

**Question for oral answer O-000012/2023  
to the Council**

Rule 136

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Subject: Restitution of plundered property to Holocaust victims and Jewish communities

In 2009, 47 countries, including all Member States of the European Union, endorsed the 2009 Terezin Declaration on Holocaust Era Assets and Related Issues, and 43 countries endorsed the 2010 Guidelines and Best Practices, committing to rectify the consequences of wrongful property seizures during the Holocaust and its aftermath. In November 2022, 38 States gathered at the International Terezin Declaration Conference to take stock of the work that has been done since 2009 and to renew their lasting commitment to the victims of the Holocaust and to preserving their legacy. A great deal of restitution and compensation work remains to be done to provide a measure of justice to survivors, their families and European Jewish communities devastated by the Holocaust.

1. Will the Council commit to confronting Holocaust distortion and denial, which in some countries have served as a basis for denying restitution and even as a pretext for aggression, and will it encourage Member States to focus on accurate historical education?
2. Will the Council, out of respect for the memory of millions of victims and the most basic human rights, call on Member States to urgently accelerate the return of, or compensation for, property wrongfully confiscated during the Holocaust and its aftermath while remaining survivors are still alive?
3. Will the Council urge all Member States which have not already done so to adopt comprehensive national property restitution legislation in line with the Terezin Declaration so that such laws do not discriminate on the basis of current citizenship or residency nor contain administrative barriers?

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Lapses: 7.6.2023