

Перечень всех статей по Форуму в Кракове на иностранных языках			
1.	12.01.2010	Onet.pl	FORUM "LET MY PEOPLE LIVE" W ROCZNICĘ WYZWOLENIA AUSCHWITZ
2.	12.01.2010	Gazeta Wyborcza	FORUM "LET MY PEOPLE LIVE" W ROCZNICĘ WYZWOLENIA AUSCHWITZ
3.	12.01.2010	pap.pl	FORUM "LET MY PEOPLE LIVE" W ROCZNICĘ WYZWOLENIA AUSCHWITZ
4.	19.01.2010	Onet.pl	"KOŁOT MIN HASHOAH" PONOWNIE W OPERZE KRAKOWSKIEJ
5.	21.01.2010	EJP	65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ TO BE MARKED BY SEVERAL EVENTS
6.	22.01.2010	e-teatr.pl	KRAKÓW. DZIEŃ PAMIĘCI OFIAR HOLOKAUSTU W OPERZE
7.	22.01.2010	Gazeta.pl	MIĘDZYNARODOWY DZIEŃ PAMIĘCI O HOLOKAUSTE
8.	23.01.2010	itongadol.com	DÍA INTERNACIONAL DE CONMEMORACIÓN EN MEMORIA DE LAS VÍCTIMAS DEL HOLOCAUSTO
9.	23.01.2010	Agencia Judía de Noticias	JANUARY 27, INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY
10.	24.01.2010	earthtimes.org	POLAND TO MARK ANNIVERSARY OF AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION
11.	24.01.2010	German Press Agency	POLAND TO MARK ANNIVERSARY OF AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION
12.	25.01.2010	Agencia Judía de Noticias	DÍA DE RECORDACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO
13.	25.01.2010	Agencia Judía de Noticias	DÍA DE RECORDACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO: SE REALIZA EN CRACOVIA EL TERCER FORO INTERNACIONAL DEL HOLOCAUSTO, ORGANIZADO POR EL CONGRESO JUDÍO EUROPEO
14.	25.01.2010	emol.com	POLONIA REMEMORA EL 65 ANIVERSARIO DE LA LIBERACIÓN DE AUSCHWITZ
15.	26.01.2010	Nowazelandia.vipserv.org	FORUM "LET MY PEOPLE LIVE" W ROCZNICĘ WYZWOLENIA AUSCHWITZ
16.	26.01.2010	Portal Trybuny Gorniczej	JERZY BUZEK NA OBCHODACH W AUSCHWITZ – BIRKENAU
17.	26.01.2010	Sabaudiain.it	L'EURODEPUTATO MORGANTI AD AUSCHWITZ NEL GIORNO DELLA MEMORIA
18.	26.01.2010	Gazeta.pl	GOŚCIE Z 44 KRAJÓW WEZMĄ UDZIAŁ W III FORUM HOLOKAUSTU W KRAKOWIE
19.	26.01.2010	itongadol.com	DÍA DE RECORDACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO, COLUMNAS DE OPINIÓN
20.	26.01.2010	The Jerusalem Post	LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE
21.	27.01.2010	РИА Новости	УТРЕННЯЯ ПОЧТА
22.	27.01.2010	Wiadomosci.onet.pl	III FORUM HOLOKAUSTU W KRAKOWIE

23.	27.01.2010	ITAR-TASS	POLAND TO HOST EVENTS ON ANNIVERSARY OF AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION
24.	27.01.2010	INQUIRER.net	SURVIVORS, LIBERATORS, AT AUSCHWITZ COMMEMORATION
25.	27.01.2010	tvn24.pl	ZAPAL ŚWIECZKĘ O 18-TE
26.	27.01.2010	Agence France-Presse	SURVIVORS, LIBERATORS, AT AUSCHWITZ COMMEMORATION
27.	27.01.2010	Gazeta Wyborcza	OBCHODY 65. ROCZNICY WYZWOLENIA HITLEROWSKIEGO OBOZU AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU
28.	27.01.2010	ziare.com	SUPRAVIETITORI AI HOLOCAUSTULUI, PREZENTI LA CEREMONIILE DE LA AUSCHWITZ
29.	27.01.2010	lexpress.fr	AUSCHWITZ: LES SURVIVANTS SE RECUEILLENT, 65 ANS APRÈS LA LIBÉRATION DU CAMP
30.	27.01.2010	la-croix.com	SARKOZY ÉVOQUE "L'EXIGENCE" DE MÉMOIRE ENVERS LES VICTIMES DE LA SHOAH
31.	27.01.2010	lepoint.fr	AUSCHWITZ: LES SURVIVANTS SE RECUEILLENT, 65 ANS APRÈS LA LIBÉRATION DU CAMP
32.	27.01.2010	dziennikpolski24.pl	W KRAKOWIE ROZPOCZĘŁO SIĘ MIĘDZYNARODOWE FORUM HOLOKAUSTU
33.	27.01.2010	World Jewish Congress	OP-ED BY MOSHE KANTOR: LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE
34.	27.01.2010	World Jewish Congress	SHOAH REMEMBERED IN EVENTS AROUND THE WORLD
35.	27.01.2010	RadioFreeEurope - RadioLiberty	SURVIVORS, DIGNITARIES COMMEMORATE AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION
36.	27.01.2010	Gazeta Wyborcza	KWAŚNIEWSKI: NIKT NIE JEST ODPORNY NA DEMONY FANATYZMU
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38.	27.01.2010	info.rsi.ch	GIORNATA DELLA MEMORIA
39.	27.01.2010	abc.es	BARACK OBAMA PIDE NO OLVIDAR LA HISTORIA EN DÍA CONMEMORACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO
40.	27.01.2010	onet.pl	PRZESŁANIE PREZYDENTA FRANCJI DO UCZESTNIKÓW FORUM HOLOKAUSTU
41.	27.01.2010	onet.pl	UE POWSTAŁA, BY KOSZMAR WOJNY NIGDY SIĘ NIE POWTÓRZYŁ
42.	27.01.2010	onet.pl	MOSHE KANTOR: POWOŁAJMY UNIWERSYTET TOLERANCJI I BEZPIECZEŃSTWA
43.	27.01.2010	latercera.com	PRESIDENTE ISRAELÍ PIDE CASTIGAR A RESPONSABLES DEL HOLOCAUSTO
44.	27.01.2010	Agencia EFE	PRESIDENTE ISRAELÍ PIDE CASTIGAR

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45.	27.01.2010	lanacion.com.ar	EL MUNDO RECUERDA EL HOLOCAUSTO, 65 AÑOS DESPUÉS DE AUSCHWITZ
46.	27.01.2010	noticias.terra.com.br	OBAMA PEDE "NÃO SE ESQUECER" DO HOLOCAUSTO
47.	27.01.2010	Agence France Presse	SARKOZY ÉVOQUE "L'EXIGENCE" DE MÉMOIRE ENVERS LES VICTIMES DE LA SHOAH
48.	27.01.2010	tvn24.pl	AUSCHWITZ TO TAKŻE SYMBOL DLA UNII
49.	27.01.2010	rtve.es	PERES RECLAMA QUE SE JUZGUE A LOS CRIMINALES NAZIS AÚN VIVOS EN EL 65º ANIVERSARIO DEL HOLOCAUSTO
50.	27.01.2010	g1.globo.com	OBAMA PEDE "NÃO SE ESQUECER" DO HOLOCAUSTO
51.	27.01.2010	Ukrainian Globalist	LIGHT A CANDLE IN REMEMBRANCE OF HOLOCAUST VICTIMS
52.	27.01.2010	Agence France Presse	SURVIVORS, LIBERATORS, GATHER FOR AUSCHWITZ COMMEMORATION
53.	27.01.2010	indiatimes.com	SURVIVORS, LIBERATORS GATHER FOR AUSCHWITZ COMMEMORATION WITH ISRAEL PM
54.	27.01.2010	wyborcza.pl	BARACK OBAMA: NIE MOŻEMY BYĆ BIERNYMI ŚWIADKAMI ZŁA
55.	27.01.2010	wyborcza.pl	PRZESŁANIE PREZYDENTA FRANCJI DO UCZESTNIKÓW FORUM HOLOKAUSTU
56.	27.01.2010	Agencia Judía de Noticias	DÍA DE RECORDACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO PENSAMIENTOS DE MOSHE KANTOR
57.	27.01.2010	Agencia EFE	OBAMA PEDE "NÃO SE ESQUECER" DO HOLOCAUSTO
58.	27.01.2010	tvn24.pl	OBAMA O AUSCHWITZ: NIE MOŻEMY BYĆ BIERNYMI ŚWIADKAMI ZŁA
59.	27.01.2010	Ynetnews	SARKOZY: AUSCHWITZ, SYMBOL OF EVIL, NOT FORGOTTEN
60.	27.01.2010	wiadomosci.wp.pl	OBAMA DZIĘKUJE POLAKOM
61.	27.01.2010	Haaretz.com	NETANYAHU AT AUSCHWITZ: WORLD MUST UNITE TO CONFRONT NEW THREATS (с видеосюжетом)
62.	27.01.2010	Wall Street Journal	NAZI CAMP SURVIVORS DWINDLE TO A FEW
63.	27.01.2010	JTA	BIBI AT AUSCHWITZ: READY TO FIGHT NEW AMALEK
64.	27.01.2010	Сайт президента Европарламента	THOSE WHO LIVED THROUGH THE HELL OF THE CAMPS NEVER FORGET. THE OTHERS - THE YOUNGER GENERATIONS - MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO FORGET
65.	28.01.2010	Haaretz.com	ANTI-SEMITISM IN POLAND SHOWS NEED FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

66.	28.01.2010	The Times	IRAN HAS SAME PLAN AS HITLER, SAYS AUSCHWITZ SURVIVOR
67.	28.01.2010	Sydney Morning Herald	SURVIVORS MARK LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ
68.	28.01.2010	quiadiquoi.com	AUSCHWITZ : LE JOUR DE LA MÉMOIRE
69.	28.01.2010	laprensa.com.ar	REMEMORÓ EL MUNDO LA LIBERACIÓN DE AUSCHWITZ
70.	28.01.2010	spanish.peopledaily.com.cn	ORGANIZA POLONIA FORO DEL HOLOCAUSTO SOBRE AUSCHWITZ
71.	28.01.2010	eltiempo.com	SOBREVIVIENTES Y LIBERTADORES CONMEMORAN ANIVERSARIO DE CAMPO DE AUSCHWITZ (с видеосюжетом)
72.	28.01.2010	The Jerusalem Post	'A NEW AMALEK IS APPEARING,' NETANYAHU WARNS AT AUSCHWITZ
73.	28.01.2010	World Jewish Congress	LEADERS HIGHLIGHT IRANIAN THREAT AT HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATIONS
74.	28.01.2010	earthtimes.org	NETANYAHU WARNS OF NEW THREAT TO PEACE AT AUSCHWITZ
75.	28.01.2010	dziennikpolski24.pl	PRZESŁANIE DLA PRZYSZŁYCH POKOLEŃ
76.	28.01.2010	rp.pl	PRZESTROGA DLA CAŁEGO ŚWIATA
77.	28.01.2010	vancouver.sun.com	SURVIVORS, LIBERATORS GATHER IN AUSCHWITZ
78.	28.01.2010	theParliament.com	EU PARLIAMENT PRESIDENT COMMEMORATES HOLOCAUST
79.	28.01.2010	Combined Jewish Philanthropies	NETANYAHU WARNS OF NEW THREAT TO PEACE AT AUSCHWITZ
80.	28.01.2010	Jewish Federation of the Berkshires	NETANYAHU WARNS OF NEW THREAT TO PEACE AT AUSCHWITZ
81.	28.01.2010	blitz.bg	САРКОЗИ ИСКА СПОМЕНЪТ ЗА ХОЛОКОСТА ДА СЕ ЗАПАЗИ ЖИВ
82.	28.01.2010	lasprovincias.es	BARACK OBAMA PIDE NO OLVIDAR LA HISTORIA EN DÍA CONMEMORACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO
83.	28.01.2010	Jewish Chronicle	THE LAST SURVIVORS RETURN TO AUSCHWITZ
84.	28.01.2010	EJP	EU PARLIAMENT PRESIDENT CALLS THE HOLOCAUST "THE GREATEST EVER HUMAN TRAGEDY"
85.	28.01.2010	EJP	CEREMONIES OF 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION
86.	28.01.2010	Сайт президента Европарламента	ADDRESS TO THE EJC 'LET MY PEOPLE LIVE' CONFERENCE ORGANISED ON THE OCCASION OF THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF THE KL AUSCHWITZ
87.	28.01.2010	ynet.co.il	מתים -משחררי אושוויץ חזרו ושיחזרו: ראינו היים (с переводом)
88.	29.01.2010	impulsobaires.com.ar	EN UNA CARTA ENVIADA AL PRESIDENTE DEL CONGRESO JUDÍO

			EUROPEO, SARKOZY INSTÓ QUE "RECORDAR A LAS VÍCTIMAS DEL HOLOCAUSTO ES UN DEBER DE LA HUMANIDAD"
89.	29.01.2010	aurora-israel.co.il	SARKOZY: RECORDAR A LAS VÍCTIMAS DEL HOLOCAUSTO ES UN DEBER DE LA HUMANIDAD
90.	29.01.2010	Cleveland Jewish News	BIBI AT AUSCHWITZ: READY TO FIGHT NEW AMALEK
91.	29.01.2010	SanFranciscoSentinel.com	NETANYAHU AT AUSCHWITZ: WORLD MUST UNITE TO CONFRONT NEW THREATS
92.	02.02.2010	Pravda.Ru	EUROPE REMEMBERS HOLOCAUST, BUT FORGETS RED ARMY HEROISM. WHY?

FORUM "LET MY PEOPLE LIVE" W ROCZNICĘ WYZWOLENIA AUSCHWITZ
III Międzynarodowe Forum "Let My People Live" poświęcone pamięci holokaustu odbędzie się
27 stycznia w Krakowie, w 65. rocznicę wyzwolenia Auschwitz. Organizatorzy spodziewają się
obecności delegacji z kilkunastu krajów oraz ponad 100 parlamentarzystów europejskich -
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Pierwsze forum "Let My People Live" odbyło się w Krakowie w 2005 roku, w 60. rocznicę wyzwolenia Auschwitz. Okazało się ono wydarzeniem na skalę międzynarodową - przybyło kilkunastu szefów państw i rządów. m.in. prezydenci Rosji, Polski i Izraela. "W tym roku nie będzie powtórki wydarzenia sprzed pięciu lat, kiedy w forum uczestniczyło 45 prezydentów i premierów - to jest nie do powtórzenia. W tym roku możemy spodziewać się delegacji z kilkunastu krajów. Na szczegóły jest jeszcze za wcześnie, ponieważ zgłoszenia uczestników wciąż jeszcze napływają, nie mamy jeszcze ostatecznych potwierdzeń, kto przyjedzie" - powiedział obecny na konferencji sekretarz generalny Kongresu Żydów Europejskich Serge Cwajgenbaum.

Forum, które odbywać się będzie w gmachu krakowskiej opery, towarzyszyć będzie oficjalnym obchodom 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia Auschwitz, które odbędą się na terenie byłego niemieckiego obozu.

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III Międzynarodowe Forum "Let My People Live" poświęcone pamięci holokaustu odbędzie się 27 stycznia w Krakowie, w 65. rocznicę wyzwolenia Auschwitz. Organizatorzy spodziewają się obecności delegacji z kilkunastu krajów oraz ponad 100 parlamentarzystów europejskich - poinformowano na wtorkowej konferencji prasowej w Warszawie.

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"KOŁOT MIN HASHOAH" PONOWNIE W OPERZE KRAKOWSKIEJ

27 stycznia, Opera Krakowska będzie miejscem uroczystości upamiętniających 65. rocznicę wyzwolenia obozu Auschwitz-Birkenau. O godz. 10.00 rozpocznie się Trzecie Międzynarodowe Forum Pamięci Ofiar Holocaustu "Let My People Live" z udziałem delegacji państwowych z całego świata.

W wykonaniu artystów Opery Krakowskiej zostaną zaprezentowane pieśni z oratorium "Kolot min Hashoah" autorstwa Davida Eddlemana amerykańskiego kompozytora pochodzenia żydowskiego, w reżyserii Beaty Redo-Dobber i pod kierownictwem muzycznym Tomasza Tokarczyka.

Organizatorem Forum jest Europejski Kongres Żydów. Uroczystość odbędzie się pod patronatem Prezydenta Lecha Kaczyńskiego.

Kolot min Hashoah (Głosy Holocaustu), utwór napisany w hołdzie ofiarom Holocaustu zostanie zaprezentowany o godz. 21.00 przed ministrami edukacji i nauczycielami krajów europejskich, którzy uczestniczyć będą w konferencji "Auschwitz - Pamięć, Odpowiedzialność, Edukacja", poświęconej obecności pamięci o holocaustie w programach nauczania historii.

Kolot min HaShoah to oratorium poświęcone ofiarom Holocaustu. Utwór o przejmującej muzyce został skomponowany do tekstów biblijnych, pieśni i modlitw w języku jidysz, hebrajskim i angielskim. Ta piękna pieśń pamięci zawiera, także wstrząsające obrazy Powstania w Getcie Warszawskim. Autorem oratorium jest David Eddleman, znany amerykański kompozytor muzyki chóralnej. Jego utwory chóralne, instrumentalne i solowe są wykonywane w Europie i obu Amerykach. Kolot min HaShoah miał swoje prawykonanie w Nowym Jorku w 1995 roku.

Pierwsze krakowskie wykonanie spektaklu odbyło się w 66-tą rocznicę Powstania w Getcie Warszawskim 19 kwietnia 2009.

"Kolot min Hashoah", Duża Scena, godz. 21.00

65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ TO BE MARKED BY SEVERAL EVENTS



Need to remember the past to learn lessons for the future.

KRAKOW (EJP)---The 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau by Soviet troops will be marked on January 27 by commemoration ceremonies which will take place in a heated tent put up specially for that purpose in the former Nazi death camp.

High-ranking politicians from many countries, including President Lech Kaczynski, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the President of the European Parliament Jerzy Buzek and some 200 members of the EU assembly and of national parliaments are expected to attend the ceremonies in Auschwitz in remembrance of some 1.1 million people, mostly Jews, who perished in the camp.

Over a hundred former prisoners of the camp are to be present.

After the official ceremony, participants will march with candles to the Monument to the Victims.

January 27 has been designated by the United Nations as International Holocaust Memorial Day.

On the same day, an international forum “Let My People Live,” will be held in the nearby city of Krakow, in southern Poland, and a conference of Education Ministers from across Europe will discuss ways to reinforce Holocaust teaching.

The forum, to be held under the auspices of the European Jewish Congress (EJC), the World Holocaust Forum and Yad Vashem, will stress the need to remember the past to learn lessons for the future.

EJC President Moshe Kantor said: “On the international stage we have been remiss in not learning from the relatively recent past. Although there are many differences in every situation, there are also many similarities, especially how we deal with another looming threat to world peace,” EJC President Moshe Kantor said in a reference to Iran’s nuclear threat.

“I hope the commemoration of the liberation of Auschwitz and the sight of the gas chambers will shock us into action,” he added.

KRAKÓW. DZIEŃ PAMIĘCI OFIAR HOLOCAUSTU W OPERZE
27 stycznia, Opera Krakowska będzie miejscem uroczystości upamiętniających 65 rocznicę
wyzwolenia obozu Auschwitz-Birkenau.

«O godz. 10.00 rozpocznie się Trzecie Międzynarodowe Forum Pamięci Ofiar Holocaustu "LET MY PEOPLE LIVE" z udziałem delegacji państwowych z całego świata. W wykonaniu artystów Opery Krakowskiej zostaną zaprezentowane pieśni z oratorium "Kolot min Hashoah" [na zdjęciu] autorstwa Davida Eddlemana amerykańskiego kompozytora pochodzenia żydowskiego, w reżyserii Beaty Redo-Dobber i pod kierownictwem muzycznym Tomasza Tokarczyka.

Organizatorem Forum jest Europejski Kongres Żydów. Uroczystość odbędzie się pod patronatem Prezydenta Lecha Kaczyńskiego.

Kolot min Hashoah (Głosy Holocaustu), utwór napisany w hołdzie ofiarom Holocaustu zostanie zaprezentowany o godz. 21.00 przed ministrami edukacji i nauczycielami krajów europejskich, którzy uczestniczyć będą w konferencji "Auschwitz - Pamięć, Odpowiedzialność, Edukacja", poświęconej obecności pamięci o holocaustie w programach nauczania historii.

Kolot min HaShoah to oratorium poświęcone ofiarom Holocaustu. Utwór o przejmującej muzyce został skomponowany do tekstów biblijnych, pieśni i modlitw w języku jidysz, hebrajskim i angielskim. Ta piękna pieśń pamięci zawiera, także wstrząsające obrazy Powstania w Getcie Warszawskim. Autorem oratorium jest David Eddleman, znany amerykański kompozytor muzyki chóralnej. Jego utwory chóralne, instrumentalne i solowe są wykonywane w Europie i obu Amerykach. Kolot min HaShoah miał swoje prawykonanie w Nowym Jorku w 1995 roku.

Pierwsze krakowskie wykonanie spektaklu odbyło się w 66-tą rocznicę Powstania w Getcie Warszawskim 19 kwietnia 2009.»

MIĘDZYNARODOWY DZIEŃ PAMIĘCI O HOLOCAUŚCIE

W środę przypada Międzynarodowy Dzień Pamięci o Holocauście oraz 65. rocznica wyzwolenia obozu Auschwitz.

Żydowskie Muzeum Galicja (ul. Dajwór 18) zaprasza na program upamiętniający te wydarzenia. O godz. 16.30 - oprowadzanie po terenie dawnego getta krakowskiego oraz uroczyste zapalenie zniczy na placu Bohaterów Getta. O godz. 18.30 - recital Emanuela Torquatiego „Odkrywanie muzyki zdegenerowanej - Entartete Musik”. W programie muzyka kompozytorów pochodzenia żydowskiego, represjonowanych przez reżim hitlerowski i faszystowski we Włoszech i Niemczech.

W Centrum Kultury Żydowskiej (ul. Meiselsa 17) o godz. 18 rozpocznie się spektakl „Psalmy”, przygotowany przez Mateusza Jarosza (muzyka, animacja) i Jakuba Kosiniaka (recytacja). W nagraniu udział wzięli Magdalena Łukawska (sopran), Agnieszka Monasterska (alt), Tomasz Jarosz (bas).

W Operze Krakowskiej o godz. 10 rozpocznie się Trzecie Międzynarodowe Forum Pamięci Ofiar Holocaustu z udziałem delegacji państwowych z całego świata. O godz. 21 zespół opery zaprezentuje oratorium „Kolot min Hashoah” (Głosy Holocaustu) Davida Eddlemana w reżyserii Beaty Redo-Dobber i pod kierownictwem muzycznym Tomasza Tokarczyka. **Organizatorem Forum jest Europejski Kongres Żydów.**

DÍA INTERNACIONAL DE CONMEMORACIÓN EN MEMORIA DE LAS VÍCTIMAS DEL HOLOCAUSTO

Dada la proximidad del Día Internacional de Conmemoración en Memoria de las Víctimas del Holocausto designado por ONU, que se conmemora como todos los años el 27 de enero, la Agencia Judía de Noticias e Itongadol lanzaron un informe especial con importantes opiniones de destacadas personalidades nacionales e internacionales con la intención de que el mundo conozca opiniones relevantes sobre el acontecimiento.clic

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Por este motivo, ha contactado a destacadas personalidades del mundo judío y del no judío con el fin de que escriban una columna de opinión con sus reflexiones acerca del día de Conmemoración.

Bajo el nombre “Pensamientos en el Día internacional de conmemoración del Holocausto”, los escritos se publicarán en secciones especiales de los portales www.prensajudia.com e www.itongadol.com, a partir del domingo 24 de enero..

Contamos con las importantes contribuciones del embajador de Israel en Argentina, Daniel Gazit; el embajador de Israel ante Naciones Unidas, Daniel Carmon; el director nacional de la Liga Anti Difamación, Abraham h. Foxman; la directora del museo del Holocausto de Washington, Sara Bloomfield; el presidente del Congreso Judío Europeo, **Moshe Kantor y el director ejecutivo del Congreso Judío Latinoamericano**, Claudio Epelman.

También escribirán autoridades del Gobierno Nacional y representantes de las comunidades judías del continente.

Será sin dudas un proyecto que llamará a la reflexión personal de los lectores gracias a la importante contribución de los que escriban.

Desde la Agencia Judía de Noticias e Itongadol consideramos que fechas como esta merecen toda la atención de los medios de comunicación, dado que todos debemos aprender de la historia para no volver a cometer y no permitir que se cometan los mismos errores.

JANUARY 27, INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

Given the coming Day of universal commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust designated by UN, which is marked every year on January 27, the Jewish News Agency and Itongadol launched a special report containing opinions of remarkable personalities, both national and international, with the purpose of letting the world know important and relevant opinions regarding such day.

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For this purpose, AJN has contacted prominent personalities, Jewish and non-Jewish, so they write an op-Ed with their thoughts regarding the Remembrance Day.

Under the name “Thoughts in the International Holocaust Remembrance Day”, the editorials will be published in a special section of the websites www.prensajudia.com and www.itongadol.com in English and Spanish, starting on January 23, after Shabbat.

We have the important contributions of the Israeli Ambassador to Argentina, Daniel Gazit; Israeli Ambassador to UN, Daniel Carmon; National Director of the Anti Defamation League, Abraham Foxman; **president of the European Jewish Congress, Moshe Kantor**; and prominent personalities from the Latin American Congress and the American Jewish Committee, among others.

Governmental Authorities from Argentina and representatives of Jewish communities in Latin America will also be participating.

This project will surely help readers to think of this important Day, given the important contribution of those who write the pieces.

From the Jewish News Agency and Itongadol, we consider that dates like this deserve all the attention of the media, because we all should learn from history to avoid and prevent past mistakes from happening.

27 DE ENERO, DÍA INTERNACIONAL DE CONMEMORACIÓN EN MEMORIA DE LAS VÍCTIMAS DEL HOLOCAUSTO

Dada la proximidad del Día Internacional de Conmemoración en Memoria de las Víctimas del Holocausto designado por ONU, que se conmemora como todos los años el 27 de enero, la Agencia Judía de Noticias e Itongadol lanzaron un informe especial con importantes opiniones de destacadas personalidades nacionales e internacionales con la intención de que el mundo conozca opiniones relevantes sobre el acontecimiento. English version provided.

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POLAND TO MARK ANNIVERSARY OF AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION

Poland will mark the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz Nazi death camp on Wednesday with events to include a mass, a conference of education ministers and speeches by Israeli and European leaders. The ceremonies, on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, will launch with a meeting of education ministers in Auschwitz and an international Holocaust forum in the nearby city of Krakow.

The Third International Holocaust Forum is slated to be addressed by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and European Parliament President Jerzy Buzek, with video messages expected from US President Barack Obama, French President Nicolas Sarkozy and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev.

Attendees will include Holocaust survivors, members of the European Parliament, and students. The event that marks the date when the Soviet Red Army liberated the camp where the Nazis killed some 1.1 million people, mostly Jews.

"It is a vital part of the human experience to learn from past mistakes," Moshe Kantor of the European Jewish Congress, one of the event's organizers, said in a statement.

"On the international stage we have been remiss in not learning from the relatively recent past. Although there are many differences in every situation, there are also many similarities, especially how we deal with another looming threat to world peace," Kantor said in reference to Iran.

At noon there will be a mass held at the Divine Mercy Church in Auschwitz.

The main ceremonies will be held inside a heated tent set up for the purpose, followed by a march with candles to the camp's Monument to the Victims. The day will close with an homage to victims and prayer at the monument.

Speakers at the main ceremony will include Netanyahu, Buzek and Polish President Lech Kaczynski. In attendance will be some 200 members of the EU Parliament and other assemblies, and some 100 former camp prisoners.

The infamous "Arbeit Macht Frei" sign, which was stolen from the museum on December 12 and returned Thursday, will not be hung at the main entrance in time for the ceremonies, said Monika Korzeniowska, an Auschwitz-Birkenau museum spokeswoman.

Museum officials in some two to six months will finish paperwork and decide what to do with the sign, and whether it will be hung once again at the camp, Korzeniowska said.

Five men have been remanded in custody in Poland on suspicion of organizing and carrying out the theft of the sign. Swedish authorities said on January 5 they had been asked to assist the Polish probe into the theft.

The sign had been defaced and cut into three pieces, allegedly in preparation for shipment to a buyer.

Published reports have suggested that there was a plan to ship the sign to a group of Swedish neo-Nazis.

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DÍA DE RECORDACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO
Pensamientos de Abraham H. Foxman
(Director Nacional de la Liga Anti Difamación (Anti Defamation League, ADL))

La conmemoración anual de Naciones Unidas del Día de Recordación del Holocausto el 27 de enero es una importante manifestación de la comunidad internacional, que reconoce la importancia de impartir las lecciones del Holocausto y los peligros mortales de olvidar la brutalidad que los seres humanos pueden infligir. Reconoce la unicidad del Holocausto y la responsabilidad especial de la ONU en asegurar que las lecciones del Holocausto nunca sean olvidadas. Haga clic en título para continuar.

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Al mismo tiempo, Naciones Unidas debe hacer mucho más por asegurar que aquellas lecciones no sean sólo recordadas el 27 de enero, sino absorbidas profundamente en todas las instituciones. Una de las lecciones básicas de la era nazi es que no se puede ignorar el discurso de odio. Las palabras de odio y la indiferencia del mundo ante ellas allanaron el camino hacia Auschwitz. Lo que es más, Naciones Unidas continúa permitiendo que su plataforma sea utilizada para diseminar el odio contra los judíos e Israel sin consecuencias. Entre los numerosos ejemplos están el presidente de Irán Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, quien culpa a los judíos y al “sionismo global” de dominar los medios y las finanzas internacionales; un representante libio que acusa que las acciones de Israel en Gaza son peores que el Holocausto; y el presidente de la Asamblea General que acusa a Israel de “crucificar” a los palestinos.

El Secretario General Ban Ki-moon ha condenado abiertamente al antisemitismo y al racismo y se ha acercado a la comunidad judía, y hasta condenó la retórica ofensiva del presidente de Irán. Desafortunadamente, hasta el momento en su función, no se ha referido a este evento de gran importancia. Sería una declaración importante si el Secretario General diera un mensaje personalmente este año y tomara gran ventaja de la oportunidad de enunciar estándares para discursos apropiados para Naciones Unidas. Este mensaje ayudará a asegurar que el recuerdo de las lecciones del Holocausto se realice todos los días del año, tanto en niveles formales como laborales.

