Open Letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Minister Yoav Kisch, and to the Government of the State of Israel

To Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Minister Yoav Kisch, and to the Government of the State of Israel,

As the members of the international community of Holocaust scholars and educators, we watch with great concern the recent attacks by the Israeli minister of Education on Dani Dayan, the Chairman of Yad Vashem, the foremost institution of Holocaust commemoration, remembrance, and research. Mr. Dayan, appointed in 2021, has served his institution with great distinction, allowing Yad Vashem to maintain and to reinforce its independent and non-partisan character.

Today, when the memory of the Holocaust finds itself under increased pressure, when various institutions and governments become involved in Holocaust distortion and denial, the independence of Yad Vashem is more crucial than ever. Each attempt to seek political control over Yad Vashem is a clear threat to the memory of six million victims of the Shoah, and a challenge to the legitimacy of an institution which enjoys tremendous, and well-deserved prestige, worldwide. We call on the education minister and the government of Israel to make sure that Chairman Dani Dayan and Yad Vashem be allowed to continue their mission unhindered.

1. Jan Grabowski, Distinguished University Professor, University of Ottawa, Canada
2. Frank Bajohr, Director of the Center for Holocaust Studies at the Institute for Contemporary History, and Professor at Ludwigs-Maximilian University, Munich, Germany
3. Mark Roseman, Distinguished Professor of History, Indiana University, USA
4. Dr. Grzegorz Rossoliński-Liebe, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
5. Prof. Havi Dreifuss, Tel Aviv University, Israel
6. Prof. Roni Stauber, Tel Aviv University, Israel
7. Prof. Youval Rotman, Tel Aviv University, Israel
8. Audrey Kichelewski, Associate professor in contemporary history, Strasbourg University, France
9. Dr Konrad Kwiet, Emeritus Professor, Resident Historian, Sydney Jewish Museum, Australia.

10. Marion Kaplan, Professor Emerita of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, New York University, USA

11. Christopher Browning, Frank Porter Graham Professor of History Emeritus, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA

12. Prof. Israel Bartal, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

13. Omer Bartov, Samuel Pisar Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Department of History, Faculty Fellow, Watson Institute for International & Public Affairs, Brown University

14. Professor Antoni Polonsky, Brandeis University

15. Prof. Shulamit Volkov, Tel Aviv University

16. Prof. Nadav Na’Aman, Tel Aviv University

17. Prof. Orit Rozin Tel Aviv University

18. Jan T. Gross, Emeritus Professor, Princeton University

19. Yehuda Bauer, Professor Emeritus of History and Holocaust Studie, Yad Vashem

20. Tal Bruttmann, Researcher, Cergy Paris Université

21. Dr hab. Adam Puławski, Brama Grodzka-Teatr NN

22. Dr Christoph Dieckmann, Haifa University, Frankfurt

23. Professor Shmuel Feiner, Chairman of The Historical Society of Israel

24. Prof. Guy Miron, Open University of Israel

25. Mina Cohn. Chair, The Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES)

26. Dr Ingrao Christian, CNRS/EHESS

27. Opher Aviran, Ambassador (Retired), Israel, Senior Retired Israeli Diplomats

28. Prof. Avinoam Patt, Director, Center for Judaic Studies, University of Connecticut

29. Dr Hannah Wilson, The University of Leicester
30. Alana M. Vincent, Associate Professor, History of Religion; former chair of Religion, Holocaust & Genocide Unit, American Academy of Religion, Umeå University

31. Shifra Malina Waxman, Educator, Yad Vashem and JRoots

32. Dr Robert Rozet, Senior Historian, International Institute for Holocaust Research Yad Vashem

33. Renée Levcovitch, Daughter of Holocaust Survivors, Retired Federal executive & donor to fighting anti-semitism

34. Tuvia Friling, Professor Emeritus, Ben-Gurion university of the Negev

35. Dr Srdja Pavlovic, Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies, University of Alberta

36. Prof. Dina Porat, Tel Aviv University

37. Professor Dalia Ofer, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

38. Anna Cichopek-Gajraj, Associate Professor, Arizona State University

39. Dr David Silberklang, Yad Vashem; University of Haifa; Hebrew University

40. Robert J. Williams, Finci-Viterbi Executive Director Chair of the USC Shoah Foundation and Advisor to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, University of Southern California

