

# Annual Report 2023

## Anne Frank House



**anne frank** house

# FOREWORD

Change can come quickly. We need only look at the first four years of Anne Frank's life. Born in 1929 in a democratic Germany, she fled her homeland in 1933 together with her parents and sister. In just four years Germany changed from a democracy to a dictatorship. We know the further course of Anne's life and her untimely death at the age of 15 in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. One of six million victims of the Holocaust, murdered because she was Jewish.

The past gives food for thought. We worry when we look at developments in the world. We see wars and flashpoints, increasing polarisation and hatred – against Jews, against Muslims, against people who are 'different' – democratic values under pressure, and representatives of the people adhering to authoritarian ideas.

Like Otto Frank, we believe that education is the key to a better world. Countering antisemitism, racism and discrimination is an essential part of our mission. Through our worldwide educational activities we encourage young people to work for freedom, equal rights and democracy. Anne Frank's

diary helps in this: her words still resonate and inspire today, all over the world.

You can read about our projects and activities in this annual report. Our thanks go out to everyone who supports us, financially and otherwise, and is involved in our organisation. Your support, especially in these times, is of enormous value.

**RONALD LEOPOLD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ANNE FRANK HOUSE**  
**MIREILLE PONDMAN, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE ANNE FRANK HOUSE**  
AMSTERDAM, JUNE 2024



# Organisation

The Anne Frank House organisation was founded on 3 May 1957, with Otto Frank as one of its founders. It has the dual aim of preserving Anne Frank's hiding place and opening it up to the public, and of drawing attention to Anne's life story worldwide.

## The Anne Frank House mission statement

The Anne Frank House is an independent organisation dedicated to the preservation of the place where Anne Frank went into hiding and wrote her diary during the Second World War. The organisation brings the life story and the work of Anne Frank to the attention of as many people as possible worldwide, with the aim of raising awareness of the dangers of antisemitism, racism and discrimination and the importance of freedom, equal rights and democracy.

## Board and organisation

The Anne Frank House adheres to the Cultural Governance Code, which provides guidelines for the proper, responsible and transparent governance of and by cultural institutions, as well as guidelines for the supervision of their governance. The code applies to all Dutch subsidised cultural institutions. Please see the appendix for a more detailed explanation of the ways in which the Anne Frank House complies with the eight principles of the Cultural Governance Code.

The museum is managed according to a Supervisory Board model, in which the Executive Board is responsible for managing the Anne Frank House. The Executive Board is appointed by the Supervisory Board. The Supervisory Board supervises the Executive Board's course of action and provides advice.

## Executive Board

The Executive Board is responsible for managing the Anne Frank House. Ronald Leopold has been its executive director since 2011, and Mireille Pondman has been managing director since November 2022.

## Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board supervises all aspects of the organisation. The Supervisory Board Report provides insight into how the Supervisory Board fulfilled its role in 2023, including the agenda items of the Supervisory Board meeting.

Wouter Koolmees has been appointed chairperson of the Anne Frank House's Supervisory Board, effective from 1 January 2023. He was minister of Social Affairs and Employment in the third Rutte cabinet and has been the President of NS (Dutch Railways) since 1 November 2022. Wouter Koolmees took over from former professor and politician Ernst Hirsch Ballin, who stepped down on December 31 2022, after 12 years, due to reaching the maximum term of office.



*“The Anne Frank House makes a vital contribution to countering antisemitism and other forms of discrimination and promoting democracy. These are subjects I made a strong case for in government and will continue to advocate for as the chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Anne Frank House.”*

WOUTER KOOLMEES

# SUPERVISORY BOARD REPORT 2023

## Composition

The composition of the Supervisory Board in 2023 was as follows:

Mr Paul Doop

Ms Kathleen Ferrier

Ms Martine Gosselink

Mr Wouter Koolmees, chairperson

Ms Marianne van Praag

Ms Mirjam van Praag, vice-chairperson  
vacancy

Mr Koolmees joined the Supervisory Board on January 1, 2023.

## Meetings

The Supervisory Board met four times in 2023: on April 19, June 7, September 20 and November 29. The Supervisory Board was closely involved in the preparation of the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan, which was also the subject of a working session on November 29.

Some key agenda items were:

- Composition of the Supervisory Board
- Strategic Plan 2024 – 2027
- Approval of annual plan and budget 2023
- Approval of financial statements 2022
- Cybersecurity
- Reflection on topicality

The audit committee met twice in 2023: on April 12 and November 15. A delegation of the Supervisory Board met once with the Employee Council. The Supervisory Board and the Employee Council discussed the 2022 annual accounts, the Supervisory Board's profile and the ORDIR 2023 agenda. A one-off informal meeting also took place between the full Supervisory Board and a delegation of the Employee Council. In May 2023 a delegation of the Supervisory Board held a performance review with the executive director.

## Remuneration policy

The members of the Supervisory Board receive no remuneration or attendance fees for their work. They are however entitled to reimbursement of expenses reasonably incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

## Finally

The Supervisory Board, with thanks to the Executive Board, approved the financial statements for 2022 and discharged the Executive Board from liability for the policies pursued in the year under review.

## Remuneration policy

The Anne Frank House has its own terms and conditions of employment, and for the most part observes the Collective Labour Agreement (CAO) for museums. The directors are remunerated within the framework of the Cultural Governance Code. The Supervisory Board is unpaid.

## General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Anne Frank House values proper compliance with the GDPR. In our collaborations with other parties, for instance, we invariably use a processing agreement drawn up in accordance with GDPR guidelines. Our compliance is periodically assessed by an external party. Within the Anne Frank House, employees are periodically involved in compliance with policies and procedures regarding the processing of personal data and the GDPR.

## Inclusion and diversity

The Anne Frank House adheres to the Cultural Diversity Code. On the basis of the objects clause in the Anne Frank House's articles of association and the House's history, diversity and inclusion are key values. Our recruitment policy was set up to ensure a diverse workforce.

## Employee Council

The Employee Council represents the interests of the organisation and the employees of the Anne Frank House, and participates in discussions about proposed organisational developments. The Employee Council is made up of seven employees. The Employee Council Report provides insight into how it fulfilled its role in 2023.

