Last year, some 6,500 people participated in Limmud FSU conferences, seminars and activities. Today, as we work to realize a full spectrum of face-to-face conferences in 2022, we can look back over 2021 with satisfaction.

Alongside that satisfaction is a very humbling recognition of the commitment of our volunteers, whose dedication to make face to face programming possible in the face of the obstacles laid in their path by the pandemic, is truly inspiring. And that is paired with the enthusiasm and eagerness of the conference participants, who gathered together, very literally from near and far, for events in the open air and in tents, determined to learn together and explore their Jewish heritage. This is their story.

But no less, it is the story of our equally committed philanthropic supporters, who helped make it possible. We remain truly grateful for your dedication and hope that in 2022 you can be with us to sense the enthusiasm of our conferences. This is your story, too.
In 2021, we mounted 7 Limmud FSU conferences and 3 organizing committee seminars in 6 countries, 47 ongoing Limmud FSU Labs initiatives in 11 countries, and online e-learning sessions. Thousands of Russian-speaking Jews celebrated their Jewish identity and studied together.

**Limmud FSU Conferences**
- **Moscow, Russia**: May 23, 1,200 people
- **Lviv, Ukraine**: October 8-10, 400 people
- **Kiev, Ukraine**: October 22-24, 26 volunteers from 13 countries across Europe
- **Kazan, Russia**: October 8-10, 400 people
- **Toronto, Canada**: September 19, 100 people
- **New York, USA**: June 13, 170 people
- **San Francisco, USA**: June 20, 150 people

**Organizing Committee Seminars**
- **Berlin, Germany**: May 28-30, 25 volunteers
- **Toronto, Canada**: October 1-2, 25 volunteers
- **New York, USA**: October 8-10, 400 people
- **Lviv, Ukraine**: October 8-10, 400 people
- **Kiev, Ukraine**: May 28-30, 25 volunteers

**Limmud FSU Labs Participants**
- **Kibbutz Shefayim, Israel**: October 22-24, 26 volunteers from 13 countries across Europe
- **Kibbutz Shefayim, Israel**: December 9-11, 700 people

**Key Numbers**
- **75 Volunteers in Seminars**
- **3,120 Conference Participants**
- **500 Listened to Online Sessions**
- **3,000 Limmud FSU Labs Participants**
- **Over 6,500 People**
We want to say a special thank you to all our philanthropic supporters – without you, this would not be possible. Thank you for believing in Limmud FSU. Our success is thanks to your support.
For the first time since 2019, Limmud FSU Moscow took place, an unforgettable one-day festival of Jewish learning and experience, in an exceptional outdoor venue. It was the first mass Limmud event in the post-lockdown world, and for many of the participants, it was one of the first times they could come together, in person, after a long break due to the pandemic.

In a pastoral and charming setting in upstate New York, over 150 Jewish participants came together in June for a special Limmud FSU event, filled with extensive Jewish and Israeli content and a special children’s program. There were lectures, deep discussions, artistic workshops, musical performances, and master classes led by prominent and well-known figures in the Jewish world and beyond.

Under a pleasant Californian June sunshine, more than 150 Jews from all over the West Coast came together in the Silicon Valley city of Palo Alto for a Limmud FSU post-pandemic celebration of Jewish learning. It was a truly magnificent opportunity finally to be part of a community again, and to attend a variety of sessions on a wide range of topics.

Combined with the Sukkot festivities, this event was special in many ways. Together with some noted speakers and senior officials, it brought together many of the members of the country’s Jewish community for the first time after a long break, to discuss topics relevant to the Jewish world, enjoy a traditional dance master class, a special magician performance and many more activities.
The joy of coming back to the familiar setting of the cozy Dniester hotel in the city of Lviv, which hosted several magnificent Limmud FSU conferences over the past few years, was almost indescribable. Some 400 participants came together from across Ukraine, for a unique festive weekend, filled with all the must-have ingredients of a successful Limmud FSU festival of learning.

This Limmud FSU conference had been in the making for some time – but the actual event was truly worth the wait. It brought together hundreds of participants, not just from Kazan itself, but from so many other cities in the Volga-Urals region such as Yekaterinburg, Chelyabinsk, Nizhny Novgorod and Ulyanovsk, a long-term goal of this special and promising project.

An exciting event took place in the Spandau neighborhood in Berlin – Limmud FSU Europe’s organizing committee seminar that officially launched the preparations for the project’s next location – Germany. Much went on during the packed weekend that was attended by dozens of devoted volunteers from across central and western Europe. They discussed feedback from past Limmuds, as well as future strategies and plans.

