



Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité  
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

PREMIER MINISTRE

# Report to the public on the work of the **CIVS** 2017

Commission  
pour l'indemnisation  
des victimes  
de spoliations  
intervenues du fait  
des législations  
antisémites en vigueur  
pendant l'Occupation



**Speech by French President Jacques Chirac, on July 16, 1995,  
at the commemoration of the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup (July 16, 1942).**

**Excerpts**

« In the life of a nation, there are times that leave painful memories and damage people's conception of their country.

It is difficult to evoke these moments because we can never find the proper words to describe their horror or to express the grief of those who experienced their tragedy. They will carry forever, in their souls and in their flesh, the memory of these days of tears and shame. [... ]

On that day, France, land of the Enlightenment, of Human Rights, of welcome and asylum, committed the irreparable. Breaking its word, it handed those who were under its protection over to their executioners. [... ]

Our debt to them is inalienable. [... ]

In passing on the history of the Jewish people, of its sufferings and of the camps. In bearing witness again and again. In recognizing the errors of the past, and the errors committed by the State. In concealing nothing about the dark hours of our history, we are simply standing up for a vision of humanity, of human liberty and dignity. We are thus struggling against the forces of darkness, which are constantly at work. [... ]

Let us learn the lessons of history. Let us refuse to be passive onlookers, or accomplices, of unacceptable acts. »

**Decree No. 99-778 of September 10, 1999 establishing a Commission  
for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation Resulting  
from the Anti-Semitic Legislation in Force during the Occupation.**

**Article 1**

« A commission shall be set up under the Prime Minister tasked with examining individual applications presented by the victims or their heirs to make reparations for losses resulting from the spoliations of property that occurred due to anti-Semitic laws passed during the Occupation, both by the Occupying forces and by the Vichy authorities.

The Commission is responsible for seeking and proposing appropriate means of reparation, restitution or compensation. »



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## Foreword

Nearly twenty years after it was established, the CIVS remains fully committed to its founding mission, but exercising this responsibility has led it to branch out, these past few years, in two directions, and to invest in developing relations and partnerships at European level, and in searching for victims' heirs.

The Commission's relations with its peer institutions in Europe are being scaled up first and foremost with Germany. Over and above efforts to achieve synergies, this strand of our action is upholding the remembrance dimension of Franco-German relations; it is putting the ambition in this regard into practice.

The search for heirs is another development strand being pursued by the CIVS. It has led to the Commission redirecting its resources and rolling out new procedures, the results of which are already visible.

In 2017, the CIVS demonstrated its ability to adapt its working methods with a view to making them more efficient, but at the same time the downward trend in the number of claims submitted continued. It is therefore important that the Commission restate the possibility, still today, of obtaining reparation for errors of the past. In a number of families, victims or their relatives remain either reluctant, unaware of the compensation scheme or not sufficiently informed of the fact that the Commission carries out the searches itself.

The debate initiated by the public authorities in 2017 should shed new light on the work the CIVS does, and determine its forthcoming role in the painful question raised by the fate of spoliated artworks.







## Reparations and memory

In 2017, the outlines of the future shape the CIVS is to take were defined with more clarity. When its Deliberative Panel was renewed in September, three new members joined the Commission for a three-year term. At the same time, from July onwards the CIVS made proposals to the cabinet of the new Prime Minister on updating the decree which defines its missions and lays down the framework for the way it operates. The report on its activity (1), as well as its international outreach (2) and the specific issues associated with spoliated cultural property (3), will be decisive in determining the strategic guidelines that will be laid down, while it now benefits from renewed resources for its operations (4).

### **A Commission which is moving with the times**

Article 3 of the decree establishing the CIVS<sup>1</sup> stipulates the appointment of its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members for a three-year term, as well as the members making up its Deliberative Panel: « 1° Two highest-ranking judges sitting on the Court of Cassation, practicing or honorary; 2° Two State Counsellors, practicing or honorary; 3° Two Senior Members of the Court of Auditors, practicing or honorary; 4° Two university professors; 5° Two qualified individuals. »

The Deliberative Panel, whose members had previously been determined by a Decree of September 15, 2014, was renewed by Decree of September 15, 2017. Our sincere thanks in this respect go to Mr Bernard Boubli, Honorary Senior Advisor at the Court of Cassation, Mr Pierre Parthonnaud, Honorary Senior Member of the Court of Auditors, and Mr Gérard Israël, member of the steering

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1 - Decree no. 99-778 of September 10, 1999, amended, establishing a Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation Resulting from the Anti-Semitic Legislation in Force during the Occupation.

committee of the Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France (CRIF), whose terms in office came to an end in September 2017. The Commission's results are also very much down to their dedication and hard work within the Panel for more than a decade.

Pursuant to the Decree of March 27, 2015<sup>2</sup> on gender equality regarding access to advisory bodies and commissions, equal representation between men and women on the CIVS Deliberative Panel has, for the first time, been achieved.

Three new members joined the Commission on September 15<sup>3</sup>:

- Ms Frédérique Dreifuss-Netter, Counsellor at the Court of Cassation,
- Ms Catherine Périn, Senior Member of the Court of Auditors,
- Ms Laurence Sigal, Museum Curator.

The decree of September 15 also renewed, for a three-year term, the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of Mr Michel Jeannoutot and Mr François Bernard respectively.

### **The CIVS, tomorrow: thoughts on the Commission's future**

The Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation was set up following the speech that Jacques Chirac delivered on July 16, 1995 at the commemoration of the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup. Considering that, more than twenty years later, it might be time to give fresh impetus to French policy regarding the reparation of anti-Semitic spoliations, in the summer of 2017 the CIVS outlined proposals for updating its mission.

This new impetus could bear on an issue that remains unresolved from most points of view: that of **the restitution of spoliated cultural property**. There is a general consensus, which is consistent with the research conducted in recent years in France, and, in the belief that « *the restitution policy and, more broadly, the handling of the consequences of spoliation during World War II can [...] be improved* », the Minister of Culture has entrusted to Mr David Zivie a mission « *aimed at assessing progress and areas that could be improved in the handling of spoliated cultural property and artworks.* »<sup>4</sup>

2 - Decree no. 2015-354 of March 27, 2015 on gender equality regarding access to the advisory or deliberative bodies and commissions placed under the Prime Minister, ministers or Banque de France, on applying Article 74 of Act no. 2014-873 for substantive gender equality.

3 - The decree of September 15, 2017 on nomination to the Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation Resulting from the Anti-Semitic Legislation in Force during the Occupation is appended to this report.

4 - Engagement letter from the Minister of Culture and Communications to Mr David Zivie, dated May 5, 2017.

Beyond our borders, the finding is the same: nearly twenty years after the Washington Conference Principles on Nazi-Confiscated Art (1998), through which 44 Governments committed to identifying and returning the latter, the results have been mixed.

For all of the stakeholders involved in France, the resources and delivery of this policy need to be reviewed if we are going to achieve greater efficiency. The CIVS (which has mostly achieved the objectives of its original compensation mission) could have a role to play in this debate:

- ▶ in administrative terms, it remains the only place where historical, legal and genealogical skills can be found all together, along with knowledge of archive collections;
- ▶ its positioning with respect to the Prime Minister attests to the special attention that the public authorities are paying to this reparation policy and is conducive to cross-government work;
- ▶ the expertise and reputation forged by the CIVS in relation with victims and victims' families are unrivaled;
- ▶ it is in the vanguard of Franco-German relations through the integration of its team within the French Embassy in Berlin, and the working relationship it has upheld since 2015 with the *Deutsches Zentrum Kulturgutverluste* (German Lost Art Foundation).

## 1/ Assessment of its reparation efforts

Since its creation back in 2000 up until December 31, 2017, the Commission has recorded 29,457 case files. 19,544 concern material spoliations, in the meaning of Decree No. 99-778 of September 10, 1999, and 9,913 bank-related spoliations. 899 have been closed because no duly completed questionnaire was received; 962 because they did not come within the Commission's competence, or owing to the default of claimants or abandonment of claim during review.

In 2017, the CIVS filed 131 new claims: 81 material claims and 50 bank-related claims, which corresponds to an average of 11 new claims a month.

Recommendations are made by the CIVS' Deliberative Panel, meeting in plenary session or subcommittee, or under the Chairman ruling alone procedure (see *inset*). In 2017, 8 hearings were held in a plenary session. They allowed for the

examination of 20 case files. 17 hearings were held in subcommittee, during which 103 case files were examined. Lastly, 169 case files were examined under the procedure known as « Chairman ruling alone ».

**297 recommendations were made in 2017** (391 in 2016), 215 of which concerned material spoliations and 82 bank-related spoliations. The total amount of compensation recommended for this year amounted to **€6,054,574** at the State's expense (of which €581,474 for bank-related spoliations).

### Chairman ruling alone procedure

The Decree of June 20, 2001 gave the CIVS Chairman the possibility of ruling alone. Claims examined in this fashion are selected based on the urgency of the personal circumstances of the claimant and when the claim does not present particular difficulties. In 2002, the procedure was extended to bank-related claims for which the banks concerned had agreed in principle to award any compensation the Commission may grant.

This procedure is also used, on the one hand, to establish recommendations for collection of portions reserved for heirs who are identified but not associated with the initial claim, and, on the other, following the examination of certain additional claims (e.g. fees for refugees being smuggled to unoccupied France, looting of refugee shelters, money confiscated during an arrest, internment in French camps, etc.).

169 case files were examined according to this procedure in 2017.

Among the 297 recommendations, 60 were rejected (particularly for unproven spoliation): 22 in the context of a material case file; 38 in the context of a bank-related case file. Finally, 142 recommendations for the collection of reserved portions were made (116 material and 26 bank-related)<sup>5</sup>.

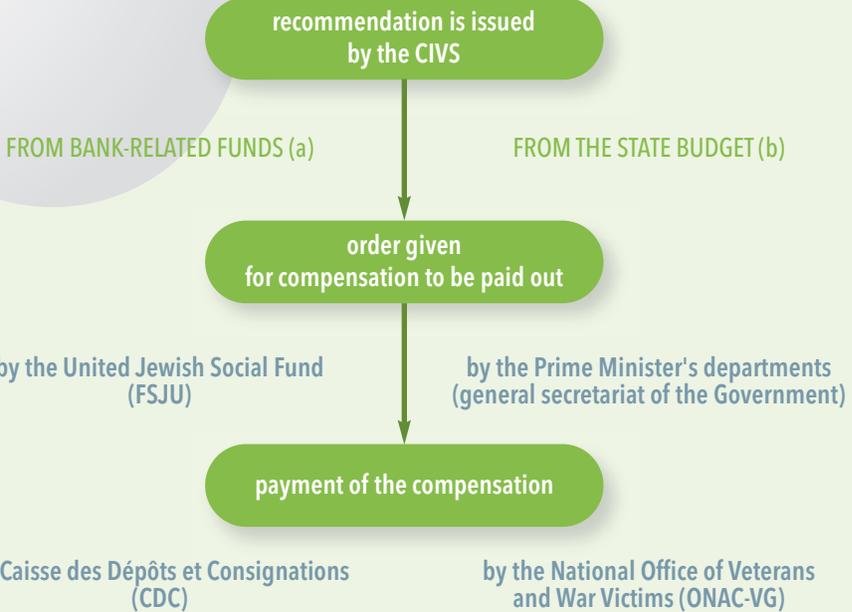
5 - The notion of « reserved portions », their implications and the specific measures taken by the CIVS in recent years to bring their significance down are discussed in Part two of this report.

