'est beau la vie* (Life Is Beautiful), which had been selected by the late Victor Perahia. For the first time, the ceremony was broadcast live across all our social media channels, reaching thousands of online viewers.

At the Drancy Shoah Memorial, the day began with the arrival of several school groups, guided tours of the site, and educational workshops. Held in front of the memorial railway carriage, the commemorative ceremony brought together five groups of 5th-grade and 11th-grade students along with numerous memorial associations, elected officials and local residents.

The ceremony also featured addresses by Prefect Isabelle Pantèbre and First Deputy Mayor of Drancy Anthony Mangin, as well as a personal account from Lisette Jovignot, a survivor of the Vel' d'Hiv roundup. The day concluded with a visit by H.E. Joshua L. Zarka and H.E. Stephan Steinlein, the Ambassadors of Israel and Germany to France respectively.

To mark the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the camps, **Philippe Collin hosted a special live broadcast on France Inter radio titled "The Last Witnesses" from the Shoah Memorial auditorium.**

Beginning with an interview with Shoah Memorial Director Jacques Fredj, Collin was joined by other historians and witnesses as he retraced the history of the camps' liberation, the conditions surrounding the return of deportees, and the challenges of passing this memory on to future generations. A moment for reflection and solemn remembrance, so we never forget.



January 27th, 2025,
ceremony at the Memorial in the forecourt
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial



January 27th, 2025, Éric Toledano and Olivier Nakache,
directors of the series *Les Immortels* (The Immortals),
created for the Shoah Memorial to mark the 80th anniversary
of the discovery of the camps
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial



Tribute to Robert Badinter

The Shoah Memorial paid tribute to Robert Badinter on February 9th, the anniversary of his passing, by highlighting a lesser-known facet of his work: his plays.

"I have always had a passion for the theater. After the war, I discovered its spellbinding power from the third balcony, where students would perch. Alongside classic masterpieces performed by renowned actors, each season brought new plays by those then known as the existentialists – Sartre, Camus, Beauvoir – as well as by less politically engaged authors such as Anouilh, Aymé, Ionesco, Montherlant, and many others. My youth has slipped away, but my passion for theater remains. Such a passion was bound to bear fruit."

— Robert Badinter

Featuring actor and director Charles Berling, actress Bérangère Warluzel, and pianist François Weigel.



Act of vandalism using green paint

Overnight, from May 30th to 31st, 2025, green paint was splashed across the walls of the Memorial as well as on several synagogues and a Jewish restaurant in the Marais district.

An investigation has been opened by the Paris public prosecutor's office.

A year marked by official visits in Paris and Drancy

- Nicolas PENIN, Grand Master of the Grand Orient de France
- Mathilde GOLLETY, Rector of the Dijon Academy
- Charles KUSHNER, Ambassador of the United States of America
- Julien CHARLES, Prefect of Seine-Saint-Denis
- Magali DAVERTON, Sub-Prefect of Le Raincy
- Mathias OTT, Interministerial Delegate for Combating Racism, Antisemitism and Anti-LGBT+ Hatred
- Magnus BRUNNER, European Commissioner for Home Affairs and Migration



Official visit of Charles Kushner, Ambassador of the United States of America
© Shoah Memorial



From right to left: Patrick Amoussou-Adéblé, Secretary General of the Alpes-Maritimes Prefecture; Nice Mayor Christian Estrosi; FFDJF President Serge Klarsfeld; Éric de Rothschild; and Jacques Fredj
© Fabien Lacroix / Shoah Memorial

Groundbreaking ceremony for the future Shoah Memorial museum in Nice

On September 17th, an event was held at Villa Masséna, in partnership with the City of Nice, to mark the groundbreaking ceremony for the future Shoah Memorial museum in Nice.



The ceremony at Villa Masséna
© Fabien Lacroix / Shoah Memorial



Fundraising dinner

The Shoah Memorial held its annual fundraising dinner on Thursday, October 16th, in the reception hall of Paris City Hall, in support of its initiatives to foster civic education among younger generations and provide training for teachers.

2025

Temporary Exhibitions



Exhibition poster
Shoah Memorial

Scientific committee:

Dr Tamar Lewinsky

French adaptation:

Sophie Nagiscarde, Head of Cultural Activities, artist and filmmaker Natacha Nisic, and Clara Lainé, Assistant for the Cultural Activities Department

Programming around the exhibition:

Julie Maeck, Pauline Dubuisson.

An exhibition organized by the Jewish Museum Berlin.

From December 11th, 2025, to March 29th, 2026.

Claude Lanzmann: the Unreleased Recordings

December 11th, 2025 – March 29th, 2026

In the spring of 1985, Claude Lanzmann (1925–2018) premiered his monumental film *Shoah* in Paris. Spanning over nine hours, this work was the result of 11 years of preparation, research, filming, and editing, during which Lanzmann increasingly honed in on his film's central theme: the Final Solution, the systematic extermination of Jews in Europe.

Presented for the first time and simultaneously in Paris and Berlin, the recordings featured in the exhibition date from the years prior to filming. They document interviews conducted by Claude Lanzmann and his assistants with perpetrators, victims, and witnesses during their research trips.

Donated to the Jewish Museum Berlin by the Claude and Félix Lanzmann Association, these recordings total over 220 hours, excerpts of which were presented in the exhibition. Alongside *Shoah* itself, they were added to the UNESCO Memory of the World Register in 2023. They contain accounts from witnesses whom Claude Lanzmann did not include in the final film or was unable to film. Among them are survivors from various ghettos and camps, including the poet Avrom Suskever, Erich Kulka (Auschwitz), and Ilana Safran (Sobibor) as well as rescuers like Friedrich Graebe, and former officials and perpetrators involved in the Final Solution.

These recordings seem especially relevant today, at a time marked by a profound shift: the end of the era of firsthand testimony.

The witnesses who spoke in the film did so like figures returning from the dead.



The exhibition
“Claude Lanzmann:
the Unreleased Recordings”
attracted

150,000
visitors



220
hours'
worth of recordings





« Birkenau 1944. Pour écouter la BBC après minuit,
par une brute emmené sans savoir mon sort »,
(Birkenau 1944. To listen to the BBC after midnight,
taken away by a brute, not knowing my fate)

1949 Crayon, Pencil, 33.3x24.5cm

Shoah Memorial Collection

Exhibition coordination:

Élise Petitpez, Exhibition Designer, Sophie Nagiscarde,
Head of Cultural Activities, Shoah Memorial.

David Olère Drawings

Starting January 23rd, 2025

Between 1943 and 1945, several hundred Jewish prisoners registered at the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp were assigned to operate the extermination machinery installed at Birkenau. These men were members of the *Sonderkommando*. Working within the gas chambers and crematoria, they witnessed the most concealed aspects of the mass extermination.

Among the *Sonderkommando* survivors was the artist **David Olère**.

Upon his return to France in 1945, he created **fifty drawings that meticulously depicted his own experience of having been deported** as well as the entire process of Jewish extermination in the gas chambers and crematoria, and the horrific scenes he had witnessed.

His works reveal that, even under such atrocious conditions, many members of the *Sonderkommando* managed to retain their humanity.

The exhibition
“David Olère Drawings”
attracted
75,850
visitors



*“I promise to be
the memory of your
memory”*

Exhibition poster

© Ten & Siècle Productions

Graphic design:
Madame Bovary

Texts:

Clara Lainé and Jacques-Olivier David

Exhibition coordination:

Clara Lainé

Graphic design:
Estelle Martin

The Immortals

The exhibition
“The Immortals”
attracted

91,696
visitors

The Immortals

January 23rd – November 30th, 2025

To mark the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the camps, **the Shoah Memorial paid tribute to the last survivors** through a series of five original videos created by Éric Toledano and Olivier Nakache. Each film featured a conversation between young people and survivors.

Through these interactions, Larissa Cain, Judith Elkán, Ginette Kolinka, Yvette Lévy, and Léon Placek shared their experiences with antisemitic persecution and deportation.

These conversations with young people served as an intimate and vivid act of transmission of their history.

Alongside these videos, visitors were invited to explore the rich and vital personal archives of the last witnesses of the Holocaust. The exhibition examined the evolution of memory and the needed transmission of this tragedy to younger generations.



Exhibition poster

© Laurent Bagnis / Shoah Memorial

Scientific committee:

Tal Bruttman, historien, with Christoph Kreutzmüller.

Exhibition design and coordination:

Sophie Nagiscarde, Natacha Nisic.

Scenography:

RF Studio, Ramy Fischler, Nicolas Tsan.

How the Nazis Photographed Their Crimes: Auschwitz 1944

January 23rd – November 16th, 2025

The exhibition offered new insights into the primary photographic records documenting the process that led to the mass slaughter at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Commonly known as the Auschwitz Album, this photo album was created by the SS to demonstrate to Nazi dignitaries their total command of the extermination operations at the site. It contains some of the most emblematic images of the Holocaust. Known since the early 1950s, these photographs served as evidence during the trials of individuals responsible for the Final Solution.

Since the discovery of the complete album in the 1980s and thanks to recent research by historian Tal Bruttman, the exhibition's academic curator, a new interpretation has emerged.

We were challenged to detect elements within the photographs that the creators had intended to conceal as well as details of which we had previously been unaware. This deep dive into the images revealed the colossal undertaking required to implement the extermination of Jews at Auschwitz-Birkenau. Clues within the photos

allowed us to understand the organization of deportations and the “selection” process; to perceive the violence and its accompanying sounds, as well as the perpetrators’ cynicism; to identify flaws in the supposedly secret implementation process; and, finally, to recognize the victims’ resistance, an aspect often denied. Eighty years after the Red Army discovered the camp on January 27th, 1945, **the Auschwitz Album bears witness to the operations of the Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination center** at its peak: the summer of 1944 and the deportation of Hungary’s Jews.



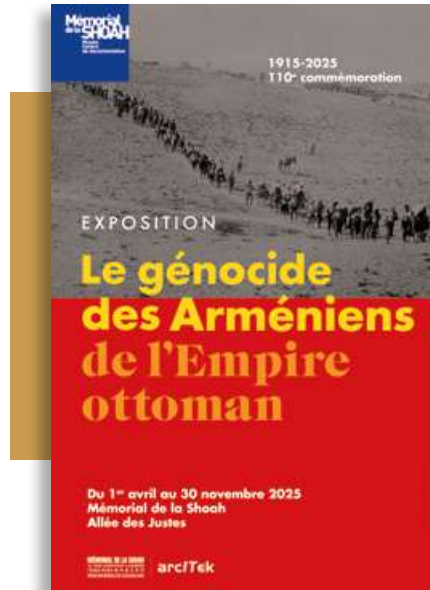
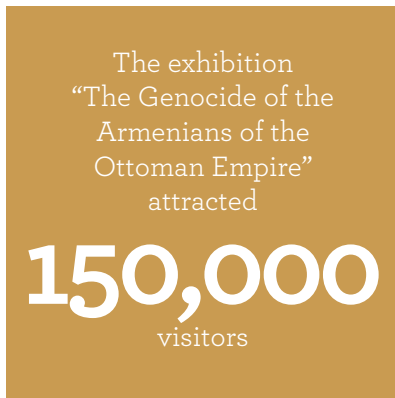
Over
200
 photos analyzed in detail

The exhibition
 “How the Nazis
 Photographed Their Crimes:
 Auschwitz 1944”
 attracted

75,850
 visitors



Photos from the exhibitions © Laurent Bagnis / Shoah Memorial



Exhibition poster
Shoah Memorial

Committee:

Claire Mouradian, Emeritus Research Director, CNRS; Raymond Kévorkian, Emeritus Research Director, The French School of Geopolitics, Paris 8 University; and Yves Ternon, historian, President of the International Scientific Council for the Study of the Armenian Genocide.

The Genocide of the Armenians of the Ottoman Empire

From April to November 2025
Allée des Justes

With this exhibition, the Shoah Memorial marked the **110th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide**, which remains subject to denial even though it stands as a precursor to the mass violence and crimes of the 20th century. In the context of the First World War, the dictatorial, ultra-nationalist regime of the Committee of Union and Progress, then leading the

Ottoman Empire, carried out the systematic, planned destruction of its Armenian citizens: the arrest and execution of prominent figures in the capital and major cities; the massacre of adult men and conscripts; the deportation of the entire civilian population to the deserts of Syria and Mesopotamia; and the elimination of survivors of these death marches in concentration camps.

