

World Jewish Congress

Resolution EC 1910 – 1

Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Nazi Concentration and Death Camps

The Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Munich, on 28 October 2019,

NOTES that 2020 will mark the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II and the liberation of survivors of Nazi concentration and death camps;

FURTHER NOTES that the WJC will participate in two important commemorations in relation to these anniversaries at Auschwitz-Birkenau and Bergen-Belsen in January and April 2020 respectively, and calls upon all world leaders to join in these commemorations;

FURTHER NOTES the commemoration which will be taking place at Yad Vashem in January 2020, and all other commemorations of the liberation of victims of Nazism by Allied forces in the winter and spring of 1945;

EXPRESSES the heightened necessity to protect the legacy, lessons and warnings of the Holocaust as time passes and the number of survivors dwindles, and confirms the responsibility of current and future living generations to ensure that the history of the Holocaust and its lessons are never forgotten or distorted;

RECOGNIZES the need for an increase in the number and visibility of public monuments and events commemorating the Holocaust;

CALLS on all international organizations, all countries and affiliated communities to participate in and support commemorations efforts marking the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and all other Nazi concentration and death camps, including by recognizing and participating in the International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27th as designated by the United Nations;

RECALLS the resolution on “The Value of Holocaust Education and the Need to Combat Holocaust Denial through Education” adopted at the WJC Governing Board Meeting in Ottawa in May 2019;

REITERATES the call for “all government and international organizations to take all necessary measures and implement concrete strategies to promote the importance of Holocaust education in their schools and educational institutions, and prepare curricula with the goal of combating Holocaust denial, distortion or trivialization” as specified in the above-mentioned resolution;

REAFFIRMS our support for the UNESCO-WJC partnership on Holocaust education, including the educational website aboutholocaust.org, which provides students, young adults, and others with essential information about the history of the Holocaust and its legacy;

NOTES the annual #WeRemember Campaign of the World Jewish Congress as an important step in raising the awareness about the Holocaust to current and new generations;

AFFIRMS our strong support for the Never Again Education Act currently being considered by the United States Congress;

Adopted by the Executive Committee 28 October 2019