

Welcome

These tips will help you organize your European Day of the Righteous and make it a success!

You can download the [kit with the material to promote](#) your event from this link.

Links to further insights are blue and underlined: if you are looking up these tips in a digital format you will just have to click your mouse, otherwise use your smart-phone by framing the corresponding QR-code.



Event promotion kit

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What is the European Day of the Righteous?

After [Gariwo's call](#), 6 March has been set to be the European Day of the Righteous by the European Parliament with [Written Declaration number 03/2012](#). On 7 December 2017 Italy became the first country to officially join the marking of that recurrence, with the law that establishes also at a national level a Day in memory of the Righteous of the humanity. Every year we celebrate the example of the Righteous of past and present, to spread the values of responsibility, tolerance and solidarity.

Building on Yad Vashem's definition, we have broadened the Righteous concept to include the men and women who have rescued human lives during genocide and defended human dignity in totalitarianism, in the gloomiest times of history all over the world. We chose to hold this ceremony on 6 March because it is the date of the passing away of [Moshe Bejski](#), the great creator of the Avenues of the Righteous in Yad Vashem.

Today the European Day of the Righteous is celebrated with several initiatives in Italy and in the world; the most common way to do it is the creation of new Gardens of the Righteous or the dedication of new trees in the existing ones.

Following are a series of tips to organize an event in your city and contribute in sharing the message of the Righteous.



Gariwo's call



Written Declaration n. 3/2012



Moshe Bejski

Who are the Righteous?

According to us, the Righteous **are not victims**, but those who commit themselves to rescue the persecuted during genocides, to defend the human dignity stepped on by the totalitarian regimes, and to testify to the truth in order to never forget. During the years, we have honoured the Righteous of the Holocaust, the Armenian genocide, of Gulag, Rwanda, Cambodia, Latin America; the civil courage of journalists, intellectuals, diplomats, religious people, ordinary citizens; the example of the “Righteous of our time”, who stand up against fundamentalism and assume their **responsibilities** in front of the challenges of present times.

It is always useful to consider, in the choice of the Righteous, the personal risk that an individual has run, an element that becomes even more important for the Righteous of our time.

Who decides who are the Righteous?

It would be important to create structures capable of making shared choices about the people who are going to be nominated for the recognition as the Righteous. You could think of a Committee approving the proposals. Nominations should be evaluated after carrying out thorough researches about the Righteous in books, testimonies and meaningful publications, or with the support of a Scientific Committee.

You can look at the [list of the Righteous](#) of the various genocides available on our site, or consult the archive of the Genocide Memorials, such as the one of Yad Vashem.

To help in choosing the Righteous, while fully respecting the autonomy of the Gardens, Gariwo has created the [Charter of the Righteous of GariwoNetwork](#), with some criteria to identify the exemplary figures to be honored, in line with our orientation. However, Gariwo is always available to the Gardens to evaluate the candidacy together and examine even the most controversial cases.



List of the Righteous



Charter of the Righteous
of GariwoNetwork

What are the Gardens of the Righteous?

