



DEBATE PACK

Number 0010, 16 January 2018

General debate on Holocaust Memorial Day 2018

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Summary

This debate pack has been compiled ahead of the general debate on Holocaust memorial day to be held in the Commons Chamber on Thursday 18 January 2018. The subject was determined by the Backbench Business Committee.

Holocaust Memorial Day, 27 January, has taken place in the UK since 2001. Each year, the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust chooses a different theme to enable audiences on Holocaust Memorial Day to learn something new about the past, and to make it easier for HMD activity organisers to create fresh and engaging activities. Every theme is relevant to the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and to each subsequent genocide. This year's theme is the power of words.

More detailed information and advice can be provided by our subject specialist: Paul Bowers.

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The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

1. Press articles

Please note: the Library is not responsible for either the views or accuracy of external content.

When is Holocaust Memorial Day 2018? Special events will take place across UK and the world to remember the Jews killed

Sam Rkaina, Mirror

15 January 2018

There will be dozens of events and exhibitions held to mark the Holocaust on January 27 across the country.

Check local listings in your area for regional events or visit the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust [website here](#) and [Facebook here](#).

Lancaster district to mark Holocaust Memorial Day

Lancaster Guardian

13 Jan 2018

This year's commemorations are based around the theme of 'the power of words' and will run in the lead-up to the national day on January 27.

How you can honour the victims of genocide and The Holocaust

Faith Eckersall, Bournemouth Echo

13 Jan 2018

The daughter of a Jewish Auschwitz survivor and a Syrian teacher will be the main speakers at Bournemouth and Poole's Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations on Sunday January 28.

Holocaust Memorial Day event being held in St Albans

Herts Advertiser

13 Jan 2018

Kim Stern will talk about the 732 child survivors known as 'The Boys' who were rehomed in various countries after the Second World War.

Sophie Shad will talk about her short film, Kitty's Fortune, about the first night a local woman spent in Auschwitz.

What is Holocaust Memorial Day 2018, when is it and how do we commemorate the liberation of Auschwitz?

The Sun

11 Jan 2018

The focus of Holocaust Memorial Day is to remember the atrocities of the Second World War, and ensure that mankind doesn't repeat the

horrific mistakes of its past. The event is also in tribute to those who died in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

[Holocaust Memorial Day 2018: What's on in Newcastle and Gateshead](#)

ChronicleLive

10 Jan 2018

The story of the long-lost factory at White Cross Bay, the workers' village and the Holocaust children has been researched over the last 12 years by Trevor Avery.

[Holocaust Memorial Day event to be held in West Norfolk](#)

Norfolk Eastern Daily Press

12 Jan 2018

The annual Holocaust Memorial Day service will be held in King's Lynn on Sunday, January 21, at the historic Town Hall in the Saturday Market Place.

[Holocaust Memorial Day: Remembering genocide and the power of words](#)

Sr Margaret Shepherd, Independent Catholic News

12 Jan 2018

To mark January 27th, the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust chooses a different theme each year, relevant to the Holocaust and subsequent genocide. This year the theme is The Power of Words.

[Local Holocaust Memorial Day event](#)

Ulster Star

11 Jan 2018

Lisburn City Library will mark Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 with a staged reading by Ad Hoc Theatre Company on Tuesday January 23.

[QUAD to host pair of Holocaust Memorial Day arts events](#)

Belper News

10 Jan 2018

Derby will once again be marking Holocaust Memorial Day with events throughout the week commencing Sunday, January 21.

[Special exhibition honours Holocaust Memorial Day](#)

Christine Sexton, Echo

10 Jan 2018

Basildon Council is commemorating Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 by hosting a special exhibition. The exhibition, in Towngate Theatre, is

titled 'No Child's Play' and it tells the story of survival as children of the Holocaust struggled to hold onto their lives.

Performances will mark Holocaust Day

Ballymena Times

10 Jan 2018

Poignant 'Judgement at Nuremberg' performances are to be held at two venues in Mid and East Antrim to mark Holocaust Memorial Day.

