



## New version of the Directive on a payment in recognition of ghetto work

### Federal Government Directive of 20 July 2011 concerning the payment of amounts to victims of persecution in recognition of work in a ghetto which did not constitute forced labour (Recognition Directive)

Under the old version of the Directive a victim had no right to the recognition payment if his work in the ghetto had already been taken into account in a pension. Under the revised Directive, which has retroactive effect, however, the fact that this work in the ghetto has been taken into account in a pension no longer prevents a victim from receiving the recognition payment. The revised Directive applies retroactively from 6 October 2007.



© Stiftung Denkmal für die ermordeten Juden Europas

#### 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 work in the ghetto has already been compensated as forced labour from funds of the Foundation "Remembrance, Responsibility and Future".
- **Those who make an application for the recognition payment after 31 December 2011 (deadline).**

## **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](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

**+49(0)22899 7030 1324**

## **Information on filling out the application**

1. Only the eligible person himself or his authorised agent (the certificate of authorisation must be presented) may submit an application. The payment will be made only to the eligible person himself. Where the eligible person dies after having submitted an application, the payment will in that case be made to a surviving dependent (spouse or children).
2. Proof that the applicant is still alive ("Confirmation by official authority") issued by an official authority (e.g. public authorities, consulates of the Federal Republic of Germany) must be attached to the application form.
3. If the applicant's status as a victim of persecution has already been recognised by an official body, the file number of that body must be given and a relevant certification must be submitted.
4. When supplying details on the ghetto work, please indicate all ghettos in which you stayed and all activity (employment) undertaken.
5. A declaration must be submitted stating that all details provided are correct, otherwise the application will be rejected. If it turns out that false information was supplied you will be required to repay any recognition payment already paid out.
6. In order to ensure that payment can be arranged without complication, please give the name and full address of the bank, the details of your account and international codes such as SWIFT and IBAN.

**Information in connection with applying for the recognition payment and payments under the Ghetto Pensions Act:**

1. If you worked in a ghetto but have not yet made an application for a recognition payment, you can still apply for a payment to the Federal Office of Central Services and Unresolved Property Issues (Bundesamt für zentrale Dienste und offene Vermögensfragen – BADV); your application must be received **no later than 31 December 2011**. Your right to the payment is no longer prevented by your time in a ghetto having been taken into account for a pension.
2. If you have already made an application for the recognition payment which has not yet been decided because a pension claim or objection proceedings are pending with the German pension insurer, this application will now be finally processed regardless of the outcome of the pension proceedings.
3. If you have already received the recognition payment you do not have to pay it back if you are subsequently granted a pension. Any declaration of setting-off issued by the pension issuer will no longer be taken into consideration.
4. If your application for the recognition payment was rejected because you receive a pension, a new decision will be made on your application. You do not have to make a new application. If the eligible person has died in the meantime, the payment will be made to his surviving dependants (spouse or children).
5. If you have already paid back to the BADV a recognition payment you received because you were subsequently granted a pension, the amount you paid back will be refunded to you by the BADV. If the recognition payment was withheld from the back payment of a pension due to your voluntary declaration, the pension insurer will refund that amount to you. You do not have to make any application for this. If the eligible person has died in the meantime, the refund will be made to his surviving dependants (spouse or children).
6. If you have withdrawn your application for a pension under the Ghetto Pensions Act in favour of the recognition payment because the pension you could expect would have been very small, you can apply for this pension again. The pension insurer will contact you and recommend that you should do this. The same applies if you have waived the pension in favour of the recognition payment.
7. If in the past you have refrained from applying for a pension under the Ghetto Pensions Act or, vice versa, have refrained from applying for the recognition payment because you received the respective other payment, you can now make a corresponding application for a pension or an application for the recognition payment.

**The final deadline for applying for the recognition payment is 31 December 2011.**