

Kristallnacht

Today, November 9, 2023 is the 85th anniversary of Kristallnacht, a pogrom against Jews carried out by the Nazi Party's Sturmabteilung (SA) paramilitary and Schutzstaffel (SS) paramilitary forces along with some participation from the Hitler Youth and German civilians throughout Nazi Germany on 9–10 November 1938. It is considered by historians to mark the onset of the Holocaust. Some 30,000 Jewish males were rounded up and taken to concentration camps.

The savage massacre of Israelis on October 7 by the Hamas terrorists has revived such memories and fears in Holocaust survivors, their descendants, and Jews all over the world. Some were too young to remember the facts but are revisited by feelings of despair and helplessness. What followed this massacre of October 7 has shocked the international community, with the sheer celebrations of the slaughtering, torture and kidnapping of innocent civilians in many places in the world.

Whilst, on the one hand, the past becomes a disquieting presence, it is, at the same time crucial to distinguish between past and present. Major governments are not turning a blind eye to the plight of Israel and of the Jewish people worldwide. Jews have also now the capacity to defend themselves.

It is the hope that soon it will be possible for new leadership in the Middle East to be able to make peace between neighbours.

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kristallnacht>