

PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE



Greece
Permanent Mission to the
United Nations

High-level online event on “The Role of the United Nations in Combating Antisemitism”

(Tuesday, 17 November 2020)

The Greek Government is aware of the rise of Antisemitism worldwide during the current pandemic crisis, where we are yet again facing rising levels of Antisemitism and conspiracy theories. For this reason, it is our decision to encourage greater cooperation with other countries in the EU, the OSCE and other organizations like IHRA in preventing and responding to Antisemitism. In this regard, we have created a special Task Force for Fighting Antisemitism, which will elaborate a National Strategy for the Fight against Antisemitism and will manage the integration of the IHRA’s Working Definitions in Legislation and Education. Moreover, the Task Force, which is connected with our national delegation to the IHRA, will organize the Greek Presidency of the Alliance in 2021.

Further, Greece’s northern port city of Thessaloniki is set to welcome a new Holocaust museum. The Holocaust Memorial Museum & Educational Center of Greece on Human Rights seeks to commemorate the devastating fate of the Jewish community, but also to recount its cultural history and rejuvenation after World War II, and to host an open forum for multi-cultural education and forward-looking dialogues between various identity groups.

Following the adoption of a relevant resolution by the Greek Parliament, the International Holocaust Remembrance Day (27 January) is observed by events throughout the country, with the official participation of the Greek state. Holocaust monuments have been raised in Athens and Thessaloniki, including a monument to the old Jewish cemetery on the grounds of the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki. In addition, teaching of the Holocaust is included in school textbooks, while special training seminars on the subject are held for educators.

In conclusion, Greece participates actively in international organizations and international meetings on the Holocaust, while it collaborates with the Holocaust Museum in Washington. In this respect, a permanent Greek exhibit at the Auschwitz Museum is in the process, within the framework of a relevant Greek-Polish Agreement.