Between April 1915 and December 1916, approximately **1.2 million Armenians were murdered**. Barred from returning by the Turkish Republic under Mustafa Kemal, the survivors and their descendants now form a global diaspora, concentrated primarily in Russia, the United States, the Middle East, and France.



Exhibition poster
Shoah Memorial

Event coordination, exhibition committee:

Marie Deparis-Yaflit and Claire Atherton,
in collaboration with the CINEMATEK,
the Chantal Akerman Foundation and
the Marian Goodman Gallery, Carole Billy

Programming at the auditorium:

Pauline Dubuisson, assisted by Célest Espinasse

The exhibition
“An Entire Night
with Chantal Akerman”
attracted

18,236
visitors

Nuit Blanche An Entire Night with Chantal Akerman

Saturday, June 7th, 2025

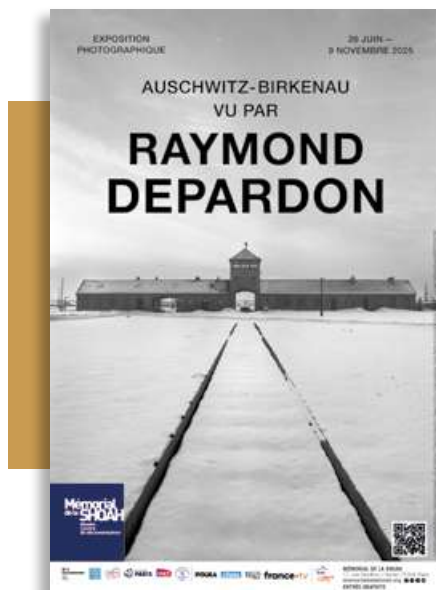
from 7pm to 2am

Exhibition from June 8th to 29th

For this exceptional **Nuit Blanche** (an annual late-night-at-the-museum event across France), the Shoah Memorial had the pleasure of revisiting the work of **Chantal Akerman**. We chose to explore various aspects of her multifaceted, groundbreaking career, which left a lasting mark on the history of contemporary art and cinema.

In the crypt, visitors were able to immerse themselves in the sound of the piece *Walking Next to One's Shoelaces in an Empty Fridge*, which resonated with the filmmaker's voice, and to view a rare notebook that had belonged to Akerman's grandmother, written in Polish, offering a glimpse into the heart of her inspiration and body of work.

On the mezzanine, a series of photographs from the film *D'Est* (1993) evoked the faces and landscapes of Eastern Europe. The evening began in the auditorium with a documentary screening and included surprise performances highlighting the singing, dancing, and Jewish humor found in Chantal Akerman's films.



Exhibition poster
Shoah Memorial

Coordination:
Sophie Nagiscarde, Clara Lainé
Assisted by Andrea Pechin,
Shoah Memorial
Scenography:
Studio Adrien Gardere.

The exhibition
“Auschwitz-Birkenau as Seen
by Raymond Depardon”
attracted

30,121
visitors

Auschwitz-Birkenau as Seen by Raymond Depardon

June 26th – November 9th, 2025

On January 27th, 1945, the Red Army discovered the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex, an area spanning over 44 hectares that included industrial zones, concentration camps, and an extermination center. There, the Nazis murdered 1.1 million people, including 1 million Jews. In 1979, the year Auschwitz-Birkenau was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, photographer and filmmaker Raymond Depardon visited the location.

He spent more than two weeks there, casting a perceptive eye upon the remains of the most relentless killing machine ever devised by man.

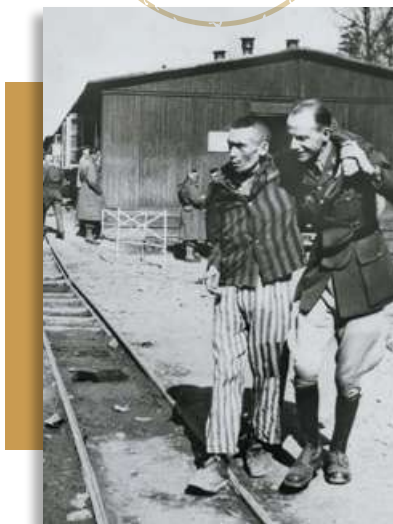
This series of black-and-white images were presented to the public for the very first time thanks to this exhibition, which also marked the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II and the Holocaust.



Exhibition photographs
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial



TEMPORARY
EXHIBITIONS
INAUGURATED
IN 2024 AND
CONTINUED
IN 2025



An American soldier helps a Nordhausen camp survivor. Germany, May 1945
Shoah Memorial Collection
© Shoah Memorial

Exhibition coordination:
Caroline François, Traveling Exhibitions
Coordinator, Shoah Memorial
Élise Arnaud, Traveling Exhibitions Logistical
Coordinator

Graphic design:
Estelle Martin

The exhibition
“From the Discovery of the
Camps to the Return
of the Deportees”
attracted

150,000
visitors

From the Discovery of the Camps to the Return of the Deportees

January 1st - April 3rd, 2025
Allée des Justes

What did the Liberation feel like for deportees? How were they brought back to France? How were they welcomed? Did we seek out the stories of those who survived? How did Europe’s Jewish communities start building back up again after the war and how did we start laying the foundations for preserving the memory of the Holocaust?

In line with the **80th anniversary of the year 1945 and the “discovery” of the camps**, this exhibition used numerous testimonies from deportees and rich iconography to explore the diversity of experiences of the Liberation by the American, British, French and Soviet armies, as well as the complex process of repatriation.

Events at the **Edmond J. Safra Auditorium**

10,654
participants

128

events

326

speakers

The 2025 program saw high attendance driven by commemorations marking the 80th anniversary of the Nuremberg trials and the liberation of the camps, featuring testimonies, screenings, and high-quality conferences. Tributes to Robert Badinter and Claude Lanzmann also drew large audiences, while the series on mass violence attracted a more diverse audience. The public confirmed its appetite for live performance and cinema, as seen with the numerous preview screenings.

An exceptional gala 2025 edition

The Shoah Memorial organized its annual concert at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées to raise part of the funds required for the institution's initiatives.

An exceptional program
delivered by:

- David Kadouch (piano)
- Raphaëlle Moreau (violin)
- David Aaron Carpenter (viola)
- Edgar Moreau (cello)
- Lorraine Campet (double bass)

They played works by Tchaikovsky, Grieg, Rachmaninov and Schubert.

Commemorations: remembrance and transmission today



January 27th, 2025

**International Day of
Commemoration in
memory of the victims of
the Holocaust**

See pages 12 to 15.

January 2025

**Numerous events were
organized during the
month of January to
mark the 80th anniversary
of the liberation of the
Auschwitz-Birkenau
camp**

See pages 12 to 15.

Monday, April 7th, 2025

**31st commemoration of
the genocide against the
Tutsi, at Parc de Choisy
(Paris 13)**

Thursday, April 15th, 2025

**Commemoration for the
82nd anniversary of the
Warsaw Ghetto Uprising**

The ceremony included prayers led by Chief Rabbi Olivier Kaufmann and an account of the ghetto uprising featuring music from the Republican Guard and Yiddish songs performed by Talila. Organized in partnership with the Remembrance Commission of the Representative Council of Jewish Institutions of France (CRIF), represented by its President Bruno Halioua.

**From Wednesday, April 23rd,
to Thursday, April 24th, 2025**

Yom HaShoah, the Reading of the Names

Guest: Holocaust survivor Léon Lewkowicz

To mark Yom HaShoah, the date chosen by the State of Israel to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust during World War II, a continuous, round-the-clock public reading took place. This year, the names of Jews deported from France on convoys 58 through 4 were read aloud. Some 200 people, including former deportees, relatives, volunteers, and children, took turns reading, from the lists in Serge Klarsfeld's *Mémorial de la déportation des Juifs de France* ("Memorial of the Deportation of the Jews of France", published by the FFDJF Association), the names of "those of whom only the name remains" (Simone Veil).

Sunday, April 27th, 2025

National Day in Remembrance of the Victims and Heroes of the Deportation

Starting in the early 1950s, former deportees and families of those lost expressed their wish for a day dedicated to the remembrance of the Deportation. Passed on April 14th, 1954, the law made the last Sunday of April a national day of celebration. An homage was first paid at the Shoah Memorial, then at the Memorial to the

Martyrs of the Deportation. The commemoration ended with the lighting of the flame at the Arc de Triomphe.

Sunday, May 18th, 2025

Tribute to those interned in and deported from the Loiret camps

Under the aegis of the Union des déportés d'Auschwitz (Union of Auschwitz Deportees) and the Shoah Memorial. In partnership with the Association des Fils et filles des Déportés Juifs de France (Association of the Sons and Daughters of the Deported Jews of France, FFDJF), the CERCIL Shoah Memorial, and the CRIF's Remembrance Committee.

Wreath-laying:

- Rue des Déportés Beaune-la-Rolande

Ceremony:

- Max Jacob Square, Pithiviers

Tuesday, May 27th, 2025

National Resistance Day

Established by the law of July 19th, 2013, National Resistance Day marks the date of the first meeting of the National Council of the Resistance, presided over by Jean Moulin in Paris on May 27th, 1943.

Sunday, June 15th, 2025

Tribute to Jewish veterans who volunteered for service

The Shoah Memorial's Committee for Jewish Volunteers and Veterans continued its activities.

It organized the annual ceremony at the Monument to Volunteers in the Bagneux Cemetery in Paris, in partnership with the National Office for Veterans and Victims of War. The ceremony paid tribute to François Szulman and featured an address by historian Géraldine Pigault.

Sunday, September 28th, 2025

Hazkarah

Guest: Filmmaker and writer Robert Bober
Commemoration dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust who have no graves. Kaddish by Chief Rabbi Olivier Kaufmann.

Sunday, December 7th, 2025

Remembering the Tunis Roundup (December 9th, 1942)

This commemoration was organized in partnership with the Society for the History of the Jews of Tunisia (SHJT).

Sunday, December 14th, 2025

Homage to those executed at Mont-Valérien

This commemoration was organized in partnership with the National Office for Veterans and Victims of War and the Association of Sons and Daughters of Jewish Deportees from France.

13

major
commemorations



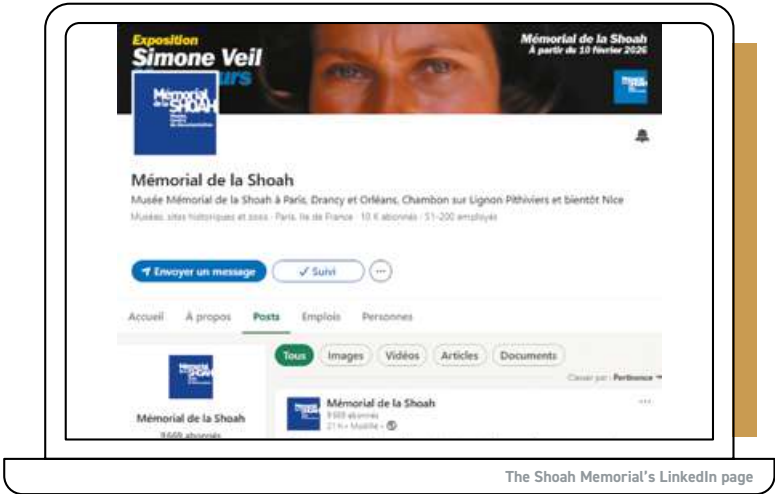
Ginette Kolinka, Rachel Jedinak, Léon Lewkowicz and Larissa Cain, Yom HaShoah, reading of names
© Frederic Laloum / Shoah Memorial



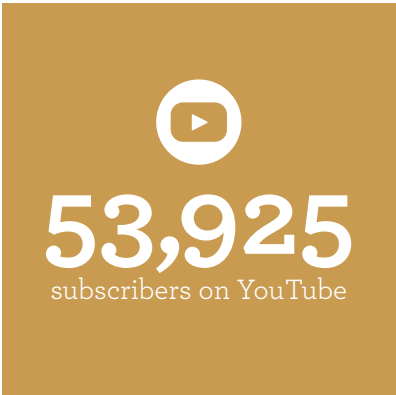
The Shoah Memorial is active on social media – Facebook, Instagram, X, TikTok and LinkedIn – where we are able **to reach various audiences, especially the young.**

This is particularly important given the slowly dwindling number of survivors and witnesses.

Our accounts attract an increasing number of followers year on year.



The Shoah Memorial's LinkedIn page







Handing down



4,812
groups

including
2,701
at the Paris Memorial

754
at the Drancy Memorial

and
1,202
Off site

For school audiences

In 2025, the Shoah Memorial ran a rich and diverse educational program for school groups ranging from primary to high school.

