



THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 31, 2021

Mr. David Saltiel
President
Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece
26, Vassileos Irakliou Str.
P.O. Box 12070
Thessaloniki, Greece 546 24

Dear Mr. Saltiel:

Thank you for your letter and the wonderful reminiscence of your visit with my mother and stepfather. It was a privilege for me to learn more about the history of the Jewish community of Thessaloniki. Thank you also for the invitation to visit.

Holocaust remembrance and education are critical to honoring the lives of those who survived and those whom we lost, to preserving historical memory, and to understanding the devastating and dangerous impact of allowing anti-Semitism or other forms of hatred, racism, and bigotry to go unchecked. I was pleased that my predecessor visited the Jewish Museum in Thessaloniki last year to stand with the Jewish Community and Greece in commemorating the lives of the more than 50,000 Greek Jews killed during the Holocaust.

The United States supports the establishment of the Holocaust Museum of Greece in Thessaloniki. I know Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt, Consul General Elizabeth Lee, and the rest of the U.S. Mission in Greece are committed to, and advocating for, swift construction of the museum. I am also very pleased Greece will preside over the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, starting this spring.

The United States will remain resolute in confronting the resurgent tide of anti-Semitism and speaking out against those who use disinformation and conspiracy theories to distort Holocaust history or trivialize the crimes of the Holocaust. We are committed to building a world in which the lessons of the Holocaust are taught and all human lives are valued.

Sincerely,

Antony J. Blinken

*Thank you
for writing*