### The reparations made by the CIVS for losses in 2017

The CIVS is responsible for examining individual applications submitted by the victims or their heirs to obtain reparation for losses due to the spoliation of material or financial assets that took place due to anti-Semitic legislation enacted during the Occupation<sup>6</sup>.

When the CIVS issues a recommendation for compensation at the State's expense, the decision on the basis of this recommendation is made by the Prime Minister, then paid by the National Office of Veterans and War Victims. When the recommendation states that the compensation must be borne by the banks, the payment authorizing body is the United Jewish Social Fund (FSJU), and Caisse des dépôts et consignations (CDC) pays the heirs.

#### DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED IN THE COMPENSATION PROCESS



(a) Fund supplied by the banks, pursuant to the Washington Agreement

(b) Program 158: compensation of victims of anti-Semitic persecution and acts of barbarism during World War II

6 - Article 1 of Decree No. 99-778 of September 10, 1999, amended by Decree No. 2000-932 of September 25, 2000.

Although damages of a moral nature, such as psychological suffering and the conditions of the deportation, do not come within the scope of compensation, the French mechanism is characterized by the sheer range of losses which can be compensated for:

### **The looting of apartments and refugee shelters<sup>7</sup>**

Beginning in May 1940, the German Occupying forces removed personal property in the context of requisitioning offices, apartments and houses, and also looted housing, including refugee shelters, abandoned by Jews who had fled persecution or were deported (the operation known as *Möbel Aktion*, or "Furniture Action"). Nearly 72,000 apartments were thereby emptied of their contents in occupied France, including 38,000 in Paris<sup>8</sup>. This « civil theft »<sup>9</sup> by Nazi Germany concerns all property that can be found in housing: clothing, furniture, silverware, professional equipment, pianos, etc. These objects were, for the most part, sent to Germany.

► **Total recommended in this respect by the CIVS in 2017: €760,799<sup>10</sup>**

► **Total recommended in this respect by the CIVS since 1999: €160,386,368<sup>11</sup>**

### **Business and real property spoliation**

Economic aryanization is the policy, first conducted by the Germans in the occupied zone (orders and instructions of May 20, 1940, September 27, 1940 and November 12, 1940) and then by the Vichy government across the entire country (Act of July 22, 1941), aimed at confiscating property belonging to Jews and banning them from practicing the majority of professions or trades. Under the authority of the General Commissariat for Jewish Questions (CGQJ), 50,000 businesses and buildings<sup>12</sup> were « aryanized »<sup>13</sup> between March 1941 and June 1944. These sales and liquidation

7 - Fleeing their home, often in the occupied zone, to seek refuge in the so-called free zone or, for Alsace and Moselle residents expelled by the Nazis, or driven underground, Jews sought refuge in housing where some of them were arrested while others soon left to flee once again. Shelters are compensated for. .

8 - Annette Wieviorka, Floriane Azoulay, *Le pillage des appartements et son indemnisation*, Mission d'étude sur la spoliation des Juifs de France, Paris, La documentation Française, 2000, p. 17.

9 - Mission d'étude sur la spoliation des Juifs de France, *Rapport général*, Paris, La documentation Française, 2000, p. 41.

10 - Excluding shelters; jewelry included.

11 - Excluding shelters; jewelry included.

12 - Few claims concern compensation for real property. The restitution of real property and cancellation of sales were addressed by simplified procedures at the time of the Liberation.

13 - « Aryanization », a term of German origin, refers to the transfer of property from « Jewish hands » to « Aryan hands. »

operations were conducted by provisional administrators. Economic aryanization gave rise to spoliations valued at more than EUR 450 million<sup>14</sup>. Moreover, numerous business assets were spoliated outside the framework of this procedure<sup>15</sup>.

► **Total recommended in this respect by the CIVS in 2017: €462,238<sup>16</sup>**

► **Total recommended in this respect by the CIVS since 1999: €167,743,648<sup>17</sup>**

### **Theft or forced sale of cultural personal property (including artworks and liturgical objects)**

Looting of art began in the first days after the occupation of Paris. From the fall of 1940, this activity was assigned to a German organization, the *ERR (Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg für die besetzten Gebiete*, or Reichsleiter Rosenberg Taskforce, in the occupied territories)<sup>18</sup>. The ERR seized works over a period of four years, targeting 200 prominent collectors. Numerous cultural and religious objects were also stolen from homes, and safe deposit boxes opened or broken into by the *Devisenschutzkommando*<sup>19</sup> could also contain artworks. Overall, 100,000 artifacts and several million books were spoliated.

► **Total recommended in this respect by the CIVS since 1999: €35,754,012**

### **Three new cultural assets returned in 2017 upon recommendation of the CIVS**

► **In 2014, the CIVS had filed a claim from Mr L. concerning the spoliations of which his grandfather had been a victim in France during the Occupation. It transpired from the research undertaken by the CIVS, as well as that conducted by the working group on the provenance of works recovered after World War II<sup>20</sup>, that two MNR tapestries could be returned to the victim's heirs:**

14 - Mission d'étude sur la spoliation des Juifs de France, *Rapport général*, Paris, La documentation Française, 2000, p. 59.

15 - Owing to prohibitions on practicing, tradespeople, craftspeople and professional service providers, with no choice but to flee and go underground, had to abandon their trades which were then subject to spoliation.

16 - Excluding shelters.

17 - Excluding shelters.

18 - Mission d'étude sur la spoliation des Juifs de France, *Le pillage de l'art en France pendant l'Occupation et la situation des 2 000 œuvres confiées aux musées nationaux*, Paris, La documentation Française, 2000, p. 17.

19 - *The Devisenschutzkommando (DSK, or Currency Protection Commando) blocked « regardless of nationality or faith, the foreign currencies and safe deposit boxes rented in banks. Its officers took over the premises of the Lazard bank in rue Pillet-Will. The blocked safe deposit boxes in the occupied zone were registered between the summer of 1940 and the spring of 1941 in the presence of the Occupying forces. Where the tenant had not returned the key, in the spring of 1941 they were prised open by force. »* (Mission d'étude sur la spoliation des Juifs de France, *Rapport général*, Paris, La documentation Française, 2000, p.78).

20 - In 2013, following a proposal on the part of the CIVS, the Minister of Culture set up a working group to establish the provenance of so-called « MNR » works. It is chaired by a judge-rapporteur at the CIVS. The work conducted and the findings obtained by this working group have been presented in previous reports on the work of the CIVS.

- The tapestry *A submission, wall hanging of the history of Alexander*, entered under the title *Tenture de l'histoire des Consuls romains* (OAR45, BB and F.V.H.; studio of Franz Van den Hecke).

- The tapestry *Diogenes in his ceramic jar*, entered under the title *Diogène assis dans un tonneau reçoit la visite d'Alexandre* (OAR474, Brussels, BB and F.V.H.; Studio of Franz Van den Hecke).

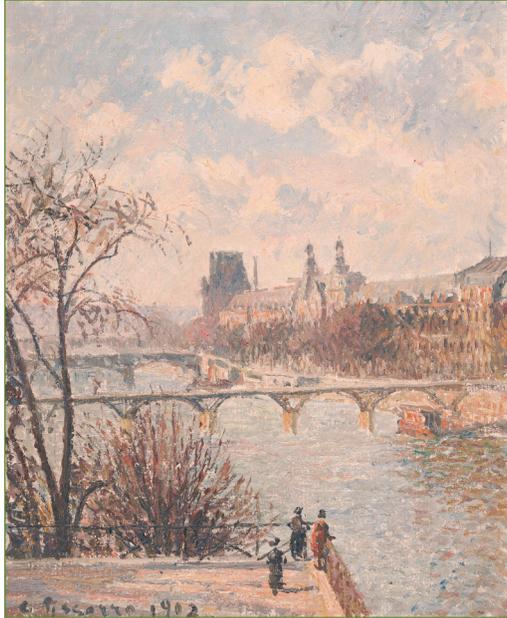
They were returned in February 2017.

► Also in February, the painting by Camille Pissarro, *The Louvre and the Seine from the Pont-Neuf*, was returned to the heirs of Max Heilbronn, who founded the Monoprix retail chain in 1932, fought for the French Resistance and was deported to Buchenwald before serving as Chairman of the upmarket department store Galeries Lafayette between 1945 and 1971. Placed in a bank safe deposit box, the painting had been spoliated by the Germans during World War II. In September 2003, Max Heilbronn's heirs had opened a case file with the CIVS which mentioned, among other things, ten spoliated paintings, including *The Louvre and the Seine from the Pont-Neuf*. Research brought to light the fact that three of the paintings had already been returned after the war. In May 2007, the CIVS recommended compensation for the seven other paintings.

A few years later, in the spring of 2012, the Pissarro was found during searches of the premises of Cornelius Gurlitt<sup>21</sup>. At the end of 2014, the CIVS provided the Taskforce, formed to handle the « Gurlitt collection », with the facts that would enable the spoliation to be established and the heirs to be identified..

21 - In the spring of 2012, 1, 280 artworks were seized in the Munich home of Cornelius Gurlitt; a few months later, 238 other artworks were discovered in his house in Salzburg, in Austria. For more details on the « Gurlitt affair », readers can refer to the *Report to the public on the work of the CIVS – 2014*, pp. 40-45.

### The Louvre and the Seine from the Pont-Neuf, Camille Pissarro



### The payment of fees for smuggling to unoccupied France or across borders

From June 1940 to November 1942, a 1,200km frontier separated occupied France from so-called « free » France. Clandestine networks of smugglers formed to help people cross this « frontier ». Some smugglers charged fees for their services; others seized all the assets, cash, jewelry and silverware of those they transported. During this period, several thousand Jews had to call upon the services of smugglers to flee persecution, often leaving behind cash and valuables.

### Confiscation of money during internment in a camp

75,000 Jews were deported from France to foreign extermination camps. 67,000 passed through the Drancy camp. Others were interned in other camps scattered across France (in particular, Pithiviers, Beaune-la-Rolande, Gurs, Compiègne, Les Milles and Rivesaltes). All the assets they possessed were confiscated and the money was deposited into Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations. This spoliation amounted to over EUR 750 million.