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DÍA DE RECORDACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO: SE REALIZA EN CRACOVIA EL TERCER FORO INTERNACIONAL DEL HOLOCAUSTO, ORGANIZADO POR EL CONGRESO JUDÍO EUROPEO

El **Congreso Judío Europeo**, rama del Congreso Judío Mundial, organiza en Cracovia con motivo del Día de Recordación del Holocausto el tercer Foro Internacional del Holocausto en conmemoración del 65 aniversario de la liberación del campo de exterminio Aushchwitz-Birkenau.

El Congreso Judío Europeo, junto con el Museo del Holocausto de Israel Yad Vashem y el Foro Mundial del Holocausto invitan al tercer Foro internacional “LET MY PEOPLE LIVE!”, en conmemoración por el 65 aniversario de la liberación del campo de exterminio Auschwitz-Birkenau, que se desarrollará el día 27 de enero en Cracovia, Auschwitz.

A modo de conmemoración se desarrollarán dos eventos principales. El primero será en la Casa de ópera. Allí se presentará un programa artístico de Cantor Helfgott en conjunto con la orquesta de la ópera de Cracovia.

Para el segundo evento, el gobierno de Polonia y el museo de Auschwitz-Birkenau invitan a todos los participantes del foro a la ceremonia oficial de recuerdo de las víctimas de Auschwitz-Birkenau en el monumento internacional a las víctimas del fascismo en el museo de Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Luego del evento oficial, se hará un recorrido de los campos.

Asistirán al evento líderes de estados y miembros gubernamentales; líderes y miembros de instituciones europeas; políticos, intelectuales y artistas prominentes; sobrevivientes; veteranos-liberadores; líderes de organizaciones públicas de todo el mundo y representantes de comunidades de organizaciones juveniles europeas.

POLONIA REMEMORA EL 65 ANIVERSARIO DE LA LIBERACIÓN DE AUSCHWITZ **Entre los participantes en la ceremonia estarán sobrevivientes del Holocausto, miembros del Parlamento Europeo y estudiantes**

Polonia recordará el próximo miércoles el 65 aniversario de la liberación del campamento de concentración nazi de Auschwitz con una serie de eventos que incluirán una misa, una conferencia de ministros de Educación y discursos de líderes israelíes y europeos.

Las ceremonias en el Día Internacional para la Recordación del Holocausto partirán con un encuentro de los ministros de Educación en Auschwitz y un foro internacional sobre el Holocausto en la cercana ciudad de Cracovia.

En el Tercer Foro Internacional sobre el Holocausto se espera al primer ministro israelí Benjamin Netanyahu y al presidente del Parlamento Europeo, Jerzy Buzek, mientras que también están previstos mensajes vía video del presidente estadounidense Barack Obama y sus pares de Francia y Rusia, Nicolas Sarkozy y Dmitri Medvedev.

Entre los participantes estarán sobrevivientes del Holocausto, miembros del Parlamento Europeo y estudiantes.

El evento coincidirá con la fecha en la que el Ejército Rojo de la Unión Soviética liberó en 1945 el campo de concentración donde los nazis mataron a 1,1 millones de personas, en su mayoría judíos, en el marco de la ocupación nazi de Polonia durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial.

"Es una parte vital de la experiencia humana aprender de los errores del pasado", aseveró mediante un comunicado Moshe Kantor, del Congreso Judío Europeo, uno de los organizadores del evento.

"En el escenario internacional hemos sido negligentes en no aprender del pasado relativamente reciente. Pese a que hay muchas diferencias entre cada situación también hay muchas similitudes, especialmente en cómo lidiamos con otra amenaza que se avecina a la paz mundial", indicó Kantor en referencia a Irán.

Al mediodía habrá una misa en la Iglesia de la Misericordia Divina en Auschwitz.

Las ceremonias centrales se celebrarán en una tienda acondicionada especialmente para ese fin, seguida de una marcha con velas hacia el monumento a las víctimas del campo de concentración.

El día finalizará con un homenaje a las víctimas y un rezo ante el monumento. Entre los oradores de la ceremonia central estarán Netanyahu, Buzek y el presidente polaco, Lech Kaczynski.

Asimismo asistirán unos 200 miembros del Parlamento Europeo y otras asambleas, así como unos 100 ex prisioneros del campo de concentración.

El letrero "Arbeit macht frei" (El trabajo hace libre), robado del museo el 12 de diciembre y que retornó el pasado jueves, no colgará a tiempo sobre la entrada principal durante las ceremonias, indicó Monika Korzeniowska, portavoz del museo de Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Funcionarios del museo finalizarán con el trabajo administrativo en dos a seis meses y decidirán qué hacer con el letrero y si volverá a colgarse en el lugar, explicó Korzeniowska.

FORUM "LET MY PEOPLE LIVE" W ROCZNICĘ WYZWOLENIA AUSCHWITZ

III Międzynarodowe Forum "Let My People Live" poświęcone pamięci holokaustu odbędzie się 27 stycznia w Krakowie, w 65. rocznicę wyzwolenia Auschwitz. Organizatorzy spodziewają się obecności delegacji z kilkunastu krajów oraz ponad 100 parlamentarzystów europejskich – poinformowano na wtorkowej konferencji prasowej w Warszawie.

JERZY BUZEK NA OBCHODACH W AUSCHWITZ – BIRKENAU

Jerzy Buzek weźmie udział w obchodach 65 rocznicy wyzwolenia obozu koncentracyjnego Auschwitz – Birkenau . Uroczystości odbędą się jutro w Krakowie oraz na terenie byłego obozu zagłady.

Przewodniczący Parlamentu Europejskiego wielokrotnie w swoich wypowiedziach zaznaczał, że należy kultywować pamięć o tragedii Auschwitz. Jako pierwszy premier RP wraz z premierem Izraela Benjaminem Netanyahu wziął udział w Marszu Żywych w 1998 roku.

W ramach obchodów Buzek zapowiedział swój udział w Międzynarodowym Forum Holokaustu "Let my people live" organizowanym przez Europejski Kongres Żydów. Na spotkaniu, któremu patronuje wraz z Lechem Kaczyńskim, wygłosi przemówienie. Przewodniczący Parlamentu Europejskiego weźmie także udział w konferencji ministrów edukacji zatytułowanej "Auschwitz- pamięć, odpowiedzialność, edukacja". Po oficjalnych obchodach rocznicowych, które zaczną się w Birkenau o godzinie 14.30, Buzek zainauguruje "Europejskie Forum Pro Publico Bono Obywatele dla solidarności europejskiej" w Międzynarodowym Domu Spotkań Młodzieży w Oświęcimiu. Ideą Forum jest integracja działań na rzecz budowania i wzmacniania kultury praw człowieka w Europie.

Poza Buzkiem na obchodach pojawią się prezydent Lech Kaczyński, premier Donald Tusk, premier Izraela Benjamin Netanjahu oraz ok. 150 byłych więźniów obozu.

Obóz KL Auschwitz-Birkenau wyzwoliła 27 stycznia 60. Armia 1 Frontu Ukraińskiego Armii Czerwonej. Kilka miesięcy wcześniej hitlerowcy rozpoczęli likwidowanie obozu - wywożąc więźniów, mienie ofiar, cześć baraków i rozbierając krematoria. 10 dni przed wyzwoleniem w "marszu śmierci" wyprowadzono 56.000 więźniów. W oswobodzonym obozie odnaleziono 7.000 wycieńczonych więźniów. Z pomocą przyszły im radzieckie służby medyczne, Polski Czerwony Krzyż i ochotnicy z okolicy.

L'EURODEPUTATO MORGANTI AD AUSCHWITZ NEL GIORNO DELLA MEMORIA

Memoria e storia sullo sfondo di una delle pagine più oscure della civiltà umana, per non dimenticare gli orrori del nazismo ed educare le nuove generazioni al ricordo di quello che ha significato, per l'uomo, smarrire la coscienza trasformandosi in un feroce criminale.

Il 27 gennaio, il terzo Forum internazionale sull'olocausto, «Let my people live», in occasione del sessantacinquesimo anniversario della liberazione del campo di concentramento di Auschwitz - Birkenau, si riunisce ad Auschwitz con il Congresso ebraico europeo, alcune vittime delle deportazioni, illustri capi di governo e leader politici per ripercorrere insieme il dramma della Shoah.

"In seguito alla liberazione dei campi di concentramento, per anni l'umanità si è chiesta come potesse essere avvenuta la tragedia della Shoah", dichiara Claudio Morganti, tra i membri del Parlamento europeo invitati ad Auschwitz.

"Dopo quegli orrori - continua l'eurodeputato della Lega Nord - l'Europa si è impegnata a diventare unita e a costruire se stessa sulla base del rispetto della dignità umana, contro ogni tendenza xenofoba. In tal senso, la Giornata della memoria è anche l'espressione degli errori che l'Europa non deve più ripetere, di cui che l'Europa deve assolutamente evitare di essere".

"Sono onorato di partecipare a questo anniversario, fisicamente, calpestando i luoghi del dramma e dell'inciviltà umana - conclude Morganti - perché auspico che ogni nostro passo, su quel suolo un tempo logorato da infamie e crimini atroci, possa essere il viaggio di un'intera generazione pronta a salvare la memoria, per non tradire i morti e purificare i vivi".

GOŚCIE Z 44 KRAJÓW WEZMĄ UDZIAŁ W III FORUM HOLOKAUSTU W KRAKOWIE

Przedstawiciele 44 krajów - delegacje rządowe, ocaleni z holokaustu, reprezentanci organizacji żydowskich oraz młodzież - wezmą udział w **III Międzynarodowym Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live"**, które w środę odbędzie się w Krakowie - poinformowali organizatorzy na briefingu w przededniu imprezy.

Forum "Let My People Live" - "Pozwólcie żyć mojemu narodowi", będące spotkaniem poświęconym pamięci ofiar holokaustu, towarzyszy obchodom 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia obozu Auschwitz.

Organizatorzy podkreślają, że celem forum jest nie tylko przypominanie przeszłości, ale też wyciąganie z niej wniosków, aby na świecie nie dochodziło do aktów nietolerancji, ksenofobii i antysemityzmu.

Prezydent Europejskiego Kongresu Żydów, Moshe Kantor powiedział, że w spotkaniu, organizowanym w Operze Krakowskiej, weźmie udział m.in. 60 eurodeputowanych z 12 krajów Wspólnoty, na czele z przewodniczącym Parlamentu Europejskiego Jerzym Buzkiem.

Przewodniczący PE będzie jednym z gości, którzy zabiorą głos podczas tego spotkania. Zaplanowano też prezentację przekazów video z przesłaniami m.in. prezydenta USA Baracka Obamy oraz prezydenta Francji Nicolasa Sarkozy'ego.

Zgromadzeni w Operze Krakowskiej wysłuchają fragmentu oratorium "Kolot min HaShoah" - "Głosy Holokaustu". Utwór został napisany w hołdzie ofiarom holokaustu przez Davida Eddlemana, amerykańskiego kompozytora żydowskiego pochodzenia. Oratorium powstało do tekstów biblijnych, pieśni i modlitw w języku jidysz, hebrajskim i angielskim. W utworze zawarto też obrazy z powstania w Getcie Warszawskim. "Głosy Holocaustu" miały swoje prawykonanie w Nowym Jorku w 1995 r. Pierwsze krakowskie wykonanie spektaklu odbyło się w 2009 r.

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DÍA DE RECORDACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO, COLUMNAS DE OPINIÓN

En un servicio especial de la Agencia Judía de Noticias (AJN) con motivo del Día Internacional de Recordación del Holocausto, reconocidas personalidades de alrededor del mundo han escrito columnas de opinión a modo de reflexión sobre la fecha. Los escritos se publicarán en una sección especial de la web de Iton Gadol. clic

El 27 de enero se conmemora el Día Internacional en Memoria de las Víctimas del Holocausto, que fue establecido en 2005 por las Naciones Unidas para recordar a las personas asesinadas y prevenir actos de genocidio en el futuro.

Por este motivo, la Agencia Judía de Noticias lanzó un servicio especial en el que destacadas personalidades del mundo escribieron columnas de opinión que se publicarán en una sección especial de la web de AJN e Iton Gadol en: <http://www.itongadol.com.ar/shop/noticias.asp?topid=117>

Contamos con contribuciones de Daniel Gazit, Embajador de Israel ante Argentina; Abraham Foxman, Director Nacional de la Liga Anti Difamación; Sara Bloomfield, Directora del museo del Holocausto de Washington; Jorge Arguello, Embajador y representante permanente de Argentina ante Naciones Unidas; Guillermo Borger, Presidente de la Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA); Aldo Donzis, presidente de la Delegación de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas (DAIA); Daniel Carmón, Embajador, Representante Permanente Alternativo de la Misión Permanente de Israel ante las Naciones Unidas; **Dr. Moshe Kantor, Presidente del Congreso Judío Europeo;** Matías Delfino, Diseñador Gráfico en las ONU en Nueva York, creador de la imagen alusiva al Día internacional de Conmemoración anual en memoria de las Víctimas del Holocausto; el Rabino Abraham Skorka; el Cardenal Jorge Mario Bergoglio; el Rabino Alejandro Avruj; Mark Moel, Presidente de la Comunidad Hebrea de Guadalajara A.C; Dr. Ricardo Udler, Presidente Circulo Israelita Comunidad Judía De Bolivia.

La fecha evoca los sucesos históricos ocurridos en 1945 cuando el ejército soviético ingresó en Polonia y liberó el mayor campo de concentración y exterminio que montaron los nazis en Auschwitz-Birkenau.

LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE

It is no coincidence that the current Iranian leadership denies the Holocaust and its atrocities.

In his seminal quote written at the beginning of the last century, philosopher George Santayana said in his treatise *The Life of Reason* that "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Although many have heard this oft-repeated phrase, how many have truly pondered its significance or acted on its warning.

On January 27, on Holocaust Memorial Day, there will be many Holocaust commemorations all over the world. But while many will concentrate solely on remembrance and memorialization, we should also use this time to learn from the past for the good of our present and future.

As an international community, we need to acknowledge and study the indicators that could lead to rising intolerance, xenophobia and anti-Semitism. The past has shown that economic and ethnic crises, coupled with a lack of trust in democratic leadership, can lead to disastrous events epitomized by the Holocaust with the premeditated murder of 6 million Jews.

Today, many are seeing such indicators and we see intolerance and hatred on the rise in many corners of the world, including Europe.

Nonetheless, many of these threats pale in comparison to another fascist regime bent on sewing death and destruction, but this time with the acquisition of nuclear weapons. Once again, there is a need for courageous leaders who can make decisions to save us from doomsday scenarios. It is no coincidence that the current Iranian leadership, which is sending us down a path of disaster, denies the Holocaust and its atrocities.

This ploy is simple: They do not wish us to learn the lessons of the past. By denying and erasing the past, they wish to lull the international community into downplaying the very real threat. Although there are, of course, many differences between the Nazis of the 1930s and the fanatical Iranian regime, there are dangerous similarities. Unfortunately, we also see similarities in some of the international responses.

We see once again, as in the 1930s when Czechoslovakia was sold to appease the Nazis, that nations and leaders are trying desperately to placate the Iranian regime so the nuclear weapons will not be aimed at them. Just as World War II sucked every nation into its morass, a nuclear-armed Iran will have devastating reverberations around the world.

Not only will a radical and messianic regime have the means to bring about its wild apocalyptic dreams through nuclear aspirations, it will be able to supply any extremist or terrorist organization with dirty bombs that could be detonated in any city center anywhere in the world.

We already see the beginning of a Middle East arms race; if Iran acquires nuclear weapons then others in the region will be forced to do so and the need for nuclear weapons will spread like wildfire until the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty will be rendered redundant and a new world order will arise.

Thus, the Iranian issue is not the purely the purview of Israel and a few other nations; it is something that every leader and government should take very seriously. In circumstances like this, we should unite, not on a national interest, but on a global interest.

It is also no coincidence that the most threatening nations today also terrorize their own populations. We must act strong and live up to our commitments as civilized nations and lose our tolerance for the intolerant. Again a lesson we learned from the Nazis, that a fascist or totalitarian leadership which terrorizes its own nation, rarely ends its abuses at its own border.

Next week, many international leaders and personalities will be faced with the most chilling and infamous example of human barbarity at the third international forum "Let My People Live" in Poland. It is at Auschwitz we see not only the outcome of absolute evil, but also the result of inaction and appeasement. Surely, it is only through learning history that we must realize that appeasement is a proven failed policy.

However, by commemorating the liberation of Auschwitz, we are also celebrating the eventual victory of good over evil and action over inaction. This is what we are hoping the leaders who attend the Let My People Live forum will learn.

The commemoration of the liberation of Auschwitz reminds us of those courageous leaders and individuals who decided to act. Thanks to their actions, we are here today and able to commemorate the past and provide a moral and outspoken voice to the future.

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POLAND TO HOST EVENTS ON ANNIVERSARY OF AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION

Events dedicated to the 65th anniversary since the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp by the Soviet Army will be held in Poland's second major city, Krakow, Wednesday.

The program of commemorative functions includes a pan-European conference of education ministers and **the 3rd international forum Let My People Live organized by the European Jewish Congress.**

In the afternoon, a display will be opened in the so-called 'Soviet block No. 14' on the territory of the Auschwitz-Birkenau museum. It has been prepared jointly by the Auschwitz-Birkenau museum and Moscow's Central Museum of the Great Patriotic War.

The display that occupies the floor space of 200 square meters will familiarize the visitors with how the operation to liberate the concentration camp was prepared and with the personalities of some Soviet prisoners tortured to death by Nazis there.

Polish President Lech Kaczynski and Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu are expected to take part in a special ceremony on the territory of the camp. The Russian delegation will be led by Education Minister Andrei Fursenko.

Participants will light up candles in front of the monument to over 1.1 million people, the vast majority of them Jews, who were annihilated in Auschwitz during World War II.

They will also commemorate the dozens of thousands of Soviet POWs and Polish intellectuals, who shared the plight of Jewish convicts in that concentration camp.

Alongside officials and politicians, a number of former convicts and Soviet Army veterans who liberated Auschwitz-Birkenau 65 years ago have arrived in Krakow to attend the festivities.

SURVIVORS, LIBERATORS, AT AUSCHWITZ COMMEMORATION

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Ahead of a commemoration Wednesday afternoon at the site of the World War II camp in German-occupied Poland, 700 participants assemble in the southern city of Krakow for a morning memorial event organized by the **European Jewish Congress**.

"The Holocaust is the tragedy which unites Europe," **European Jewish Congress leader Moshe Kantor** said on the eve of the Krakow ceremony, which US President Barack Obama was due to address by video.

Auschwitz, liberated by the Soviet Red Army on January 27, 1945, is an enduring symbol of Nazi German genocide. In 2005 the United Nations declared the date International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

A total of 1.1 million people perished at the camp – one million of them Jews from across occupied Europe – mostly killed in gas chambers but also by shootings, hangings, starvation, disease, slave labour and medical "experiments."

In the Polish capital Warsaw Tuesday, Netanyahu honored the victims and those who risked their lives to save Jews from the Nazis.

"We encounter the worst evil in the history of mankind together with the greatest courage in the history of humanity," Netanyahu said at a former railhead where the Nazis sent more than 300,000 Jews to die.

"This is not an easy encounter but it gives us hope and direction for our future. May God avenge the victims," said the Israeli leader alongside his wife Sara, whose father was the only member of his family to survive the Holocaust in which some six million Jews were murdered.

Netanyahu was to deliver a speech Wednesday at the Auschwitz ceremony, after survivors and Poland's President Lech Kaczynski.

Tel Aviv's Polish-born Chief Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, a Holocaust orphan who survived as a child in Nazi camps, was to recite the Kaddish, or prayer of mourning.

Poland invited Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to attend, but he declined citing "other obligations", according to Warsaw.

The Nazis initially set up the camp to hold Polish political prisoners in 1940, a year after invading Poland. They chose a former barracks in the southern town of Oswiecim, Germanised as Auschwitz.

It became a site primarily for murdering Jews from 1942 as the Nazis expanded it at Birkenau, three kilometers (two miles) away.

In addition to Jews, and 70-75,000 non-Jewish Poles, they killed 21,000 Roma there, 15,000 Soviet POWs and 10-15,000 others, including resistance members arrested across Europe, according to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum.

There were only around 7,000 survivors in the camp at the liberation. The Nazis had evacuated some 60,000 others only days earlier in the notorious "Death March" as they fled the Soviet advance.

With their numbers dwindling year by year, about one hundred survivors were set to attend Wednesday's ceremony in sub-zero temperatures similar to the weather 65 years ago.

Only a handful of the liberators are still alive. Two, Ivan Martynushkin, 86, and Yakov Vinnochenko, 83, were scheduled to attend.

In Krakow, Martynushkin told Agence France-Presse he was marked by that fateful day.

"We started meeting huddles of people. They came towards us, in prison stripes. Some had covers over their heads. We could only see their eyes. And in those eyes, we could see what they were feeling," he said.

"But we didn't know what it was. We only understood after the war," he added.

Kantor, 56, who is from Russia, said he feels extra emotion when he thinks of 1945.

"The majority of my family was murdered," he said.

"My father was in the Red Army. I always remember his feelings, his attitude being a soldier of the Red Army whose family disappeared in the Shoah. Those feelings created mine," he said.

ZAPAL ŚWIECZKĘ O 18-TEJ **Uroczystości 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia obozu w Auschwitz**

Dziś 65. rocznica wyzwolenia obozu koncentracyjnego w Auschwitz i V Międzynarodowy Dzień Pamięci o Holokauście. Z tej okazji w Oświęcimiu, Krakowie i Warszawie odbędą się uroczystości, konferencje i koncerty, w których udział wezmą m.in. prezydent Lech Kaczyński, premier Donald Tusk, szef Parlamentu Europejskiego Jerzy Buzek i premier Izraela Benjamin Netanjahu.

Główne uroczystości, z udziałem około 150 byłych więźniów, a także polityków, w tym prezydenta Kaczyńskiego, premiera Tuska, premiera Netanjahu i Jerzego Buzka, odbędą się po południu na terenie byłego obozu Auschwitz II-Birkenau. Po wystąpieniach przed pomnikiem ofiar obozu duchowni żydowscy i chrześcijańscy będą się modlili w intencji ofiar. Uczestnicy oddadzą hołd zglądzonemu.

Uroczystość poprzedzi międzynarodowa konferencja ministrów edukacji "Auschwitz - Pamięć, Odpowiedzialność, Edukacja" w oświęcimskim Centrum Dialogu i Modlitwy, a także msza święta w intencji ofiar obozu i ocalałych w kościele Miłosierdzia Bożego. Po zakończeniu głównej części obchodów w Międzynarodowym Domu Spotkań Młodzieży odbędzie się seminarium z udziałem szefa PE Jerzego Buzka, podczas którego powołane zostanie forum poświęcone prawom człowieka.

"Pozwólcie żyć mojemu narodowi"

W Krakowie odbędzie się z kolei **III Międzynarodowe Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live" - "Pozwólcie żyć mojemu narodowi"**. Wezmą w nim udział przedstawiciele 44 krajów - delegacje rządowe, ocaleni z holokaustu, reprezentanci organizacji żydowskich oraz młodzież.

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Przesłanie od Obamy i Sarkozy'ego

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W Warszawie wiersze i koncert

V Międzynarodowy Dzień Pamięci o Holokauście będzie obchodzony także w Warszawie. - Po raz piąty organizujemy w tym roku w Warszawie Międzynarodowy Dzień Pamięci o Holokauście. Jak co roku spotykamy się pod pomnikiem Bohaterów Getta, gdzie usłyszymy piękną poezję Icchaka Kacnelsona w wykonaniu Daniela Olbrychskiego i Zbigniewa Zamachowskiego. Zaśpiewa także zespół Teatru Żydowskiego i zostaną zapalone znicze - mówi Gołda Tencer dyrektor generalna Fundacji Szalom, współorganizującej obchody wspólnie ze stołecznym Ratuszem.

Dla uczczenia pamięci o Zagładzie wieńce pod pomnikiem złożą przedstawiciele władz, organizacji społecznych i religijnych, a także harcerze oraz młodzież szkolna. Odmówiona zostanie również modlitwa ekumeniczna.

Zapalmy świece

Przedstawiciele Fundacji Szalom apelują, aby w tym dniu o godz. 18 zapalając świece w swoich oknach uczcić Dzień Pamięci o Holokauście oraz przedwojennych Żydów, współmieszkańców

polskich miast i miasteczek. - Chcielibyśmy, by wszyscy zapalili w oknach świece na znak pamięci. Także na naszej stronie na portalu Facebook istnieje możliwość zapalenia symbolicznej świeczki pamięci - podkreśla Tencer.

Honorowy patronat nad obchodami objęli prezydent Lech Kaczyński i prezydent Warszawy Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz.

Międzynarodowy Dzień Pamięci o Holokauście uchwaliło w listopadzie 2005 roku Zgromadzenie Ogólne ONZ. Na datę obchodów wybrano rocznicę wyzwolenia obozu Auschwitz-Birkenau przez wojska sowieckie 27 stycznia 1945 roku. Częścią obchodów tego dnia jest właśnie akcja "Światło Pamięci" polegająca na zapaleniu świec w oknach na znak pamięci o ofiarach Holokaustu.

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OBCHODY 65. ROCZNICY WYZWOLENIA HITLEROWSKIEGO OBOZU AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU

Z udziałem przedstawicieli trzydziestu pięciu krajów w oświęcimskim Centrum Dialogu i Modlitwy w środę rano rozpoczęła się międzynarodowa konferencja "Auschwitz - pamięć, odpowiedzialność, edukacja". To część uroczystości 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia niemieckiego obozu Auschwitz.

Główne uroczystości rozpoczną się po południu przed Międzynarodowym Pomnikiem Ofiar Obozu, kiedy to w ekumenicznej modlitwie spotka się 150 ocalałych więźniów oraz politycy. Podczas uroczystości na terenie byłego obozu przemówią byli więźniowie: Władysław Bartoszewski, Marian Turski i Edward Paczkowski. Uroczystości będzie prowadził inny więzień - August Kowalczyk.

Potem przemówią premier Izraela Benjamin Netanjahu, minister edukacji Rosji Andriej Fursenko, przewodniczący Parlamentu Europejskiego Jerzy Buzek oraz prezydent Lech Kaczyński i premier Donald Tusk.

Następnie uczestnicy uroczystości przejdą pod Międzynarodowy Pomnik Ofiar Obozu, zapalą znicze, będą się modlić.

Jak wczoraj poinformował prezydencki minister Mariusz Handzlik, Lech Kaczyński odznaczy dyrektorów Instytutu Yad Vashem w Jerozolimie, dyrektora Muzeum Auschwitz-Birkenau i dyrektora amerykańskiego Muzeum Holocaustu. - To będzie gest w stosunku do tych instytucji, które są ważne dla utrwalania i edukowania o tej tragedii. Jest ważne, aby podtrzymać pamięć, tak żeby wraz ze śmiercią ocalałych z Holocaustu nie zapomniano o tej katastrofie - podkreślił.

Uroczystości w byłym obozie Auschwitz będzie poprzedzało **Międzynarodowe Forum Holocaustu "Let my people live" zorganizowane przez Europejski Kongres Żydów w Krakowie.**

Konferencja "Auschwitz - pamięć, odpowiedzialność, edukacja"

Zgodnie z zamierzeniem organizującego konferencję Ministerstwa Edukacji Narodowej, jest to forum wymiany doświadczeń związanych z nauczaniem pamięci o Holokauście. Na zaproszenie do udziału w spotkaniu minister Katarzyny Hall odpowiedziało trzydzieści pięć państw.

Na czele dziewięciu delegacji stanęli ministrowie konstytucyjni odpowiedzialni za oświatę i wychowanie. To przedstawiciele Polski, Kanady, Chorwacji, Grecji, Izraela, Rosji, Serbii, Słowenii i Szwajcarii. Podczas konferencji mają opowiedzieć o realizowanych w swoich krajach programach edukacyjnych dotyczących tej kwestii.

Spotkanie - bez udziału mediów - jest rejestrowane na potrzeby publikacji edukacyjnej, która ma trafić do szkół. Prócz przedstawicieli rządów szeregu państw wystąpią naukowcy, m.in. Krystyna Oleksy i Piotr Trojański z Międzynarodowego Centrum Edukacji o Auschwitz i Holokauście oraz przewodnicząca Agencji Praw Podstawowych Unii Europejskiej Ilze Brands Kehris.

Konferencję podsumuje po południu przewodniczący Parlamentu Europejskiego prof. Jerzy Buzek. Jej uczestnicy mają też przyjąć i ogłosić podczas planowanego po zakończeniu obrad briefingu Przesłanie Ministrów Edukacji z Miejsca Pamięci Auschwitz-Birkenau. Jego tekst sygnują minister Hall, przewodniczący Międzynarodowej Rady Oświęcimskiej prof. Władysław Bartoszewski i dyrektor Muzeum Auschwitz-Birkenau dr Piotr Cywiński.

Według informacji MEN, konferencja wpisuje się w obchodzony w tym roku szkolnym Rok Historii Najnowszej. W ramach tej inicjatywy kilkanaście instytucji (m.in. muzea historyczne, IPN, Ośrodek Karta, Europejskie Centrum Solidarności, Centrum Edukacji) przygotowuje przedsięwzięcia związane z historią najnowszą, informuje o konferencjach i konkursach oraz udostępnia w specjalnym serwisie internetowym materiały edukacyjne.

Do uczestnictwa w konferencji ministerstwo edukacji zaprosiło ministrów edukacji krajów europejskich oraz pozostałych krajów członkowskich organizacji Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research. Organizacja ta powstała w 1998 r. z inicjatywy ówczesnego szwedzkiego premiera Gorana Perssona we współpracy z prezydentem USA Billem Clintonem i brytyjskim premierem Tonym Blairem.

Obecnie należy do niej 26 krajów, których zadaniem jest wspieranie edukacji, upamiętniania i badań o stanie wiedzy społecznej na temat Holokaustu. Organizacja propaguje upowszechnianie wiedzy o zagładzie ludności żydowskiej podczas II wojny światowej oraz potrzebę prowadzenia badań dotyczących wiedzy o Holokauście.

65 ГОДИНИ ОТ ОСВОБОЖДАВАНЕТО НА "АУШВИЦ" 1,1 милиона души са намерили смъртта си в лагера

Оцелели от „Аушвиц“, съветски ветерани и световни лидери, включително израелският премиер Бенямин Нетянаху, се събират днес да отбележат 65-годишнината от освобождаването на печално известния нацистки лагер на смъртта.

