



# ***THE PROGRAM REPORT OF CENTER FOR JEWISH EDUCATION ACTIVITY IN 2017***

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## ***PROGRAM REPORT - 2017***

During the year 2017 the entire activity of JECU was highlighted on the website of the organization <https://jecu.org.ua/> and on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/jecu.org.ua/>. Particular materials were also placed on webpages of partner organizations.

Also throughout the year the following work was performed by JECU staff:

- upgrading and updating the database of academic institutions with emphasis on studies of Hebrew, history, literature, tradition of Jewish people and other disciplines of the Jewish cycle;
- organization of meetings and consultations with educators of kindergartens, schools, institutes and universities;
- networking and negotiations with partner Jewish non-governmental and governmental educational structures;
- preparation of documents for legal expertise of donor organizations.

### **The detailed description of the project activity**

***I. February 2, 2017, the 3<sup>rd</sup> (city) stage of the All-Ukrainian Olympiad for students in the Hebrew language was conducted in Kyiv Education and Teaching complex №141 «ORT».***

27 students of 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> forms representing four academic institutions of the capital took part in the Kyiv Olympiad.

The results and task samples of the 3<sup>rd</sup> (city) level All-Ukrainian Olympiad for students in Hebrew with the keys, as well as the list of organizing committee and the winners are placed on the website of the Boris Grinchenko Institute of the Postgraduate Pedagogical Education Kyiv University <http://olimp.ippo.kubg.edu.ua/?p=2799>



***The information about the event is placed on the website:***

***<http://jecu.org.ua/content/vidbuvsya-iii-miskiy-etap-vseukrayinskoyi-uchnivskoyi-olimpiadi-z-ivritu-2017-0>***

*II. March 1-2, 2017, the city of Dnipro hosted  
The Scientific and Practical Conference «Jewish Heritage and Modernity».*



The Conference took place due to cooperation of governmental and non-governmental educational organizations. Thus, **the organizing partners conducting the conference were:**

- The Center for Jewish Education of Ukraine,
- The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine,
- The Institute of Pedagogy of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine,
- The Institute of Education Content Modernization of MOES of Ukraine,
- The Federation of Jewish Communities of Ukraine,
- The Ukrainian Institute of Holocaust Studies «Tkuma».

**The aim of the conference:**

- Discussion of new directions of research and practical results in various trends of Jewish research;
- Exchange of information, discussion of topical issues of teaching and upbringing process organization, methodology of teaching, working with gifted youth in Jewish educational institutions;
- engaging schoolchildren, students, post-graduates to scientific and research activities in the field of Jewish Studies.

The conference agenda included the following directions in terms of humanitarian topics, namely: Jewish studies, pedagogy, psychology, philosophy, history, culturology, linguistics, information technology.

**Dimensions of the conference:**

*For researchers:*

1. Studying Jewish heritage and challenges of the modern world.
2. The history of Jews of Ukraine and Eastern Europe in the world history context.
3. Philosophy of Judaism and modernity.
4. Jewish folklore and literature in Hebrew, Yiddish and other languages.
5. Contribution of Jewish people in science, culture, economics.

*For educators of the system of Jewish education:*

1. Studying Jewish heritage and challenges of the modern world.
2. Conceptual fundamentals of studying Hebrew in comprehensive schools of Ukraine.
3. Topical challenges of teaching and upbringing in the system of the modern Jewish education.
4. Inclusive teaching in the system of Jewish education (methods of psycho-diagnostics, individual program, organization of teaching and upbringing process).
5. IT-based management of the system of education in contemporary Jewish school.

*For senior and secondary school students:*

1. «The Jewish world»: roots, traditions, values.
2. The Jews and Jewish topics in science, art, social life (creative works and essays).
3. Historical contribution of Jewish community in economic and cultural life of my city (another option: «Jewish names in the history of my city»).

The participants of the conference were hospitably met in The Cultural and Business Center «Menora» and IHTI «Beit Khana» Dnipro.

Among the conference participants there were research associates, teachers of tertiary academic institutions, teachers of comprehensive schools, educators of pre-school and inclusive education, the representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations, doctoral candidates, post-graduates and master-degree students, as well as the students - members of Minor Academy of Science of Ukraine.

