

Press release

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and the Fundación Víctimas del Terrorismo unveil the 'Memories' exhibition in Madrid

Madrid (Spain), 8 March, 2024 – Yesterday, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), in cooperation with Spanish authorities and the Fundación Víctimas del Terrorismo (FVT), unveiled the 'Memories' exhibition at the National Auditorium of Music in Madrid.

The exhibition is featured as part of the commemoration activities marking the European Day of Remembrance of Victims of Terrorism and the 20th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 11 March in Madrid. It was launched on the margins of the XXII Memorial Concert organized annually by the FVT under the Presidency of Honour of HRH the King and Queen of Spain, in honour of the victims and survivors of terrorism.

Spanish authorities, victims and survivors of terrorism, victims featured in the "Memories" campaign, and victims' associations attended the musical performance and had the opportunity to visit the exhibition. This visit provided an opportunity for reflection on the importance of listening to victims and understanding their experiences; fostering empathy and remembrance; facilitating personal connections; and providing a platform for dialogue, sharing, and peer support.

The 'Memories' exhibition is part of the "Memories" campaign that shares the intimate memories and stories of 22 victims of terrorism focusing on the personal meaning associated with physical objects that helped them become more resilient. This campaign is a poignant reminder of the importance of providing comprehensive and sustained support to those affected by terrorism to facilitate their recovery.

The 'Memories' campaign was launched in Malaga in May 2022 during the High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism. Over the course of 2023, it toured the Spanish cities of Vitoria, Valladolid and Pamplona and was exhibited at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The campaign and the exhibition were developed by the Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism's Counter-Terrorism Center. The Global Programme aims to show solidarity with, raise awareness on, and contribute to protecting, promoting and respecting the rights and supporting the needs of victims of terrorism

through four streams of work: solidarity, outreach and advocacy; policy and coordination; technical assistance and capacity-building; and communications and visibility.

The launch of the campaign serves as a testament to the commitment of the United Nations and the Kingdom of Spain to promote and raise awareness about the rights and needs of victims and survivors of terrorism.

The 'Memories' exhibition will be open to the public from 6 to 24 **March 2024** at the National Auditorium of Music in Madrid.

For any queries, please contact:

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