Students took part in guided tours, educational workshops, and meetings with historians and witnesses, as well as thematic tours designed to foster an understanding of the history of the Holocaust, antisemitism and the mechanisms of genocide.

Developed in alignment with school curricula, these activities helped raise young people's awareness regarding the **transmission of memory**, **develop their critical thinking skills** and **promote values of citizenship, tolerance and the fight against all forms of discrimination**.

Activities at the Memorial

In 2025, the Memorial welcomed **4,812 student groups ranging from 4th to 12th grades**, including:

2,701 in Paris, 754 in Drancy and 1,202 for off-site activities.

The majority of groups visiting the Paris site took part in a guided tour, allowing them to discover the history of the Holocaust through the permanent collections and memorial spaces.

For **primary school students**, **educational workshops addressed the history of the Jewish people during World War II** while raising awareness of the richness of Jewish culture and traditions. After exploring the museum spaces, students participated in artistic activities that encouraged them to process what they had learned, **express themselves personally and reflect on the subject matters**.



184,300

schoolchildren took
part in our activities
across France

School workshop

© Florence Brochoire / Shoah Memorial

For middle and high school students, the Memorial ran a wide range of educational workshops centered on key themes: individual experiences during the war, the Resistance, 20th-century genocides, history and citizenship, and art history. Drawing on archives, artworks, personal accounts and hands-on activities, these workshops enabled students to deepen their understanding of the Holocaust and the persecution involved, while also **developing their critical thinking skills**, their grasp of the mechanisms behind discrimination, propaganda and genocide, as well as their thoughts on the challenges of passing on memory.

School trips

Over the course of the year, the Shoah Memorial organized **22 study trips** to the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp and to Germany, for **2,862 middle and high school students** accompanied by **307 teachers**.

22

study trips

2,862

middle and high school
students took part

Educational programs

As part of its partnership with the City of Paris, the Shoah Memorial offered young people aged 8 to 15 a program of educational activities available during both school and extracurricular hours.

Workshops, tours, lectures, screenings, remembrance trails and traveling exhibitions were made

available free of charge to primary schools, middle schools and municipal youth centers. With the support of the Memorial's staff, education and youth activity professionals were able to design a program tailored to their specific educational projects.



School workshop

© Florence Brochoire / Shoah Memorial

For the general public



Workshop with primary school students
© Florence Brochoire / Shoah Memorial



School workshop
© Florence Brochoire / Shoah Memorial



Exhibition in Drancy
© Shoah Memorial

Workshops

Throughout the year, the Memorial ran several series of thematic workshops for adults, notably: the **“The Peddler as a Conduit” painting workshop**, which invited participants to share their family stories through objects that served as the basis for a pictorial creation; and the **“And Chanting May” choir workshop**, which explored women as its central theme for the year.

To mark the week of education and action against racism, antisemitism and anti-LGBT+ hatred, a special program allowed the public to participate in workshops such as **“Prejudice in Daily Life and History”**, **“Justice in the Face of Genocide”** and **“The Imaginary Jew: A History of Anti-Jewish Myths”**.

Citizenship course

In 2025, **one citizenship course was held in Paris** (December 2025). This course is the result of an agreement signed in 2014 with the Paris Regional Court (Tribunal de Grande Instance).

Guided tours

In Paris and Drancy, **147 guided tours** of the institution were conducted for the general public, in addition to **53 tours of temporary exhibitions**: *Night / Blue: Art After the Camps - An Exhibition of Shelomo Selinger's Work* showed in Drancy; and *An Auschwitz Album: How the Nazis Photographed Their Crimes and Auschwitz-Birkenau, as Seen by Raymond Depardon*; both exhibitions were shown in Paris.

Twenty-seven trails of remembrance allowed visitors to discover the history of Jewish life and the Holocaust through the streets of Paris, specifically in the Marais district and Belleville, as well as a tour titled “In the Footsteps of Hélène Berr”.

Study and remembrance trips for the general public

The Shoah Memorial organized **12 trips** to the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp for **1,820 members** of the general public.



A group of people, mostly women, are seated in a row of chairs in a bright, modern room with large windows. They are looking towards the right side of the frame, presumably towards a speaker or a screen. Some are holding notebooks or papers. The room has a polished floor and large windows in the background.

Training

Summer university training program, Paris
© Shoah Memorial

For teachers across France

9,990
professionals
received training

In 2025, the Shoah Memorial organized **221 training sessions for primary and secondary school teachers**, in direct partnership with the Ministry of National Education through regional training plans or formal agreements.

37 primary-level and **137 secondary-level training sessions** were organized.

6,350
teachers
including
4,749
secondary school teachers

Open days

To introduce the Shoah Memorial's educational offerings to the teaching community, two open days were held: Wednesday, October 22nd, at the Drancy Shoah Memorial, and Wednesday, October 29th, at the Paris Shoah Memorial.

Primary education

In 2025, the Memorial organized 37 training sessions for primary school teachers. A total of 1,601 primary school teachers took part in these sessions.

Secondary education

4,749 secondary school teachers took part in one of the 137 training sessions organized by the Memorial through partnerships with regional education authorities (académies) or teacher training institutes (INSPE). These training programs were available across 27 of the country's regions. Various long-format training courses are offered to teachers during school holidays (summer and autumn university programs).

Study trips for teachers

A total of **12 study trips to the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp** were organized in 2025.

For specific audiences



46
training sessions

Each year, the Memorial provides specialized training for a wide range of professions, including journalists, home care assistants, social workers, guides and activity leaders.

In 2025, **46 training** sessions were organized for 3,640 participants from diverse backgrounds: trainee municipal police officers from the City of Paris, gendarmerie officers, magistrates, students, local government staff, association executives, guides, social workers and religious leaders.

3,640
participants from diverse
backgrounds





Collecting & preserving

The archives

The year 2025 got off to an intense start with the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the camps. **Our archives were in high demand and took center stage through numerous television reports, radio programs and a special studio broadcast on the France 2 TV channel.**

These events led to a sharp increase in inquiries as well as offers to donate documents. A steady stream of projects followed, running alongside our day-to-day activities.

C for Collection

Individual acquisitions

In 2025, the archives expanded their collections through nearly **300 individual** donations from various sources: email or telephone contacts, appointments, reading room visits, off-site collection drives, auctions and private collectors. Archivists met with 95 individuals by appointment; these were supplemented by donations dropped off during photo-specific sessions and at two collection drives held in Nice and Lyon.

These acquisitions amount to approximately **147,751 pages' worth of documents** – a rough estimate, given that some very large collections are still being processed. Whether a single letter, an object, thousands of pages or digital files, every donation is considered essential for preserving the memory of the victims and deepening historical understanding.

Notable acquisitions include the **family archives of Irène Epstein-Némirovsky and Michel Epstein**, the **testimonial notebooks of Alter Fajnzylberg** and the **writings of Saul Castro**, penned during his internment at the Drancy and Compiègne camps, as well as the **Roger Masse collection**, which is rich in correspondence and administrative documents related to the deportations. Finally, the **Philippe Douroux collection** is notable for containing over 133,000 digital files resulting from research into French nationals who collaborated with the Nazis during World War II.

Acquisition of archives from institutions

The partnership with the USHMM and Yad Vashem regarding the archives of religious congregations in France continued with the Marist Brothers and the diocese in Lyon, with digitization projects still underway. This cooperative network also expanded to include Belgium through the involvement of Kazerne Dossin.

As part of efforts to improve data access and quality, several archival collections were digitized or acquired in digital format:

- **Nearly 49,600 pages from the Police Prefecture archives,**
- **979 images of deportation transport lists** held at the National Archives,
- **1,417 index cards from the Alpes-Maritimes “foreigners’ file”** concerning individuals deported as Jews during World War II.



203,151
documents



10,611
photographs



784
films or documentaries



95
objects

2025
acquisitions



89
posters



51
graphic works



135
audio archives



300
individual donations



Tailor's shears and documents belonging to Binem Dittmann who was arrested during the "Green Ticket" roundup on May 14th, 1941, interned at the Beaune-la-Rolande camp, and deported on convoy 2 on June 5th, 1942. Donation made in April 2025.

© Shoah Memorial / coll. Sylvie Dittmann

The Raphael Lemkin Center's archives have also been expanded with new documents regarding the Herero and Nama genocide and the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, including notebooks of eyewitnesses and press archives. In total, over 55,400 new document images are now available.

Furthermore, new institutional collaborations have been initiated, notably with the Luxembourg National Archives following a visit by Princess Sibilla of Luxembourg, and with the AP-HP (Public Assistance – Paris Hospitals) archives, which will make digitized registers from the Rothschild Hospital available.

Acquisition of objects

In 2025, acquiring objects remained a delicate process, as families often find it difficult to part with them. A total of **95 objects** were acquired, primarily relating to the experiences of internees and deportees from France: yellow stars, a handbag, a cane and a pen holder made at the Pithiviers camp, a deportee's uniform, and even a violin. A few items also relate to prisoners of war and Resistance fighters. Additionally, 107 objects were incorporated into the classification system, bringing the cataloged collection to 1,871 items.

Acquisition of drawings

In 2025, **51 drawings** were added to the collections, most of which were created in internment camps in France. These acquisitions include a remarkable set of 28 drawings and paintings by Ceija Stojka, an Austrian artist and writer of Romani origin. The drawing collection now comprises 3,298 works, including 2,055 originals.

C for Classification

In 2025, significant progress was made in processing the archives, thanks in particular to a grant awarded by the Claims Conference.

In total, **26 new collections were registered**, 6 collections were classified and inventoried, 87 boxes were cataloged (resulting in 2,476 new records), and 27 boxes were fully indexed by name.

Reading room staff also continued processing several collections of individual files:

- Nearly 1,000 “Youth Social Services” files re-housed and indexed,
- 300 “Central Children’s Commission” files indexed, plus monitoring and re-filing of consulted “Cojasor” files,
- Full processing of 760 compensation files from the “Union of Jewish Volunteer Fighters, Veterans, Children and Friends” collection.

This work improves the cataloging of collections and facilitates access for researchers.

C for Conservation

Digitization

The digitization project made headway, notably thanks to support from the Claims Conference. Thanks to in-house operations this year, we were able to provide reproductions to donors and respond to external requests. Each digitization campaign requires significant logistical effort: document preparation, retrieving and returning boxes, file transfer and updating records.

A total of **229,106 document images were produced**, including 9,552 images (approximately 150 GB) created in-house, while the remainder was handled by our external service provider.

Restoration

Preservation of the collections remains a top priority. In 2025, **192 archival items were restored**, and an accordion was refurbished after it was displayed in the exhibition “Music in the Nazi Camps”.

C for Communication

Communication involves responding to the numerous requests received, making archival collections available and facilitating the provision of reproductions and document loans.

Documentation Center Portal

The documentation center’s portal was further expanded in 2025 and now provides access to **71,255 archival records** within the Shoah Memorial’s reading rooms. Of these, 60,637 reference codes are linked to digitized images, representing nearly 85% of the archives directly accessible to users without the need to order original items or substitute copies.