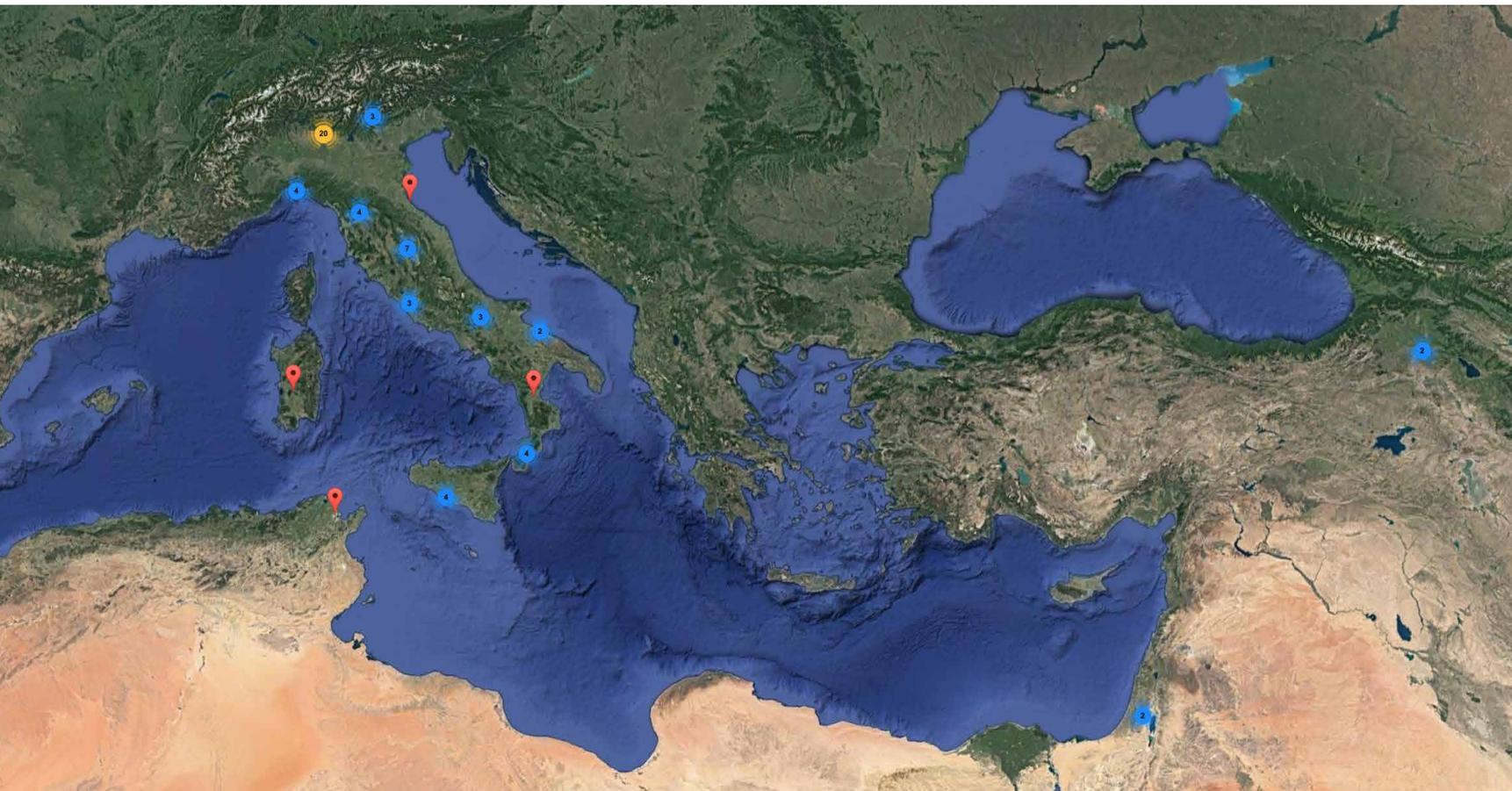
The Gardens are just like open books which are telling the stories of the Righteous. They are public spaces, places of memory, meeting and dialogue, in which it's possible to organize initiatives for students and citizens, to keep alive the examples of the Righteous all the year round, not only by planting new trees.

This is why we created a widespread network, **GariwoNetwork**, to connect those who have already created (or want to create) a Garden in their own city, following the criteria written in the Charter of the Righteous.

On our website, you can find the [list of the Gardens of the Righteous](#) in Italy and worldwide.



All the Gardens of the Righteous



What is GariwoNetwork?

GariwoNetwork is a network designed to connect all the subjects involved in spreading the message of the Righteous, from teachers to associations, to the representatives of the Gardens of the Righteous in every part of the world. The foundation of the Network is the [Charter of Responsibilities 2017](#), launched at the end of the series of conferences *The Crisis of Europe and the Righteous of our time* and signed by important Italian and international personalities.

Users of this network have at their disposal a dedicated page within our site, accessible with credentials provided by the editorial staff of Gariwo, where it is possible to talk about experiences and projects and get in touch with other users to create synergies and collaborations.

GariwoNetwork was launched on 16 November 2017 at the Cariplo Foundation in Milan, with an international conference on the topics covered in the Charter and testimonies on educational projects and on the Gardens of the Righteous in Italy, Europe and the Middle East.



Charter of Responsibilities 2017



The experience of Milan

The [Garden of the Righteous Worldwide](#), located in the park of Monte Stella, was born in 2003 on Gariwo's proposal. In 2008, the Association for the Garden of the Righteous – formed by the **Municipality of Milano**, **Gariwo** and **UCEI** (Italian Union of Jewish Communities) – was constituted to ensure the management and the planning of the activities.

During the inauguration of the Garden of Milan, we have honoured Moshe Bejski, Pietro Kuciukian and Svetlana Broz, promoters of the Garden of the Righteous in Jerusalem, Yerevan and Sarajevo.

