



Tel Aviv, April 19th

Israel Teachers Union

8. Ben Sarouk St., Tel Aviv, Israel

Greetings everyone,

This week, the State of Israel will mark the Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day. This year, Remembrance Day will be marked under the slogan – **“Rescue by Jews in the Holocaust - Solidarity in a Disintegrating World”**. These days when all nations are facing COVID-19 crisis, and teachers' unions are at the forefront of the battle against the pandemic's consequences in the field of Education and otherwise, solidarity is a central value in preserving and strengthening the societies and communities in which we live, and our colleagues around the world.

In the occasion of marking this important Remembrance day for the Jewish people all around the world, we would like to thank all the organizers and participants of the important and meaningful conference held in January in Krakow, Poland. The conference was held to mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz Extermination Camp, as part of the International Holocaust Day on January 27.

The conference presented us with challenges in Holocaust education, best practice from the field as presented by teachers, and future dilemmas in Holocaust teaching in a changing world.

We wish to thank our colleagues from the Polish Teachers Union – ZNP – who hosted us so generously, took care of every detail in the organization of the conference and offered a wide range of interesting and important lectures and workshops. We also want to thank the German Teachers Union GEW and the American Federation of Teachers AFT, which together with the ZNP and Israel Teachers Union – ITU – took part in the process of planning and preparing the conference from its beginning during the International Congress in Bangkok. Working together and sharing ideas resulted in a fascinating learning process that underpinned the lectures and workshops.

Our at most appreciation is also given to our colleagues Mr. David Edwards, General Secretary of Education International and EI members and to Ms. Susan Flocken, European Director of ETUCE and ETUCE members who supported the conference and took an active and significant part in delivering important educational and value-related messages to the participants and beyond.



Our thanks are extended to all the participants from Teachers Unions all over the world who took part in the conference, and supported the Joint Declaration summarizing the conference. We believe that this declaration should serve as the foundation for Holocaust teaching processes in every society and community.

On Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 11:00 am, we invite you to join us wherever you are for two minutes of silence in memory of Holocaust victims.

To finish with a quote from the declaration:

"The Holocaust should never happen again - in any way - anywhere in the world. This is our commitment as educators and trade unionists to future generations."

We hope that the messages of the Holocaust will not be forgotten, and will be interwoven in teachers' educational and value-related activities.

Keep Safe and Healthy,

Yossi Michal
Foreign Relations Coordinator
ITU
Israel