The Arolsen Archives are an international center on Nazi persecution with the world’s most comprehensive archive on the victims of National Socialism. The collection is listed on the UNESCO’s Memory of the World register. It contains information on all the groups of victims targeted by the Nazi dictatorship.

These documents are ever more valuable. They are memory.

Alexandr Afanasjew, former prisoner-of-war and inmate of the Buchenwald concentration camp

Our archive is an indispensable source of knowledge for society today.

Floriane Azoulay, Director of the Arolsen Archives

The Arolsen Archives are funded by:

The Arolsen Archives receive inquiries from all over the world

70 countries

Never Look Away

70 countries

Never Look Away

#Stolen Memory

is a campaign to return the personal belongings of concentration camp prisoners

17.5 million names are documented in the Arolsen Archives
Simple explanations in the e-Guide

What do the abbreviations on the index cards from concentration camps mean? Where and why were the documents created? The documents in the Arolsen Archives are not self-explanatory. Many details need to be decoded in order to unlock the stories of the victims of Nazi persecution. Our e-Guide provides valuable assistance by answering five central questions: Who used the documents, when, why, how, and what for? An image of a sample document allows users to click on individual fields, abbreviations and symbols to access explanatory information. The e-Guide also includes interesting facts and useful information on the historical background.

We support research and education

The collections of the Arolsen Archives offer great potential for research and educational projects on Nazi crimes and their consequences. The fate of individual persecutees is a good starting point for awakening young people's interest in the broader context and helping them to understand its historical significance as well as what it means for us today.

If you are interested in our offerings in the areas of research and education, please visit our website for more information. It provides all the contact details you need if you want to get in touch with us as well as descriptions of our current projects.

The Arolsen Archives hold more than 30 million historical documents. We have information on:

- Jewish and non-Jewish victims of Nazi persecution who were detained in concentration camps, ghettos, labor camps and Gestapo prisons (including Soviet prisoners-of-war and Italian military internees).
- Forced laborers under the Nazi regime.
- People who were looked after by Allied relief organizations after 1945 (Displaced Persons) and post-war emigrants.

Research in our online archive! By the way, it is worth coming back for a second visit – and a third! We are always improving the search functions and adding new collections.

collections.arolsen-archives.org/en

to our website to find out about our current projects and offerings, which include preparation and follow-up for trips to memorial sites, workshops, presentations and exhibitions.

eguide.arolsen-archives.org/en

Please use the inquiry form on our website. The information you give us will help us to research for you more quickly by minimizing queries.

aroa.to/inquiry