Israeli soccer makes Holocaust memorial project next goal

Ynetnews

10 Jan 2018

The Israeli soccer world has agreed to pitch in to the World Jewish Congress's biggest ever Holocaust memorial initiative.

Archbishop urges churches to commemorate the "vile and shameful" holocaust

Anglican News

9 Jan 2018

The Primate of the Church in Wales, Archbishop John Davies, is encouraging churches, parishes and chaplaincies to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January.

Holocaust Memorial Day in Chelmsford to feature speaker who suffered in Hungarian ghetto

Richard Duggan, Essex Live

9 Jan 2018

Chelmsford City Council has pledged to continue to support Holocaust Memorial Day in an attempt to keep alive the memory of both of those who survived and of those who did not at the hands of the Nazis.

Event marks Holocaust Memorial Day

Carmel Robinson, Lurgan Mail

8 Jan 2018

To mark Holocaust Memorial Day 2018, Brownlow Library will host a special screening of the film 'From Belfast to Dachau'.

Remembering the power of words on Holocaust Memorial Day

Dan Bean, The Press

7 Jan 2018

This year's Holocaust Memorial Day will be marked in libraries around North Yorkshire, to highlight the power of words.

Auschwitz survivor to give talk as part of Holocaust Memorial Day

Nathan Louis, Watford Observer

7 Jan 2018

A World War Two concentration camp survivor will speak to hundreds of students to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD).

Zigi has spent many years travelling the UK sharing his remarkable account of life during the war, whilst educating people of all ages with a message of humanity and hope. In 2016, he was awarded the Order of the British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to Holocaust education.

Auschwitz trip moves Preston Lodge students ahead of Holocaust Memorial Day

Marie Sharp, East Lothian Courier

7 Jan 2018

Two senior students from Preston Lodge High School will lead its preparations marking Holocaust Memorial Day after visiting infamous Nazi death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau on an educational trip.

Renowned Scottish artist to mark National Holocaust Memorial Day

Cumbria Crack

4 Jan 2018

A renowned Scottish artist will mark National Holocaust Memorial Day with an exhibition in Whitehaven. A thought provoking collection of paintings titled Auschwitz: Understanding the Past, Facing the Future will go on show at The Beacon Museum, Whitehaven, on January 13.

Derry Central Library to mark Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 with poetry reading

Derry Now

4 Jan 2018

Derry Central Library will mark Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 with a special poetry session for adults.

Holocaust survivor will speak at Chelmsford Memorial Day **Chelmsford Weekly News**

4 Jan 2018

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 is 'The Power of Words'. We will hear from Edgar Guest about his life in the ghetto, and hope that his personal testimony will reinforce the message that such atrocities should never be allowed to happen again.

Holocaust survivors and cadets take part in special ceremony

Jenny Desborough, Times Series

22 Dec 2017

Cadets at the Royal Military Academy of Sandhurst welcomed Holocaust survivors from Jewish Care's Holocaust survivor's centre in Hendon for a special ceremony ahead of Holocaust Memorial Day.

Holocaust survivors recognised in New Year Honours

Ben Weich & Gloria Tessler, Jewish Chronicle

31 Dec 2017

Olivia Marks-Woldman, chief executive of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, said: "These honours recognise the significant time and effort these survivors and educators have spent furthering understanding of the Holocaust and genocide.

New Year's Honours List: Holocaust survivors, war veteran and AJR chair recognised

Jewish News

29 Dec 2017

Among those recognised are Chaim Olmer, who is made a Medallist of the Order of the British Empire. The Mill Hill resident, 90, is recognised alongside fellow survivors Harry Bibring, 93, Harry Spiro, 88, Josef Perl, 87, Freda Wineman, 94, Leslie Kleinman, 88, and Janine Webber, 85.

