



Claims Conference ועידת התביעות  
The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

## International Shoah Archivists Working Forum

### ***Participant Information***

#### ***General Information***

##### ***Name and address of institution/archive:***

Israel State Archives  
Prime Minister's office  
Jerusalem  
91919

##### ***Internet address of web site, if applicable:***

none

##### ***Brief description of archival collecting scope in regard to the Holocaust (please indicate any focus on specific geographic areas, topics, or time periods):***

Documentation in the Israel State Archives relating to the Holocaust, restitution claims and the Reparations Agreement, memory of the Holocaust, the situation of European Jewry after the war and immigration of Jews to Palestine during and after the war:

1. Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs (RG 130, 93): The Reparations Agreement.  
A large amount of material including full documentation on the agreement can be found in files on relations between Israel and the Federal Republic of Germany, and between Israel and Western Europe. There is material on individual claims in the Legal Department although most of the economic material is in the records of other ministries.

Includes also material on relations between Israel and the Democratic Republic of Germany, dealing with the claim for restitution, and material on the Purchasing Delegation headed by F. Shinnar, which dealt with implementation of the Agreement, mainly correspondence and reports. Here too the main body of the material is found in the records of the Finance Ministry and the Shilumim (Reparations) Corporation.

The volume of "Documents on the Foreign Policy of Israel" for 1960 includes material on the capture of Adolph Eichmann, mostly from the Telegrams series.

2. Prime Minister's Office (RG 43). A small number of files dealing with commemoration of the Holocaust and the establishment of the Yad VaShem Authority, reports on the Jewish communities in Europe after the Holocaust, commemoration of fallen soldiers from the Jewish Brigade.

3. The Eichmann Trial (RG 79, 30,31), 343 boxes . Material on this subject is found in Record Group 06 of the Israel Police Force and in the court records. The ISA has also published the court proceedings in book form and produced excerpts on a video cassette. The Archives hold the diary written by Eichmann in prison and exhibits produced during the trial.

4. The Demianjuk Trial (Record Groups 74, 30, 31), 186 boxes. Material collected by the Justice Ministry for use at the trial, court proceedings.

5. The Shilumim (Reparations) Corporation and the Purchasing Mission 1953-1965 (Record Group 116), 73 boxes. The Purchasing Mission was established in 1953 to implement the Reparations Agreement with the Federal Republic of Germany. Most of the records consist of purchasing orders.

6. Ministry of Immigrant Absorption (Record Group 136), 28 boxes. Lists of immigrants (1919-1974), including lists of names of immigrants by date of arrival, and lists of ships arriving during and after World War II.

7. Ministry of Health (RG 57, 1998 - 1999). Material of the Public Committee for Mental Patients who are Holocaust survivors.

8. Justice Ministry ( RG 74, 1989-1996). Material from the Minister's bureau on restitution from East Germany. Material relating to claims from Germany and her allies, and to the Association of Holocaust Survivors.

9. Finance Ministry (RG 80, 1970 - 2002). Material on reparations from Germany, on claims to realize insurance policies from the Holocaust period, on compensation to persons who became invalids as a result of Nazi persecution and on Jewish property confiscated during the Holocaust.

10. Population Register of the Israel Interior Ministry (RG 73). Records of the first census carried out in November 1948 (309 boxes). Shows the population of Israel six months after its establishment. An important resource for genealogical research and tracing survivors who reached Israel after the Holocaust.

11. Education Ministry (RG 71, 1950 – 1990). Preservation of the memory of the Holocaust, including material on commemorative activities in schools, curriculum development, visits by youth delegations to Poland.

12. The Chief Rabbinate (RG 140). Material on immigration of rabbis and others from Europe during the Holocaust period, and on property in Palestine owned by Jews who perished during the Holocaust.

13. The Knesset (RG 60). Material deposited by Knesset member Yigal Bibi relating to the return of property confiscated from Jews during the Holocaust.

14. Palestine (Mandatory) Government, Migration Department (RG 11), 508 boxes+microfilm index. Includes personal files of applicants for Palestinian citizenship, many of them refugees from Germany during the 1930s, and reflecting the persecution of Jews in Europe. Also includes data on admission of immigrants and statistical data on immigration and absorption.