Thus active part in the conference work was taken by JECU members, namely **Nataliia Bakulina**, the JECU director, PhD in Education, **Raisa Gekhtman**, the JECU methodologist and director of Pedagogical laboratory, who performed at the plenary assembly and prepared substantial reports about the challenges of Jewish education presented during the working sections.

The talks aroused interest and motivated expert discussion of the colleagues. During the talks the main attention was focused on fundamental and practical challenges of modern formal and non-formal Jewish education. The actual operating methodological support of the Jewish cycle subjects, in particular Hebrew and Jewish literature, was presented. Also JECU prepared a presentation of updated Internet-resources of JECU and the «Shorashim» Project: web-sites and web-pages in social networks.

Results of the conference will be published in «The Jewish knowledge» magazine and in its attachment teaching almanac «Khinukh» («Upbringing»).



The information about the conference is placed on the websites:

<http://jecu.org.ua/content/naukovo-praktichna-konferenciya-ievreyska-spadshchina-ta-suchasnist-proyshla-u-dnipri>

<http://www.bethana.org.ua/templates/blog/post.asp?aid=1760386&postid=66228&p=1>

### III. On March 27-29, 2017, the city of Dnipro hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> stage of the 3<sup>rd</sup> All-Ukrainian Olympiad for students in Hebrew and Jewish literature.



The organizers of the Olympiad were the following state and non-governmental educational institutions, as well as Jewish non-governmental organizations:

- The Center of Jewish Education of Ukraine,
- The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine,
- The Institute of Education Content Modernization of the MOES of Ukraine,
- The Institute of Pedagogy of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine,
- The Department of Education and Science of the Dnipropetrovsk Regional State Administration,
- The International Humanitarian and Teachers-training Institute «Beit Khana»,
- The Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities of Ukraine (VAAD Ukraine),
- The Eurasian Jewish Congress (The Kyiv office),
- The Center for Research of History and Culture of the Eastern European Jewry,
- The Ukrainian Institute of Holocaust Studies «Tkuma»,
- The Federation of Jewish Communities Of Ukraine.

**Location:** IHTI «Beit Khana» and the Cultural and Business Center «Menora», Dnipro.

**The aim of the Olympiad** is spiritual, creative, intellectual development of youth, its upbringing in the spirit of patriotism and democratic values, its engaging to preservation and cognition of cultural heritage of national minorities of Ukraine; disseminating the knowledge of languages and literature of the national minorities of Ukraine, in particular Hebrew and Jewish literature, among students, enhancing their level of education; formation of national

consciousness in the young generation, as well as tolerance and ability to live in a multinational and poly-cultural society, comprehension of common and distinguishing features in history and culture of the ethnic groups, living in Ukraine.

***The main tasks of the Olympiads*** were:

- stimulating creative self-empowerment of children;
- enhancing interest of students to in-depth learning Hebrew and Jewish literature and culture;
- exposure and development of talented students and providing assistance in their career choice;
- forming a creative generation of young scholars;
- actualization of studying Hebrew and Jewish literature in educational institutions, activation of all forms of out-of-school work with students of extra-curricular sections and studios;
- exposure, dissemination and implementation of contemporary techniques, methods, innovations, technologies of teaching Hebrew and Jewish literature in the teaching and education process;
- support and enhancing professional efficiency of the teachers working in educational institutions with the emphasis on studying Hebrew and Jewish literature;
- engaging the faculty, post-graduates, students of philological departments of higher educational institutions to active assistance to educational institutions in the cause of improvement of teaching Hebrew and Jewish literature;
- organizing teams for participation in the international Olympiads in Hebrew and Jewish literature.

***Geography of participants:*** among those who took part in the event were schoolchildren, studying the Hebrew language in comprehensive educational institutions of various regions of Ukraine, in particular from Bila Tserkva, Dnipro, Zaporizhyya, Kamenskoye, Kyiv, Odessa, Kharkiv and Chernivtsi. Among the Olympiad contestants there were four students of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, six pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, seven pupils of the 11<sup>th</sup> grade - 17 pupils in total.

Coordination of the Olympiad was performed by Zh. A. Koshkina, the methodologist of the Institute of Education Content Modernization, an expert of the MOES of Ukraine (the deputy chairperson of the organizing committee) together with I.A.Kruger, the teacher and vice-principal of the Chernivtsi "ORT" specialized elementary and secondary school № 41.