Holocaust memorial design winners announced

Lea Harpin, Jewish Chronicle

24 Oct 2017

The winning entry was the unanimous choice of a judging panel which included Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, Mayor of London Sadiq Khan and Holocaust survivor Ben Helfgott.

Horrors of the Holocaust

James Cracknell, Waltham Forest Echo

20 Dec 2017

The Lessons from Auschwitz Project is in its 17th year and has so far enabled 33,000 students and teachers to visit the death camps, aiming to increase knowledge of the Holocaust through its motto; 'hearing is not like seeing'.

2. Press notices

Please note: the Library is not responsible for either the views or accuracy of external content.

Libraries use the power of words to mark Holocaust Memorial Day

North Yorkshire County Council (press release)

2 Jan 2018

Holocaust Memorial Day is for everyone to remember the millions of people killed in the Holocaust during the Second World War and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

From 22 to 29 January displays of posters, leaflets and books from libraries Filey, Harrogate, Knaresborough, Malton, Northallerton, Pickering, Ripon, Scarborough, Skipton, Selby and Whitby will remind visitors of the importance of the day and of the impact words, whether written or spoken, can have.

North Yorkshire County Councillor Greg White, Executive Member for Libraries, said: "North Yorkshire libraries have been involved in Holocaust Memorial Day for many years. This year the theme is particularly relevant to us. We hope people will look at the displays and the books and be moved to think about the meaning of the day. In the words of Dr Martin Stern, a survivor of the Holocaust, 'words can strengthen the thin shield of civilisation - or shatter it'. We must consider carefully how we use them - in writing, on social media and face to face."

Last year, more than 7,700 activities took place across the UK to mark Holocaust Memorial Day, with people coming together in civic halls, public spaces, libraries, cinemas, workplaces, schools and universities.

Olivia Marks-Woldman, Chief Executive of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, said: "On Holocaust Memorial Day we honour the survivors of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides and challenge ourselves to learn important lessons from their experiences in order to create a safer, better future. This year we have an unprecedented number of activities taking place involving people of all ages and from all walks of life, challenging us all to think about what happens after genocide and of our own responsibilities in the wake of such a crime."

For more information about Holocaust Memorial Day and the events taking place, visit hmd.org.uk
Trust on Twitter via @HMD_UK

or follow the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust on Facebook
 and the hashtag #HMD2018.

Adjaye Associates and Ron Arad Architects win UK Holocaust Memorial International Design Competition

UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation and Cabinet Office

24 October 2017

After an international competition, with 92 entries in total and ten finalists, Adjaye Associates, Ron Arad Architects and Gustafson Porter + Bowman were selected unanimously as the winning team, by a jury including the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, the Mayor of London, the Chief Rabbi, experts from architecture, art and design, and both first and second generation Holocaust survivors.

[View images of the winning design here.](#)

The design team will be led by British architect, Sir David Adjaye, who is known for creating sensitive yet compelling designs. His recent work includes the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington D.C. and the Idea Stores in London's Tower Hamlets.

Located next to the Houses of Parliament in Westminster, the new UK Holocaust Memorial will honour the six million Jewish men, women and children who were murdered in the Holocaust, and all other victims of Nazi persecution, including Roma, gay and disabled people.

Its co-located Learning Centre will contextualise the memorial above and use the stories and facts of the Holocaust to explore anti-Semitism, extremism, Islamophobia, racism, homophobia and other forms of hatred and prejudice in society today. From its location next to Parliament, it will ask questions about the role of society and its institutions in encouraging respect for others and preventing hatred.

The jury praised the winning team's proposal to create "a living place, not just a monument to something of the past" and the desire to create an immersive journey for the visitor who would enter a memorial embedded in the land. The jury found the proposal deftly resolved an essential challenge of the brief: being visually arresting ("highly visible from near and far") yet showing sensitivity to its location and context. The concept was found to have clear potential to be developed into an iconic memorial and intriguing educational experience, attracting visitors from the UK and beyond to learn and reflect.

