

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 447

AN ACT

To require reporting on acts of certain foreign countries
on Holocaust era assets and related issues.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Justice for Uncompen-
3 sated Survivors Today (JUST) Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON HOLOCAUST ERA ASSETS AND RE-**
5 **LATED ISSUES.**

6 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
8 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
9 mittees” means—

10 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
11 the Senate;

12 (B) the Committee on Appropriations of
13 the Senate;

14 (C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
15 the House of Representatives; and

16 (D) the Committee on Appropriations of
17 the House of Representatives.

18 (2) COVERED COUNTRIES.—The term “covered
19 countries” means participants in the 2009 Holocaust
20 Era Assets Conference that are determined by the
21 Secretary of State, or the Secretary’s designee, in
22 consultation with expert nongovernmental organiza-
23 tions, to be countries of particular concern relative
24 to the issues listed in subsection (b).

25 (3) WRONGFULLY SEIZED OR TRANSFERRED.—

26 The term “wrongfully seized or transferred” in-

1 includes confiscations, expropriations, nationalizations,
2 forced sales or transfers, and sales or transfers
3 under duress during the Holocaust era or the period
4 of Communist rule of a covered country.

5 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
7 shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional
8 committees that assesses and describes the nature and ex-
9 tent of national laws and enforceable policies of covered
10 countries regarding the identification and the return of or
11 restitution for wrongfully seized or transferred Holocaust
12 era assets consistent with, and evaluated with respect to,
13 the goals and objectives of the 2009 Holocaust Era Assets
14 Conference, including—

15 (1) the return to the rightful owner of any
16 property, including religious or communal property,
17 that was wrongfully seized or transferred;

18 (2) if return of any property described in para-
19 graph (1) is no longer possible, the provision of com-
20 parable substitute property or the payment of equi-
21 table compensation to the rightful owner in accord-
22 ance with principles of justice and through an expe-
23 ditious claims-driven administrative process that is
24 just, transparent, and fair;

1 (3) in the case of heirless property, the provi-
2 sion of property or compensation to assist needy
3 Holocaust survivors, to support Holocaust education,
4 and for other purposes;

5 (4) the extent to which such laws and policies
6 are implemented and enforced in practice, including
7 through any applicable administrative or judicial
8 processes; and

9 (5) to the extent practicable, the mechanism for
10 and an overview of progress toward the resolution of
11 claims for United States citizen Holocaust survivors
12 and United States citizen family members of Holo-
13 caust victims.

14 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
15 gress that after the submission of the report described in
16 subsection (b), the Secretary of State should continue to
17 report to Congress on Holocaust era assets and related
18 issues in a manner that is consistent with the manner in
19 which the Department of State reported on such matters
20 before the date of the enactment of the Act.

Passed the Senate December 12, 2017.

Attest:

Secretary.

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