



# Newsletter



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## The March of the Living 2025 took place at the Auschwitz Museum in Poland

Nearly 100 Lithuanian representatives participated in the international event to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II.

The traditional March of the Living took place on April 24 at the Auschwitz State Museum. Young people and representatives of older generations, including Holocaust survivors, walk a symbolic route from the former Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz I to Auschwitz-Birkenau, a place known for the mass murder of people, primarily Jews. Together, they walked 3.5 kilometers to remember and honor the victims of the Holocaust. This march is called the March of the Living. In 2025, for the fifth time, representatives of the Lithuanian educational community participated in the March of the Living in Poland, with more than 12,000 people from 40 countries. Emanuelis Zingeris, chairman of the international commission, signatory of the

"I had the unique opportunity to participate in the international March of the Living, which allowed me to understand better the scope of the Holocaust and how it was carried out. Furthermore, I was able to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau in person." Emilė, a student from Radviliškis Lizdeika Gymnasium

"It was terrible to hear and learn so many horrible facts in Auschwitz, and it's so hard to believe that such things happened there. I couldn't imagine..." Karolis, a student from Kaunas Jonas and Petras Vileišis School

"The tour of the Auschwitz concentration camp left a strong impression on me. I experienced feelings I had never felt before. I had heard about the camp before but seeing it in person was completely different. It made me appreciate our freedom even more. The International March of the Living was interesting and an honor to participate in." Miroslavas, a student from Turgeliai Aistuvos Gymnasium



act of independence, and member of the Seimas of the republic of Lithuania, attended the event with Lithuanian teachers and students. E. Zingeris said, "It is simply incredible that so many young people from all over the world are here and that there is incredible order and no noise." Polish President Andrzej Duda and Israeli Head of State Isaac Herzog attended the event, as did 80 Holocaust survivors.



The March of the Living honors the victims of the Holocaust at the main Auschwitz-Birkenau memorial. It provides an opportunity for people to socialize and get to know each other. Jewish and Austrian youth mingled with Lithuanian schoolchildren and adults during the march. During the march, which lasted a few kilometers, there was active and friendly interaction: the Jewish youth exchanged badges, bracelets, symbolic signatures, and contact information.

While the Lithuanian delegation was initially all Lithuanian, it became international as we approached the Auschwitz-Birkenau site.

This year's March of the Living event was attended by teachers and students from sixteen schools with Tolerance Education Centers, representatives from six educational and cultural institutions, and members of the Šiauliai County Jewish community.

Following the March of Life event at the Auschwitz Museum, the Lithuanian representatives visited the former Nazi death camp Treblinka, where approximately 750,000 to 800,000 people were murdered between 1942 and 1943. [More](#)

"The March of the Living left a powerful impression. It is a sensitive and respectful event that honors the victims of the Holocaust. I felt a sense of community and respect during the march. Everyone involved was extremely friendly and not afraid to come up and talk. It was the appropriate day and place to remember and honor the victims while celebrating life. Austėja, a student from Kaunas Maironis Academic Gymnasium

"It was a great honor to be part of the Lithuanian delegation, and we were surprised by the size of the event and the number of people. We are grateful for the opportunity to connect with other young people from Jewish communities and different countries." Students Domas and Ignas, from Radviliškis Lizdeika Gymnasium

