

# Annual Report

# SET

20

25

## SET's goal

SET's goal is to promote tolerance in Switzerland, particularly through the development of empathy and civic courage.

30 Jahre  
Ans Anni  
Years



SET  
Stiftung Erziehung zur Toleranz  
Fondation pour l'éducation à la tolérance  
Fondazione Educazione alla tolleranza  
Foundation Education for Tolerance

## Vision

SET aims to establish itself as the leading platform for national and regional projects promoting tolerance in the education sector, beginning at the age of 2, through high-quality teaching materials and professional development.

SET works in close cooperation with national and regional, public and private, institutions and with the support of independent experts. Ongoing impact analysis is used to identify needs, methods, and efficiency in order to continuously improve activities, including through self-criticism.

Additionally, SET is available for innovative third-party projects across cantonal and regional borders, provided they are in line with the foundation's purpose.

## Multiplication and new developments

In 2025, SET developed new teaching ideas for the new French version of "T-BOX Cycle 1", as well as adapted and expanded "T-BOX Rumantscha" into Vallader and Sursilvan regional dialects.

Continuing to expand its reach, SET also established the first group of French-speaking descendants of Holocaust survivors for educational visits in French-speaking schools. All existing SET offerings were continued and introduced in new locations. It is impressive that authorities at all levels have provided increasing support for these projects, recognizing both the need for this work and the quality of its implementation. The illustrated maps show the current distribution of SET courses and materials in daycare centers, playgroups and schools in Switzerland.

## Donations

IBAN CH85 0070 0113 2001 8854 9  
SET, P.O. Box, CH-8027 Zurich

→ [www.set.ch/spenden](http://www.set.ch/spenden)

## 30 Years of Education for Tolerance – Education that fosters respect

In the summer of 1996, Sigi Feigel, the founder and first president of the GRA Foundation Against Racism and Anti-Semitism, founded SET to promote work with children and young people. For 30 years, SET has been promoting, through teaching materials, consulting, and educational projects, an attitude of tolerance, empathy, and moral courage in the Swiss educational landscape in order to counteract racism and discrimination at an early stage and strengthen respectful coexistence.

→ [www.set.ch](http://www.set.ch)



## T(olerance) Box Projects in all parts of the country

### T-BOX in daycare centers and playgroups in German-speaking Switzerland

Under professional supervision, children were introduced to the Tolerance Box learning environment. Through play and age appropriate activities, young children explored and engaged with feelings such as empathy and attitudes such as civic courage, supporting them in learning how to deal with social diversity.

In the reporting year, 420 specialists were trained in the use of the T-Box, in conjunction with the Marie Meierhof Institute MMI, through 21 training courses: “T-BOX in daycare centers and playgroups”. Since the start of the project in 2020, 3,500 professionals nationwide have taken part in introductory courses. These trainings, along with the T-Boxes, were largely financed or subsidized by SET sponsors. Thanks to the positive experience with the project, an increasing number of cantons are getting involved and promoting this work, including the Cantonal Integration Program (KIP3) and the Swiss Confederation. This is despite the fact that early childhood education is currently only regulated by law in a few places in Switzerland. In 2025, the cantons of Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Basel, Fribourg, Graubünden, Lucerne, Nidwalden, St. Gallen, and Zug subsidized the project “T-BOX in daycare centers and playgroups.” The cantons of Basel-Landschaft and Solothurn have committed to doing so for 2026. Obwalden and Uri are currently considering supporting the implementation of the project as well.

Existing and new sponsors are helping SET to further expand and spread early childhood education for tolerance in all language regions, and are providing additional subsidies. The impact evaluation of “T-BOX in daycare centers” is currently underway and is being financed by the Mercator Switzerland Foundation, a funding partner for this scientifically based project. A team of researchers, led by Prof. Dr. Sonja Perren of the Thurgau University of Teacher Education, is investigating the impact of the “T-BOX” in 20 daycare centers using surveys of professionals, on-site observations and an app for 3- and 4-year-old children. Additionally, all course participants

since the start of the project were surveyed in 2025. Twenty other daycare centers, that do not (yet) use the T-BOX program, serve as a comparison group.