The winning concept is at an early design stage. It will now undergo further development through discussion with Holocaust experts, survivors and other victim groups, and local residents, Westminster City Council, Historic England, Royal Parks and other statutory consultees. As part of this process, the United Kingdom Holocaust Memorial Foundation will also work closely with other organisations and experts on the contents and approach of the co-located Learning Centre.

The jury also awarded honourable mentions to two teams – Heneghan Peng architects and Sven Anderson, and Diamond Schmitt Architects.

Sajid Javid's speech at the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation survivor consultation

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation, and The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP

4 September 2017

Thank you all for joining us here today at what is a truly remarkable gathering of truly remarkable people. I've had the privilege of meeting with a number of you in the past. And one thing I've learned from that is that no two survivors are alike, no two stories are the same.

But those unique experiences, those unique views, are precisely why you've been invited along today.

There are deeply moving monuments to the murdered Jews of Europe in cities around the world. The thousands of concrete columns that comprise the vast memorial in Berlin. The heart-wrenching bronze shoes that line the banks of the Danube in Budapest. The symbolic glass towers that stand opposite City Hall in Boston.

They are all ideally suited to the cities and countries they are in.

But we want a UK memorial that is truly national, one that speaks to the thoughts and feelings and experiences of British survivors.

And that's why your opinions – your honest, open opinions – are so important.

If you think one of the designs is head and shoulders above the rest, don't be embarrassed about saying so. But if you don't rate a design, we want to hear that too. And if you can think of ways to improve a design, share those thoughts too. These are just initial ideas, there's a lot of work still to be done.

I can't promise that the jury will pick your personal favourite. I can't promise that we won't pick your personal least favourite, for that matter! But I can promise that your opinions will carry a great deal of weight.

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build a stunning, inspiring, sobering memorial in a jaw-dropping location. And it's so important that we get the design right.

It's not just important to me, or to the jury. But to the whole country.

Because there are voices out there saying we don't need another reminder of the Holocaust. That it's enough to let it be noted in the history books and the museums. That we should move on.

Such voices couldn't be more wrong.

In recent weeks we've seen people proudly marching through an American city with swastika flags held high. We've seen Jewish children as young as eight being chased through London by a man shouting the foulest anti-Semitic abuse. We've read report after report about the steadily swelling ranks of neo-Nazis and their efforts to become almost respectable by denying or belittling the crimes of their predecessors.

That's why, as the Shoah slides towards the edge of living memory, it becomes ever more important that we refuse to forget it.

That we stand up as a nation and say “No, we will not let the past be airbrushed. We will not allow this country forget what happens when hatred and ignorance and bigotry are allowed to flourish unchecked.”

The UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre will stand as a permanent reminder of what happened.

Constructed right in the heart of our democracy, it will be impossible to ignore or overlook. It will be a lasting tribute both to those who died and to those who survived. And it will be a focal point for reflection and education that will ensure the Holocaust is remembered long after all of us in this room are gone.

And I hope that, with your help, we can choose a design worthy of the 6 million men, women and children who must never be forgotten.

Holocaust survivors warn society against forgetting lessons of history

UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation

1 August 2017

Visitors to the display at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, on the UK's new Holocaust Memorial can experience some of the latest technology being used to preserve the stories of British Holocaust Survivors, from today until 18 August 2017.

Using state-of-the-art natural language processing and voice recognition software, The Forever Project will allow visitors to the museum to interact with a digital recording of Steven Frank, a survivor of Nazi persecution, and to ask him questions about what he lived through and why everyone should learn about the Holocaust today.

The Forever Project filmed 10 survivors who are now in their 70s and 80s. On average each survivor answered more than 1,000 questions, which were pre-recorded using ultra high definition 3d filming techniques. When a live audience asks a question, the technology matches this with the responses, enabling the audience to more deeply engage with the Steven's testimony than would be possible with a normal film – preserving the experience of meeting a survivor of the Holocaust.

