

# INVITATION

**On the occasion of the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime**

**The Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations**

Cordially invites you to a Round-table discussion

**“Remembrance and Education as Powerful Tools for Prevention: Drawing Lessons to Address Challenges”**

*ECOSOC Chamber, UNHQ New York*

*Monday, 9 December 2019*

*15:00 to 16:30*

## **Programme**

- Opening remarks by **H.E. Mr. Mher Margaryan**, Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations

- Moderated by **Dr. Simon Adams**, Executive Director, Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect

### **Panelists:**

- **Mr. Adama Dieng**, Special Adviser of the UN Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide

- **Dr. Henry Theriault**, President of International Association of Genocide Scholars; Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Worcester State University; Co-Editor, Genocide Studies International

- **Dr. Johanna Vollhardt**, Associate Professor, Clark University, Francis L. Hiatt School of Psychology; affiliated faculty member of the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies; Director of Social Psychology Ph.D. program, Co-Editor of the Journal of Social and Political Psychology, Vice President of the International Society for Political Psychology

- **Dr. Eric D. Weitz**, Distinguished Professor of History and the former Dean of Humanities and Arts at The City College of New York

*Classical music performance by a string quartet will be featured during the event.*

*Kindly R.S.V.P. by 2 December 2019 [armmissionun@gmail.com](mailto:armmissionun@gmail.com).*

*Guests without a UN badge must register by sending their names to [armmissionun@gmail.com](mailto:armmissionun@gmail.com) and need to collect their guest pass in front of the UN Headquarters Visitor Centre at 46<sup>th</sup> Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue from 14:15 to 14:30.*

## Concept Note

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly designated the 9th of December as the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of Genocide. Since then, events in observance of the International Day have been held annually at the United Nations. The UNGA resolution 69/323 that designated the commemorative day, states that “*it is the responsibility of each individual State to protect its populations from genocide, which entails the prevention of such a crime, including incitement to it, through appropriate and necessary means, and that fighting impunity for the crime of genocide is an important factor in its prevention.*” The International Day also recalls the significance of the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide adopted on the 9th of December in 1948.

The round table discussion presents an opportunity to reflect on the role of remembrance and education as important tools of prevention through raising awareness on genocides and memorialisation of the victims of past crimes. Promotion of educational programmes including human rights education is key to addressing the root causes of intolerance and discrimination, prevention of crimes against humanity and genocides. Engaging young people in training programmes and commemoration events can be instrumental in addressing the issues of radicalization and denialism thus contributing to prevention of identity based crimes on ethnic and religious grounds.

The speakers will explore the role of education in the fight against the crime of genocide from the viewpoint of visualization, information coverage and dissemination. The round table will also review the reflection of genocide in art and culture, and its impact on genocide prevention. Representatives of the United Nations Member States, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, members of academia, students, and civil society organisations will take part in the event.