The T-BOX has been successfully introduced in all parts of Switzerland under the leadership of the project initiator and president of SET, Dr. Ronnie Bernheim.

## Tolerance Box Daycare Centers and Playgroups in French-speaking Switzerland

Five trainings on the “T-BOX 2–5 ans” were successfully conducted at daycare centers with 100 specialists under the leadership of the course instructors in French-speaking Switzerland. The specialist agencies and our partner organizations in French-speaking Switzerland helped to ensure that the T-BOX project was appropriately adapted and implemented to align with culture and language.

## Tolerance Box for daycare centers and playgroups in Italian- and Romansh-speaking Switzerland

The Department of Social Affairs of the Canton of Ticino is implementing the “T-BOX 2–5 anni” in cooperation with ATAN (Associazione delle strutture d'accoglienza per l'infanzia della Svizzera italiana) in daycare centers in Ticino. In 2025, ATAN course instructors successfully led nine courses in daycare centers and trained 180 professionals.

Both the linguistic adaptation of Romansh picture books on the topic of diversity and the development of reflection and question cards were completed in the two Romansh languages: “Vallader” and “Sursilvan,” in cooperation with Lia Rumantscha. The project and the materials were presented at the teacher training university Graubünden in Chur in September 2025. In 2026, daycare centers and playgroups in Romansh-speaking Graubünden will be serviced in their own languages.

## Tolerance Box Cycle 1 for Kindergarten and Lower School

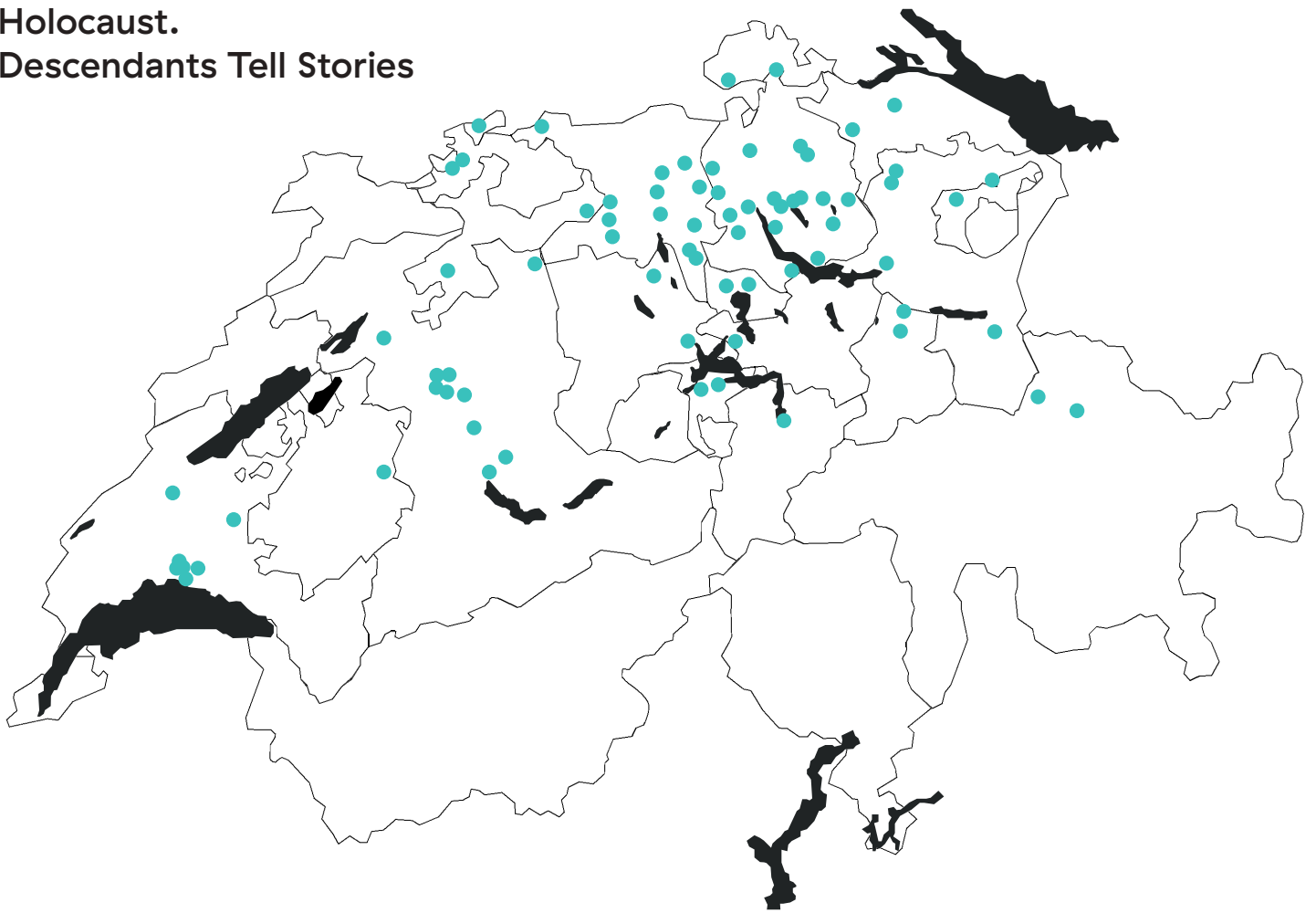
SET seeks out and supports primary schools that want to actively address the issue of diversity and the prevention of racism in schools. Three courses for teachers at kindergarten level were offered in 2025 at schools in Sempach, LU; Uznach, SG and Leutschenbach, ZH. Elementary school authorities in a growing number of cantons are supporting and recommending the “T-BOX Cycle 1.”