► **Total recommended in this respect by the CIVS in 2017: €123,868**

► **Total recommended in this respect by the CIVS since 1999: €21,491,329**

### The confiscation of banking assets and consignment of insurance policies

A German order dated May 28, 1941 stated that: « Jews and Jewish businesses, for which an administrator has not been appointed, shall not dispose of means of payment, receivables and securities or transfer them to another place without the approval of the Control Service of the provisional administrators » (paragraph 1). The Act of July 22, 1941 goes even further, stating that « [...] the balances of deposit accounts and more generally all sums belonging to Jewish people shall be transferred to Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations » (Article 21). During the war, 80,000 bank accounts and 6,000 safe-deposit boxes were blocked. Financial spoliation (insurance contracts, banking assets and securities holdings) amounted to EUR 520 million<sup>22</sup>.

► **Amount recommended by the CIVS for insurance policies since 1999:**

**€256,565**

► **Amount recommended by the CIVS for banking assets in 2017: €578,228 at the State's expense and €132,877 compensated at the expense of the banks<sup>23</sup>**

► **Amount recommended by the CIVS for banking assets since 1999:**

**€10,431,420 at the State's expense and €43,181,137 at the banks' expense<sup>24</sup>**

### Supplements to previous compensation

Supplements to compensation awarded after World War II by the French (French War Damages Act) and German (BRüG Act)<sup>25</sup> authorities need to be added to the above-mentioned amounts when the Commission considers these reparatory measures to have been insufficient in view of the losses that victims endured. These compensation supplements concern the looting of housing, aryanization of businesses and looting of cultural personal property, since German compensation was usually capped at 50% of the value of the spoliated property.

► **Total recommended in this respect by the CIVS in 2017: €633,275**

► **Total recommended in this respect by the CIVS since 1999: €75,031,528**

22 - Mission d'étude sur la spoliation des Juifs de France, *La spoliation financière*. Volumes 1 et 2, Paris, La documentation Française, 2000.

23 - Amount communicated by Caisse des dépôts et consignations.

24 - Amount communicated by Caisse des dépôts et consignations

25 - The BRüG Act (Bundesrückerstattungsgesetz, federal restitution act), passed in 1957, organizes the compensation of spoliated items outside of the Federal Republic of Germany and Berlin. This legislative framework has allowed for the processing, over two stages (from July 19, 1957 to April 1 1959, then October 2, 1964 to May 23, 1966) of over 40,000 case files coming from French Jews.

## Reparation of bank-related spoliations

The conditions for compensating bank-related spoliations are laid down by the Washington Agreement signed in 2001 between France and the United States<sup>26</sup>. « [...] a claim made by a claimant or a simple letter from the latter asking about the existence of a banking asset is sufficient to initiate a review procedure [...] »<sup>27</sup>. Since the Commission began working, 9,170 claims have been sent in by claimants.

But another 743 case files created on the Commission's initiative also need to be added to this figure. For when, during the review of claims concerning material spoliations, documents reveal the existence of banking assets in the name of the spoliation victims or their firms, the Commission is obliged to operate beyond the scope of the Washington Agreement and to undertake bank-related research. An inspection of archive elements contained in the material case files has been performed systematically by the Commission since 2007. In 2013, in keeping with the principle of fairness and commitment to ensuring the exhaustive review of all case files, the Commission set up an inspection procedure for the 3,151 previous material case files. Implementation of this procedure was completed in the first quarter of 2017.

Over 2017, **40 new bank-related files** referred by claimants were recorded by the Commission, versus 71 in 2016. At the same time, **10 additional files** (23 in 2016) were created in the context of the archive document inspection procedure.

### Bank-related research

**68 case files** were studied or subject to supplementary research by the Bank-Related Claims Search Team in 2017, compared to 104 in 2016.

27 of them, for which the research did not turn up anything, were rejected on the grounds of foreclosure attached to Fund B, since the referral post-dated February 2, 2005.

The other 41 case files proved the existence of 106 bank accounts, securities accounts or safe-deposit boxes (214 in 2016).

26 - For more information about the Washington Agreement, readers can refer to Part two of the *Report to the public on the work of the CIVS – 2016*.

27 - Decree no. 2001-243 of March 21, 2001 publishing the agreement between the French and the United States governments concerning compensation for certain spoliations during World War II (comprising three annexes and an Exchange of Letters), signed in Washington on January 18, 2001, Appendix B.I. – B.

Breakdown by lending institution of the confirmed accounts <sup>28</sup> in 2017	
BNP Paribas Group	21,7 %
La Poste Group	19,8 %
Crédit Agricole S.A. Group	11,4%
Société Générale S.A. Group	11,3%
Banque Palatine	7,5%
Banque de France	5,7%
Bank (unidentified corporate name)	5,7%
Foreign exchange broker	5,7%
BPCE Group	3,8%
CIC Group	2,8%
National Westminster Bank	1,9%
HSBC Group	0,9%
Crédit du Nord Group	0,9%
Solicitors	0,9%

For some of these case files, the Historic Archives of the banking institutions were **consulted on more than 50 occasions** – offering as they do an additional resource for the Commission to make judgments on a possible reparation.

In accordance with the provisions of the Washington Agreement, if the Commission recommends compensation, it is likely to be withdrawn from the Fund A escrow account, in the event of spoliation of a personal account, or from the State's budget, in the event of a personal or professional account – the management of which was ensured by a provisional administrator. As a reminder, compensation supplements, where applicable, are organized via the Washington Agreement.

### Review of the case files

**For 68 case files**, the bank-related investigations were closed in 2017, versus 75 in 2016:

- ▶ 30 of them (so 44% of these case files, compared to 61% in 2016) had the simplified procedure applied to them in which the Chairman of the Commission rules alone;
- ▶ the 38 remaining case files were submitted to the Commission's Principal Rapporteur for their review by a judge-rapporteur.

28 - Confirmed account: account identified at the end of the research.

## Communication

On July 11, 2017, the Commission received representatives of plaintiffs as well as the French Ambassador for Human Rights, responsible for the international dimension of the Holocaust, spoliations and the duty to remember. This informal meeting was held in keeping with the Washington Agreement, which advises regular information and follow-up between the Parties.

The Commission also drew up bi-annual reports relating to the processing of bank-related case files and the compensation granted using Funds A and B and the State budget. These documents were disseminated on June 15 and December 15, 2017.

### The Washington Agreement

The Washington Agreement (Decree of March 21, 2001) governs the compensation scheme concerning bank-related spoliations implemented by the CIVS.

Two separate funds were created by the financial institutions for honoring the compensation likely to be recommended. The first fund, known as « the Deposit » (Fund A), with USD 50,000,000, is intended to compensate victims whose assets have been identified. The second fund, known as « the Fund » (Fund B), with USD 22,500,000, provides for a lump-sum compensation from the signature of an affidavit for referrals made prior to February 2, 2005 by victims or their heirs. The State budget is called on when the bank-related spoliation occurred in the context of aryанизation or sequestration of property.

The Agreement has been interpreted and amended over time by four exchanges of diplomatic letters, which have had the effect of increasing the lump-sum compensation amounts. For the Commission, each amendment has been followed by a revision of all of the bank-related case files to ensure compliance with the principle of fairness between claimants.

Since 2006, the date on which the last exchange of diplomatic letters took place, the compensation likely to be allocated is as follows:

- ▶ For a claim made before February 2, 2005, concerning a supposed spoliation, the total compensation allocated is USD 3,000;
- ▶ Regarding confirmed assets, it should be noted that compensation is allocated for each identified account:
  - 1/ Concerning a spoliation suffered for a personal or professional account with an identified, adjusted, balance of less than USD 3,000, the total compensation allocated is USD 4,000;
  - 2/ Regarding a personal or professional account with an identified, adjusted, balance of between USD 3,000 and USD 10,000, the total compensation amounts to USD 10,000;
  - 3/ For a personal or professional account with an identified, adjusted, balance of more than USD 10,000, the compensation allocated corresponds to the adjusted amount in EUR.

A one-time lump-sum supplement of USD 15,000 has been set up for individuals recognized as being direct victims according to the Agreement's stipulations.

## 2/ The CIVS on the international scene

By its very nature, there has been international element to the Commission's work right from the outset<sup>29</sup>. Beyond the compensation scheme concerning bank-related spoliations, defined and governed by the agreement signed with the United States on January 18, 2001, its mission is part of a broader agenda as regards **States' commitment** to enabling restitution or compensation for the spoliations committed, to honoring the duty to remember and to assisting Holocaust survivors – a commitment which was restated in 2009 in Terezin<sup>30</sup>.

The CIVS' work abroad is increasingly focusing on spoliated cultural property and Franco-German relations.

### Strengthened Franco-German cooperation

In 1999, the CIVS set up a team in Berlin, a department tasked with finding in the German archives any document that would likely inform the Commission on the circumstances and scope of the spoliations, and to list any compensation granted under the BRÜG Act<sup>31</sup>. Since it first opened, the team has examined **more than 20,000 case files**.

What is more, thanks to its knowledge about questions associated with the Holocaust and World War II and its presence since 2009 in the Embassy in Berlin, it has been able to share its expertise with the French representation in Germany at regular intervals. Its location is also of benefit to the Commission in Paris, through the information it can share on German news regarding spoliations – such as during the « Gurlitt affair » in particular.

### A strategic plan for the CIVS team in Berlin

In October 2017, a strategic plan to reform the Berlin team was set in motion. Overseen by the Director of the Commission and new head of the team<sup>32</sup>, this plan is organized around a 2017-2020 road map that sets out its various

29 - The international scope of the Commission's work is particularly addressed in the *Report to the public on the work of the CIVS – 2016* (pp.11-15).

30 - The « Holocaust Era Assets » Conference was held in Prague on June 26-30, 2009. It culminated in the Terezin Declaration, a moral undertaking to which 46 nations committed. The French delegation, in which the CIVS participated, was led by Simone Veil, former Minister and former President of the European Parliament, and by François Zimmeray, Ambassador for Human Rights.

31 - Research in the BRÜG archives is particularly aimed at avoiding cases where a spoliation that has already been compensated by the Federal Republic of Germany is compensated a second time by France. Indeed, where compensation was initially paid out more than forty years ago, beneficiaries may have forgotten about it, while their heirs often knew nothing about them. Knowledge of any compensation already paid out has made it possible to grant compensation supplements, as discussed previously.

32 - Mr Julien Acquatella took up the post of head of the CIVS team in Berlin on October 4, 2017.

milestones. According to this strategic plan, the staff working in the team must extend their remit to cover new areas of activity. For the Berlin team is an asset for the CIVS: since it provides the Commission with a foothold in Germany, it is called on to communicate on its work there, to keep watch and liaise with German academia, as well as take up a representative role. Moreover, by recently joining the Embassy's « memory and commemoration » working group, it has a particular part to play in **the remembrance aspects of Franco-German relations** (in this regard, the CIVS team is asked at regular intervals to produce, on the CIVS' behalf, briefs for the French Embassy in Germany and to prepare some of its contributions). Lastly, with a view to renewing the CIVS' cooperation with the *Deutsches Zentrum Kulturgutverluste* (German Lost Art Foundation), the team is the latter's first point of contact.

