

**Remarks by H.E. Mr. Danny Danon  
Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations**

Secretary General  
President of the General Assembly  
Ambassadors  
distinguished guests.

Let me start by thanking [the United Nation's Holocaust Outreach Programme](#) for organizing today's memorial ceremony.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The holocaust the Shoah showed us humanity at its *most* evil and its *most* cruel hour.

This day of commemoration is an occasion to reflect on the *past* and to consider the message of the holocaust for the *present*.

I *planned* to come here to speak to you today about the importance of memory.

Remembering the *unparalleled* tragedy for the Jewish people, Remembering the *millions* who perished.

I wanted to discuss the critical lesson we learn from history.

That we must *never* bury our head in the sand in the face of extremism and anti-Semitism.

The main message of the speech I had prepared was that in order to *remember*... we must listen to the *stories* from the survivors *themselves*.

That is why I decided not to share *my* words with you and *instead* to invite a holocaust survivor from Jerusalem to represent *Israel* at this *important* event.

So I would like to invite, Ms. Martha Weiss, a resident of Jerusalem and a survivor of Auschwitz- Birkenau to address you today on *behalf* of the state of Israel and in the *name* of the Jewish people.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Ms. Martha Weiss