Email Processing

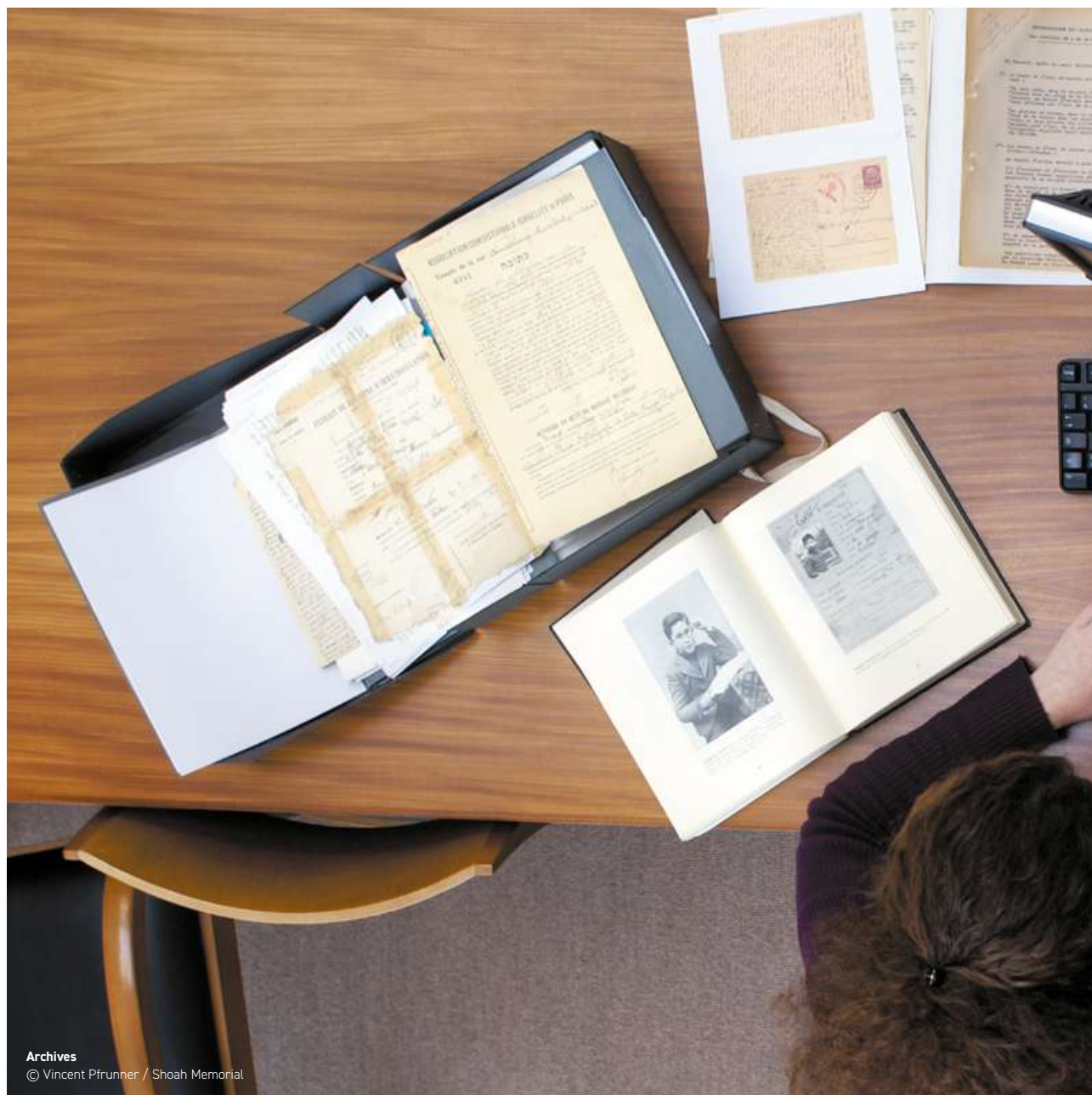
Received primarily via email, the number of inquiries keeps increasing. To ensure better tracking of requests, a processing tool was implemented. Data from this tool shows that

2,725 emails were received on the general “archives” inbox in 2025, a 16% increase compared to the previous year. This figure is in addition to emails sent directly to department staff as well as those handled by the teams in charge of the victim databases and the reading room.

Reproduction Orders

Most reproduction orders originate in France. The most frequently requested documents include drawings by David Olère, deportation convoy lists, search logs and the draft Jewish Law (*statut des Juifs*). Documents from the Diamant collection were also made available in connection with the induction of Missak Manouchian into the Panthéon in 2024. The department also meets the Memorial’s internal needs, particularly those of the pedagogical, cultural activities, communications, memorial sites and training departments.

In 2025, we processed 95 requests, sent 321 documents and generated €4,650 in revenue.



Pedagogical requests and activities

The presence of a documentalist dedicated to handling educational requests from the school system is now well-established.

In 2025, 191 new requests were processed, broken down as follows:

- 41 requests from pupils or parents
- 130 requests from primary and secondary school teachers
- 20 requests from other audiences (documentalists, students, etc.)
- 49 requests related to convoy 77
- 29 requests related to the CNRD (National Competition on the Resistance and Deportation)
- 13 requests concerning trips to Auschwitz-Birkenau organized by the Memorial.

Often initiated during meetings or reading room visits, these interactions led to the provision of 573 documents. Additionally, 25 student groups participated in an activity called *Secrets d'archives* (Archive Secrets), involving 560 students and 53 accompanying adults.

With the work submitted by teachers, we added 28 new files to a dedicated collection. This research also helps enrich the archives and establish contact with the families of deportees. Several participating schools received awards, notably Élodie Sartini's 5th-grade students, who won third prize in the CNRD competition for a comic book about Rachel Perlmutter.

External loans

Objects and documents were loaned for **nine exhibitions** organized in France and abroad, including in Paris, Lyon, Besançon and Berlin. Partner institutions include the **Musée du Quai Branly – Jacques Chirac**, the **Musée de la Libération de Paris**, the **Cujas Library**, the **Besançon Citadel**, the **Centre d'Histoire de la Résistance et de la Déportation (Resistance and Deportation History Center)**, and the **Deutsches Historisches Museum (German Historical Museum)**.

Processing of personal data

Managing the victims' database remains a key activity supported by all the documentation specialists at the resource center.

The volume of external requests has returned to a normal, stable level following the spike observed last year after the inauguration of the Digital Monument.

In addition, several database extraction agreements were drawn up to facilitate targeted searches based on location (Metz, natives of Thessaloniki, Rue Oberkampf, Vercors area) or based on profession (musicians).

Database updates

Through extensive collaborative research work, we continued to expand and make corrections to the database in 2025.

At the same time, a major project to enrich existing data was carried out, involving the drafting of **11,524 biographies**, the addition of family links for **18,700 individuals** and the integration of **11,437 variant name forms** (alternative spellings, pseudonyms, aliases, etc.).

Regarding the Wall of Names monument, **84 corrections** were recorded in 2025 (comprising **2 additions and 82 modifications**), bringing the total number of approved corrections since January 2020 to 1,164.

To date, 75,504 Jewish deportees from France are listed in the database, including 4,475 survivors and 11,291 children.

2025 projects

The “Claims Bundling Project 2025”

During the second year of this project supported by the Claims Conference, **major digitization work** was once again undertaken comprising four rounds of collection and retrieval. This resulted in the processing of 320 archive boxes and the digitization of 86,419 pages of documents. Each campaign required significant logistical coordination: selecting the collections; transmitting detailed inventories to the service provider to facilitate digitization and file naming; managing the physical movement of boxes; and subsequently integrating and processing the digital files within various management systems. In addition to this, sorted collections were digitized directly, accounting for an extra 96,335 pages.

Both in-house teams and an external service provider contributed to **organizing and cataloging the collections**. Internally, several inventory, cataloging and indexing

campaigns made numerous collections accessible in PDF format via the document portal. In total, 13 collections were fully processed and made available online; another eight are ready but not yet accessible on the portal; and 56 collections have been cataloged. Specific work was also carried out on boxes of personal papers (CMLXXV Collection) to improve their cataloging and indexing.

Concurrently, six large collections were entrusted to our service provider for rehousing, organization, inventorying and indexing proposals.

Archives Seminar

On June 5th, a half-day seminar brought together more than 40 archivists, historians and researchers from public and private institutions. They explored archives related to the justice system, acts of denaturalization, and internment during and after the war. Organized as part of the partnership between

the Shoah Memorial, the USHMM and the National Archives, this event provided an opportunity to showcase exceptionally rich archival collections.

The day continued with an evening event open to the public, with historians, journalists and archivists discussing these collections. Following the event’s success, a subsequent edition took place in June 2026.

Rwanda

The Shoah Memorial’s Archives Department continues to support Minubumwe (Rwanda’s Ministry of National Unity and Civic Engagement) with the classification, cataloging and digitization of its archives. In 2025, nine work-in-progress meetings were held and the classification scheme for the ten prefectures was received.

We carried out a mission in October 2025 to launch the digitization phase.

Ejo Hacu

Two new literary residencies were funded, bringing the estimated number of collected notebooks to around one hundred. To date, we have received 31 translations; the first 15 have been proofread, corrected, anonymized and integrated into the document portal with dedicated records. A computer and a CZUR scanner were also acquired for the association. Through training on the use of the scanner, 28 notebooks were digitized, with the remainder scheduled for digitization before being transferred to the Shoah Memorial.

Research

Nice Shoah Memorial

Four trips were made to Nice in 2025 to continue research and the digitization of the “foreigners’ file” (475W). In total, 192 boxes were processed, comprising 1,417 index cards and 4,198 scans.

We also expanded research on Nice and the Alpes-Maritimes region through the creation of 25 main thematic files, a file dedicated to letters and a file dedicated to individual life stories.

Partnership with the Maison Rachi in Troyes

As part of a partnership between the Maison Rachi in Troyes and the Memorial’s pedagogical department, research was conducted to prepare for a school competition organized

during the week dedicated to fighting antisemitism.

The research focused on the names appearing on the commemorative plaque at the Troyes synagogue and was enriched by documents held in the Memorial’s archives. Particular attention was paid to the stories of 20 deported individuals from Troyes or the Aube department, as well as several people who were executed by firing squad. Documents concerning three other individuals linked to Troyes – who do not appear on the commemorative plaque – were also presented. Finally, research included archives from the Chief Rabbi Kaplan collection regarding the inauguration of the Maison Rachi and the establishment of the Champagne-Ardenne Consistory in Troyes.

Municipal archives (Seine-Saint-Denis)

Initiated in June 2024, ongoing discussions with several municipal archives continued as part of preparations for an exhibition on Jewish life in the Seine-Saint-Denis region before and during the Occupation.

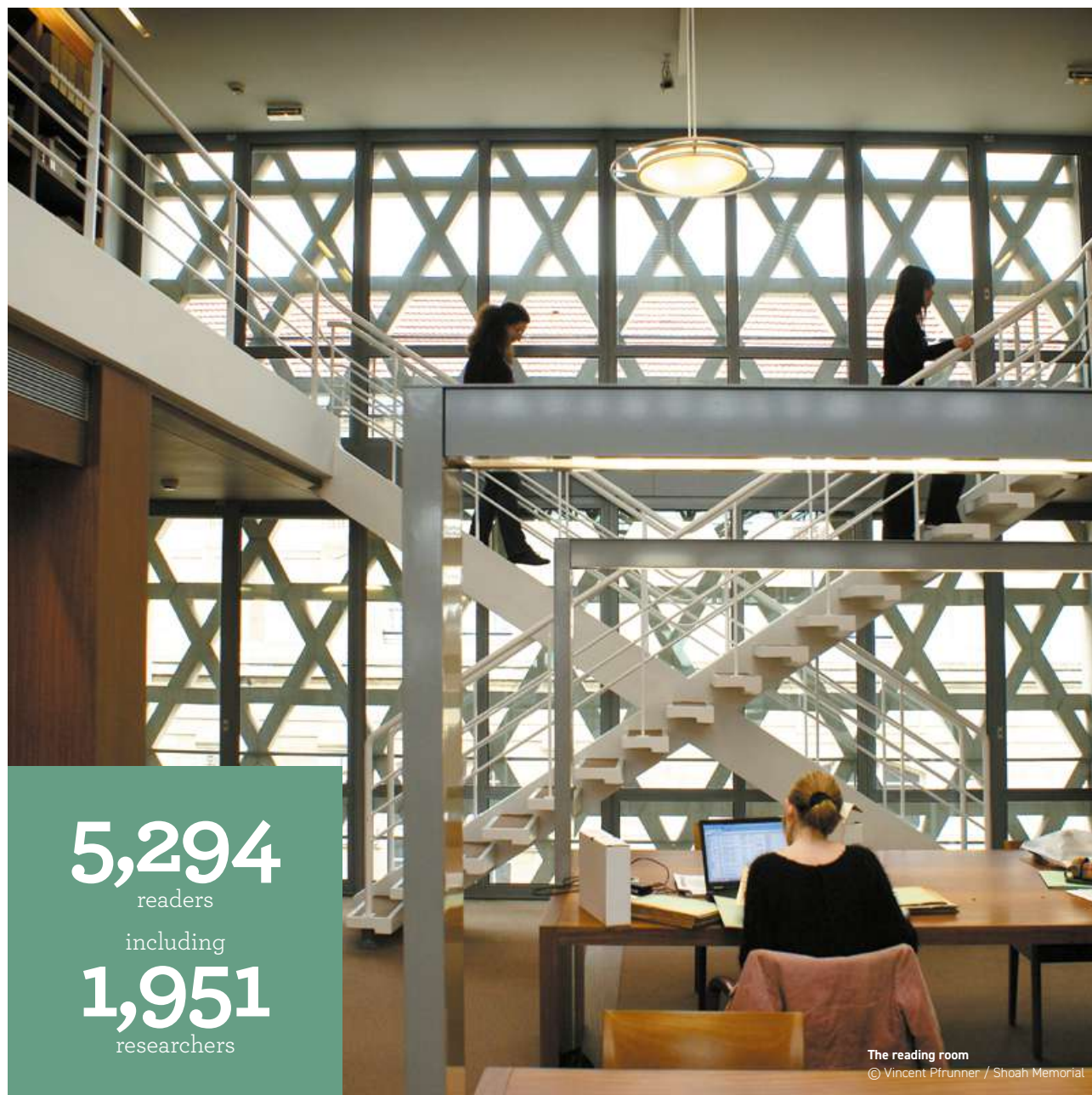
In 2025, records held by the municipal archives of Bobigny, La Courneuve, Montreuil and Stains were digitized or obtained through collaboration with local archivists.

