

W!RE Women
in Resistance

GUIDELINE for

STUDENTS



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<https://webs.uab.cat/wire>

About

WIRE

When analysing **collective narratives and imaginaries about anti-totalitarian resistance in Europe**, one issue that stands out is the scant attention paid to the role of women. With notable exceptions, the Resistance appears as “something men do”, and women play a secondary and subsidiary role. The two-year EU funded WIRE project aims to place the role of women -both as agents and as victims- at the centre of present-day historical narratives of anti-totalitarian resistance in Europe, to help reshape historical memory and the values associated with it.

The WIRE consortium is formed by the [Autonomous University of Barcelona](#) (UAB - coordinator), and [Memorial Democràtic](#) (MEMO), from Spain; the [Villa Decius Association](#) (Vila Decius) from Poland;

the [Scuola di Pace di Monte Sole](#) (Monte Sole), in Italy; and the [Contemporary Social History Archives](#) (ASKI), in Greece.

WIRE activities aim to link the academic knowledge on the role of women in resistance movements and the promotion of historical awareness among the public. Participants will identify women in various resistance movements in Europe and reconstruct their memories to make them publicly known.

Our final aim is to contribute to academic and public knowledge of the history and memory of women’s participation in anti-totalitarian resistance in Europe.



ITALY

Local Events



Educate to resistance

2023

Historical archives to be consulted:

- Istituto Nazionale Ferruccio Parri. Rete degli Istituti per la storia della Resistenza e dell'età contemporanea (Ferruccio Parri National Institute. Network of Institutes for the History of the Resistance and Contemporary Age).
- Istituto storico Parri (former Ferruccio Parri Regional Institute for the history of the liberation movement and the movement and contemporary age in Emilia-Romagna).
- Fondazione Gramsci in Bologna.

Workshops for school students

Each class will participate in a one-day workshop on the Monte Sole Massacre site, plus three to four follow-up meetings at school to deepen examples from the past and analyse their influence in the present.

The participants will learn about the so-called "silenced resistance".

MONTE experts will lead an introductory seminar for teachers, to help them elaborate a line of research for their students. A selection of the best research works produced within the classes will be published in the Online Exhibition.

Workshops for adults

Workshops on the Monte Sole site offered during spring/summer weekends, including a "resistance walk" on Massacre Memorial Path and the production of content about the influence of historical experiences.

Exhibiting resistance

2024

Publishing the results

Starting from and using the findings of the workshops, a series of books will be produced. There will be public readings and presentations.

Preparing the exhibition

A crucial question for action will be asked to members and participants of cultural associations directly linked to the activities: "Discover a woman who, with her actions, opposed oppression". The answers and the relating materials will be used for the creation of a physical exhibition.

Collecting a selection of the outcomes

Among the works prepared in the previous task, a selection will be chosen to be adapted and then published in the Online Permanent Exhibition.

Running the exhibition

Launch of the virtual exhibition and display of the physical one in different locations such as libraries, malls, public squares.

Leading organisation: Monte Sole

www.montesole.org



POLAND

Local Events



Write the game. the workshops

2023

Kick-off meeting, Krakow, PL

Call for applications

Recruitment of 10 students to a core group participating in Memory Route activities (in Poland and abroad), and 20 participants engaged in the local activities.

Preparatory works

Archival research, reconstruction of the cases-biographies of the Polish women in resistance.

Workshops

Four-day long workshop in September 2023, in Krakow to develop four narrative game scenarios.

Evaluation

Online evaluation of the workshop.

The 1st phase includes archival work, creation of educational materials and scriptwriting workshops during which participants will develop narrative game scenarios inspired by biographies of Polish women in resistance. There will be inspirational lectures, scriptwriting workshops, creation of a Quest, and individual meetings with mentors.

In the 2nd phase, participants will promote the narrative games and will share their experiences with the WIRE network. The outcomes of the workshops will be presented at a gaming event in Villa Decius in 2024 and open to the public later on.

During the Memory Route's activities, participants will create and use innovative tools such as: podcast, educational paths, online exhibitions, and digital repository of biographies.

Write the game

2024

Memory Route in Poland

Write the Game 2nd workshop in Krakow.

Game Arena in Villa Decius

Gaming event organized in the Villa Decius, making the outputs of the project available to the public.