#### **More ambitious cooperation with the Deutsches Zentrum Kulturgutverluste**

In 2017, the CIVS and *Deutsches Zentrum Kulturgutverluste* (German Lost Art Foundation) launched the plans for **unprecedented cooperation** in provenance research bearing on Nazi-confiscated artworks. Since July 10, 2015, the CIVS has been involved in the *Taskforce Schwabinger Kunstfund*, the first example of cooperation in this area, which was nevertheless limited to the works on the « Gurlitt inventory »<sup>33</sup>. The cooperation framework being envisaged is more ambitious, since it is aimed at lending mutual support to investigations and research on Nazi-confiscated property, at sharing information and at working together.

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33 - To find out more about the « Gurlitt Affair », readers can refer to the *Report to the public on the work of the CIVS – 2014*, pp. 40-45.

### The Deutsches Zentrum Kulturgutverluste

- ▶ *The Deutsches Zentrum Kulturgutverluste* (German Lost Art Foundation) is a private-law foundation supported by the Federal Government representatives for culture and the media and by the *Länder* of the Federal Republic of Germany.
- ▶ Nowadays it primarily focuses on cultural property confiscated by the Nazis, but, more broadly, it is also competent for any question with a bearing on the unlawful seizure of cultural property in Germany in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Accordingly, it also supports research concerning the loss of cultural property in the former German Democratic Republic (GDR). In 2018, the German government referred to it the issue of looted property during the colonial period and of its restitution.
- ▶ The Foundation is an institution which backs a number of projects (*Provenienzrecherche Gurlitt* being the best-known example). From its headquarters in Magdeburg it coordinates projects that it delegates out to museums, institutional partners and independent researchers.
- ▶ The Foundation organizes symposia for experts and stakeholders in this sphere, for example the symposium *Theft & Trade. The French Art Market Under German Occupation* (November 30 - December 1, 2017) and *20 Years Washington Principles: Roadmap for the Future* (November 26-28, 2018).
- ▶ Mr Rüdiger Hütte is the full-time chairman and Professor Gilbert Lupfer is the honorary chairman of its executive board.

On May 9, 2017, the CIVS welcomed to its Paris offices Mr Rüdiger Hütte and Dr Michael Franz, Head of the German Lost Art Foundation's Department for General and Administrative Matters. The idea of working together on a new project was raised at this initial meeting. On November 20 in Bonn, on the sidelines of the symposium *Theft & Trade. The French Art Market Under German Occupation*, the CIVS delegation and the Foundation's Executive Board reached an agreement, during a working session, on the principle of a partnership geared towards conducting joint research projects, sharing information and joint events and publications. On January 17, 2018, a CIVS delegation travelled to the German Lost Art Foundation's offices in Magdeburg to lay the foundations of the future cooperation. This meeting was held in the presence of France's Ambassador to Germany, who highlighted the importance of the CIVS-German Lost Art Foundation partnership in the context of Franco-German relations. The aims and framework of this partnership will be set out in an agreement due to be signed in 2018.

The German Lost Art Foundation receives the CIVS in Magdeburg, with France's Ambassador to Germany in attendance.



© Deutsches Zentrum Kulturgutverluste

### ***Unfinished Justice: Restitution and Remembrance (Brussels, April 26, 2017)***

On April 26, 2017, in its Brussels offices, the European Parliament hosted the conference *Unfinished Justice: Restitution and Remembrance*, organized by the *European Shoah Legacy Institute* (ESLI) as part of its mandate stemming from the Terezin Declaration<sup>35</sup>. The CIVS was represented by Professor David Ruzié, member of its Deliberative Panel.

The Conference took stock of the restitutions of assets spoliated during the Nazi occupation and publicly unveiled a vast study on the restitution of real estate in 47 countries.

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35 - *The European Shoah Legacy Institute* (ESLI) was set up to carry on the work of the « Holocaust Era Assets » Conference in Prague (2009) and to monitor the progress of the states who signed the Terezin Declaration.

**70 years and counting: the final opportunity? (London, September 11-12, 2017)**

On September 11 & 12, the British Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Arts, Heritage and Tourism welcomed to London the committees of the UK, Austria, France, Germany and The Netherlands to take stock, five years after the Conference in The Hague<sup>36</sup>, of the measures taken by these five countries to implement the principles of the Washington Declaration<sup>37</sup> (1998).

On September 11, the working group bringing together the five committees noted the points that the five nations have in common (no guidelines regarding the spoliation of artwork for example) and that separate them (for example: while the CIVS searches for art that victims and their heirs claim was spoliated, the Austrian, British, German and Dutch committees conduct provenance research themselves on works in the national collections); the working group found that, for both legal and technical reasons, setup of an international database was not viable; it recommended that the institutional stakeholders strike up close working relationships with academia; lastly, it decided to organize annual working meetings, an international conference on the subject every two or three years, and considered devoting a permanent secretarial role to this mission.

On September 12, the British Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Arts, Heritage and Tourism opened the international conference *70 years and counting: the final opportunity?* by stating that his Government had ratified the The Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, and its two protocols which criminalize the handling of certain exported cultural artifacts. Five sessions were held over the course of the conference. They bore on: experience of claimants and institutions; national claims processes; unlocking the archives: accessibility and disclosure; private collections; and the way forward.

**Lunch-debate at the Swiss Embassy in France (November 22, 2017)**

On November 22, 2017, the Commission Chairman was invited by the Swiss Ambassador to France to take part in a group discussion on the duty to remember and on research on the Holocaust. With Switzerland chairing the

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36 - The conference *Fair and just solutions?* held in The Hague in November 2012 focused on the spoliation of artworks in Europe during World War II.

37 - Through the Washington Declaration, 44 Governments committed to returning Nazi-confiscated artworks and adopted the following principles: opening up archives and simplifying research, reporting spoliated art and centralizing such information, considering the historical circumstances concerning the requirement to provide evidence, and delivering a fair and just solution.

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA<sup>38</sup>) in 2017, the country wished to contribute to this debate and shed light on the key issues shaping remembrance efforts since the 1990s. The Ambassador for Human Rights, responsible for the international dimension of the Holocaust, spoliations and the duty to remember, François Croquette, and Dr François Wisard, from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, who head up the French and Swiss IHRA delegations respectively, also took part in this debate.

### ***Theft & Trade. The French Art Market Under German Occupation (Bonn, November 30 and December 1, 2017)***

On November 30 and December 1, 2017, the symposium *Theft & Trade. The French Art Market Under German Occupation* organized by the *Deutsches Zentrum Kulturgutverluste* (German Lost Art Foundation) was held in Bonn, bringing together some 300 participants, all specialists in these questions.

Who were the stakeholders and who the despoiled? How did Nazi policies, art history expertise and market interests mesh? How did the collaboration work? The conference also focused on the presentation of new research findings on Hildebrand Gurlitt's acquisitions in France<sup>39</sup>.

For the CIVS delegation, the addresses given in Bonn provided an invaluable and thought-provoking source of information. For the Commission, this symposium also underscored **the need for cross-border cooperation organized** between the French and German stakeholders working on the ground in provenance research in cultural personal property: networking of researchers, coordination of research projects, exchanges of know-how and findings, cross-linked mapping of research sites, etc.

Finally, on the sidelines of the symposium, the CIVS was able to visit the exhibition *Gurlitt: Status Report. Nazi Art Theft and its Consequences* presented at the Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany.

38 - *The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance* (IHRA) is an intergovernmental organization founded in 1998. It unites governments and experts to strengthen, advance and promote Holocaust education, research and remembrance at international level.

39 - The minutes from the symposium are available in French at the following address:  
[https://www.kulturgutverluste.de/Content/01\\_Stiftung/DE/Veranstaltungsnachlese/2017/Tagungsbericht\\_franzoesisch.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.kulturgutverluste.de/Content/01_Stiftung/DE/Veranstaltungsnachlese/2017/Tagungsbericht_franzoesisch.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2)

### 3/ Cooperation in favor of spoliated cultural property

The work, in France or abroad, to which the Commission contributes, is a constant reminder of the need for concerted action so as to enhance knowledge of cultural property spoliations, advance provenance research and, ultimately, to effectively return this property. What has become clear is that, over and above the issue of the resources allocated, these efforts to obtain justice are very often hampered by competition between researchers, strict compartmentalization separating the different stakeholders – the public authorities, research and preservation spheres and professionals working on the art market – and insufficient coordination between the State departments and museums.

As such, over the past few years, the CIVS has been developing and scaling up its partnerships. New cooperative frameworks were established in 2017.

#### A Vade Mecum for detecting spoliated works

Since 2012, the ethical obligations of operators of voluntary public auctions of chattels have been compiled in a handbook approved by administrative order<sup>40</sup> published in the *Journal officiel*. This handbook stipulates that operators must comply with a certain number of inspections prior to a public auction, with a particular view to ensuring that the property being sold has not been stolen, trafficked or spoliated.

In 2016, the *Conseil des Ventes Volontaires*, the public regulatory authority for auctions in France, called on the CIVS to assist with compliance with this obligation. This cooperation culminated in the **Vade Mecum for handling spoliated property**<sup>41</sup>. Widely circulated among sales operators, this guide meets a threefold aim:

- ▶ give a reminder of the ethical obligations specific to property that was spoliated during the Occupation;
- ▶ inform professionals of a series of basic checks (on the asset itself or by consulting online databases) that they can undertake to detect spoliated property;
- ▶ set up a verification procedure with the CIVS.

40 - Order of February 21, 2012 approving the handbook of ethical obligations of operators of voluntary public auctions of chattels.

41 - The Flip Book of the Vade Mecum can be consulted on the website of the Conseil des Ventes Volontaires:  
<https://www.conseildesventes.fr/flipbooks/2017/vademecum-biens-spolies/index.html>



Distributed for the first time in September 2017, a reprint was distributed in November.

### **The CIVS and the Diplomatic Archives renew a successful partnership**

On July 4, 2017, the Director of Archives of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and the CIVS Chairman renewed the agreement that these two State departments first signed back in April 2016.

This decision was based on the desire to continue a successful partnership. Indeed, since 2016, the agreement has facilitated and organized the CIVS' consultation of the artistic recovery archives for the purposes of reparation. This partnership makes it easier for the CIVS to review claims involving cultural property, within time-limits compatible with the requirement for swiftly compensating losses suffered by victims.

The special importance of such archival fonds was underscored two days later, on July 6, by the Commission Director and Ms Elsa Vernier-Lopin, at a meeting initiated by the Archives Directorate in its La Courneuve offices. Held to coincide with the transfer of additional archives on artistic recovery, this meeting bore on the relevance of these archives and their usefulness for the restitution of spoliated cultural property.

