

**Introduction by Petr Papoušek**  
**on the Occasion of the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust**  
**and the Prevention of Crimes Against Humanity**  
**Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic,**  
**27 January 2021**

Dear Mr. President of the Senate,  
Dear Mr. President of the Chamber of Deputies,  
Dear survivors and representatives of the Roma community,  
Dear television viewers.

Allow me to welcome you to today's commemorative meeting. The meeting, for the sixteenth time, is organized by the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic and the Foundation for Holocaust Victims on the occasion of the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust and the Day of Prevention of Crimes Against Humanity.

I would like to thank President of the Senate, Mr. Vystrčil, for hosting this commemorative event and, once again, enabling the opportunity to meet here in these beautiful chambers of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. Although our meeting is limited within the framework of the current anti-epidemic rules, and the survivors are not here in the hall with us - I hope they are all right in their homes - it is important to remind ourselves, once again, that 76 years ago, the Nazi concentration and extermination camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, was liberated. We are meeting today, to remember and say never again, especially in these difficult times. As to this day, there are approximately 550 survivors in the Czech Republic, and I would like to wish them good health. I strongly believe that next year we will all meet on these premises and I expect the ceremonial hall to be full.