The event was organized on the basis of IHTI «Beit Khana» due to the efforts of the pedagogical team headed by R.S. Aronov, the rector and candidate of Pedagogical Sciences, together with the Dnipropetrovsk branch of the Institute of Postgraduate Pedagogical Education (IPPE) represented by V.A. Chigrin, a senior professor of the communal higher academic institution «Dnipropetrovsk Regional Institute of Postgraduate Pedagogical Education».

The following scholars and practicing teachers were invited to work in the ***expert jury of the 4th stage of the 3<sup>rd</sup> All-Ukrainian Olympiad for students in Hebrew and Jewish literature:***

N.V. Bakulina, senior research associate of The Institute of Pedagogy of the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences Of Ukraine, the candidate of Pedagogical Sciences, director of the Center for Jewish Education of Ukraine (the Chairman of The Jury),

O.V.Kompaniets, professor of Kharkiv Skovoroda National Pedagogical University (expert-consultant);

***The members of the Jury were:***

A. D. Shcherbak, the teacher of comprehensive the academic institution – the Chernivtsi «ORT» elementary and secondary specialized school № 41

A. N. Yakovleva, the teacher of the "ORT" teaching and educational complex № 141, Dniprovskiy district of Kyiv,

E. A. Bukach, the teacher of teaching and educational association «School-kindergarten «Mitzva-613», Bila Tserkva, Kyiv region.

N. A. Berezhnaya, the teacher of Odessa elementary and secondary specialized school «Educational resources and technological training» № 94 with emphasis on Hebrew and IT Studies of Odessa City Council, Odessa region,

V. V. Greka, the teacher of the comprehensive academic institution «OR-Avner». The town of Kamenskoye, Dnipropetrivsk region,

Khava Fruma Stambler (Engelsman), the teacher of the communal institution - education teaching and education complex № 144 «Specialized school with emphasis on Hebrew, the history of Jewish people, Jewish traditions plus pre-school educational institution (kindergarten)» of the Dnipro City Council.

The tasks offered to the participants of 4<sup>th</sup> stage of the 3<sup>rd</sup> All-Ukrainian Olympiad for students in Hebrew and Jewish literature were composed in compliance with the demands of curricula in Hebrew and Jewish literature. The vast majority of participants completed them at a rather high level, having shown decent results.

Thus, among the students of 9<sup>th</sup> forms the winners were Tetyana Shcherbak (the 1<sup>st</sup> grade diploma) and Mushka Otsberg (the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade diploma), 10<sup>th</sup> forms – Kyrylo Sokolinskiy (the 1<sup>st</sup> grade diploma), Valentyn Schumacher (the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade diploma) and Alexander Nazarenko (the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade diploma), 11<sup>th</sup> forms – Daniela Brez (the 1<sup>st</sup> grade diploma), Sophia Kolpak (the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade diploma) and Khrystyna Bodnaryuk (the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade diploma). The rest of the participants received diplomas of the Olympiad participants.

During the event the **Round-table talks for teachers of the Hebrew language** were also organized and conducted with the aim of discussing a new version of school curriculum for 5-9 forms in Hebrew for academic institutions with the Ukrainian (Russian) language of teaching as well as defining topical challenges of teaching Hebrew and Jewish literature in schools of Ukraine.

Also practicing teachers provided guidelines regarding the further work and organization of academic and extra-curricular process of teaching Hebrew and Jewish literature, including conducting workshops for teachers, as well as contests and Olympiads for students. Among the topical issues for discussion was advanced training of pedagogical personnel regarding the Jewish cycle subjects, i.e. the Jewish languages and literature, history and tradition of Jewish people, etc.

**The information is placed on the website:**

<http://jecu.org.ua/content/27-29-bereznaya-2017-roku-u-m-dnipro-vidbuvsya-iv-etap-iii-vseukrayinskoyi-uchnivskoyi>

#### ***IV. The Summer Jewish Studies School «The Rambling University: Expedition to the Roots» for senior school students.***

***The dates of the conducted event: June 11-15, 2017***

***Location: Novosyolovka, Dnipropetrivsk region.***

The School «Expedition to the Roots» - 2017 was dedicated to studying Jewish shtetles and communities of Eastern Europe. In the course of activities with the experts from Israel, Ukraine and Russia the participants got acquainted with various approaches and opportunities to research of the Jewish shtetl – by studying architecture, books, archives, tombstones and the city space.