## Partners

The Anne Frank House collaborates with long-standing partner organisations in Argentina, Germany, Britain, Austria and the United States. They host the travelling Anne Frank exhibitions and organise the accompanying educational activities in their countries.

# EMPLOYEE COUNCIL REPORT 2023

## A (partially) new employee council

In 2023 the Employee Council consisted of the following members: Alexander Fasel (Group Receptions), Robin Finch (Educational Projects), Tamar Goodall (Museum Café), Irith Halm (Communications), Amina Paartman (Facilities Services), Karolien Stocking Korzen (Collections and Presentations) and Nora Stobbe (Group Receptions through Hôtes Culture). Robin is the chairperson and Alexander is the employee council secretary.

## Vision

We are an employee council that listens carefully to the grassroots and conveys important information from the grassroots to the director. The Employee Council takes its decisions independently, and if necessary comes up with its own initiatives

for good policy. The Employee Council aims to be involved in major decisions at an early stage in order to be able to give well-informed advice or consent. The Employee Council stands up for the interests of the employees and has a keen eye for the interests of the organization. The Employee Council aims to contribute to the good reputation of the Anne Frank House. The Employee Council will always promulgate this with one voice.

## ADVICE AND CONSENT REQUESTS 2023

### On-call scheme

In July 2023 the Employee Council approved the new on-call scheme, under which employees receive compensation for on-call shifts. This concerns a small group of employees, mainly from the Facilities Department and Visitor Services.

## Job structure

In August 2023, the Employee Council approved Schuurman's plan concerning the revision of the job structure. The Employee Council recognizes the urgent need to revise the Anne Frank House's job structure due to lack of recognition and appreciation among employees. Schuurman proposes simplifying the job structure, with limited job 'families' and clear career paths, to increase transparency. The Employee Council emphasizes open communication and employee involvement in the development of the job structure. The review is ongoing in 2024.

## Mobility policy

At the end of 2023 the Employee Council approved a new mobility policy. Employees within a 10 km radius of their work can receive reimbursement, while

employees living more than 10 km from their work will receive a Gaiyo card and an app for various transportation options. Sustainable transportation options are encouraged. The bicycle plan allows Anne Frank House employees to purchase a bicycle regardless of the distance to work. The Employee Council concluded that the proposed new mobility policy is an improvement, both for the organization and the employees.

## New Supervisory Board member

The Employee Council advised positively on the appointment of Itay Garmy as a member of the Supervisory Board.

## Building Bridges

In November we presented our 2024-2027 strategic plan: Building Bridges. The strategic plan sets the direction and frameworks to secure and strengthen the continuity of the Anne Frank House as a mission-driven organisation. We do this by optimising and innovating our activities, towards even more effectiveness and impact in line with the challenges in today's world. The following pillars and strategic focal points will take centre stage over the next four years:

### Pillars

- Our activities are based on the story of Anne Frank.
- We place the dangers of antisemitism, racism and discrimination in the perspective of freedom, equal rights, democracy and the rule of law. Not only are these important values in themselves for us, they are also prerequisites for combating antisemitism, racism and discrimination.
- The memory of Anne Frank has global reach. With a view to reach, impact and effectiveness, we weigh up which activities we want to implement in which countries.

### Strategic focal points

With four substantive focal points we make choices within the framework of our mission with which we aim to increase our impact and reach and improve our effectiveness. The fifth focus point concerns the Anne Frank House's sources of income. This is a precondition for securing our mission-driven activities:

1. The life and work of Anne Frank and the history of her time.
2. Strengthening reach, impact and engagement among young people as the main target group.
3. Proper functioning of the democratic rule of law in a polarised environment as a key educational point.
4. A continued focus on Holocaust education, combating antisemitism and discrimination.
5. Diversification of income sources to reduce dependence on museum income.



*“The organisation’s work is not limited to managing the House. It was set up to increase awareness of the events of the dark years of the Second World War and the persecution of the Jews and to fight discrimination, prejudice and oppression in the world today.”*

OTTO FRANK IN AN INTERVIEW WITH BASLER MAGAZIN IN 1979





## Finances

The Anne Frank House does not receive ongoing government funding for the museum, and largely depends on the income from entrance fees.

For the funding of major museum renovations and educational projects the organisation depends on charitable funds, donations, and grant-giving bodies such as the European Union and the Dutch government.

## Examples of project support

- The Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport has supported the development and implementation of educational projects in the Netherlands for teachers and trainee teachers, young people and police officers, and of educational activities in professional and amateur football. The Ministry also made it possible for an employee of the Anne Frank House to become a delegate of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA).
- The Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment supported the development and implementation of educational projects in amateur and professional football in the Netherlands.
- The European Commission supported the distribution of the anti-discrimination toolbox *Stories that Move 2.0*, including teacher training. It also supported youth engagement and the development of training tools within our international Anne Frank Youth Network.
- The European Solidarity Corps (an EU program implemented in the Netherlands by the Netherlands Youth Institute) helped the Anne

Frank House recruit three volunteers within the Educational Projects department.

- The German *Stiftung Erinnerung, Verantwortung Zukunft* (Remembrance, Responsibility, Future Foundation – EVZ) supported the distribution of *Stories that Move*, the toolbox against discrimination, in Germany, Ukraine, Poland and Slovakia.
- The Ministry of Veterans Affairs in Canada sponsored our educational activities in Canada.
- Dutch embassies supported our educational activities in numerous countries.
- The Cultural Fund enabled the development of a new family audio tour at the museum.
- The Friends Foundation financed making the Otto Frank Archives accessible and searchable.
- The Friends Lottery made the facsimile of Anne Frank's photo album possible, as well as the temporary exhibition *The Frank Family in Frankfurt am Main, 1929-1933* in the Anne Frank House.



## Friends Lottery

Since 2006 the Anne Frank House has been an annual beneficiary of the Friends Lottery (formerly the *BankGiro Loterij*); the cultural lottery of the Netherlands. The Friends Lottery supports organisations dedicated to the welfare of people and culture. To our great surprise, the Friends Lottery has increased its annual fixed contribution from €200,000 to €350,000. In addition to this amount, the Anne Frank House receives an additional contribution of €70,119, thanks to the participants who indicated that they wanted to play for the Anne Frank House.



