



UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM  
UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)

## Media Advisory

### UNITED NATIONS TO MARK SIXTH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE OF AND TRIBUTE TO THE VICTIMS OF TERRORISM

2023 Commemoration spotlights Legacy of victims and survivors of terrorism for a better future

**New York (US), 14 August 2023** – To mark the sixth commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism on 21 August 2023, the United Nations will be organizing a virtual high-level event focused on the theme **“Legacy: Finding Hope and Building a Peaceful Future”**. The theme was chosen following consultations with terrorism victims, survivors, and victims’ associations. It recognizes the manner in which many of them use their experiences and journeys to create meaningful and positive change by raising awareness about the long-lasting impact of terrorism and by honoring those whose lives were lost and those whose lives were forever altered.

During the high-level pre-recorded event, **United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism Vladimir Voronkov** and four **victims of terrorism** will come together to reflect on the significance of legacy in promoting meaningful and positive change. The event also features the participation of the co-chairs of the **Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism**, Spain, and Iraq. The ceremony will be broadcast live on UN Web TV.

As part of the activities to mark the International Day, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) will launch the **“Legacy Project”**, a documentary gallery on Instagram featuring victims and survivors of terrorism from across the world who share their stories. The Legacy Project seeks to pay tribute to those whose lives have been lost or forever transformed by terrorism, and to reach out to new generations to deepen and transform their understanding of the long-lasting impact of terrorism.

An accompanying exhibition currently on display in the Visitor’s Lobby of the United Nations Headquarters in New York features 17 life-size images of victims and survivors of terrorism. Showcasing their “Memories” through meaningful personal objects, the exhibit provides a snapshot of the resilience and legacy of each victim and survivor of terrorism. The exhibition can be visited until 1 September 2023.

As remembrance and recognition for victims of terrorism plays a central role in respecting and realizing their rights and acknowledging their needs, the General Assembly, in its resolution 72/165 (2017), established 21 August as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. The day honors, remembers, and pays tribute to all victims and survivors of terrorism across the world, highlighting the importance of global solidarity and ensuring their stories and experiences are not forgotten.

#### More Information:

- Watch the high-level commemoration event live on 21 August 2023 from 10:00 am EDT on UN WebTV at: <https://media.un.org/en/asset/k11/k11tblv53x>
- **Website:** [2023 International Day of Victims of Terrorism](#)
- **Hashtags:** #UniteforVictimsofTerrorism, #VictimsOfTerrorism

- **Trello board with video, logos, social media assets:** [bit.ly/TrelloVOT2023](https://trello.com/vot2023)
- **Legacy Project to be launched on 21 August:**  
<https://www.instagram.com/unvictimsofterrorism>
- Visit the “Memories” exhibition at United Nations Headquarters (on display until 1 September) or watch online at [bit.ly/VOT-Memories](https://www.un.org/en/terrorism/memories)
- Follow UNOCT on Twitter at [@UN\\_OCT](https://twitter.com/UN_OCT)
- Contact: [gerardl@un.org](mailto:gerardl@un.org), United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism