

Project Description

“Self-determined networking, remembrance & education” (SVEB)

2026–2027

I. Background and Context of the pilot project

For many years, survivors, those affected and family members of people targeted by right-wing extremist, racist and anti-Semitic violence have organised themselves in initiatives. Together, they try to process the violence and loss they have experienced, keep remembrance alive, and demand social and political accountability. These initiatives carry out indispensable work at the intersection of remembrance, political education, public awareness, and advocacy. As involuntary experts on the issues they address, they draw not only on lived experience but also on extensive practical, institutional and research knowledge acquired through years of advocacy. Their work is tied to personal experiences of violence, loss, marginalisation and institutional failure. In many cases, it is carried out under precarious structural conditions, often on a volunteer basis and without long-term security. Those affected have built structures, knowledge, networks and remembrance initiatives over decades despite these circumstances. Precisely because these achievements emerged under such conditions, they must be recognised and acknowledged in their own right.

The project “Self-determined networking, remembrance and education” builds on this foundation. It draws on existing networks, approaches and structures and seeks to systematically develop them and ensure their long-term stability. The project is coordinated and technically supported by the Amadeu Antonio Foundation. The participating initiatives implement the project's activities independently within their respective local, regional or thematic contexts, taking into account the needs of those affected. Thereby, they advance the project's objectives within their own communities and spheres of action.

II. Objectives of the Pilot Project

The overarching objective of the project is to strengthen the self-determined work of initiatives led by those affected by right-wing extremist, racist and anti-Semitic violence and enable them to act long-term. This overarching objective encompasses several interconnected goals that together shape the project's impact.

A central objective is to increase the **visibility of the perspectives of those affected**. The project aims to enable the initiatives to contribute their experiences, analyses and demands more effectively to social, political, professional and media discourses. Visibility is understood as a prerequisite for recognition, political agency and meaningful participation in society.

Another key objective is to **consolidate and further develop sustainable organisational structures** within the initiatives. This includes establishing solid organisational and staff capacities that enable the initiatives to work consistently, take on responsibility and engage in long-term planning.

In addition, SVEB seeks to **strengthen** systematically the initiatives' professional, methodological and organisational **capacities**. It aims to enable them to further develop and professionalise their work in the fields of remembrance, political education, public relations, networking and advocacy.

Another objective is to strengthen the initiatives' **advocacy and lobbying work**. The project seeks to empower them to advocate effectively to politicians, government agencies, and institutions for their concerns in order to help shape political processes and participate in decision-making.

The project also aims to consolidate and expand **networking, exchange and empowerment**. The initiatives will continue to work as part of a nationwide and transnational network, learning from one another, developing shared strategies and working together in solidarity.

A further objective is to advance **self-determined remembrance practices**. The initiatives are developing and sustaining their own forms of remembrance and embedding them permanently within local, regional and nationwide cultures of remembrance.

Finally, the pilot project aims to strengthen the long-term sustainability and institutional anchoring of **educational work**. Educational programmes rooted in the perspectives of those affected will be further developed, tested in practice and secured for the long term.

All of the project's objectives are based on the specific needs of those affected. Every aspect of the project is planned, implemented and continuously refined through participatory processes with the initiatives.

III. Intended Participants

The pilot project is primarily aimed at initiatives led by survivors, those affected and family members of people targeted by right-wing extremist, racist and anti-Semitic violence, as well as volunteers and supporters active in these initiatives.

IV. Measures and Allocation of Responsibilities

A central area of activity is the structural development and long-term securing of the work of the initiatives. This includes funding for project staff, securing workspaces, meeting places and memorial

spaces, and further developing the administrative and organisational structures of the initiatives. In addition, the project provides opportunities for reflection, supervision and self-care in order to help staff cope with the high emotional demands of their work.

A further area of activity focuses on capacity building. SVEB organises thematic workshops, training programmes and peer exchange formats on topics including political education, organisational development, public relations, fundraising, self-care and advocacy. The initiatives take part in these activities, integrate the knowledge and skills they acquire into their own work, and further develop them in response to their specific needs.

The pilot project also includes measures to strengthen self-determined remembrance practices. The initiatives develop, organise and implement commemorative events, real-life and digital remembrance projects as well as forms and practices of documentation and archiving. SVEB provides professional support throughout these processes and supports networking with stakeholders in the field of remembrance policy.

Another key area of activity is public relations and advocacy. The project supports the initiatives in developing joint positions, preparing expert and dialogue formats with policymakers and government officials, and drafting statements, policy recommendations and other resources. The initiatives actively contribute their perspectives to these processes, participate in dialogue and consultation, and carry out advocacy activities within their respective contexts.

The project also includes measures to strengthen networking and exchange. The Foundation organises regular nationwide project meetings and, where appropriate, international exchange formats. These provide opportunities for joint reflection, knowledge exchange and the development of shared strategies. The initiatives play an active role in these meetings, contributing their experiences and helping shape their content.

A further area of activity focuses on the continued development and long-term sustainability of educational work. The initiatives develop educational programmes, workshops, dialogue sessions in schools and educational materials based on the perspectives of those affected. SVEB supports the development of shared modules and guidance materials for educational work centred on the experiences and perspectives of those affected while also providing professional support to ensure the quality of this work.