



Seventy-three years ago, on January 27 in 1945, the Red Army liberated over 7.000 remaining prisoners from the concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. Following the introduction of the *International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of The Holocaust* by the UN in 2005, January 27 became a day to pay special tribute to the victims of Nazi crimes. Each year, numerous events all over the world are organized to remind the global public of the terrible crimes committed and the millions of deaths caused by the Nazi regime.

Created under the immediate impression of the Holocaust and World War II, the UN has focused on the protection of human rights from the onset. Today, especially in times of rising nationalist and populist movements, Holocaust Remembrance Day serves as a reminder of the collective responsibility to prevent similar crimes in the future.

At the occasion of this year's Remembrance Day, Secretary-General António Guterres released a video-message in which he warned that: "(...) too often, vile views are moving from the margins to the mainstream of societies and politics." He added: "We must stand together against the normalization of hate."

To mark Holocaust Remembrance Day, the UN is engaging in various ways with different projects all over the world. At UN Headquarters, a special exhibition is hosted around the theme "*Holocaust Remembrance and Education: Our Shared Responsibility*". Other events and exhibitions will be shown all around the globe, particularly during the last two weeks of January.

In Germany, the exhibition "*Survivors, Victims and Perpetrators*" will be launched at the Visitors' Lobby, General Assembly Building in Bonn. The Exhibition, sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations, will contrast the role of the perpetrators, the Nazis and their collaborators with the images and stories of the victims and survivors. Among other things the Exhibition will feature the protocol of the Wannsee Conference, which was held on 20 January 1942 in Berlin which played a key role in creating the killing machinery of the Nazi state. The exhibit will be on display from 18 January to 28 February 2018.

A second exhibition titled *The Holocaust – Keeping the Memory Alive* features the 12 best posters out of more than 150 submitted by designers and students of design from Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia and Slovenia. The theme of this year's competition, which was implemented with support from the global network of United Nations Information Centres, reflects our shared responsibility to remember and educate about this tragedy. The exhibit is a joint initiative of Yad Vashem - The World Holocaust Remembrance Center and the Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme. The competition is sponsored by

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and endorsed by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

Other projects around the world can be found here: <http://www.un.org/en/holocaustremembrance/2018/calendar2018.html>