

ANNUAL
REPORT



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Learn, Educate, Act for Diversity & Human Rights

The Tom Lantos Institute (TLI) is an independent human and minority rights organisation with a particular focus on Jewish and Roma communities, and on Hungarian and other ethnic or national, linguistic and religious minorities. It is a Budapest-based organisation with a multi-party Board of Trustees, an international Executive Committee, and Advisory Board. TLI operates internationally in terms of scope, funding, staff and

partners. As a research and education platform, TLI aims to bridge the gaps between research and policy, norms and practice.

TLI focuses on human rights and identity issues in general, and also works on three specific issue areas. These include: Jewish life and antisemitism; Roma rights and citizenship; and Hungarian minorities.

2017 RESEARCH AND PROJECT AREAS

Human Rights and Identity

- Assessing the UN Forum on Minority Issues
- International Studies in Human Rights and Identity
- Global Minority Rights Summer School

Roma Rights and Citizenship

- Roma Resistance during the Holocaust and its aftermath
- Participation of Roma women in public affairs
- ROMED program impact assessment
- Teacher training on freedom, community responsibility, and solidarity in the Roma Holocaust

Jewish Life and Antisemitism

- Modern antisemitism in the Visegrád countries
- The past, present, and future of Hungarian Jewry outside the capital
- Informal education projects against antisemitism
- Reconciliation in the Hungarian society

Hungarian Minorities

- Advocacy trainings in Transylvania
- Capacity building for local minority rights organisations and activists

RESEARCH

We continued our project *Global Governance of Minority Rights – Assessing the UN Forum on Minority Issues* and presented the preliminary findings of the research at the 10th session of the Forum in Geneva.

We also continued our research project on *Modern Antisemitism in the Visegrád countries*. This research examines different forms of country-specific manifestations of modern antisemitism while considering the region's historical, legal, and political context in comprehensive analysis.

We launched a research fellowship programme investigating various aspects of *Roma Resistance during the Holocaust and in its Aftermath*.

UN Forum on Minority Issues at 10: Achievements and Enhancements

DR. ANNA-MARIA BIRO
DIRECTOR, TOM LANTOS INSTITUTE

DR. CORINNE LENNOX
SENIOR LECTURER, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES



We organised a five-day multi-disciplinary workshop on Social Identity, Collective Memory and Reconciliation in Today's Hungarian Society. A series of lectures, roundtables and other public events focused on various aspects of past traumas, present cohabitation and reconciliation.

In conjunction with the Day of Remembrance, a short conference was held to introduce the history of the local Jewry in Sátoraljaújhely.

We organised a **needs-assessment workshop** for Roma women focusing on overcoming obstacles they face when participating in public affairs.

We hosted **research workshops** with the participation of respected experts as part of our projects on Modern Antisemitism in the Visegrád countries and Roma Resistance during the Holocaust and in its Aftermath.



EDUCATION AND TRAININGS

Together with the Haver Foundation and the Lifeboat Unit (Mentőcsónak Egység), we developed an educational project for 16-18 year-old high school students focusing on Jewish identity and addressing antisemitism by combining theatre, drama pedagogy, and informal education.

We held our fifth Global Minority Rights Summer School in Budapest, focusing on populism from the perspective of vulnerable minorities.

We organised a **teacher training** with a focus on the Roma Holocaust. The training was based on the book “If I run they’ll shoot me, if I stop they’ll beat me to death,” targeting 13-14 year-old secondary schools students.

In cooperation with Civil Elkötelezettség Mozgalom (Civic Engagement Movement - CEMO), we trained lawyers and human rights activists on minority rights advocacy in Târgu Mures/ Marosvásárhely and in Cluj Napoca/ Kolozsvár, Romania.

educational project
summer school
teacher training



PUBLICATIONS AND AUDIO-VIDEO MATERIALS

We published a book on various forms of modern antisemitism in the Visegrád countries between 2010 and 2016.

We developed, in partnership with the local Jewish congregation in Győr, an audio-guide for the permanent exhibition on Jewish Religious and Local History at Menház. We also launched a publication on the history of local Jewry.

We recorded video interviews with prominent Roma women talking about their inspiring stories.

We supported a publication on the history of the local Jewry in Sátoraljaújhely.

We prepared a 150-page educational manual for teachers engaging with the topic of the Roma Holocaust.

We carried out an impact assessment of ROMED2, a European Programme for Roma Mediators focusing on enhancing participation of Roma in local decision-making.

We prepared the manuscripts for the first volume of TLI's book series International Studies on Human Rights and Identity and for The Noble Banner of Human Rights - Essays in Memory of Tom Lantos.

EVENTS



The Day of Remembrance was held in Sátoraljaújhely. Many activities took place as part of this event, including the renovation of Márton Kesztenbaum's tombstone and the restoration and inauguration of a commemorative plaque at the former Jewish school.

The opening event of Vanishing Points 2.0, an online art project focusing on atrocities targeting Jewish communities between 1945 and 1948, took place in October.

Two side events were organised at the 10th anniversary of the UN Forum on Minority Issues: a consultation meeting on the prototype of a website gathering the essential Forum documents, and an event to share and discuss the key findings of the Forum research.

As part of TLI's New World project, several theatre plays were performed in Jurányi Incubator House in partnership with Átrium Film & Theatre.