There can be no better way to finish the Limmud FSU year other than a successful event in Israel. This time the chosen location was right in the heart of the country, in pastoral Kibbutz Shefayim, where the biggest 3-day Limmud in the world in 2021 took place, with more than 700 participants and over 100 different activities for both children and adults.
The content of the conferences and the nature of the sessions was extremely diverse: lectures, workshops, round table discussions, games, performances, that covered modernization, science, economics, international relations, medicine, history, the Holocaust and antisemitism, culture, art, religion, sociology, culinary traditions, humor, in 4 languages. Each participant was free to choose which sessions to attend, while enjoying the atmosphere and sense of community.
The adult program was complemented by a widely-varied series of age-appropriate activities on Jewish and general topics for young Limmudniks aged 3-18, from discussions to magic performances, and a series of arts and crafts. Some of these sessions included their parents, such as Kabbalat Shabbat. In many conferences, the program for the older age groups is designed to reflect the structure for adults: there is a choice of sessions, and the young Limmudniks choose those that most interest them.
ALEXANDER BEN ZVI, ISRAEL'S AMBASSADOR TO RUSSIA
Reflecting on the fact that Limmud FSU Moscow is the first post-corona Limmud event of any group, anywhere in the world: “You see thousands of young people who are interested in what Limmud is, in their Jewish roots, in their culture, in their religion, in politics – it makes you actually proud.”

MATTHEW BRONFMAN, LIMMUD FSU CHAIRMAN
“Last month we returned to face-to-face programming in Moscow, and today we extended that to North America. Every one-day event is an important step on our path to a full return to annually impacting thousands of Russian-speaking Jews through one to three-day conferences of Jewish learning.”

NACHMAN SHAI, ISRAEL’S MINISTER OF DIASPORA AFFAIRS
“We all should say ‘baruch hashem’ that we finally can renew Limmud’s extremely important meetings all around the world, starting today in Palo Alto, but hopefully there will be more and more in the months and years to come. You are very important partners in building the bonds between Israel and the Diaspora, and I have a lot of admiration for your operation.”

RABBI BEREL LAZAR, RUSSIA’S CHIEF RABBI
“Today everything is written in books, and it’s clearer there than in a lecture, but the point about Limmud is that you are doing it together. The very name Limmud is itself a symbol of the Jewish people. True happiness doesn’t come from sitting alone at home; a Jew cannot say ‘LeChaim’ over a glass of wine when alone; we say ‘LeChaim’ when we are with others.”

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YANA AGMON, REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF “NATIV” IN RUSSIA, BELARUS AND THE BALTI COUNTRIES

“The preservation of an independent Jewish identity is the shared goal of Nativ and Limmud FSU. We don’t presume to impose from above but we study together to strengthen the Jewish ethical core that binds our people together.”

MICHAEL BRODSKY, AMBASSADOR OF ISRAEL TO UKRAINE

“We want the Jewish community here to remain strong and influential; we want to promote Israeli interests, and we rely on the Jewish community for very sensitive and important matters such as security. Ukraine has a vote at the United Nations, and it’s very active in the international arena.”

AARON G. FRENKEL, LIMMUD FSU PRESIDENT

“And now we have come back, with strength, to face-to-face learning, and have brought together some 700 people: this gathering in Israel will be the largest conference of Jewish learning anywhere in the world this year. It says something about the importance of our conferences for our target audience.”

MARINA YUDBOROVSKY, CEO OF GENESIS PHILANTHROPY GROUP

“At Limmud FSU, learning and socializing are always combined with the spirit of volunteerism and a desire to connect to Jewish heritage. In search for identity, participants can explore how their personal experiences enrich and enmesh with the life of the larger Jewish community. It was also an opportunity for fostering connections and building a robust dialogue between Israel and the Diaspora, a critical component in today’s climate.”

YAAKOV HAGOEL, CHAIRMAN OF THE WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

“From the countries where once Jewish culture was suppressed, from under a communist regime that persecuted Jews and Jewish education, a new generation of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren has arisen, and here in Kibbutz Shefayim declares ‘We were victorious, the tune of our people cannot be silenced!’”
HIGHLIGHTS

**DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY**

"I am glad to be here with you, Limmud FSU is a unique and significant cultural educational project, which strives to be part of the ancient Jewish learning tradition, and through it to strengthen the Jewish identity of Russian-speaking Jews and strengthen their connection to the State of Israel."

**PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL**

"I am so delighted to see everyone here at Limmud FSU together, after such a long time of social distancing, and I share your excitement. There is so much comfort and strength to be drawn from the power of our togetherness, the richness of our dialogue and heritage, and the beauty of our common destiny."

**AVIGDOR LIEBERMAN, FINANCE MINISTER OF ISRAEL**

"I am a great fan of Limmud FSU, and for a number of years already have not missed the opportunity to attend the conferences. First of all, it is always moving to see hundreds of young people who feel part of the country. A spirit of Zionism and patriotism are inspiring. Second, it is one of the few projects that has a vision. Without a vision for the future, we have no present."

**SAR-SHALOM JERBI, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY DIVISION, KKL-JNF**

"I am glad to be here with you, Limmud FSU is a unique and significant cultural educational project, which strives to be part of the ancient Jewish learning tradition, and through it to strengthen the Jewish identity of Russian-speaking Jews and strengthen their connection to the State of Israel."