Преди възпоменателната церемония на мястото на лагера от Втората световна война в Полша 700 участници ще се съберат в Краков за сутрешно паметно събитие, организирано от Европейския еврейски конгрес.

„Холокостът е трагедията, която обединява Европа“, заяви неговият лидер Моше Кантор в навечерието на церемонията.

Американският президент Барак Обама ще се присъедини във видеовръзка.

"Аушвиц" е освободен на 27 януари 1945 г. от Червената армия и остава символ на нацисткия геноцид.

През 2005 г. ООН обяви датата за Международен възпоменателен ден на Холокоста.

Общо 1,1 милиона души са загинали в газовите камери на лагера, 1 милион от тях са евреи от окупирана Европа.

Във Варшава Нетянаху почете паметта на жертвите и всички, които са рискували живота си, за да ги спасят от нацистите.

„Ние посрещаме най-голямото зло в човешката история както и най-голямата проява на смелост“, заяви той на гара, от която над 300 хиляди евреи са били изпратени към смъртта си.

SUPRAVIETUITORI AI HOLOCAUSTULUI, PREZENTI LA CEREMONIILE DE LA AUSCHWITZ

Premierul israelian Benjamin Netanyahu si presedintele polonez Lech Kaczynski, dar si supravietuitori ai Holocaustului, au fost fost prezenti miercuri, la ceremoniile de comemorare a 65 de ani de la eliberarea prizonierilor de la Auschwitz.

La ceremonia de la Cracovia organizata de congresul european evreiesc au participat aproape 700 de persoane, supravietuitori ai Holocaustului, veterani rusi si numeroase personalitati, informeaza NewsInfo

"Holocaustul este o tragedie care uneste Europa", a declarat presedintele congresului european evreiesc, Moshe Kantor, inainte de ceremonie.

Aproape 7.000 de prizonieri au fost eliberati de la Auschwitz de armata rusa pe 27 ianuarie 1945. In 2005, ONU a stabilit ca 27 ianuarie sa fie Ziua Internationala a Comemorarii Holocaustului.

La Auschwitz au murit 1,1 milioane de persoane, dintre care un milion de evrei din europa ocupata de nazisti. Majoritatea erau gazati, insa multi au murit si impuscati, spanzurati, infometati sau din pricina bolilor sau supusi unor experimente medicale.

AUSCHWITZ: LES SURVIVANTS SE RECUEILLENТ, 65 ANS APRÈS LA LIBÉRATION DU CAMP

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Pour la plupart d'entre eux, c'est la dernière occasion de se réunir sur le lieu de leur martyre en hommage à leurs codétenus: 1,1 million d'hommes, de femmes et d'enfants gazés, fusillés, morts de faim, de froid et d'épuisement, dont un million de Juifs de toute l'Europe.

Auschwitz, installé en 1940 en Pologne occupée et libéré le 27 janvier 1945 par l'armée soviétique, est resté le symbole du génocide perpétré par l'Allemagne nazie. En 2005, l'ONU a déclaré ce jour Journée internationale du souvenir des victimes de l'Holocauste.

Avant les cérémonies prévues dans l'après-midi sur le site du camp, 700 personnes étaient rassemblées pour une conférence du Congrès juif européen dans la matinée, à Cracovie (sud), distant d'une cinquantaine de kilomètres. Un discours du président américain Barack Obama devait être diffusé mercredi par vidéo à cette occasion.

"L'Holocauste est la tragédie qui unit l'Europe", a déclaré le dirigeant du Congrès juif européen Moshe Kantor à Cracovie la veille des cérémonies.

Une centaine à peine d'anciens prisonniers de plusieurs pays se sont déplacés. Il y a cinq ans, ils étaient plus de deux mille.

Le chef du gouvernement israélien Benjamin Netanyahu, arrivé en Pologne dès mardi, prononcera un discours lors des cérémonies, de même que son homologue polonais Donald Tusk et le président Lech Kaczynski.

Le président russe Dmitri Medvedev a été invité mais a décliné, en invoquant "d'autres obligations", selon la présidence polonaise. Le ministre russe de l'Education Andreï Foursenko le représentera.

Deux anciens détenus parleront: l'historien juif polonais Marian Turski et le Polonais non-juif Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, ex-ministre des Affaires étrangères.

Le grand rabbin de Tel Aviv, Israel Meir Lau né en Pologne et orphelin survivant des camps nazis, récitera le kaddish, la prière juives aux morts.

La veille à Varsovie, M. Netanyahu a rendu hommage aux victimes et à ceux qui ont risqué leur vie pour sauver des Juifs. "Nous rencontrons à la fois le mal le plus absolu et le plus grand courage de toute l'histoire de l'humanité", a déclaré M. Netanyahu.

"Ce n'est pas une rencontre facile mais elle nous donne espoir et nous guide pour l'avenir. Dieu venge les victimes", a déclaré le dirigeant israélien qui était accompagné de son épouse Sara, dont le père avait perdu toute sa famille. Les nazis ont exterminé environ six millions de Juifs d'Europe.

Le camp fut ouvert en juin 1940 près de la ville d'Oswiecim, renommée Auschwitz par les Allemands, pour y enfermer des prisonniers politiques polonais, dix mois après l'invasion de la Pologne.

Il a ensuite été étendu au site de Birkenau distant de 3 km et consacré à partir de 1942 essentiellement à l'extermination des Juifs d'Europe.

En plus des victimes juives, entre 70.000 et 75.000 Polonais non juifs y sont morts, ainsi que 21.000 Roms, 15.000 prisonniers de guerre soviétiques et 10.000 à 15.000 autres prisonniers, dont des résistants, selon les données du musée d'Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Le 27 janvier, des troupes de l'Armée rouge découvrent le camp en avançant vers l'Ouest. Il n'y reste que 7.000 survivants. Les forces allemandes face à l'avancée soviétique ont dès le 17 janvier poussé les prisonniers dans une marche forcée vers l'Ouest qui sera appelée Marche de la mort.

SARKOZY ÉVOQUE "L'EXIGENCE" DE MÉMOIRE ENVERS LES VICTIMES DE LA SHOAH

Nicolas Sarkozy a souligné mercredi "l'exigence" du devoir de mémoire à l'égard des victimes de la Shoah et répété le soutien de la France aux initiatives destinées à perpétuer leur souvenir, à l'occasion du 65e anniversaire de la libération du camp d'extermination d'Auschwitz.

"Cette mémoire est un devoir d'humanité. C'est une exigence, une mission sacrée de restituer leur dignité humaine et leurs traits singuliers à ces enfants, ces femmes, ces hommes, qui affrontèrent ici l'indicible, l'inconcevable", a écrit M. Sarkozy dans une lettre au président du Congrès juif européen Moshe Kantor.

"Auschwitz apparaît bien comme le symbole du mal absolu inscrit au fer rouge dans la conscience humaine", a-t-il ajouté.

"Construisons la paix, affermissons la stabilité entre les nations, renforçons l'Europe parce qu'Auschwitz nous oblige, aujourd'hui et pour l'avenir. L'Europe, en tant que construction organisée, doit assumer la responsabilité de ce devoir historique envers les victimes", a souhaité le chef de l'Etat dans ce courrier rendu public par l'Elysée.

Dans une autre lettre, Nicolas Sarkozy a assuré le président polonais Lech Kaczynski de l'engagement de la France "en faveur de toutes les initiatives destinés à perpétuer le souvenir du génocide contre le peuple juif".

De nombreuses personnalités, dont le Premier ministre israélien Benjamin Netanyahu, commémorent mercredi en Pologne le 65e anniversaire de la libération par l'armée rouge du camp d'Auschwitz-Birkenau, symbole de l'Holocauste où périrent plus d'un million de personnes de 1940 à 1945.

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W KRAKOWIE ROZPOCZĘŁO SIĘ MIĘDZYNARODOWE FORUM HOLOKAUSTU

Przedstawiciele kilkudziesięciu krajów biorą udział w **III Międzynarodowym Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live"** - "Pozwólcie żyć mojemu narodowi", które w środę rozpoczęło się w Operze Krakowskiej. Spotkanie towarzyszy obchodom 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia obozu Auschwitz.

W forum, które jest poświęcone pamięci ofiar Zagłady, uczestniczą delegacje rządowe, ocaleni z holokaustu, reprezentanci organizacji żydowskich oraz młodzież. W jednodniowym spotkaniu bierze też udział grupa kilkudziesięciu eurodeputowanych z 12 krajów Wspólnoty, na czele z przewodniczącym Parlamentu Europejskiego Jerzym Buzkiem.

W programie forum zaplanowano m.in. wystąpienie przewodniczącego PE oraz odtworzenie przekazów wideo z przesłaniami przywódców państw, wśród nich prezydenta USA Baracka Obamy.

Organizatorami forum są: **Europejski Kongres Żydów**, Światowe Forum Holokaustu oraz Instytut Yad Vashem.

OP-ED BY MOSHE KANTOR: LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE



In his seminal quote written at the beginning of the last century, philosopher George Santayana said in his treatise 'The Life of Reason' that "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Although many have heard this oft-repeated phrase, how many have truly pondered its significance or acted on its warning.

On January 27, on Holocaust Memorial Day, there will be many Holocaust commemorations all over the world. But while many will concentrate solely on remembrance and memorialization, we should also use this time to learn from the past for the good of our present and future.

As an international community, we need to acknowledge and study the indicators that could lead to rising intolerance, xenophobia and anti-Semitism. The past has shown that economic and ethnic crises, coupled with a lack of trust in democratic leadership, can lead to disastrous events epitomized by the Holocaust with the premeditated murder of 6 million Jews.

Today, many are seeing such indicators and we see intolerance and hatred on the rise in many corners of the world, including Europe.

Nonetheless, many of these threats pale in comparison to another fascist regime bent on sewing death and destruction, but this time with the acquisition of nuclear weapons. Once again, there is a need for courageous leaders who can make decisions to save us from doomsday scenarios. It is no coincidence that the current Iranian leadership, which is sending us down a path of disaster, denies the Holocaust and its atrocities.

This ploy is simple: They do not wish us to learn the lessons of the past. By denying and erasing the past, they wish to lull the international community into downplaying the very real threat. Although there are, of course, many differences between the Nazis of the 1930s and the fanatical Iranian regime, there are dangerous similarities. Unfortunately, we also see similarities in some of the international responses.

We see once again, as in the 1930s when Czechoslovakia was sold to appease the Nazis, that nations and leaders are trying desperately to placate the Iranian regime so the nuclear weapons will not be aimed at them. Just as World War II sucked every nation into its morass, a nuclear-armed Iran will have devastating reverberations around the world.

Not only will a radical and messianic regime have the means to bring about its wild apocalyptic dreams through nuclear aspirations, it will be able to supply any extremist or terrorist organization with dirty bombs that could be detonated in any city center anywhere in the world.

We already see the beginning of a Middle East arms race; if Iran acquires nuclear weapons then others in the region will be forced to do so and the need for nuclear weapons will spread like wildfire until the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty will be rendered redundant and a new world order will arise.

Thus, the Iranian issue is not the purely the purview of Israel and a few other nations; it is something that every leader and government should take very seriously. In circumstances like this, we should unite, not on a national interest, but on a global interest.

It is also no coincidence that the most threatening nations today also terrorize their own populations. We must act strong and live up to our commitments as civilized nations and lose our tolerance for the intolerant. Again a lesson we learned from the Nazis, that a fascist or totalitarian leadership which terrorizes its own nation, rarely ends its abuses at its own border.

Next week, many international leaders and personalities will be faced with the most chilling and infamous example of human barbarity at the third international forum "Let My People Live" in Poland. It is at Auschwitz we see not only the outcome of absolute evil, but also the result of inaction

and appeasement. Surely, it is only through learning history that we must realize that appeasement is a proven failed policy.

However, by commemorating the liberation of Auschwitz, we are also celebrating the eventual victory of good over evil and action over inaction. This is what we are hoping the leaders who attend the Let My People Live forum will learn.

The commemoration of the liberation of Auschwitz reminds us of those courageous leaders and individuals who decided to act. Thanks to their actions, we are here today and able to commemorate the past and provide a moral and outspoken voice to the future.

SHOAH REMEMBERED IN EVENTS AROUND THE WORLD

Commemorations are underway around the world on the occasion of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which coincides with the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp on 27 January 1945 by Soviet troops.

The main commemorative event is to be held in Auschwitz, in the presence of survivors, international statesmen and Jewish leaders, including Polish President Lech Kaczynski, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the president of the World Jewish Congress, Ronald S. Lauder. **Prior to that, the third edition of the 'Let My People Live' forum is taking place in nearby Krakow, where an estimated 700 participants will discuss the legacy of the Holocaust and related challenges for the future.**

In New Zealand, members of the Jewish community have gathered in Wellington's Makara cemetery to pay tribute to the victims. Stones were laid at the memorial, in Jewish tradition, by survivors and dignitaries, including the German ambassador.

In Russia, for the first time ever, a commemorative event is being held at the site of the former Nazi ghetto in Kaluga, 120 miles southwest of Moscow. It was the first Nazi camp that was liberated. The event is being organized by the Russian Jewish Congress (RJC). "It is important to hold remembrance actions right at the sites where historic events took place," RJC President Yuri Kanner told journalists.

In Berlin, Israeli President Shimon Peres will give the keynote speech at a special session of the Bundestag, Germany's parliament. Senior leaders – including President Horst Köhler and Chancellor Angela Merkel – will be present. In his speech Peres is expected to make mention of his grandfather, who was murdered by the Nazis. On Tuesday Peres and Köhler participated in a ceremony at a Berlin train station from which many of the city's Jews were sent to the Nazi death camps. The German president later spoke of his emotion in shaking the hands of survivors of the Holocaust, adding that he was grateful to Peres for extending a hand in reconciliation to the German people.

In 2005, the United Nations General Assembly voted to make 27 January International Holocaust Remembrance Day. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in a statement "countless men, women and children who survived the horror of the ghettos and Nazi death camps carry the crucial message of triumph of the human spirit. Survivors also play a vital role in keeping their lesson of the Holocaust alive for future generations. Holocaust survivors will not be with us forever, but the legacy of their survival must live on. We must preserve their stories – through memorials – through education, most of all through robust efforts to prevent genocide and other grave crimes. The United Nations is fully committed to this cause. Together, let us pledge to carry forward the mission of Holocaust remembrance – and uphold human dignity for all".

Meanwhile, a Canadian parliamentarian has apologized after saying that Immigration Minister Jason Kenney's participation at the Auschwitz commemorations was a "jaunt". Borys Wrzesnewskyj of Toronto, an MP for the Liberal Party, had said Kenney would be better off traveling to Haiti instead.

SURVIVORS, DIGNITARIES COMMEMORATE AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION

Ceremonies get under way in Poland today to mark the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the largest Nazi death camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, by Soviet troops.

In 2005, the United Nations declared this date International Holocaust Remembrance Day, an annual day of commemoration to honor the victims of the Nazi era.

About 100 survivors and Soviet veterans who participated in Auschwitz-Birkenau's liberation were set to attend a ceremony in sub-zero temperatures at the site of the World War II camp in German-occupied Poland.

Survivors as well as Polish President Lech Kaczynski and Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu were scheduled to address the event.

Tel Aviv's Polish-born chief rabbi, Israel Meir Lau, who survived as a child in Nazi camps, was to recite the Kaddish, or prayer of mourning.

Poland says it invited Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to attend, but he declined, citing "other obligations."

The AP news agency reports that an Israeli Arab lawmaker, Muhammad Barakeh, was also to attend the ceremony as part of the Israeli delegation.

He has come under criticism from Israeli Arabs who say his visit is inappropriate at a time of heightened Israeli-Palestinian tensions. Barakeh has said he intends to condemn Israel's policies toward Palestinians during the visit to Poland.

Remembering The Holocaust

Auschwitz-Birkenau in southern Poland is an enduring symbol of Nazi German genocide.

More than 1 million people were killed in the gas chambers at the camp or succumbed to disease and starvation before Soviet Red Army troops liberated it on January 27, 1945. There were around 7,000 survivors in the camp on its liberation.

"One time we were going to the bath and they would check us naked," recalls one of the survivors.

"And it depended on a pointing finger whether you were let through or declined. So it was a very upsetting moment, when your future depended on the pointing of an SS officer's finger."

Most of the victims were Jews from across Europe, sent to die as part of Nazi leader Adolf Hitler's "final solution." But the victims also included Poles, Roma, homosexuals, political opponents, and others.

Overall, an estimated 6 million Jews were murdered in the Holocaust in Nazi-occupied Europe.

Ahead of the ceremony at Auschwitz-Birkenau, Israeli President Shimon Peres was to deliver a speech to the German parliament in Berlin.

In the southern Polish city of Krakow, some 700 participants gathered for the third international Holocaust forum "Let My People Live."

Attendees were to include Israel's Netanyahu and European Parliament President Jerzy Buzek. U.S. President Barack Obama and French President Nicolas Sarkozy were due to address the event by video.

On the eve of the event, in the Polish capital, Warsaw, Israel's Netanyahu honored the victims and those who risked their lives to save Jews from the Nazis.

KWAŚNIEWSKI: NIKT NIE JEST ODPORNY NA DEMONY FANATYZMU

Nikt nie jest odporny na demony fanatyzmu i nienawiści - powiedział Aleksander Kwaśniewski do uczestników **III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live"**. Według Kwaśniewskiego, Europa po Zagładzie ma szczególne obowiązki w krzewieniu tolerancji i poszanowania człowieka.

"Nie wolno nam zapominać, że tolerancja (...) jest ciągle poddawana próbie. Nie można jej po prostu ogłosić, należy ją praktykować; trzeba być czujnym na przejawy ksenofobii, rasizmu i braku poszanowania dla człowieka (...) Nikt nie jest odporny na demony fanatyzmu i nienawiści. I właśnie dlatego nie wolno nam ignorować i pomniejszać znaczenia przejawów zbiorowej patologii" - powiedział b. prezydent do zgromadzonych w Operze Krakowskiej.

"Dlatego Europa, ze swoim doświadczeniem II wojny światowej i holokaustu ma szczególny obowiązek wzmocnienia tolerancji. Jeżeli podważymy to doświadczenie, zrobimy to na nasze własne ryzyko" - dodał, zaznaczając, że najbardziej smutne i bolesne są przypadki kwestionowania pamięci o Zagładzie, z którymi wciąż się spotykamy.

У ПОЛЬЩІ ПРОХОДЯТЬ УРОЧИСТОСТІ З НАГОДИ 65-Ї РІЧНИЦІ ВИЗВОЛЕННЯ КОНЦТАБОРУ В ОСВЕНЦІМІ

Міжнародною конференцією "Аушвіц - пам'ять, відповідальність, освіта" сьогодні в Польщі розпочалися урочистості з нагоди визволення радянськими військами одного з найбільших "місць смерті" під час Другої світової війни - гітлерівського концтабору в Освенцімі (нім. Аушвіц), передає власний кореспондент УКРІНФОРМу.

Згідно з інформацією міністерства освіти РП, в конференції беруть участь представники 35 країн. За задумом організаторів під час конференції відбудеться обмін досвідом, пов'язаний з навчанням про Голокост. Матеріали цього форуму з освітньою метою будуть передані до шкіл.

Головні урочистості розпочнуться сьогодні опівдні. Як повідомляв УКРІНФОРМ, у них братимуть участь близько 150 колишніх в'язнів концтабору, а також президент та прем'єр-міністр Польщі Лех Качинський і Дональд Туск, голова ізраїльського уряду Беньямін Нетаньяху та голова Європарламенту Єжи Бузек. На місці реєстрації гітлерівцями прибуваючих в Освенцімі в'язнів розгорнуть символічний намет, звідки промови виголосять три колишні в'язні концтабору, зокрема й нинішній радник голови польського уряду професор Владислав Бартошевський. Після цього виступлять Л.Качинський, Д.Туск, Б.Нетаньяху та офіційний представник Росії - міністр освіти та науки РФ Андрій Фурсенко. Згодом відбудеться також концерт та богослужіння в пам'ять про жертви концтабору.

Після офіційної частини урочистостей у Міжнародному домі зустрічей молоді в Освенцімі відбудеться симпозіум, під час якого буде створено Європейський Форум прав людини. "Форум підтримуватиме інституції громадянського суспільства, а також науки та освіти, які займаються правами людини", - зазначив у коментарі РАР голова Фондації громадянського простору "Pro Publico Bono" Вальдемар Ратай.

Водночас у Кракові сьогодні відбудеться III Міжнародний форум Голокосту "Let My People Live" ("Дозвольте моєму народові жити") за участю представників 44-х країн. Президент Європейського єврейського конгресу Моше Кантор повідомив, що в цій зустрічі візьмуть участь 60 європарламентаріїв з 12 країн Євросоюзу на чолі з Є.Бузеком. Під час форуму планують показати відеозвернення президентів США та Франції Барака Обама та Ніколя Саркозі.

У польській столиці сьогодні також відзначатимуть Міжнародний день пам'яті жертв Голокосту. З цієї нагоди біля пам'ятника героям гетто представники влади та релігійних і громадських організацій міста запалють свічки.

Представники єврейських організацій Польщі закликали жителів країни запалити сьогодні о 18-й годині у вікнах домівок символічні свічки пам'яті про жертви Голокосту.

Гітлерівський концтабір в Освенцімі був визволений підрозділами 60-ї армії 1-го Українського фронту 27 січня 1945 року. Радянські війська звільнили 7,6 тис. в'язнів. За оцінками фахівців, загалом у цьому "місці смерті" в період 1940-1945 рр. загинули щонайменше 1,2 млн осіб, більшість з яких були євреями.

Згідно з резолюцією N 60/7 Генеральної асамблеї ООН, 27 січня відзначається Міжнародний день пам'яті жертв Голокосту.

GIORNATA DELLA MEMORIA

Molte le iniziative per ricordare lo sterminio degli ebrei

Dei sopravvissuti del campo di Auschwitz liberato il 27 gennaio di 65 anni orsono si sono raccolti oggi al fianco di ex soldati dell'armata rossa e personalità come Benjamin Netanyahu mentre il deputato arabo israeliano Mohammed Barakeh si è reso per la prima volta ad Auschwitz "per rendersi conto sul posto di ciò che è stato la Shoah". In quel campo di concentramento creato nel 1940 nella Polonia occupata morirono 1,1 milioni di uomini, donne e bambini di cui 1 milione erano ebrei provenienti da tutta europa.

Un forum internazionale

Molte le iniziative nel mondo intero per ricordare lo sterminio degli ebrei durante la seconda guerra mondiale, una giornata proclamata dall'ONU nel 2005 e che oggi vede per esempio a Cracovia il "Terzo Forum internazionale" "**Let my people live**" (lasciate vivere il mio popolo), organizzato dal Congresso ebraico europeo e dal Forum mondiale Olocausto e dall'Istituto israeliano di Yad Vashem. All'iniziativa partecipano i sopravvissuti del campo di sterminio nazista di Auschwitz, che dista circa 70 chilometri da Cracovia, diverse delegazioni governative, rappresentanti delle organizzazioni ebraiche e molti giovani. Presente anche una delegazione di eurodeputati con il presidente del Parlamento di Strasburgo, Jerzy Buzek. Nel corso dei lavori sarà trasmesso anche un videomessaggio del presidente Usa Barack Obama.

Il Papa

Anche il Papa Benedetto XVI si è espresso sulla Shoah: Quelli compiuti dalla Germania nazista, in particolare contro il popolo ebraico, sono «crimini di inaudita efferatezza». Lo ha detto il Papa che, nella giornata della memoria ha invocato «Dio onnipotente» affinché «illumini i cuori e le menti, perché non si ripetano più tali tragedie!». Il ricordo della Shoah, ha detto al termine dell'udienza generale nell'aula Paolo VI, «susciti un sempre più convinto rispetto della dignità di ogni persona, perché tutti gli uomini si percepiscano una sola grande famiglia».

BARACK OBAMA PIDE NO OLVIDAR LA HISTORIA EN DÍA CONMEMORACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO

Las palabras del mandatario estadounidense, que no estará presente en los actos de conmemoración del Holocausto, que a lo largo del día están previstos en Cracovia y Oswiecim (Auschwitz en polaco), llegaron a través de un vídeo-mensaje emitido en el **Foro Internacional del Holocausto 'Let my people live'** ('Dejad a mi gente vivir'), que tuvo lugar en la Opera de Cracovia.

Obama quiso agradecer a Polonia sus esfuerzos para mantener el museo y el centro de interpretación de la historia de Auschwitz-Birkenau, "un lugar del que todos debemos aprender".

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Quien sí estuvo presente fue el presidente del Parlamento Europeo, el polaco Jerzy Buzek, que destacó la necesidad de poner en práctica los programas educativos necesarios para que los europeos no olviden y aprendan la lecciones de un pasado trágico.

"Recuerdo el reciente robo del letrero 'Arbeit macht frei' ('El trabajo libera', sustraído el pasado mes de diciembre y recuperado días después por la policía polaca), un acto abominable que representa esa falta de educación y respeto que tenemos que combatir", señaló Buzek.

Ésta es la tercera edición del Foro Internacional del Holocausto, una iniciativa promovida por el Congreso Europeo Judío con el objetivo de mantener viva la memoria de quienes perecieron bajo la barbarie nazi y luchar para que en el futuro no se repitan acontecimientos similares.

"Recordar el pasado para enfrentar los retos actuales" es el lema elegido en esta ocasión, "un momento histórico en el que Irán y su intención de dotarse armas nucleares se han convertido en la gran amenaza mundial", señaló el presidente del Consejo Judío, Moshe Kantor.

Hoy es el día designado por Naciones Unidas para la conmemoración del Holocausto, una fecha que coincide con la liberación hace 65 años por parte del ejército soviético del campo de concentración nazi de Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Se estima que seis millones de judíos fueron asesinados en Europa durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial como resultado de la 'Solución Final' puesta en marcha por el régimen nacionalsocialista de Adolf Hitler.

De ellos, más de un millón perdieron la vida entre las alambradas de Auschwitz, el campo de exterminio alemán más mortífero de entre los seis que llegaron a existir en Polonia.

PRZESŁANIE PREZYDENTA FRANCJI DO UCZESTNIKÓW FORUM HOLOKAUSTU

Żadna ideologia, żaden totalitaryzm nie potrafi wykorzenić pozytywnych cech ludzkości - napisał prezydent Francji Nicolas Sarkozy do uczestników **III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live"**, odbywającego się w Operze Krakowskiej.

Prezydent Francji dodał, że pamięć o ofiarach Zagłady i jej przekazywanie następnym pokoleniom jest "świętym obowiązkiem" żyjących.

- Budujmy pokój, afirmujmy stabilność, wzmacniajmy Europę, bo Auschwitz zmusza nas do tego dziś i w przyszłości. Zjednoczona Europa ma obowiązek zachowania i niesienia pamięci o ofiarach holokaustu. To najbardziej godny i autentyczny hołd, jaki możemy złożyć tym, którzy zginęli - podkreślił Sarkozy.

UE POWSTAŁA, BY KOSZMAR WOJNY NIGDY SIĘ NIE POWTÓRZYŁ

Przewodniczący Parlamentu Europejskiego Jerzy Buzek powiedział w środę podczas **III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu**, które odbywa się w Krakowie, że "Unia Europejska powstała po to, by koszmar wojny nigdy się nie powtórzył. A nazistowski obóz zagłady Auschwitz to także symbol dla Unii".

- Chcemy wyciągnięcia wniosków z tragicznych wydarzeń przeszłości" - powiedział przewodniczący PE. "Teraz naszym, Europejczyków zadaniem jest pamięć i edukacja. Ci, którzy sami przeszli przez piekło, pamiętają je całe życie. Ale ich coraz mniej pośród nas. Innym, młodszym, też nie wolno zapomnieć. Im dalej od tamtych wydarzeń, im więcej czasu minęło, tym ważniejsza jest pamięć - powiedział Buzek.

- Stanie na straży pamięci holokaustu, aby nikt nigdy nie próbował umniejszyć zbrodni Auschwitz, jest naszym wspólnym obowiązkiem. Dlatego jesteśmy tutaj, dlatego spotykamy się w Auschwitz - podkreślił przewodniczący PE

Buzek przypomniał, że wyzwolenie obozu Auschwitz przynieśli żołnierze Armii Czerwonej. - Zawsze będziemy im za to wdzięczni - powiedział.

Przewodniczący PE mówił też, że po wojnie w Europie Środkowo-Wschodniej wyzwolonej spod hitleryzmu zaczął się inny totalitaryzm - stalinowski, który nie pozwolił ludziom na wolność i pod rządami którego doszło do haniebnych działań przeciw obywatelom narodowości żydowskiej, jak np. w marcu 1968 w Polsce.

III Międzynarodowe Forum "Let my people live!" zorganizowano dla upamiętnienia 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia obozu Auschwitz.

MOSHE KANTOR: POWOŁAJMY UNIWERSYTET TOLERANCJI I BEZPIECZEŃSTWA

Prezydent Europejskiego Kongresu Żydów Moshe Kantor podczas III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu "Let my people live!" w Krakowie zaapelował o wsparcie dla idei powołania Uniwersytetu Tolerancji i Bezpieczeństwa.

- Bezpieczeństwo i tolerancja nie mogą istnieć bez siebie. Tak jak życie na naszej planecie nie może istnieć bez wody - mówił Kantor. Dodał, że dla rozwoju tolerancji potrzebna jest edukacja. - Moim zdaniem powinniśmy ustanowić uniwersytet zajmujący się globalnym bezpieczeństwem i tolerancją - dodał.

Jak wyjaśnił, uniwersytet miałby być projektem podjętym wspólnie przez UE, Rosję i USA. Europejska Rada ds. Tolerancji i Pojednania ma ustanowić fundację, odpowiedzialną za ten projekt. Określi ona szczegółowo cele działania uniwersytetu, to, w jakim kraju on powstanie, na jakiej podstawie prawnej i jak będzie on finansowany.

PRESIDENTE ISRAELÍ PIDE CASTIGAR A RESPONSABLES DEL HOLOCAUSTO **Simon Peres hizo estas declaraciones en la conmemoración de los 65 años de la liberación del campo de exterminio de Auschwitz-Birkenau.**

El Presidente israelí, Simon Peres, llamó hoy, día de conmemoración del Holocausto en Alemania, a hacer justicia con los criminales nazis que aún están libres y vivos, en un discurso pronunciado ante el Parlamento alemán en Berlín.

"Les ruego que hagan todo para que estos criminales reciban el castigo que les corresponde", dijo el premio Nobel de la Paz, que el martes inició su visita oficial a la capital alemana.

Cada vez quedan menos sobrevivientes de los crímenes organizados por el nazismo contra los judíos, señaló Peres. "Y al mismo tiempo viven en suelo alemán, en Europa y en otros lugares del mundo personas que en aquella época persiguieron el horroroso objetivo de exterminar un pueblo".