15. Palestine (Mandatory) Government, Police Force (RG 17), 10 boxes. Deportation orders of illegal immigrants arranged according to ship, 1938-1946.

16. Palestine (Mandatory) Government, Custodian of Enemy Property (RG 91), (16 boxes). Includes case files on claims to property in enemy and enemy occupied territory.

17. German Archives (Records Groups 67 and 90). Documents of the German consulates and German non-official documents, including material on Nazi activity in Palestine.

18. The personal archive of Felix Shinnar (RG 72.21). Including material on his role in the negotiations on the Reparations Agreement and as head of the Purchasing Delegation.

### ***Microfilming and Digitization***

***Total estimated number of pages of Holocaust-relevant archival records (for purposes of estimating, please assume that 1 meter=10,000 pages and 1 foot=3,000 pages):***

Estimated number of pages of original records: 4,000,000 pages

***Estimated number of pages of these original records that have been microfilmed:***

We have only 6 microfilming rolls of Holocaust-relevant records

***Estimated number of pages of these original records that have been digitized:***

***Estimated number of pages of records microfilmed and/or duplicated from elsewhere:***

*Estimated number of pages of these records microfilmed and/or duplicated from elsewhere that are on microfilm:*

*Estimated number of pages of these records microfilmed and/or duplicated from elsewhere that have been digitized:*

### ***Conservation of Individual Items of Particular Significance***

*If there are specific original archival materials in your collection that are of major historical significance and of exceptional intrinsic value that are in urgent need of conservation, please list them:*

*If you know of specific original archival materials in collections other than your own that are of major historical significance and of exceptional intrinsic value that are in urgent need of conservation, please list them:*

### ***Acquisitions***

*If your archive is actively acquiring Holocaust-relevant archival records, please briefly describe your acquisitions program, including an estimate of the average number of pages acquired annually and the sources for such acquisitions (private donors, other repositories, etc.):*

*If your archive has an exchange program with other archives, please briefly describe it:*

*Does a list of your institution's microfilming and other acquisitions projects already completed and/or currently in progress exist? If so, in what form is it and how can it be accessed?*

## **Cataloging**

### ***Briefly describe your current cataloging practices:***

The cataloging practices in the Israel state Archives are based on the general international standard archival description – isad (g).

It's dividing to three main levels:

1. Record grope
2. series
3. file
- 4.

All the levels are describe according to the basic elements that are on the different levels and description areas that in the isad (g)

The basic description file unite is a documents file and every other sort of file unit like audiovisual or map get en extra fields accommodate to the sort.

Almost 100% of the documentation in the Israel State Archives has a description in level 1+2. Between 10%-12% of the records are describing in level 3.

Most of our descriptions are in Hebrew. If there are record groups or series or file that have a title in English, or in any other roman languages, we are keeping the source languages and translate it to Hebrew.

### ***Estimated proportion of Holocaust-related collections in your archive that are already adequately cataloged and in what language(s):***

30% of our Holocaust-related are cataloged in file level and the others on record group or series levels

### ***Has your archive developed a controlled vocabulary for the cataloging of its collections? If so, please describe briefly. If not, please explain:***

No, we did not develop any kind of controlled vocabulary.

### ***Are the cataloging records accessible in an electronic format? If so, are they accessible to the public (if the electronic catalog is available on the Internet, please provide the Internet address)?***

All the cataloging records are accessible in electronic format. They are accessible to the public in the archive's reading room and we hope that during this year many of them will be accessible through the internet.

*Is there more detailed information such as finding aids, survey notes, or other descriptive tools available for the collections in your archive? If so, please describe (if available on the Internet, please provide the Internet address; if not available on the Internet, please attach an example). Is such more detailed information available to the public?*

## ***Accessibility***

*Briefly describe your current policies regarding access to your collections.*

Generally the period of restrictions is 30 years. Records of the army and ministry of Defence and Government and Foreign Affairs and security of the Knesset Committees are closed for 50 years.

*Does your archive duplicate archival collections for other repositories? If so, please explain under what circumstances:*

No.