

Bad Arolsen,
January 15, 2021
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Press Release

#everynamecounts: make sure their names will never be forgotten

Together with volunteers from all over the world, the Arolsen Archives are building the largest digital memorial to the victims of Nazism.

- To mark the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust on January 27, the Arolsen Archives are calling on people around the world to stand up for respect, diversity, and democracy.
- Anyone can take part in the crowdsourcing project #everynamecounts and digitize documents from concentration camps without even leaving the house.

The #everynamecounts initiative invites people to help build a digital memorial to the victims of Nazism. Anyone can take part and digitize names and biographical data. The aim is to create the most comprehensive online archive on Nazi persecutees. The crowdsourcing projects is being relaunched on January 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Get involved and take an active stand

No specialist knowledge is needed in order to take part. Volunteers are guided through the archival documents on a crowdsourcing website which includes a practical help function. The documents come from concentration camps and provide insights into how and why people were persecuted by the Nazis.

They also show that the motives for persecution which existed during the Nazi period are still in existence today. "Every piece of information that is newly digitized is an expression of solidarity with the victims," emphasizes Floriane Azoulay, Director of the Arolsen Archives. "Everyone who participates is sending out a signal in support of respect, diversity, and democracy." German Minister of State for Culture and the Media Monika Grütters is patron of #everynamecounts; the UN supports the initiative, institutions including UNESCO, the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, Anne Frank House in Amsterdam are partners.

Remembrance during the coronavirus pandemic: multi-media installation on live stream

Starting on January 21 already, an evocative multi-media installation will bring #everynamecounts into the public eye. The global artist collective Urbanscreen has created the installation using documents from the Arolsen Archives. The facade of the French Embassy in Berlin will be turned into a huge screen to commemorate the victims

of Nazi persecution. The projection will be on show from January 21 to 27 and can be seen from all over the world on live stream.

International cooperation with a growing number of volunteers

The Arolsen Archives launched #everynamecounts as a pilot project in 2020. To reach even more people worldwide, three languages have now been added: In addition to English and German, the project is now also available in Spanish, Polish, and French. Another new feature is a digital guide that makes it easier to get started with #everynamecounts and is also suitable for use in the context of school projects.

Around 600,000 documents containing personal data

The Arolsen Archives are making around 600,000 documents from various concentration camps available for the crowdsourcing project. They are part of UNESCO's Memory of the World. They include a large number of prisoner registration cards and registration forms containing important data and biographical information such as prisoners' places of birth. The documents can also contain the names of prisoners' relatives; sometimes this is the last remaining trace of them before they were murdered; places of extermination such as Auschwitz-Birkenau or Majdanek are listed as the "places of residence" of prisoners' parents or siblings.

#everynamecounts: interview partners

- #everynamecounts was launched in 2020 as a pilot project and nearly 10,500 registered volunteers from many different countries have worked on the digital memorial so far. We are happy to put you in touch with **volunteers as interview partners** who can tell you about their experiences.
- Many **schools** have already taken part, so we can put you in contact with teachers and students who have participated in the project too.
- **Floriane Azoulay**, Director of the Arolsen Archives, is also available to give interviews.
- Many **partner institutions** will participate in #everynamecounts with their employees. Interviews (TV or radio) are possible.

#everynamecounts: multi-media installation

- The multi-media installation will be projected onto the façade of the French Embassy, Pariser Platz 5, in Berlin between January 21 and 27. Time: 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. **You are warmly invited to film the installation or take photos of it.**
- This [trailer](#) will give you an idea of what the installation will look like.

A r o l s e n A r c h i v e s

International Center
on Nazi Persecution

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About the Arolsen Archives

The Arolsen Archives are an international center on Nazi persecution with the world's most comprehensive archive on the victims and survivors of National Socialism. The collection has information on about 17.5 million people and belongs to UNESCO's Memory of the World. It contains documents on the various victim groups targeted by the Nazi regime and is an important source of knowledge for society today.

Further links

For more information about #everynamecounts and the Arolsen Archives, go to arolsen-archives.org/en/ or use the links below:

This link takes you to the project page: arola.to/enc-en

This link takes you to the crowdsourcing platform: arola.to/joinin

This link takes you to the media installation: arola.to/medieinstallation-en

Press photos:

<https://arolsen-archives.org/en/press/press-photos/>

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Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ArolsenArchives>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/arolsenarchives/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ArolsenArchives/>

This link takes you to the online archive of the Arolsen Archives:
<https://collections.arolsen-archives.org/en/search>