*“We are very grateful to the Friends Lottery and all participants for this fantastic contribution. We are using this money to reach people worldwide with Anne Frank’s life story and teach them about the Second World War and the persecution of Jews and their significance for today. The history of Anne Frank and her six million Jewish peers is and remains important, even as we see knowledge of the Holocaust declining, antisemitism increasing and democracy under pressure.”*

MIREILLE PONDMAN

A woman in a tan vest and white shirt is seen from behind, talking on a mobile phone. In the background, a large black and white portrait of a smiling woman is displayed on a wall. The scene is set in a well-lit indoor space, possibly a gallery or office.

# Annual account 2023

# ANNUAL ACCOUNT 2023

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

(After appropriation of result)	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
<b>Assets</b>	€	€
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Intangible fixed assets	2.509	81.410
	2.509	81.410
Tangible fixed assets		
Refurbishments	45.304	54.745
Fixtures and furniture	273.386	325.608
Plant and machinery	21.267	976
Hardware	82.841	28.499
	422.798	409.828
<b>Current assets</b>		
Inventories	760.515	418.120
Receivables	208.759	393.259
Prepayments and accrued income	579.325	1.536.024
Cash	9.256.668	4.004.275
	10.805.267	6.351.678
	11.230.574	6.842.916

(After appropriation of result)	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
<b>Liabilities</b>	€	€
<b>Foundation's capital</b>		
Other reserves	1.000.000	2.965.172
Earmarked reserves	5.433.986	165.000
	6.433.986	3.130.172
<b>Loans</b>	0	0
<b>Provisions</b>	181.426	192.423
<b>Current liabilities and accruals and deferred income</b>		
Accounts payable	1.109.475	979.067
Wage tax, national insurance contributions and pensions	346.819	233.641
Pensions	148.214	130.915
Pensions	557.798	517.089
Grants and project contributions still to be spent	2.452.856	1.659.609
Accruals and deferred income	4.615.162	3.520.321
	11.230.574	6.842.916

# STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2023

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023	ACTUAL FIGURES 2023 €	BUDGET 2023 €	ACTUAL FIGURES 2022 €
<b>Income</b>			
Entrance fees	17.265.402	14.346.021	11.363.942
Income from delivery of products and/or services	2.356.368	1.809.862	1.608.491
Income from projects and grants	1.324.402	1.339.551	2.073.384
Other income	508.579	320.000	932.407
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.454.751</b>	<b>17.815.434</b>	<b>15.978.224</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Cost of delivered products	1.055.682	841.215	759.283
Staff costs	9.689.901	9.581.459	6.485.760
Depreciation of fixed assets	208.115	193.702	272.903
Costs of projects and activities	2.346.301	2.535.644	2.719.931
Other expenses	4.746.251	3.875.507	3.492.105
<b>Total</b>	<b>18.046.250</b>	<b>17.027.527</b>	<b>13.729.982</b>
<b>Operating result</b>	<b>3.408.501</b>	<b>787.907</b>	<b>2.248.242</b>
Financial income	45.313	-/-14.176	-/-27.501
<b>Result from ordinary business operations before taxes</b>	<b>3.453.814</b>	<b>773.731</b>	<b>2.220.741</b>
Extraordinary expenditure	0	0	0
<b>Result before taxes</b>	<b>3.453.814</b>	<b>773.731</b>	<b>2.220.741</b>
Taxes	150.000	0	21.459
<b>Result after taxes (before appropriation of result)</b>	<b>3.303.814</b>	<b>773.731</b>	<b>2.199.282</b>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023	ACTUAL FIGURES 2023 €	BUDGET 2023 €	ACTUAL FIGURES 2022 €
<b>Proposal for appropriation of result:</b>			
<b>Result after taxes (before appropriation of result)</b>	<b>3.303.814</b>	<b>773.731</b>	<b>2.199.282</b>
Released earmarked reserve	0	0	+25.000
Withdrawal to earmarked Edition scientific research	+12.000	+165.000	0
Addition earmarked reserve Organizational development	-/-545.000	0	0
Addition earmarked reserve Museum visit	-/-456.000	0	0
Addition earmarked reserve Emergency reserve	-/-4.279.986	0	0
Withdrawal Other reserves	1.965.172	-/-938.731	-/-2.224.282
<b>Result after appropriation</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Ik wil dat deze geschiedde onlooflijk wel  
aflopen, maar hebben wij toch wel mensen  
die niet alleen Joden zijn!





# Museum

At the Anne Frank House we present Anne Frank's life story in the context of the persecution of Jews and World War II. The museum is open daily from 9 AM to 10 PM.

## Number of visitors

The Anne Frank House received 1,208,208 visitors in 2023. No less than 117 different nationalities visited the hiding place. It is wonderful that so many people from all over the world are touched by Anne Frank's life story.

