



MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDANCE NOTE

UNITED BY HOPE: "Collective Action for Victims of Terrorism" 21 August 2025

The General Assembly, in its resolution 72/165 (2017), proclaimed 21 August as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. The main focus of the International Day is to honour, remember and pay tribute to the victims of terrorism by standing in solidarity and promoting and protecting their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

This year marks the eighth commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, under the overarching theme: "United by Hope: Collective Action for Victims of Terrorism." Inspired by the recently launched Victims of Terrorism Associations Network (VoTAN), this year's theme highlights the transformative power of solidarity and shared leadership among victims to turn pain into purpose and drive meaningful change.

In observance of the Day, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) will host a virtual high-level event, followed by a panel discussion featuring five victims and survivors of terrorism from diverse regions. The event will spotlight how victims are uniting – across borders, cultures, and experiences – to influence policy, provide mutual support, and lead a global movement for recognition and justice.

The high-level segment will include a message from the United Nations Secretary-General, remarks by the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, and a statement from the Co-Chairs of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism. It will also feature the screening of the VoTAN film, which brings together the voices of twelve victims from around the world who share



their journeys of connection, collaboration, and hope through the network. A Global Minute of Silence will honour all those who have lost their lives or have been impacted by terrorism.

The panel discussion will offer compelling insights into how collective action and survivor-led advocacy can shape more inclusive, resilient, and victim-centered responses. The event will be broadcast on UN WebTV and available on demand.

HIGH-LEVEL VIRTUAL EVENT

Join us on **21 August 10:00–11:15 a.m. (EDT)** on UNWebTV for the **High-Level Virtual Event** marking the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.

Welcome Remarks and Moderation of Event

 Ms. Ana Jiménez de la Hoz, Deputy Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations and co-chair of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism

Keynote Remarks

• H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

Opening Remarks

 Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)

Screening Victims of Terrorism Association Network (VoTAN) Film

Global Minute of Silence

Featuring photos and footage of memorials and commemorations of victims of terrorism from around the world

Statement on Behalf of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism

Closing Remarks / End of High-Level Segment

Panel Discussion: "United by hope: Collective action for victims of terrorism"

Music Performed by the UN Chamber Music Society

Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K. 622, II. Adagio, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (extract from the 2020 event to commemorate International Day)



SPREAD THE WORD

SOCIAL MEDIA & HASHTAGS

Please follow and tag @UN_OCT on X (formerly Twitter) and LinkedIn, using the main hashtags #UNiteforVictimsofTerrorism and #VictimsofTerrorism

TRELLO

Join us in marking the International Day and advocating for victims and survivors of terrorism in your posts. Visual assets and key links related to the event are available on this Trello Board: bit.ly/TrelloVoT2025

SAMPLE POSTS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA



↓ Int'l Day of Remembrance of & Tribute to the #VictimsofTerrorism

JOIN US to hear victims reflect on the power of solidarity & collective action in driving change, healing & advocacy.

- Thu 21 Aug 10am EDT
- **2** @UNWebTV
- bit.ly/INFO-VOT2025

For #VictimsofTerrorism Int'l Day, members of #VoTAN Network will come together to discuss how collective action is shaping policy, strengthening advocacy & redefining support for victims worldwide.

- Thu 21 Aug 10am EDT
- **2** @UNWebTV
- bit.ly/INFO-VOT2025

On #VictimsofTerrorism Int'l Day, @UN Secretary-General @antonioguterres highlights the strength that emerges when victims unite to support one another & lead collective action for justice, dignity & resilience.

Thu 21 Aug 10am EDT

2 @UNWebTV

bit.ly/INFO-VOT2025

STORIES OF VICTIMS

Roundtable Interactive Discussion

1

KENYA

Mr. Khalifah Mwarangi Father killed in terrorist attack

4 November 2014 Mr. Khalifah Mwarangi's father, Sheikh Salim Bakari Mwarangi, was tragically shot on 4 November 2014 while returning home from evening prayers at a mosque in Likoni, Mombasa. Mr. Mwarangi holds a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration and Leadership from Jomo Kenyatta University Of Agriculture And Technology. He is the founder of Diani Youth Beach Cleaning Kenya (DYBC), a youth-led marine conservation initiative. Through DYBC, he integrates peacebuilding and the prevention of violent extremism (PCVE) into environmental action, leading large-scale clean-up campaigns while addressing issues such as radicalization, drug awareness, and youth resilience. A participant in UNOCT's Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme (YEEP), he has contributed to policy work on governance and Disarmament, Demobilization, Repatriation, Reintegration, and Resettlement.

ALGERIA

Ms. Cherifa Kheddar

Lost brother and sister to separate terrorist attacks

1996

Ms. Cherifa Kheddar lost her brother and sister in a terrorist attack on 24 June 1996 in Algeria. That same year, despite ongoing threats to her safety, she founded Djazaïrouna ("Our Algeria"), an association dedicated to supporting victims of terrorism and their families. The organization provides psychological and social assistance, while advocating for justice, remembrance, protection, dignity and the rights of victims, nationally and internationally. Ms. Kheddar has participated in numerous initiatives strengthen support for victims and prevent violent extremism.

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INDONESIA

Ms. Nanda Daniel

Survivor of the attack in the Australian Embassy in Jakarta

9 September 2004 Ms. Nanda Daniel is a survivor of the 9 September 2004 terrorist attack near the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia. At the time, she was traveling by bus to her university when a bomb detonated nearby, causing injuries to her shoulder, thumb, and eardrums, and requiring hospitalization for a month. Since the attack, Ms. Daniel has become a peace advocate, sharing her story to raise awareness about the human cost of violence and the transformative power of peace. Through her advocacy, she encourages reflection, empathy, and greater community engagement to prevent extremism and promote nonviolence.

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ARGENTINA

Mr. Daniel
Pomerantz
Survivor of 18
July 1994
terrorist attack
on AMIA

18 July 1994

Mr. Daniel Pomerantz is a survivor of the 18 July 1994 terrorist attack on the Jewish Community the Asociación Mutual Israelita Center Argentina (AMIA). 85 people were killed and over 300 were injured. At the time, he was working as AMIA's accountant and had been in his office until just minutes before the attack, when he stepped out to meet a co-worker. That meeting saved his life, as his office was completely destroyed in the explosion. Today he serves as the Executive Director of AMIA. He has dedicated his life to protecting others.



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UNITED KINGDOM

Dr. Cath Hill

Survivor of the 2017 Manchester Arena attack

22 May 2017

Dr. Cath Hill and her ten-year-old son survived the Manchester Arena Bombing on 22 May 2017. A qualified Social Worker and academic at Lancaster University, she specialises in research with young people affected by trauma. She previously worked in Child Protection and Youth Offending for Lancashire County Council. In the aftermath of the attack, Cath founded the Manchester Survivors Choir to provide a safe space for young survivors and their families to connect and support each other after the attack. She also led the Bee the Difference research project, which highlighted the support needs of young people affected by terrorism, and serves on the advisory boards for Survivors Against Terror, Victim Support Europe and the Strength to Strength network.



VISUAL IDENTITY

Main logo with 2025 theme, available on the Trello Board here



ORGANISER INFORMATION

- UNOCT website for International Day: <u>bit.ly/INFO-VOT2025</u>
- International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism: www.un.org/en/observances/terrorism-victims-day

ANY QUESTIONS?

Ms. Laurence Gerard (gerardl@un.org)

Public Information Officer | United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism

Thank you for standing in solidarity with victims of terrorism