## Meeting and discussions on the artistic recovery archives, July 6, 2017



© Les Archives diplomatiques

### The CIVS, partner of the JDCRP

The goal of the Jewish Digital Cultural Recovery Project (JDCRP) is the creation of a comprehensive listing of all Jewish-owned cultural objects plundered by the Nazis and their allies between 1933 and 1945, so as to provide professionals, researchers, institutions and victims' families with a tool that will centralize and yield access to the information stored across the different inventories and databases.

The project is supported by the *Commission for Art Recovery*<sup>42</sup> and *Claims Conference*<sup>43</sup>. In late 2017, the CIVS, which is itself developing a database of claimed cultural property (see below), became one of the JDCRP's partners.

42 - <http://www.commartrecovery.org/>

43 - *Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany*, an international organization founded in 1952, which has its Western Europe and North Africa office in Frankfurt am Main. <http://www.claimscon.org>

### **Shedding light on cultural property spoliations: presentation at the Graduate School in the Information and Communication Sciences (CELSA)**

Although works of fiction have, in recent years, made the public more aware of the subject of cultural property that was spoliated during World War II, and of its restitution, they have not always untangled the full complexity of this issue – which is often covered only very sketchily in the media. It is therefore important to educate trainee journalists in this area **so that, tomorrow, the message can be passed on without being distorted.**

With this in mind, the head of the CIVS Cultural Personal Property Department gave a presentation in November 2017 to two groups of students of journalism at the Graduate School in the Information and Communication Sciences (CELSA). She particularly told them about what the CIVS does and addressed both the issue of cultural personal property and the more specific question of MNR works.

### **The Directory of stakeholders on France's art market during the Occupation**

To enhance knowledge of the art market during the Occupation, the National History of Art Institute (INHA) has compiled a directory of its stakeholders with a view to putting it online.

In December 2017, the CIVS Cultural Personal Property Department contributed to methodological discussions on the design of this tool, the aim being to make it accessible to all stakeholders in the art world, concerned by provenance research.

In 2018, the CIVS is due to look into the possibilities of stepping up its contribution to this project, alongside the INHA.

## 4/ A Commission reforming for the future

To enable the Commission to address the new issues arising out of its activities, and to empower it to enhance its efforts and its operating conditions, constant attention has been paid in recent years to renewing its resources.

In 2017, the move to the Ségur site had a significant impact on the running of the Commission. At the same time, the CIVS has been working on updating and formally establishing its procedures, and pressing on with upgrading its IT resources.

### The CIVS on a new site

In October 2017, the CIVS moved offices to 20, avenue de Ségur. With assistance from the Prime Minister's Directorate of Administrative and Financial Departments, the Commission was particularly mindful of maintaining or improving the conditions governing the way it works, on the new site, and of guaranteeing the reception conditions there:

- ▶ a new hearings room, forming part of the Commission's premises, for the Deliberative Panel to hold its sessions;
- ▶ a specially laid-out area for receiving claimants;
- ▶ the CIVS archives are now grouped together in a secure storeroom which is easily accessible to the Commission's officers.

New protocols have been drawn up and implemented for receiving claimants and consulting case files.

In 2017, **the CIVS received 140 claimants and heirs in its offices**: 61 to meet with a Commission officer or judge or to consult their case file, and 79 to take part in one of the Deliberative Panel's hearings.

### The new hearings room at the CIVS



© CIVS

The CIVS' move was also an opportunity to review the way the documentary collection it has compiled is managed. Most of the collection (so 385 documents covering and documenting the periods of World War II, anti-Semitism, Nazism and the Holocaust) has been entrusted to the Documentation Center on the Ségur site. This can now be accessed by more than two thousand officers working on-site. Another part has been bequeathed to the Saint-Simon Library of the City of Paris (72 documents), the Shoah Memorial (45 documents, 4 journals and 2 DVDs), the German Historical Institute (14 documents) and the Museum of Art and History of Judaism (9 documents). A strategic convention (with the Ségur Documentation Center) and donation agreements have formally established these transfers.

### **New working conditions for the CIVS Paris Archives Team**

The CIVS' involvement in the Paris Archives can be traced back through a long-standing partnership since, as early as 2000, the Commission had enabled the case files they contained on war damages to be classified. Since then, the CIVS has had a team there which also runs queries in trade and occupation registries, corporate articles of association, restitution orders and sometimes even more specific collections. These collections need consulting for a good many of the case files the Commission reviews, since a majority of Jews lived in Paris or the Parisian region before the war.

In 2017, the material conditions in which the CIVS team conducts its work were renewed and appreciably improved. It now has a designated office that is appropriate for the type of work it carries out. In this instance, the Commission would like to thank Mr Guillaume Nahon, Director of the Paris Archives, for having increased the resources devoted to this reparations mission.

### **Procedural documentation and review**

The important task of drawing up and documenting the procedures bearing on searches for victims' heirs will be addressed in Part two of this report. More generally, procedural documentation and review were carried out for the various departments of the Commission in 2017, with a threefold aim in mind:

- ▶ having reference documents available, to which any staff members can refer if unsure about how to carry out their duties or their relations with the other departments;
- ▶ documenting procedures is also an opportunity to cast a fresh eye over them in light of new working conditions (change in the work we are doing, staff numbers, tools and resources in particular);
- ▶ finally, guaranteeing the department's activity despite absences and staff turnover.

In March 2017 the most ambitious project of the procedural review process came to an end, culminating in the **New Protocol for CIVS Database Entry**. The CIVS

Database is the central tool of the Commission's information system. All of the departments enter information into it, at different stages of a case file's review process. Re-examining our entry protocol therefore involved giving fresh consideration to each staff member's practices and level of involvement, and tailoring them to the new working conditions and emerging challenges.

In December, the Commission's Research Coordination Department began, jointly with its Berlin team, drawing up a charter governing the team's relations with the CIVS research departments. Two other charters are due to follow along these same lines, with the team at the National Archives and the one at the Paris Archives.

### **Upgrading IT resources**

In 2017 the upgrading of the bank-related team's IT tools reached completion; and work began on producing a new database for spoliated cultural property.

The Commission is contacted by institutions, researchers, attorneys and dealers, in France and abroad, at regular intervals, to find out whether such-or-such an artwork forms part of the property subject to anti-Semitic spoliation claims. These referrals are expected to increase with the publication of the *Vade Mecum* drafted with the *Conseil des Ventes Volontaires* (see above). To be able to respond, and with a view to contributing to such projects as the Jewish Digital Cultural Recovery Project or the Directory of stakeholders on France's art market during the Occupation (at the INHA), the Commission has decided to create a database which will list and describe all of the works claimed in the CIVS' case files.

At the end of 2017, an archivist, with a vocational bachelor's degree in « Documentary resources and databases », was recruited for the specific purpose of compiling this database. The project is expected to take eighteen months to complete.

# The CIVS' means in 2017

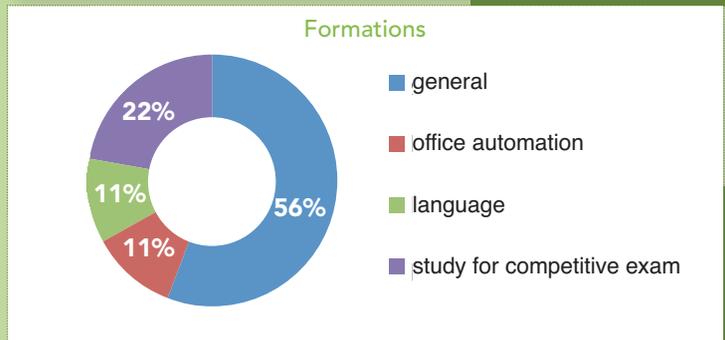
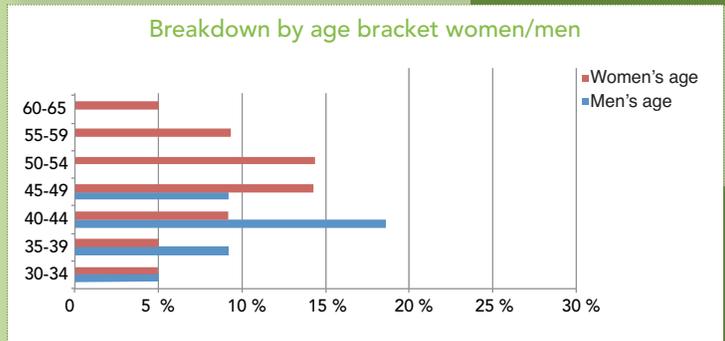
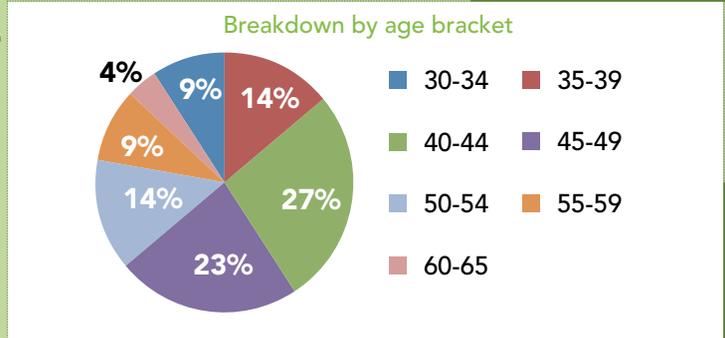
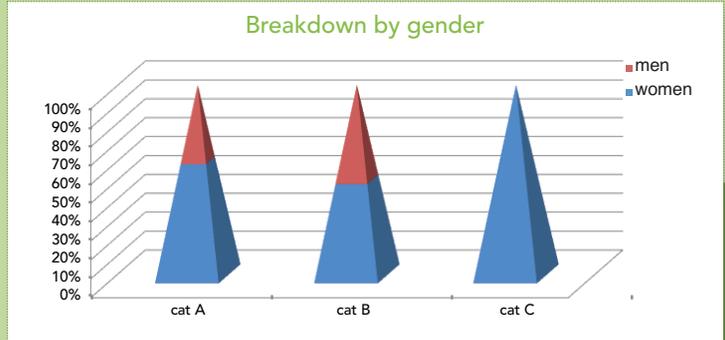
**22** permanent staff members

**77%** on Civil Service contracts

Average age: **45**

**59%** women

**40** training sessions delivered  
(excluding foundation courses for competitive entrance exams)



## Judge-rapporteurs

In 2017, **12** judge-rapporteurs placed under the authority of the Principal Rapporteur:

- **7** women
- **5** men

**9** from the regular court system,  
**3** from the administrative court system

## The CIVS budget

<b>Staff expenses</b>	<b>2017 budget:</b>	<b>€1,75 M</b>
	<b>Consumption:</b>	<b>€1,62 M</b>
	<i>Paris</i>	€1,50 M
	<i>Berlin</i>	€0,12 M
	<b>Employment ceiling</b>	<b>24 FTE</b>
<b>Operating expenses</b>	<b>2017 budget:</b>	<b>€0,27 M</b>
<b>Intervention expenses (compensation appropriation)</b>	<b>2017 budget:</b>	<b>€7,00 M</b>







## Searching for victims' heirs

« By acknowledging its faults, France has opened the way to repairing them. That is to its honor. That is the sign of a strong nation that can face its past. That is the courage of a people not afraid to examine its conscience and reach out to the victims and their children. » (Excerpt from the speech given by the French President Emmanuel Macron, on July 16, 2017, at the commemoration of the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup).