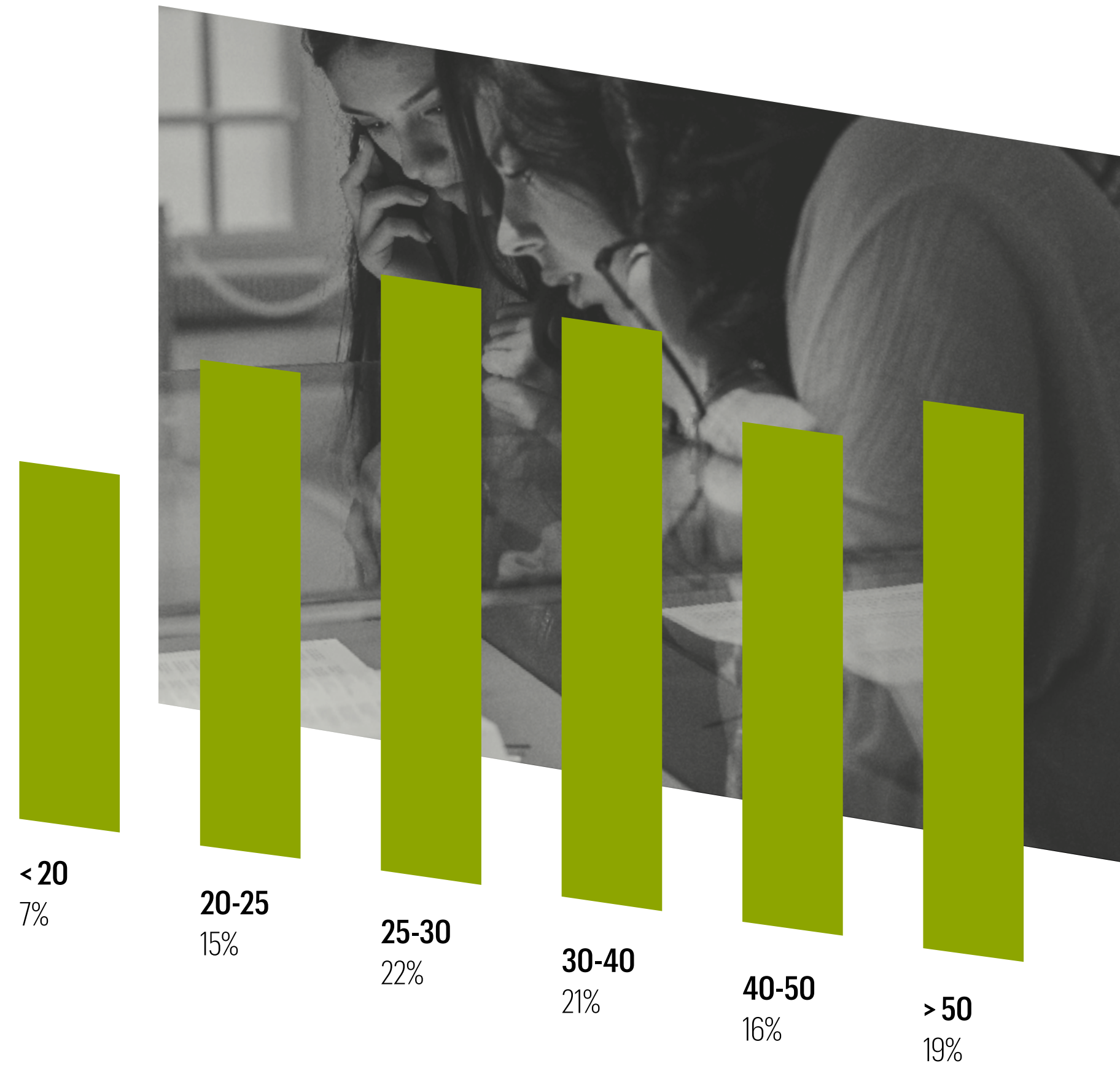
## Educational and introductory programmes

In 2023, 1,714 school groups from primary and secondary schools, trainee primary school teachers and secondary vocational education students followed an educational program in the Anne Frank House. Using a timeline, we discuss Anne Frank's life against the background of the Second World War and the persecution of the Jews. Students then actively engage with personal stories of the people in and around the Secret Annex. An educational program lasts for one hour and is given in Dutch, German or English. Afterwards the students visit the museum. For museum visitors there are introductory programmes lasting half an hour, in Dutch or English, prior to their museum visit. In 2023 we provided 6,424 introductory programmes. The programmes add depth to the museum visit and are greatly appreciated.



*Our museum attracts a young audience. Nearly three-quarters of the 1.208.646 visitors are between the ages of 20 and 50.*

## AGE OF VISITORS





## Projection

On Monday 6 February 2023 the antisemitic text ‘Ann Frank [sic], inventor of the ballpoint pen’ was projected for a few minutes onto the Anne Frank House, the place where Anne Frank went into in hiding and wrote her diary. Footage of this has appeared in an antisemitic and racist video on a private Telegram group from the USA. With the projection and the video the perpetrators were attacking the authenticity of Anne Frank’s diary and inciting hatred. We note this with horror. The accused was arrested in April and sentenced in October to two months’ imprisonment, unconditionally and with deduction of remand.



*“We noted the verdict with approval. We are especially relieved that the court regards the text ‘Ann Frank [sic], inventor of the ballpoint pen’ as a denial of the authenticity of Anne Frank’s diary and thus a denial of the Holocaust. Anne Frank’s diary is one of the most important accounts of the persecution of the Jews during World War II. Attacks on the authenticity of the diary, along with numerous other claims and publications that question or deny the existence of the Holocaust, have been circulated for decades – and now increasingly online – mostly with antisemitic motives. We see the condemnation as a powerful signal that there is no room in our society for denying the Holocaust – the murder of six million Jews during World War II – and spreading Jew-hatred.”*

RONALD LEOPOLD



*“At the end of the visit, an animated video is shown that takes up three walls and is about democracy. I was wondering if this will ever be made available on your website. I am a parent and a teacher and would love to show it to my children and my students.”*

MUSEUM VISITOR

## Temporary exhibition

The Anne Frank House hosted the new temporary exhibition *The Frank Family in Frankfurt am Main, 1929-1933* starting on June 12, the 94th anniversary of Anne Frank's birth. The photos of the Frank family from that time show a carefree world; none of them show anything of the political situation and unrest in Germany.

The exhibition tells the story of the Frank family in Frankfurt am Main against the background of Germany's economic, social and political problems. The exhibition begins with Anne Frank's birth in

Germany in 1929, highlights the rise to power of Hitler and his antisemitic National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) and ends with the Frank family's emigration to the Netherlands in 1933. In first four years of Anne Frank's life, her native country changed from a democracy to a dictatorship.

How can you resist the erosion of democracy and the rise of authoritarianism? Complementary to the exhibition, a short animation on this subject was on display, made by creative studio *Job, Joris & Mariek*. The animation is inspired by the book *On Tyranny* by

Timothy Snyder. This American historian, specialised in the Holocaust, explains in a series of 'lessons' how resurgent authoritarian ideology can be resisted.



## Polling station

National elections in the Netherlands were held on Wednesday November 22 2023. The Anne Frank House was one of the polling stations on that day. Amsterdam residents could cast their votes in the entrance hall from 9 AM to 7 PM and then visit the museum free of charge. The Anne Frank House is one of the places that serves as a reminder of what can happen when democracy and the rule of law break down.