Holocaust Diaries Project

As part of the partnership with the Holocaust Diaries Project team led by Sarah Gruszka and Marie Moutier-Bitan, significant progress was made in identifying personal diaries held at the Shoah Memorial. These diaries were featured in a presentation during European Heritage Days (EHD) and in two talks: one also for EHD, at the Memorial, and another at a symposium in Caen.

Collaborative annotation with the National Archives

In partnership with National Archives teams, work continued on reviewing data entry from the Police Prefecture’s monitoring files. Collaborative annotation sessions take place every other Tuesday morning.



The reading room

In 2025, the reading room welcomed 5,294 readers, a 7.62% increase compared to 2024. February and April saw the highest attendance of the year while September recorded the lowest. This growth makes 2025 the second-best year behind 2023 for attendance since the pandemic. This can be explained by the commemorations marking the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the camps, which drove significant visitor numbers in the months following the January 27th ceremonies.

Researchers remain the primary users of the reading room, accounting for 37% of readers

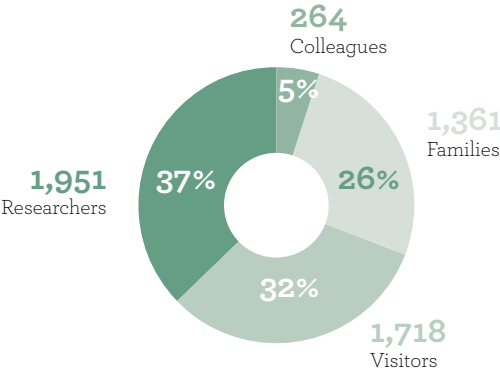
(1,951 people), a relatively stable number since 2022. Visitors make up 32% of users, with 1,718 people, a slight increase over 2024 (+3.6%).

The most marked growth was among families, with attendance reaching 1,361 people, a 39.3% increase compared to 2024, also likely driven by the commemorations.

Thus, reading room attendance recovered further in 2025, fueled notably by the return of families and the context of the commemorative events. However, this trend has not yet allowed for a return to pre-2020 levels or the figures reached in 2023. At the same time, we also noted a sharp increase in email inquiries.

In addition, 641 new users created accounts on the portal in 2025, an increase compared to 2024. Trends observed in previous years were confirmed with individuals aged 50 to 69, still the largest group visiting the reading room and creating accounts on the portal.

Reading room 2025
visitor breakdown
(Total: 5,294 readers)



© Vincent Pfrunner / Shoah Memorial

The library

Conservation: processing of collections

Cataloging

In 2025, the cataloging of works in French, English and German resulted in the bibliographic description of over **2,100 items**.

By the end of 2025, the number of cataloged works made available to readers reached 53,144.

Optimizing storage spaces

In 2025, the Shoah Memorial continued its efforts to optimize storage and repository spaces, both on site and at off-site locations, and to relieve congestion in the stacks.

Arrangement, rehousing and description of journals

Launched in 2024, the **journals and periodicals mapping project** continued in 2025 within the Memorial's repositories.

Through this work, we were able to update housing, descriptions and inventories for the journal collections.

In total, we logged 52,907 issues, recorded 732 titles in an inventory currently under development, and updated and corrected the catalog records for 31,161 issues. Alongside these operations, we carried out extensive rehousing of the processed collections. Carried out at the Memorial site, this multi-year project paves the way for continued processing activities and improved preservation conditions for periodicals. Storage space optimization continues in 2026.

Inventory verification

Inventory verification work in the Shoah Memorial's off-site repositories continued.

This operation is part of a long-term project to inventory, sort and reorganize containers from the archives and library departments, items that had been moved and reclassified haphazardly during a change of service provider.

Typescripts

Expansion of the typescript inventory to facilitate the integration of new bibliographic records.

This inventory provides bibliographic descriptions for 450 typescripts.

Library catalog software migration project

Deliberations, meetings, proposals and preliminary drafts regarding the future transfer of cataloged data from the Decalog ILS (Integrated Library System) to a library information system better suited to the needs and constraints of the Shoah Memorial library.

Start of data cleanup work.

Acquisitions

4,190 books and documents were acquired in 2025, primarily in French, English and German.



Book Fair poster
© Shoah Memorial



A portrait artist at the Book Fair
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial

Event

The Shoah Memorial Book Fair

In 2025, the library took part in the Shoah Memorial's Book Fair and organized a highly successful book sale. Held for the first time along the Allée des Justes, the event gave a second life to 2,500 books.

The photo library and audiovisual center

In 2025, the photo archive significantly expanded its collections by acquiring **10,611 photographs**, **89 original historical posters** and **77 cinema-related documents**.

These new acquisitions include **4,476 family photographs** entrusted by nearly **470 donors**, documenting the history of Jews during the Occupation in France, in Eastern Europe and in North Africa. Notably, these donations have supported memorial projects such as

"A face to a name" (adding **356 new photographs of Jews deported from France**) and the Digital Monument dedicated to Jewish Resistance members, hostages who were executed or those who died in internment camps (**39 new images**).

The photo library also received major collections from prominent photographers. **Raymond Depardon entrusted the library with 77 black-and-white contact sheets taken at Auschwitz-Birkenau** in

1979, which were featured in an exhibition at the Shoah Memorial in 2025. Meanwhile, **photographer Jean Ber donated the photo series** he produced during Elie Wiesel's visit to the Shoah Memorial in 1986.

The audiovisual collections grew to include **784 films and documentaries**, **135 audio recordings and accounts from 383 Holocaust survivors**.

Notable collections acquired this year include **93 audio recordings** by **Claude Lanzmann** made in preparation for the film *Shoah*, as well as **90 filmed accounts from child survivors** gathered by Raphaël Delpard for his documentary *Les Enfants cachés* (The Hidden Children).

Preservation work on the collections continued with the high-definition **digitization of 21,431 photographs** and **485 historical posters**, alongside **692 audiovisual and audio items**. These efforts notably covered the CRIF's audiovisual archives, as well as raw footage from Édouard Mills-Affif's film *Après Buchenwald* (After Buchenwald) and Bernard Mangiante's *Les Camps du silence* (The Camps of Silence), providing previously unseen documents and accounts.

Finally, the photo library collections contributed to **532 projects** in 2025, including books, exhibitions, films, articles, school projects, and remembrance initiatives, confirming their vital role in transmitting the history and memory of the Holocaust.

Document processing

Digitization and subtitling

For the photo library

- 21,431 photos
- 485 posters

For audiovisual materials

- 692 films or audio documentaries and archives

For subtitling

- 200 hours

Restoration

- 672 posters

Cataloging

For the photo library

- 27,168 photos
- 235 posters
- 552 cinema-related documents

For audiovisual materials

- 1,697 films or documentaries
- 162 audio archives
- 7,225 records

Total authority records

- 7,225

Communication

532 projects

- 402 internal projects
- 130 external projects

Acquisitions

Photographic collection: 10,611 new photographs

- 4,736 photos from private donors
- 640 photos from sales or collectors
- 506 fine-art photos
- 4,363 photos from event coverage at the Memorial and its regional sites
- 2,342 photos from 260 donors, and 150 donors via the online collection drive in Paris
- 385 photos from 26 donors via the collection drive in Nice
- 334 photos from 25 donors via the collection drive in Lyon
- 366 photos from public and private institutions
- Private collections:
 - 174 photos from the Judith Alkan Albums
 - 157 photos from the Rambach Family Collection
 - 413 photos from the Joëlle Perelberg Collection
 - 260 photos from the Céline Odesser Collection (survivor from Hungary)
 - 250 photos from the Gabriel Bara Collection
 - 133 photos from the Guy Shapiro Collection, photographs by EEIF leader Robert Schapiro
 - 78 photos from the Henri Kuhnreich Collection; he was a hidden child, and the photos were donated following the settlement of his estate. Henri Kuhnreich died in 1997.

The library

Historical poster collection:
72 new posters

Cinema collection:
177 new cinema items

- 67 posters
- 56 lobby cards
- 12 press kits
- 42 on-set photographs

Film collection:
784 new films

- 111 event recordings at the auditorium
- 65 Memorial videos
- 232 films with rights
- 376 TV recordings

Testimony collection:
383 testimonies

- 160 testimonies filmed in 2025, including 110 with support from the Claims Conference

Other collections:
223 pieces of raw footage

Audio collection:
135 new audio items

- 18 podcast episodes of *Le Mémorial et moi* (The Memorial and Me)
- 30 episodes of *Mémoire et Vigilance* by Claude Bocharberg
- 87 audio recordings, private donations (primarily testimonies, interviews and radio broadcasts)

Document processing

Digitization

- 16,000 photographs digitized with support from the Claims Conference, plus photographs from private donors totaling 5,431 digitizations
- 692 film and audio digitizations
- 200 hours of subtitling projects.



© Vincent Pfrunner / Shoah Memorial

The bookshop

The exhibition catalog for
“Auschwitz-Birkenau as Seen
by Raymond Depardon”

sold

370
copies

The exhibition catalog for
“Auschwitz:
the Image as a Source”

sold

168
copies

The Memorial sold:

- 370 copies of the exhibition catalog for “**Auschwitz-Birkenau as Seen by Raymond Depardon**”;
- 168 copies of the exhibition catalog for “**Auschwitz: the Image as a Source**”.

We also noted very good sales of the catalog for “The Genocide of the Armenians of the Ottoman Empire” (182 copies), which corresponds to the exhibition shown at Allée des Justes. Likewise for *Rwanda 1994: the Tutsi Genocide*, which sold 98 copies without support from any exhibition.

Apart from catalogs, the 2025 **bookstore bestsellers** are:

- ***An Auschwitz Album*** by Tal Bruttman et al. (195 copies)
- ***Return to Birkenau*** by Ginette Kolinka (163 copies)
- ***What I Saw at Auschwitz*** by Alter Fajnzylberg and Alban Perrin (117 copies)
- ***Auschwitz*** by Tal Bruttman (104 copies).

The year 2025 was marked by **two major events** for the library:

- **the Book Fair in June**
- **our participation in the Blois History Fair after not participating in 2024.**



The bookstore's
turnover increased
compared to 2024.



Bookshop
© Laurent Bagnis / Shoah Memorial

REVUE D'HISTOIRE DE LA SHOAH

n° 221

MARS
2025

Distorsions de la Shoah
et nouveaux négationnismes



Issue 221 (March 2025)
analyzes new forms of denial and distortion of the Holocaust, both amplified by social media and a certain political discourse, by placing them in a broader reflection on the remembrance of genocides.

REVUE D'HISTOIRE DE LA SHOAH

n° 222

OCTOBRE
2025

Objets

Nouvelles perspectives sur l'histoire matérielle de la Shoah



Issue 222 (October 2025)
focuses on everyday objects and material traces of the Holocaust as revealers of history, dispossession and remembrance, through a multidisciplinary approach.

Publishing

Revue d'histoire de la Shoah

The leading European journal devoted to the history of the annihilation of Jews in Europe, the *Revue d'histoire de la Shoah* continues its research and transmission work around the genocides of the 20th century.

These publications cement the essential role of the journal in sharing historical knowledge and fighting the spread of fake historical facts.





Off site

in France and abroad

Workshop for a primary school class
in Épinay-sur-Seine
© Florence Brochoire / Shoah Memorial

Off-site study and remembrance trips

38
study
and remembrance trips

4,989
participants

including
2,862
students
307
teachers

Study trip to the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp and to Berlin

The Shoah Memorial organized **38 study and remembrance trips** from and outside Paris to Holocaust memorial sites in Poland and in France.

In the context of partnerships with regional councils (Grand Est, Hauts-de-France, Île-de-France, Normandy, Occitanie, Sud-PACA) and academic regions, we organized **13 one- or two-day study trips to the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp** for students.