The fact that there is no foreclosure date applicable to claims addressed to the CIVS – whether these are claims for compensation or restitution – means that the Government is able to make amends for spoliations that happened nearly 75 years ago. Although the safeguarding of this prerogative enables the State to continue assuming its responsibility by conducting a public reparations policy, its implementation has seen a new situation emerge and develop after all these years: that of compensating heirs who are sometimes remote from the victims.

Recognition of the heirs of spoliated victims is a question which was first raised immediately after the war, when « a number of legitimate owners of spoliated Jewish assets » were still officially deemed « absent ». Over the weeks and months, the truth began to dawn that they would not be coming back, but how can the rightful heir be determined when there is no official death certificate? The sole survivors of a decimated family are sometimes minors not yet of age or young adolescents, or a wife with little knowledge of the ins and outs of French administration. And lots of papers have been lost or looted, which further complicates the burden of proof. »<sup>44</sup> The passing of time and, with it, the inevitable scattering of families, as well as the loss of memories and archives within them, make the search for victims' heirs even more of a challenge. « A challenge » certainly, but one that should not be given up on, for this is about obtaining justice. Justice by acknowledging the errors of the past and atoning for them.

But justice also means **the fair share of compensation**. Accordingly, in its recommendations, the CIVS – where it finds there to be several heirs – is bound to dividing up the compensation it proposes. In this way there are cases where it reserves the portion to which the heirs who are not involved in the claim it received are entitled, until such time as it receives payment requests from the latter. Look at this example to understand how this principle works in practice:

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44 - Anne Grynberg, *La politique française de 'réparation' des 'biens juifs' spoliés : mémoire et responsabilité*, Yod, 21 | 2018.

three brothers are the children of a couple who suffered spoliations, and who did not survive deportation. Two of them have teamed up to submit a claim to the Commission. Once their case file has been reviewed and their loss assessed, two-thirds of the compensation will be allocated to them, while the last third will be reserved for the third brother, who is not involved in the procedure. This « reserved portion » will be paid out<sup>45</sup> to him when he, in turn, lodges a claim for the spoliations suffered by his parents.

Although the Commission endeavors to identify all heirs concerned in order to avoid the creation of new reserved portions, this cannot always be avoided: the claims currently addressed to the CIVS often come from heirs from the third or fourth generation, or even beyond, or from collateral branches. With families having scattered, and no family ties even existing any longer in some cases, it is possible for our searches to be inconclusive. Over and above the further tangling of inheritance webs over time, there are also instances where, although they have been identified, heirs can refuse to exercise their rights with the Commission. And with no claim forthcoming, the reserved portion cannot be paid out.

After 15 years of service, the total amount of portions reserved by the CIVS had reached **EUR 27.5 million – which amounts to more than 5% of the compensation recommended** from the budget appropriations<sup>46</sup>. This is why, in 2016, the Commission set a new aim of searching for heirs so as to limit the portions reserved. It has gradually made changes to the way it is organized and run in line with this strategic priority, and developed new expertise which fully came into effect in 2017.

## 1/ Searching for heirs: a new strategic priority

It had become clear that dealing with the portions reserved was a challenge that had to be taken up by the Commission's departments. To that end, new resources were devoted to it, and the search for heirs has been stepped up in the CIVS' procedures.

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45 - « Portion paid out » or « portion collected », these two terms both come down to the same thing.

46 - On December 31, 2015, the compensation recommended to be paid out by the State amounted to EUR 501.4 million.

### The stakes involved in the search for heirs

Collection of reserved portions is first and foremost a financial priority, as recognized back in 2011 by the Court of Auditors. The sum of reserved portions is taken into account with respect to the provisions of the CIVS' fiscal program<sup>47</sup>. At the end of 2015, reserved portions amounted to EUR 27.6 million – nearly four times the amount of annual compensation appropriations<sup>48</sup>. The provision/budget allowance ratio, which is more than four, lays bare a financial risk that it would not be possible to bear during a single fiscal year.

In 2015, the backlog of portions reserved on State appropriations had risen by EUR 1.2 million. This marked creation in reserved portions means that, in 2015, the amount of portions collected – i.e. paid out to heirs during this fiscal year – was EUR 1.2 million less than the amount of newly created portions. If this increase in reserved portions is compared to the total amount recommended at the State's expense at the same time by the Commission (EUR 8.68 million), we can see just how significant it is<sup>49</sup>.

It would be narrow-sighted, however, to limit the question of reserved portions to their accounting dimension alone. For this is also a question of justice. And also one of public policy performance: the reserved portions limit the scope of the reparations mission to which the CIVS is committed, since, ultimately, they do not end up compensating heirs of spoliation victims in practice.

This is why, **for the sake of fairness and sound public management alike**, in the spring of 2016 the Commission's authorities decided to step up the efforts devoted to finding heirs.

### To further reparation efforts: the system for searching for heirs

The measures adopted in 2016 had two goals in mind:

- ▶ restrict the creation of new reserved portions by actively seeking out heirs as soon as a case file is opened, until its review is complete (action on the flow);
- ▶ collect the reserved portions in case files for which compensation recommendations have already been issued (action on the backlog).

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47 - Program 158 'Compensation for victims of anti-Semitic persecution and acts of barbarism during World War II'.

48 - Intervention appropriations (for compensation): EUR 6 million in 2015; EUR 6.5 million in 2016; EUR 7 million in 2017.

49 - The recommended amounts are presented in detail in the *Report to the public on the work of the CIVS – 2015*.

Following the audit of the CIVS by the Court of Auditors in 2011, a detailed list of reserved portions was established. This enabled an initial search to be undertaken of heirs by a group of Commission officers who, in the process, developed expertise on the basis of a methodological brief (2013) drawn up within the Commission. Over time though, this initial drive lost momentum, mainly because the operation was not supported by sufficient oversight. The organizational structure set up in the spring 2016 learned from these initial efforts:

- To restrict the creation of reserved portions (action on the flow), the search for heirs now begins as soon as new case files are opened. Conducted by the Commission's research departments since June 1, 2016, this provides the CIVS judge-rapporteurs with wholly worthwhile information that considerably reduces the amount of compensation portions reserved. The search for heirs is finalized during the review stage. When conducted in this way, search efforts do not delay the case file's examination by the CIVS Deliberative Panel, or the adoption of an opinion.
- Action on the backlog of existing reserved portions involves giving priority to dealing with a selection of case files. Two criteria determine this selection:
  - ▶ the case files with higher financial stakes. The research required to identify heirs often takes up a lot of resources, whether in terms of time spent on such efforts or the number of partner departments consulted. This is why it is important, as far as possible, to match the resources invested to the compensation portions whose beneficiaries are being sought;
  - ▶ the presumed simplicity of the case file. Searching for an heir is a mission which can be made more difficult by objective factors: depending on whether it is a person or a family branch, and depending on where the victims were born<sup>50</sup>...

In November 2016, a list of 155 priority case files was drawn up. The portions to be collected for each of these case files exceed EUR 15,000 per person, or EUR 35,000 per family branch.

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50 - Searching for victims who were born in Eastern European countries is a particularly difficult task.

## A strategic refocus

Once the search for heirs had been established as a new strategic priority, it was earmarked new resources and closer monitoring.

More than half of the Commission's workforce saw their job descriptions change in order to take this new dimension on board in their work. The CIVS' Research Coordination Department gained two new officers, via redeployment, to enable it to begin a search for heirs for any new case file opened at the Commission. Another department at the Commission – the Hearings Secretariat – received a new remit: coordinating the community of researchers, methodological assistance and finally the organization and monitoring of action on the « backlog » of reserved portions.

**Specific operating guidelines** were defined in the summer of 2016: and, as such, since August 1, a special procedure has been activated, particularly relying upon a shared computer space, and a follow-up form, with both a hard copy and soft copy version – providing a fully-fledged « chronological frieze » of the search for heirs at each stage of a case file's life cycle. In September, the CIVS also produced a *Vade Mecum*, a legal tool for determining the status of heir and, in December, a practical document aimed at explaining the procedure to heirs. Other procedures have been tailored to this new challenge: the update of the protocols for using Génopro (August 5) and the CIVS Database (February 28, 2017) are the most noteworthy examples.

### The Génopro application

The Génopro software was installed on the workstations of CIVS officers in 2014, in response to the need to create family trees that are likely to be edited as research and a case file's review progress.

Génopro enables the Departments to make sure that the information concerning the heirs identified in the procedure is exhaustive, and to identify the portions reserved.

The 14 users of Génopro were trained in how to use its specific features in January 2014. A data entry protocol was drawn up, then updated. It was updated in August 2016 in view of the requirement to use Génopro as an aid in the search for heirs.

In March 2018, the method to which the Commission's staff refer in their search for heirs was revised and added to.

### Assessing performance

When a new strategic aim is set, and when a new organizational structure is put in place to achieve it, assessing performance is of the utmost importance. This involves both assessing the effectiveness of the new system set up, and making sure that the resources assigned to it are appropriate, so as to adjust initial choices where necessary.

Statistical monitoring was not set up immediately, for the gradual start-up of the search for victims' heirs (from June 2016 for case files in progress; from November for the « backlog » of reserved portions), the development of reference documents and procedures over a six-month period and finally the typical time-limits involved in this type of search meant that dashboards did not need drawing up until the process had been up and running for several months.

Statistical monitoring has been carried out since the third quarter of 2017. It makes it possible to assess the system's performance over the past quarter, see how the « backlog » of reserved portions still to be collected has progressed and assess action on the flow. It was rounded off in January 2018 with individual monitoring stages.

## 2/ Skills and resources harnessed in the search for heirs

Additional specialist skills are required to find victims' heirs. For such searches must be steered according to a status of heir which is to be ascertained with respect to inheritance law and family circumstances, which the passing of time has often made very complex. This process also calls for expertise in handling communications with victims' descendants, which must be done tactfully and in respect of family memories.

The success of this reform was dependent on **upskilling** the Commission's workforce for conducting investigations, and for ensuring an accurate and shared application of the notion of heir.

### Legal skills

The rules of inheritance law are applied by the Commission's departments both to ascertain the status of heir and to calculate the amount of compensation to be paid out.