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*“Wednesday 22-11-2023: election day. There is no better place to vote. Long live democracy!”*

MUSEUM VISITOR

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*“What a fantastic initiative to open the Anne Frank House as a polling station. Our freedom and democracy are so important, and I realise that all too well after visiting the museum! Thank you.”*

MUSEUM VISITOR

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*“The Anne Frank House calls attention to the vital importance of freedom, equal rights and democracy. Anne Frank was born in a democratic country, but four years later her homeland had become a dictatorship. It’s important to realise that democracy is fragile and that we must cherish our democratic values. The right to vote is the foundation of our democratic rule of law. We hope to welcome many Amsterdammers to the Anne Frank House on election day.”*

RONALD LEOPOLD



## Amsterdam Museum Night

On Saturday November 4 it was museum night again. From 7 PM to 2 AM young and old could visit more than 50 museums in Amsterdam with a passe-partout purchased in advance. The Anne Frank House participated again, with a special program that tied in with the temporary exhibition *The Frank Family in Frankfurt am Main, 1929-1933*. For example, visitors could indicate whether they would participate in the national elections on November 22 and discuss this. They were also given a red pencil with a quote from Anne Frank.

So-called 'heritage bearers' held readings: Eldana (age 12) and Bodhi Jay (age 14) told the story of Amsterdam Holocaust survivors Suze Krieg and Jack Courant. In the small rooms of the Secret Annex, staff members recounted the period in hiding. They also read passages from Anne Frank's diary and answered visitors' questions. Close to Anne Frank's diary, visitors could reflect creatively on their museum visits. Christiaan Weijts, novelist and columnist/essayist, invited visitors to write 'flash prose' and helped them get started on the spot.

Visitors who came after 10 PM could view Otto Frank's office: a space not normally accessible to daytime visitors, but opened exclusively during the late hours of Museum Night. There was music by various ensembles by students of the VU Orchestra, and in the museum café visitors could reflect on the evening over a snack and drink.





# Online

Through its social media platforms and the [annefrank.org](https://annefrank.org) website the Anne Frank House reaches millions of people all around the world.

## Social media

The Anne Frank House wants as many people as possible, especially young people, to learn about Anne Frank's life story. Social media are ideally suited for this. Instagram, YouTube and TikTok are important channels for young people. Our social media channels give us an enormous reach.

Our social media channels also experienced steady growth in 2023. We developed posts that appeal to our followers. The starting point is almost always Anne Frank.

We continue to steadily grow: on X (formerly Twitter) from 77,000 followers in 2022 to 81,000 followers in 2023, on Instagram from 183,000 followers in 2022 to 202,000 followers in 2023, and on YouTube from 222,000 subscribers in 2022 to 223,000 subscribers in 2023. On Facebook, the many fans remain loyal to our channel and, against the trend, we increased from 911,000 followers in 2022 to 939,000 followers in 2023. On the TikTok channel, which is very popular among young people, the number of followers increased from 38,000 in 2022 to 107,000 in 2023.

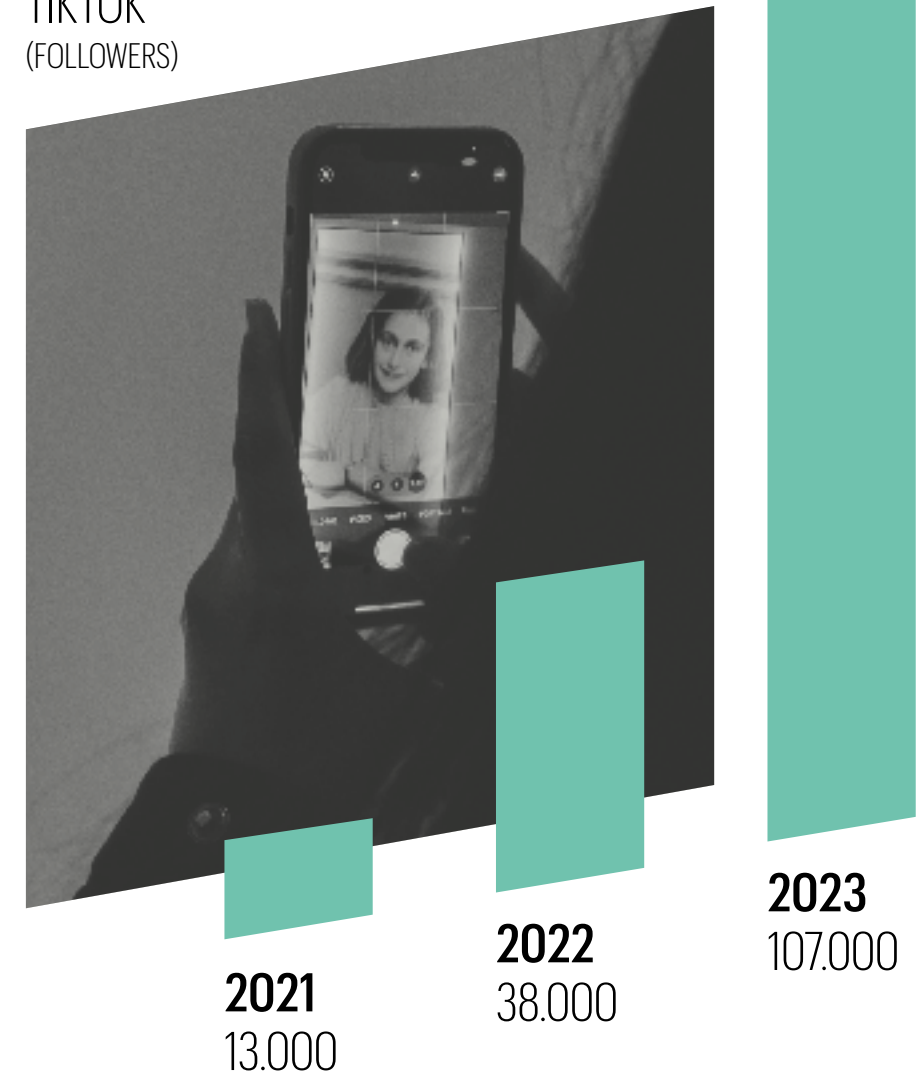
### Website

The [annefrank.org](http://annefrank.org) website attracted 13.1 million visitors in 2023. Most visitors were from the United States (27%) followed by the Netherlands (11%), Great Britain (9%), Germany (8%), Spain (4%) and Mexico (4%). 62% of all visitors visited the website on their smartphones.

