

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

VOTE*

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Thursday, January 23, 2025
Start: 10:46 a.m.
Recess: 10:51 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: Hon. Carlina Rivera, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

David M. Carr
Shahana K. Hanif
Kamillah M. Hanks
Crystal Hudson
Farah N. Louis
Chi A. Ossé
Sandra Ung
Nantasha M. Williams

COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
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A P P E A R A N C E S

(NONE)

1 COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND
INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS

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2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: This is a microphone check for
3 The Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and
4 International Intergroup Relations, recorded in the
5 Committee Room; recorded...

6 (PAUSE)

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good morning, good morning,
8 welcome to the New York City Council Vote for The
9 Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and
10 International Intergroup Relations.

11 At this time, please silence all electronics and
12 do not approach the dais, I repeat, do not approach
13 the dais.

14 Chair, you may begin.

15 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you. (GAVEL SOUND)

16 (GAVELING IN)

17 Good morning, I'm Council Member Carlina Rivera,
18 chair of the Committee on Cultural Affairs,
19 Libraries, and International Intergroup Relations.

20 Today, the Committee will vote on a pre
21 considered resolution sponsored by Council Members
22 Eric Dinowitz and Keith Powers, recognizing January
23 27, 2025 as the 80th anniversary of the liberation of
24 the Auschwitz concentration and extermination camp
25 and commemorating January 27th annually as Auschwitz

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2 Remembrance Day in the City of New York to honor the
3 memories of the over one million Jews and tens of
4 thousands of others who died brutally there at the
5 hands of Nazis during World War II

6 Now I want to ask Council Member Dinowitz if he
7 would provide some remarks.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Sure thank you, Chair.

9 Today, we pass Resolution 713, recognizing
10 January 27th as the 80th anniversary of the
11 anniversary of the liberation, the Auschwitz-Birkenau
12 concentration extermination camps, commemorating
13 January 27th annually as Auschwitz Remembrance Day in
14 the city of New York.

15 And I think it's an important notion to remember
16 something and not just acknowledge an historical
17 event, because to remember something means to have
18 experienced it, to have a memory of something. To
19 remember it is to have this memory as if it had
20 happened to you.

21 And at this time of rising hate, rising
22 antisemitism, here in the City, and throughout the
23 world, it's important to remember that which came
24 before us, and live with it, and sit with it, so
25 going forward, we're not experiencing that again.

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2 When we remember something, it's part of who we
3 are, and it informs our actions. It informs what we
4 do and how we live our life.

5 And with this resolution passing today, we are
6 acknowledging, and we are saying that New York City
7 remembers Auschwitz, that New York City remembers the
8 Holocaust. And that remembering something isn't
9 passive. Remembering something is to go forward and
10 recognize how it impacts your life, and now how it
11 impacts the life of everyone here in New York City.

12 So I want to thank you, Chair, for bringing this
13 resolution forward so that we in New York City can
14 remember and make it part of our DNA, the 80th
15 anniversary of the liberation from Auschwitz, and
16 every year going forward that we remember and have it
17 part of our DNA here in the city, Auschwitz and the
18 Holocaust. Thank you, Chair.

19 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you, Council Member
20 Dinowitz. I also want to thank all of the advocates
21 and our neighbors, survivors, and families, everyone
22 who helped make this possible.

23 I also want to thank my staff for their work on
24 this, including Katie Loeb, my Chief of Staff; Edward
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2 Amador, Director of Legislation; Christina Yellamaty,
3 Legislative Counsel, Regina Paul, and Sandra Gray.

4 I guess we are now ready for the vote.

5 Let me just ask if there is anyone in the room
6 that would like to provide testimony, please fill out
7 a slip with the Sergeant at Arms.

8 Okay, seeing no one, I think we are ready for the
9 vote.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning, William Martin,
11 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on Cultural
12 Affairs, Libraries and International Intergroup
13 Relations, a Preconsidered Resolution.

14 Chair Rivera?

15 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: I vote aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Louis?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all,
18 congratulations.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

22 Council Member Hanks?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: (UN-MIC'D) I vote aye, and
3 thank you for your leadership, Council Member
4 Dinowitz.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ung?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Williams?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: (ABSENT)

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Carr?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: With a vote of 8 in the
14 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and no abstentions
15 the resolution has been adopted by the Committee.

16 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Okay, thanks to the committee
17 members and to everyone here.

18 This hearing is now adjourned.

19 (GAVEL SOUND) (GAVELING OUT)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date January 25, 2025