The European Parliament commemorates Holocaust victims

A ceremony took place today at the European Parliament to mark the upcoming International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

The ceremony at the Parliament in Brussels was held together with the European Jewish Congress (ECJ) and the Conference of European Rabbis (CER).

Opening the ceremony, Parliament First Vice President Mairead McGuinness said: “The notion of never again is one deeply engrained in the psyche of the European Union. It is useful the recall that the European project is at its roots a project of peace and reconciliation, of seeking forgiveness for the evils committed in our continent in those dark days. “

Moshe Kantor, president of the European Jewish Congress, said there was marked increase in anti-Semitism and called for better education about where intolerance can lead. “Jewish people in Europe are still facing a constant threat,” he said.

Parliament also hosted the Roma Holocaust Exhibition, commemorating the almost 500,000 Roma put to death by the Nazi regime.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day is commemorated every year on 27 January, marking the day in 1945 Soviet troops liberated the Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camp.

Find out more

Multimedia centre: Holocaust Remembrance Day
Video of the ceremony
Mairead McGuinness at the ceremony for the International Holocaust Remembrance Day