

Ouder worden met de oorlog - alertering

Updates 25 maart 2025

Voor veel mensen wordt het verleden belangrijker naarmate ze ouder worden. Voor mensen die de Tweede Wereldoorlog hebben meegemaakt kunnen ervaringen, herinneringen en emoties die men voorheen nog door bijvoorbeeld hard werken en vermijden verre van zich kon houden, nu alsnog naar boven komen.

Elk kwartaal zet de ARQ-bibliotheek nieuwe publicaties over *ouder worden met de oorlog* op deze lijst. Wilt u liever een mail ontvangen met referenties naar geselecteerde publicaties, geef dan uw e-mailadres door aan de [ARQ-bibliotheek](#). Ook voor eerdere updates kunt u mailen naar de [ARQ-bibliotheek](#).

Deze attendering hoort bij het themadossier [Ouder worden met de oorlog](#)

Ballis, A., Gloe, M., & Hüttl, E. (2025). "Who will be Interested in Seeing this in 100 Years?" Holocaust Survivors' Perspectives on 'Dimensions in Testimony' and the 'Forever Project.' In: A. Ballis, F. Duda, & M. Gloe (Eds.), *Technology Meets Testimony: Digital Pathways to Holocaust Survivors' Biographies* (pp. 355–369). Springer Fachmedien. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-658-45924-6_18

This article examines the use of interactive testimonies to document Holocaust survivors' memories, focusing on initiatives by the USC Shoah Foundation and Forever Holdings. It analyzes the viewpoints of eight survivors from the US, Canada, Great Britain, and Germany on digital testimonies collected from 2019 to 2022. The research explores survivors' attitudes towards technology, the recording process, and the digital media for Holocaust Education. Introducing the concept of a "digital echo," the study highlights how survivors' stories are transformed into digital media that resonate across generations, preserving their narratives and boosting educational efforts. Survivors discuss balancing respect for their past with the adoption of digital advancements to keep their stories accessible and impactful. Despite challenges, they recognize the significance of digital projects in educating future generations. The study concludes with survivors viewing their participation as contributing to a peaceful future.

Bar-Gil, O. (2025). Holocaust remembrance in the digital age: The transformative influence of technology, digital archives, and connective memory. *Memory Studies*, 17506980241312340. <https://doi.org/10.1177/17506980241312341>

The digital age has profoundly transformed Holocaust remembrance through the influence of digital archives, connectivity, and emerging technologies. This research investigates the transformation of personal memories into connective memory shaped by online social platforms, Internet search tools, and artificial intelligence. It employs an analysis of digital memory platforms and conducts interviews centered on a specific case study examining the memory patterns of a Holocaust survivor. The increasing reliance on algorithmic mediation raises concerns about the potential distortion and manipulation of historical narratives. This study highlights the need for human agency in memory construction and the challenges of technologically mediated memory. It suggests that collaborative efforts involving scholars, survivors, and community members should continue to play a central role in developing technological tools for remembrance. The implications extend beyond Holocaust memory, informing discussions on the digitization, preservation, and ethical dissemination of technologically mediated historical knowledge in the twenty-first century.

Baumel-Schwartz, J. T., & Clark, D. (Eds.). (2025). *Memory and the Holocaust: Descendants of Survivors and Family History*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003490593>

The importance of recording testimony of Holocaust survivors is well understood. While empowering the survivor and adding another layer of documentation about the cataclysm, it also serves as a bulwark against Holocaust denial. The same holds true for helping survivors pen their memoirs, or when writing their history. At the same time, this process also impacts upon the person recording the testimony, assisting the survivor in writing his or her memoirs, and certainly upon those who write about the survivors. What happens when the interviewer, biographer, translator, or memoir transcriber is a child or grandchild of that survivor? This book is based on the premise that a collection of personal narratives of descendants of Holocaust survivors who interviewed their parents/grandparents, wrote their history, or helped them with their memoirs, narratives in which they describe and analyze the impact of these activities on their personal trajectories, can greatly contribute to our understanding of the Holocaust and, particularly, its aftermath. Each of the book's 14 chapters is a personal narrative by a child or grandchild of Holocaust survivors who analyzes the impact that their interviewing, writing about, or writing with their surviving parents/grandparents had upon their lives.