Memory Route

Project activities in Spain, Greece, and Italy.

The participants will engage in a gaming event in Villa Decius and open to the public, to foster networking between young educators and representatives from the creative sector.

The Game Arena will be the ideal place to present, test and evaluate the scenarios of the narrative games on female in resistance. A special Game Chamber will be organized at Villa Decius to give an open access to the public and promote the fruits of the workshops.

Leading organisation: Villa Decius

<https://villa.org.pl/dziedzictwo-kulturowe/wire/>



SPAIN

Local Events



Exposing Memory

2023

The participants will analyse how women victims of Francisco Franco's violence lived and resisted during the Spanish post-civil war years: from women who had to obtain guarantees to get their relatives out of a concentration camp or prison, the request for aid to be able to eat, request for favours to commute death sentences, widows who were left in situations of precariousness due to the lack of a husband, etc.

An enriched glossary of terms, historical workshops and a selection of texts and materials for the Theatrical play will be developed. A selection of results will be included in the Online Permanent Exhibition.

Educational workshops

Series of workshops for high school students (five group-class) with materials from the Witness Archive of the Democratic Memorial, documents from the National Archive of Catalonia and the Archive of the Republic Pavilion of the University of Barcelona.

Specific tasks:

- Creation of a glossary of terms.
- Co-creation of content on female resistance from Memorial Democratic's BAT (Audiovisual bank of testimonies).
- Selection of potential content for the set design of the future play (as a script, as an auditory resource, as a flyer to distribute).
- Exposing Memory
- Preparation and development of an exhibition, joint venture WIRE Online Exhibition and Democratic Memorial website.
- Dossier
- Production of a pedagogical dossier for high schools in collaboration with Edicions de la Generalitat de Catalunya.

Memory on Stage

2024

The participants will create an *ex-novo* artistic play, where texts on women and resistance proposed in the previous work will be read and interpreted. The play will be premiered in the context of the Memory Route Final Event and will open a discussion.

Selection and re-elaboration of texts by/ for two actresses

A small theatre company in Catalonia will be selected by MEMO to work on the contents suggested in the Exposing Memory action, and to elaborate with it a play proposal for two actresses.

Rehearsal, premiere of the play, public debate

The work produced by the company will be rehearsed and premiered in the context of the Final Event. Afterwards, a public discussion will be opened, recorded, and published online.

Leading organisation: MEMORIAL DEMOCRÀTIC

memoria.gencat.cat



GREECE

Local Events



Public discussion on female resistance

2024

Meetings and call for proposals

Meetings with different stakeholders (historians, oral history groups, cultural institutions, artists, teachers, and students).

ASKI will launch a call for proposals to consider different ideas and suggestions, and finally select the participants. The whole process will actively involve around 100 persons.

Public event

Design, organization, and promotion of the public event.

Leading organisation: ASKI

www.askiweb.eu

This open debate will actively involve around 100 persons to test and evaluate the narratives on female resistance developed by the participants during the local actions in 2023.

The discussion will allow participants to suggest further ways to promote scientific knowledge about female resistance to wider audiences through artistic representations, cultural activities, and extracurricular activities, implicating different actors (historians, groups of oral history, cultural institutions, artists, teachers, students, etc.).



The Memory

ROUTE

Over four months, a group of 40 final-year university students will carry out four educational and research activities in the partner countries. At a Final Event held in Barcelona, students will engage in dialogue with memory agents and victims and present their own research findings to policy makers and stakeholders.

Activities

Italy. Memory Route in Monte Sole

The Memory Routers in Italy will delve deeper into the Monte Sole Massacre history, to identify issues and critical themes in relation to their general knowledge of WWII and to the WWII history in their country of origin.

This research will be helped by Professor Luca Baldissara (Pisa University), one of the most relevant Italian historians in terms of Monte Sole research and WWII studies. He will lead the identification of the most crucial European history issues related to dictatorships in terms of resistance to oppression and women involvement in these groups and actions.

Around April 25th (Italy Liberation Day), students will experience the memory path in Monte Sole Historical Park to learn how to "exploit" in an educational way the power of places and biographies. They will take part in commemorative events to bring the WIRE perspective into the official speeches.