In the context of partnerships with the Seine-Saint-Denis and Nord department councils, we organized **two two-day study trips to Auschwitz-Birkenau.**

The Shoah Memorial organized **12 study trips from Paris or Marseille to Auschwitz-Birkenau over one or several days** for the general public or associations: CRIF (the Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France), Langage de femmes (Women's Language), Association Fonds Mémoire d'Auschwitz Marseille (Marseille Auschwitz Remembrance Collection Association), Syndicat

national des personnels de direction de l'Éducation nationale (National Union of the National Education Personnel), Association des maires de villes de Pyrénées-Atlantiques (Association of Pyrénées-Atlantiques City Mayors), and the cities of Épinay-sur-Seine and Montreuil.

The Shoah Memorial organized **seven school trips to Auschwitz-Birkenau and to Berlin**, over several days.

Finally, in the context of a partnership with the Nord Department, we organized **four remembrance trails in France** and in Belgium.





82,095
people visited
our traveling exhibitions

180
venues
including 136 schools
presented traveling
exhibitions

Traveling exhibitions

Our traveling exhibitions toured **136 schools** between January and December 2025.

Three new traveling exhibitions were created and have already been shown in numerous locations: **Visions of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Camps** created by youths from the Île-de-France region, **Spirou in the Turmoil of the Holocaust**, and **The End of the Holocaust and the Nazi Concentration Camp System: Surviving, Bearing Witness, Judging**.

The most requested exhibitions in 2025 were: **Ginette Kolinka: Itinerary of a Survivor of Auschwitz** (38 bookings), **Simone Veil, A Destiny 1917–2017** (26 bookings), and **Cabu, Illustrations of the Vel d'Hiv Roundup** (19 bookings).

Workshops in schools

For seven years, the Memorial has been offering educational workshops in schools.

Led by the Memorial's pedagogical team, these workshops cover a range of subjects including history, philosophy, moral and civic education, and the arts and literature.

Spearheaded by the Memorial, supported by DILCRAH and backed by most regional education authorities and numerous departments, this initiative has led us to organize nearly **1,202 off-site workshops across France**.



School workshop
© Florence Brochoire / Shoah Memorial

The southern regional branch

It has become clear that the southern branch of the Shoah Memorial is firmly established in the Occitanie region. The summer school program offers a valuable refresher to teachers from Nouvelle-Aquitaine.

Regarding collaboration with cultural partners, we were unable to work with the Cinémathèque de Toulouse this year, as it is undergoing renovations. However, we successfully collaborated with the Toulouse suburbs and neighboring towns such as Montauban and Albi.

As for book presentations, our special partnership continues with the Ombres Blanches bookstore, which provides us with a magnificent showcase opportunity.

A significant albeit unquantified part of our work involves providing ongoing support to teachers exploring regional themes with their students across all three school levels. For instance, we carried out a specific project with a secondary school in Toulouse focusing on the Lahana family: the son, Marcel, is still alive, and his father is mentioned in the only letter written in French to have originated from a *Sonderkommando* unit. Another project by 5th graders looked at the Righteous Among

the Nations in a village where the students live.

Development of memorial sites

The Shoah Memorial continues to support the activities and development of institutions that manage memorial sites in France by serving on the governance or scientific bodies of several institutions: the European Centre of Deported Resistance Members – site of the former Natzweiler-Struthof camp; the National Memorial of Montluc Prison; the Camp des Milles Foundation; the Maison d'Izieu; the Museum of the Resistance and Deportation in Besançon; the Gurs Camp Association; La Mounière – House of Memories of the Town of Septfonds; the Annemasse House of Memories; and the Récébédou Camp Memorial Museum in Portet-sur-Garonne. It also provides guidance on the renovation project for the headquarters of the Jewish Cultural Association of Nancy as well as on the development of the Lens synagogue, including the creation of an educational and historical space dedicated to the history of the Jewish community in Lens and the Hauts-de-France region, and their persecution during World War II.

Abroad, off site



“The Holocaust as a Starting Point” – Transnational training for Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia. Guided tour of the Sarajevo Jewish Cemetery during the training course.
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial

“The Holocaust as a Starting Point” program

This program aims to foster **educational dialogues** among teachers from countries with conflicting historical narratives (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia), between communities within the same country (minorities in Macedonia), or among countries that share a common historical foundation (the Baltic states). It operates against a backdrop of widespread historical revisionism and conflicts over remembrance.

This year, the initiative brought together **586 participants** through **13 three-day training sessions** split into beginner and advanced levels. The program is led by a network of 25 national coordinators from ministries of education, teachers’ associations and partner educational agencies. The network met in Athens to share experiences regarding each dialogue and to harmonize practices. A unique training session for German- and Italian-speaking

teachers from the South Tyrol province in Italy was organized in Bolzano. For the first time since the 2022 invasion, Ukrainian and Polish teachers met in Lublin, Poland to work on their shared history regarding the Holocaust, as well as the inter-ethnic massacres in Galicia and Volhynia between 1943 and 1946.

In 2025, this initiative was supported by the Claims Conference.

586

people
took part in the
“The Holocaust as a
Starting Point” program

“The Holocaust as a Starting Point”



“The Holocaust as a Starting Point” in Tirana, Albania.
February 21st–23rd, 2025.
© Shoah Memorial



“The Holocaust as a Starting Point” transnational training
for Catalonia and Portugal. March 21st–23rd, 2025.
© Shoah Memorial



Transnational training s for Germany and France.
March 29th–31st, 2025.
© Shoah Memorial



Training in Vilnius, Lithuania.
September 18th–20th, 2025.
© Shoah Memorial



“The Holocaust as a Starting Point” national training for
Serbia. March 27th–29th, 2025.
© Shoah Memorial



Training in Bolzano, Italy.
October 6th–8th, 2025.
© Shoah Memorial



Training session in Thessaloniki, Greece.
October 31st–November 2nd, 2025.
© Shoah Memorial

University program “Questioning the Never Again”

Providing students with a framework to reflect on the comparative study of mass atrocities, understanding the definition of genocide, combating the inversion of the Holocaust narrative, and examining both past and ongoing crimes: these are the goals of this university program designed for higher education students, primarily from international relations, law and history departments.

Emphasis is placed on interaction, group work and mixing students from nations that share a complex historical relationship as neighbors. Within this framework, students from the universities of Szeged (Hungary) and Cluj (Romania) met for a third edition to study their shared “negative heritage” (the collaboration of the authoritarian regimes of Horthy and Antonescu in the Holocaust) and the sensitive history of the Hungarian minority in Romania, as well as contemporary crimes against humanity. In the fall of 2025, New Bulgarian University and Aristotle University of Thessaloniki planned a similar program adapted to their specific contexts. Finally, the Memorial and the Faculty of History at Yerevan State University organized three days of discussions for 25 Armenian students, with historian Yves Ternon in attendance and support from the French Embassy in Armenia.

Supporting stakeholders in remembrance initiatives in Rwanda

In 2025, we continued to support the **Ministry of National Unity and Civic Engagement** in implementing its policy. The initiative involves, on the one hand, cataloging, classifying and digitizing the public archives of the genocide held by the Ministry as well as training the team of archivists; and on the other, restructuring school group activities by offering new educational workshops and tour itineraries tailored to the age of the visitors. A new training session for all guides was held in Kigali, during which the Ministry and the Memorial presented a collection of authentic documents developed jointly to support group tours.

Additionally, the genocide survivors’ association Ejo Hacu organized two new literary residencies focused on compiling individual testimonies, with digital versions being added to the Memorial’s archival collections.

Italy

The Shoah Memorial and the Legislative Assembly of the Emilia-Romagna region in Italy organized the 13th edition of the Italian university program in Paris, bringing together 30 teachers from Italy. Laura Fontana, the Memorial’s representative in Italy, also organized two training sessions in Turin and Rimini for secondary school teachers.

Additionally, the Fossoli Camp Deportation Museum hosted the exhibition “Sport and Nazism” for six months.

Miscellaneous

Each year, the Shoah Memorial organizes one or more training sessions for local teachers in collaboration with Ukrainian organizations dedicated to Holocaust remembrance. In June 2025, 30 teachers attended a workshop in Kyiv, in partnership with the Ukrainian Holocaust research center. The Memorial also offered two professional development modules for staff at French schools in West Africa and Morocco as part of its partnership with the Agency for French Education Abroad.

The Lithuanian Commission for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes signed a partnership agreement with the Shoah Memorial, which formalizes long-standing cooperation between the two organizations, particularly regarding teacher training.

Finally, the **inaugural edition of the Fabrique de la diplomatie**, a forum for dialogue open to civil society, hosted a roundtable discussion organized by the Memorial on the concept of mass atrocities and the unique historical and legal nature of the crime of genocide.





The Shoah Memorial

outside Paris

Night / Blue: Art After the Camps – An Exhibition of
Shelomo Selinger's Work
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial

Drancy Shoah Memorial

Activities

In 2025, the Drancy Memorial welcomed 30,500 visitors and ran 53 cultural activities, thus continuing its mission of passing on history and memory to a wide audience.

For individual visitors

The Drancy Memorial offered a free guided tour of the institution and the former internment camp every Sunday. The Paris-Drancy shuttle was used by 295 people (312 in 2024), and 1,146 audio guides were distributed (1,680 in 2024).

For school groups

In 2025, the education department welcomed a total of 804 groups, or approximately 22,000 people: 540 groups for tours, 248 for workshops and 16 for screenings or other events.

As part of the partnership with Seine-Saint-Denis, tours, workshops and remembrance trails were offered free of charge to the department's secondary school students. Furthermore, partnerships were successfully developed or continued.

Teacher training

Under the three-year agreement signed between Seine-Saint-Denis and the Memorial, a range of activities was offered free of charge to the department's towns for the 2024-2025 school year, including four training sessions for teachers.

Throughout the year, the Memorial also organized on-demand training sessions and tours, notably as part of the Paris summer university program.

The Drancy
Shoah Memorial
welcomed

30,500
visitors

including

22,000
schoolchildren

The temporary exhibitions



Exhibition poster
© Shoah Memorial

Curators:

Paul Dietschy, Professor of Contemporary History, Director of the Lucien-Febvre Centre at the University of Franche-Comté.

Exhibition coordination:

Caroline François, Traveling Exhibitions Coordinator at the Shoah Memorial;
Élise Arnaud, Traveling Exhibitions Logistical Coordinator.

Graphic design:

Estelle Martin.

Paris 1924–Paris 2024: the Olympic Games, a Mirror of Societies January 1st – February 9th, 2025

In conjunction with the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, the Shoah Memorial joined various events dedicated to this occasion, which marked the centennial of the 1924 Paris Games. Titled Paris 1924–Paris 2024: the Olympic Games, a Mirror of Societies, **the exhibition highlighted the issue of prejudice and discrimination, both past and present.** It drew upon a century of Olympiads to trace a unique history of the Olympic Games.

Through iconic images of these sporting events, archival documents, films, sports press excerpts and personal accounts, the exhibition presented Games defined by friendship and excellence, yet also by political exploitation. The Games often reflect deep-seated societal trends. While the exhibition paid special attention to athletes interned at Drancy during World War II and to the 1936 Berlin Games organized by Nazi Germany, it also

The exhibition
“Paris 1924–Paris 2024:
the Olympic Games,
a Mirror of Societies”
welcomed

1,484
visitors

demonstrated that Olympic values serve as a powerful tool for combating racism and antisemitism, and for fostering social cohesion.



Exhibition poster
© Shoah Memorial

Curator:

Florence Tamagne, Associate Professor of Contemporary History, University of Lille, specialist in the history of homosexuality.

With contributions from:

Arnaud Boulligny, researcher at the Foundation for the Memory of the Deportation.

Suzanne Robichon, essayist and lesbian and feminist activist. Jean-Luc Schwab, President of the Natzweiler-Struthof National Association. Frédéric Stroh, PhD in Contemporary History.

Mickaël Studnicki, PhD in Contemporary History.

Coordination:

Sophie Nagiscarde, Head of the Cultural Activities Department at the Shoah Memorial.

The exhibition
“Homosexuals and Lesbians
in Nazi Europe”
welcomed

8,758
visitors

Homosexuals and Lesbians in Nazi Europe

March 2nd – 30th, 2025

Long a taboo subject, the fate of the “pink triangles” remains little known. Indeed, it was only with the advent of the gay and lesbian liberation movement in the 1970s that the topic began to be discussed.

While focusing particularly on the German and French cases, **this exhibition places the persecution of homosexuals under the Nazi regime** within a European context, tracing the history from the early homosexual movements of the late 19th century to the most recent processes of remembrance.