Bergman, Y. S., Saar-Ashkenazy, R., Faran, Y., Klonover, E., & Palgi, Y. (2025). Associations between death anxiety and probable posttraumatic stress disorder and clinical depression and anxiety in older Israeli adults during wartime. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, *n/a*(*n/a*), 23131.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/jts.23131>

The outbreak of the Israel–Hamas war on October 7, 2023, has presented unprecedented challenges to older adults' mental health, including increased posttraumatic stress, anxiety, and depression. The current study examined potential war- and age-related factors associated with probable posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), clinical depression (probable depression), and generalized anxiety disorder (probable anxiety) among older adults during the ongoing war. Moreover, due to the continued threat of death, we examined whether death anxiety is an additional contributing factor to older adults' probable PTSD, depression, and anxiety. Data were collected January–March 2024 from 554 community-dwelling older adults (Mage = 73.90 years, SD = 7.35, range: 61–96 years) who completed online scales assessing sociodemographic variables, war exposure (distance from the Gaza Strip, exposure to terror attacks/blasts), and age-related constructs (assistance in daily activities [ADL], cognitive decline, physical illnesses, death anxiety). Increased ADL was associated with probable depression, $B = 0.62$, $OR = 1.87$, and anxiety, $B = 0.42$, $OR = 1.53$, and cognitive decline was associated with probable depression, $B = 1.52$, $OR = 4.56$. Older adults with high levels of death anxiety were almost 3 times as likely to meet the criteria for probable PTSD, $B = 1.05$, $OR = 2.85$, and more than 1.5 as likely to meet the criteria for probable depression, $B = 0.54$, $OR = 1.71$, and anxiety, $B = 0.50$, $OR = 1.65$. The importance of death anxiety as a potential risk factor for negative psychological outcomes among older adults during war is discussed.

Halioua, B., [et al] (2025). International study of the perceived stress and psychological impact of the 7 October attacks on Holocaust survivors. *European Journal of Psychotraumatology*, *16*(1), 2428025.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/20008066.2024.2428025>

Objective: The terrorist attacks of 7 October 2023 in southern Israel had a significant impact on the mental health of Holocaust Survivors (HS), who are considered to be particularly vulnerable to traumatic events. The aim of the study was to assess the severity of perceived stress and the

psychological impact of the 7 October attacks on HS. Methods: The study was conducted from 30 October to 15 December 2023 among HS who were contacted through HS support organisations (OSE, Aloumim). They completed a questionnaire consisting of four sections: socio-demographic data and experiences during the Holocaust, assessment of psychological stress using the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS-10), feelings of isolation, health consequences, and reactions to the 7 October attacks. Results: 171 HS completed the questionnaire with 61 males (35.7%) with a mean age of 86.6+/-4.4 years (min 79–max 97). 59.6%, lived outside Israel, mainly in France. The mean score on the PSS-10 was 17.7 +/-6.0 on a scale of 5 to 40. The average PSS 10 score is not significantly higher in cases of age ≤90 years (18.0 ± 6.0 vs 15.7 ± 6.4, NS), or for those living in Israel (17.2 ± 5.3 vs 18.1 ± 6.6, NS). About a quarter reported feelings of isolation or loneliness following the attacks. The impact of the 7 October attacks was particularly significant among those living outside Israel. Approximately two-thirds felt that the events had rekindled memories of their Holocaust experiences, and nearly one-third observed a decline in their health since the attacks. Among survivors living outside Israel, 86.6% expressed concern about the future safety and identity of their children and grandchildren as Jews. Conclusion: Identifying Holocaust survivors (HS) who are experiencing psychological distress is crucial to providing them with appropriate therapy. 75.3% of Holocaust Survivors experienced moderate to severe distress in the two months following the 7 October terrorist attacks, as measured by the PSS-10 questionnaire. Non-Israeli HS tend to think more frequently about the Holocaust period (87% vs 62.7%, $p \leq .05$) and more often make a spontaneous link between the images broadcasted of the October 7 massacre and what happened during the Holocaust (83.7% vs 66.7%, $p \leq .05$). Compared to non-Israeli HS, those living in France and Canada are more anxious about the future of their children and grandchildren as Jews (86.6% vs 58.8%, $p \leq .05$). 75.3% of Holocaust Survivors experienced moderate to severe distress in the two months following the 7 October terrorist attacks, as measured by the PSS-10 questionnaire. Non-Israeli HS tend to think more frequently about the Holocaust period (87% vs 62.7%, $p \leq .05$) and more often make a spontaneous link between the images broadcasted of the October 7 massacre and what happened during the Holocaust (83.7% vs 66.7%, $p \leq .05$). Compared to non-Israeli HS, those living in France and Canada are more anxious about the future of their children and grandchildren as Jews (86.6% vs 58.8%, $p \leq .05$).