Conducting the school became possible due to close international partnership of Ukrainian and foreign Jewish educational and research organizations, non-governmental and community structures. Thus the following institutions **took part in organization and co-financing of the event:**

- The Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities of Ukraine (VAAD Ukraine),
- The Eurasian Jewish Congress (EAJC),
- The Center of Jewish Education of Ukraine,
- The Zaporizhya Charity Fund "The Mazal Tov Jewish Community Center",
- The International Humanitarian and Teachers-training Institute «Beit Khana»,
- The Center of the Yiddish Language and Culture in Vilnius under the aegis of The World Jewish Congress,
- The Jewish Agency «Sohnut»,
- The International Center of Jewish Civilization Teaching University under the aegis of Jewish university in Jerusalem,
- Jewish schools and educational institutions of Ukraine
- The «Genesis» Fund.

*The aim of school* is organization of creative communities for children interested in studying Jewish cultural, spiritual and material heritage, as well as consolidation of pedagogical communities for solutions related to challenges of teaching the Jewish disciplines.

*The task of the school* is to prepare participants to independent research of the family history and culture of Jewish shtetles and to help them organize their own projects in this sphere.

*The School curricula included:*

- Acquaintance with the Jewish shtetl languages: Hebrew, Yiddish, Polish
- Practical activities in family history, ethnography, city studies, epigraphic science, archive business
- Exciting lectures in Jewish history, tradition and literature
- An opportunity to start a personal research project
- Creative workshops
- Games, swimming, walks, get-togethers near a bonfire, mixing with cheerful friends!

In terms of the Summer school **some activities of the pedagogical stream** took place. They were aimed at discussing the challenges of Jewish education methodology as well as techniques of teaching Jewish Studies subjects in terms of formal and non-formal Jewish education. The participants of this course also visited a number of lectures and workshops, had an opportunity to conduct a demonstrative master-class, share experience of teaching Jewish disciplines, take part in round-table talks, and present their educational institution. A teachers-



training course was designed for teachers of Jewish and comprehensive schools, as well as presenters of youth programs.

Photo-report about the School activities is presented on the Project webpages:

FB: The event - Rambling university: EXPEDITION TO THE ROOTS

A website of the Creative Jewish Studies Community [«Sambation»](#).

**The information about the school is placed on the website:**

<http://jecu.org.ua/content/s-11-po15-iyunya-2017-goda-sostoyalas-letnyaya-shkola-po-iudaike-brodyachiy-universitet>

**V. The International Conference «Jewish Grassroots. Best Practices in Action».**

**The dates of the conducted event: October 29 – 31, 2017.**

**Location: Minsk (Belarus).**



**The conference organizer** was an Israeli non-commercial organization TrendVision which united the professionals in Jewish non-formal education as well as the experts who received sufficient experience in the sphere of education, social work, tradition and Jewish Studies, pedagogy, creative heritage, coaching and personal growth.

**The main partners** the conference were the UJA-Federation of NY, the «Genesis» Fund, The Jewish Agency “Sohnut” and JOINT.

The conference participants were the representatives of Jewish organizations, research and educational organizations who took part in the Best Practices project during the latest 3 years.

In particular, **active part** was taken by **Nataliia Bakulina**, the director of the Center for Jewish Education of Ukraine, senior research associate of the department of teaching languages of national minorities and foreign literature of the Academy of Pedagogical Studies of Ukraine, the candidate of Pedagogical Sciences and **Victoria Yelfimova**, the coordinator of educational programs

of the Center for Jewish Education of Ukraine and the Association of Jewish Communities of Ukraine (VAAD Ukraine).

**Best Practices** is a professional platform of Jewish Grassroots in the countries of the former USSR. The given platform creates special environment, promoting dissemination and adaptation of the most successful projects implemented in terms of the programs supporting initiatives aimed at revival of Jewish consciousness, development of contemporary Jewish education, culture and Jewish communities.

The project «Best Practices» started in September 2013. Over this time, five contests were conducted. In general, over 200 projects and 150 initiative groups took part in five contests. More detailed information about the Project can be found on the website [www.jewish-grassroots.org](http://www.jewish-grassroots.org). In total over 500 projects by representatives of various Jewish initiative groups and organizations from 5 countries (Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Latvia, Belarus) have been presented on the website.

*As a result of* fruitful work the conference participants:

- introduced themselves and presented their projects to other organizations and funds;
- got acquainted with new projects and discovered opportunities for further cooperation;
- received new information about the Project development and prospects;
- enriched their experience with new professional knowledge and skills.