Individual life stories illustrate the diverse experiences of homosexual men and women during this period, as some were also Jewish, members of the Resistance or even regime sympathizers.





Exhibition "Night / Blue: Art After the Camp"
© YKellerman / Shoah Memorial

Proposed by:
Éléonore Ward, Head of the Drancy Memorial.
Curator:
Paul Bernard-Nouraud, art historian and theorist,
PhD in aesthetics from the École des hautes
études en sciences sociales (EHESS).
**Exhibition design curator, general coordination of
the exhibition and catalog:**
Marie Deparis-Yaël, art critic and independent
curator.
Graphic design:
Hélène Degout.



The exhibition
"Night / Blue:
Art After the Camps"
welcomed

30,121
visitors

Night / Blue: Art After the Camps An Exhibition of Shelomo Selinger's Work April 9th – End of December 2025

This exhibition of Holocaust survivor **Shelomo Selinger's** work brought together a selection of pieces representative of the artist's career and his artistic themes, such as **the celebration of life and the commemoration of the dead**, as well as his preferred techniques: direct carving, bas-reliefs, drawings and woodcuts. The exhibition pays

tribute to the exceptional journey of Shelomo Selinger, both as an artist and a witness.

The exhibition was held at the Shoah Memorial, which was erected in 2012 opposite the Monument to the Deported, a sculptural work designed by the artist in 1976 in front of the former Drancy internment

camp. Through some **60 works**, some of which had never before been exhibited or reproduced, visitors were invited to discover the richness and diversity of Shelomo Selinger's artistic output, as well as the humanist significance with which he imbued his work.

Jules-Isaac Cultural Center in Clermont-Ferrand

The Jules-Isaac Cultural
Center in Clermont-Ferrand
welcomed

2,200
visitors

including

1,560
schoolchildren



© Shoah Memorial

In 2025, the Jules-Isaac Cultural Center welcomed nearly **2,200 visitors: 1,560 participated in educational activities** and **482 took part in cultural activities.**

We also helped organize several off-site events, including a lecture-exhibition on the Armenian Genocide in partnership with Arménie 63, and performances organized in collaboration with the City of Clermont-Ferrand.

A partnership with **Unis-Cité** enabled us to host **247 young civic service volunteers** and their supervisors for educational programs.

Finally, as part of the **“History, Places and Memories”** initiative, **15 talks** were conducted across **eight schools.**

Pithiviers Station

In 2025, the Pithiviers station welcomed **8,848 visitors**, cementing its essential role in conveying the history of this authentic site.

Among them, **238 school groups** were hosted throughout the year, with an average of 28 students per group. The majority of classes took part in a single visit, while around 15 groups enjoyed a full-day program combining a morning tour-workshop with a visit to the former camp in the early afternoon.

2025 cultural program

Pithiviers Station offered seven cultural activities during the year, including:

Four film screenings:

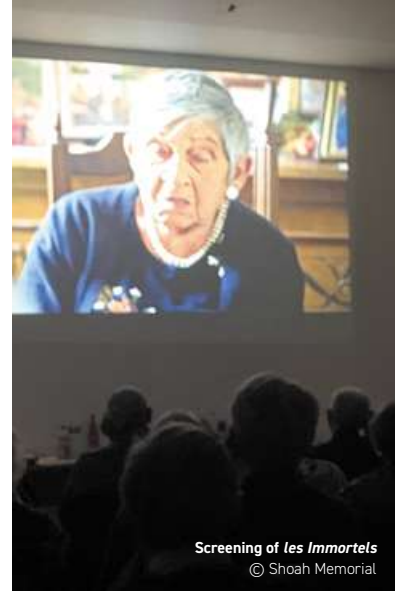
- *Les Immortels* (The Immortals, in two parts), directed by Éric Toledano and Olivier Nakache;
- *On n'oubliera pas Beaune-la-Rolande* (We Won't Forget Beaune-la-Rolande) attended by its director Jean Barat;
- *Un sac de billes* (A Bag of Marbles) by Christian Duguay.

Three lectures:

- Roger Fajnzylberg and Alban Perrin presented *Ce que j'ai vu à Auschwitz : Les Cahiers d'Alter* (What I Saw in Auschwitz: Alter's Notebooks).
- Hubert Strouk then spoke about his book *Vel d'Hiv: Histoire et portée d'un discours* (Vel d'Hiv: History and Significance of a Speech).
- Mr. Huteau, the project manager for the Pithiviers Station's renovation, shared his expertise during the European Heritage Days, offering a unique perspective on the preservation and showcasing of this site steeped in history.

Ceremony

A commemorative ceremony was held to mark the **80th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp**, underscoring the importance of the duty to remember and of passing on the history of the Holocaust to new generations.



Pithiviers station
welcomed

8,848
visitors

including

6,684
school groups

CERCIL Shoah Memorial in Orléans

The CERCIL
Shoah Memorial
in Orléans welcomed

16,300
visitors

including

9,760
students

Educational activities

The CERCIL welcomed nearly **10,000 school students ranging from the final year of primary school to the final year of high school**; they accounted for half of CERCIL's visitors in 2025.

365 classes from **123 schools**, 85% of them within the Orléans-Tours educational district, took part in educational **visits** and **workshops**. 64% of the students were in their final year of secondary school. Nearly 80 classes completed a remembrance trail connecting the CERCIL Shoah Memorial to Pithiviers Station. During school holidays, young people attended a **citizenship workshop** under the supervision of the Judicial Youth Protection Service (PJJ) for the Orléans, Touraine and Berry areas.

January 27th ceremony

Eighty years after the discovery of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, a ceremony commemorating Holocaust victims and focusing on the prevention of crimes

against humanity brought together students involved in projects such as “Ambassadors of Memory” and “Overlapping Memories”, as well as youths from the PJJ. They participated as readers, flag bearers and with self-penned messages.

Playwright in residence

With the support of CICLIC, the CERCIL hosted playwright **Luc Tartar** for a three-month writing residency centered on the Vel' d'Hiv Roundup. Drawing on the CERCIL's archives, he led writing workshops in schools, resulting in the creation of a booklet that was distributed to the students.



9th grade students from Jean-Rostand Middle School in Orléans at the end of their first writing workshop
© CERCIL / Shoah Memorial

Cultural activities: 46 events in 2025

Each year, the CERCIL offers a regular cultural program featuring the **“Mardis du CERCIL”** (CERCIL Tuesdays) and activities during school holidays. In 2025, **3,400 people** took part in **46 events**, including lectures, screenings, concerts and workshops. Often organized in partnership with local stakeholders, these events also align with major national cultural initiatives, such as European Heritage Days, Documentary Month (*Mois du doc*), Reading Nights (*Nuits de la lecture*) and Museums Night (*Nuit des musées*).

80 years after the Holocaust

In 2025, the CERCIL dedicated its cultural programming to **commemorations of the Liberation**, addressing the discovery of the camps and the return of deportees through **more than 20 events** that brought together historians, researchers and witnesses.

For seven months, it also hosted the exhibition “From the Discovery of the Camps to the Return of the Deportees”, created by the Shoah Memorial. In partnership with the City of Orléans, the CERCIL presented the photographic exhibition “Deportees: I Was Your Age” (*Déportés, j’avais ton âge*) by Karine Sicard-Bouvatier, highlighting portraits and accounts of survivors

to raise awareness among younger generations.

Training

As part of the regional academic training plan, **seven sessions** brought together **125 secondary school teachers** from the Orléans-Tours academy. Through **20 lectures** led by specialist historians, participants deepened their knowledge of genocides and acquired pedagogical tools. Training sessions covered the history of Nazism, the Holocaust in Europe and France, its depiction in film and literature, the mass violence and genocides of the 20th century, as well as issues of memory, testimony and justice.

International cooperation

The Franco-German *Mémoires croisées* (Overlapping Memories) group

As part of the partnership between the Centre-Val de Loire region and the state of Saxony-Anhalt, two educational meetings are organized each year. In February 2025, **65 teachers and students** met Israeli artist **Leora Wise** in Dessau and attended her first exhibition in the city.

The autumn teachers’ seminar took place in Halberstadt’ focusing on the history of local Jewish life.

Documentation Center

Research on the Jargeau camp

For the 80th anniversary of the closure of the Jargeau camp on December 31st, 1945, the Documentation Center updated its research on the internment of Nomads, updating the number of internees from 1,200 to 1,365.

This work aims to prepare a new edition of Pascal Vion’s book *Le Camp de Jargeau* (The Jargeau Camp), 30 years after its initial publication, and to showcase the accounts collected by the CERCIL over the past 15 years through an immersive installation.



Chambon-sur-Lignon Memorial



The "Simone Veil: A Life of Battles" exhibition
© Chambon-sur-Lignon Memorial

The Chambon-sur-Lignon
Memorial
welcomed

18,906
visitors

including

4,376
school groups

A year marked by two exhibitions

• From the Discovery of the Camps to the Return of the Deportees

January 15th – May 18th, 2025.

An exhibition created by the Shoah Memorial that addresses the discovery of the camps by Allied armies, the repatriation of deportees and their attempts at rebuilding, as well as the gradual realization of the reality of the Nazi concentration camp system.

• Simone Veil: A Life of Battles

June 14th – November 29th, 2025.

(Curators: Dominique Missika and Caroline François). Taking Simone Veil's visit to

Le Chambon-sur-Lignon in 2004 as a starting point, the exhibition traces her commitment to honoring the Righteous Among the Nations and the memory of the Holocaust more broadly, while highlighting the many battles she fought throughout her life.

For the first time, the exhibition was being presented over an extended period (running until the end of November), specifically to accommodate a larger number of school groups.

Cultural programming

As always, the year was marked by various cultural events linked to specific occasions or, more generally, to the themes addressed by the Chambon Shoah Memorial.

Education department

This year, the team piloted an outreach initiative targeting a specific area within the department where schools had never previously visited the Memorial. This effort enabled the team to work with 99 students comprising five groups, each taking part in a combined tour and workshop based on the traveling exhibition *La Montagne-refuge: Accueil, sauvetage et résistances* (The Mountain Refuge: Shelter, Rescue and Resistance). The participants came from two primary schools and two secondary schools.

Ongoing work by the mediators with our liaison teacher: designing tailored activities, particularly for the Simone Veil exhibition (with a strong focus on arts and cultural education), communicating with schools and supporting teachers and projects.

A major issue for schools: the freezing of the *Pass Culture* (Culture Pass) scheme. This situation prevented several classes from visiting.

Communication

Creation of an Instagram page to boost the Memorial's presence on social media.

To date: **273 followers on Instagram** and **1,400 on Facebook**.

Strengthening ties with local tourist offices: Mézenc-Loire-Meygal, Val'Eyrieux and Haut-Lignon.



Presenting the "Simone Veil: A Life of Battles" exhibition
© Chambon-sur-Lignon Memorial

Support for the Memorial

Many people and institutions support the Memorial
and its mission by contributing their skills, expertise, time or money.
We thank them all warmly.

Boards and commissions

Ex-officio

Members

Ministry of the Interior, Ministry for National Education, Ministry for the Armed Forces-DMCA, Île-de-France Regional Council, City of Paris.

