

TOOLBOX



SO-CLOSE

Enhancing Social Cohesion through Sharing the Cultural Heritage of Forced Migrations



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Partners:



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SO-CLOSE Project



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SO-CLOSE is a three-year project created to contribute to social cohesion and fight refugee marginalization or exclusion by facilitating the encounters of similar life stories, using innovative digital and artistic tools to mediate.

Who we are

The SO-CLOSE Consortium gathers NGO's, cultural institutions, academics, IT specialists and representatives of local communities from Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain and Sweden.

The SO-CLOSE tools design is the result of participatory research of four cultural institutions and stakeholders' involvement in the project through over 200 interviews, focus groups and surveys that took place in Poland, Italy, Greece, and Spain. The technological partners that developed the toolbox were LaTempesta, in charge of the sharing tools, and Engineering with CERTH, of the MCP.

We cordially invite everyone interested in using the SO-CLOSE digital tools to cooperate with us. Don't hesitate to contact us directly at contact@so-close.eu, Dominika Kasprówicz, PhD mobile: +0048 508 688482.

The SO-CLOSE Tools are...

Digital cultural heritage storytelling platforms...

- ▶ Specially designed for migration heritage by a multidisciplinary Consortium, cultural institutions, policy makers, academics, refugees and NGO's representatives.
- ▶ Aiming to serve as an amplifier for the refugees' voices and their reality, in an enriched context, with content related to the forced displacement heritage of the host societies.
- ▶ Promoting co-creation and collaborative approaches through participatory methodologies and user contribution features, to empower communities.
- ▶ Integrating state-of-the-art storytelling formats into new hybrid narratives about migration and heritage.

...designed with user-centred features.

- ▶ Modular structures that may be selected, shuffled and repeated to customise the content display.
- ▶ Accessibility features to allow access to people with functional diversity.
- ▶ Interoperability with external digital ecosystems that grant the content's future preservation.
- ▶ Replicability to guarantee that the tools may be used to create multiple independent projects.
- ▶ Free to use version for any cultural or educational institution, NGO and civil group focused on migration.



Interactive story map

Storytelling based on maps, with interactive visual elements and textual resources. In the SO-CLOSE story map geography is the main narrative thread that links forced displacements itineraries to create a dialogue between the local societies' memories and the present-day experiences, in a comparative way. Institutions that use the platform will be able to design journeys with customisable itineraries, choose between political and geographical maps and use modules for image juxtaposition and 360 images and videos display.



Immersive web documentary

Photography, video and immersive recordings are the protagonists of this tool. The SO-CLOSE web documentary builds immersive multimedia experiences, enhancing the potential to create empathy and emotional storytelling. Its strong visual component allows cultural institutions to compose strong digital narratives about migration heritage, while offering features such as a video-introduction trailer, video gallery modules for the chapters, customisable chapters sequence and an integrated 360 images and video viewer.



Participatory virtual exhibition

A traditional storytelling concept translated into a digital format and enriched with user-contribution features. The SO-CLOSE virtual exhibition is a platform that aims to offer versatility to the cultural institutions and to promote a collaborative approach through crowdsourcing initiatives, empowering communities to share heritage elements in selected exhibitions. Its characteristics include modular panels, a 3D viewer, a newsfeed section, a self-generated items gallery with faceted search and forms specially designed for user-contributions collection and publishing.



The Memory Center Platform (MCP)

MCP is an interactive platform that will gather materials created by SO CLOSE in different locations to connect them with similar initiatives and reach broader and different targets (academic, arts, public authorities, and the whole society). This technological platform will be created in the SO CLOSE project with perspectives of accessibility, reuse and sustainability, and it will provide a set of services to facilitate the access and management of all digital content stored.