From year to year we have chosen a theme to characterize every ceremony (i.e. “The unheard witnesses”, “The public institutions in the service of good”, “Religious and laical people: one only responsibility”, “Yesterday and today the Righteous are always necessary”, “The moral and civil resistance of women for their dignity”). Then we invited the honoured exemplary figures, their relatives or representatives to unveil memorial stones or plaques that we have dedicated to them.

During the year we also organize [guided tours for schools](#) and citizens.



Garden of Milan



Guided tours

How to celebrate the 6 March? Create a Garden of the Righteous...

If your town still lacks a Garden of the Righteous, you can create it and inaugurate it on the occasion of the 6 March. You can ask your City Hall to see if it is willing to devote an area to this purpose, and you can cooperate with a school, a university, an association, an institution in order to locate the ideal area to create the new Garden. In the last few years, it is more and more frequent the creation of [spread Gardens](#), which develop in different areas in the city – such as schools –, creating various places of memory.

When you need to identify the figures to commemorate, think of what is closer to your community. Trees must be chosen accordingly to the climate of your town. In Israel they chose the olive and the carob tree, in Milan we plant blackthorns, in Riva del Garda pomegranates. Near every tree you should indicate the name of the Righteous you wish to honour and, in case you still have space, even his actions. You could place granite memorial stones, but you could use other materials, like metal plaques.

There are also other ways to honour these exemplary figures, with names carved on a wall or a stele inside a school, in a lecture room or in a City Hall. Such a choice has been made for the [Memorial in Yerevan](#), for the Garden of Milan after its redevelopment and for the Righteous Among the Nations honoured in Yad Vashem... since it has no more space available for the trees!

In order to create a Garden of the Righteous in your city, please contact us: segreteria@gariwo.net



The spread Garden of Catania



The Memorial in Yerevan



... or plan an event

The primary purpose of the initiatives about the Righteous is to educate to individual responsibility. This is why it is essential the participation of the young people. Consider you will have to plan at least one month in advance, to have the time to involve the speakers, associations and entities which can be interested in your event; if you wish to contact the Gariwo's contributors, please write to segreteria@gariwo.net

The ceremony at the Garden

If you have already created a Garden, you can keep it alive by dedicating to the Righteous new trees with a ceremony open to schools and citizens. If in your Garden there is no more space for new trees, you can celebrate the 6 March with a guided tour and a brief speech about the Righteous.

The convention

Plan your event carefully, providing brief reports of qualified speakers, Righteous or survivors, and a great deal of multimedia features (video, theatre and music with local artists, theatrical shows prepared by students, and so on). Carefully inform your speakers of what you expect from them and how long their speeches must take.

If you don't find any Righteous or survivor who can speak at your event, you can screen a movie or a short video. On [Gariwo's YouTube channel](#) you can find a rich list of multimedia insights into the Righteous topic.



Gariwo's YouTube channel

Video caricati di redazionegariwo

1/130

2. Francesco Tava, Sacrificio ...
di redazionegariwo

3. Francesca Nodari, La respo...
di redazionegariwo

4. Gabriele Nissim, I Giusti cu...
di redazionegariwo

5. Sante Maletta, Lo slancio p...
di redazionegariwo

Stefano Levi Della Torre, U...

You can draw inspiration from preceding events, like:

Theatrical show Il Memorioso, inspired by the life and deeds of Moshe Bejski and taken from the books by Gabriele Nissim. It made its début at Auditorium San Fedele of Milan on Holocaust Remembrance Day. To mark Holocaust Remembrance Day 2014 it was staged to inaugurate the Holocaust Memorial of Milan. It continues to go on stage in schools and theatre throughout Italy.

Concert of the Righteous, held on 30 March 2012 at Warsaw Royal Palace to support the establishment of the European Day of the Righteous.

