



27 January • International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

Remembrance and Beyond



The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme seeks to remind the world of the lessons to be learnt from the Holocaust in order to help to prevent future acts of genocide.

The Outreach Programme was created at the request of the United Nations General Assembly in its "Holocaust Remembrance" resolution, adopted on 1 November 2005.

It designates 27 January as an annual International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust – observed with ceremonies and activities at United Nations Headquarters in New York and at UN offices around the world.

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations General Assembly reaffirms that “the Holocaust, which resulted in the murder of one-third of the Jewish people along with countless members of other minorities, will forever be a warning to all people of the dangers of hatred, bigotry, racism and prejudice”. The "Holocaust Remembrance" resolution rejects any denial of the Holocaust as an historical event, either in full or part.

The UN Outreach Programme has worked closely with Holocaust survivors to ensure that their stories are heard and heeded as a warning of the consequences of anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination. In all of its activities, with students around the world in particular, the Holocaust Programme draws essential links between the underlying causes of genocide, the lessons to be learned from the Holocaust and the promotion of human rights and democratic values today.

It has developed partnerships with civil society, Governments and Holocaust institutions, which provide substantive support and expertise. It has as well developed a wide variety of educational tools in cooperation with leading institutions to support the development of educational curricula by Member States.

The Outreach Programme, through partnership with four renowned Holocaust institutions, organized four regional training programmes to support the outreach efforts of UNICs. The training programmes were designed to better equip the information officers in the field to raise public awareness about the relevance of the Holocaust today, and apply the principles they learn to outreach activities to combat Holocaust denial and promote respect for diversity and human rights.

The Holocaust Programme has also held several educational seminars on the Holocaust and the relevance of its lessons today, which are available as a webcast on the Programme’s website www.un.org/holocaustremembrance .