"Desde nuestra perspectiva no se trata de venganza. Se trata de educación", agregó Peres Peres en referencia a las nuevas generaciones. "La juventud tiene que acordarse, no puede olvidar y es necesario que sepa lo que ocurrió", puntualizó.

Hoy se cumplen 65 años de la liberación del campo de exterminio de Auschwitz-Birkenau por parte del Ejército Soviético. Peres es el primer presidente de Israel que habla ante el Parlamento alemán un 27 de enero, fecha que desde 1996 está consagrada a la memoria del Holocausto.

Entre los seis millones de personas asesinadas por los nazis por su origen judío estaban los abuelos de Peres y otros familiares.

"Los alemanes tenemos una corresponsabilidad por el Estado de Israel", había dicho previamente el presidente del Parlamento, Norbert Lammert. Siempre que su derecho a existir y su seguridad estén amenazados, "no hay neutralidad posible para nosotros", agregó.

Lammert se refirió en ese contexto a Irán. Un Estado que posea armas atómicas vecino a Israel, "dirigido por un régimen abiertamente antisemita", no sólo es intolerable para los israelíes, dijo. "La comunidad mundial no puede tolerar una amenaza semejante".

Obama pide no olvidar historia

El Presidente norteamericano, Barack Obama, pidió hoy "no olvidar jamás" la tragedia vivida entre las alambradas del campo de concentración nazi de Auschwitz.

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El presidente norteamericano, Barack Obama, pidió hoy "no olvidar jamás" la tragedia vivida entre las alambradas del campo de concentración nazi de Auschwitz, liberado hace 65 años por tropas soviéticas y principal escenario del Holocausto que dejó en Europa seis millones de judíos asesinados.

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EL MUNDO RECUERDA EL HOLOCAUSTO, 65 AÑOS DESPUÉS DE AUSCHWITZ **En Polonia, líderes mundiales conmemoran el aniversario del fin del mayor campo de exterminio nazi, símbolo de la tragedia; el Papa se refirió a una "crueldad inaudita"**

Miles de personas, entre las que habrá decenas de líderes mundiales, participarán de la conmemoración en Polonia del 65° aniversario de la liberación de Auschwitz-Birkenau, el mayor campo de exterminio nazi, símbolo del horror y la tragedia de la Shoá (Holocausto). Presidentes, sobrevivientes y familiares de las víctimas asesinadas, serán parte de los asistentes, entre quienes también figuran líderes religiosos.

Los actos de conmemoración del Holocausto tendrán lugar a lo largo de todo el día en diferentes puntos de Cracovia y Auschwitz, donde se rendirán diversos homenajes en recuerdo de las víctimas del genocidio nazi, como así también a quienes sobrevivieron al horror.

Unos seis millones de judíos europeos murieron en Europa bajo el régimen nacional-socialista alemán durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial, junto con varios millones de soldados soviéticos, polacos, gitanos, homosexuales, Testigos de Jehová y opositores políticos de los nazis.

En el campo de concentración de Auschwitz-Birkenau, elemento clave en los planes del dictador alemán Adolf Hitler para acabar con los 11 millones de judíos europeos, perdió la vida un millón y medio de personas, de las cuales el 90 por ciento eran judíos europeos.

Cuando la avanzada soviética llegó a Auschwitz, el 27 de enero de 1945, meses antes del fin de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, sólo quedaban allí unos 7000 prisioneros. El resto ya había sido obligado a irse a otra parte, o había sido despachado en tren, en un intento desesperado de los nazis para encubrir la evidencia de los asesinatos masivos.

Videomensaje de Obama. El presidente de Estados Unidos, Barack Obama, pidió "no olvidar jamás" la tragedia vivida en el campo de concentración de Auschwitz. Las palabras del mandatario, que no estará presente en los actos de conmemoración del Holocausto, llegaron a través de un video transmitido en **el Foro Internacional del Holocausto 'Let my people live'** ('Dejad a mi gente vivir'), que tuvo lugar en la Opera de Cracovia.

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Desde el Vaticano. En el marco del aniversario, el papa Benedicto XVI denunció "la crueldad inaudita" de los campos de exterminio nazi durante su audiencia general. La liberación de Auschwitz y "los testimonios de los sobrevivientes revelaron al mundo el horror de los crímenes de una crueldad inaudita cometidos en los campos de exterminio creados por la Alemania nazi", declaró.

Al dirigirse antes a los peregrinos alemanes, había afirmado, en su lengua materna, que "el horror nazi nos recuerda el respeto a la vida". En este llamado, el sumo pontífice reveló que el "Día de la Memoria" celebrado hoy está dedicado a "todas las víctimas de esos crímenes, especialmente el de la aniquilación planificada de los judíos". Asimismo rindió homenaje a "quienes, poniendo en peligro su propia vida, protegieron a los que eran perseguidos".

EL FAMOSO CARTEL, ROBADO Y RECUPERADO

Hace poco más de un mes, el robo del cartel que cuelga en la entrada del campo de concentración de Auschwitz despertó un amplio repudio de la comunidad internacional. En un hecho de vandalismo sin precedente, el letrero metálico con la leyenda Arbeit Macht Frei (El trabajo libera), un símbolo del cinismo nazi, había sido robado durante la madrugada del 18 de diciembre.

La estructura de hierro de cinco metros de largo y 40 kilos, que colgaba sobre la puerta de acceso al mayor campo de concentración nazi había sido desatornillada de un extremo y arrancada del otro el viernes por la madrugada.

Como consecuencia de un amplio operativo policial y una investigación minuciosa, 48 horas más tarde la policía polaca recuperó el cartel de metal. A pesar de que el ex campo de exterminio nazi

de Auschwitz-Birkenau se encuentra en el sur de Polonia, los investigadores polacos orientaron la búsqueda hacia el norte del país, donde finalmente fueron hallados los sospechosos y cartel.

Con historia propia

El lema, difundido por el pastor alemán Lorenz Diefenbach, muerto en 1886, en su libro Arbeit Macht Frei, fue retomado por los nazis en 1930. Al principio, los nazis lo utilizaban con fines de propaganda en la lucha contra el elevado desempleo en Alemania, pero años más tarde se convirtió en una consigna en los campos de trabajo y de exterminio.

La idea de utilizarlo en los campos se le atribuye al SS Theodor Eicke, uno de los responsables de la concepción y organización de las redes de instalaciones nazis. Así, Arbeit macht frei figuró en la entrada de los campos de Dachau, Gross-Rosen, Sachsenhausen, Theresienstadt, Flossenburg y Auschwitz, el mayor de todos.

Cuando el 27 de enero de 1945 el ejército soviético liberó Auschwitz, la inscripción fue desmontada y subida a un tren para ser transportada al Este. Pero Eugeniusz Nosál, un prisionero polaco recién liberado, la recuperó sobornando a un guardia soviético del tren con una botella de vodka.

Oculto durante dos años en la alcaldía de Oswiecim, la inscripción volvió a su lugar original en la entrada del campo en 1947, cuando el campo de concentración se convirtió en un museo y en un memorial.

OBAMA PEDE "NÃO SE ESQUECER" DO HOLOCAUSTO

O presidente americano, Barack Obama, pediu hoje "não se esquecer jamais" da tragédia vivida entre os muros do campo de concentração nazista de Auschwitz, libertado há 65 anos por tropas soviéticas e principal cenário do Holocausto, que matou na Europa seis milhões de judeus.

As palavras do líder americano, que não comparecerá às cerimônias em memória do Holocausto, previstos ao longo do dia em Cracóvia e Oswiecim (Auschwitz em polônês), chegaram em um vídeo-mensagem emitido no **Fórum Internacional do Holocausto "Let my people live"** ("Deixem minha gente viver"), ocorrido na Ópera de Cracóvia.

Obama quis agradecer à Polônia pelos esforços para manter o museu e o centro de interpretação da história de Auschwitz-Birkenau, "um lugar que todos devemos conhecer".

O presidente americano também se referiu aos ex-prisioneiros deste campo de concentração, aos quais qualificou de "memória viva" e exemplo na luta "contra o anti-semitismo e qualquer outra forma de intolerância".

Quem marcou presença foi o presidente do Parlamento Europeu, o polonês Jerzy Buzek, que destacou a necessidade de executar os programas educativos necessários para que os europeus não esqueçam e aprendam a lições de um passado trágico.

"Lembro o recente roubo do letreiro "Arbeit macht frei" ("O trabalho liberta", roubado em dezembro e recuperado dias depois pela Polícia polonesa), um ato abominável que representa essa falta de educação e respeito que temos que combater", disse Buzek.

Esta é a terceira edição do Fórum Internacional do Holocausto, uma iniciativa promovida pelo Congresso Europeu Judeu com o objetivo de manter viva a memória dos que morreram sob a barbárie nazista e lutar para que no futuro não se repitam eventos semelhantes.

"Lembrar o passado para enfrentar os desafios atuais" é o lema eleito nesta ocasião, "um momento histórico em que o Irã e sua intenção de obter armas nucleares se transformaram na grande ameaça mundial", assinalou o presidente do Congresso, Moshe Kantor.

Hoje é o dia designado pelas Nações Unidas para a celebração do Holocausto, uma data que coincide com a libertação há 65 anos por parte do Exército soviético do campo de concentração nazista de Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Estima-se que seis milhões de judeus foram assassinados na Europa durante a Segunda Guerra Mundial como resultado da "Solução Final" iniciada pelo regime nazista de Adolf Hitler.

Entre aqueles, mais de um milhão morreram entre os muros de Auschwitz, o maior campo de extermínio alemão entre os seis que havia na Polônia.

SARKOZY ÉVOQUE "L'EXIGENCE" DE MÉMOIRE ENVERS LES VICTIMES DE LA SHOAH

Nicolas Sarkozy a souligné mercredi "l'exigence" du devoir de mémoire à l'égard des victimes de la Shoah et répété le soutien de la France aux initiatives destinées à perpétuer leur souvenir, à l'occasion du 65e anniversaire de la libération du camp d'extermination d'Auschwitz.

"Cette mémoire est un devoir d'humanité. C'est une exigence, une mission sacrée de restituer leur dignité humaine et leurs traits singuliers à ces enfants, ces femmes, ces hommes, qui affrontèrent ici l'indicible, l'inconcevable", a écrit M. Sarkozy dans une lettre au président du Congrès juif européen Moshe Kantor.

"Auschwitz apparaît bien comme le symbole du mal absolu inscrit au fer rouge dans la conscience humaine", a-t-il ajouté.

"Construisons la paix, affermissons la stabilité entre les nations, renforçons l'Europe parce qu'Auschwitz nous oblige, aujourd'hui et pour l'avenir. L'Europe, en tant que construction organisée, doit assumer la responsabilité de ce devoir historique envers les victimes", a souhaité le chef de l'Etat dans ce courrier rendu public par l'Elysée.

Dans une autre lettre, Nicolas Sarkozy a assuré le président polonais Lech Kaczynski de l'engagement de la France "en faveur de toutes les initiatives destinés à perpétuer le souvenir du génocide contre le peuple juif".

De nombreuses personnalités, dont le Premier ministre israélien Benjamin Netanyahu, commémorent mercredi en Pologne le 65e anniversaire de la libération par l'armée rouge du camp d'Auschwitz-Birkenau, symbole de l'Holocauste où périrent plus d'un million de personnes de 1940 à 1945.

AUSCHWITZ TO TAKŻE SYMBOL DLA UNII

- Unia Europejska powstała po to, by koszmar wojny nigdy się nie powtórzył. A nazistowski obóz zagłady Auschwitz to także symbol dla Unii - mówił podczas **III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live!"** szef PE Jerzy Buzek. Z kolei Aleksander Kwaśniewski przypomniał uczestnikom obchodów, że "nikt nie jest odporny na demony fanatyzmu i nienawiści".

Według byłego prezydenta, Europa po Zagładzie ma szczególne obowiązki w krzewieniu tolerancji i poszanowania człowieka.

- Nie wolno nam zapominać, że tolerancja (...) jest ciągle poddawana próbie. Nie można jej po prostu ogłosić, należy ją praktykować. Trzeba być czujnym na przejawy ksenofobii, rasizmu i braku poszanowania dla człowieka - powiedział Kwaśniewski do zgromadzonych w Operze Krakowskiej.

- Nikt nie jest odporny na demony fanatyzmu i nienawiści. I właśnie dlatego nie wolno nam ignorować i pomniejszać znaczenia przejawów zbiorowej patologii - dodał.

Obowiązek Europy

Były prezydent podkreślił, że Stary Kontynent ma szczególną rolę do spełnienia. - Europa, ze swoim doświadczeniem II wojny światowej i holokaustu ma szczególny obowiązek wzmacniania tolerancji. Jeżeli podważymy to doświadczenie, zrobimy to na nasze własne ryzyko - ocenił Kwaśniewski.

"Nie możemy zapomnieć"

Na obchodach 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia obozu koncentracyjnego w Auschwitz obecny jest również szef Parlamentu Europejskiego Jerzy Buzek.

- Teraz naszym, Europejczyków zadaniem jest pamięć i edukacja. Ci, którzy sami przeszli przez piekło, pamiętają je całe życie. Ale ich coraz mniej pośród nas. Innym, młodszym, też nie wolno zapomnieć. Im dalej od tamtych wydarzeń, im więcej czasu minęło, tym ważniejsza jest pamięć - mówił Buzek w Krakowie. - Stanie na straży pamięci holokaustu, aby nikt nigdy nie próbował umniejszyć zbrodni Auschwitz, jest naszym wspólnym obowiązkiem. Dlatego jesteśmy tutaj, dlatego spotykamy się w Auschwitz - dodał.

Buzek przypomniał, że wyzwolenie obozu Auschwitz przynieśli żołnierze Armii Czerwonej. - Zawsze będziemy im za to wdzięczni" - powiedział.

"Żadna ideologia nie wygra z dobrem"

Choć prezydenci największych państw nie przyjechali do Polski na obchody, wysłali do uczestników odezwy. Nicolas Sarkozy podkreślił, że "żadna ideologia, żaden totalizm nie potrafi wykorzystać pozytywnych cech ludzkości". Prezydent Francji napisał też, że pamięć o ofiarach Zagłady i jej przekazywanie następnym pokoleniom jest "świętym obowiązkiem" żyjących.

- Budujmy pokój, afirmujmy stabilność, wzmacniajmy Europę, bo Auschwitz zmusza nas do tego dziś i w przyszłości. Zjednoczona Europa ma obowiązek zachowania i niesienia pamięci o ofiarach holokaustu. To najbardziej godny i autentyczny hołd, jaki możemy złożyć tym, którzy zginęli - zaznaczył Sarkozy.

Obama dziękuje Tusкови i Kaczyńskiemu

Z kolei prezydent USA zaapelował do uczestników III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu, że musimy opierać się antysemityzmowi i ignorancji i nie godzić się na przyjęcie "roli biernego świadka zła, bez względu na to, kiedy i gdzie da ono o sobie znać".

Prezydent Obama podziękował prezydentowi Kaczyńskiemu, premierowi Tusкови oraz polskiemu narodowi za zachowanie Auschwitz - "miejsca tak bardzo bolesnego dla narodu polskiego, które jest jednocześnie miejscem pamięci i źródłem refleksji dla świata". - Ziemia w Auschwitz jest uświęcona prochami Żydów i tych, którzy próbowali ich ocalić. Było ich wielu: Żydów, Polaków, Węgrów, Francuzów i Holendrów, Romów i Rosjan, hetero- i homoseksualistów oraz wielu, wielu innych - mówił Obama.

Prezydent USA podkreślił, że pamiętamy o zdolności człowieka do wyrządzenia zła, ale "Auschwitz opowiada też o zdolności do czynienia dobra", poprzez wiele drobnych przejawów

współczucia i uczynków, które ratowały życie. "Pamiętajmy o Polakach, którzy ratowali Żydów i o tych, którzy weszli w poczet Sprawiedliwych wśród Narodów Świata" - apelował Obama.

65 rocznica wyzwolenia

W środę obchodzona jest 65. rocznica wyzwolenia obozu koncentracyjnego w Auschwitz i V Międzynarodowy Dzień Pamięci o Holokauście. Z tej okazji w Oświęcimiu, Krakowie i Warszawie odbędą się uroczystości, konferencje i koncerty, w których udział wezmą m.in. prezydent Lech Kaczyński, premier Donald Tusk oraz premier Izraela Benjamin Netanjahu.

PERES RECLAMA QUE SE JUZGUE A LOS CRIMINALES NAZIS AÚN VIVOS EN EL 65º ANIVERSARIO DEL HOLOCAUSTO

"El trabajo te hará libre", reza el letrero de bienvenida del campo de Auschwitz, hoy reconvertido en un museo y declarado por la Unesco Patrimonio de la Humanidad en 1977.

En el 65º aniversario de la liberación de Auschwitz por el Ejército Soviético y Día Mundial de las Víctimas del Holocausto, la imagen del presidente israelí, Simon Peres, en el Parlamento alemán es un reflejo de la reconciliación entre alemanes y judíos.

En un apasionado discurso en hebreo, Peres ha instado a que se juzquen a todos los implicados en el Holocausto y ha evocado recuerdos de su infancia. El más emotivo ha sido para su abuelo, quemado vivo por los nazis.

"Recuerdo la voz de mi abuelo cuando se despidió de mí. Yo le seguía mirando hasta que desapareció de mi vista. Recuerdo sus últimas palabras 'mi chico siempre será judío', me dijo", ha relatado Peres.

"Los sobrevivientes del Holocausto, poco a poco desaparecen del mundo de los vivos, y al mismo tiempo, los hombres y mujeres que participaron en la peor acción del hombre en la Tierra - el genocidio - siguen viviendo en Alemania y Europa, y en otras partes del mundo. Les pido que hagan todo lo posible para que se les aplique el castigo justo a esos criminales", ha añadido.

Numerosas personalidades en los actos de conmemoración

Numerosas personalidades asistirán a los actos de conmemoración para honrar a las víctimas del Holocausto, que a lo largo del día están previstos en Cracovia y Auschwitz.. Entre ellas, el primer ministro israelí, Benjamin Netanyahu, el presidente del Parlamento Europeo, Jerzy Buzek, junto a una delegación europea de 200 miembros y más de un centenar de ex prisioneros de campos de concentración.

Buzek ha destacado la necesidad de poner en práctica los programas educativos necesarios para que los europeos no olviden y aprendan la lecciones de un pasado trágico.

"Recuerdo el reciente robo del letrero 'Arbeit macht frei' ('El trabajo libera', sustraído el pasado mes de diciembre y recuperado días después por la policía polaca), un acto abominable que representa esa falta de educación y respeto que tenemos que combatir", ha señalado Buzek.

Y los que no han viajado hasta Polonia, también han querido enviar mensajes de recuerdo.

El presidente norteamericano, Barack Obama, ha pedido "no olvidar jamás" la tragedia vivida entre las alambradas de los campos de concentración nazis, principales escenarios del Holocausto que dejó en Europa seis millones de judíos asesinados. **Su vídeo-mensaje fue emitido en el Foro Internacional del Holocausto 'Let my people live'** ('Dejad a mi gente vivir'), que tuvo lugar en la Opera de Cracovia.

Obama ha querido agradecer a Polonia sus esfuerzos para mantener el museo y el centro de interpretación de la historia de Auschwitz-Birkenau, "un lugar del que todos debemos aprender".

El dirigente norteamericano también se ha referido a los ex prisioneros de este campo de concentración, a los que calificó de "memoria viva" y ejemplo en la lucha "contra el antisemitismo y cualquier otra forma de intolerancia".

Tercera edición del Foro Internacional del Holocausto

El presidente del Gobierno español y presidente de turno de la UE, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, ha pedido a los europeos que no dejen de "honrar ni por un momento a las víctimas de la Shoah" y ha señalado que el campo de Auschwitz-Birkenau "permanecerá para siempre como expresión de una de las mayores iniquidades" que la humanidad haya conocido.

Por su parte, el Papa Benedicto XVI ha condenado el "ciego odio racial y religioso" que llevó a los nazis a matar en los campos de exterminio a millones de personas, en su mayor parte judíos, e hizo votos para que "jamás se repitan crímenes de tan inaudita ferocidad".

Ante varios miles de fieles que asistieron en el Aula Pablo VI del Vaticano a la audiencia pública de los miércoles, el Papa conmemoró el "Día de la memoria", afirmando que la liberación de

los "pocos supervivientes" y la entrada en ese campo revelaron al mundo "el horror de crímenes de inaudita crueldad".

Ésta es la tercera edición del Foro Internacional del Holocausto, una iniciativa promovida por el Congreso Europeo Judío con el objetivo de mantener viva la memoria de quienes perecieron bajo la barbarie nazi y luchar para que en el futuro no se repitan acontecimientos similares.

"Recordar el pasado para enfrentar los retos actuales" es el lema elegido en esta ocasión, "un momento histórico en el que Irán y su intención de dotarse armas nucleares se han convertido en la gran amenaza mundial", ha señalado el presidente del Consejo Judío, Moshe Kantor.

Se estima que seis millones de judíos fueron asesinados en Europa durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial como resultado de la 'Solución Final' puesta en marcha por el régimen nacionalsocialista de Adolf Hitler.

OBAMA PEDE "NÃO SE ESQUECER" DO HOLOCAUSTO

O presidente americano, Barack Obama, pediu hoje "não se esquecer jamais" da tragédia vivida entre os muros do campo de concentração nazista de Auschwitz, libertado há 65 anos por tropas soviéticas e principal cenário do Holocausto, que matou na Europa seis milhões de judeus.

As palavras do líder americano, que não comparecerá às cerimônias em memória do Holocausto, previstos ao longo do dia em Cracóvia e Oswiecim (Auschwitz em polonês), chegaram em um vídeo-mensagem emitido no Fórum Internacional do Holocausto "Let my people live" ("Deixem minha gente viver"), ocorrido na Ópera de Cracóvia.

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LIGHT A CANDLE IN REMEMBRANCE OF HOLOCAUST VICTIMS

Today is the International Holocaust Remembrance Day

In brief: 65 years ago the most horrible concentration camp of the Third Reich was liberated by the Soviet army.

Today is the International Holocaust Remembrance Day adopted by the UN Resolution # 60/7 in 2005. The arrangements in remembrance of victims are taken all over the world. The international conference “Auschwitz - the memory, responsibility, education” dedicated to the liberation of concentration camp “Auschwitz” by the Soviet army is being held today in Poland.

The concentration camp famous as the “factory of death” was situated 70 km far from Krakow surrounded by 45 camps for killing people. The concentration camp was liberated on January, 27, 1945 by the 1st Ukrainian front of the Soviet army. According to the historical data, the number of Holocaust victims is more than 1.2 million people. The President of Ukraine Victor Yuschenko has today awarded 121 Ukrainians.

The basic events in remembrance of Holocaust victims are being held today in Poland. First the conference is to be organized with the participants from 35 countries. The results of the conference are said to be sent to schools in order to educate. After the official part the European forum for human rights is planned in Auschwitz. Meantime in Krakow **The third International Holocaust forum “Let My People Live” has reunited the participants from 44 countries, including 60 members of the European Parliament.**

SURVIVORS, LIBERATORS, GATHER FOR AUSCHWITZ COMMEMORATION

Auschwitz survivors, Soviet veterans and leaders including Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gather Wednesday for emotionally-charged ceremonies marking the 65th anniversary of the notorious Nazi death camp's liberation. Ahead of a commemoration Wednesday afternoon at the site of the World War II camp in German-occupied Poland, 700 participants assemble in the southern city of Krakow for a morning memorial event organised by the **European Jewish Congress**. **"The Holocaust is the tragedy which unites Europe," European Jewish Congress leader Moshe Kantor said on the eve of the Krakow ceremony,** which US President Barack Obama was due to address by video.

Auschwitz, liberated by the Soviet Red Army on January 27, 1945, is an enduring symbol of Nazi German genocide. In 2005 the United Nations declared the date International Holocaust Remembrance Day. A total of 1.1 million people perished at the camp -- one million of them Jews from across occupied Europe -- mostly killed in gas chambers but also by shootings, hangings, starvation, disease, slave labour and medical "experiments".

In the Polish capital Warsaw Tuesday, Netanyahu honoured the victims and those who risked their lives to save Jews from the Nazis. "We encounter the worst evil in the history of mankind together with the greatest courage in the history of humanity," Netanyahu said at a former railhead where the Nazis sent more than 300,000 Jews to die.

"This is not an easy encounter but it gives us hope and direction for our future. May God avenge the victims," said the Israeli leader alongside his wife Sara, whose father was the only member of his family to survive the Holocaust in which some six million Jews were murdered.

Netanyahu was to deliver a speech Wednesday at the Auschwitz ceremony, after survivors and Poland's President Lech Kaczynski.

Tel Aviv's Polish-born Chief Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, a Holocaust orphan who survived as a child in Nazi camps, was to recite the Kaddish, or prayer of mourning.

Poland invited Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to attend, but he declined citing "other obligations", according to Warsaw.

The Nazis initially set up the camp to hold Polish political prisoners in 1940, a year after invading Poland. They chose a former barracks in the southern town of Oswiecim, Germanised as Auschwitz.

It became a site primarily for murdering Jews from 1942 as the Nazis expanded it at Birkenau, three kilometres (two miles) away. In addition to Jews, and 70-75,000 non-Jewish Poles, they killed 21,000 Roma there, 15,000 Soviet POWs and 10-15,000 others, including resistance members arrested across Europe, according to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum.

There were only around 7,000 survivors in the camp at the liberation. The Nazis had evacuated some 60,000 others only days earlier in the notorious "Death March" as they fled the Soviet advance.

With their numbers dwindling year by year, about one hundred survivors were set to attend Wednesday's ceremony in sub-zero temperatures similar to the weather 65 years ago.

Only a handful of the liberators are still alive. Two, Ivan Martynushkin, 86, and Yakov Vinnochenko, 83, were scheduled to attend.

In Krakow, Martynushkin told AFP he was marked by that fateful day. "We started meeting huddles of people. They came towards us, in prison stripes. Some had covers over their heads. We could only see their eyes. And in those eyes, we could see what they were feeling," he said. "But we didn't know what it was. We only understood after the war," he added.

Kantor, 56, who is from Russia, said he feels extra emotion when he thinks of 1945.

"The majority of my family was murdered," he said. "My father was in the Red Army. I always remember his feelings, his attitude being a soldier of the Red Army whose family disappeared in the Shoah. Those feelings created mine," he said.

SURVIVORS, LIBERATORS GATHER FOR AUSCHWITZ COMMEMORATION WITH ISRAEL PM

Auschwitz survivors, Soviet veterans and leaders including Israeli Premier Benjamin Netanyahu gathered on Wednesday for emotionally-charged ceremonies on the 65th anniversary of the notorious Nazi death camp's liberation.

US President Barack Obama spoke of the "sacred duty to remember the cruelty" of Auschwitz and of "resisting anti-Semitism and ignorance in all its forms" in a video address aired at a forum organised by the **European Jewish Congress (EJC)** in Krakow, southern Poland, ahead of official afternoon ceremonies at the Auschwitz site.

"Auschwitz is the symbol of absolute evil that remains seared on the human conscience," French President Nicolas Sarkozy wrote in a message to Polish and European Jewish leaders at the Krakow forum and underscored France's commitment to preserve the memory of the Holocaust.

"Like people, historical memory can disappear," EJC leader Moshe Kantor warned in a speech to some 700 participants in the "Let My People Live" forum.

"Our appreciation to you is timeless," he said, thanking Soviet Red Army veterans who liberated Auschwitz on January 27, 1945.

Speaking after landing in Krakow on his way to the ceremonies, Netanyahu said, "The tragedy of the Jewish people had been that it was unable to identify danger in time and to defend itself.

"This situation has totally changed over the past 65 years. I am coming today as the prime minister of Israel. We are a nation that can defend itself and a nation capable of warming the rest of the world of danger," Netanyahu was to deliver a speech later Wednesday at the Auschwitz ceremony, due to start around 3 pm (1400 GMT), speaking after survivors and Poland's President Lech Kaczynski.

Tel Aviv's Polish-born Chief Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, a Holocaust orphan who survived as a child in Nazi camps, was to recite the Kaddish, or Jewish prayer of mourning.

Poland invited Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to attend, but he declined citing "other obligations", according to Warsaw.

The former Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp has become an enduring reminder of Nazi German genocide during World War II which claimed the lives of six million European Jews.

In 2005 the United Nations declared January 27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

A total of 1.1 million people perished at Auschwitz-Birkenau -- one million of them Jews from across occupied Europe -- mostly killed in gas chambers but also from shooting, hanging, starvation, disease, slave labour and pseudo-medical experiments.

Lithuanian-born Holocaust survivor and Tel Aviv resident Baruch Shub, 85, said he still bore the emotional scars of his suffering.

"There's a lot of sorrow, because when I came home, I found nobody in my family alive. But also a bit of happiness because the war was over and I'd somehow stayed alive," Shub told AFP.

The Nazis initially set up Auschwitz to hold Polish political prisoners in 1940, a year after invading Poland. They chose a former barracks in the southern town of Oswiecim, Germanised as Auschwitz.

It became a site primarily for exterminating Jews -- viewed by the Nazis as sub-human -- from 1942 as it expanded to Birkenau, three kilometres (two miles) away.

In addition to Jews, and 70-75,000 non-Jewish Poles, the Nazis killed 21,000 Roma there, 15,000 Soviet POWs and 10-15,000 others, including resistance members arrested across Europe, according to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum.

There were only around 7,000 survivors in the camp at the liberation. The Nazis had evacuated some 60,000 others only days earlier in the notorious "Death March" as they fled the Soviet advance.

With their numbers dwindling year by year, about 100 survivors were set to attend Wednesday's ceremony in sub-zero temperatures similar to the weather 65 years ago.

Only a handful of the liberators are still alive. Two, Ivan Martynushkin, 86, and Yakov Vinnochenko, 83, were scheduled to attend.

In Krakow, Martynushkin told AFP he was marked by that fateful day.

"We started meeting huddles of people. They came towards us, in prison stripes. Some had covers over their heads. We could only see their eyes. And in those eyes, we could see what they were feeling," he said.

"But we didn't know what it was. We only understood after the war," he added.

BARACK OBAMA: NIE MOŻEMY BYĆ BIERNYMI ŚWIADKAMI ZŁA

Prezydent USA Barack Obama w przesłaniu do uczestników **III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live!"**, odbywającego się w Krakowie powiedział, że musimy opierać się antysemityzmowi i ignorancji i nie godzić się na przyjęcie "roli biernego świadka zła, bez względu na to, kiedy i gdzie da ono o sobie znać".