**ALEX KUSHNIR, CHAIR OF KNESSET FINANCE COMMITTEE**

"I had the great pleasure of appearing at the Limmud FSU conference to talk about the state budget through the eyes of the chair of the Knesset Finance Committee. It was wonderful that even on such a beautiful Shabbat morning, so many people came to hear about the country's economy from the perspective of a politician. There were many interesting questions, but what was even more inspiring was that the participants were well-mannered and well-educated... See you next year!"
LIMMUD FSU LABS

Limmud Labs, a partnership with Israel’s Ministry of Diaspora Affairs, is an opportunity to offer ongoing learning and social opportunities for young adults. Small grants are offered across the Limmud FSU globe for grass-roots-developed programs that continued throughout 2021, online and offline.

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<tr>
<th>LIMMUD FSU LABS 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120 Initiators</td>
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<tr>
<td>47 New Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>200 Jewish Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>3,000 Participants</td>
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<td>11 Countries</td>
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<td>25 Partners</td>
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- About 80% of the participants are aged 18-45
- About 30% of the participants did not take part in Jewish activities at all last year
- About 65% of the participants had not attended any Limmud FSU conferences

Elya Yaloneckaya (Berlin), Travelling in the Images of the Tanakh
PROFESSIONAL STAFF

NATASHA CHECHIK, Executive Director
CHAIM NAGUS, Financial and Management Consultant
YAN BIRBRAER, Logistics Director and Limmud FSU Israel Project Manager
DEBORAH LIPSON, FRD and Board Development
GABI FARBEROV, Limmud FSU Labs Project Manager
ASHER WEILL, English Language Consultant
ALEX GURALNICK, Financial Controller

REGIONAL MANAGEMENT

GALINA RYBNIKOVA, Project Manager, Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus
NOAM SHUMAKH-KHAIMOV, Project Manager, USA
MILA VOIHANSKY, Country Director and Labs Coordinator, Canada
LENA ZAKHAROVA, Project Manager, Moscow
ANNA MAYLIS, Project Manager and Labs Coordinator, Australia
DIMA MEVZOS, Project Manager, Western Europe
VITA LEVINA, Project Manager and Labs Coordinator, Volga-Urals

LIMMUD FSU AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS – LEADERSHIP

OSIK AKSELRUD, CHAIR, Limmud FSU Ukraine
RAFFI HELTZER, CHAIR, Limmud Russian-speakers Israel

LIMMUD FSU LABS COORDINATORS

EGOR ERTAGAEV, Moldova
ELENA KULEVNICH, Belarus
ILONA DLIN, Western and Central Europe
IULIA ANOKHINA, Saint Petersburg
LEAH VOLYNSKY, New York and USA East Coast
OLENA KOLPAKOVA, Ukraine
SVETLANA KROZ, USA West Coast
LOCAL SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

**Australia:** ZFA (Zionist Federation of Australia), Harry Triguboff Fund.

**Belarus:** Hillel Belarus, Union of Belarusian Jewish Public Associations and Communities.


**Europe:** Progressive Judische Gemeinde Michelsberg, J-ArtEck Youth Education Center, PANDA, Cultural-Educational Society MIGRASH.

**Israel:** Makom - the Jewish Agency for Israel, The Zalman Shazar Center.

**Moldova:** Jewish Community of Moldova, Hillel Moldova, Vulturas.

**Moscow:** CAF Russia (Charity Aid Fund), STMEGi Fund, Tkhiya Educational Centre, Federation of Jewish Communities of Russia, Russian Jewish Congress, Jewish Cultural Center at Nikitskaya, Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center, ORT Russia, Hillel Russia, Expert Service company, J-Camp.


**St.Petersburg:** Skandin, Russian Jewish Congress, Adain Lo family Center, JCC Yesod, Religious Jewish Community, Jewish Agency in Russia.

**Ukraine:** Hillel Ukraine, Tkuma, Ukrainian-Jewish Encounter, All-Ukrainian Jewish Congress (headed by Vadim Rabinovich), Odessa Association of Jewish Culture, Religious community of traditional Judaism "MASORET", Museum of Jewish Memory and the Holocaust in Ukraine, Hillel Ukraine, Jewish Community Center “Migdal”, Jewish Religious Community "KEDEM".

**Volga - Urals:** Mikhail Skoblionok and the Jewish Community of Kazan, Afifon Jewish Youth Center.

**West Coast:** Fooksman Family Charitable Fund, Jewish Family and Children’s Services - San Francisco, The Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, Jewish Federation of Los Angeles, NCSY, RAJM: Russian American Jews in Minnesota, Israeli Consulate General of the Pacific Northwest, Jewish Community Foundation of East Bay, Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, Yom Rishon School, JrRashki, Addison Penzak JCC of Silicon Valley.
SEE YOU IN 2022