



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

SURVIVING TERRORISM

THE POWER OF CONNECTIONS

Virtual Commemoration

20 August 2021

9:00 am – 11:00 am EDT

The fourth commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism occurs during the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic continues to have an impact on victims of terrorism: diverting resources, limiting efforts to uphold their rights and support their needs and denying much needed social and emotional contact.

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 shared good practices to continue supporting victims. At the international level, the international community connects with victims by standing in solidarity, honouring those who have lost their lives, and paying tribute to those who continue to live with the consequences of terrorism.

An **online high-level event:** 'Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Connections', will be held with the participation of the United Nations Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres, the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT, the co-chairs of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism and victims themselves to speak about the importance of Connections.

A **short film** "Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Connections" produced by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCT) will be launched, featuring testimonies of victims and survivors of terrorism from across the world and ending with a collective ode on connections.

This will be followed by an **interactive discussion** with victims, victims' associations, and experts to discuss the importance of connections, how the pandemic has impacted the ability of victims to connect, and ways to strengthen the international community's commemoration of and support to victims of terrorism.

This virtual event is organised by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism/the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, in collaboration with the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism.

HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT

H.E. Mr. António Guterres

Secretary-General, United Nations

H.E. Mr. Vladimir Voronkov

Under-Secretary-General, UN Office of Counter-Terrorism

H.E. Mr. Agustín Santos Maraver

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Spain to the UN and co-Chair of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism

H.E. Mr. Ghulam M. Isaczai

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and co-Chair of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism

Mr. Nigeel Namai

Victim of terrorism, Kenya

Ms. Lisbeth Røyne Land

Victim of terrorism, Norway

LAUNCH OF THE FILM

"Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Connections"

MUSIC INTERLUDE

United Nations Chamber Music Society

INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

Ms. Amy O'Neill, Moderator

Survivor of the Boston Marathon bombing

Mr. Ahmad Fahim Hakim

Victim of terrorism, Afghanistan

Ms. Maureen Basnicki

Victim of terrorism, Canada

Mr. Hasan Wahhab Hadi Al-Araji

Victim of terrorism, Iraq

Mr. Drissa Traoré

Mali Human Rights Association/FIDH

Mr. Bachir Znagui

Board Member, Moroccan Association of Victims of Terrorism

Ms. Emma Craig

Victim of terrorism, United Kingdom