With the youngest Holocaust survivors now in their 70s, The Forever Project helps to make sure that their voices will still be heard for generations to come. It is led and developed by the National Holocaust Centre and Museum. It will be featured at the V&A in collaboration with the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation as part of its ongoing display on the designs for the UK's new Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre. The wider display features shortlisted designs for a new national space for remembrance and an educational experience that will challenge visitors to stand up against all forms of hatred and extremism in the modern world, including the discrimination that underpins Antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism and homophobia today.

3. Parliamentary material

3.1 Debates

Online Hate Speech

HC Deb 30 Nov 2017 c c478

[Extract]

Dr Lisa Cameron (East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow)

(SNP): We must take a firm stance against hate speak and ensure that future generations do so as well. Will the Home Secretary and her colleagues consider supporting Holocaust education in schools so that younger generations understand the importance of standing up against discrimination and the very grave consequences of inaction?

Amber Rudd: The hon. Lady makes a very important point, and I thank her for raising it. The Holocaust Educational Trust does incredibly good and important work. I know that because some of the children in my schools in Hastings and Rye have been on such trips, and I have been on one myself. It is a very powerful way of remembering the terrible things that happened, and of learning how by remembering them we can make sure that they do not happen again. I absolutely support her point.

UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

HC Deb 21 Mar 2017 c305-8WH

[Extract]

The Minister for Europe and the Americas (Sir Alan Duncan): We are also supporting projects that tackle anti-Semitism. For example, we are funding the translation into Polish and Romanian of the "Police Officer's Guide to Judaism". That guide to Jewish religious practice is published by the Community Security Trust to help police officers to effectively and sensitively investigate anti-Semitic crimes. As part of our continued commitment to fight anti-Semitism, we remain an active member of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

3.2 Written parliamentary questions

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service

12 Dec 2017

PQ 117270

Sir Edward Leigh: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, for what reasons no public announcement was made of his decision to co-locate the Holocaust Learning Centre with the Memorial in Victoria Tower Gardens.

Mr Marcus Jones (Department for Communities and Local Government): In September 2016, the UK Government announced that designers and architects were being invited to enter an international design competition for a striking new national Memorial commemorating the Holocaust to be constructed in Victoria Tower

Gardens. The announcement made clear that competition entrants were also being invited to incorporate designs for a possible accompanying below-ground learning centre, which would be taken forward subject to technical, financial, planning or other constraints.

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service

12 Dec 2017

PQ 117268

Sir Edward Leigh: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, pursuant to his Answer of 22 November 2017 to Question 111707, what the reasons were for the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation to envisage that the Memorial and Learning Centre would primarily attract people who already visit the area; and what comparative assessment his Department has made of visitors to holocaust memorials in other countries.

Mr Marcus Jones (Department for Communities and Local Government): In seeking a prominent location, it was a key objective of the Holocaust Commission for the Memorial and Learning Centre to benefit from existing high footfall in the surrounding area. This is an important part of its mission to preserve the memory of the Holocaust and to raise awareness and understanding of its lessons for the future. The Government's expectations on visitors to the Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre have been informed by a comparative assessment of visitor numbers to Holocaust memorials around the world.

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service

12 Dec 2017

PQ 117266

Sir Edward Leigh: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, if he will make it his policy to place a limit of £50 million on funding available from the public purse for the Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre.

Mr Marcus Jones (Department for Communities and Local Government): With cross-party support, the Government has committed £50 million as its contribution to kick-start a society-wide fundraising effort to deliver the National Memorial and Learning Centre and its wider educational objectives. The Government's commitment has not changed.

Festivals and Special Occasions

1 Dec 2017

PQ 115312

Andrew Percy: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, whether his Department (a) provides funding for (b) monitors the effectiveness of (i) Holocaust Memorial Day, (ii) Black History Month and (ii) National Hate Crime awareness week.