Memory Route in Greece: Podcasts on female resistance

The students will search in the Repository to select and investigate 12 life stories of women who took part in the Resistance (3 from Greece, 3 from Spain, 3 from Italy and 3 from Poland).

They will then design 12 scenarios for podcasts of 10 minutes approximately each, according to the relevant guidelines given by ASKI. During their stay in Athens, they will record the audio files which will then be edited professionally.

Spain. Memory Route in Catalonia: Memory in the Walking

The students will engage in a journey through the spaces travelled and lived by different groups and typologies of female resistance in the context of the Spanish Civil War and the post-war period.

Memory Walk #2. Maqui Route. A walk to the route of the maquis in the Vall d'en Bas. It will show the collaboration and resistance networks of the female world within the context of the anti-Franco armed struggle. SO-CLOSE digital tool for mapping will be used as a central methodology, to generate small personally created information pills linking geography and memory. Previous training documents will be sent to final users two weeks before the activity.

Memory Walk #3. Exile. Visit to the Exile Memorial Museum in La Jonquera. Walk#3 will show women and their role of resistance in concentration camps in France, as well as their role in the French resistance during World War II.

Memory Route in Poland: Write the Game

The students of the core group will share their experiences in the creation of narrative game scenarios with Memory Routers and will present the results of their work during the workshop at Villa Decius in 2023. The possibilities of using historical sites as an inspiration for a non-conventional educational tool will be discussed.

A 2 day-long workshop for Memory Routers from 4 countries will be organized to present the creation process of narrative game scenarios and the possible use of narrative games as an educational tool in the historical education. During the workshop, the participants will create 4 narrative game scenarios.

Scriptwriting workshops. 2 day-long international workshops to develop four narrative game scenarios. Presentation.

Online Publication. Presentation of the four narrative games scenarios and the narrative games as educational tool.



The Memory Route

Academic Conference and Final Event

The Academic Conference and the Final Event will take place in Barcelona as a double-purpose activity: an international academic activity to close and present the scientific results of WIRE, and a Final Event of the Memory Route in which the own results and conclusions from the students are presented in the framework of a debate with different actors (victims, groups memorials, policy makers, academics) and show the public some of the WIRE's outcomes.

Academic Conference

It will be the preliminary work for one of the most important and sustainable results of WIRE, the scientific publication of a brand-new interpretative proposal of the Resistance from the female experiences. The Conference will be open for all the academic and non-academic public and will count on the participation of the Memory Route participants.

- **Participants selection and confirmation.** Based on its own expertise, UAB will analyse the current state of the art in transnational studies on War, Resistance, Gender and Violence.

- **Conference.** Travel preparation, accommodation and the Conference completion in Barcelona, Spain, over two days. Will include a keynote speech and four invited lectures. Among the invited guest speakers are Jelena Batinic, Padraic Kenney, Luca Baldissara, Mercedes Yusta and Tasoula Vervenioti.

- **Scientific publication.** UAB will propose and coordinate the publication of a Special Issue on a JCR-SCOPUS Scientific Journal related to the topics of the Conference.

Final Event

UAB will organize a Final Event to be held in Barcelona immediately after the Academic Conference.

Preliminary agenda:

Day 1:

- Seminar with four memorial institutions or victims' associations from Spain, Poland, Italy, and Greece.
- Seminar with policy makers, memorial institutions, cultural and institutional representatives, where a representation of the students will present the conclusions of their work.
- Presentation of the Online Permanent Exhibition.
- Presentation of the Repository.

Day 2:

- Theatrical performance (prepared during the Memory Route activity in Catalonia).
- Evaluation session.
- Closing dinner.

Other Memory Route

ACTIVITIES

Online Exhibition

The permanent Online Exhibition aims to gather the project's outcomes and narratives, to preserve the digitised and collected materials, as well as the methodologies of the educational activities.

It will display the materials and projects created as part of the local events, as well as during the Memory Route activities (podcasts, publications, etc.).

Repository of life stories, biographies, contexts, and historical narratives on female resistance

This user-friendly open-access and joint repository aspires to serve as a research tool and a knowledge framework on female resistance for the public. It also aims to become a platform on female resistance for the dissemination of alternative historical narratives.

It will include the digitalised archives on female resistance, as well as the descriptions of historical contexts and alternative narratives, the selected women biographies and life stories.



Calendar