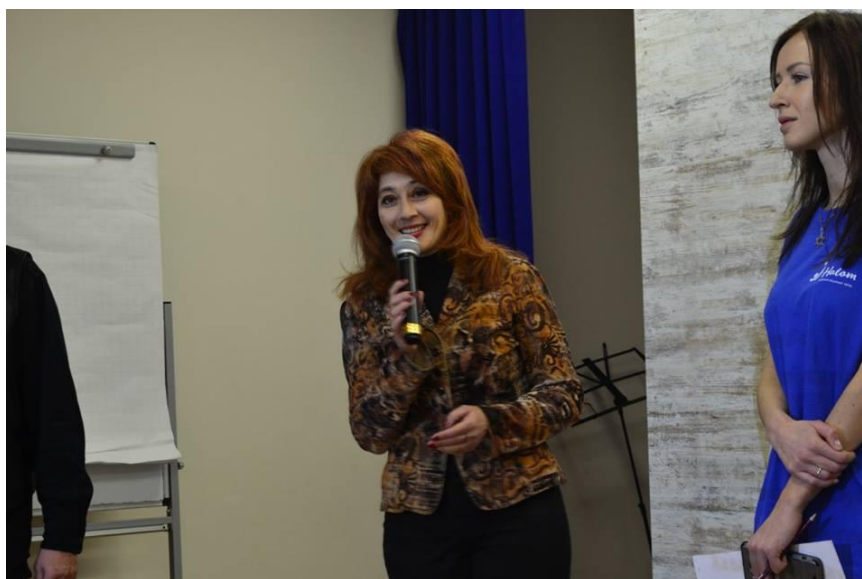
**The information about the conference is placed on the website:**

<http://jecu.org.ua/content/mizhnarodna-konferenciya-jewish-grassroots-best-practices-action-proyshla-u-minsku>

#### **VI. The Conference «Pedagogy. Non-formal education. Jewish education.**

*The dates of the conducted event: December 2-3, 2017*

*Location: Kyiv, The Khalom Jewish Community Center.*



**The participants of the conference:** educators, psychologists, parents and all people interested in new approaches to contemporary pedagogical science and practice. Presenters of the conference were educators from Israel, Ukraine and Russia.

Active participation in preparation and conducting of the event was taken by personnel of the Center for Jewish Education of Ukraine, The International Project «Shorashim – The roots and future of Jews in Diaspora», the interdisciplinary certificate program in Jewish studies of NAUKMA and VAAD Ukraine.

Thus, **Nataliia Bakulina**, the JECU director, prepared a report with presentation dedicated to the topic «Methodological fundamentals of non-formal education: contemporary approaches and technologies». In the course of report the following aspects were considered:

- formation of vital competencies and personal meta-skills in contemporary post-industrial society;
- the essence and characteristics of non-formal education;
- directions of contemporary educational technologies;
- The main methods of non-formal education.

To get acquainted with the text of presentation and materials of the report, visit the JECU website.



Also among the conference participants there were **Victoria Yelfimova**, coordinator of educational programs JECU, VAAD Ukraine and EAJC, presenter of «Shorashim» projects in Ukraine and Georgia, **Nataliia Skovorodka**, the choreographer and presenter of the projects «Shorashim» and «Sources of tolerance» in Ukraine, **Nataliia Gudukhina**, a student of the Certificate program in Jewish studies and others.



The conference agenda comprised discussion of methodological and philosophic secrets and challenges of non-formal education, as well as acquiring new practical skills in the course of master-classes, such as:

- role-play methodology,
- art-therapy and the Ebru art, i.e. the technique of painting on water,
- fractal painting and creative skill development,
- interactive techniques in contemporary pedagogical practice,
- sand- and fairy-tale-therapy,
- forum-theatre,
- lusha and live quests,
- Reggio Emilia approach in pedagogy,
- inclusive education and a lot more.

Due to the efforts of partners and organizers of the conference, the participants got an opportunity to acquire new beneficial experience and contacts for development of Jewish education in Ukraine, Diaspora and Israel!

**The information about the conference is placed on the website:**

<http://jecu.org.ua/content/konferenciya-pedagogika-neformalnoe-obrazovanie-evreyskoe-obrazovanie-sostoyalas-v-evreyskom>