Kadri, A., Gracey, F., & Leddy, A. (2025). What Factors are Associated with Posttraumatic Growth in Older Adults? A Systematic Review. *Clinical Gerontologist*, 48(1), 4–21.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/07317115.2022.2034200>

Posttraumatic growth (PTG) is of increased theoretical and clinical interest. However, less is known about PTG in older adults specifically. This systematic review aimed to identify domains where PTG is studied for older adults; investigate factors associated with PTG in older adults; consider how these might differ between historical and later life traumas. Online databases were searched for quantitative studies examining PTG outcomes in adults aged ≥ 60 years. 15 studies were subject to a narrative synthesis. Older adults can experience substantial levels of PTG, from traumas during later life or across the lifespan, and historical wartime traumas. Traumas can be diverse, some studies found equivalent levels of PTG from different traumas across the lifespan. Social processes may be a key variable for older adults. Additional psychosocial factors are found; however, diverse findings reflect no overall model, and this may be consistent with variations found in other PTG literature. Clinical considerations are discussed. As diverse studies, findings may not be widely generalizable and directions for further research are highlighted. PROSPERO: CRD42020169318.

Maytles, R., Bergman, Y. S., Frenkel-Yosef, M., & Shrira, A. (2025). Psychological reactions of Holocaust survivors following the October 7 attack in Israel. *Psychiatry Research*, 343, 116305.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychres.2024.116305>

Holocaust survivors may be sensitive to additional traumatic events that can awaken memories of their past. The study examined Holocaust survivors' reactions to the October 7 terrorist attack. Data were collected from 118 Israeli Jewish older adults, who were divided into three groups: Survivors with high ($n = 17$), and with low PTSD symptom levels ($n = 69$) and a comparison group ($n = 32$), matched for background variables. Results demonstrate that survivors who reported high PTSD symptom levels due to the Holocaust reported more anxiety ($p < .001$, $\eta^2 = 0.13$), depression ($p = .006$, $\eta^2 = 0.08$), and PTSD symptoms due to the Israel–Hamas War ($p < .001$, $\eta^2 = 0.22$), compared to low-PTSD-level survivors and comparisons – those not directly exposed to the Holocaust. However, there were no group differences in hope, activity engagement, and community resilience. The findings highlight the heightened distress experienced by highly traumatized Holocaust survivors following additional mass trauma, while also demonstrating their remarkable resilience.

Penić, S., Elchereth, G., & Bilali, R. (2024). Beyond Collective Victimhood: How Diverse Conflict Knowledge Relates to Community Cohesion. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, $n/a(n/a)$.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.3129>

In conflict-affected societies, collective victimization can undermine social cohesion or foster narrow ingroup bonding and parochialism. We examine whether the possibility to know and freely communicate about diverse conflict experiences, which go beyond collective (ingroup) victimhood, can serve as a resource for community cohesion (i.e., community attachment and efficacy). Nationally representative surveys from two conflict-ridden societies, Sri Lanka ($N = 1188$) and the Occupied Palestinian Territory ($N = 1000$), reveal that individuals with broader knowledge of diverse conflict experiences exhibit stronger attachment to their local communities and perceive them as more efficacious, but only when they believe knowledge of these experiences can be shared within their community. Conversely, diverse conflict knowledge is related to a lower sense of community cohesion when individuals perceive diverse conflict experiences as unspeakable in their community. The findings contribute to our understanding of the potential effects of violent conflict on social cohesion and highlight the importance of openness to discuss the full range of conflict experiences.