In collaboration with five pilot teachers in the canton of Fribourg and experts from the teacher training university Haute École Pédagogique (HEP-PH FR), SET's further expansion continued with the cultural and linguistic adaptation of “T-BOX Cycle 1”, for kindergartens and lower grades, in French-speaking Switzerland.

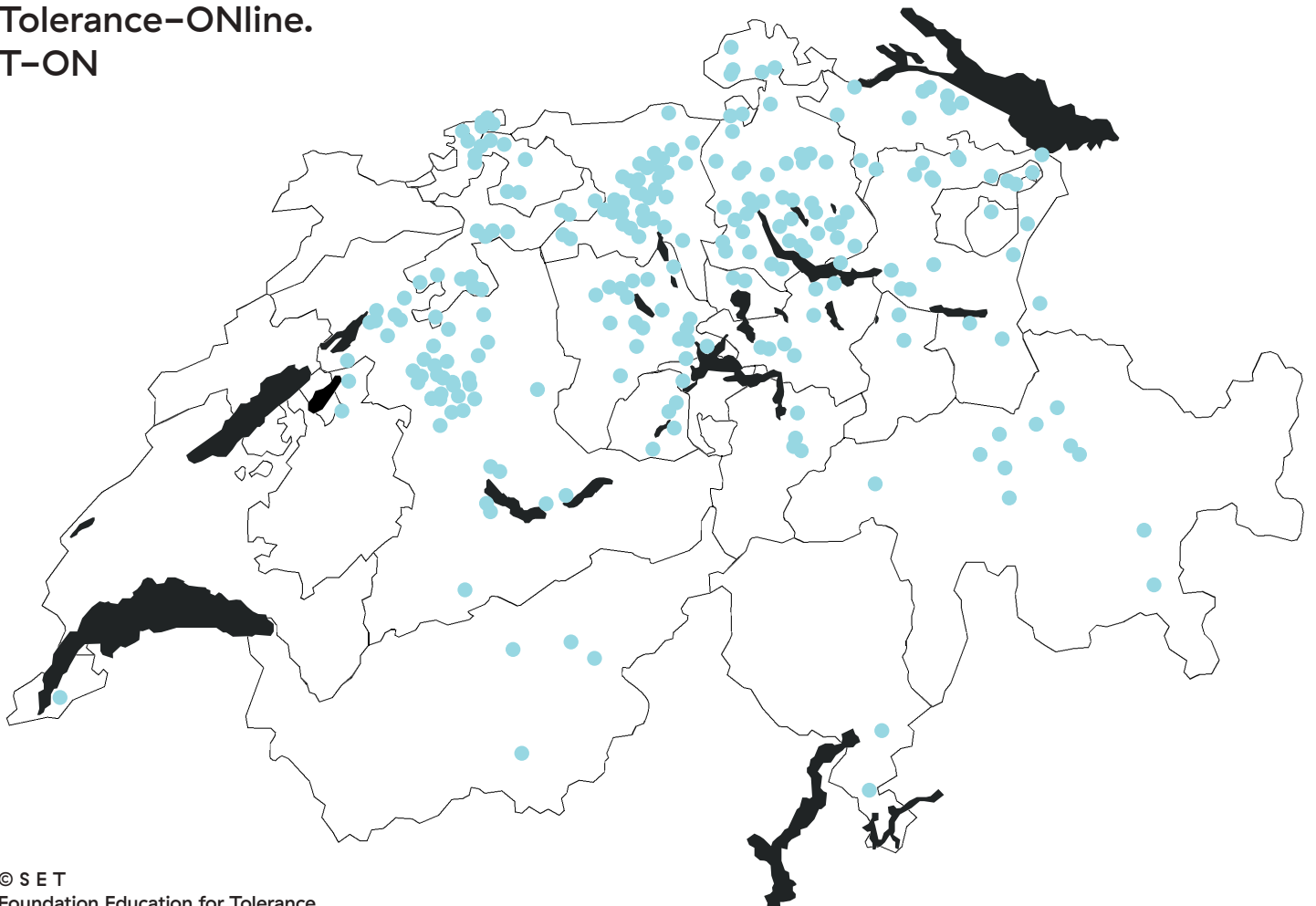
This new teaching material was co-financed by foundations and the Federal Service for Combating Racism (FRB). With the newly designed “T-BOX Cycle 1”, the project has now been launched in schools in French-speaking Switzerland.

