

NEWSLETTER



The International Commission
for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania

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STUDENTS' THOUGHTS AND IMPRESSIONS: MARCH OF THE LIVING

"I had imagined the March of the Living differently, but I was captivated. I had never been in a crowd so massive, one filled with unity and friendship. This trip broadened my horizons and worldview. For that, I am infinitely grateful for the opportunity."

Student Gabrielė from the Plungė District, Žemaitijos Cadets' Žemaičių Kalvarijos Gymnasium

"The Auschwitz Museum left a deep impression on me and made me reflect on past mistakes and how quickly things can change. It is a place worth visiting for anyone who wants to better understand history and its lessons."

Student Agnesa, Vilnius "Žaros" Gymnasium

THE 2026 INTERNATIONAL MARCH OF THE LIVING EVENT AND THE PARTICIPATION OF LITHUANIAN REPRESENTATIVES

On April 14, 2026, the International *March of the Living* took place at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum. This annual event is organized for educational purposes and takes place at the former Auschwitz concentration camp, which was established by the Nazis. During the event, thousands of young people, along with teachers and education specialists, walk a symbolic route of several kilometers from the Auschwitz Museum to Birkenau to honor the victims of the Holocaust. Holocaust survivors attend the *March of the Living* every year, but there are fewer and fewer of these living witnesses to history each year. This year, 50 Holocaust survivors, aged 80 to 98, participated in the march alongside young people from around the world.

Shmuel Rosenman, co-founder and chairman of the International March of the Living, once said, "*The March of the Living* is not only a journey into the past, but also a powerful affirmation of life, identity, and shared future."

The 2026 international event had 7,000 participants from various countries. Lithuania was represented by 135 participants, including 100 students, 35 teachers, and education staff, from Tolerance Education Centers operating in Lithuania. The Lithuanian representatives participated in the *March of the Living* and visited the former Nazi death camp at Treblinka. They also gained a detailed understanding of the history of the Auschwitz concentration camp during a museum tour. [More](#)



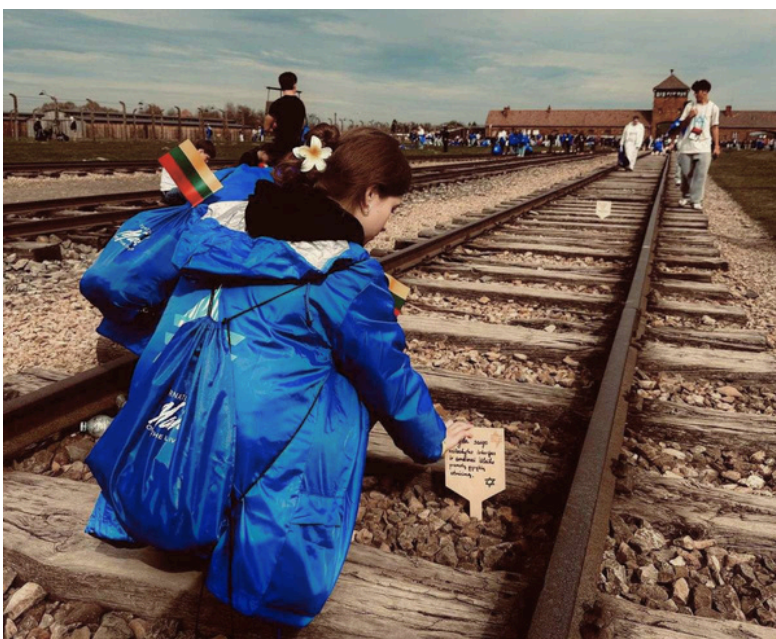
STUDENTS' THOUGHTS AND IMPRESSIONS FROM THE MARCH OF THE LIVING

“The March of the Living event and the entire trip—the visit to Treblinka and the tour of the Auschwitz Museum—helped me understand how cruel people can be. This trip opened my eyes to how much we don’t know.”

Tauras, Marijampolė “Sūduva” Gymnasium

“Participating in the ‘March of the Living’ at Auschwitz was one of the most powerful experiences of my life. Walking the route from Auschwitz to Birkenau, I felt a heavy yet meaningful atmosphere. It was hard to comprehend how many people suffered and lost their lives here. This experience made me appreciate life, people, and freedom even more.”

Karina, Vilnius “Žaros” Gymnasium



The Secretariat of the International Commission invited representatives of the Tolerance Education Centers to participate in the March of the Living event in Poland. The Secretariat has been cooperating with the international March of the Living organization (EMOTL) since 2018.