

Delegation for relations with Israel
The Chair

Holocaust Remembrance Day: Statement by the Chair of the European Parliament Delegation for relations with Israel Antonio López-Istúriz White

Brussels, 26 January 2023

Today, 78 years after the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, we pay our tribute to the 6 million Jews killed, in the most heinous crime in history, the Holocaust. We think of all the victims and the survivors and we pledge to strengthen our commitment to fight against antisemitism and to stop the spreading of all forms of intolerance and hatred in our societies. Today, as every day, we state strong and clear: Never Again!

Holocaust Remembrance Day, celebrated annually at the European Parliament, is a special, highly important moment, very close to our hearts. This year, H.E. Isaac Herzog, the President of the State of Israel honoured us with his presence. He recalled that in the Declaration of Independence of the State of Israel, liberty, equality and peace are fundamental values, which are equally the values of the European Union. He also stressed the need to combat together antisemitism and the attempts to destroy our values. I firmly uphold this need, as stated also in the EU Strategy on combatting antisemitism and fostering Jewish life. The European Parliament is closely monitoring its implementation.

Our common history must serve as a lesson for building a peaceful future, based on mutual understanding and respect and on the democratic values we all cherish. This is a core objective of our Delegation, that we will continue to pursue in all our relations and partnership with Israel and notably with the Knesset.