

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	ASSOCIAZIONE CULTURALE QUARANTASETTEZEROQUATTRO
PIC number:	948142894
Project name and acronym:	RE 4 Healing: Crossborder Remembrance, Reconnection, Restoring and Resilience – RE4 Healing

EVENT DESCRIPTION			
Event number:	WP 6		
Event name:	Between history and memories of the Upper Adriatic Area		
Type:	Forum – open talk		
In situ/online:	[in-situ]		
Location:	Trieste, 23.01.2026; Gorizia-Nova Gorica, 24.01.2026		
Date(s):	23-24.01.2026		
Website(s) (if any):	https://www.quarantasettezeroquattro.it/evento/luoghi-memorie-comunita/ https://www.quarantasettezeroquattro.it/evento/luoghi-memorie-comunita-2/		
Participants			
Female:	38		
Male:	27		
Non-binary:	/		
From country 1 [Italy]:	51		
From country 2 [Slovenia]:	9		
From country 3 [Austria]:	3		
From country 4 [Croatia]:	1		
From country 5 [Canada]:	1		
Total number of participants:	65	From total number of countries:	5
Description			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			

On January 23, 2026, and January 24, 2026, Quarantasettezeroquattro organised a public event in Trieste and Gorizia. The aim of the event was to create an opportunity for discussion about the complex topics of history, memories, and places of remembrance, through an approach of empathy and understanding of the tragedies of the past.

On both days, the event consisted of guided visits (a walk through the city center of Trieste and a visit to an exhibition in Gorizia-Nova Gorica) and discussions. The aim was to invite the participants to reflect on the connection between the public policies of remembrance, personal remembrance, and public spaces: who decides what should be remembered and how it should be remembered? And how do these politics of remembrance affect a space where different memories of the past are present, some of them being not fully included and/or recognized in the public discourse? The round table in Trieste had the main aim of creating a context where the different communities living in the border area could have the possibility to interact together; at the discussion in Gorizia-Nova Gorica, the aim was to have a moment of critical evaluation of the long-term impact of the European Capital of Culture with regard to the politics of remembrance.

ACTIVITIES

Task T6.1: Organization of the Forum: during autumn 2025, all the details of the Forum were defined—the locations, dates, and contents. The definition of the speakers for the round table in Trieste was particularly challenging: it had already happened in events in the previous years and decades to have speakers from the Esuli organisations and the Slovene community in Italy at the same table, but it is not so common; a friendly framework had to be created in order to allow the invited guests to accept the invitation.

Task T6.2: Forum: the event was organised by the historian Štefan Čok and by Alex Tamer, both from Quarantasettezeroquattro. Štefan Čok conducted the walk in Trieste, the round table in Trieste at the Centro European Initiative in via Genova 9 on January 23, 2026, at 5.30 p.m., and the discussion in Gorizia-Nova Gorica at the EPIC center, Kolodvorska 10, on January 24 at 12.00 p.m. Alex Tamer, who was scheduled to moderate the discussion on Saturday, was unable to do so because of health issues but was present and assisted in the organization.

In Trieste, the event had two different activities: first, a public walk through different places of remembrance, including the building on via Cologna where in 1945 there was the so-called "Ispettorato speciale di pubblica sicurezza", an entity created by the Fascist government and later involved, through its collaboration with the Nazi occupation, in the repression of the antifascist and partisan movements in the upper Adriatic area. It was a place where civilians were tortured; today it is a renovated building that hosts private apartments—only the original cellars and the plaque inaugurated in 2015 have been preserved. It is a place of tragedy and of rebirth, with many open questions about the relationship between contemporary society and the past. The second and third points of the walk were Oberdan and Libertà squares, places that are deeply involved in the history of the city but also in the present: are the numerous students crossing both squares every day aware of the difficult past embodied by these squares? This was the main question of the public walk.

After the walk, a round table took place with the participation of different speakers: it involved members of the Slovenian community and of the Esuli, in dialogue with the scientific work of historians and anthropologists. The invited guests were the journalist Martina Vocci, the cultural worker Martin Lissiach, the historian Gloria Nemeč, and the anthropologist Katja Hrobat Virloget. Unfortunately, Livio Dorigo, one of the most prominent intellectuals of the Esuli, couldn't participate because of health issues. The participants had the possibility to speak in their mother tongue with simultaneous interpretation. The round table was completely filmed, and the content will be available for the documentary. The president of the Associazione delle Comunità Istriane (one of the most prominent organisations of Italian Esuli), Giorgio Tessarolo, and the president of Slovenska kulturno gospodarska zveza (one of the two umbrella organisations of the Slovenes in Italy), Nives Košuta, attended the round table.