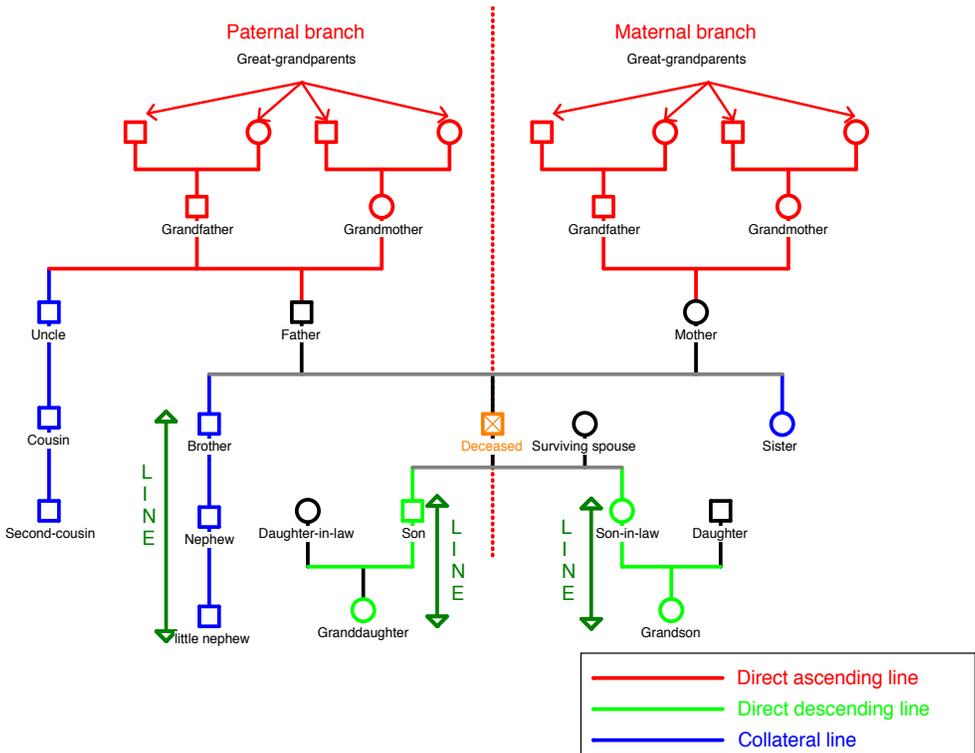
Entitlement to compensation comes about the moment spoliation has been committed. The CIVS qualifies as heir any individual who is heir to a direct victim of spoliation pursuant to current inheritance law, since the entitlement that has existed since the time of spoliation has generated a claim, entered into the victim's inheritance, then passed on to his/her heirs. As such, an individual who is heir to a

direct victim of spoliation resulting from the anti-Semitic legislation in force during the Occupation may be compensated where s/he can prove his/her status as an heir.

Where the descendants are remote, the successive transfers of this entitlement need to be pieced back together. It is necessary to determine, at each degree, which portions are entered into the inheritance of each branch from the perspective of the applicable law at the time of death. If there are no descendants, collateral members and relatives in the ascending line are taken into account (father, mother, siblings, uncles and aunts, nephews and nieces, etc.) It should be noted that ties by marriage do not confer any entitlement to inheritance, so it is not possible to inherit from the spouse of a member of one's family. Moreover, the CIVS applies the provisions of a will establishing a legatee.

To ensure that the inheritance rules are properly grasped and applied to the CIVS' case files, the Commission called on the services of a legal expert: practical guides have been drawn up and staff were given training in October and November 2016.

Diagram summarizing the terms used in inheritance law (excerpt from the *Vade Mecum on the status of heir*)



### The investigations conducted: steering searches and gathering information

Searches for heirs, conducted in relation to a particular case file, are aimed at piecing back together a family tree, finding family members and shedding light on the conditions of inheritance. Beyond the information and documents obtained during exchanges with heirs who have already been identified, such research will also draw upon the following sources:

- **Civil registry offices.** Town halls are key partners of the Commission in its reparations mission, as it can obtain from them birth, marriage or death certificates. These certificates, with their notes in the margins, provide or confirm information concerning potential heirs, their spouses and children (date and place of birth, marriage or divorce, adoption, naturalization, death, etc.) and certain close acquaintances (witnesses at a wedding, people who reported the death or organized its formalities, identification of the solicitor who administered the estate). Since the digitization of the archives of the French civil registry offices and their uploading online, it has been much easier for the CIVS to collect this information.
- **Internet.** Amid the exponential increase in data available online, the Internet has become an invaluable source of information for tracking an heir down, whether in France or abroad. Searches for an heir are now easier thanks to the possibility of cross-linking information (first and last name, place of residence, date of birth, etc.). Online telephone directories are also usually consulted in addition.
- For searches bearing specifically on Deportation victims, the CIVS consults **the Memorial compiled by Serge Klarsfeld**, which is available in the form of a directory of the convoys of Jews deported from France. The Commission also refers to the list of victims of anti-Semitic persecution, drawn up by the Center for Contemporary Jewish Documentation (CDJC)<sup>51</sup>, which includes the names of the Jews deported from France that are engraved on the « Wall of Names », as well as those who died in concentration camps in France, arrested people and those who were executed by firing squad for whom records have been found. The database, which has been enriched since 2007 by The International Institute for Holocaust Research at Yad Vashem<sup>52</sup> and which groups together information about deported Jews from territories under German occupation, is also consulted.

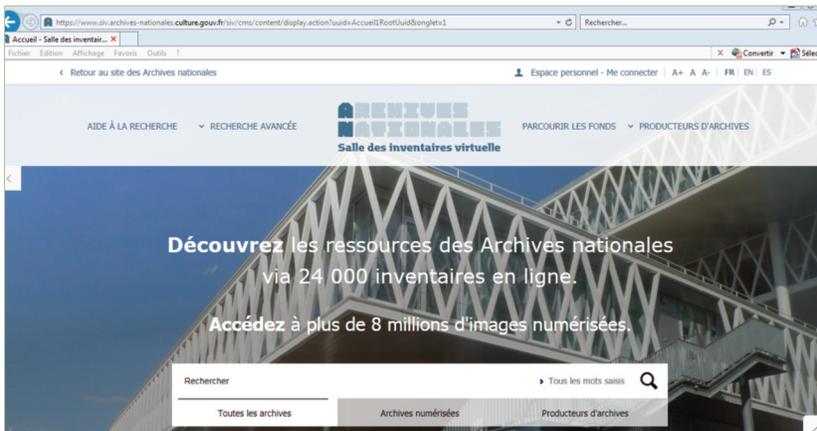
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51 - <http://bdi.memorialdelashoah.org>

52 - <http://db.yadvashem.org>

- **Solicitors:** to determine, during administration of an estate, the rights of each heir.
- **France's national will register (FCDDV):** this tells us whether the deceased has left behind a will registered with a solicitor.
- **Hospitals:** where a death connected with one of our case files took place in a hospital.
- **Courts:** from which the Commission may obtain certain documents (certificate of nationality, guardianship decision or divorce ruling, etc.).
- Its **National Archives** team: the CIVS may also reach out to this team to conduct research with *Département*-level archives (in the case of transfer of municipal archives) or query the Online Catalogue (SIV, a tool deployed by the National Archives)<sup>53</sup> to identify resources or directly consult digitized documents. Some digitized documents (such as naturalization certificates) can only be obtained through this means.

With the Online Catalogue (SIV), the National Archives provides direct access to around 24,000 online finding aids, 14,000 records and 8 million digitized images



- For its searches **abroad**, the Commission reaches out to the central civil registry office of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, which holds civil records (of birth, recognition, marriage, divorce, etc.) of French nationals established abroad or in territories that used to be under French administration. For searches for heirs who are still alive or died in the United States, the Commission also relies on a longstanding partnership with the *Holocaust Claims Processing Office* (HCPO).

53 - <https://www.siv.archives-nationales.culture.gouv.fr>

- **Genealogical sources:** in October 2017 the CIVS signed up to a genealogy website. This resource can help to clarify family ties: genealogical trees and copies of civil status records can be accessed on it. By entering the last name of relatives of an ascending or descending line, it is possible to find all or part of the family genealogy. The Commission also makes use of the free consultation of the genealogy website [www.jewishgen.org](http://www.jewishgen.org).
- Cooperation with the *Cercle de généalogie juive*. On October 21, 2016, the CIVS signed a cooperation agreement with the French Jewish genealogical society, **the Cercle de généalogie juive** (CGJ). During meetings in 2015 and 2016 between CIVS and CGJ representatives, it became apparent that this association, in keeping with its social aim, could help the Commission with its research, and even lend methodological assistance to its staff. The work of the CGJ, the expertise of its members and its membership of the French Genealogy Federation and International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies are all assets that can help with the CIVS-led reparations mission. The terms governing cooperation between the CIVS and *the Cercle de généalogie juive* were clarified at a meeting on May 30, 2017, and then when the agreement was renewed on November 7, 2017. Furthermore, on April 6, 2017, the CIVS Chairman, Director and Principal Rapporteur held a conference at the Shoah Memorial. Primarily intended for members of the *Cercle de Généalogie Juive*, this conference was an opportunity to show how genealogy research could be harnessed in the reparation of anti-Semitic spoliation.
- On a final note, the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL) has authorized the CIVS to access data held by other structures (the National Office of Veterans and War Victims; the tax departments of the Ministry of Economy and Finance; Association of sons and daughters of Jews deported from France), although this possibility has not yet been made use of.

### **Relations with families and collection of reserved portions**

Right from the initial submission of a claim, the information supplied by claimants, along with the documents they furnish – copies of identity documents, family records, other civil state documents, notarized deeds, miscellaneous archives – represent a fundamental resource in the search for heirs.

Communication with claimants and their families throughout the review process right up until the issuance of a recommendation – and even beyond, in the context of action on the « backlog » of reserved portions – often brings to light

invaluable information for steering these searches. For example, telephone calls or written correspondence can reveal the existence of previously unknown family members or heirs; they sometimes tell us an heir's married name or maiden name, the number of children or grandchildren there are in the event of an identified heir's death, or the date or place of birth of an heir we are trying to find... Consequently, the importance of such exchanges cannot be overstated. And since they bear on a very particular context and refer to a painful chapter in a family's history, they require the Commission's staff members to exercise their interpersonal skills with the utmost tact and care.

Once these searches and exchanges have reached their conclusion, heirs must send a written claim to the CIVS to be able to collect their portions. For the Commission can only issue a recommendation on the basis of an individual application<sup>54</sup>. A recommendation for collection of portions is then drafted by the Commission's departments. Unless a case proves to be particularly complex, this type of recommendation will come under the « Chairman ruling alone » procedure<sup>55</sup>.

