

Statement by Ambassador Christoph Heusgen at the Opening of the Exhibit “Crimes Uncovered: the First Generation of Holocaust Researchers”

28.01.2020 - Speech

Iraq and Myanmar.

But more needs to be done, especially with young people. Our citizens and future generations need to learn about our mistakes of the past to not repeat them. While documentation is the first step, education and raising awareness are the next steps in countering rising anti-Semitism.

Yesterday in my speech in the General Assembly, I repeated the proposal that has been made in Germany: I believe it would be very good to have a general rule that all children attending German schools should go and visit Auschwitz. As I mentioned yesterday during the Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony here at the General Assembly: we Germans understand our responsibility to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive. I am confident that even when the last generation of survivors is no longer with us, the work of the Holocaust researchers here today will help us pass on the learnings from the past.

Eva Reichmann, a prominent German-Jewish historian and one of the researchers featured in this exhibit, shared a quote that gets to heart of the matter:

With this, I want to hand over to our next brilliant speaker, Ms. Ruth Zimble, who will tell us about her past and her work in passing on teachings to the next Generation.