

For Immediate Release  
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## UN AMBASSADORS TO VISIT POLAND AND ISRAEL IN AZM-MOTL DELEGATION

On Monday, January 28, 2019, a delegation of dozens of Ambassadors to the United Nations from all regions of the world will depart for Poland, on a Holocaust Remembrance Program. They will then travel to Israel for a country tour and official meetings. The Ambassadors will travel following the official UN Ceremony for International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. The diplomats are participating on this mission at the invitation of The American Zionist Movement (AZM) and The International March of the Living (MOTL), which have organized the delegation in cooperation with the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations.

“It is important for Ambassadors from around the world to understand both the history of and contemporary life in Israel in order to be best informed on issues which come to their attention at the United Nations. A first-hand personal visit is essential to such understanding,” said Richard D. Heideman, President of The American Zionist Movement, who is accompanying the delegation.

Phyllis Greenberg Heideman, President of The International March of the Living, said “I recall being an NGO Delegate to the UN Conference on Women in Nairobi and the UN Conference on Racism in Durban, South Africa. Both were “hatefests” against Israel. Hate often comes from ignorance. As many remember the odious Zionism=Racism Resolution of the United Nations, the fact that so many Ambassadors to the UN will travel to Poland and Israel under the auspices of The American Zionist Movement and The International March of the Living is especially significant, particularly during this period of rising global Antisemitism. We must learn the lessons of the past in order to build a better future.”

Ambassador Danny Danon said: “As we witness an increase in Antisemitism around the world and dangerous attempts to rewrite history, now more than ever we must ensure that the memories of survivors pass on to the next generation. By visiting Holocaust extermination sites. UN ambassadors are speaking out against Antisemitism and sending a message to all those who peddle in hatred. While Israel faces many challenges at the UN, we also know that we have many friends and that this number continues to grow as more and more countries come to appreciate our beautiful thriving country and the contributions we make to the international community.”

The Ambassadors will visit the Warsaw Ghetto, Holocaust sites, the Majdanek concentration and extermination camp and the POLIN Museum while in Poland. In Israel they will have an extensive tour of the country to learn about the land, Jewish history and Zionism, receive briefings on current security challenges and participate in high-level discussions and meetings.

This second AZM-MOTL UN Ambassadors Diplomatic Mission follows a Spring 2018 delegation of Ambassadors who participated on the March of the Living in Poland and then visited Israel. (see: <https://www.azm.org/diplomatic-mission>).

***The American Zionist Movement is comprised of 29 national Jewish Zionist organizations and works across a broad ideological, political and religious spectrum linking the American Jewish community together in support of Israel, Zionism and the Jewish people***

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