→ [www.set.ch/toleranz-box](http://www.set.ch/toleranz-box)

**Holocaust.  
Descendants Tell Stories**

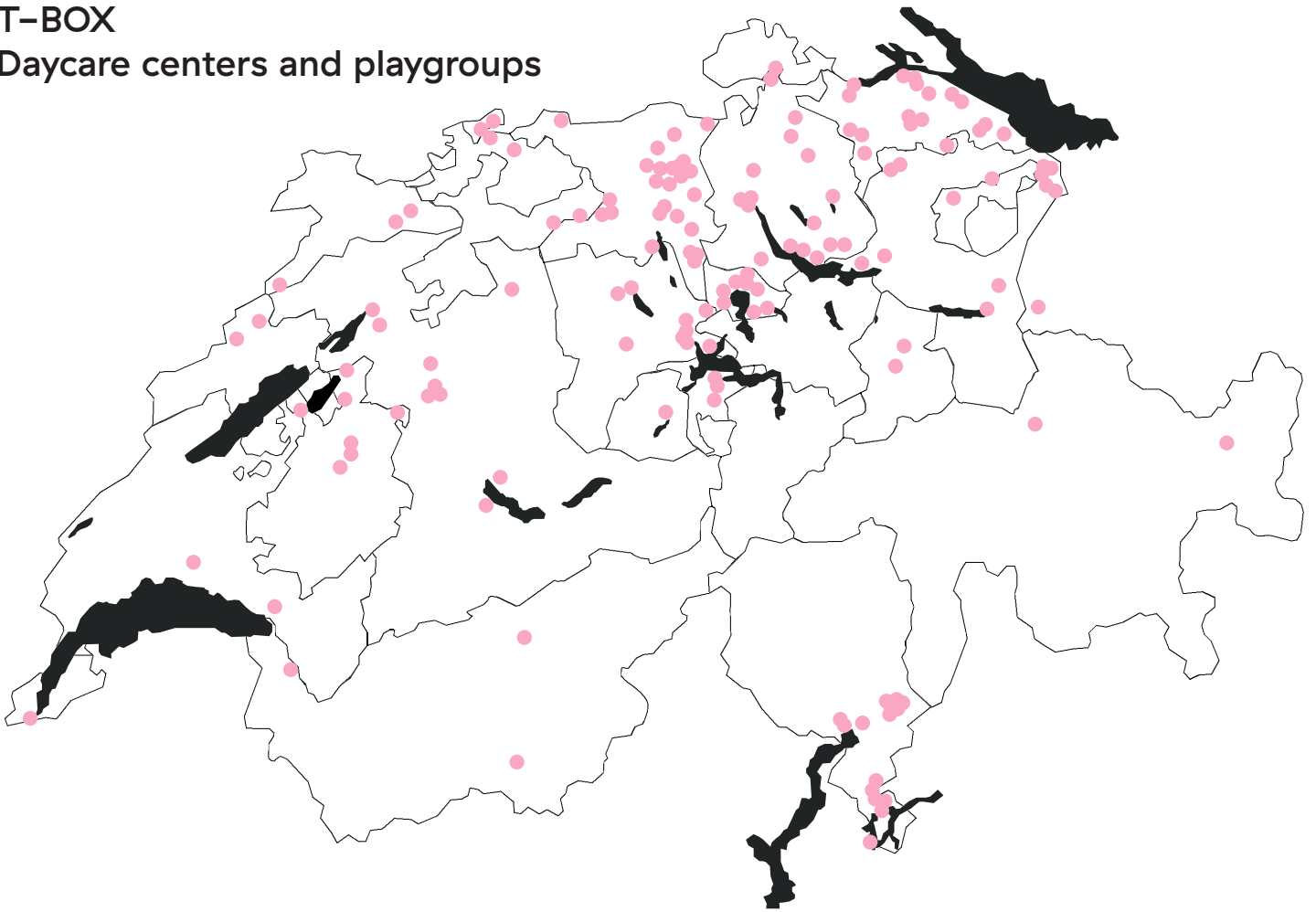


**Tolerance-ONline.  
T-ON**



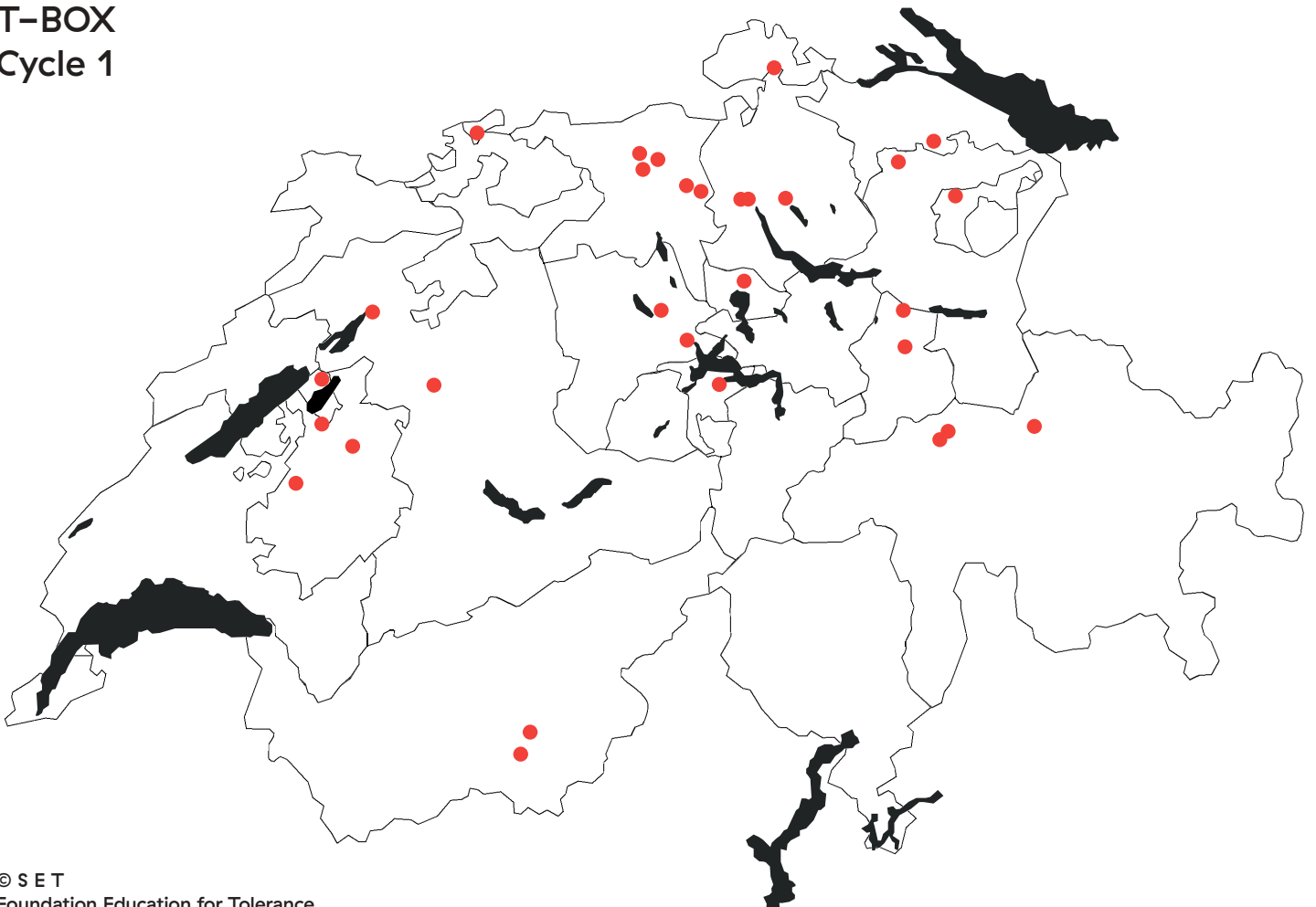
# T-BOX

## Daycare centers and playgroups



# T-BOX

## Cycle 1



## Tolerance–ONline. T–ON

T–ON is a platform offering online training for young people and school classes (cycle 2; cycle 3 and secondary 2) on recognizing and responding to hate speech. It focuses on how to “recognize hate speech” and how children and young people can defend themselves against it. In 2025, 400 school classes involving 7,556 young people participated in the program, as well as 42 school counselors. The cantons of AG, BE, and ZH, as well as the éducation21 foundation and the Central Switzerland Education Server zebis, recommend the teaching material “T–ON” to schools for the prevention of anti–Semitism and hate speech.

→ [www.set.ch/t-on](http://www.set.ch/t-on)

## Teaching material Jenische, Sinti, and Roma – Little-known minorities in Switzerland

for primary school classes/Cycle 2