41. Dr Bella Gutterman, Independent Researcher

42. Dr Arkadi Zeltser, International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem

43. Anna Veronica Pobbe, PhD, Adjunct Professor, University of Milan

44. David E. Fishman, Professor of Jewish History, Jewish Theological Seminary of America

45. Samuel Kassow, Northam Professor of History, Trinity College

46. Natali Beige, PhD student, lecturer, Haifa University

47. Eliyana R. Adler, Associate Professor, Pennsylvania State University

48. Dr Gali Mir-Tibon, Talpiot Academic College

49. Professor Gennady Estrikh, New York University
50. Dr. Joel Rappel, Elie Wiesel Archive
51. Jeffrey Burds, Associate Professor, Northeastern University
52. Moshe Shnet, Prof. Emeritus, Oranim Academic College
53. Diana Dumitru, Chair of Romanian Studies, Georgetown University
54. Professor Aviad Kleinberg, Ruppin Academic Center
55. Jeffrey Kopstein, Professor and Director, Center for Jewish Studies, University of California, Irvine
56. Elissa Bemporad, Professor of History, Queens College and The CUNY Graduate Center
57. Dr Samuel Feldberg, Research Scholar, University of São Paulo, Brazil
58. Dr Anat Livne, Former CEO, Ghetto Fighters' House Museum
59. Mr. Kelly Hiebert, Westwood Collegiate (SJASD)
60. Mary Jane Rein, Executive Director, Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Clark University
61. Judith Schumer, Immediate past chairperson: Nevada Governor’s Advisory Council on Education Relating to the Holocaust, Reno Nevada Holocaust Day of Remembrance-Chairperson
62. Dr Sharon Kangisser Cohen, International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem
63. Daniele Gioia, PhD candidate, University of Florence
64. Professor Marlene Grossman, Vanier College
65. Zachary Yehudah Larkin, Program Management Officer, USC Shoah Foundation, University of Southern California
66. Andrea Bolender, Executive Board/2G leader, Voices4Truth and Humanity
67. Jeffrey Herf, Distinguished University Professor, Emeritus, University of Maryland, College Park
68. Dr Gerald J. Steinacher, James A. Rawley Professor of History, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
70. Anika Walke, Georgie W. Lewis Career Development Professor and Associate Professor of History, Washington University in St. Louis, USA
71. Jerry Z. Muller, Professor Emeritus of History, Catholic University of America
72. Norman JW Goda, Braman Professor of Holocaust Studies, University of Florida
73. Dr Dina Friling, Kaye Academic Collage of Education
74. Misko Stanisic, Director and Founder of Terraforming, Serbia and a member of the Serbian delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance - IHRA
75. Professor Michael Bazyler, Professor of Law and The 1939 Society Scholar in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies Fowler School of Law Chapman University, Orange CA
76. Jacob Barnai, Prof. (Emeritus), Haifa University
77. Piotr Forecki, Associate Professor, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland
78. Shifra Shvarts, Professor Emerita, Ben Gurion University Health Sciences
79. Professor Barbara Engelking, Centrum Badań nad Zagładą Żydów, IFIS PAN
80. Professor Ilan Troen, emeritus, Stoll Family Chair in Israel Studies, Brandeis University
81. Dr Victoria Grace Walden, Senior Lecturer in Media Studies, Project Lead of the Digital Holocaust Memory Project, University of Sussex
82. Shimon Redlich, Professor Emeritus, Ben-Gurion University
83. Thomas Kühne, Director and Strassler Colin Flug Professor, Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University
89. Professor Zohar Segev, University of Haifa
90. Professor (emeritus) Yoav Gelber, University of Haifa
91. Dr Merav Haklai, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
92. Laura Jockusch, Albert Abramson Associate Professor of Holocaust Studies, Brandeis University
93. Stephanie Rein, MD, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine NYU Langone
94. Claire Zalc, Research Director, History, EHESS/CNRS-France
95. דניאל ווגנר, פרופסור, מכון ויצמן למדע
96. סימון מורן, פרופסור, אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
97. Richard Breitman, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, American University
98. Lawrence Douglas, James J. Grofeld Professor of Law, Jurisprudence & Social Thought, Amherst College
99. Robert-Jan van Pelt, University Professor, University of Waterloo
100. Joanna Michlic, Visiting Professor, Lund University
101. Professor Sara R. Horowitz, York University, Toronto, Canada
102. Alvin Rosenfeld, Professor of Jewish Studies and Director of the Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism, Indiana University
103. Menachem Rosensaft, Adjunct Professor of Law, Cornell Law School
104. Pierre Sauvage, Documentary filmmaker, Chambon Foundation
105. Stephen Whitfield, Professor Emeritus of American Studies, Brandeis University
106. Emmanuel Menetrey, Professeur d'Histoire-Géographie, Collège Dinet (Seurre, France)
107. Dr hab. Elżbieta Janicka, Institute of Slavic Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences (ISS PAS)
108. Raanan Rein, Elias Sourasky Professor of History, Tel Aviv University
109. Dr. Efraim Zuroff, Director SWC ISRAEL Office and Eastern European Affairs, Simon Wiesenthal Center
110. Prof. Dan Porat, Hebrew University

111. Cedric JS PULCIAN, Combatant of France, UNITED - NATIONS In The Service of Peace medal

112. Sharon S. Nazarian PhD, President, Y&S Nazarian Family Foundation

113. Goldie Morgentaler, Professor Emerita, University of Lethbridge

114. Dr. Daniela Ozacky Stern, Lecturer, Western Galilee College

115. Carine Delnaud, History teacher, Lycée Bahuet (France)

116. Dr Laurence Weinbaum, Chief Editor, The Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs

117. Professor Aviva Halamish, Open University of Israel

118. Walter Reich, Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Professor of International Affairs, Ethics and Human Behavior, George Washington University, and former Director, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, George Washington University

119. Ruth Panofsky, Professor of English, Toronto Metropolitan University

120. PESCHANSKI Denis, Senior researcher Emeritus at the CNRS, National center for scientific research (CNRS, France)

121. Dr. Matthias J. Becker, TU Berlin

122. Patrick Siegele, MA, Head of ERINNERN:AT Austria

בעני נוירונים, אוניברסיטת פרוסטר, ספונסר אוור.