



## Revision of the guidelines on payments in recognition of ghetto work

### Federal Government guidelines concerning the payment of amounts to victims of persecution in recognition of work in a ghetto which did not constitute forced labour (Ghetto Work Recognition Guidelines) of 12. July 2017

#### One-time pension substitution supplement

The Federal Government guidelines concerning the payment of amounts to victims of persecution in recognition of work in a ghetto which did not constitute forced labour (Ghetto Work Recognition Guidelines) have been revised. Among other changes, a new subsection has been added to section 2 of the guidelines.

Under the new subsection, victims of persecution who fulfil the conditions of the first sentence of section 1(1) of the Act Regarding the Conditions for Making Pensions Payable on the basis of Employment in a Ghetto (*Gesetz zur Zahlbarmachung von Renten aus Beschäftigungen in einem Ghetto*), and who are not entitled to a pension from the statutory pension insurance system solely because the general qualifying period pursuant to section 50(1) of the Sixth Book of the Social Security Code (*Sechstes Buch Sozialgesetzbuch*) is not fulfilled, may receive a **pension substitution supplement**.

The pension substitution supplement is a **one-time payment**. The **amount** of the one-time pension substitution supplement is **€1,500**. There is no legal entitlement to the one-time payment. The payment is only granted upon application. A disbursement to third parties is not permitted. An exception to this rule applies to the surviving spouse and children if an eligible claimant dies after submitting an application.

The revised guidelines entered into force on 15. July 2017.



### Who is entitled to payment?

To qualify for the payment of the one-time pension substitution supplement, you must fulfil all the following conditions:

- You must be a victim of National Socialist persecution as defined in the Federal Indemnification Act (*Bundesentschädigungsgesetz*).
- You must have been forced to live in a ghetto which was under National Socialist influence.
- You must have been employed **without coercion** during this time.
- You are not entitled to a pension from the statutory pension insurance system **solely because** the general qualifying period pursuant to section 50(1) of the Sixth Book of the Social Security Code (*Sechstes Buch Sozialgesetzbuch*) is not fulfilled

### Who does not qualify for payment?

You are **not** entitled to a one-time pension substitution supplement if you

- receive a pension from the statutory pension insurance system and
- *your work in the ghetto has already been compensated as forced labour by the "Remembrance, Responsibility and Future" foundation.*

### How and where to submit your application

You must submit a written application in order to receive the one-time pension substitution supplement of €1,500.

A special form is available for the application, which can be downloaded, completed and printed out (see links below).

You may also request a paper version of the form if you prefer.

English version of the application form:

[http://www.badv.bund.de/antrag/AntragsformularREZ\\_en.pdf](http://www.badv.bund.de/antrag/AntragsformularREZ_en.pdf)

German version of the application form:

<http://www.badv.bund.de/antrag/AntragsformularREZ.pdf>

Russian version of the application form:

[http://www.badv.bund.de/antrag/AntragsformularREZ\\_ru.pdf](http://www.badv.bund.de/antrag/AntragsformularREZ_ru.pdf)

The application can be submitted in English, German or Russian. It should be sent to the following address:

**Bundesamt für zentrale Dienste  
und offene Vermögensfragen (BADV)  
11055 Berlin**

An information hotline is available in Germany which can be contacted at the following number:

**+49 (0)30 18 7030 1324**

**Notes on completing the application:**

1. Only eligible individuals or their authorised agent may submit an application. If an agent is used, a written authorisation must also be submitted. The pension substitution supplement will be paid out only to the eligible person. If the eligible person has died after submitting an application, the pension substitution supplement will be paid out to a surviving dependent (spouse or children), thereby discharging any obligations towards any other surviving relatives.
2. The application must include proof that the applicant is still alive, certified by an official authority, e.g. public authorities or consulates of the Federal Republic of Germany ("Confirmation by an official authority").
3. If the applicant's status as a victim of persecution has already been recognised by an official body, proof of this status must be provided by stating the reference number issued by that body and submitting the relevant documentation.
4. The notice from the pension authority must be enclosed.
5. When supplying information about ghetto work, please indicate all ghettos in which you lived and details of all employment undertaken.
6. A declaration must be submitted stating that all the information provided is correct, otherwise the application will be rejected. If it turns out that false information has been supplied, you will be required to repay any pension substitution supplement that has already been disbursed.
7. In order to facilitate the transfer of any payment, please provide your bank account details, including the complete address of your bank and international payment codes such as the SWIFT code and IBAN number. Please include confirmation of these details by your bank.