In 2025, there were 505 downloads of this anti–racism teaching material for middle school, which includes biographies of Yenish, Sinti, and Roma people and accompanying learning tasks. It addresses age–appropriate topics such as prejudice, exclusion and discrimination against these minorities, as well as illustrating their everyday lives as part of the Swiss population.

Thanks to financial contributions from the Federal Office of Culture (FOC) and the Foundation for the Future of Swiss Travellers, SET had an exhibition stand for the first time at the Swiss Didac Education Fair in Bern in November 2025. In collaboration with Willi Wottreng, managing director of the Radgenossenschaft der Landstrasse, and Prof. Dr. Christian Mathis, history educator at the Zurich University of Teacher Education, SET presented these teaching materials and other SET projects to the many interested teachers and school principals who attended.

→ [www.set.ch/jenische-sinti-roma](http://www.set.ch/jenische-sinti-roma)

## Holocaust.

### Descendants Tell Their Stories

In 2025, 90 school classes at secondary schools, vocational schools, and high schools in German–speaking Switzerland were visited by descendants of Holocaust survivors. Before these visits, history teachers taught students about World War II and the Holocaust. Ari Hechel, one of the descendants, visited dozens of general education classes through this program. Upon the decision to write his master's thesis at the PHZ on the topic of “Descendants visit special education classes,” he visited eight special education classes and adapted the retelling of his grandmother's Holocaust biography for the needs of these students.

Based on history lessons, the discussions with descendants are increasingly being used in an interdisciplinary and cross–curricular manner when teaching topics such as “human rights and democracy” and “prevention of anti–Semitism.”

On January 27, 2025, a group of high school students and two teachers were invited to present at the FDFA (Department of Peace and Human Rights) memorial event for European Holocaust Remembrance Day at the town hall in Bern. There, they shared their experiences and impressions of hearing descendants share stories in their history class.

Additionally in 2025, the pilot project with eight French–speaking Holocaust descendants was completed and evaluated in collaboration with the Haute École Pédagogique, HEP VAUD in Lausanne, and 11 teachers from secondary school classes in the canton of Vaud. The program is presently being launched in western Switzerland under the name “Shoah. Les descendant–e–s racontent”.