### ONLINE REACH

*Millions of people visit our website or follow us on our social media channels. Our YouTube channel has surpassed 34 million views in 2023. Our website, [annefrank.org](http://annefrank.org), has been visited by over 13 million visitors in 2023.*

GROWTH  
TIKTOK  
(FOLLOWERS)



REACH  
PLATFORMS  
(FOLLOWERS)

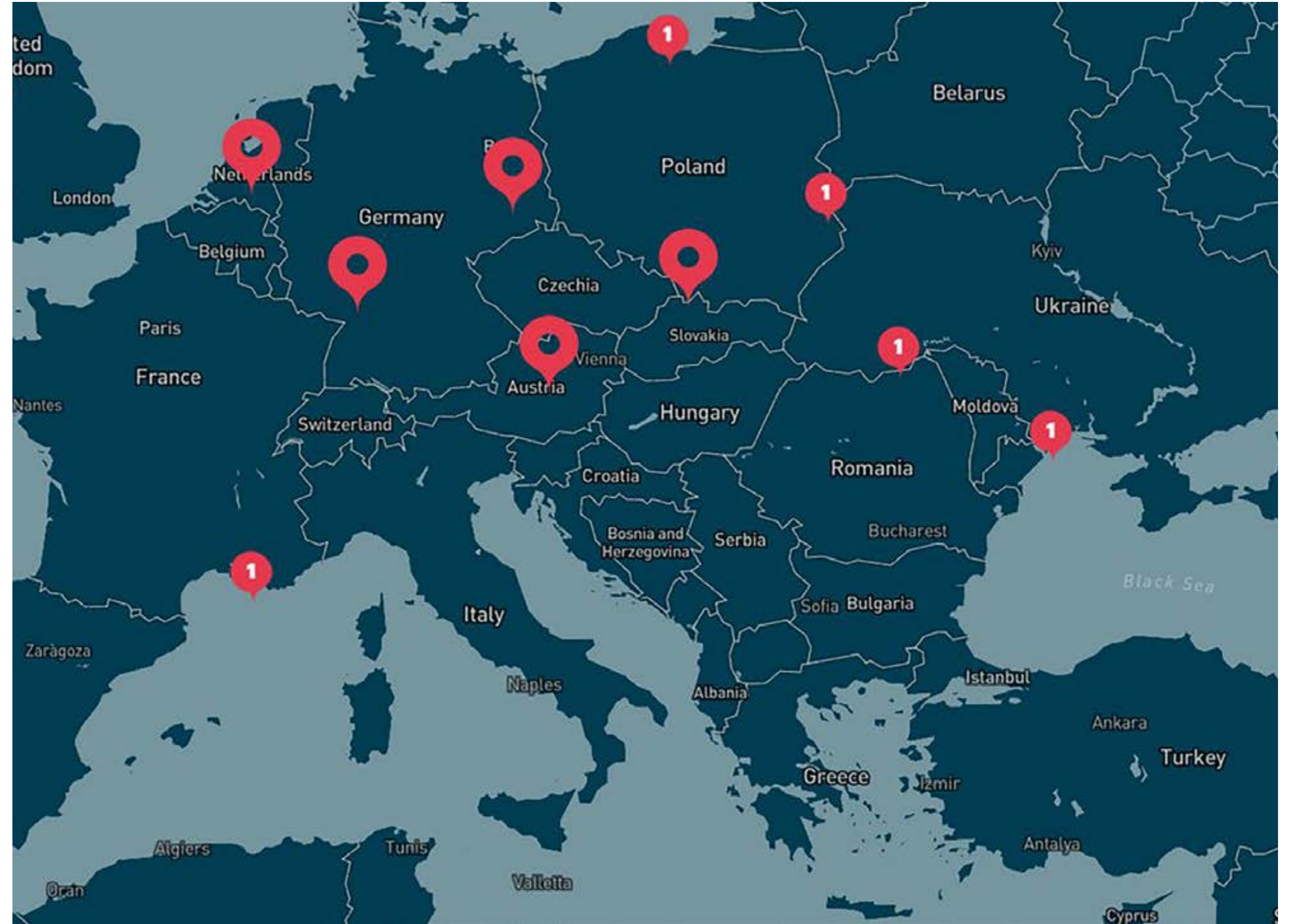




## Anne Frank Knowledge Bank

The Anne Frank Knowledge Bank was launched on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, 27 January 2023. This online knowledge bank in Dutch and English offers professionals and others a wealth of information on the history of Anne Frank and the seven other people who lived in hiding in the Secret Annex, all set in the context of the Second World War and the persecution of the Jews. Information previously only available for internal use is now made accessible to interested parties worldwide, thanks to financial support from the Mondriaan Fund.

The Anne Frank Knowledge Bank can be accessed directly or through Anne's World (a new section on the website featuring an online world map with events and stories). Any information about events, persons, locations or topics can be retrieved by simply typing the relevant keywords in the knowledge bank. Visitors can also wander from one entry to the next. The knowledge bank is available in Dutch and English, and contains around 1,100 items, 300,000 words and 300 pictures. The Anne Frank Knowledge Bank will never be 'finished': new information is always being added to it, and the inclusion of items from the collection and videos is on the agenda.







# Education

Our educational programmes and products are designed to encourage young people to reflect on social developments then and now, with a focus on prejudice, discrimination, racism and antisemitism. These programmes and products are always based on Anne Frank's life story.



## Anne Frank Journal

Dreams, hopes and ideals were at the heart of the 2023 Anne Frank Journal. Set against Hitler's destructive ideas are Anne and Otto Frank's ideals for a better world. The supplement to the newspaper, Five Against Injustice, contained five stories of fighters against injustice. Among them was Paul Polak's inspiring story of resistance. There is also a digital section of the teacher platform LessonUp that connects to the newspaper.