Ramírez, C., & Durón, R. M. (2024). Almost 80 years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Are World Governments and Healthcare Systems Ready for a Nuclear War? *Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health = Yebang Uihakhoe Chi*. <https://doi.org/10.3961/jpmph.24.577>

Since the detonation of the first atomic bomb during World War II, geopolitical issues and armed conflicts have reminded us of the threat posed by nuclear weapons in the short, medium, and long term. The potential consequences include millions of deaths and severe injuries from blast, heat, and acute ionizing radiation. Whatever the country, in the post-acute stage of a nuclear attack, the first challenge for health and rescue personnel will be gaining access to affected populations amidst destroyed infrastructure, hazardous radioactivity, and limited health facilities and medical supplies. Subsequently, the focus will shift to providing timely and appropriate treatment for survivors, addressing environmental damage, and combating malnutrition. Beyond the immediate human toll, the destruction of city infrastructure and the loss of centuries of cultural heritage are also at stake. Governments and health systems must prepare for these scenarios, although any medical or mitigation

response may prove inadequate to halt the devastating impact of a failed disarmament or nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Scientists should raise awareness about the dire consequences of nuclear warfare and the realities of a post-nuclear era.

Senol-Durak, E., & Durak, M. (2023). [Post-Traumatic Growth Among Older Adults](#). In *The Routledge International Handbook of Posttraumatic Growth*. Routledge.

Research on the psychological impacts of trauma in old age has focused on negative repercussions, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); however, there may also be a positive alteration in the lives of older adults. Experiences, perspectives, and insights that come with maturation contribute to an increased capacity for adaptation to novel circumstances. This chapter discusses traumatic experiences, resilience, and post-traumatic growth (PTG) in older adults and its domains across types of traumas and significant life events, social resources, and psychological aspects associated with PTG, and offers implications and considerations for future study. Older adults present different reports of different domains of PTG such that appreciation of life, relating to others, and personal strength are most likely to be noticed, whereas reports of the new opportunities domain are limited. Future research should investigate the nature of PTG in older people who have experienced a variety of traumatic events, emphasizing the influence of different kinds of traumas and related obstacles. The chapter concludes with practice implications as the demand is higher than ever before for PTG-enhancing treatments to address the needs of older people encountering various life challenges to support them in remaining safe in an aging society.

Weiss, D. (2025). The “Immigrant Medical Services” Organization from the End of the British Mandate Through the First Years of Israel (1944–1953). *Rambam Maimonides Medical Journal*, 16(1), e0006. <https://doi.org/10.5041/RMMJ.10541>

The aftermath of the Second World War and the Holocaust triggered mass migration of Jewish refugees to British Mandatory Palestine and, after 1948, the nascent State of Israel. Responding to this crisis, Jews in the Diaspora increased their commitment to facilitate immigration to Israel, particularly by supporting medical services to the Yishuv (pre-state Jewish Settlement). This paper explores the critical role played by Hadassah and other organizations in establishing direct medical services for Jewish immigrants during two key periods of Israel’s history: the end of British Mandatory Palestine (1944–1948) and the early years of the State of Israel (1948–1953). While the Immigrant Medical Services organization faced numerous challenges, this organization was essential in addressing the pressing healthcare needs of a burgeoning population amid morbidity and mortality concerns. An emphasis is placed on the challenges faced by these organizations and the commitment and resourcefulness of all involved, which ultimately shaped the foundation of Israel’s healthcare infrastructure.

Zessin-Jurek, L. (2024). [Holocaust Survivors, Siberians, Refugees, Veterans – Memory and Choice of Jewish Returnees from the USSR to Poland \(1945–2024\)](#). In *Intergenerational Trauma in Refugee Communities*. Routledge.

This interview-based chapter explores the memory of Polish Jewish refugee children and youth who survived the Holocaust in the USSR and, unlike most flight survivors, resettled permanently in Poland after the war. It discusses and explains differences in their memory pathways that led to their engagement with various collective narratives of war and displacement and prevented them from emerging as a generation based on the shared experience – that of refugees, as well as Siberian and

Holocaust survivors. Depending on social geography, former Jewish refugee children and youth encountered differing structural conditions and cues that shaped their understanding and articulation of their wartime experiences. Yet, location does not explain everything. This oral history study takes a deconstructive approach to trauma and highlights the element of choice in how memories of victimhood are processed. The issue of choice and the mnemonic agency of individuals is evident against the background of strong social determinants, such as the fragile status of the Jewish minority in postwar Poland, and the dominant narratives about the war which, however, did not reduce the experience of Polish Jewish flight survivors to one simplified narrative. Finally, since most of the returnees could not recover the homes they had lived in before the war and were subject to further displacement within their country of origin, I argue that the immediate postwar period was another stage of their prolonged refugee experience not only in the West European DP camps, but also in Poland.