

Letter of Intent
Launching the Dialogue on Holocaust Issues
between the United States Department of State and the Federal Foreign Office of Germany
June 24, 2021

Seventy-six years after the end of World War II, the United States and Germany have decided to launch today a high-level dialogue on Holocaust issues. We are strongly concerned that Holocaust denial, revisionism, and distortion are on the rise and anti-Semitism is increasing. This is occurring as we sadly witness the passing of eyewitnesses and survivors of National Socialist atrocities. We therefore see it as our responsibility to do everything possible to ensure that future generations learn the truth about the Holocaust and take action to prevent such horrific crimes against humanity from ever happening again.

This regular, bilateral dialogue underlines our desire to contribute to a world in which knowledge about the Holocaust is abundant, based on facts, and serves as a foundation for tackling today's challenges at an early stage.

By establishing this bilateral consultation, we recognize the need for even closer exchange and coordination on common challenges and joint objectives. Our goals will be to enhance international efforts regarding education and training on the Holocaust, to combat anti-Semitism in all its forms, including Holocaust denial and distortion, and to ensure that policymakers understand these topics and their responsibilities to address them, including through enhanced Transatlantic cooperation.

We have instructed our respective foreign ministries to prepare for the first round of formal consultations in late 2021 at the senior level, together with representatives from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the German Foundation Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe.

With this decision, Germany and the United States affirm their unwavering commitment to remember the Holocaust, preserve the memory of its victims and survivors, and together face today's challenges, including those in which hatred results in social strife and demonization or persecution of those perceived as "the other." We look forward to working closely together on this vital endeavor.

Signed at Berlin on 24 June 2021 in duplicate in the German and English languages, both texts being equivalent.