

Bundesamt für zentrale Dienste und offene Vermögensfragen

Payment in recognition of ghetto work

Federal Government Directive of 1 October 2007 concerning the payment of amounts to victims of persecution in recognition of work in a ghetto which did not constitute forced labour and which has not been recognised to date under social insurance law



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Who is entitled to payment?

In order to qualify for payment, you must

- be a victim of national socialist persecution within the meaning of the Federal Indemnification Act (*Bundesentschädigungsgesetz*),
- have been forced to live in a ghetto which was under national socialist influence, and
- have been employed without coercion during this time.

Who does not qualify for payment?

The following shall not qualify for payment:

- Those whose time in the ghetto has already been taken into account in statutory insurance schemes (worldwide),
- Those whose work in the ghetto has already been compensated for as forced labour from funds from the Foundation "Remembrance, Responsibility and Future".

How and where to apply?

Before the one-off recognition payment can be made, an application must be submitted.

Eligible persons may receive a one-off recognition payment of €2,000.

The application must be made in German or English to

Bundesamt für zentrale Dienste und offene Vermögensfragen

53221 Bonn

A special form is available from the above address or online under:

In English: http://www.badv.bund.de/antrag/Antragsformular_en.pdf

In German: http://www.badv.bund.de/antrag/Antragsformular.pdf

A telephone service has been set up in Germany for information. You may access it by ringing

01888 7030 1324

What I need to know

1. Only those who are eligible may submit an application and the payment will be made to these eligible persons only. Where the eligible person dies after having submitted an application, the payment will be made to his/her surviving dependents (spouse or children).

The application must be completed in full and signed.

- 2. Proof that the applicant is still alive ("Confirmation by official authority") issued by an official authority (e.g. authorities, notaries, banks, hospitals, consulates of the Federal Republic of Germany, Red Cross) must be attached to the application form.
- 3. The relevant file number and confirmation must be submitted where persecution has already been recognised by an official body.
- 4. Any person who during a forced stay in a ghetto was employed without coercion may receive a payment.

Persons employed in forced labour during their time in a ghetto do not qualify for the recognition payment. Compensation for such labour has been made form the federal "Remembrance, Responsibility, Future" foundation.

Only those who sought the work themselves or were provided with work on their own request are entitled to the payment. Those who were forced to take on work by means of threat or application of physical violence are not entitled to payment.

When supplying details on the ghetto work, please indicate all ghettos in which you stayed and all activity (employment) undertaken.

- 5. The time spent in the ghetto must not have already been taken into account by a German pension or a pension of another country. The corresponding notices of pension entitlement must be enclosed with the application form.
- 6. In order to ensure that payment can be arranged without complication, please indicate the bank details, including full address and international codes such as SWIFT, IBAN, etc. Cheques may only be sent to the USA.
- 7. A declaration must be submitted stating that all details provided are correct. Otherwise, the application may be rejected or you may be required to repay any recognition payment already received.
- 8. In order to assess whether the entitlement criteria are met, a declaration of consent concerning the request of information from pension insurers and compensation authorities must be submitted.