



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
Remembrance of and Tribute
to the Victims of Terrorism

SURVIVING TERRORISM

THE POWER OF CONNECTIONS

An online high-level event, a film and an interactive discussion to commemorate the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism (20 August 2021)

Press Release

New York, 6 August 2021

The United Nations will hold its fourth commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism on 20 August with a high-level, online event featuring the Secretary-General, followed by the screening of a short UNCCT-produced film about “connections,” and a moderated discussion led by and including victims of terrorism. The commemoration occurs nearly 20 years after the 9/11 attacks and during the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has particularly affected victims of terrorism all around the world. Many victims continue to be impacted by feelings of isolation, restricted attendance at memorial services, and the diversion of essential services needed for their long term recovery.

The theme of this year’s International Day is “**Connections**,” for at the individual level, victims have had to find creative ways to stay connected while being isolated from each other, from their families, friends and communities. At the national and regional level, Member States have been sharing good practices regarding support to victims. At the international level, the United Nations and its Office of Counter-Terrorism, and the Counter-Terrorism Centre and its Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme helps victims connect at all levels and with each other while advocating for greater efforts by the international community to uphold the rights and support the needs of victims of terrorism.

On 20 August 2021, from 9.00 to 11.00 am EDT, a virtual event entitled, “**Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Connections**” will be held with the participation of the United Nations Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres. The event will feature testimonies from victims of terrorism and closing remarks from Under-Secretary-General of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov.

A short film produced by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, entitled “**Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Connections**” will be launched featuring testimonies of victims and survivors of terrorism from across the world and ending with a collective ode on connections prepared by those featured in the film. This will be followed by an **interactive discussion** by and with victims and representatives of victims’ associations to discuss the importance of connections and how victims of terrorism have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The General Assembly, in its resolution [A/RES/72/165](#) (2017), established 21 August (which falls on a Saturday this year and thus will be marked on 20 August) as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism in order to honour and support the victims and survivors of terrorism and to promote and protect the full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

This event is organized in collaboration with the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism and will be broadcast live on [UN Web TV](#)

More Information:

- www.un.org/counterterrorism/2021-terrorism-victims-day
- follow us on Twitter ([@UN_OCT](#))
- Contact: gerardl@un.org, UN Office of Counter-Terrorism