### 3/ Performance of the new measures

The results obtained show that the new measures are well adapted to the aims of searching for heirs and collecting reserved portions. In its previous report to the public on its work, the Commission reported a decline in the total amount of portions pending payout for the first time – however slight (EUR 27.5m end 2016, versus EUR 27.6m the year before): « The slight reduction in the total amount of reserved portions, noted on December 31, 2016, is the first indication that this new system is bearing fruit, and that everyone is playing their part. But these searches take time – especially when they bear on individuals who are remote in terms of geography or family ties – and the most significant results are therefore expected for 2017. »<sup>56</sup>

54 - Pursuant to Article 1 of Decree no. 99-778, the CIVS is « *tasked with examining individual applications* ».

55 - Article 5 of Decree no. 99-778 establishing the CIVS provides for the « Chairman ruling alone » procedure where « *the claimant's personal circumstances call for his or her case file to be processed quickly* » or when « *the case does not present any particular difficulty* ».

56 - *Report to the public on the work of the CIVS – 2016*, pages 25-26.

## Figures regarding action on the flow: creation of new reserved portions has slowed

The system whereby heirs are sought with regard to any new case file opened since the summer of 2016 has proven to be particularly effective, as evidenced by the comparative analysis of case files examined by the Deliberative Panel since the third quarter of 2017<sup>57</sup>:

### Proportion of case files examined that generated reserved portions

	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2017	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2017	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2018
With the system for searching for heirs	25%	5%	6%
Without the system for searching for heirs	50%	60%	43%

## Heirs found and more than €1m in portions collected

The effects of action on the backlog of reserved portions initiated in November 2016 were evident from the second half of 2017:

### Results of action conducted on the backlog of reserved portions

	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2017	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2017	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2018
Amounts of portions collected	€306k	€773k	€333k

## Figures related to measures

On December 31, 2017, 4,567 recommendations had been issued for collection of reserved portions, of which 3,729 concern « material » case files. On the same date, the total amount of reserved portions pending payment was EUR 26,300,238 borne by the French State, which is **EUR 1,242,799 less than on December 31, 2016**. A reduction can also be observed for bank-related claims. The amount reported by the United Jewish Social Fund (FSJU) is USD 1,908,494, versus USD 1,945,054 on December 31, 2016.

57 - The system for searching for heirs applied as soon as a case file is opened (« action on the flow ») has been up and running since June 2016. In light of the usual processing time-limits, it has only been possible to measure its effects from the summer of 2017. Between the third quarter of 2017 and first quarter of 2018, the CIVS' Deliberative Panel therefore found itself examining not only case files to which this new system was applied from the outset but also others, that were opened prior to June 2016 and to which the system had not yet been applied.

## 4/ The search for heirs applied to cultural property to be returned

Spoliations of cultural property, when the assets have not been located, cannot give rise to restitution. In these cases, compensation is the appropriate reparation measure, and relevant case files benefit from the aforementioned processes.

But to what extent can these measures be applied to cultural property to be returned? Again with regard to these spoliations, the ties between heirs and victims are becoming increasingly remote, which raises the question, not of the legitimacy of this reparation, but of the resources that should be devoted to it.

The agreement signed in 2015 by the Ministry of Culture with the **Généalogistes de France** (France's national organization that represents genealogy professionals) revealed how difficult it is to put a cost on such searches, and therefore on the financial commitment that the State should make in this respect. But as Mr David Zivie pointed out on the subject of research applied to artwork, recovered by France following World War II and placed since then in the safekeeping of the national museums<sup>58</sup>: *« the fact that this cost is to be borne by the State is justified in that the State has had this property in its safekeeping for some 70 years, and that for a long time it paid very little attention to this problem. »*<sup>59</sup> In other words, the cost of searching for heirs, applied to all spoliated and located cultural assets, would be a way for the State to literally pay for the inadequate action on its part through all of these decades.

The debates that the Government is holding on driving forward France's policy bearing on the reparation of spoliated cultural property will certainly have to address the question of the means allocated to searches. They will be able to draw on the expertise that the CIVS has developed since 2016.

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58 - « MNR » artwork (which stands for « Musées Nationaux Récupération »).

59 - « *Des traces subsistent dans des registres...* », David Zivie, report submitted to the Minister of Culture in March 2018.





# Appendices



# APPENDIX 1 :

## Report on the amounts recommended from the creation of the civs up until december 31, 2017

### 1 - COMPENSATION CONCERNING MATERIAL SPOILIATIONS:

€501,970,557

### 2 - COMPENSATION CONCERNING BANK-RELATED SPOILIATIONS:

€53,612,557

This amount breaks down as follows:

- ▶ The escrow account - Fund A: €15,465,471 + €3,634,846 (concerning Fund B since October 2008)
- ▶ Fund B: €24,080,820 (October 2008 official figure)  
i.e. **€43,181,137** at the banks' expense<sup>60</sup>

In addition to which are the amounts allocated by the State concerning bank-related spoliations: **€10,431,420**

### 3 - TOTAL COMPENSATION PAID BY THE:

- ▶ State: **€512,401,977** <sup>61</sup>
- ▶ Banks: **€43,181,137**

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60 - Data communicated by Caisse des dépôts et consignations.

61 - €501,970,557 + €10,431,420.

## APPENDIX 2: Organization of the civs On december 31, 2017

### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE COMMISSION:

- ▶ Chairman: Mr Michel JEANNOUTOT, Honorary Advisor to the Court of Cassation, former Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal
- ▶ Vice-Chairman: Mr François BERNARD, Honorary State Counsellor
- ▶ Director: Mr Jérôme BENEZECH, Senior State Administrative Officer
- ▶ Principal Rapporteur: Mr Pierre-Alain WEILL, Honorary President of Chamber at the Paris Court of Appeal

### MEMBERS OF THE DELIBERATIVE PANEL

- ▶ Mr Jean-Pierre BADY, Honorary Senior Member of the Court of Accounts
- ▶ Mr François BERNARD, Honorary State Counsellor, Vice Chairman of the Commission
- ▶ Ms Frédérique DREIFUSS-NETTER, Counsellor to the Court of Cassation
- ▶ Ms Anne GRYNBERG, University Professor
- ▶ Mr Michel JEANNOUTOT, Honorary Advisor to the Court of Cassation, Chairman of the Commission
- ▶ Ms Catherine PERIN, Senior Member of the Court of Auditors
- ▶ Mr David RUZIÉ, Honorary Dean and Professor Emeritus
- ▶ Ms Dominique SCHNAPPER, Director of Studies, School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (EHESS)
- ▶ Ms Laurence SIGAL, Museum Curator
- ▶ Mr Henri TOUTÉE, Section President at the Council of State

## GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER

- ▶ Mr Bertrand DACOSTA, State Counsellor

## JUDGE-RAPPORTEURS

- ▶ Ms Monique ABITTAN, Magistrate of the regular court system
- ▶ Mr Jean-Michel AUGUSTIN, Magistrate of the regular court system
- ▶ Mr Christophe BACONNIER, Magistrate of the regular court system
- ▶ Ms Rosine CUSSET, Magistrate of the regular court system
- ▶ Ms Chantal DESCOURS-GATIN, Magistrate of the regular court system
- ▶ Mr François GAYET, Magistrate of the administrative court system
- ▶ Ms France LEGUELTEL, Magistrate of the regular court system
- ▶ Mr Ivan LUBEN, Magistrate of the administrative court system
- ▶ Mr Jean-Pierre MARCUS, Magistrate of the regular court system
- ▶ Ms Éliane MARY, Magistrate of the regular court system
- ▶ Ms Marie-Hélène VALENSI, Magistrate of the regular court system
- ▶ Ms Sophie ZAGURY, Magistrate of the regular court system

## PERMANENT STAFF

Case Officer for Administrative & Financial Affairs

- ▶ Ms Karine VIDAL

### Claims Examination and Review

Research Coordination Department

- ▶ Ms Eloïse GARNIER (manager)
- ▶ Ms Isabelle RIXTE
- ▶ Ms Emilie BOULANGER (support staff)

Bank-Related Claims Search Team

- ▶ Ms Sylviane ROCHOTTE (manager)

Cultural personal property

- ▶ Ms Muriel de BASTIER (manager)
- ▶ Ms Elsa VERNIER-LOPIN

Hearings Secretariat

- ▶ Mr Emmanuel DUMAS
- ▶ Mr Gabriel MASUREL
- ▶ Mr Matthieu CHARMOILLAUX
- ▶ Ms Catherine CERCUS (support staff)

Database supervision unit

- ▶ Mr Richard DECOCQ
- ▶ Mr Stéphane PORTET

### **Communication with and support of claimants**

Support of claimants

- ▶ Ms Brigitte GUILLEMOT

Digital communication

- ▶ Mr Richard DECOCQ

### **Secretariats**

Chairman

- ▶ Ms Catherine CERCUS

Director

- ▶ Ms Rosalie LAGRAND
- ▶ Ms Nathalie LECLERCQ

Principal Rapporteur

- ▶ Ms Myriam DUPONT

Rapporteurs

- ▶ Ms Monique STANISLAS-GARNIER
- ▶ Ms Nathalie ZIHOUNE

Government Commissioner

- ▶ Ms Catherine CERCUS

## **Archive Search Units**

National Archives

- ▶ Ms Émilie BOULANGER
- ▶ Mr Matthieu CHARMOILLAUX

Paris Archives

- ▶ Ms Brigitte GUILLEMOT

Berlin Archives

- ▶ Mr Julien ACQUATELLA (manager)
- ▶ Mr Sébastien CADET
- ▶ Ms Coralie VOM HOFE

## APPENDIX 3:

# Decree of september 15, 2017 Renewing the civs deliberative panel

JORF n°0217 du 16 septembre 2017

Texte n°37

Décret du 15 septembre 2017 portant nomination à la commission pour l'indemnisation des victimes de spoliations intervenues du fait des législations antisémites en vigueur pendant l'Occupation

NOR: PRMX1725530D

Par décret en date du 15 septembre 2017 :

Sont nommés membres de la commission pour l'indemnisation des victimes de spoliations intervenues du fait des législations antisémites en vigueur pendant l'Occupation :

M. Michel JEANNOUTOT, conseiller honoraire à la Cour de cassation ;

M<sup>me</sup> Frédérique DREIFUSS-NETTER, conseillère à la Cour de cassation ;

M. Henri TOUTÉE, président de section au Conseil d'Etat ;

M. François BERNARD, conseiller d'Etat honoraire ;

M. Jean-Pierre BADY, conseiller maître honoraire à la Cour des comptes ;

M<sup>me</sup> Catherine PÉRIN, conseillère maître à la Cour des comptes ;

M. David RUZIÉ, professeur des universités émérite ;

M<sup>me</sup> Anne GRYNBERG, professeure des universités ;

M<sup>me</sup> Dominique SCHNAPPER, directrice d'études à l'École des hautes études en sciences sociales ;

M<sup>me</sup> Laurence SIGAL, conservatrice de musée.

Sont respectivement nommés président et vice-président de cette commission :

M. Michel JEANNOUTOT et M. François BERNARD.







[WWW.CIVS.GOUV.FR/HOME/](http://WWW.CIVS.GOUV.FR/HOME/)

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