



YOUNG EUROPEANS PROVIDE PERSPECTIVES ON WAR AND PEACE

*“Unheard Traces” project opens
in House of European History*

BRUSSELS - EMBARGO TUESDAY
18 SEPTEMBER 09:00:



The House of European History is a home for different thoughts and views on the past, a place that connects and confronts our memories. Today the museum opens its showcases to display young people’s views on war and peace. But not only that: a full exhibition space is provided for visitors to contribute. Interactive ‘mind-maps’ around the inspiring themes of “Unheard Traces” are waiting for input. A participatory comic book is launched here as well, allowing the binding of common memories in a creative way.

Museum Director Constanze Itzel: “We warmly invite people to share their losses and project their hopes. Come and fill the empty showcases and mark the walls with your stories. This House is a house for your stories, just as it is the house for the memories of the young people.”

How can we try to exhibit absence in a museum? Through tracing the paths of memories. This is what seventeen young people from around Europe did through bringing together objects referring to their personal and collective stories related to war and peace in Europe. Reflecting on the idea of war as a producer of absence and loss, they developed a display arranged by topics of loss, pain, memory and hope. The artist Guglielmo Manenti manages to give a voice to the objects by translating their background stories into illustrations.

With the “Unheard Traces” contribution, the group hopes to open a new dialogue on a promise of a peaceful Europe. The project is the result of a cross-cultural dialogue in a history lab, which took place in the city of Osnabrück, Germany between 16 - 26 August, as part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage. The House of European History hosts this project as part of its mission of being a space for multiple perspectives, in which Europeans can compare and confront their diverse memories of a shared past. Providing space for young people’s reflections on the past and hopes for the future is a first symbolic step towards giving space to multiple voices.

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For media images, videos and documents about the Unheard Traces project:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=1pMtf_MTBexGbkCGLuJZMU94bqe3USVV