Mr Marcus Jones (Department for Communities and Local Government): The Department for Communities and Local Government provided £1.15 million in 2017/18 to the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust to deliver the UK Government's annual ceremony as well as local activities across the country. We also provided £25,000 in 2017/18 to Stop Hate UK to support National Hate Crime Awareness Week in October this year. We have provided no funding to Black History Month. The Department monitors the effectiveness of all projects for which we provide funding.

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service

22 Nov 2017

PQ 111729 [Grouped]

Sir Edward Leigh: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, pursuant to the Answer of 16 October 2017 to Question 106036, on the United Kingdom Holocaust Memorial Foundation, how many and which of the organisations consulted in 2015 proposed or supported locating the memorial in Victoria Tower Gardens.

PQ 111709 [Grouped]

Sir Edward Leigh

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, for what reasons the Government decided that the Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre should not be located at the Imperial War Museum.

Mr Marcus Jones (Department for Communities and Local Government): During the course of 2015, the organisations referred to in the answer to Question UIN 106180 assisted the United Kingdom Holocaust Memorial Fund (UKHMF) in identifying possible locations. This helped UKHMF to consider almost 50 sites, including Victoria Tower Gardens and the Imperial War Museum.

On the advice of UKHMF the Government decided that Victoria Tower Gardens was the most fitting of all the sites considered. This decision received wide-ranging support, including from The Royal Parks, which, as noted in the answer to Question UIN 106181, was first consulted in December 2015.

By placing the story of the Holocaust next to our Parliament, our country will make a powerful statement about our own democracy and its values, reminding us what can happen when hatred is left unchecked.

World War II: Genocide

13 Nov 2017

PQ 111269

Andrew Percy: To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what plans she has to add Holocaust education to all key stages of the national curriculum.

Nick Gibb (Department for Education): Following the review of the national curriculum, which concluded in 2013, teaching the history of the Holocaust remained a compulsory part of the history curriculum for maintained schools at key stage 3 (age 11 – 14). There is scope for schools to teach about the Holocaust at other key stages, in an age-appropriate way.

The Department funds the ‘Lessons from Auschwitz’ programme, which aims to increase knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust for young people.

In addition, jointly with the Pears Foundation, we fund University College London’s Centre for Holocaust Education, which will provide continuing professional development for over a thousand teachers in England this year.

Community Relations: Religion

07 Nov 2017

PQ 107852

Gwynne, Andrew: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what grants his Department has made to which (a) Muslim, (b) Jewish, (c) Christian and (d) inter-faith organisations for the purposes of integration and community cohesion in each year since May 2015.

Mr Marcus Jones (Department for Communities and Local Government): The Department for Communities and Local Government provided funding totalling £9.7 million in 2015/16 and £11.2 million in 2016/17 to a range of organisations delivering projects and activity to help create more integrated communities. Within those totals, the following grants were provided to support organisations or activities with a significant faith element.

Organisation	2015/16 (£000s)	2016/17 (£000s)
Anne Frank Trust UK	63	84
Board of Deputies of British Jews	25	10
Faith Matters	182	504
Fayre Share Foundation	125	175
Holocaust Memorial Day Trust	980	980
Inter Faith Network for the United Kingdom	220	305
MITZVAH DAY 365	20	10
The Church Urban Fund	1,500	1,960
Ummah Help	333	400
Wiener Library	300	0

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service

24 Apr 2017

PQ 69801

Bottomley, Sir Peter: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, who in (a) the Prime Minister's Office and (b) his Department considered the three original proposals for the siting of the National Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre; and what assessment was made relative to those sites of the potential merits of using Victoria Tower Gardens.

Mr Marcus Jones (Department for Communities and Local Government): As the cross-party body advising government on taking forward the recommendations of the Holocaust Commission, the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation was tasked with finding the most appropriate location for a national memorial to the Holocaust and an accompanying education centre. The Prime Minister publically said at the annual Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony on 27 January 2017, that government agrees with the Foundation's recommendation that Victoria Tower Gardens, next to Parliament, is considered the most appropriate of the almost 50 sites examined, including those identified by the Commission in Lambeth and at Millbank. The option of locating at Potters Field, referred to in the Holocaust Commission report, no longer exists.