On the second day, the event moved to the border area of Gorizia-Nova Gorica, precisely to the EPIC center, the new center created exactly on the border as a result of the European Capital of Culture Nova Gorica – Gorizia 2025. The participants had the opportunity to have a guided tour of the exhibition "Gorizia città sul confine; Gorica mesto na meji" ("a city on the border") and then to listen to a discussion with two prominent historians, Kaja Širok from Slovenia and Alessandro Cattunar from Italy. This event was also completely recorded, and it will be available for the documentary.

On the same day, two interviews were collected: with the already mentioned Alessandro Cattunar and Dušan Kalc, a member of the Slovenian community in Trieste, a former journalist, and a person who spent the last decades of his life in the promotion of an important place of remembrance, the Opicina-Opčine polygon.

Interpreters for Slovenian and Italian languages were provided to translate the testimonies and the event as such. Participants were therefore able to speak in their own language.

T6.3 Evaluation: After the event, the impact in the public sphere was evaluated, through a review of the published articles in the media. At the same time, the content of the filmed events and interviews was prepared for further use. Mainly, in the case of the round table in Trieste and the discussion in Gorizia-Nova Gorica, the entire filmed recording was edited to have two versions, one entirely in Italian and the second one entirely in Slovenian, using the original speeches of the guests and the recorded translation of the interpreters. This work allows for the coherent use of the contents of the events in the documentary.

Deliverable: D.4.1 Invitation for the roundtable – Quarantasettezeroquattro website and Facebook page; List of participants; Articles in the local newspapers, both in printed and digital form.

MEDIA LINKS:

Invitation:

<https://www.quarantasettezeroquattro.it/evento/luoghi-memorie-comunita/>

<https://www.quarantasettezeroquattro.it/evento/luoghi-memorie-comunita-2/>

<https://www.facebook.com/quarantasettezeroquattro/posts/pfbid02YExbvUwsqQqdFSFD6oMFpwTfFJjeDghAzCKSevvrVvNcDmUfdii7czDYqRwQE6s8l>

<https://www.facebook.com/quarantasettezeroquattro/posts/pfbid02bKqyXDZcfZbYAnBfUVuE1KW2X345zCJM6uMJSh3RjkzEhnVbk9Kec8SsHBxhRFwpl>

<https://www.facebook.com/quarantasettezeroquattro/posts/pfbid02KW3VsEQkVHgksbgUjBsrL7AjTB8hozUMJ1dQ15DRqPZqp8NDnARvWTFbD4iuKqRyl>

Press coverage:

<https://www.nordest24.it/luoghi-memorie-comunita-evento-trieste-gorizia-nova-gorica>

<https://www.ilpais.it/2026/01/19/luoghi-memorie-comunita-tra-passato-futuro-delle-terre-di-confine/>

<https://triestecafe.it/it/news/eventi/trieste-gorizia-e-nova-gorica-unite-da-storia-e-memoria-ripercorriamole-assieme-19-gennaio.html>

<https://www.nordestnews.it/2026/01/19/luoghi-memorie-comunita-tra-passato-futuro-delle-terre-di-confine-due-giorni-di-eventi-tra-trieste-gorizia-e-nova-gorica/>

<https://www.turismofvg.it/eventi/luoghi-memorie-comunita-tra-passato-futuro-delle-terre-di-confine-476017> (the webpage cancels the past events, the screenshot is available with the screenshots of the printed media)

<https://www.il-meridiano.it/eventi/19358-luoghi-memorie-comunita-trieste-gorizia-e-nova-gorica-unite-in-un-percorso-transfrontaliero.html>

<https://primafriuli.it/luoghi-memorie-comunita-evento-trieste-gorizia-nova-gorica>

<https://friulivg.it/2026/01/21/luoghi-memorie-comunita-tra-passato-e-futuro-delle-terre-di-confine-due-giorni-di-eventi-a-trieste-gorizia-e-nova-gorica/>

<https://www.informatrieste.eu/ts/blog/luoghi-memorie-comunita-tra-passato-futuro-delle-terre-di-confine/>

<https://www.udinenews.net/luoghi-memorie-comunita-due-giorni-tra-trieste-gorizia-e-nova-gorica-per-rileggere-il-passato-delle-terre-di-confine/>

<https://www.ilpais.it/2026/01/22/luoghi-memorie-comunita-tra-passato-futuro-delle-terre-di-confine-2/>

<https://www.ilgoriziano.it/articolo/tra-eredita-di-go-2025-e-nodo-delle-memorie-le-due-gorizie-cuore-del-dialogo-transfrontaliero-22-gennaio-2026>

<https://novice.najdi.si/novica/c8a4bc6e0998170fd012d7cead428550/regional-obala-okrogla-miza-kraji-spomini-skupnosti>