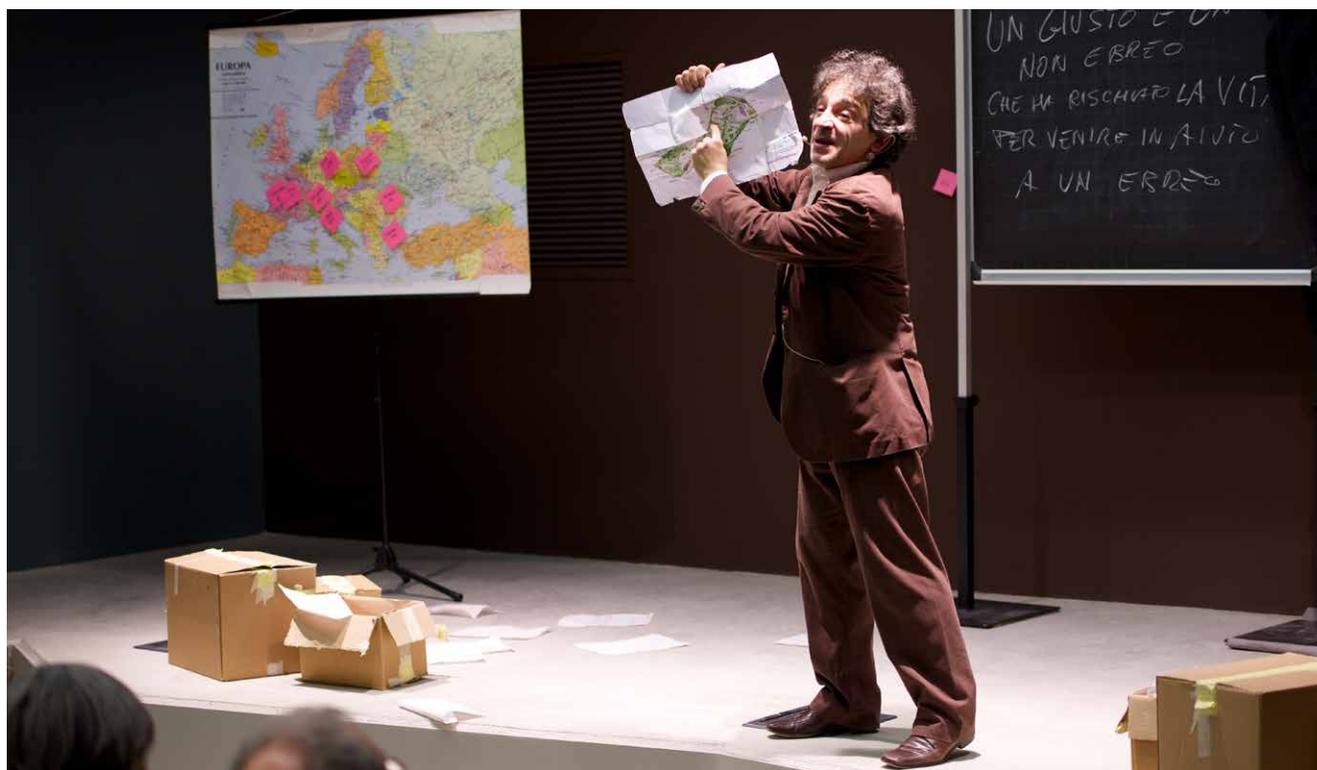
If you cannot organise this kind of event, you can cooperate with local schools to reflect on the examples of the Righteous and to compose written works, comic books, to record videos, or to plan an exhibition.



Il Memorioso



Concert in Warsaw



Invitations and multimedia distribution

In this kit you will find some invitation templates and standard material for the press. If you want to use pictures, pay attention to the sensitivity of your audience.

If you report us about your event we will post it in a list both in our [Facebook page](#) and in [our Website](#), to help reach a wider audience.

You will also be able to contact other associations and communities, to inform their audience about your activity. There are also the local newspapers and Websites that report the news about people and events of your area.

Remember that it is very important to use social networks. Advertise your event through Facebook and Twitter using **#DayOfTheRighteous** e **#IStandWithTheRighteous**.

Some tips to spread your initiative: move up the page by adding more and more news about your ceremony, replace the cover picture with the event's leaflet, invite your friends to take part in the event and share the news about it.



Gariwo's Facebook page



www.6march.eu

The screenshot shows the Facebook profile of 'Gariwo - Foresta dei Giusti'. The profile picture is the Gariwo logo, which consists of the word 'Gariwo' in green and 'la foresta dei Giusti' in smaller black text below it. The cover photo features a person in a red coat standing in a field of young trees under a blue sky with white clouds. Overlaid on the cover photo is the text: 'La buona memoria gli studenti protagonisti' in large white font, and 'Aspettando il 6 marzo, prima Giornata Europea dei Giusti' in smaller white font below it. The Facebook interface includes a search bar at the top with the text 'Gariwo - Foresta dei Giusti', navigation icons for Home, Friends, Messages, and Notifications, and a post from the page dated November 8 at 4:31am. The post has interaction buttons for Like, Share, More, Donate, and Message.

Share your day!

Send us the pictures you took at your events: we will create a gallery for them on our website. You can also send us a brief report of your initiative, we will add it to our 6 March page.

If you have created a new Garden, we will add your city to the places that, both in Italy and all over the world, remembers the Righteous.

Thank you for deciding to join us to celebrate the European day of the Righteous. Keep follow us!