Prezydent Obama podziękował prezydentowi Kaczyńskiemu, premierowi Tuskwowi oraz polskiemu narodowi za zachowanie Auschwitz - "miejsca tak bardzo bolesnego dla narodu polskiego, które jest jednocześnie miejscem pamięci i źródłem refleksji dla świata".

Nawiązując do słów Ellie Wiesela, że "pamięć stała się świętym obowiązkiem wszystkich ludzi dobrej woli", Obama powiedział, że naszym obowiązkiem jest "pamiętać o pokrętnej logice, która doprowadziła do tego, że społeczeństwo wielkiej kultury poddało się najgorszym ludzkim instyktom i znalazło uzasadnienie dla masowego mordy, jednego z najbardziej barbarzyńskich aktów w historii".

PRZESŁANIE PREZYDENTA FRANCJI DO UCZESTNIKÓW FORUM HOLOKAUSTU

Żadna ideologia, żaden totalizm nie potrafi wykorzenić pozytywnych cech ludzkości - napisał prezydent Francji Nicolas Sarkozy do uczestników **III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live"**, odbywającego się w Operze Krakowskiej.

Prezydent Francji dodał, że pamięć o ofiarach Zagłady i jej przekazywanie następnym pokoleniom jest "świętym obowiązkiem" żyjących.

"Budujmy pokój, afirmujmy stabilność, wzmacniajmy Europę, bo Auschwitz zmusza nas do tego dziś i w przyszłości. Zjednoczona Europa ma obowiązek zachowania i niesienia pamięci o ofiarach holokaustu. To najbardziej godny i autentyczny hołd, jaki możemy złożyć tym, którzy zginęli" - podkreślił Sarkozy.

DÍA DE RECORDACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO PENSAMIENTOS DE MOSHE KANTOR* **Presidente del Congreso Judío Europeo**

En su cita escrita al comienzo del último siglo, el filósofo George Santayana escribió en su tratado “The Life of Reason” que “aquellos que no pueden recordar el pasado están condenados a repetirlo”. A pesar de que muchos han escuchado esta frase que se repite constantemente, ¿cuántos han pensado realmente en su significado y actuado en relación a su advertencia?. Haga clic en título para continuar.

A 65 años de la liberación de Auschwitz: Recordar el pasado y aprender para el futuro

En su cita escrita al comienzo del último siglo, el filósofo George Santayana escribió en su tratado “The Life of Reason” que “aquellos que no pueden recordar el pasado están condenados a repetirlo”. A pesar de que muchos han escuchado esta frase que se repite constantemente, ¿cuántos han pensado realmente en su significado y actuado en relación a su advertencia?

El 27 de enero, para el Día de Recordación del Holocausto, habrá muchas conmemoraciones por el Holocausto en todo el mundo. No obstante, mientras muchas de ellas se enfocarán a recordar, debemos utilizar este momento para aprender del pasado en pos del bien de nuestro presente y futuro.

Como comunidad internacional debemos reconocer y estudiar los indicadores que podrían llevar a un aumento de la intolerancia, la xenofobia y el antisemitismo. El pasado ha demostrado que las crisis económicas y étnicas junto a una falta de confianza en el liderazgo diplomático pueden conducir a eventos desastrosos, tipificados por el Holocausto, con el asesinato premeditado de seis millones de judíos.

Hoy en día, muchos vemos indicadores tales como la intolerancia y el odio que aumentan en muchos rincones del mundo, también en Europa.

No obstante, muchas de estas amenazas se vuelven menores a comparación de otro régimen fascista, que apresurado, comenzó a unir la muerte y la destrucción, ahora con la adquisición de armas nucleares. Una vez más, hay una necesidad de líderes fuertes que puedan tomar las decisiones necesarias que nos salven de terribles escenarios. No es coincidencia que el liderazgo actual de Irán, que nos está haciendo transitar un camino de desastre, niegue el Holocausto y sus atrocidades.

Esta táctica es simple, no desean que aprendamos las lecciones del pasado. Al negar y borrar el pasado, desean desviar a la comunidad internacional para restarle importancia a la amenaza real. A pesar que hay, por supuesto, muchas diferencias entre los nazis de 1930 y el fanático régimen iraní, hay similitudes peligrosas. Desafortunadamente, vemos también similitudes en algunas de las respuestas internacionales.

Vemos una vez más, como en 1930 cuando Checoslovaquia fue vendida para apaciguar a los nazis, que las naciones y líderes intentan desesperadamente aplacar al régimen iraní para que las armas nucleares no sean dirigidas hacia ellos. Tal como la brutalidad de Segunda Guerra Mundial absorbió a todas las naciones, un Irán armado nuclearmente tendría efectos devastadores en todo el mundo.

El régimen mesiánico no sólo tendrá los medios para lograr sus desenfundados sueños apocalípticos mediante sus aspiraciones nucleares, sino que también estará capacitado para proveer sucias bombas que podrían ser detonadas en cualquier centro civil del mundo a cualquier organización extremista o terrorista.

Podremos ser testigos del comienzo de una carrera armamentística en Medio Oriente. Si Irán adquiere armas nucleares, entonces los otros en la región se verán obligados a hacerlo también y la necesidad de obtener armas nucleares se extenderá como un incendio forestal, hasta que el tratado de No Proliferación nuclear se considere redundante y surja un nuevo orden mundial.

Por lo tanto, el asunto iraní no es la mera consideración de Israel y de algunas otras naciones; es algo que cada líder y cada gobierno debería tomar seriamente. En circunstancias como esta, debemos unirnos: pero no sobre la base de intereses nacionales, sino globales.

Tampoco es coincidencia que las naciones más amenazantes de hoy en día ejerzan el terror en sus propias poblaciones. Debemos actuar con fortaleza y cumplir con nuestros compromisos como naciones civilizadas y perder la tolerancia hacia los intolerantes. Nuevamente, una lección que

aprendimos de los nazis: que un liderazgo fascista o totalitario que aterroriza a su propia nación, rara vez limita sus abusos en su territorio.

Esta semana muchos líderes y personalidades internacionales se enfrentarán con el ejemplo más infame y escalofriante de la brutalidad humana en el Tercer foro internacional “Let My People Live!” en Polonia. Es en Auschwitz donde vemos no sólo el resultado del mal sino también el de la inacción y el apaciguamiento. Es seguro que el aprendizaje de la historia no es suficiente para darnos cuenta que el apaciguamiento es una política que ha demostrado ser fallida.

No obstante, al conmemorar la liberación de Auschwitz, también celebramos la victoria eventual del bien sobre el mal y de la acción sobre la inacción. Esto es lo que esperamos que los líderes que asistan al Foro aprendan.

La conmemoración de la liberación de Auschwitz nos recuerda sobre todos aquellos líderes e individuos fuertes que decidieron actuar. Gracias a sus acciones, hoy en día podemos conmemorar el pasado y suministrar una voz moral y pública hacia el futuro.

*Dr. Moshe Kantor, presidente del Congreso Judío Europeo, rama del Congreso Judío Mundial

OBAMA PEDE "NÃO SE ESQUECER" DO HOLOCAUSTO

O presidente americano, Barack Obama, pediu nesta quarta-feira "não se esquecer jamais" da tragédia vivida entre os muros do campo de concentração nazista de Auschwitz, libertado há 65 anos por tropas soviéticas e principal cenário do Holocausto, que matou na Europa seis milhões de judeus.

As palavras do líder americano, que não comparecerá às cerimônias em memória do Holocausto, previstos ao longo do dia em Cracóvia e Oswiecim (Auschwitz em polônês), chegaram em um vídeo-mensagem emitido no **Fórum Internacional do Holocausto "Let my people live"** ("Deixem minha gente viver"), ocorrido na Ópera de Cracóvia.

Obama quis agradecer à Polônia pelos esforços para manter o museu e o centro de interpretação da história de Auschwitz-Birkenau, "um lugar que todos devemos conhecer".

O presidente americano também se referiu aos ex-prisioneiros deste campo de concentração, aos quais qualificou de "memória viva" e exemplo na luta "contra o anti-semitismo e qualquer outra forma de intolerância".

Quem marcou presença foi o presidente do Parlamento Europeu, o polonês Jerzy Buzek, que destacou a necessidade de executar os programas educativos necessários para que os europeus não esqueçam e aprendam a lições de um passado trágico.

"Lembro o recente roubo do letreiro "Arbeit macht frei" ("O trabalho liberta", roubado em dezembro e recuperado dias depois pela Polícia polonesa), um ato abominável que representa essa falta de educação e respeito que temos que combater", disse Buzek.

Esta é a terceira edição do Fórum Internacional do Holocausto, uma iniciativa promovida pelo Congresso Europeu Judeu com o objetivo de manter viva a memória dos que morreram sob a barbárie nazista e lutar para que no futuro não se repitam eventos semelhantes.

"Lembrar o passado para enfrentar os desafios atuais" é o lema eleito nesta ocasião, "um momento histórico em que o Irã e sua intenção de obter armas nucleares se transformaram na grande ameaça mundial", assinalou o presidente do Congresso, Moshe Kantor.

Hoje é o dia designado pelas Nações Unidas para a celebração do Holocausto, uma data que coincide com a libertação há 65 anos por parte do Exército soviético do campo de concentração nazista de Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Estima-se que seis milhões de judeus foram assassinados na Europa durante a Segunda Guerra Mundial como resultado da "Solução Final" iniciada pelo regime nazista de Adolf Hitler.

Entre aqueles, mais de um milhão morreram entre os muros de Auschwitz, o maior campo de extermínio alemão entre os seis que havia na Polônia.

По адресу: <http://www.tvn24.pl/12690,1640270,0,1,obama-o-auschwitz-nie-mozemy-byc-biernymi-swiadkami-zla,wiadomosc.html> размещено видеообращение Барака Обамы

OBAMA O AUSCHWITZ: NIE MOŻEMY BYĆ BIERNYMI ŚWIADKAMI ZŁA

Musimy opierać się antysemityzmowi i ignorancji, i nie godzić się na przyjęcie roli biernego świadka zła, bez względu na to, kiedy i gdzie da ono o sobie znać - tymi słowami amerykański prezydent Barack Obama zwrócił się do uczestników **III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live!"**. W Auschwitz trwają obchody 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia byłego obozu zagłady.

Amerykański przywódca zwrócił się z podziękowaniami wprost do prezydenta Lecha Kaczyńskiego i premiera Donalda Tuska. Ale nie tylko. Słowa podziękowania skierował też do narodu polskiego. Obama był wdzięczny za zachowanie Auschwitz, jego zdaniem - "miejsca tak bardzo bolesnego dla narodu polskiego, które jest jednocześnie miejscem pamięci i źródłem refleksji dla świata".

Obowiązek: pamięć o zagładzie

Prezydent Stanów Zjednoczonych nawiązał do słów więźnia obozu zagłady oraz zdobywcy Pokojowej Nagrody Nobla Ellie Wiesela, który mówił, że "pamięć stała się świętym obowiązkiem wszystkich ludzi dobrej woli".

Jak powiedział Obama, naszym obowiązkiem jest "pamiętać o pokrętnej logice, która doprowadziła do tego, że społeczeństwo wielkiej kultury poddało się najgorszym ludzkim instynktom i znalazło uzasadnienie dla masowego mordu, jednego z najbardziej barbarzyńskich aktów w historii".

Uświęcona ziemia

Jak mówił przywódca USA, "Ziemia w Auschwitz jest uświęcona prochami Żydów i tych, którzy próbowali ich ocalić". - Było ich wielu: Żydów, Polaków, Węgrów, Francuzów i Holendrów, Romów i Rosjan, hetero- i homoseksualistów oraz wielu, wielu innych - dodał Obama.

Prezydent USA podkreślił, że pamiętamy o zdolności człowieka do wyrządzenia zła, ale "Auschwitz opowiada też o zdolności do czynienia dobra", poprzez wiele drobnych przejawów współczucia i uczynków, które ratowały życie.

Obama zaapelował: - Pamiętajmy o Polakach, którzy ratowali Żydów i o tych, którzy weszli w poczet Sprawiedliwych wśród Narodów Świata.

"Żywe miejsca pamięci"

Barack Obama zwrócił się do uczestników Forum, którzy przeżyli Holokaust. Jak podkreślił, nie są oni "byłymi więźniami", ale żywymi miejscami pamięci, pomnikami.

- Żywymi pomnikami również tych, których kochaliście i których tu zostawiliście - stwierdził. I dodał: - Nie możemy być jedynie świadkami, musimy podźwignąć też pewien ciężar. Ciężar dostrzeżenia naszego wspólnego człowieczeństwa, opierania się antysemityzmowi i ignorancji we wszystkich ich formach, niegodzenia się na przyjęcie roli biernego świadka zła, bez względu na to, kiedy i gdzie da ono o sobie znać.

- Niech to będzie prawdziwe znaczenie Auschwitz. Niech będzie nim wyzwolenie, które dziś świętujemy: wyzwolenie ducha, który - jeśli go w sobie podtrzymamy - doprowadzi nas wszystkich - i poszczególnych ludzi, i całe narody - do grona sprawiedliwych - podkreślił prezydent USA.

Obchody 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia

W Auschwitz trwają obchody 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia obozu koncentracyjnego i V Międzynarodowy Dzień Pamięci o Holokauście.

SARKOZY: AUSCHWITZ, SYMBOL OF EVIL, NOT FORGOTTEN

As part of events marking International Holocaust Remembrance Day, French president says memory of atrocities at Auschwitz obligates world to promote peace, commemorate victims. Pope begs of world leaders to remember Holocaust and prevent 'more tragedies'

World leaders are marking International Holocaust Remembrance Day with declarations of support for the Jewish people and with warnings against intolerance.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy said that the memory of the atrocities committed at Auschwitz obligates humanity to fight for peace. On the same token, the pope asked the world to be vigilant about preventing another holocaust.

In commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp, Sarkozy sent a letter to **European Jewish Congress President Moshe Kantor**. The French president wrote that his country will continue taking action to remember the Holocaust and to commemorate the victims.

"This memory is a human obligation," wrote Sarkozy. "It is a requirement, a sacred mission to restore the human dignity and the unique characteristics of the children, women, and men who encountered the unspeakable, the inconceivable."

"Auschwitz is the symbol of absolute evil inscribed in a red flame upon humanity's consciousness," Sarkozy added. He continued on to say that the memory of Auschwitz obligates Europe and the rest of the world to promote peace and stability among nations.

Pope Benedict XVI has marked Holocaust Remembrance Day by denouncing the "horror" of the Shoah and the "unheard of brutality" of death camps created by Nazi Germany.

The German-born pope issued an appeal Wednesday "that such tragedies never repeat themselves."

Benedict called the death camps "abhorrent and inhumane places" and turned his thoughts to the "countless victims of a blind racial and religious hatred."

He told his weekly audience the memory of those events, and especially "the tragedy of the Shoah that has struck the Jewish people," should induce respect for all mankind.

Israeli leaders traveled to Europe to take part in events marking International Holocaust Remembrance Day. President Shimon Peres spoke before the German Bundestag and addressed the events of the past, as well as current threats such as the Iranian regime.

An official ceremony will be held at the Auschwitz death camp during which Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Polish President Lech Kaczynski will speak. Members of the Israeli delegation that traveled to Poland for the event, including MK Mohammad Barakeh, will attend the ceremony. A candle procession will be held by survivors and some of the camp's liberators.

OBAMA DZIĘKUJE POLAKOM

Prezydent USA Barack Obama w przesłaniu do uczestników **III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live!"**, powiedział, że musimy opierać się antysemityzmowi i ignorancji. Amerykański przywódca podziękował również Lechowi Kaczyńskiemu i Donaldowi Tuskowi oraz polskiemu narodowi za zachowanie Auschwitz.

См. след. стр.

По адресу: <http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1145541.html> размещен видеосюжет

**NETANYAHU AT AUSCHWITZ: WORLD MUST UNITE TO CONFRONT NEW THREATS
Holocaust teaches that murderers must be stopped before they act, says PM in apparent
reference to Iran.**

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told dignitaries gathered at the Auschwitz extermination camp on Wednesday that the world must learn from the Holocaust to unite against new threats.

In what was apparently a thinly veiled reference to Iran, Netanyahu called on the international community to come together to confront "impending dangers".

Israel believes Iran to be building a nuclear bomb and views the Islamic Republic as an existential threat. Iran insists its nuclear program is purely for civilian purposes.

"We must warn of the impending danger to the rest of the world and at the same time to be ready to defend ourselves," Netanyahu said. "The most important lesson from the Shoah is that murderous evil must be stopped as soon as possible, before it can realize its schemes."

"We the Jewish people learned the lesson [of the Holocaust] well after we lost one-third of our people," Netanyahu said, adding that a strong state of Israel with a powerful army was the only guarantee of preventing a second Holocaust.

"I pledge as prime minister that we will never let the hand of evil harm our people and our state, never again," he said.

Netanyahu added: "All enlightened nations must absorb this lesson," pledging that as the head of the state of he would not to allow a "new Amalek" to threaten again to destroy the Jewish nation - a reference to a biblical king who waged war against the Jews.

Earlier on Wednesday, Pope Benedict XVI recalled the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camp of Auschwitz, and event which revealed "the unprecedented cruelty," of the Nazi Holocaust.

The 82-year-old pontiff made the remarks in his native German during his weekly general audience.

"On 27 January 1945, the gates of the Nazi concentration camp near the Polish city of Oswiecim, better known by its German name of Auschwitz, were opened and the few survivors freed," Benedict said.

"That event, and the testimony of those who survived, revealed to the world the horror of the crimes of unprecedented cruelty committed in the extermination camps created by Nazi Germany," added the pope, who as a teenager - like most others at the time - had been a member of the Hitler Youth in the waning days of the war.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day which is being marked in several

European nations, serves, according to Benedict, to recall "the planned annihilation of the Jews, and to honor those who, at the risk of their own lives, protected the persecuted and sought to oppose the murderous insanity."

Benedict earlier this month made his first visit as pontiff to Rome's Jewish main synagogue, an event dogged by a row over his recent elevation towards sainthood of World War II-era pontiff, Pius XII.

Critics say Pius failed to speak out against the Nazi persecution and murder of Jews, but Benedict and other supporter say he acted behind the scenes to ensure that Catholic-run institutions including convents and monasteries sheltered those fleeing from the crimes.

On Wednesday, Benedict said the Holocaust should serve as a universal lesson and "arouse ever greater respect for the dignity of each person, so that all mankind may feel itself to be one large family."

"May omnipotent God illuminate hearts and minds, that such tragedies never happen again," he said.

Meanwhile on Wednesday, Auschwitz survivors, bundled against the cold and snow, gathered at the site of the former death camp to mark the 65th anniversary of its liberation.

Survivors, some with grown children - along with others there to honor the millions killed by the Nazis - moved among the barracks and watchtowers of Auschwitz and Birkenau, neighboring camps that stand as powerful symbols of the Holocaust.

Six million Jews were killed by the Nazis and their collaborators during World War II, including 1 million at the Auschwitz and Birkenau camps.

Jews gather in Krakow to commemorate Holocaust

Some the leaders of world Jewry convened on Wednesday in Krakow to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Almost all the speakers at the meeting referred directly or indirectly to the Iranian threat.

Moshe Kantor, president of the European Jewish Congress referred to Iran in telling reporters at the Krakow opera house that "endless tolerance to intolerance" was a grave threat, and that this is a "present-day" lesson.

The European Jewish Congress' event at the opera house was one of the major events, and was held ahead of the central ceremony at Auschwitz-Birkenau, which Netanyahu also attended along with European Parliament president Jerzy Buzek and other dignitaries.

In his speech at the opera house, Buzek referred also to the suffering of East European countries under Communism. Buzek last year expressed support for naming August 23 a combined commemoration day for victims of Nazism and Stalinism. But leading Holocaust scholars called this attitude "the most serious threat facing the preservation of the memory of the Holocaust" and a "trivialization" of the Holocaust.

Yad Vashem Chairman spoke after Buzek, and said he was "concerned" about attempt to equate the Holocaust with other catastrophes.

Ron Lauder, president of the World Jewish Congress, was the only speaker who referred directly to Iran and its president, Mahmoud Ahmedinejad, as a Holocaust denier. Lauder urged the European Union and European Parliament "to continue" to be "a powerful institution" working against" Iran's drive to acquire nuclear weapons.

One of the most evocative speakers at Krakow was former chief rabbi of Israel Israel Meir Lau, himself a Polish-born Holocaust survivor. He recalling how his mother pushed him away from her when he was 7.5 years old during a selection process in 1942 en route to a concentration camp.

"My mother sensed I would have a better chance of surviving with the men than with the women and children," he said. "When dealing with matters of life or death, one needs to make very difficult choices." Lau, who never saw his mother after that, said that world leaders needed to learn from his mother.

"Make a decision," he told the crowd of media people and EU legislators. "Be brave and determined to save lives. Don't hesitate. A coalition of allies can save the world from a madman and a mad phenomenon."

Lieberman calls on Hungary to ban hate speech

Israel's foreign minister Avigdor Lieberman called on Hungary to bring in laws banning "hate speech" during a visit to mark international Holocaust Remembrance Day.

"We must stop the spread of anti-Semitism in this way because extremist movements are ever more boldly raising their heads in Hungary," Lieberman said, as quoted by the state news agency MTI.

Earlier in the day, the prime ministerial candidate of the governing Hungarian Socialist Party, Attila Mesterhazy, tabled a motion to ban "hate speech" in the Hungarian parliament.

Liebermann also held talks with Hungary's foreign minister Peter Balazs while in Budapest, the ministry said in a statement.

The two discussed regional stability in the Middle East and Islamic fundamentalism, terrorism and the dangers inherent in Iranian politics, the ministry said.

The Hungarian capital Budapest is home to Central and Eastern Europe's largest Jewish population, with some estimates as high as 100,000, as well as the continent's largest synagogue.

Up to 600,000 Hungarian Jews are believed to have perished during the Holocaust, mostly in the closing days of the Second World War.

По адресу <http://www.euronews.net/2010/01/27/auschwitz-survivor-meets-liberators-of-nazi-camp/>
размещен видеосюжет на английском языке

Также видеосюжеты и тексты опубликованы на французском, немецком, итальянском, испанском, португальском, турецком и персидском языках

AUSCHWITZ SURVIVOR MEETS LIBERATORS OF NAZI CAMP

Сюжет о Форуме «Жизнь народу моему!» вынесен на главную страницу сайта [euronews.net](http://www.euronews.net)

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Auschwitz survivor meets liberators of Nazi camp

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Auschwitz ceremony remembers liberation day

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has led a remembrance ceremony at the site of Auschwitz concentration camp on the 65th anniversary of its liberation. It was just one of several ceremonies...

Auschwitz survivor meets liberators of Nazi camp

Apple launches highly-anticipated 'iPad'

Girl rescued from collapsed Belgian building

They know the horrors of Auschwitz first hand.

Back in Poland on **International Holocaust Memorial Day**, survivor Alberto Israel has met two former Soviet troops who helped liberate the death camp.

With the number the Nazis marked on his arm still showing, Alberto also bears the emotional scars of his ordeal.

“It was 65 years ago. It will only end when we die,” he told euronews. “None of us have really had a life. We have only survived. The memory of having left them behind... It is not easy.”

Originally from Italy, now living in Israel, Alberto has returned to Poland, joining other survivors, world statesmen, religious leaders, students and others at a special memorial event.

“‘Keeping the memory alive.’ With that guiding principle, **the third International Holocaust Forum has opened in Krakow,**” said euronews reporter Michele Carlino, present at the event. “It is an initiative of the World Jewish Congress to mark Holocaust Memorial Day.”

An exhibition at the Krakow forum is part of efforts to ensure that what Nazi Germany did will never be forgotten, along with its victims. At least 6 million Jews perished in the Holocaust.

NAZI CAMP SURVIVORS DWINDLE TO A FEW

For decades, Alberto Israel avoided talking about his experience at the Auschwitz concentration camps. "There were plenty of others to do the talking," he says.

Now, the 82-year-old Mr. Israel is one of the few Holocaust survivors healthy enough to attend ceremonies commemorating the liberation of the camps. He has been four times in the past four years. "I don't even like going," he says. "It reminds me of when I was 17, and that's painful."

Amid the rhetoric at this week's commemoration of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps, Jewish groups focused on a more crucial question: how to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive after the last survivors die. It is a real problem that needs addressing, say Jewish leaders.

"There'll be just a few more short years before the living memories become memories," said Ronald Lauder, president of the World Jewish Congress. Their solution, the leaders say, is to step up the number of Holocaust-related events and make sure that Mr. Israel and other survivors attend, as well as casting the crime in the light of modern geopolitics, so that ordinary people can relate. There was plenty of the latter at ceremonies Wednesday in Krakow and Berlin and at the Auschwitz concentration camps.

Speaking to the German parliament, Israel President Shimon Peres called the Iranian government "a fanatic regime" and said its nuclear program "represents a threat to the entire world."

Mr. Lauder compared Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to Adolf Hitler. Mr. Ahmadinejad has threatened to destroy Israel and questioned whether the Holocaust happened. Hitler "had the same words, and people didn't take him seriously," Mr. Lauder said in a speech. The Iranian mission the United Nations didn't respond to calls seeking comment.

Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attended a ceremony at the Auschwitz-Birkenau camps in southern Poland, where 1.3 million people, mostly Jews, were murdered between 1940 and 1945. He warned that "there are yet again threats to exterminate the Jewish people." But more important than rhetoric, say Jewish groups, is increasing the number of events commemorating the Holocaust.

"It needs to be more than historical theory," said Ari Zuckerman of the Paris-based European Jewish Congress. In 2005, Jewish groups created the World Holocaust Forum, dedicated to preserving the memory of the crime.

As well as this week's events, the forum has organized ceremonies marking the 60th anniversary of the camps' liberation and the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht, an infamous Nazi night of violence against Jews. **Since its founding, "we have lost many, many survivors and liberators," said Moshe Kantor, president of the European Jewish Congress.**

The increase in the number of events means that people like Mr. Israel have become even more treasured and will have to travel more. The 82-year-old from the Greek island of Rhodes was the only Holocaust survivor on a plane of Jewish activists and European politicians that flew to Krakow from Brussels on Tuesday.

Mr. Israel was deported from Rhodes to mainland Greece in 1943 and held there before being shipped to Auschwitz in 1944. His parents and two brothers died there. "I've felt guilty ever since," he said. After the war, he worked as a shopkeeper and trader in the Belgian Congo and Belgium. He married and raised a family.

He kept quiet about the Holocaust, he said, until a few years ago when he met Stipan Bosnjak, a Serb of Roma origin whom he met in Brussels and the two became friends. The Nazis killed several hundred thousand Roma, according to historians. "I was moved to help him come to terms with his memory," said Mr. Bosnjak, now a psychiatric nurse in Belgium. Two years ago, Mr. Bosnjak helped Mr. Israel write a book. Nobel Peace Prize winner and Holocaust survivor Elie Weisel wrote an endorsement on the jacket. On the flight from Brussels, Mr. Israel's daughter gave out copies.

In Poland on Wednesday, Mr. Israel thanked former Soviet soldiers who liberated the camps in January 1945. Ivan Martinushkin said it wasn't always easy to relate the story of what he saw in 1945

to younger generations where he lives in Moscow. "They get tired of you telling, telling, telling, but if you do it gently, they get the message," he said.

Mr. Israel also showed visitors around the camp. "There were 100 of us in a train like that," he said, pointing to a red wagon. "It was hot in August. Can you imagine?"

BIBI AT AUSCHWITZ: READY TO FIGHT NEW AMALEK

Israel is prepared to fight a new Amalek 65 years after the liberation of Auschwitz, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at the former death camp.

At a ceremony Wednesday marking International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Netanyahu said Auschwitz is a reminder that one must warn the world of dangers while defending oneself.

"We will always remember what the Nazi Amalek did to us, and we won't forget to be prepared for the new Amalek, who is making an appearance on the stage of history and once again threatening to destroy the Jews," he said. "We will not take this lightly and believe that these are empty statements. We will not be calm as if threats and denial of the Holocaust were just blank words. We will never forget and always remember to stand guard."

The nation of Amalek has been Israel's nemesis since the Exodus from Egypt. Nations that have tried to destroy Israel often are referred to as descendants of Amalek.

International and Jewish leaders, Auschwitz survivors and Russian Red Army veterans who liberated the camp joined Netanyahu in warning not to forget what the Nazis perpetrated against humanity.

Polish President Lech Kaczynski and other Polish officials, the president of the European Parliament and several Israeli lawmakers were on hand for the ceremony.

It was one of several Holocaust Remembrance Day events held Wednesday in Poland. **Others included an international conference for ministers of education at the concentration camp memorial site and the third annual "Let My People Live" forum at the Krakow opera house sponsored by the European Jewish Congress, the World Holocaust Forum and Yad Vashem.**

Several speakers warned specifically against ignoring the words of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who has denied the Holocaust and threatened Israel verbally.

Speaking at the "Let My People Live" forum, World Jewish Congress President Ronald Lauder said Ahmadinejad's words are reminiscent of Hitler's and that unless we take these threats seriously, "we will have serious problems ahead."

Yad Vashem Chairman Rabbi Meir Lau, who survived Dachau and Buchenwald, said at the forum that "Leaders of the world, 65 years after the Holocaust, have to learn from my mother," who handed him to an older brother in hopes of saving his life. He was 7 years old and never again saw his mother.

"When there is a threat, danger of extinction of society, make a decision," Lau said. "Be brave enough, determined enough. Don't hesitate."

THOSE WHO LIVED THROUGH THE HELL OF THE CAMPS NEVER FORGET. THE OTHERS - THE YOUNGER GENERATIONS - MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO FORGET

Excerpts from speech by European Parliament President Jerzy Buzek at the conference of **the European Jewish Congress in Krakow, "Let my people live"**:

I am here today in Kraków as a representative of the peoples of a united Europe. A Europe that is proud of its identity; proud of having been able to reach a consensus in spite of the obstacles. But the journey towards that consensus was a long and difficult one. I am here today with more than 20 MEPs from different Member States.

The Shoah is an incomparable tragedy. We are here together to express our solidarity and honour the memory of the tragedy that was the Holocaust.

The European Union - whose citizens are represented in the Parliament of which I am the President - came into being in order to prevent any recurrence of the nightmare of war. We always have to remember the horror of Nazi death camps. The election of Simone Veil, a former extermination camp inmate, as the President of the first democratically elected European Parliament was symbolic and important.

It is our duty as Europeans to ensure remembrance and to educate. Those who lived through the hell of the camps never forget. But there are fewer and fewer of them among us. The others - the younger generations - must not be allowed to forget.