Founding Members

The Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah, represented by:
Philippe Allouche, Serge Klarsfeld.
The Shoah Memorial, represented by:
Éric de Rothschild, Anne Sinclair.
Public figures: Véronique Morali,
François Heilbronn, Guillaume Pepy,
Jean-Paul Picard.
Association des amis du Memorial

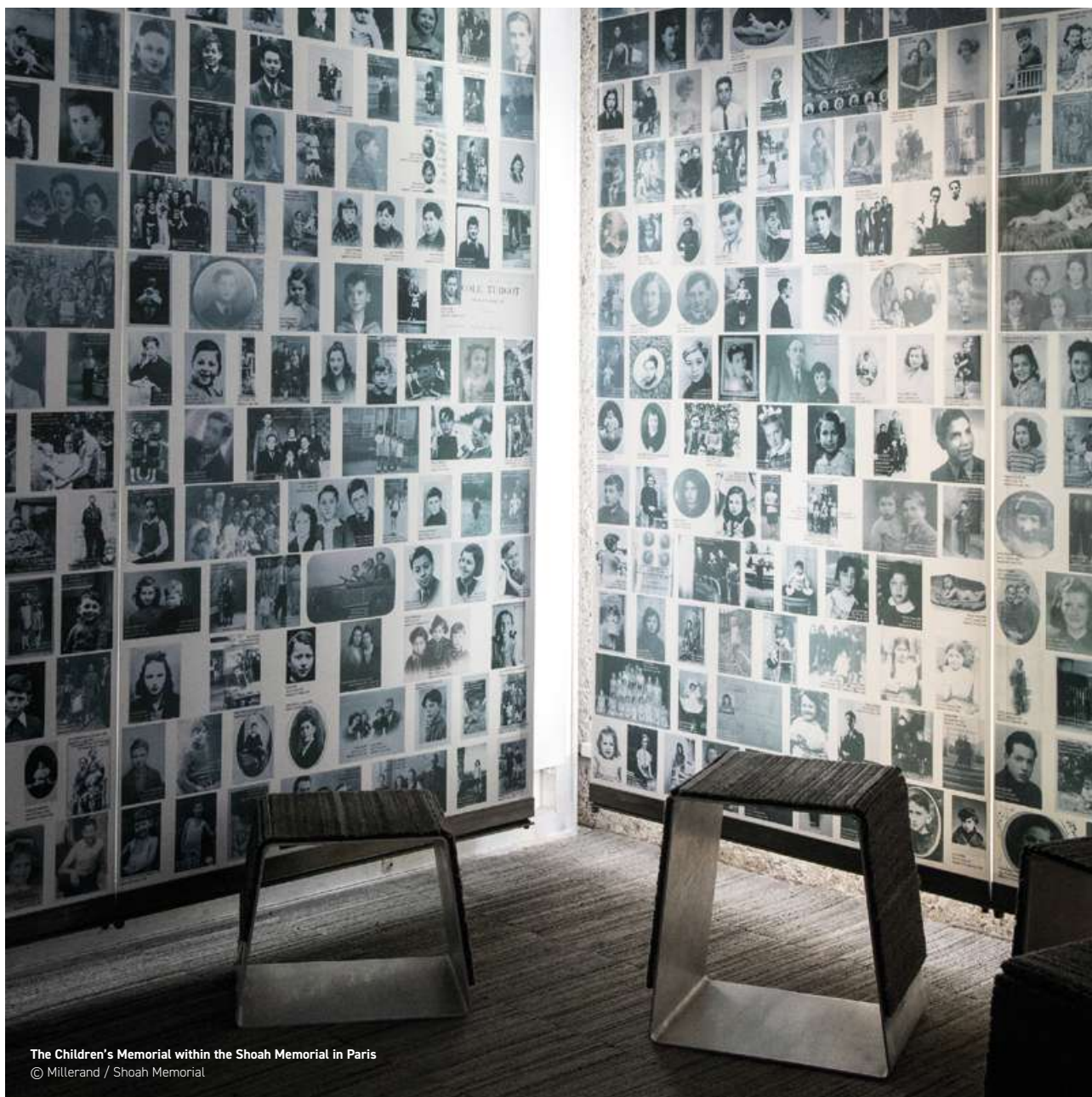
(Association of the Friends of the Memorial), represented by: Théo Hoffenberg, Grégoire Chertok.

The Pedagogical Orientation Commission

Daniel Bensimhon,
Nicolas Certain-Delus (Versailles),
Olivier Dautresme (Paris),
Olivier Delmas (Créteil),
Jacques Fredj, Sophie Gaujal
(Versailles), Pascale Goutagny,
Christine Guimonnet,
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Olivier Lalieu, Fabrice Pappola,
Emmanuelle Pievic,
Marie-Ange Rivière, Iannis Roder,
Hubert Strouk, Alice Tajchman,
Paul-Emmanuel Zevort.

Financial Support

The Shoah Memorial receives funding from the City of Paris; the Île-de-France region; the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region; the Centre-Val de Loire region; the Normandy region; the Grand Est region; the Hauts-de-France region; the Occitanie region; the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region; the regional boards of cultural affairs for the Centre-Val de Loire and Auvergne regions; the Ministry for the Armed Forces; the Ministry for Culture; the Ministry for National Education and Youth; the Interministerial Delegation Against Racism, Antisemitism and Anti-LGBT Hatred; the Special Committee for



The Children's Memorial within the Shoah Memorial in Paris
© Millerand / Shoah Memorial

the 80th Anniversary of the Landings, the Liberation of France and the Victory; many French departments (Seine-et-Marne, Essonne, Hauts-de-Seine, Seine-Saint-Denis, Yvelines, Haute-Garonne, Alpes-Maritimes, the European Collectivity of Alsace, Cher, Nord, Vaucluse, Gers, Moselle, Haute-Loire, Loiret, Puy-de-Dôme) and the cities of Orléans, Clermont-Ferrand, Toulouse and Nice.

Donors

Thousands of private individuals support the Shoah Memorial every year with their donations.

The Shoah Memorial's Partnerships

The Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah (FMS)

The Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah was set up in 2000 with an endowment from the restitution by the French State and financial institutions of unclaimed funds from the spoliation of France's Jews during World War II.

With the funds from this restitution, the Foundation subsidises the Shoah Memorial and actively supports many projects in six areas: historical research, teaching, transmission of memory, solidarity with Holocaust survivors, Jewish culture and the fight against antisemitism.

The Foundation is the Shoah Memorial's main source of funding for all its activities and is responsible for initiating the construction of the Drancy Shoah Memorial.

The City of Paris

The Shoah Memorial has received funding from the City of Paris since 2002. In May 2017, a three-year agreement was signed to launch a groundbreaking approach to educational projects (tours, workshops, exhibitions, etc.) in Paris schools and recreation centers focusing on the history and the memory of the Holocaust and, more broadly, on antisemitism, racism, hate speech and propaganda.

DILCRAH

Under the prime minister's authority since November 2014, the Interministerial Delegation against Racism, Antisemitism and Anti-LGBT Hatred (DILCRAH) aims to reenergize public initiatives around the fight against racism, antisemitism and anti-LGBT hatred. The Memorial and DILCRAH signed a partnership agreement in 2015 to offer teachers a full range of pedagogical resources they can use, especially during National Week for Education and Actions against Racism and Antisemitism.

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) program

Since 2014, the Shoah Memorial has received a multi-year operating subsidy from the European Union's

Europe for Citizens program, which funds projects focusing on memory, mutual knowledge of European citizens and strengthening of their ties to the European Union. The Memorial also receives specific subsidies for its activities abroad.



The Ministry for the Armed Forces

Through the National Office for Veterans and War Victims (ONACVG) and the Memory, Culture and Archives Department (DMCA), the Ministry for the Armed Forces has stood by the Shoah Memorial since 2010, notably during commemorations. On January 26th, 2017, a partnership agreement was signed with the ministry to help the Shoah Memorial preserve sites of remembrance, transmit history, train teachers and conserve archives.

The Ministry for Culture

The Shoah Memorial has been a member of the Higher Council of Archives since 2016, advising the Culture Minister on issues relating to public and private archives. On January 18th, 2017, an agreement was signed to strengthen the ministry's cooperation with the Shoah Memorial.

The Ministry for National Education

The Ministry for National Education is one of the Shoah Memorial's main partners. In 2025, in order to welcome

students and train educators, the Memorial signed six partnership agreements with the school districts of Dijon, Île-de-France, Marseille, Nice, Corsica and Haute-Garonne.

The Edmond J. Safra Pedagogical Institute

The Shoah Memorial's education spaces are dedicated to the memory of Mr. Edmond J. Safra, a visionary, philanthropist and patron of education.

The Claims Conference

The Claims Conference supports the Shoah Memorial's international activities as well as locating, classifying, digitizing and cataloguing Holocaust documents at the Memorial, along with recording testimonies of Holocaust survivors and witnesses.

The Rothschild Foundation

The Rothschild Foundation is a committed partner of the Memorial in and outside of Paris, including its cultural activities, its pedagogical activities and its training programs.

The SNCF, the Memorial's main partner company

In 2010, the SNCF and the Shoah Memorial signed a partnership calling on France's national railway company to help the Shoah Memorial develop its pedagogical activities and share its knowledge about the history of the SNCF during World War II.

In 2017, the SNCF decided to restore the former Pithiviers train station and handed it over to the Memorial, which now uses it for pedagogical purposes.

The Shoah Memorial also enjoys support from the:

- Deloitte Foundation,
- France Mutualiste Foundation,
- BNP Paribas Foundation,
- Marc Ladreit de Lacharrière Foundation,
- Seligmann Foundation,
- Harroch Family Foundation under the aegis of FJF,
- Septodont, and
- arcITek.

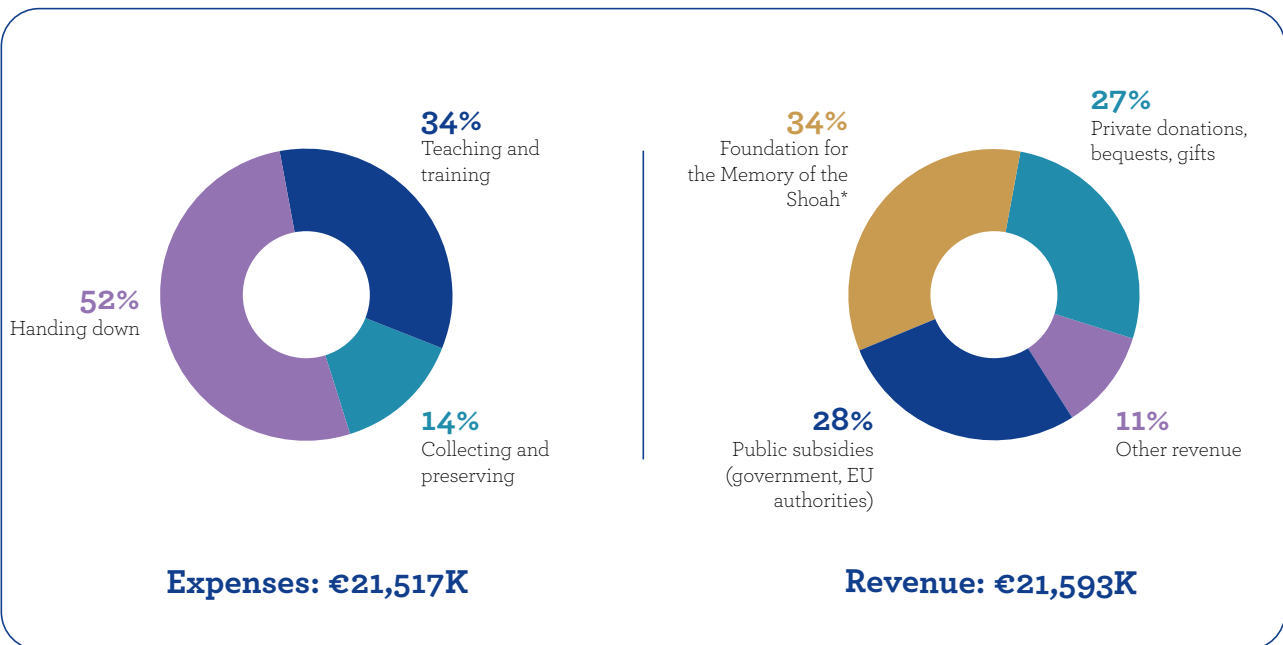
The Memorial would like to express its deep gratitude to testators who, through their generosity and trust, have chosen to provide lasting support for its work:

- Françoise K. (Paris)
- Nicole R-E. (Paris)
- Joseph K. (Paris)
- Monique T. (Asnières)
- Louisette B. (Paris)
- Patrick B. (Lyon)

Their commitment makes a valuable contribution to the pursuit of our missions of remembrance, transmission and raising awareness.

Support
for
the
Memorial

2025 operating budget



**excluding investments*

A Tribute to Two Committed Women

In 2025, the Shoah Memorial lost two figures deeply committed to the cause of remembrance. The passing of **Hélène Mouchard-Zay**, Founding President of the **CERCIL**, and **Laura Fontana**, the Shoah Memorial's representative in Italy, was met with deep emotion.

Both women dedicated their lives to conveying the history of the Holocaust and upholding the values of knowledge, vigilance and transmission that lie at the heart of the Memorial's mission.



Hélène Mouchard-Zay
© Michel Isaac / Shoah Memorial



Laura Fontana
© DR



Annual Report

Shoah Memorial

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Making a bequest to the Shoah Memorial, or naming it as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, ensures the remembrance of the Shoah. It passes this legacy on to younger generations to protect them from the consequences of antisemitism and racism. It means supporting a mission of universal reach and educating the adults of tomorrow about the values of tolerance and freedom so they can build a better world.

For more information: legs.memorialdelashoah.org

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