



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
Remembrance of and Tribute
to the Victims of Terrorism

SURVIVING TERRORISM

THE POWER OF CONNECTIONS

Statement by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov

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**Closing remarks at the High-level Event for the International Day of Remembrance of and
Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism
20 August 2021**

Mr. Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Friends,

I am pleased to close the high-level segment of International Day. Listening to Lisbeth and Nigeel reminds us why we are here, and how intrinsic connections are to our ability to cope, heal and be resilient.

This was further reinforced through the UNCCT produced film we all watched. Listening to victims talk about the importance of connections drives home how important our efforts need to be at the individual, national, regional and international level. I thank all the survivors who participated in the [film](#) and in today's event.

Having met many victims of terrorism and heard their experiences, I understand the importance of the human touch, which guides our efforts to uphold the rights and support the needs of victims.

The fourth International Day occurs as we both mark the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks that led to the adoption of the milestone Security Council resolution 1373 and as we enter the second year of the global pandemic.

The 7th biennial review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy speaks to this challenge and on this day I urge all Member States to implement their international obligations and look to develop their national responsibilities by establishing comprehensive assistance plans for victims of terrorism and their families that can address their immediate-, short- and long-term needs, in line with General Assembly resolution 73/305.

My Office stands ready to support these efforts.

Secretary-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear friends,

Amongst all the upheaval in the world, it is easy to lose sight of the human dimension of terrorism—of the personal suffering and loss that victims of terrorism deal with every day.

But not today.

Today, we come together to remember and honour those who have lost their lives or suffered from terrorism. Today, we reaffirm our commitment to amplifying victims' voices, helping them get the support they need and to exercise the rights to which they are entitled.

We have heard how connections strengthen solidarity, support and protection for victims.

Let us be fully committed to ensuring victims are provided the means to raise their voices and to stay connected with each other.

And let us build upon these connections ahead of the first United Nations Global Congress of Victims.

To paraphrase the victims in the film: "Standing together, you are not alone."

Thank you.

Dear Colleagues

The Secretary-General will now take his leave, and I thank him on behalf of all of us, for showing his support to victims of terrorism.

Please stay with us as we now move to the second part of the event, which is an interactive discussion with victims and victims' associations, moderated by Ms. Amy O'Neill, a survivor of the Boston Marathon bombing.

This interactive discussion will start after a musical interlude, performed by the United Nations Chamber Music Society.

Thank you.