The recent theft of the historic sign 'Arbeit macht frei' was an example of the failure to remember, and of a lack of education. The theft for former detainees was like stealing a sacred object. It is to be welcomed that the police swiftly caught the young thieves. But it is to be deplored that nobody taught them to respect what is sacred.

To the spirits of our forebears who were murdered here, we can say that we are all here together in order to ensure that their tragedy - which is our tragedy too - is never repeated.

EP President Jerzy Buzek for many years has been engaged in preserving the memory of the tragedy of Auschwitz. At a time when he was Prime Minister of Poland, he created a protection zone around Auschwitz. He initiated the Strategic Government Programme to ensure proper places for worship to commemorate the mass extermination of Jews, Poles, Russians and others. He launched the International Education Centre in Oświęcim (the city where the Memorial and Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp is located). He was the first Prime Minister of Poland to take part in the "March of the Living" together with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu in 1998.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN POLAND SHOWS NEED FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION
Head of the European Jewish Congress says that current anti-Semitism illustrates the need for commemoration of the Holocaust

Anti-Semitic incidents in Poland from this week alone show the need for vigorous efforts to commemorate the Holocaust, **the president of the European Jewish Congress told reporters this week, ahead of International Holocaust Day.**

"This week we saw the language of Adolf Hitler and Adolf Eichmann in Poland," Moshe Kantor said. He was referring to statements attributed to the Krakow-based Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek, who was quoted as telling an Italian Catholic news web site that the Shoa, or holocaust, was a "Jewish invention."

Kantor, who spoke about this issue at a press conference in Krakow, was also referring to the spraying of anti-Semitic graffiti on the community building of the Jewish community in the city of Wroclaw in western Poland this week.

"Keep in mind these things were said in the center of a murdered [Jewish] civilization of one million people," Kantor said of Pieronek's statements. "This man is a bloody anti-Semite."

The Polish daily Rzeczpospolita on Tuesday ran an interview with Pieronek, in which he explained that he told the Italian reporter who interviewed him that the Jews had invented the word Shoa, and not the extermination of six million Jews, which he said "no reasonable person would deny." He also said it was the Jewish People's right to use the Holocaust to their advantage.

"We should not pay attention to the wording," Kantor said in rejecting the bishop's explanations. "We should pay attention to the essence." He condemned the spraying of the words "Jude Raus" (German for "Jew out") in Wroclaw.

"This is a disgraceful act of intolerance and anti-Semitism and the Polish authorities need to move quickly and decisively to catch and punish the perpetrators," said Michael Freund, the founder of the non-profit Shavei Israel.

The offensive graffiti was sprayed on the building which serves as the headquarters to the Poland emissary of the nonprofit group that seeks to return "hidden Jews" to Judaism's fold.

"The best response to those who seek to intimidate Jews is to fortify and strengthen Jewish life and that is precisely what we will do," Freund added.

The Wroclaw community center serves between 500 to 1,000 Jews, according to the organization's emissary to Poland, Rabbi Yitzchak Rapoport. He said the last time such graffiti was scribbled on the community building's walls was during Operation Cast Lead last January.

Rapoport said the graffiti may have been connected to increased media coverage of Jewish issues in the Polish press ahead of a ceremony at the Auschwitz Nazi death camp on Wednesday, commemorating 65th years since the camp's liberation, but that he wasn't sure of this.

The event was attended by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other prominent Israeli politicians, as well as European Parliament members.

Kantor said he would speak with some of the people attending about opening an academic institution on tolerance and security, two concepts which Kantor described as inter-dependent.

IRAN HAS SAME PLAN AS HITLER, SAYS AUSCHWITZ SURVIVOR

In the biting cold of the Polish winter, warnings of the renewed rise of anti-Semitism and the threat posed to world peace by a nuclear-armed Iran marked Holocaust Memorial Day, the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

In the death camp where 1.1 million Jews were murdered, politicians and religious leaders from Poland and Israel gathered to urge that the lessons of the Holocaust be learnt and passed on to future generations.

In the shadow of a replica of the iconic Auschwitz sign, *arbeit macht frei* (Work Sets You Free), elderly survivors met the last few Red Army liberators still alive.

Speakers said that last month's theft of the wrought-iron sign from the camp's entrance served as a reminder that memories of the Holocaust and its victims remained under threat. The original, hacked into three pieces by the thieves, is still being repaired.

"From this place, I swear as the leader of the Jewish people, never again shall we allow evil to hurt our people," Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, said. The warnings about Iran were led by Shimon Peres, the Israeli President. Addressing the German parliament in Hebrew in Berlin, he described the Iranian Government as a "fanatic regime" and sponsor of international terrorism.

To applause from the 622 German deputies, he said that Tehran's nuclear programme "threatens destruction" and represented "a danger to the entire world".

"This day not only represents a memorial day for victims, not only the pangs of conscience of humankind in the face of the incomprehensible atrocity that took place, but also of the tragedy that derived from the procrastination in taking action," he said.

"Never again ignore bloodthirsty dictators, hiding behind demagogical masks, who utter murderous slogans."

At a memorial event in Cracow, the Polish city near Auschwitz, Meir Lau, the Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv, said that President Ahmadinejad of Iran was "threatening the very existence of a neighbour".

"I see the headlines every day," Rabbi Lau told The Times. "Within two years he will have an atomic weapon, so it means there is a threat."

Ronald Lauder, the President of the World Jewish Congress who was saved from the gas chamber aged seven, when his mother shoved him into a different queue, said: "I believe another horror is coming to our world. I am talking about what is happening in Iran. We have a man who denies the Holocaust. We have a man who talks about the destruction of Israel.

"Hitler had these same words and people did not take them seriously. We must take seriously what is happening with President Ahmadinejad. We must take seriously his threats and unless we do, we have a great deal of problems ahead. I only pray the free world will continue to fight against this tyrant."

Moshe Kantor, president of the European Jewish Congress, said that the need for a more permanent memorial project was pressing because the survivors were now dying out.

"Like people, historical memory can disappear," he said. "We have an irrevocable mandate from millions of Jews and non-Jews burnt together in the flames of death to keep the historical memory alive.

"My urgent idea is to establish a University of Global Security and Tolerance, somewhere in the centre of European civilisation. Those twins, tolerance and security, cannot live without each other. This university will be the strongest answer to all those who dare to forget the meaning of the Holocaust."

Neo-Nazis marked the anniversary in their own manner: desecrating Jewish graves. In Strasbourg, eastern France, more than a dozen tombstones in a Jewish cemetery were daubed with swastikas and the slogan "Juden raus" - "Jews out".

SURVIVORS MARK LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

Sirens wailed as Auschwitz survivors, Soviet veterans and leaders including Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday marked the 65th anniversary of the notorious Nazi German death camp's liberation.

"From this place, I swear as the leader of the Jewish people, never again shall we allow evil to hurt our people," Netanyahu said in a keynote address at the commemoration.

"The Holocaust was not the work of savage animals but of savage people," he said, referring to Nazi Germany's World War II genocidal "Final Solution" which claimed the lives of six million of pre-war Europe's 11 million Jews.

In an ecumenical service that followed Tel Aviv's Chief Rabbi Israel Meir Lau - a Polish-born Holocaust orphan - and his Polish opposite number Michael Schudrich intoned the Kaddish, or Jewish prayer of mourning, their breath spiralling white into the freezing air.

Participants then lit candles at the foot of a monument to the camp's victims as a Polish army bugler played a memorial air.

For the majority of the 100 aging Auschwitz survivors who braved bone-chilling weather to attend, it was likely the last opportunity to visit the site.

Among them was Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, 87, a former Polish foreign minister.

"The last survivors, present here, have the right to believe that their suffering and the death of their loved ones built a better future for the people of Europe and the world, regardless of their religion," Bartoszewski said.

"If at the time there was more empathy for Jews in the United States, from Great Britain, in occupied Europe, in Poland, if there had been more empathy among those who could have decided to bomb the crematoria and the gas chambers, perhaps we wouldn't have avoided the Holocaust, but it would have perhaps been less far reaching," Auschwitz survivor, Polish Jew and historian Marian Turski said.

From 1940-45 some 1.1 million people perished at Auschwitz-Birkenau - one million of them Jews from across occupied Europe - mostly killed in gas chambers but also from shooting, hanging, starvation, disease, slave labour and pseudo-medical experiments.

The camp, set up by the occupying Germans near the southern Polish city of Oswiecim, was liberated by Soviet troops on January 27, 1945. In 2005 the United Nations declared the date International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Marking the emotional anniversary, US President Barack Obama spoke of the "sacred duty to remember the cruelty" of Auschwitz and of "resisting anti-Semitism and ignorance in all its forms" in a video address aired **at an event organised by the European Jewish Congress in Krakow**, southern Poland, ahead of the official ceremonies at the camp 68 kilometres away.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev assailed attempts to "justify Nazi crimes (and) equate victims and hangmen, liberators and occupiers," in his message marking the liberation anniversary.

"And in some countries they go even farther - they glorify Nazi accomplices. Such attempts to revisit history are unacceptable and we should join forces in the fight against them," he warned.

The camp has been run as a museum and memorial since 1947, almost entirely funded by the Polish state.

Poland's Prime Minister Donald Tusk urged more international financial support for the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation set up last year to preserve the actual site, which unlike other death camps was not entirely destroyed by the retreating Nazis.

"We know the importance of preserving this place of memory intact as a cemetery, a monument, a summons to memory and evidence of the crime," Tusk said.

Earlier Wednesday, at the Vatican, German-born Pope Benedict XVI decried the "unimaginable cruelty" of the Holocaust.

That event and "the testimony of the survivors revealed to the world the horror of the crimes of an unimaginable cruelty in the extermination camps created by Nazi Germany," the pontiff said.

In addition to Jews, and 70-75,000 non-Jewish Poles, the Nazis killed 21,000 Roma there, 15,000 Soviet POWs and 10-15,000 others, including resistance members arrested across Europe, according to the Auschwitz museum.

There were only around 7000 survivors in the camp at the liberation. The Nazis had evacuated some 60,000 others only days earlier in the notorious "Death March" as they fled the Soviet advance.

AUSCHWITZ : LE JOUR DE LA MÉMOIRE

Dans le froid du camp d'Auschwitz Birkenau, a été célébrée hier le 65^{ème} anniversaire de la libération des prisonniers du camp d'extermination, était présent le Premier Ministre israélien, Benyamin Nétanyahou.

A l'heure actuelle, il y a de moins en moins de survivants qui peuvent raconter leurs histoires.

«Je me souviens très triste – explique Mathilde Cohen -. Toute ma famille est morte ici. Je suis la seule qui ait été sauvée : mon père, ma mère, mon grand-père, ma grand-mère sont morts ici.»

Les associations juives se demandent maintenant comment maintenir la mémoire vivante, même lorsqu'il n'y aura plus de survivants. Une exigence rendue très importante, compte tenu des menaces dans le monde aujourd'hui qui continuent à venir pour les Juifs.

«L'Holocauste – a déclaré Moshe Kantor, président du Congrès juif européen – nous enseigne que la politique européenne de tolérance envers les régimes fanatiques et les dirigeants qui menacent l'harmonie du monde et abusent de leur propre peuple est voué à l'échec.»

Dans le camps de Auschwitz Birkenau ont été assassinées et 1 300 000 mille personnes, principalement des juifs, entre 1940 et 1945.

REMEMORÓ EL MUNDO LA LIBERACIÓN DE AUSCHWITZ

Sobrevivientes y delegaciones de gobiernos de todo el mundo recordaron los 65 años de la liberación del campamento de concentración nazi de Auschwitz, donde se calcula que fueron exterminados al menos un millón de judíos, en una jornada en la que Israel e Irán volvieron a cruzar fuertes amenazas.

La emoción se impuso al frío paisaje invernal que se extiende por el campo nevado de Auschwitz-Birkenau, donde cientos de personas asistieron al monumento que recuerda a las personas que entre 1942 y 1945 fueron asesinadas en ese lugar por los nazis.

El primer ministro polaco, Donald Tusk, aprovechó su discurso para pedir ayuda a la comunidad internacional para mantener vivo el complejo de Auschwitz-Birkenau, que es "la evidencia de un crimen que algunos quieren ahora negar".

"Recordar lo que sucedió en Auschwitz es importante para evitar que se vuelvan a producir esos crímenes", señaló por su parte el presidente de Polonia, Lech Kaczynski, quien empezó su mensaje dedicando las palabras a los 150 sobrevivientes presentes.

"NUEVO MONSTRUO"

Otro de los dignatarios presentes fue el primer ministro de Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, quien advirtió contra el "nuevo monstruo" que quiere "exterminar" a los judíos.

Sin precisar el origen de esa amenaza, el gobernante judío recalcó en hebreo la necesidad de afrontar la "maldad asesina" que ha surgido en el mundo.

"No olvidamos, siempre nos acordaremos y siempre estaremos vigilantes. Un Estado y un ejército fuertes son el único medio eficaz para la defensa del pueblo judío", afirmó Netanyahu, quien aseguró que no permitirá que "manos perversas" traten de estrangular de nuevo a los miembros de su pueblo o su país.

Desde Estados Unidos el presidente Barack Obama envió un mensaje de video a los sobrevivientes reunidos en un acto en el Teatro de la Opera de Cracovia, que abrió la serie de conmemoraciones por el 65º aniversario.

"Ustedes no son ex prisioneros sino monumentos vivientes -dijo Obama-. Les agradezco por haber tenido el valor de volver a un lugar, cuya misma tierra todavía está embebida de las cenizas de las víctimas".

También el presidente francés, Nicolas Sarkozy, sumó su voz al homenaje con una carta enviada **al presidente del Congreso Judío Europeo, Moshe Kantor**, en la que afirmó que Europa tiene ""un deber histórico"" hacia las víctimas de la Shoah (Holocausto).

"La memoria es un deber de la Humanidad. Es una exigencia, una misión sagrada, la de restituir la dignidad humana y sus singularidades a esos niños, mujeres, hombres, que afrontaron lo indecible, lo inconcebible", escribió el presidente galo.

En coincidencia con el aniversario en Auschwitz, el líder supremo iraní, ayatolá Ali Jamenei, volvió a abogar por la "destrucción del régimen sionista", mientras que el presidente israelí, Shimon Peres, consideró a ese país "un peligro para el mundo".

"Cuándo y cómo esta destrucción sucederá, dependerá del modo en el cual las naciones islámicas afronten la cuestión", advirtió el jefe religioso iraní, quien acusó a Israel de tratar de "hacer desaparecer" a Palestina.

Por su parte, hablando en el Parlamento alemán, Peres instó a la comunidad internacional a actuar contra Irán porque, dijo, "un régimen que posee instalaciones atómicas y armas nucleares, con las cuáles aterroriza a su propio país y a otras naciones, constituye un peligro para el mundo".

ORGANIZA POLONIA FORO DEL HOLOCAUSTO SOBRE AUSCHWITZ

Es deber de la humanidad recordar el Holocausto, transmitir ese recuerdo a las futuras generaciones, y mantener la constante lucha en contra de "los demonios del fanatismo y del odio", declararon los participantes en el Tercer Foro Internacional del Holocausto que se llevó a cabo el día 27 en Cracovia, Polonia.

El foro "Permitan que mi pueblo viva" conmemora el 65 aniversario de la liberación del campo nazi de exterminio Auschwitz por parte de las tropas del Ejército Rojo Soviético el 27 de enero de 1945. Este día fue designado por la ONU en el 2005 como el Día Internacional en Memoria de las Víctimas del Holocausto.

El presidente del Congreso de Judíos Europeos, Moshe Kantor, pidió apoyar la propuesta para establecer una Universidad de la Tolerancia y la Seguridad.

La Unión Europea (UE) se formó para evitar la pesadilla de la guerra. Y el campo nazi de exterminio Auschwitz es un símbolo para la UE, señaló el presidente del Parlamento Europeo Jerzy Buzek durante el Foro.

En un mensaje en video transmitido durante el Foro, el presidente de Estados Unidos Barack Obama expresó su agradecimiento a Polonia por "preservar un lugar de gran sufrimiento para el pueblo polaco, un lugar de recuerdos y aprendizaje para el mundo".

Es deber de los vivos recordar a las víctimas del Holocausto y transmitir ese conocimiento a las próximas generaciones, señaló el presidente Nicolas Sarkozy en una carta enviada al Foro.

Asiten al Foro en Cracovia representantes de varias docenas de países, entre ellos funcionarios de gobiernos, sobrevivientes del Holocausto, delegados de organizaciones judías, miembros del Parlamento Europeo, veteranos rusos de la guerra que liberaron el campo de exterminio de Auschwitz, y jóvenes.

По адресу: http://www.eltiempo.com/mundo/europa/empezo-ceremonia-de-65-aniversario-de-la-liberacion-del-campo-de-auschwitz_7048687-1 размещен видеосюжет

SOBREVIVIENTES Y LIBERTADORES CONMEMORAN ANIVERSARIO DE CAMPO DE AUSCHWITZ

El 27 de enero de 1945, este ex campo de concentración nazi fue liberado por el Ejército soviético.

Los actos se iniciaron con el ulular de las sirenas en el sitio del ex campo de Auschwitz-Birkenau, instalado por las tropas de ocupación nazi en este lugar del sur de Polonia.

El presidente estadounidense Barack Obama subrayó, en un mensaje video enviado a un foro previo organizado por **el Congreso Judío Europeo** en Cracovia (a 50 km del ex campo), "el deber sagrado de recordar la crueldad que imperó en este lugar".

Las generaciones actuales deben "resistir frente al antisemitismo y la ignorancia bajo todas sus formas", insistió Obama.

"La tragedia del pueblo judío consistió en haber sido incapaz de identificar el peligro a tiempo y de defenderse", declaró Netanyahu a su llegada a Cracovia, para participar en las ceremonias que también contarán con la presencia del presidente polaco Lech Kaczynski.

"El Holocausto es la tragedia que une a Europa", afirmó el líder del Congreso Judío Europeo, Moshe Kantor.

Auschwitz fue liberado por el Ejército soviético el 27 de enero de 1945 y se convirtió en el mayor símbolo del genocidio nazi. La jornada fue designada en 2005 por la ONU como Día Internacional de Conmemoración de las Víctimas del Holocausto.

El ministro ruso de Educación, Andrei Fursenko, pidió "el reconocimiento de todos" hacua las tropas del Ejército Rojo que liberaron el lugar.

Aproximadamente 1,1 millones de personas murieron en ese campo -un millón de ellos eran judíos de la Europa ocupada-, en su mayoría en las cámaras de gas, aunque también a balazos, ahorcados, de hambre, enfermedades y por "experimentos" médicos.

Habla Benedicto XVI

La liberación de Auschwitz y "los testimonios de los sobrevivientes revelaron al mundo el horror de los crímenes de una crueldad inaudita cometidos en los campos de exterminio creados por la Alemania nazi", declaró el Papa en un llamado en italiano lanzado al final de la audiencia.

Al dirigirse antes a los peregrinos alemanes, había afirmado, en su lengua materna, que "el horror nazi nos recuerda el respeto a la vida".

En este llamado, el sumo pontífice reveló que el "Día de la Memoria" celebrado este miércoles está dedicado a "todas las víctimas de esos crímenes, especialmente el de la aniquilación planificada de los judíos", y rindió homenaje a "quienes, poniendo en peligro su propia vida, protegieron a los que eran perseguidos".

"Con emoción, pensamos en las innumerables víctimas de un odio racial y religioso ciego, que sufrieron la deportación, la prisión, la muerte en esos lugares aberrantes e inhumanos", afirmó. Para él, esos acontecimientos, "en particular el drama del Holocausto, que afectó al pueblo judío", incitan a "un respeto cada vez más decidido de la dignidad de toda persona, para que todos los hombres se perciban como una sola gran familia".

Esa jornada fue designada Día Internacional de Conmemoración de las Víctimas del Holocausto por las Naciones Unidas en 2005.

Joseph Ratzinger, que era un adolescente en Alemania en la época nazi, había sido clasificado "miembro obligado" de las Juventudes Hitlerianas en 1941, a los 14 años.

Testimonios

Eva Mozes, una de las gemelas sometidas en Auschwitz a los horribles experimentos del doctor Josef Mengele, volvió el miércoles al lugar de su suplicio.

"Mis padres y nuestra hermana mayor fueron asesinados 30 minutos después de llegar al campo. Nunca más los vi, desaparecieron sin dejar rastro", contó a la AFP Mozes, de 75 años, que reside ahora en Indiana (E.U.).

Baruch Shub, de 85 años, nacido en Lituania y superviviente del Holocausto, radicado en Tel Aviv, afirma que todavía tiene las cicatrices emocionales de su sufrimiento.

En Varsovia, junto al imponente monumento de mármol gris de la "Umschlagplatz", desde donde los nazis enviaron a más de 300.000 judíos por tren al siniestro campo de la muerte de Treblinka, a 100 km al noreste de la capital polaca, Netanyahu rindió homenaje el martes a las víctimas y a quienes arriesgaron sus vidas para salvar a judíos de los nazis.

'A NEW AMALEK IS APPEARING,' NETANYAHU WARNS AT AUSCHWITZ

"A new Amalek is appearing and once again threatening to annihilate the Jews," Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu warned Wednesday, in a speech at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp marking International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Invoking the name of the biblical enemy of the Jews, Netanyahu added, "We will not allow it... We will never forget and always stand guard," reasserting the right of the Jewish people to self-defense amid increasing concern over the Iranian threat.

"Remember what Amalek did to you," cautioned Netanyahu, quoting a passage from Deuteronomy. "I have come here today from Jerusalem to tell you: We will never forget. We will not allow the Holocaust deniers or those who desecrate [Jewish] graves and signs to erase or distort [our] memory."

Some 150 Auschwitz survivors and European leaders were on hand for the ceremony, one of scores around the world marking the global day of commemoration established by the United Nations in 2005.

Bundled tightly against the cold and snow, elderly Auschwitz survivors walked among the barracks and watchtowers of Auschwitz and Birkenau on Wednesday, many clad in scarves bearing the gray and blue stripes of their Nazi prison garments decades ago.

Moving later into a heated tent to escape the -10 Celsius temperatures, they heard Netanyahu vow that his country would never allow anyone to erase the memory of the victims of Nazi Germany's death camps.

"We sit in a warm tent and remember those who shivered to death, and if they didn't freeze to death, they were gassed and burned," Netanyahu said.

Speaking at the Third International Holocaust Forum, Netanyahu told an audience of European Parliament politicians, survivors of Auschwitz and Poland's President Lech Kaczynsk and Prime Minister Donald Tusk that "Murderous hatred must be stopped in its tracks, stopped right from the beginning.

"All countries in the world must learn this lesson, just as we did after losing a third of our people in blood-soaked Europe. We learned that the only guarantee for the protection of our people is the State of Israel and its army, the IDF."

"I promise, as head of the Jewish state, that never again will we allow the hand of evil to sever the life of our people and our state," said Netanyahu.

The Iranian threat permeated the speeches and remarks of many of the speakers during the events commemorating the former Soviet Union's liberation of Auschwitz 65 years ago.

Ronald Lauder, the head of the World Jewish Congress, told a packed audience of dignitaries and EU politicians at the Krakow Opera House on Wednesday that the "horror" of the past can be equated with a present horror.

"What is happening today in Iran is a man who denies the Holocaust. A man who talks about the destruction of Israel. A man who has great contempt for Jews.

"Hitler had the same words and people did not take him seriously," he said. "We must take him [Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad] seriously. I pray that the European Union and the free world will continue to fight against this tyrant."

The International Holocaust Forum at Auschwitz was the brainchild of Moshe Kantor, the head of the European Jewish Congress. He warned against a policy of "appeasement" toward Iran.

"This appeasement is expressed completely in economic cooperation with the Iranian regime. Six thousand European companies cooperate with Iran on a daily basis," said Kantor.

He told The Jerusalem Post that the "main danger comes from Iran," and the "plan is to frighten Israel through Hizbullah."

Kantor, a who has a hard science background, earning his doctorate in Spacecraft Automatic Control Systems, said the Iranians could deliver their "nuclear weaponry" to the terror group Hizbullah.

With the destruction of European Jewry as his background, Netanyahu left no doubt that national security interests are setting the agenda for his administration.

Choosing frosty Poland as the place to rebuke to those who claim the Jewish population of Israel is comprised mostly of emigrants from Europe, he said, "Am Yisrael Chai, we have returned to our homeland, to the land of our forefathers, to Jerusalem, our capital. We have converged from all corners of the world, Holocaust survivors, Arab Jews, Jews from former Soviet Union states, Ethiopian Jews."

He peppered his speech with a steady interplay between the past and present, stressing the self-determination of the Jewish people in Israel.

"From the cursed ground at Auschwitz, Birkenau and other camps rise the voices of our brothers and sisters, our people who choked to death and were burned and murdered," said the prime minister, in English, wishing "decency, truth and hope ... for all mankind" before switching to Hebrew, "the language the Nazis sought to exterminate."

"We bow our heads in memory [of Holocaust victims] and raise our heads as our flag waves with its two blue stripes and the Star of David at its center. We still haven't lost our hope."

Two former Red Army soldiers who participated in the liberation of Auschwitz were invited to attend the ceremony.

Auschwitz was the largest German extermination camp, where the Nazis and their collaborators murdered 1.5 million mainly Jewish victims. Yakov Vinnichenko, one of the Red Army soldiers, told the Post that he was "shocked" by the dimension of the extermination when his battalion entered the camp.

He was proud to have participated in the liberation of the camp, recalling that he and his comrades "could barely understand" the prisoners because there were so many from "different nations."

LEADERS HIGHLIGHT IRANIAN THREAT AT HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATIONS

Speaking on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Israel's President Shimon Peres, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and World Jewish Congress President Ronald S. Lauder have highlighted the dangers posed by the Iranian regime.

"There will be just a few more short years before the living memories become memories," said Ronald Lauder, president of the World Jewish Congress. Lauder compared Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to Adolf Hitler. "I believe another horror is coming to our world. I am talking about what is happening in Iran. We have a man who denies the Holocaust. We have a man who talks about the destruction of Israel. Hitler had these same words and people did not take them seriously. We must take seriously what is happening with President Ahmadinejad. We must take seriously his threats and unless we do, we have a great deal of problems ahead. I only pray the free world will continue to fight against this tyrant," **Lauder said in a speech to the 'Let My People Live' forum held in Krakow, Poland.**

European Jewish Congress President Moshe Kantor, who organized the forum, warned against a policy of "appeasement" toward Iran. "Six thousand European companies cooperate with Iran on a daily basis," he told the 'Jerusalem Post', adding that the "main danger comes from Iran" and the "plan is to frighten Israel through Hezbollah." Kantor said the Iranians could deliver their "nuclear weaponry" to the Lebanese terror group.

In a press release on Wednesday, Ronald S. Lauder praised the German engineering company Siemens for its decision not to seek new business in Iran until Tehran fully complies with United Nations demands regarding its nuclear program.

Speaking before the Bundestag – the German parliament – in Berlin, Israeli President Shimon Peres called the Iranian government "a fanatic regime" and said its nuclear program represented "a threat to the entire world." Iran had a "regime that threatens destruction, accompanied by nuclear plants and missiles and who activates terror in its country and in other countries." He said Israel, like its neighbors, identified "with the millions of Iranians who revolt against violence."

At the commemorative ceremony held in Auschwitz, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said: "From this site, I vow as the leader of the Jewish state that we will never again allow the hand of evil to destroy the life of our people and the life of our state. Never again! We will not allow the deniers of the Holocaust... to erase or distort the memory," he said.

In Tehran, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei expressed confidence that Islamic nations would one day witness the destruction of Israel. Khamenei made the remark during a meeting with Mauritanian President Mohammed Ould Abdel Aziz. Israel's continued "pressure to erase Palestine from the world of Islamic nations" would fail, he said, adding: "Surely, the day will come when the nations of the region will witness the destruction of the Zionist regime... when the destruction happens will depend on how the Islamic nations approach the issue."

Iran's most powerful cleric said: "The Zionist regime, by continuing to use pressure, blockades and committing genocide, wants to erase Palestine... but it will not succeed." Praising Mauritania for cutting its ties with Israel, Khamenei said "the Zionist regime is a great danger to the world of Islam as it was thinking of expanding its influence and grip on the region every day."

NETANYAHU WARNS OF NEW THREAT TO PEACE AT AUSCHWITZ

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in what was likely a reference to the regime in Iran, warned Wednesday against the threat of Holocaust denial during ceremonies marking the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz. "The most important lesson from the Holocaust is that murderous evil must be stopped as soon as possible, before it can realize its schemes," Netanyahu said.

Speaking of the Biblical tribe Amalek that slaughtered Israelite innocents, Netanyahu said, "we will always remember what was done to us by the Nazi Amalek, and we shall not forget to be ready and prepared when a new Amalek appears on the stage of history and threatens again to annihilate the Jews."

At the same time, Netanyahu spoke of the shared sufferings and triumphs of Poles and Jews during the ceremonies held at the former camp, where Nazis killed some 1.1 million people, mainly Jews.

"We are gathered here, Poles and Jews, at the crossroads of tragedy. Our long history together was marked by great triumphs and achievements of culture, and the failure of human experience," he said.

Netanyahu said he remembers that Poles were one-third of those honoured for helping Jews during the occupation of the country in World War II.

Netanyahu's remarks about Holocaust denial echoed a speech made earlier Wednesday by Israeli President Shimon Peres to the German parliament. Peres drew a parallel between the Nazi government of the Adolf Hitler and the danger today from Tehran's Islamic regime.

Netanyahu said the Jewish people's experiences taught it that a strong state is the only guarantee of security.

"We learned to warn of the danger among other nations, and to be ready to defend ourselves," Netanyahu said. "From here I promise we will never allow the hand of evil to cut down our people. Never again."

In earlier remarks Wednesday, Polish leaders questioned why the world had remained silent to suffering, and stressed the importance of education and remembrance of the Holocaust during the ceremonies.

"Why was the world silent? Why did the world allow it?" asked Prime Minister Donald Tusk.

Polish President Lech Kaczynski said, "We must teach the truth, the harsh truth, which today some influential and powerful people might not like."

"Apathy, indifference and forgetting the lessons of history lead to tragedy," said Russian Education Minister Andrei Fursenko.

Some 150 former prisoners, along with some 200 members of the European Parliament and other assemblies, also attended the ceremonies.

Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, an Auschwitz survivor who served twice as Poland's foreign minister, said he was 18 when he first went through the camp's main gates notoriously marked, "Arbeit Macht Frei" (work sets you free). Bartoszewski said he never thought he would survive Hitler's regime.

"The question is, do we do anything with this knowledge?" Bartoszewski said, noting that information on racism was widely available today. "Do we stand on the side of the victims, or of those who know but do nothing?"

Bartoszewski said the world ignored the plight of the prisoners during World War II, despite the efforts of a secret organization at the camp that carried messages to the outside world.

