



## **Message of the Universal Esperanto Association on the occasion of Holocaust Remembrance Day, 27 January 2025**

On the Day of Holocaust Remembrance, we remind ourselves of what can result from disrespect and contempt for human rights. It is our duty, as human beings, to forbid, and avoid repetition of, genocides like those carried out by the Nazi regime. The Holocaust will be, forever, a warning to all people of the dangers of hatred, intolerance, racism and prejudice.

We also remember the courage of numerous people – soldiers and civilians – who fought and acted either to liberate the concentration camps or to help those who fled the terrible persecution.

Esperanto, as a language and an ideal, was directly attacked by the Nazis, and Esperantists were persecuted and killed. Almost the entire family of Ludvik Zamenhof, the creator of Esperanto, was either executed, or murdered in concentration camps. However, despite suffering and danger, many Esperantists also helped save other potential victims.

Human life is a priority over all other human affairs. All people, without exception, have rights to life, liberty and security. In the Universal Esperanto Association, we work for understanding and respect among people through the International Language Esperanto, in favour of a world where all individuals and languages are free and equal in dignity and rights, and human life is secure.

Accordingly, let us reassert the goals and principles inscribed in the United Nations Charter and likewise in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Let us together create a world where we all treat one another as brothers and sisters, with the same rights, and without distinction of any kind, including difference of language.