## Support Teachers

How do you teach about the Holocaust in classes that are increasingly diverse? How do you respond to prejudice and antisemitic thinking among students? How do you convey the importance of democracy to students? We support teachers in their important work and provide teaching materials on the persecution of Jews and the Second World War, prejudice, antisemitism and other forms of discrimination, equal rights and democracy. We also organise workshops, training programmes and meetings for teachers and teachers in training.

By 2023 we had reached a large number of teachers with our products and projects. We provided a total of 45 workshops and training programmes, online or on location, including 'Teaching about the Holocaust' and 'Teaching about prejudice and stereotypes'. We also organised a teacher conference: 'Democracy! And Now?'

Stories that Move helps teachers discuss discrimination in the classroom. This free online toolbox, featuring stories from young people across Europe, allows students to reflect on what their

peers are going through, and creates space to share emotions and better understand each other.

Updated in 2023, the toolbox has been enhanced to include new stories from young people from the Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain and Ukraine. The tool has been made more user-friendly: the number of clicks has been reduced and the new design is more usable for people with visual impairments. The tool can also now be used on both smartphones, tablets and laptops. In 2023 we conducted eight webinars, introducing teachers to the features of the toolbox.

## PROGRAMS

*Many visitors participate in an introduction program before entering the museum. For schools, there is an educational program available.*



# 1.714

Educational Programs

# 39.206

Students

# 6.424

Introduction Programs

# 154.487

Visitors



The Anne Frank House Teachers' Team, made up of primary and secondary school teachers, met four times in 2023. The Teachers' Team serves as a sounding board and participates, among other things, in the evaluation of the teaching materials in the LessonUp channel.

Our LessonUp channel is well liked by teachers. On our channel there are fifteen different lessons for primary and secondary education, some of which are also available in English, German, Spanish and Portuguese. In addition to lessons on Anne Frank, antisemitism and discrimination there are lessons on the topic of democracy.

The teachers' conference 'Democracy! And Now?' was all about the democratic rule of law. Teachers received a lecture on antisemitism, heard from young people about the importance of democratic values in education and how the newly opened National Holocaust Museum integrates the theme of democracy into its exhibition. In a co-creation session, teachers also worked on new teaching materials on the democratic rule of law.



## Research into antisemitism in the classroom

42% of secondary school teachers witnessed antisemitic incidents in the classroom in 2022. Most of these incidents involved swearing and insults that were not directed at specific individuals. This emerged from the report published in 2023 by research firm Panteia, which conducted research on antisemitism in secondary education on behalf of the Anne Frank House.

The Anne Frank House aims to use the survey, in which 432 teachers took part in 2022, to gain an up-to-date picture of the nature and extent of antisemitic incidents among secondary school students. Similar research was also conducted in 2013 and 2004. In 2013, 35% of teachers experienced one or more antisemitic incidents in the classroom, compared to 50% in 2004. Antisemitism in the classroom, as in society, remains an intractable problem.

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*“The results of the survey show that countering antisemitism in secondary education is still badly needed. In doing so, successful approaches – such as education on the Holocaust and on the prejudices underlying antisemitism and other forms of discrimination – should be continued and extended. Successful approaches to combating football-related antisemitism should also continue. The Anne Frank House, in partnership with other organisations, remains committed to this.”*

**RONALD LEOPOLD**



## Meet Robin and Wael

In response to the Hamas terrorist attack on Israel and the subsequent war between Israel and Gaza, we published the lesson plan 'Meet Robin and Wael'. Robin (a Jewish Dutchman) and Wael (a Syrian Palestinian refugee living in Berlin) both experience that others want to blame them for a conflict that they have no responsibility for. Using the lesson plan, teachers can help their students explore the differences and similarities between Robin and Wael's stories, and think about what they themselves can do to combat discrimination.



## Tackling football-related racism

Football also regularly made negative headlines in 2023. The police noted a slight decrease in incidents that year, except in the area of racist and/or offensive expressions. Not surprisingly, central government announced the renewal of the Plan of Action against Discrimination and Racism in September during the annual conference at the Dutch Football Association (KNVB) Campus: Our Football Is Everybody's 2.0. The message of the government and the KNVB is clear: we still have a long way to go. The outgoing Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport, Conny Helder, urged everyone to get more in "action mode."

The Anne Frank House been active in this field for years, and we continued to organise Fair Play workshops in 2023. Through football clubs young people are offered a workshop where they are introduced to different forms of discrimination and exclusion. This approach raises awareness of what discrimination is, what its effects are and how an individual's own actions can have a positive influence. In partnership with professional and amateur clubs we conducted over 160 workshops in 2023, reaching nearly 4,000 young people and young football players. We paid special attention

to a relatively unexplored area: the youth training programmes of professional clubs, starting with the youth programmes of NEC Nijmegen, FC Den Bosch and Roda JC.

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*"When you see your Jewish fellow supporter being attacked, you think: what are we doing this for?"*

SUPPORTER FC UTRECHT

We are also working with three professional football clubs (FC Utrecht, Feyenoord and FC Den Bosch) in 2023 to combat verbal abuse: the *Spreekorenproject*. Although not every project restarted smoothly after the corona pandemic, a great wish was fulfilled: a documentary was produced about the *Spreekorenproject* at FC Utrecht, including interviews with those involved and footage of the workshop. The documentary will be released in the Spring of 2024.





## Support Police

The police have a formal task in countering discrimination in society. The Anne Frank House organises and supports programmes for police officers who want to learn more about diversity, equal treatment and prejudice in police work and exchange experiences in these areas.

In 2023 we organised four networking days for the Anne Frank House police team. Members exchanged views on current issues and challenges on the police work floor, such as dealing with antisemitism. A new group of 20 team chiefs

was also being trained for the Anne Frank House police team. They were equipped with knowledge and skills to open up themes such as diversity and inclusion for discussion within the police organisation. The Anne Frank House police team consisted of 44 team chiefs by the end of 2023.

Two inspiration days were provided in 2023 for teachers at the police academy and for practice supervisors. These covered the new teaching package 'Taking to the streets!' on the fundamental laws of freedom of demonstration and free speech.