"The Polish resistance - civilian and army - informed and alarmed the free world, the governments of Great Britain and the United States, which in the last quarter of 1942 clearly had an idea of what was going on in Auschwitz-Birkenau," Bartoszewski said. "No nation in the world, however, reacted in an adequate way to the weight of the problem."

The Third International Holocaust Forum was held earlier Wednesday in neighboring Krakow, and was addressed by European Parliament President Jerzy Buzek.

Buzek said it was Europe's responsibility to "remember and educate" about the Holocaust.

"The European Union was created so the nightmare of war would never be repeated," Buzek was quoted by PAP as saying. "And the Nazi extermination camp Auschwitz is also a symbol for the Union."

The "Let My People Live" forum included video messages from US President Barack Obama and French President Nicolas Sarkozy.

Sarkozy called on Europe to build peace, affirm stability and strengthen the continent because the experience of Auschwitz makes that necessary today and in the future, PAP reported.

Obama said that anti-Semitism and racism must be resisted, and he warned against becoming a passive witness to evil.

"We have the sacred duty to remember the twisted thinking that led here," Obama said in the recorded message.

Officials at the Auschwitz-Birkenau museum launched the day's ceremonies Wednesday morning by laying flowers and candles near a wall by block 11, where Nazis shot down thousands of Poles during World War II.

PRZESŁANIE DLA PRZYSZŁYCH POKOLEŃ

Wczoraj na terenie byłego niemieckiego obozu koncentracyjnego i zagłady Auschwitz-Birkenau upamiętniono 65. rocznicę wyzwolenia obozu przez żołnierzy Armii Czerwonej.

W obchodach brało udział około 200 byłych więźniów. Do Państwowego Muzeum Auschwitz-Birkenau przybyły rządowe delegacje z ponad 40 państw. Polskę reprezentowali prezydent Lech Kaczyński i premier Donald Tusk. Obecny był również premier Izraela Benjamin Netanjahu, a także przewodniczący Parlamentu Europejskiego Jerzy Buzek. W obchodach uczestniczyli m.in. byli prezydenci Polski i Litwy, Aleksander Kwaśniewski i Vytautas Landsbergis.

Główna część rocznicowych uroczystości rozpoczęła się o godz. 15 w Brzezince, w byłym Auschwitz II-Birkenau. Poprowadził ją były więzień KL Auschwitz, znany aktor August Kowalczyk, który opowiadał o swoich obozowych przeżyciach. Jego wystąpienie nie odnosiło się wyłącznie do obozowej historii. Wspominał też o grudniowej nocy 2009 roku, kiedy to skradziono ów symbol piekła Auschwitz - napis "Arbeit macht frei". - Świętokradcze, zbrodnicze działania, podyktowane obłąkańczą ideą "mieć" stały się kolejnym ostrzeżeniem: 65 lat po wyzwoleniu Auschwitz nie ma żadnych "czarnych dziur" w historii ludzkości, które na zawsze pochłonęły zło - ostrzegął August Kowalczyk.

Wielkie wrażenie wywarły również przemówienia byłych więźniów Auschwitz, prof. Władysława Bartoszewskiego i Mariana Turskiego.

Profesor Bartoszewski mówił o powołanej przed rokiem Fundacji Auschwitz-Birkenau, której celem jest zebranie pieniędzy na sfinansowanie wieloletniego planu konserwacji pozostałości Auschwitz. Jego zdaniem dotychczasowe reakcje świata na apel o pomoc napawają optymizmem.

- Groby skłaniają każdego normalnego człowieka do zadumy. Ale tu nie ma grobów. Na miejscu dokonania tej niepojętej zbrodni zaduma musi przeobrażać się więc w szczególną odpowiedzialność, w trwałą pamięć o tym, co się stało - powiedział Bartoszewski. - Podobnie jak pięć lat temu zakończę słowami z Księgi Hioba, jednakowo ważnej dla Żydów i chrześcijan: "Ziemio, nie kryj mojej krwi, iżby mój krzyk nie ustawał".

W programie przewidziane było także przemówienie polskiego Roma Edwarda Paczkowskiego, byłego więźnia obozu, którego rodzina zginęła w Auschwitz. Jednak przed uroczystością okazało się, że uległ wypadkowi.

W Miejscu Pamięci Auschwitz przemawiali również politycy, prezydent Kaczyński, premier Tusk i premier Netanjahu, zaś przedstawiciel Rosji, minister Edukacji i Nauki Andriej Fursenko wygłosił orędzie skierowane do uczestników obchodów przez prezydenta Federacji Rosyjskiej Dmitrija Miedwiediewa.

W Birkenau zgromadzeni oddali hołd i wspólnie modlili się przed Pomnikiem Ofiar. Zapłonęły znicze, składane przez byłych więźniów, polityków, członków delegacji, ale i młodych ludzi.

Przed uroczystością główną, w byłym obozie Auschwitz I miało miejsce otwarcie rosyjskiej ekspozycji narodowej pt. "Wyzwolenie KL Auschwitz". Mieści się ona na parterze bloku 14. Jest to pierwszy element powstającej w tym miejscu stałej wystawy rosyjskiej.

Jakie przesłanie płynie dziś - do współczesnego świata - z tego Miejsca Pamięci?

- Główny nacisk chcemy położyć na edukację, na przekaz dla przyszłych pokoleń. Cały świat bardzo potrzebuje tego miejsca, dziś to widać wyraźnie. A przecież z chwilą, gdy zabraknie naocznych świadków KL Auschwitz, rola autentyczności tego terenu jeszcze bardziej wzrośnie w edukacji o XX wieku, o II wojnie światowej, o III niemieckiej Rzeszy, obozach koncentracyjnych i Zagładzie - mówi Piotr M.A. Cywiński, dyrektor Państwowego Muzeum Auschwitz-Birkenau.

"Po 65 latach od wyzwolenia obozu Auschwitz w różnych miejscach na świecie wciąż popełniane są ludobójstwa, tak jakby ludzkość nie wyciągnęła wszystkich wniosków z tragicznej lekcji II wojny światowej. Dlatego w procesie edukacyjnym młodzi ludzie powinni mieć możliwość kontaktu z miejscem, w którym historia odcisnęła swe tragiczne piętno" - to główny fragment przesłania konferencji ministrów edukacji i przedstawicieli 35 państw, która poprzedziła główne uroczystości na terenie obozu.

- Jaką rolę w zapobieganiu zbrodni ludobójstwa może i powinna odegrać edukacja? - pytał w wystąpieniu wprowadzającym dr Piotr Trojański, ekspert od nauczania o Holokauście.

Ministrowie i specjaliści odpowiedzialni za oświatę zjechali do oświęcimskiego Centrum Dialogu i Modlitwy na zaproszenie minister Katarzyny Hall, by podzielić się swymi doświadczeniami związanymi z nauczaniem o Holokauście.

Zastanawiali się, co robić, by hasło "Nigdy więcej Auschwitz" odzyskało moc i znaczenie. Nawiązali do słów ocalałego z Zagłady Haima Ginotta, które od 10 lat są mottem programu nauczania o Holokauście i stały się mottem spotkania ministrów: "Jestem ocalonym, który przeżył obóz koncentracyjny. Moje oczy widziały to, czego żaden człowiek nie powinien być świadkiem (...) Tak więc powątpiewam w edukację. Dlatego proszę. Pomóżcie swoim uczniom stać się ludźmi. Czytanie, pisanie i arytmetyka są ważne, tylko wtedy jednak, gdy służą one temu, by nasze dzieci stały się bardziej ludzkie".

Równoległe z obchodami w Auschwitz, w Krakowie spotkali się przedstawiciele kilkudziesięciu krajów, wzięli oni udział w III Międzynarodowym Forum Holokaustu "Let My People Live" - "Pozwólcie żyć mojemu narodowi".

Uczestnicy forum wysłuchali m.in. wystąpienia przewodniczącego Parlamentu Europejskiego Jerzego Buzka, przekazów wideo z przesłaniami prezydentów USA Baracka Obamy oraz Francji Nicolasa Sarkozy'ego.

PRZESTROGA DLA CAŁEGO ŚWIATA

Świadectwo o tym, co się stało w Auschwitz, dotrze także do kolejnych pokoleń – obiecali politycy

Podczas obchodów 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia nazistowskiego obozu Auschwitz-Birkenau politycy zgodnie zapewniali, że wyciągnęli lekcję z czasów klęski kultury europejskiej, do jakiej tu doszło.

Ślady nadziei

– Ludzie ludziom zgotowali ten los. I nawet jeśli się wydaje, że takie tendencje udało się przezwyciężyć Europie, nie przezwyciężył ich cały świat – mówił prezydent Lech Kaczyński. Dlatego, jego zdaniem, zbrodnie, które tu popełniono, mogą się powtórzyć.

– Co zrobić z wiedzą o człowieku, którą dało nam Auschwitz? – pytał premier Donald Tusk. – To w czasie Zagłady rozpadł się obraz człowieka stworzonego na podobieństwo Boga.

Mimo to i politycy, i byli więźniowie wyrażali nadzieję, że pamięć o tym, co się tu wydarzyło, będzie wystarczającym memento na przyszłość.

– I tu, w byłym obozie, da się szukać śladów nadziei – stwierdził Tusk. – Nie utraciliśmy wiary w człowieka.

„Żadna ideologia, żaden totalizm nie potrafią wykorzenić pozytywnych cech ludzkości” – napisał prezydent Francji Nicolas Sarkozy do **uczestników III Międzynarodowego Forum Holokaustu „Let My People Live”** odbywającego się w Krakowie.

– Nawet kamienie stały się tu relikwiami pamięci narodów – przypomniał były więzień Auschwitz, aktor August Kowalczyk prowadzący uroczystości.

Dbałość o pamięć

Inny były więzień Władysław Bartoszewski, dziś doradca premiera, pytał, ile prawdy o doświadczeniach totalitaryzmu udało się przekazać młodym pokoleniom. – Dużo, ale nie dość – odpowiedział.

Jerzy Buzek, przewodniczący Parlamentu Europejskiego: – Taka edukacja to w Europie sprawa najważniejsza.

Dlatego w ramach obchodów zorganizowano konferencję przedstawicieli resortów edukacji 35 krajów. Dyskutowano na niej o konieczności mądrej edukacji o Holokauście, która sprawi, że młodzi ludzie staną się wrażliwi na poszanowanie praw człowieka.

„Jeśli jedno miejsce na świecie miało by budzić nasze sumienia, to jest nim Auschwitz-Birkenau” – głosi przesłanie ministrów edukacji, które odczytano w trakcie uroczystości. – „Pamięć ma stanowić impuls do odważnego wzięcia odpowiedzialności za losy świata szczególnie przez młode pokolenia”.

Premier Izraela Benjamin Netanjahu także dostrzegł w dbałości o pamięć o tym, co wydarzyło się w Auschwitz, i w edukacji kolejnych pokoleń nadzieję na „prawdę i przyzwoitość” dla całej ludzkości. Przypomniał też, że aż jedną trzecią wszystkich Sprawiedliwych wśród Narodów Świata uhonorowanych przez Izrael stanowią Polacy.

Nieobecni przywódcy

Uczestnicy obchodów byli rozczarowani skromną reprezentacją przywódców państw. Prócz polskich władz, premiera Izraela, szefa europarlamentu i byłego prezydenta Litwy Vytautasa Landsbergisa na uroczystościach pojawili się tylko dyplomaci i przedstawiciele resortów edukacji (wśród nich zaledwie dziewięciu konstytucyjnych ministrów).

– Co się zmieniło przez pięć lat, że tym razem nie ma Putina czy wiceprezydenta USA, jak to było w 2005 roku? – dociekała dziennikarka czeskiej agencji prasowej. – Czy to wina polskich polityków, czy ignorowania rangi obchodów?

– Nieobecność prezydenta Rosji Dmitrija Miedwiediewa w Oświęcimiu to błąd – komentowali nawet niektórzy dziennikarze rosyjscy. A „Niezawisimaja Gazieta” pytała w artykule: „Jakie

spotkania z zagranicznymi gośćmi mogą być ważniejsze dla prezydenta Rosji niż rocznica wyzwolenia Auschwitz?”.

Gdyby Miedwiediew dotarł na obchody, usłyszałby szczere oklaski, które rozległy się, gdy premier Tusk przypomniał, że to żołnierze sowieccy wyzwolili obóz. A tak odczytano tylko jego orędzie: „Zaufanie i wzajemna pomoc pozwalają zaś przeciwstawić się zagrożeniom najbardziej niebezpiecznym. Obrona pokoju i wolności na świecie znajduje się w naszych rękach”.

W obchodach wzięło za to udział ok. 150 byłych więźniów obozu. To głównie oni nie wyobrażają sobie, że mogłoby ich nie być w rocznicę wyzwolenia pod pomnikiem ofiar. Jak Maciej Niewiadomski, który już przed południem oddawał hołd ofiarom pod ścianą śmierci na dziedzińcu bloku 11. Jak mówi, urodził się w obozie. Jego matkę wywieziono tu w transporcie z Warszawy podczas powstania.

W uroczystościach zabrakło głosu Romów. Ich przedstawiciel, były więzień Edward Paczkowski, złamał nogę, a nie przewidziano zastępstwa.

Obchody zakończyło zapalenie zniczy pod pomnikiem ofiar i wyczytanie nazwisk zamordowanych w Auschwitz. Byli więźniowie obozu wspólnie z przywódcami państw oddali hołd ofiarom. Pierwszy znicz zanieśli wspólnie prezydent Kaczyński i troje byłych więźniów Auschwitz: Zofia Posmysz-Piasecka, Jerzy Ulatowski oraz rumuńska Żydówka Eva Moses Kor. Tuż po nich przed pomnik podeszli premier Izraela, a następnie rosyjski minister edukacji Andriej Fursenko i szef PE. To był ostatni element głównych uroczystości 65. rocznicy wyzwolenia Auschwitz.

Dlaczego premier nie zapalił znicza

Mimo że lektor wyczytał Donalda Tuska jako osobę, która postawi znicz pod pomnikiem ofiar obozu Auschwitz razem z premierem Izraela Beniaminem Netanjahu, pod pomnik podeszedł tylko ten ostatni. Postawienie zniczy było ostatnią częścią uroczystości rocznicowych.

– Było planowane, że premierzy będą szli razem – twierdzi Jarosław Mensfelt, rzecznik państwowego muzeum Auschwitz-Birkenau. – Dlatego lektor wyczytał premiera Tuska. Dlaczego go zabrakło? Nie wiem.

Rzecznik rządu Paweł Graś zapewnia „Rz”, że premier był na uroczystościach dokładnie tak długo, jak było planowane. – Zgodnie z ustaleniami zaraz po głównych uroczystościach wsiadł do samolotu, by przyjechać do Warszawy na ważne spotkania. O takich planach wiedział też premier Netanjahu, z którym dzień wcześniej premier Tusk zjadł kolację – mówi Graś.

Co na to rzecznik muzeum?

– Moja wiedza dotyczy stanu planów na dwa dni przed uroczystością. Przez ten czas coś się mogło zmienić – twierdzi Mensfelt.

SURVIVORS, LIBERATORS GATHER IN AUSCHWITZ

Auschwitz survivors, Soviet veterans and leaders including Israeli Premier Benjamin Netanyahu gathered Wednesday for emotionally-charged ceremonies on the 65th anniversary of the notorious Nazi death camp's liberation.

U.S. President Barack Obama spoke of the "sacred duty to remember the cruelty" of Auschwitz and of "resisting anti-Semitism and ignorance in all its forms" in a video address aired at **a forum organized by the European Jewish Congress (EJC)** in Krakow, southern Poland, ahead of official afternoon ceremonies at the Auschwitz site.

"Auschwitz is the symbol of absolute evil that remains seared on the human conscience," French President Nicolas Sarkozy wrote in a message to Polish and European Jewish leaders at the Krakow forum and underscored France's commitment to preserve the memory of the Holocaust.

"Like people, historical memory can disappear," EJC leader Moshe Kantor warned in a speech to some 700 participants in the "Let My People Live" forum.

"Our appreciation to you is timeless," he said, thanking Soviet Red Army veterans who liberated Auschwitz on January 27, 1945.

Speaking after landing in Krakow on his way to the ceremonies, Netanyahu said, "The tragedy of the Jewish people had been that it was unable to identify danger in time and to defend itself.

"This situation has totally changed over the past 65 years. I am coming today as the prime minister of Israel. We are a nation that can defend itself and a nation capable of warming the rest of the world of danger,"

Netanyahu was to deliver a speech later Wednesday at the Auschwitz ceremony, due to start around 3 pm (1400 GMT), speaking after survivors and Poland's President Lech Kaczynski.

Tel Aviv's Polish-born Chief Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, a Holocaust orphan who survived as a child in Nazi camps, was to recite the Kaddish, or Jewish prayer of mourning.

Poland invited Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to attend, but he declined citing "other obligations", according to Warsaw.

The former Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp has become an enduring reminder of Nazi German genocide during World War II which claimed the lives of six million European Jews.

In 2005 the United Nations declared January 27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

A total of 1.1 million people perished at Auschwitz-Birkenau -- one million of them Jews from across occupied Europe -- mostly killed in gas chambers but also from shooting, hanging, starvation, disease, slave labour and pseudo-medical experiments.

Lithuanian-born Holocaust survivor and Tel Aviv resident Baruch Shub, 85, said he still bore the emotional scars of his suffering.

"There's a lot of sorrow, because when I came home, I found nobody in my family alive. But also a bit of happiness because the war was over and I'd somehow stayed alive," Shub told AFP.

The Nazis initially set up Auschwitz to hold Polish political prisoners in 1940, a year after invading Poland. They chose a former barracks in the southern town of Oswiecim, Germanised as Auschwitz.

It became a site primarily for exterminating Jews -- viewed by the Nazis as sub-human -- from 1942 as it expanded to Birkenau, three kilometres (two miles) away.

In addition to Jews, and 70-75,000 non-Jewish Poles, the Nazis killed 21,000 Roma there, 15,000 Soviet POWs and 10-15,000 others, including resistance members arrested across Europe, according to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum.

There were only around 7,000 survivors in the camp at the liberation. The Nazis had evacuated some 60,000 others only days earlier in the notorious "Death March" as they fled the Soviet advance.

With their numbers dwindling year by year, about 100 survivors were set to attend Wednesday's ceremony in sub-zero temperatures similar to the weather 65 years ago.

Only a handful of the liberators are still alive. Two, Ivan Martynushkin, 86, and Yakov Vinnochenko, 83, were scheduled to attend.

In Krakow, Martynushkin told AFP he was marked by that fateful day.

"We started meeting huddles of people. They came towards us, in prison stripes. Some had covers over their heads. We could only see their eyes. And in those eyes, we could see what they were feeling," he said.

"But we didn't know what it was. We only understood after the war," he added.

EU PARLIAMENT PRESIDENT COMMEMORATES HOLOCAUST

Visiting Auschwitz 65 years since its liberation, parliament president Jerzy Buzek described the Holocaust as "the greatest ever human tragedy".

Buzek, who grew up a stone's throw from the Nazi death camp, returned to his native Poland for a commemoration ceremony, **organised by the European Jewish Congress**, World Holocaust Forum, and Yad Vashem.

Following an evocative opera performance in Krakow, which depicted the suffering of Jews at the hands of their Nazi occupiers, Buzek said that, for him, it wasn't just a performance but a "demonstration of what it looked like".

"I am here today as a representative of the citizens of a united Europe," he said. "But the path to this point was a long and painful one."

Paying tribute to the camp's Soviet liberators - some of whom were in the audience for the ceremony - the president highlighted the importance of parliament's role in promoting human rights and democracy.

European institutions are loudest in demanding respect for human rights, said Buzek, and "it is an obligation we have to follow".

Heading a delegation of more than 25 MEPs from 11 countries, the former Polish prime minister said we must learn from our past, and warned that future generations are "not allowed to forget" what happened in Auschwitz.

"It is our duty as Europeans to ensure remembrance and to educate," he said.

"Those who lived through the hell of the camps never forget.

"But there are fewer and fewer of them among us. The others - the younger generations - must not be allowed to forget."

And it is the task of the European parliament, argued Buzek, to help educate younger generations to "guard" the memory of Auschwitz.

His comments were echoed by Aleksander Kwasniewski, chair of the European Council on Tolerance, who said, "We will not be content with not remembering. Here, the Nazis did not succeed."

But he warned that "memory alone is not enough", and said the world must ensure such suffering never happens again.

He said future generations had been safeguarded "in a way". But pointing to cases such as Bosnia, Cambodia and Darfur, he argued that "the mantra of 'never again' proved, to an extent, powerless".

No country can claim that the battle against intolerance has been won, Kwasniewski said, adding, "Tolerance is continually being put to the test."

Iran

Iran was singled out for criticism by speakers at the Krakow event.

Earlier this week, EU foreign policy chiefs meeting in Brussels decided that there would be no unilateral sanctions imposed on Tehran over its uranium enrichment programme without UN security council approval.

However, Ronald Lauder, president of the World Jewish Congress, said, "I see another horror coming to our world. I am talking about Iran.

"We have a man who denies the Holocaust, who talks about the destruction of Israel and hatred of Jews."

Referring to Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Lauder called on international leaders to "take him [Ahmadinejad] seriously".

"Unless we do, we have great problems in store," he warned. "The EU must continue to fight against this tyrant with the rest of the free world."

Meir Lau, the chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv, told of his own experience as a seven year-old when, as prisoners were lined up to be taken away, his mother pushed him into the arms of his elder brother. "She saved my life," he said.

And he called on world leaders to "be brave enough and determined enough" to save lives if faced with a similar threat.

"Take decisions, don't hesitate," the Holocaust survivor said.

"Decisions are better late than never. Don't stand on the blood of someone. Do what is possible."

The third international forum, "Let my people live", took place within the framework of the international Holocaust remembrance day, ahead of an official state commemoration ceremony at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

NETANYAHU WARNS OF NEW THREAT TO PEACE AT AUSCHWITZ

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in what was likely a reference to the regime in Iran, warned Wednesday against the threat of Holocaust denial during ceremonies marking the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz.

"The most important lesson from the Holocaust is that murderous evil must be stopped as soon as possible, before it can realize its schemes," Netanyahu said.

Speaking of the Biblical tribe Amalek that slaughtered Israelite innocents, Netanyahu said, "we will always remember what was done to us by the Nazi Amalek, and we shall not forget to be ready and prepared when a new Amalek appears on the stage of history and threatens again to annihilate the Jews."

At the same time, Netanyahu spoke of the shared sufferings and triumphs of Poles and Jews during the ceremonies held at the former camp, where Nazis killed some 1.1 million people, mainly Jews.

"We are gathered here, Poles and Jews, at the crossroads of tragedy. Our long history together was marked by great triumphs and achievements of culture, and the failure of human experience," he said.

Netanyahu said he remembers that Poles were one-third of those honoured for helping Jews during the occupation of the country in World War II.

Netanyahu's remarks about Holocaust denial echoed a speech made earlier Wednesday by Israeli President Shimon Peres to the German parliament. Peres drew a parallel between the Nazi government of the Adolf Hitler and the danger today from Tehran's Islamic regime.

Netanyahu said the Jewish people's experiences taught it that a strong state is the only guarantee of security.

"We learned to warn of the danger among other nations, and to be ready to defend ourselves," Netanyahu said. "From here I promise we will never allow the hand of evil to cut down our people. Never again."

In earlier remarks Wednesday, Polish leaders questioned why the world had remained silent to suffering, and stressed the importance of education and remembrance of the Holocaust during the ceremonies.

"Why was the world silent? Why did the world allow it?" asked Prime Minister Donald Tusk.

Polish President Lech Kaczynski said, "We must teach the truth, the harsh truth, which today some influential and powerful people might not like."

"Apathy, indifference and forgetting the lessons of history lead to tragedy," said Russian Education Minister Andrei Fursenko.

Some 150 former prisoners, along with some 200 members of the European Parliament and other assemblies, also attended the ceremonies.

Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, an Auschwitz survivor who served twice as Poland's foreign minister, said he was 18 when he first went through the camp's main gates notoriously marked, "Arbeit Macht Frei" (work sets you free). Bartoszewski said he never thought he would survive Hitler's regime.

"The question is, do we do anything with this knowledge?" Bartoszewski said, noting that information on racism was widely available today. "Do we stand on the side of the victims, or of those who know but do nothing?"

Bartoszewski said the world ignored the plight of the prisoners during World War II, despite the efforts of a secret organization at the camp that carried messages to the outside world.

"The Polish resistance - civilian and army - informed and alarmed the free world, the governments of Great Britain and the United States, which in the last quarter of 1942 clearly had an idea of what was going on in Auschwitz-Birkenau," Bartoszewski said. "No nation in the world, however, reacted in an adequate way to the weight of the problem."

The Third International Holocaust Forum was held earlier Wednesday in neighboring Krakow, and was addressed by European Parliament President Jerzy Buzek.

Buzek said it was Europe's responsibility to "remember and educate" about the Holocaust.

"The European Union was created so the nightmare of war would never be repeated," Buzek was quoted by PAP as saying. "And the Nazi extermination camp Auschwitz is also a symbol for the Union."

The "Let My People Live" forum included video messages from US President Barack Obama and French President Nicolas Sarkozy.

Sarkozy called on Europe to build peace, affirm stability and strengthen the continent because the experience of Auschwitz makes that necessary today and in the future, PAP reported.

Obama said that anti-Semitism and racism must be resisted, and he warned against becoming a passive witness to evil.

"We have the sacred duty to remember the twisted thinking that led here," Obama said in the recorded message.

Officials at the Auschwitz-Birkenau museum launched the day's ceremonies Wednesday morning by laying flowers and candles near a wall by block 11, where Nazis shot down thousands of Poles during World War II.

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САРКОЗИ ИСКА СПОМЕНЪТ ЗА ХОЛОКОСТА ДА СЕ ЗАПАЗИ ЖИВ

Президентът Франция Никола Саркози обяви, че споменът за жертвите на Холокоста трябва да бъде запазен жив, предаде АФП. "Човечеството е длъжно да помни жертвите на Холокоста", заяви Никола Саркози, като по този начин потвърди подкрепата на Франция за инициативи, целящи да поддържат жив спомена за геноцида над еврейския народ.

"Тази памет е задължение на човечеството. Необходимост и свещена мисия е възстановяването на човешкото достойнство и индивидуалност на тези деца, жени и мъже, подложени на нещо неизразимо и непонятно", написа Саркози в писмо до **председателя на Европейския еврейски конгрес Моше Кантор** по повод 65-годишнината от освобождаването на концлагера Аушвиц.

"Аушвиц е символ на абсолютното зло, отпечатан с нажежено желязо в човешкото съзнание", допълва френският държавен глава.

BARACK OBAMA PIDE NO OLVIDAR LA HISTORIA EN DÍA CONMEMORACIÓN DEL HOLOCAUSTO

El presidente norteamericano, Barack Obama, pidió hoy "no olvidar jamás" la tragedia vivida entre las alambradas del campo de concentración nazi de Auschwitz, liberado hace 65 años por tropas soviéticas y principal escenario del Holocausto que dejó en Europa seis millones de judíos asesinados.

Las palabras del mandatario estadounidense, que no estará presente en los actos de conmemoración del Holocausto, que a lo largo del día están previstos en Cracovia y Oswiecim (Auschwitz en polaco), llegaron a través de un vídeo-mensaje emitido en el Foro **Internacional del Holocausto 'Let my people live'** ('Dejad a mi gente vivir'), que tuvo lugar en la Opera de Cracovia.

Obama quiso agradecer a Polonia sus esfuerzos para mantener el museo y el centro de interpretación de la historia de Auschwitz-Birkenau, "un lugar del que todos debemos aprender".

El dirigente norteamericano también se refirió a los ex prisioneros de este campo de concentración, a los que calificó de "memoria viva" y ejemplo en la lucha "contra el antisemitismo y cualquier otra forma de intolerancia".

Quien sí estuvo presente fue el presidente del Parlamento Europeo, el polaco Jerzy Buzek, que destacó la necesidad de poner en práctica los programas educativos necesarios para que los europeos no olviden y aprendan la lecciones de un pasado trágico.

"Recuerdo el reciente robo del letrero 'Arbeit macht frei' ('El trabajo libera', sustraído el pasado mes de diciembre y recuperado días después por la policía polaca), un acto abominable que representa esa falta de educación y respeto que tenemos que combatir", señaló Buzek.

Ésta es la tercera edición del Foro Internacional del Holocausto, una iniciativa promovida por el Congreso Europeo Judío con el objetivo de mantener viva la memoria de quienes perecieron bajo la barbarie nazi y luchar para que en el futuro no se repitan acontecimientos similares.

"Recordar el pasado para enfrentar los retos actuales" es el lema elegido en esta ocasión, "un momento histórico en el que Irán y su intención de dotarse armas nucleares se han convertido en la gran amenaza mundial", señaló el presidente del Consejo Judío, Moshe Kantor.

Hoy es el día designado por Naciones Unidas para la conmemoración del Holocausto, una fecha que coincide con la liberación hace 65 años por parte del ejército soviético del campo de concentración nazi de Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Se estima que seis millones de judíos fueron asesinados en Europa durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial como resultado de la 'Solución Final' puesta en marcha por el régimen nacionalsocialista de Adolf Hitler.

De ellos, más de un millón perdieron la vida entre las alambradas de Auschwitz, el campo de exterminio alemán más mortífero de entre los seis que llegaron a existir en Polonia.

THE LAST SURVIVORS RETURN TO AUSCHWITZ

On a midwinter morning at the Auschwitz-Birkenau memorial site, jagged icicles cling to the buildings.

Yet this week, visitors made their way under the famous gate - with a replica sign "Arbeit Macht Frei", following the theft of the original last month - seemingly oblivious to the cold. They came to learn, to absorb and to bring a message home.

Wednesday marked the 65th anniversary of the liberation of this notorious death camp. About 1.5 million people were murdered here; 90 per cent of the victims were Jews.

Several events were held marking this day here: an international conference for ministers of education, at Auschwitz; **the third annual "Let My People Live" forum sponsored by the European Jewish Congress**, the World Holocaust Forum and Yad Vashem, in Krakow; and the ceremonies at the site of Auschwitz-Birkenau itself, featuring addresses by Israeli President Benjamin Netanyahu, Polish President Lech Kaczynski, European Parliament President Jerzy Buzek and others.

At the same time, Israeli President Shimon Peres addressed the Bundestag in Berlin, speaking Hebrew - not far from Wannsee, where the Nazis mapped out their industrialised mass murder of Europe's Jews in 1942.

Though most thoughts were focused on remembrance, there were also warnings today about current dangers - particularly related to a nuclear Iran.

