



Webinar “Contemporary Witnesses| On Oral History, Counter Archives and Adult Learning”

Date: 25.6.25 morning 10:00-11:30am CET

General information

The webinar is organised within the VOICES project and is essentially a discussion about Counter Archives, historical “knowledge” and its communication in Adult Education. The event aims to raise awareness of (European) history, strengthen political awareness and education, address “radicalisation”, and promote inclusion within civil society

The panel discussion on “*Contemporary Witnesses| On Oral History, Counter Archives and Adult Learning*” will discuss how the authentic spoken testimonies of learners with migration experience – from the 1950s to the present – can serve as powerful entry points not only for enhancing one’s relation with their own and/or everyday language(s), but also for critically engaging with sociopolitical events and mainstreamed narratives.

The discussion will focus on:

- how counter-archives and oral history methods challenge dominant historical narratives;
- the role of spoken testimonies, memory, and intergenerational transmission in adult learning;



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- inclusive approaches to literacy, memory, and historical knowledge that centre migration as a lived experience from 1950s to today;
- and how these topics can be meaningfully communicated in Adult Education settings across Europe.

The webinar is expected to gather around 20 participants, including trainers, civil society organisations, EU-level NGOs, policymakers, researchers, and community organisers. It will also include an interactive exchange and Q&A session with participants.

Proposed structure

Time	Title	Content / Description	Actors / Notes
00:00–00:10	Welcome and Introduction	Host/Moderator: European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA) Housekeeping: Notify attendees that the webinar will be recorded so that it can be published and made freely available later. Project Context: Briefly introduce the VOICES project and state the webinar’s overarching goals: to raise awareness of European history, boost political	EAEA

		awareness and education, prevent radicalization, and promote inclusion within civil society.	
00:10–00:25	Keynote Oral History and "Contemporary Witnesses" for Language Learning	Focus on oral history in this first Webinar. We need a kind of framework to work within Discussing how to successfully integrate the methodology of oral history into second language learning and basic adult education courses.- Idea: Internal Keynote (VHS Vienna)- To introduce our research document	VHS lernraum.wien
00:25–00:55	Panel Discussion Counter Archives and Historical Knowledge	Focus Area: A deep dive into the concept of "Counter Archives"—how they challenge traditional narratives—and a broader discussion on what constitutes historical “knowledge” and how it should be communicated in Adult Education (AE).	Panel- TBC
00:55–01:15	Interactive Exchange and Q&A	Audience Engagement: The webinar is expected to host around 20 participants, specifically targeting trainers, stakeholders, civil society organizations, EU-level NGOs, policymakers, and community organizers. Activity: Open the floor for an active exchange of ideas, allowing these stakeholders to network, ask questions	Participants

		to the experts, and discuss how to outreach this topic across Europe.	
01:15–01:25	Conclusion and Evaluation	Wrap-up: EAEA and partner organizations provide closing remarks. Evaluation: An interactive feedback survey	EAEA & partners SOLIDARCI