→ [www.set.ch/holocaust-nachkommen](http://www.set.ch/holocaust-nachkommen)

## Educational trips to Shoah memorial sites

Thanks to financial support from various foundations, namely the Augustin Keller Loge, AKL, and the GAMARAAL Foundation, SET 2025 has approved subsidies for 20 school classes to visit Shoah memorial sites. (15 secondary school classes: Dachau, Germany; 4 cantonal college classes: Dachau, Germany, and Natzweiler–Struthof, France; 1 group of students from the university of Fribourg lead by Prof. Marcel Niggli: Auschwitz–Birkenau, Poland).

History teachers prepared students, led the trip and conducted classroom follow-up. On site, students attended the workshops and guided tours offered by the memorial site's educational program. SET provided schools with resources and advice on teaching methods and content upon request.

→ [www.set.ch/  
bildungsreisen-shoah-gedenkstaetten](http://www.set.ch/bildungsreisen-shoah-gedenkstaetten)

## Brief didactic consultations

During the reporting year, Managing Director Urs Urech advised eight teachers and school social workers by telephone and, in some cases, on site, on the educational challenges posed by anti-Semitic and racist incidents.

In Zurich, the ethics department of the vocational school for fashion and design received advice on how to deal with racist and anti-Semitic incidents. Consulting is not a core function of SET and is not actively promoted.

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## Foundation Board

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The Foundation Board met twice during the reporting year and held lively discussions on current and new projects, on **developments in society and, specifically, in education**. There were also many informal meetings.

Personnel: Dr. Petra Bleisch-Bouzar resigned from the Foundation Board at the end of 2025 for professional reasons. She opened many doors for SET in French-speaking Switzerland and at HEP Fribourg, for which we are very grateful. The members of the Foundation Board contributed to the success of SET during the reporting year. For the sake of good order, it should be mentioned that the members of the Foundation Board work for the foundation on a pro bono basis. No meeting fees or similar payments are made. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of this committee for their commitment, for establishing contacts and for their personal presence in discussions with partners.

A big thank you goes to all sponsors, those involved in projects, the GRA secretariat, and Urs Urech, the managing director of SET, who, with his experience, diligence, and enthusiasm as a trained socio-cultural animator HFS, is advancing SET in all parts of Switzerland.



Dr. Ronnie Bernheim  
President SET

The Annual report is also available in German, French, and Italian.

## We would like to thank our Partner Organizations

- GRA Foundation Against Racism and Anti-Semitism
- MMI Marie Meierhofer Institute for the Child
- pro enfance, Association, plateforme romande pour l'accueil de l'enfance
- education21 Foundation
- Universities of Teacher Education Zurich, Fribourg, Thurgau, Vaud
- Primary school authorities of the cantons AG, BL, BS, SO, SG, VS, ZG
- Specialist offices for integration and early childhood in the cantons of AR, AG, BE, BS, FR, GE, GL, JU, LU, SG, TI, ZH
- kibesuisse – Swiss Childcare Association
- zischtig.ch
- Radgenossenschaft der Landstrasse
- Ufficio del sostegno a enti e attività per le famiglie e i giovani
- ATAN (Associazione delle strutture d'accoglienza per l'infanzia della Svizzera italiana)
- GMS Society Minorities in Switzerland

## SET thanks our Sponsors

- GRA Foundation Against Racism and Anti-Semitism
- Mercator Foundation Switzerland
- FRB Federal Service for Combating Racism
- SEM State Secretariat for Migration
- Cantons AG, BS, FR, GL, JU, LU, NW, SG, ZG
- Baugarten Foundation
- Ernst Göhner Foundation
- Federal Office of Culture, FOC
- Foundation for the Future of Swiss Travellers
- Various foundations that do not wish to be named.

## Supervision, Auditing, Finances

SET is subject to the supervision of foundations by the Canton of Zurich. The report for 2024 is available.

SET is audited annually by Trigema AG, which is specially qualified to audit foundations; 2025 is in progress.

All commitments entered into for 2026 are financially covered or have been bindingly pledged by sponsors.