"Like our neighbours, we identify with the millions of Iranians who revolt against dictatorship and violence," said Mr Peres. "Like them, we reject a fanatic regime. A regime which threatens destruction, accompanied by nuclear plants and missiles and which activates terror in its country and in other countries. This regime is a danger to the entire world."

Since the last major ceremonies at Auschwitz five years ago, many survivors have died. Still, some were at the former camp this week, remembering.

Liberation came on a winter much like today, recalled one survivor.

"It was snowing heavily," said Eva Kor, who survived Josef Mengele's experiments. "Then I saw the Russian soldiers. And they were smiling. They gave us hugs and chocolate and cookies. And it tasted wonderful."

On Wednesday, at a forum in Krakow, the veterans shared their remembrances of 65 years ago.

"The scene was really ugly," recalled Yakov Vinnichenko, 85. "The Nazis left people there who could not walk, some could not talk. They were really weak - some were on the brink of death."

"The first thing I saw were huge buildings and electrified fences," said fellow veteran Ivan Martynushkin, who like Mr Vinnichenko is not Jewish. "I am here because of the suffering in my heart. It is our duty to tell."

Observers said the urgency of Holocaust education was underscored this week after Polish Catholic Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek suggested Jews were "using the tragedy for propaganda".

Anyone who "says something like this, in the centre of a murdered civilisation, he is a bloody antisemite, and that's it," said European Jewish Congress President Moshe Kantor.

EU PARLIAMENT PRESIDENT CALLS THE HOLOCAUST "THE GREATEST EVER HUMAN TRAGEDY"

The European Parliament's Polish President Jerzy Buzek described the Holocaust as "the greatest ever human tragedy", 65 years after the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Buzek, participated Wednesday to ceremonies commemorating the liberation of the Nazi death camp and of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

"I am here today as a representative of the citizens of a united Europe," he said. "But the path to this point was a long and painful one," **he said at a forum "Let My People Live" organized in new Opera of Krakow by the European Jewish Congress**, World Holocaust Forum, and Yad Vashem.

"The European Union was created so that the nightmare of war will never be repeated. The Nazi death camp at Auschwitz is also a symbol for the Union."

European institutions are loudest in demanding respect for human rights and it is an obligation we have to follow," he said.

The former Polish Prime Minister said we must learn from our past, and warned that future generations are "not allowed to forget" what happened in Auschwitz.

"It is our duty as Europeans to ensure remembrance and to educate," he said.

He presented the recent theft of the Auschwitz "Arbeit macht frei" Nazi entrance sign as an example of "appalling lack of memory and lack of education" and announced the establishment of a new European forum, that will concentrate on taking action for human rights.

Government representatives from several European countries, representatives of Jewish organizations, survivors, – among them Tel Aviv's chief rabbi Meir Lau-, and Russian veterans who help liberate Auschwitz I attended the forum during which an evocative opera performance depicted the suffering of Jews at the hands of the Nazis.

In his speech, World Jewish Congress President Ronald Lauder, warned again "another horror coming to our world." "I am talking about Iran."

"We have a man who denies the Holocaust, who talks about the destruction of Israel and hatred of Jews."

He called on international leaders to "take Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad] seriously".

"Unless we do, we have great problems in store," he warned. "The EU must continue to fight against this tyrant with the rest of the free world."

During the forum European Jewish Congress President Moshe Kantor presented the idea of creating a University of "global security and tolerance.

"These twins, security and tolerance, cannot live without each other, like the life on our planet cannot exist without water. We need tolerance like oxygen, but unlimited tolerance is the biggest threat to security," he said.

The university would be a project jointly undertaken by the EU, Russia and the U.S. The European Council on Tolerance and Reconciliation (ETCR) is set to establish a foundation for the project, and detail its objectives, location, legal basis and funding.

CEREMONIES OF 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION

Sirens wailed at the former Nazi Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp Wednesday afternoon as ceremonies began in a biting Polish winter cold to mark the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the symbol of the extermination of the Jews by the Nazis.

Auschwitz survivors, Soviet veterans and leaders including Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gathered for the emotionally-charged memorial event in a tent specially dressed for the event in Birkenau near the remnants of a crematorium where dozens of Jews were burned alive every day between 1943 until the liberation of the camp by Soviet soldiers on January 27, 1945.

Netanyahu was to deliver a speech following addresses by survivors and Poland's President Lech Kaczynski.

Tel Aviv's Polish-born Chief Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, a Holocaust orphan who survived as a child in Nazi camps, was to recite the Kaddish, or Jewish prayer of mourning.

A total of 1.3 million people perished at Auschwitz-Birkenau - 1.1 million of them Jews from across occupied Europe -- mostly killed in gas chambers but also from shooting, hanging, starvation, disease, slave labour and pseudo-medical experiments.

The former death camp has become an enduring reminder of Nazi German genocide during World War II which claimed the lives of six million European Jews.

In 2005, the United Nations declared January 27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Ahead of the official ceremonies, US President Barack Obama spoke of the "sacred duty to remember the cruelty" of Auschwitz and of "resisting anti-Semitism and ignorance in all its forms" in a video address aired **at a forum organised by the European Jewish Congress (EJC)** in Krakow.

"Auschwitz is the symbol of absolute evil that remains seared on the human conscience," French President Nicolas Sarkozy wrote in a message to Polish and European Jewish leaders as he underscored France's commitment to preserve the memory of the Holocaust.

Members of parliaments visit Auschwitz-Birkenau

Some hundred members of the European Parliament, MPs from national parliaments and members of the Knesset, Israel's parliament, - including an Arab Israeli MP- brought for the third consecutive year by the "European Friends of Israel" (EFI), a pro-Israel lobby, had an emotional visit in the extermination camp Wednesday morning.

For some of them it was the first such experience, like British MEP Charles Tannock who said he was particularly moved by the picture of a young children in the Auschwitz Museum. "I just thought of my own girl, of the same age" he said.

"It is very important to be here and what you see is a depressing memory, something not understandable. It's a journey that gives you food for thought and inspiration on how to avoid atrocities like this here," Gunnar Hokmark, EFI President and Vice-Chairman of the European People's Party group at the European Parliament, told EJP.

"I really cannot understand those who express doubts about the Holocaust. The evidence is so clear," he added.

Hungary's ambassador in Warsaw stressed that Auschwitz "is the largest Hungarian cemetery" since around 500,000 Hungarian Jews died in the camp. "I come here regularly and I say loudly this must never happen again," Robert Kiss declared.

Accompanied by rabbis and carrying European and Israeli flags, the group lit six candles in memory of the six million Jews from across Europe who were exterminated in the Holocaust.

Lithuanian-born Holocaust survivor and Tel Aviv resident Baruch Shub, 85, said he still bore the emotional scars of his suffering.

"There's a lot of sorrow, because when I came home, I found nobody in my family alive. But also a bit of happiness because the war was over and I'd somehow stayed alive," Shub said.

ADDRESS TO THE EJC 'LET MY PEOPLE LIVE' CONFERENCE ORGANISED ON THE OCCASION OF THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF THE KL AUSCHWITZ



President Jerzy Buzek welcomed by Moshe Kantor, President of the European Jewish Congress (EJC), at the conference by EJC 'Let My People Live'

Prime Minister,
Representatives of Jewish organisations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Distinguished Guests,

I was born during the war in a country occupied by Nazi Germany, only a few dozen kilometres from the Auschwitz extermination camp, then in the process of being built. It was not until many years later that I realised that I, a defenceless child, had been so close to the equally defenceless victims of a murderous regime.

I am here today in Kraków as a representative of the peoples of a united Europe. A Europe that is proud of its identity; proud of having been able to reach a consensus in spite of the obstacles. But the journey towards that consensus was a long and difficult one. I am here today with more than 20 MEPs from different Member States.

The Shoah is an incomparable tragedy. We are here together to express our solidarity and honour the memory of the tragedy that was the Holocaust.

In the immediate aftermath of the war, the calls that had been made by Jews outside occupied Europe to stop the killing were still fresh in people's minds. Those calls were not given credence at the

time, nor were the reports by the Polish underground and the 'Auschwitz volunteer', Cavalry Captain Witold Pilecki.

The peoples of Europe had no option but to overcome that dreadful trauma. And overcome it they did.

Sixty-five years have now passed since the hell that was Auschwitz came to an end. The camp was liberated by the soldiers of the Red Army, who shed their blood in the fight against Nazism. For that, we shall be forever grateful to them.

However, those same soldiers belonged to the army of yet another totalitarian state. They entered this territory with a message of liberation from the Nazi death machine, but their arrival merely marked the onset of the Soviet scourge.

In a Europe that was on its knees, life slowly and painfully returned to normal. Hopes of lasting peace and dignity began to emerge; hopes of a world in which people would live free among the free, and equal among equals. Here, in the countries governed by Stalin's henchmen, those hopes grew as each new wall went up.

To begin with, it looked as if local Jewish life would also resume. By 1948, synagogues, yeshivas and mikvahs had opened again. But the new brand of totalitarianism would not allow people to live free either, and in Central and Eastern Europe, Jewish spiritual life started to die out.

The period of subjugation came to an end with the return of democracy 20 years ago, which enabled the Union of Jewish Religious Communities in Poland to be re-established. That union now forms part of the European Jewish Congress, our host today. It is thanks to that rebirth that Polish Jews today have their own rabbis and their own synagogues. And it is thanks to the victory of democracy that today we are able together to honour the millions of people who perished in Auschwitz. Together among the peoples of a united Europe; together with our Jewish and Roma brothers and sisters. Free among the free; equal among equals.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The European Union - whose citizens are represented in the Parliament of which I am the President - came into being in order to prevent any recurrence of the nightmare of war. And Auschwitz is a symbol for the European Union too, as was borne out by the election of Simone Veil, a former extermination camp inmate, as the President of the first democratically elected European Parliament.

Today we are the EU institution that calls loudest and strongest for respect to be shown for human rights. We are determined to ensure that lessons are learned from the tragic events of the past.

It is our duty as Europeans to ensure remembrance and to educate. Those who lived through the hell of the camps never forget. But there are fewer and fewer of them among us. The others - the younger generations - must not be allowed to forget. The further away we are from those events, the more the years pass, the more important remembrance becomes.

The recent theft of the historic sign 'Arbeit macht frei' was an example of the failure to remember, and of a lack of education. The theft for former detainees was like stealing a sacred object. It is to be welcomed that the police swiftly caught the young thieves. But it is to be deplored that nobody taught them to respect what is sacred.

That is why, when I was Prime Minister, we launched the Oświęcim Strategic Government Programme (Oświęcim is the city where the Memorial and Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp is located), the principal aim of which is to conserve and show proper reverence for this site of mass extermination of Jews, Poles and other peoples. To our Jewish brothers and sisters, who, over the centuries, have built their own unique world of culture and learning, Auschwitz is and will remain the symbol of mass murder - of the Shoah, the Holocaust.

We also made a start on setting up an International Centre of Education in Oświęcim. At the time, the March of the Living had already been in place for 10 years, providing young Israelis with a lesson in history. A lesson which all nations still need to learn.

The European Parliament is now building a House of European History, a state-of-the-art museum that will serve to educate people about the most important - and, like the Holocaust, most tragic - events in our European history.

Today it is our duty to defend democracy and human rights. And no one can release us from this obligation. That is why on 9 December I and four former Presidents of the European Parliament signed a declaration marking the 61st anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of

Human Rights. In that declaration we called on politicians to make the struggle to uphold those rights an integral part of their work and of everything they do.

To the spirits of our forebears who were murdered in Auschwitz-Birkenau, we can say that we are all here together in order to ensure that their tragedy - which is our tragedy too - is never repeated.

Today, in this place, as we call with all our hearts for there to be **NO MORE WAR**, we must also call for a **LIFE OF FREEDOM AND DIGNITY AND FOR SCRUPULOUS RESPECT TO BE SHOWN FOR HUMAN AND CITIZENS' RIGHTS**.

מתים-חיים ראינו: ושיחזרו חזרו אושוויץ משחררי

סיפר מהם אחד. ניצולים עם, אושוויץ ההשמדה מחנה בשחרור שהשתתפו, האדום בצבא קצינים שני נפגשו בקרקוב "לחלוטין זה את לעכל אפשר אי הזה היום עצם עד, בהלם ממש היינו": שעבר על קרקוב, שלו ענת

שנה 65 לציין בפולין רבים התאספו, העולם ברחבי (ד') אתמול שנערכו הבינלאומי השואה יום אירועי גרתבמס **let my people live** נקרא אשר פורום היה האירועים מאותם אחד. האדום הצבא חיילי ידי-על, בירקנאו-אושוויץ ההשמדה מחנה לשחרור היה ניתן ובשוליו פולין ממשלת בחסות בקרקוב נערך האירוע. האירופי-היהודי הקונגרס ביוזמת שנערך, **people live**, כבוד ואותות מדליות עטורי אנשים שני בהן, מעניינות דמויות לגלות

נקוויניצ יעקב. ההשמדה מחנה משחררי עם שנמנים, האדום בצבא בדימוס קצינים, רוסים קשישים שני הם השניים מחנה את ששרד שואה ניצול, ישראל אלברטו עם נפגשים בעודם, התרגשותם את מסתירים אינם מריטונישקין ואיוואן בירקנאו-אושוויץ ההשמדה

להם. זרועו על החקוק המספר את ולעיתונאים לשניים הראה אלברטו. ידיים ולחצו התחבקו והמשוחרר המשחררים הראשונה הפעם אינה שזו, יןמריטונישק אמר, "טוב ומרגיש חי שהוא לראות נהדר". המספר את יש ולו - המדליות את יש מהמחנה ניצולים עם להיפגש. המחנה לשחרור שנה 60 לציון באירועים, שנים חמש לפני נפגשנו". באלברטו פוגש שהוא של המשמעות מהי חש אני, ניצולים לפגוש לי שיוצא פעם בכל. נהדר פשוט זה - טוב במצב שהם לראות מזאת ויתרה "חיים הצלת של, המעשים

הם, והשבים העוברים עם כשוחחו. עבר לכל חיכו והם, אליהם רבה לב תשומת משכו ומריטונישקין צנקו'ניו אך. נקוויניצ חידד, "הצבאי שירותי במהלך פעמים ארבע שנוריתי לאחר זו את קיבלתי". מדיהם שעל המדליות על הסבירו מימדי שנודעו לפני עוד, ההשמדה למחנה לראשונה כנסנו בו היום לאותו חוזרים כשהם, התקופה לאותה עוברת כשהשיחה למעמד כיאות, מרצינים הם, הזוועה

מקום בכל בלוקים היה לאושוויץ נכנסנו כאשר שראיתי זוכר שאני הראשון הדבר": וסיפר בגרנו כחכה נקוויניצ היה זה. הניצולים את לראות שהגענו עד זמן לקח. מקום בכל היו גם תיל גדרות. בלוקים ועוד בלוקים בלוקים - עבר מכל מתים-חיים אותם על חושב שאני צמרמורת בי עוברת עדיין. ספק ללא, האמיתי ההלם קשה מצב היה זה, המום הייתי. במציאות זה את לראות כמו דבר אותו לא זה אבל, היום בתמונות זה את רואים ולא אירופה מדינות מכל הגיעו שהם בגלל וגם, מצבם בגלל גם - תסאי ולתקשר לנסות קשה היה גם. אותי מילאו צמרמורות "משותפת שפה לנו היתה

אפשר אי הזה היום עצם עד, בהלם ממש היינו. שם קרה מה בדיוק להבין רגע באותו קשה היה": הוסיף מריטונישקין "לחלוטין זה את לעכל

מלחמת במורשת ברסיה צעירים מביעים אותה ייןהענ מידת לגבי מריטונישקין כשנשאל, השואה זכר מבחינת שלא יש, שמתעניינים יש. פשוט לא זה, העניין מידת מבחינת": מסביר הוא השואה וכמובן אושוויץ שחרור, השנייה העולם חזקות הן התגובות. אפשרי בלתי זה - אחת בבת הכל מספרים אם. השואה זכר את להם מנחילים באיך מאוד תלוי זה אבל, עומס יוצר זה, האלה האיומים הפרטים כל את יחדיו לדחוס אפשר שאי הוא נכדיי באמצעות היתר בין שלמדתי מה, סיפורים חשוב לכן, השואה את ומכחישים הסיפורים את דוחים הצעירים בו מצב נוצר פעמים הרבה. ולהאמין לעכל קשה בו מצב "לעיכול אפשרית בלתי בזוועה מדוברש ספק אין. ובהדרגה במתינות הדברים את לספר תמיד

**EN UNA CARTA ENVIADA AL PRESIDENTE DEL CONGRESO JUDÍO EUROPEO,
SARKOZY INSTÓ QUE "RECORDAR A LAS VÍCTIMAS DEL HOLOCAUSTO ES UN
DEBER DE LA HUMANIDAD"**

El presidente de Francia, Nicolas Sarkozy, aseguró que recordar a las víctimas del Holocausto es un "deber de la Humanidad".

En una carta enviada al presidente del Congreso Judío Europeo, Moshe Kantor, Sarkozy afirmó que Europa tiene "un deber histórico" hacia las víctimas de la "Shoa".

"La memoria es un deber de la Humanidad. Es una exigencia, una misión sagrada, la de restituir la dignidad humana y sus singularidades a esos niños, mujeres, hombres, que afrontaron lo indecible, lo inconcebible", escribió el presidente galo.

Sarkozy señaló el campo de Auschwitz como "el símbolo de la Shoa" y "del Mal", por el asesinato de millones de judíos de toda Europa.

Asimismo, remarcó que además de Auschwitz tampoco hay que olvidar otros campos de exterminio nazi en la actual Polonia, como Blezec, Sobibor, Treblinka o Chelmno.

En una segunda carta, dirigida esta vez al presidente de Polonia, Lech Kaczynski, Sarkozy le aseguró que Francia "seguirá con su compromiso a favor de todas las iniciativas y proyectos destinados a perpetuar el recuerdo del genocidio contra el pueblo judío y de todas las víctimas civiles y militares salvajemente asesinadas en los campos nazis".

Por ello, agradeció particularmente al presidente polaco "su compromiso personal", con acciones como la construcción del futuro Museo de los Judíos en Polonia.

Sarkozy, cuya madre es de origen judío, ya se había mostrado particularmente sensible con el Holocausto y en 2008 anunció una polémica iniciativa para "confiar la memoria" de cada uno de los 11.000 niños judíos víctimas de la Shoa a cada escolar francés de 10 años.

Poco después, y ante las fuertes críticas que suscitó el proyecto del presidente por la posibilidad de que causara un impacto traumático en los escolares, la idea fue abandonada por el Ministerio de Educación.

SARKOZY: RECORDAR A LAS VÍCTIMAS DEL HOLOCAUSTO ES UN DEBER DE LA HUMANIDAD

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BIBI AT AUSCHWITZ: READY TO FIGHT NEW AMALEK

Israel is prepared to fight a new Amalek 65 years after the liberation of Auschwitz, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at the former death camp.

At a ceremony Wednesday marking International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Netanyahu said Auschwitz is a reminder that one must warn the world of dangers while defending oneself.

"We will always remember what the Nazi Amalek did to us, and we won't forget to be prepared for the new Amalek, who is making an appearance on the stage of history and once again threatening to destroy the Jews," he said. "We will not take this lightly and believe that these are empty statements. We will not be calm as if threats and denial of the Holocaust were just blank words. We will never forget and always remember to stand guard."

International and Jewish leaders, Auschwitz survivors and Russian Red Army veterans who liberated the camp joined Netanyahu in warning not to forget what the Nazis perpetrated against humanity.

Polish President Lech Kaczynski and other Polish officials, the president of the European Parliament and several Israeli lawmakers were on hand for the ceremony.

It was one of several Holocaust Remembrance Day events held Wednesday in Poland. Others included an international conference for ministers of education at the concentration camp memorial site and **the third annual "Let My People Live" forum at the Krakow opera house sponsored by the European Jewish Congress, the World Holocaust Forum and Yad Vashem.**

Several speakers warned specifically against ignoring the words of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who has denied the Holocaust and threatened Israel verbally.

Speaking at the "Let My People Live" forum, World Jewish Congress President Ronald Lauder said Ahmadinejad's words are reminiscent of Hitler's and that unless we take these threats seriously, "we will have serious problems ahead."

Yad Vashem Chairman Rabbi Meir Lau, who survived Dachau and Buchenwald, said at the forum that "Leaders of the world, 65 years after the Holocaust, have to learn from my mother," who handed him to an older brother in hopes of saving his life. He was 7 years old and never again saw his mother.

"When there is a threat, danger of extinction of society, make a decision," Lau said. "Be brave enough, determined enough. Don't hesitate."

**NETANYAHU AT AUSCHWITZ: WORLD MUST UNITE TO CONFRONT NEW THREATS
Holocaust teaches that murderers must be stopped before they act, says PM in apparent
reference to Iran.**

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told dignitaries gathered at the Auschwitz extermination camp on Wednesday that the world must learn from the Holocaust to unite against new threats.

In what was apparently a thinly veiled reference to Iran, Netanyahu called on the international community to come together to confront “impending dangers”.

Israel believes Iran to be building a nuclear bomb and views the Islamic Republic as an existential threat. Iran insists its nuclear program is purely for civilian purposes.

“We must warn of the impending danger to the rest of the world and at the same time to be ready to defend ourselves,” Netanyahu said. “The most important lesson from the Shoah is that murderous evil must be stopped as soon as possible, before it can realize its schemes.”

“We the Jewish people learned the lesson [of the Holocaust] well after we lost one-third of our people,” Netanyahu said, adding that a strong state of Israel with a powerful army was the only guarantee of preventing a second Holocaust.

“I pledge as prime minister that we will never let the hand of evil harm our people and our state, never again,” he said.

Netanyahu added: “All enlightened nations must absorb this lesson,” pledging that as the head of the state of he would not to allow a “new Amalek” to threaten again to destroy the Jewish nation - a reference to a biblical king who waged war against the Jews.

Earlier on Wednesday, Pope Benedict XVI recalled the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camp of Auschwitz, and event which revealed “the unprecedented cruelty,” of the Nazi Holocaust.

The 82-year-old pontiff made the remarks in his native German during his weekly general audience.

“On 27 January 1945, the gates of the Nazi concentration camp near the Polish city of Oswiecim, better known by its German name of Auschwitz, were opened and the few survivors freed,” Benedict said.

“That event, and the testimony of those who survived, revealed to the world the horror of the crimes of unprecedented cruelty committed in the extermination camps created by Nazi Germany,” added the pope, who as a teenager - like most others at the time - had been a member of the Hitler Youth in the waning days of the war.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day which is being marked in several European nations, serves, according to Benedict, to recall “the planned annihilation of the Jews, and to honor those who, at the risk of their own lives, protected the persecuted and sought to oppose the murderous insanity.”

Benedict earlier this month made his first visit as pontiff to Rome’s Jewish main synagogue, an event dogged by a row over his recent elevation towards sainthood of World War II-era pontiff, Pius XII.

Critics say Pius failed to speak out against the Nazi persecution and murder of Jews, but Benedict and other supporter say he acted behind the scenes to ensure that Catholic-run institutions including convents and monasteries sheltered those fleeing from the crimes.

On Wednesday, Benedict said the Holocaust should serve as a universal lesson and “arouse ever greater respect for the dignity of each person, so that all mankind may feel itself to be one large family.”

“May omnipotent God illuminate hearts and minds, that such tragedies never happen again,” he said.

Meanwhile on Wednesday, Auschwitz survivors, bundled against the cold and snow, gathered at the site of the former death camp to mark the 65th anniversary of its liberation.

Survivors, some with grown children - along with others there to honor the millions killed by the Nazis - moved among the barracks and watchtowers of Auschwitz and Birkenau, neighboring camps that stand as powerful symbols of the Holocaust.

Six million Jews were killed by the Nazis and their collaborators during World War II, including 1 million at the Auschwitz and Birkenau camps.

Jews gather in Krakow to commemorate Holocaust

Some the leaders of world Jewry convened on Wednesday in Krakow to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Almost all the speakers at the meeting referred directly or indirectly to the Iranian threat.

Moshe Kantor, president of the European Jewish Congress referred to Iran in telling reporters at the Krakow opera house that “endless tolerance to intolerance” was a grave threat, and that this is a “present-day” lesson.

The European Jewish Congress’ event at the opera house was one of the major events, and was held ahead of the central ceremony at Auschwitz-Birkenau, which Netanyahu also attended along with European Parliament president Jerzy Buzek and other dignitaries.

In his speech at the opera house, Buzek referred also to the suffering of East European countries under Communism. Buzek last year expressed support for naming August 23 a combined commemoration day for victims of Nazism and Stalinism. **But leading Holocaust scholars called this attitude “the most serious threat facing the preservation of the memory of the Holocaust” and a “trivialization” of the Holocaust.**

Yad Vashem Chairman spoke after Buzek, and said he was “concerned” about attempt to equate the Holocaust with other catastrophes.

Ron Lauder, president of the World Jewish Congress, was the only speaker who referred directly to Iran and its president, Mahmoud Ahmedinejad, as a Holocaust denier. Lauder urged the European Union and European Parliament “to continue” to be “a powerful institution” working against” Iran’s drive to acquire nuclear weapons.

One of the most evocative speakers at Krakow was former chief rabbi of Israel Israel Meir Lau, himself a Polish-born Holocaust survivor. He recalling how his mother pushed him away from her when he was 7.5 years old during a selection process in 1942 en route to a concentration camp.

“My mother sensed I would have a better chance of surviving with the men than with the women and children,” he said. “When dealing with matters of life or death, one needs to make very difficult choices.” Lau, who never saw his mother after that, said that world leaders needed to learn from his mother.

“Make a decision,” he told the crowd of media people and EU legislators. “Be brave and determined to save lives. Don’t hesitate. A coalition of allies can save the world from a madman and a mad phenomenon.

EUROPE REMEMBERS HOLOCAUST, BUT FORGETS RED ARMY HEROISM. WHY?

The role of the USSR and the Red Army in the liberation of Europe from fascism was once indisputable. In the recent years, European parliamentarians keep bringing on new “discoveries.” The campaign to re-write history commenced 20 years ago with a publication of the book called “Icebreaker,” written by a fugitive Soviet intelligence officer Victor Rezun (Suvorov) who defected to the UK military base. He was the first one to place an equal sign between Hitler and Stalin and Wehrmacht and the Red Army.

Russia is fiercely resisting the revisionists and falsifiers. Yet, it seems that deafness and memory lapses are the signature diseases of the European parliamentarianism that started out as a focal disease under Napoleon and spread out like an epidemic during the Crimean War. On the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz (Osventsim) concentration camp, a reporter from Komsomolskaya Pravda has discovered that Russia had authoritative and uncompromising allies in the struggle against falsifiers. **They include Moshe (Vyacheslav) Kantor, the President of the Russian Jewish Congress.** We began our conversation with the Holocaust tragedy, the tragedy of the specific nation, but then realized that this tragedy could not be singled out and separated from the history of Europe and Russia, no matter how great the temptation.

"Sixty five years later we learned a few lessons from those events. Obviously, the role of the Red Army in the liberation of Auschwitz is underappreciated in Europe and the world in general. We have to take advantage of the fact that we still have living witnesses, the soldiers who participated in the liberation. In November, I addressed the Russian President asking him to give awards to all liberators. I hope they will receive their awards by the 65th anniversary of World War II Victory. My father was a soldier of the Red Army. For me, the Holocaust is a personal issue since the majority of my family has died from it. I am mostly interested in the lessons we learned from that tragedy. I would name four lessons. First, the Holocaust was a tragedy that united Europe. Second, during every crisis, tolerance is the most sought-after quality. Third, all fanatic regimens fail, as it happened in Europe. Fourth, the only existing safety is that of global nature."

“Who brought about the Holocaust and who finished it?”

"A number of times I made proposals that could help putting an end to attempts to re-write World War II history. I proposed to re-name the Holocaust Memorial Day into the Day of Liberation of Auschwitz by the Red Army. I was told this proposal is being considered. On the other hand, the Holocaust is not a topic that could be brought to light by politics. Art is the only thing that can bring it to light as it addresses human emotions instead of consciousness. I met a woman who went through four concentration camps. The first camp was the scariest, for nursing women. It was located in Eastern Europe and had three hundred women imprisoned. They would nurse in the morning and leave for work to come back in the evening. Once they came back and the kids were not there. They were told that the children were used as donors. This woman told me she had no fear left after that happened.

"Not that long ago, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe acknowledged the resemblance of the two totalitarian systems, “brown” and “red.” Do you agree with this position?

"Historically, everyone can be compared to everyone. But this is the question of who paid the highest price for holocaust in terms of human lives. There is a certain deceit in the attempts to compare Hitler and Stalin. We are not talking about historic personas; we are talking about the role of the Red Army in World War II. I believe that Russia paid the highest price for the liquidation of the civilized catastrophe."

“We should fight with governments and regiments, not peoples.”

"For many years Russia has been fighting the revival of Nazism in former Baltic Republics. I think you have a very good idea of how Russian veterans are treated there. After another court hearing in Latvia involving veterans, we initiated the so-called “anti-sprat” movement. With the help of our readers, we were able to decrease the export of canned sprats from Latvia. Latvian businessmen wrote

an open letter to the government asking to re-consider relationship with Russia. This proves that we can fight. For some reason, we never hear voices of influential Jewish organizations condemning such lenient and amicable attitude of the Baltic governments towards the Third Reich. Why?

"The main revisionists are Estonians followed by Latvians and then Lithuanians. This is a general attitude in the Baltic countries. We do condemn them. Yet, I am not convinced that economic boycotting is a right decision for the countries we would like to improve the relations with."

"What are other possible levers?"

"Political. Although there are no problems in the relations between Europe and Baltic republics, there are many Russians living and working in these countries. In October I visited one of our communities in Estonia and was astonished by the strong opposition these people felt against the Estonian government. The same happens in Latvia. In the presence of ideological intolerance we have to leave at least one channel where we can come together."

"So nothing can be done?"

I saw the people who would be the victims of an economic boycott. We should fight with governments and regiments, not peoples. I will tell you a very important story. Five years ago I was in Krakow, Poland, and wanted to pray on Sabbath. I went to Kazimierz district that had all attributes of Jewish culture but no people since they all had died in concentration camps. There is one working synagogue left that barely has enough visitors, mostly tourists. After the prayer, I talked to the head of the community, and he told me that their keeper was the last from the "Schindler's list." I talked to this keeper asking him about the events of those days in his life in a ghetto. He told me that he was hung by a ghetto policeman who was Jewish. A German passing by saw it and said "How dare you hang him without my permission? Take him off!" This policeman was Roman Polanski's father. This story is another proof that you cannot judge people collectively and generalize. Details matter."