
Remembrance Day: Von der Leyen, “Never again is now”. And she announces the “Network of Places Where the Holocaust Happened”.

Ahead of the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said: “Following the despicable terrorist attacks by Hamas against Israel on 7 October 2023, remembering the Holocaust has taken on a new meaning. European Jews are living again in fear: no parent should be afraid to send their children to school. Jewish people are bullied, harassed, and attacked on the street, in school and university. Synagogues have been vandalised. Jewish cemeteries have been desecrated”. The President added: “The unprecedented spike of antisemitic acts we have seen all over Europe reminds us of the darkest time of our history. What is different now, however, is that we all stand with the Jewish communities. There is no place for antisemitic hatred, especially here in Europe. And there is no justification to antisemitism. Three generations after the Shoah, we must ensure that Jewish life continues to thrive in public. We cannot accept that Jews are hiding their identity”. “As the last Holocaust survivors are passing away, we must find new forms of remembrance and implement new methods of teaching, using the last traces of the past. To do so, we are developing a ‘Network of Places Where the Holocaust Happened’, a flagship action of the EU Strategy on combating antisemitism. Places of memory need to be safeguarded and serve educational and remembrance purposes”. “It is our duty, as Europeans, to build a European Union free from antisemitism and any form of racism and discrimination. If Europe fails the Jews, Europe will have failed us all. Never again is now!”.

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