INTERNSHIPS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN TLI AS AN INTERN OR FELLOW, PLEASE SEND US YOUR CV AND LETTER OF MOTIVATION (in English).

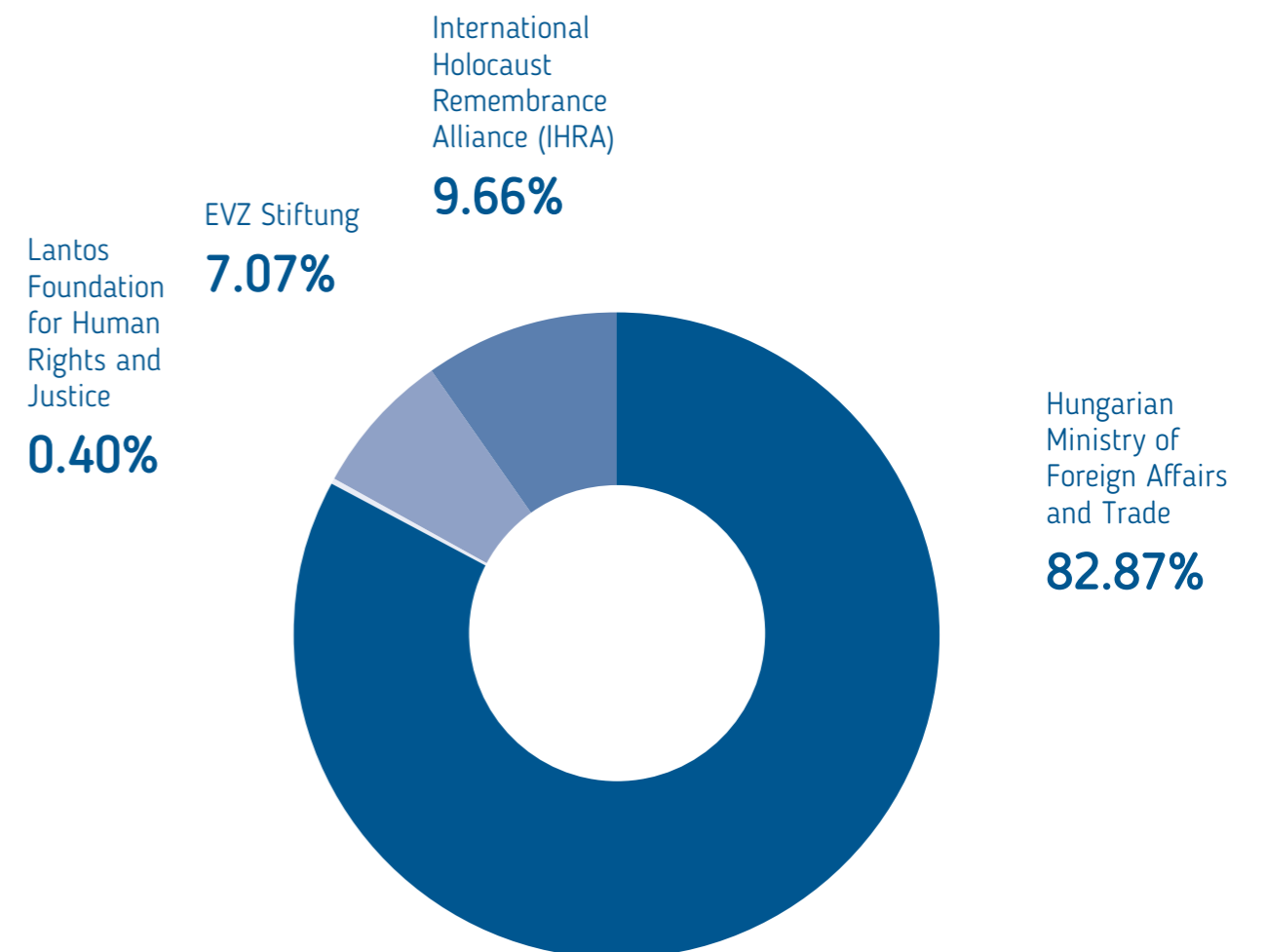
To complement the work of permanent staff, TLI was able to offer internships to young professionals willing to gain knowledge and skills relevant to an international human and minority rights organisation.

In 2017, TLI took on with 3 interns of varying national and educational backgrounds.

FUNDING

The operational expenses of TLI were covered by the annual grant of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. We received project grants from various sources. The pie chart indicates the extent to which each source contributed to the total of our project expenses in 2017.

TLI PROJECT GRANTS 2017



TLI STAFF

Director	Dr. Anna-Mária Bíró
Deputy Director	Máté Fischer
Head of Programmes	Evelin Verhás
Programme Manager for Jewish Life and Antisemitism	Anikó Félix
Programme Manager for Roma Rights and Citizenship	Erzsébet Anita Német (until May, 2017)
Programme Manager for Roma Rights and Citizenship	Ildikó Török (from August, 2017)
Project Assistant for Roma Rights and Citizenship	Lukács Hayes
Financial Manager	Mary Fischer
Administrative and Financial Officer	Renáta Rontó
Communications Officer	Sára Csepregi (until August, 2017)
Programme Co-ordinator	Dániel Nagy

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