3.3 Early Day Motions

Holocaust Memorial Day 2018, EDM 743 2017-19

8 January 2018

That this House notes that on 27 January 2018 the UK will observe Holocaust Memorial Day, marking the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, where an estimated 1.1 million people were murdered; commemorates the six million victims of the Holocaust; further notes that the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 is The power of words; pays tribute to the commitment of Holocaust survivors who share their experiences with young people across the country; acknowledges the importance of the Holocaust Educational Trust's work in schools across the UK and in particular the Lessons from Auschwitz Project, which has so far given over 30,000 students and teachers the opportunity to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau; also pays tribute to the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust for organising this year's Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations; notes that a Book of Commitment will be placed in the corridor between the Members' Cloakroom and Members' Staircase between the hours of 14.00 and 16.00 from 15 to 17 and 22 to 25 January; and urges all right hon. and hon. Members to sign the Book and observe the day, so that the appalling events of the Holocaust are always understood by future generations and recognising our shared commitment to challenging holocaust denial, distortion and denigration.

Tackling Antisemitism on University Campuses, EDM 528 2017-19

14 November 2017

That this House believes that university campuses should be a safe space for all students no matter their race, religion, sexuality or gender; welcomes the change of leadership in the National Union of Students (NUS); notes the improved relations between Jewish students and their representative body, the Union of Jewish Students and the current NUS president; further notes the need for a consistent approach by the NUS and vice-chancellors to deal with antisemitism and other forms of racism on campus; encourages universities and student unions to consult the Universities UK and NUS guidance on external speakers in order to inform their approach to managing difficult events on campus; further believes that the higher education sector has a duty to facilitate reporting systems and encourage reporting from students subjected to abuse on campus; calls on universities to put procedures in place to address violent protests; and further calls on universities to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism.

4. Further reading and useful links

UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation

UKHMF is an advisory non-departmental public body, sponsored by the Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

The UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation, funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government, was created to implement the recommendations of the [Prime Minister's Holocaust Commission report - Britain's Promise to Remember - in 2015](#), including the delivery of the new Memorial and Learning Centre and the recording of British Holocaust testimony.

The Foundation is an advisory board to the Department for Communities and Local Government. It has cross-party political support and is chaired by Sir Peter Bazalgette.

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT)

HMDT is the charity that promotes and supports Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD).

HMD has taken place in the UK since 2001, with a UK event and over 7,700 local activities taking place on or around 27 January each year.

The UK played a leading role in establishing HMD as an international day of commemoration in 2000, when 46 governments signed the Stockholm Declaration.

The UK Government had responsibility for running HMD from 2001-2005, organised through the Home Office.

In May 2005 HMDT was registered as a charity (charity no: 1109348) and the Home Secretary appointed HMDT Trustees for the first time. The professional team started work in October 2005. The Department for Communities and Local Government has funded our work since 2007.

[HMDT, *Holocaust Memorial Day 2017 in review: How can life go on?*, March 2017](#)

A booklet detailing the impact that Holocaust Memorial Day has on individuals and communities across the UK. The booklet highlights the diverse range of activities and locations in which HMD took place for 2017

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA)

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) is an intergovernmental body whose purpose is to place political and social leaders' support behind the need for Holocaust education, remembrance and research both nationally and internationally.

IHRA (formerly the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research, or ITF) was initiated in 1998 by former Swedish Prime Minister Göran Persson. Persson decided to establish an international organization that would expand Holocaust education worldwide. An international forum of governments took place in Stockholm between 27 and 29 January 2000. The Declaration of the Stockholm International Forum on the Holocaust is the foundation of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

IHRA currently has 31 member countries, eleven observer countries and seven Permanent International Partners.

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