

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of the Dachau Concentration Camp, April 29, 2020**

**Video message by General Jean-Michel Thomas,  
President of the Comité International de Dachau (CID)**

Dear Survivors,

The CID regrets the cancellation of the ceremonies for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of the Dachau Concentration Camp, at which we wanted to honor you and your American liberators as well as commemorating victory over National Socialism. For twelve years the Dachau Concentration Camp was a symbol of the regime, a model for the Concentration Camp system, based on the suppression of its German political opponents, the prisoners from the occupied countries, the Jews, the Sinti and Roma, and other prisoner groups.

This international Dove of Peace, designed by artist Alain Carrier, commemorates how quickly the flags shot out of nowhere in the liberated camp.

You ceased to be “Stück”, numbers, and became people again. You were aiming to see your families, your villages, and your homeland again, finally liberated of Nazism, for which many of you had fought. And there was also the creation of a nation state for the Jewish people, Israel.

The pandemic will reinforce the solidarity between our nations, whose hearts beat for democracy and freedom.

I send you my friendly and very respectful remembrance.

Please take care of yourself and see you next year.