Experiences were also shared about the learning conversation with police students on the core values of the democratic rule of law.

A year-end meeting took place in December 2023, where participants from the Anne Frank House police team looked back on the developments of the past year and their own efforts in discussing issues such as workplace discrimination.



## Anne Frank Youth Network

We believe it's important to involve young people in our educational work, and so every year we recruit young people for the Anne Frank Youth Team. Over five weekends the young people learn about World War II and the persecution of the Jews, about prejudice and discrimination, and receive training on how to conduct a dialogue, how to respond to discriminatory comments, and how to organise a project. The young people then work in small teams on project plans and implement the projects. Alumni who previously participated in the Youth Team help with this.

Outside the Netherlands we recruit young people for the international Anne Frank Youth Network. We do this with the help of country coordinators in sixteen different countries. The young people come together

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### *We believe it's important to involve young people in our educational work*

– mostly online – to discuss and address social issues in their own communities, ranging from topics related to the Second World War, the Holocaust, prejudice, discrimination, democracy and identity.

A total of 2,125 young people worldwide actively participated in the Anne Frank Youth Network.

In July 2023 the Anne Frank Youth Network brought young people from Western Europe together in Amsterdam for a forum to test new educational materials, reflect on new topics such as democracy and the rule of law, and develop new projects. Regional AFYN forums took also place in Poland and in Croatia.



## Traveling Exhibitions

By 2023 there had been 286 exhibitions in 25 countries about Anne Frank and the history of her time. Guided tours, mostly provided by young people, took place at each location. More than 350,000 people visited the exhibition.

The Anne Frank House trains young people to show their peers around the exhibition. The new guides learn about the content and background of the exhibition, how best to transmit the information and how to address current social developments. This approach, known as peer education, is highly

successful in involving the young people visiting the exhibition.

A special exhibition on Anne Frank opened at the *Memoria y Tolerancia Museum* in Mexico City in June. It was curated by the *Centro Ana Frank Argentina*, our permanent partner in Latin America. The exhibition showed the life story of Anne Frank in combination with a number of art installations related to the diary. It also featured an impression of the hiding place.

Coordinated by our Portuguese partner *Associação Comunidades Que Florescem*, a multi-year tour of the exhibition *Anne Frank - A History for Today* began in October. The exhibition was shown in at least ten schools in northern Portugal, in each case in combination with peer education, where students themselves conducted the tours after they had received training. Teachers from the participating schools took part in a training program in Porto in November related to the *Stories that Move* online toolbox against discrimination.



## Activities in Ukraine

The war in Ukraine continues: Ukrainians live and work amid the constant threat of missile attacks. We remained in touch with our partner organisation in Kiev – *TolerSpace* – in 2023 and supported them whenever possible.

In collaboration with *TolerSpace* we organised an online event for teachers in Ukraine, addressing teaching strategies during the ongoing war. We also organised webinars for teachers around *Stories that Move*, the online toolbox against discrimination. An updated version of the tool has been translated into Ukrainian to facilitate its use.

Ukrainian young people participated in the Anne Frank Youth Network forum in Krzyzowa, Poland. Despite numerous obstacles, they managed to carry out several projects in Kiev, focusing on Anne Frank's diary and its impact. Young people also participated in various online events that we organised for and with them. One of the *TolerSpace* youth workers, as a volunteer with the European Solidarity Corps, joined the Educational Projects department within the Anne Frank House for a year.

The collaboration extended in 2023 to the Ukrainian organisation *Port Agency*, which curated an exhibition on the war diaries of Ukrainian children.

This War Diaries exhibition was accompanied by a two-day program for Ukrainian young people at the Anne Frank House. They visited the Anne Frank House and followed workshops. One of the stories from the War Diaries exhibition appeared in the annual *Anne Frank Journal*: the story of ten-year-old Ivanna writing about the war in her country in her diary.

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***The exhibition curates the war diaries of Ukrainian children***

# BUILDING BRIDGES

THIS LETTER TO THE EDITOR APPEARED IN THE DUTCH NEWSPAPER NRC ON 15 NOVEMBER

A typical day at the Anne Frank House. I look out from my office onto the square in front of the museum entrance. I see a man with a yarmulke and moments later a group of young women wearing the hijab. They're patiently waiting until they can go inside to visit Anne Frank's hiding place. They come to learn about the history that played out in this house, but also to better understand themselves and the world around them. Several thousand visitors every day, hopefully soon to include people from regions where war and violence now prevail.

After 7 October everything is different, but also the same.

Meanwhile, I see and hear an abundance of antisemitic outbursts. I see and hear the slogan 'From the river to the sea...': during demonstrations, projected onto buildings and even in the heart of our democracy, our parliament. Is the use of this slogan morally repugnant, especially in these days of widespread antisemitism? Mayor Halsema of Amsterdam was clear: yes it is. I agree with her, because the slogan actually means a denial of the state of Israel's right to exist. Is the slogan against the law? Apparently not. The rule of law safeguards freedom of speech; a great good.

The images from Israel and Gaza – images of innocent civilian victims – cause emotions to run high, including my own. But does that make it all right to say or chant anything?

The key question is: how do we relate to this freedom of expression? If tomorrow all Dutch people were to exercise the right to freedom of expression without limit, with no regard for others, the day after tomorrow we'd be living in an uninhabitable, hate-filled country. We'd all fall victim to that. Many people, with different backgrounds and different identities, are committed to reducing tensions and building bridges. Because even after these terrible times are over, we have to move on together, we want to move on together. The use of the slogan detracts from the work of all those bridge-builders, who bring a message of hope, not hate. They feel pain, they're full of worry and fear, but they're also determined to oppose group-centred hatred and polarisation, especially in these times. This calls for an effort from

us all, for example by reflecting on the weight of the words we use.

Just like those thousands of visitors to the Anne Frank House, from all over the world and of all persuasions, we can draw inspiration from the words of the girl who wrote in 1944, aged just 15: 'we're all searching for happiness; we're all leading lives that are different and yet the same'.

**RONALD LEOPOLD**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ANNE FRANK HOUSE



**anne frank** house