## **REFLECTION** Date:

## Extract from the powerful speech by the Mayor of Thessaloniki for the Holocaust Remembrance Day by MAYOR BOUTARI – THESSALONIKI, JANUARY 30, 2018.

3. ...the Holocaust Museum will symbolize our shame. For what happened, for what we did, and especially for what we couldn't or didn't want to do, those of us locals and refugees, right-wing and leftwing, during and after the war. The Museum is a debt for the city but also a personal gamble for me. It is a debt to its Jews, as residents of Thessaloniki, Greeks, and Sephardim. The Museum extends beyond the city and Greece and reinstates Thessaloniki as the metropolis of the Sephardic Jews of the Mediterranean. It aspires to tell the unknown history of the Holocaust of the Jews of the Mediterranean and the Balkans, the Sephardic Jews of Thessasloniki and Corfu, of Chania and Patras, but also of Belgrade, Skopje, Monastir, Sarajevo, Trieste, and Livorno. It hopes to ... to highlight a portion of the Holocaust that is often ignored due to the emphasis in Central and Eastern Europe and in this manner to establish Thessaloniki as a place of remembrance but also an internationally acclaimed center for research and study. And finally, it aspires to be a place where citizens from around the globe, especially youth, will learn about the outcome when human rights are violated.

Q: Why, according to Boutaris, is the significance of the Holocaust Museum?

Comments/Questions