

February 2023

Beginning in 1991, the Republic of Lithuania passed a series of laws that addressed the restitution of private immovable property that was nationalized or otherwise illegally expropriated during the period of occupation by the totalitarian regimes. These laws made eligibility contingent on current Lithuanian citizenship, and effectively excluded most Holocaust survivors, and their families, who no longer lived in Lithuania. In response, the Republic of Lithuania recently amended Law No. XI-1470 of the Republic of Lithuania on the Good Will Compensation for the Immovable Property of Jewish Religious Communities, dated January 1, 2023¹ (hereinafter, the Law), for the purpose of mitigating some of the historical injustices caused to Holocaust victims as a result of restrictive, complicated, and evolving citizenship laws. In the Law, the Republic of Lithuania committed to pay a one-time symbolic payment to eligible Lithuanian Jews or their heirs whose property was not returned in the context of valid restitution legislation. Pursuant to the Law, the Republic of Lithuania has provided 5-10 million Euros to fulfil this goal. The Good Will Foundation (GWF) was designated as the entity responsible for administering the fund and distributing the funds to eligible applicants.

The exact amount to be distributed to each individual can only be calculated when the total number of approved applicants has been determined.

The following persons are eligible to apply for this program:

- Original owners, defined as:
 - Persons of Jewish descent who lived in Lithuania at any time prior to May 8, 1945; and
 - Owned property that was nationalized or otherwise illegally expropriated during the period of occupation by totalitarian regimes between June 15, 1940 and March 10, 1990; and
 - Did not have the legal opportunity to restore property rights in accordance with legislation in the Republic of Lithuania,² because they were non-citizens of the Republic of Lithuania between June 18, 1991 and December 31, 2001.

- Heirs to original owners, in accordance with the 1997 Law on the Restoration of Property Rights:³
 - Where there is no surviving original owner, the spouse, parents (adoptive parents), or children (adopted children) of the original owner can submit an application, and in event of their death, the grandchildren of the original owner or the grandchild's spouse can submit an application.
 - Applications can also be submitted by heirs stipulated in the will of the original owner, and in the event of their death, their spouse, parents (adoptive parents), children (adopted children), grandchildren, or grandchild's spouse can also submit an application.

¹ See *Law of Lithuania on the Good Will Compensation for the Immovable Property of Jewish Religious Communities*, (1 January 2023, No. XI-1470), available at: <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.6EFCEA60E654/asr>.

² See: *Law on the Procedure and Conditions of the Restoration of the Rights of Ownership to the Existing Real Property*, (18 June 1991, No. I-1454), available at: <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.1445?jfwid>.

³ See *Law on the Restoration of Property Rights of Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania to Surviving Real Estate*, (1 July 1997, VIII-359) at Article 2, available at: <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.41505/asr>. Note that references to citizenship are no longer applicable.

The following types of immovable real property are eligible for symbolic compensation:

1. Structure(s) used for economic and commercial purposes.
2. Residential houses, together with their appurtenances.
3. Apartments, together with their appurtenances.

Land is not eligible for symbolic compensation.

**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES
BY DECEMBER 31, 2023:**

Online: Applications can be completed and submitted online at the Good Will Foundation website: <https://gvf.lt/en/application-for-one-time-payment/>

Via Mail: PE "Good Will Foundation"
Pylimo street 4, LT-01117
Vilnius, Lithuania

Via Fax: +370 5 2075798

Via Email: Applications can be submitted to the GWF at rolandas@gvf.lt or natalija@gvf.lt.

Delivery to GWF: Applicants themselves can deliver applications directly to the office of PE „The Foundation to GWF for Disposal of Good Will Compensation for the Immovable Property of Jewish Religious Communities“
Pylimo street 4, Vilnius, Lithuania

The one-time payment may be taxable and may affect your ability to obtain or maintain government assistance. It is your responsibility to verify if this payment is taxable and if it will affect government benefits or assistance. GWF will not be liable for any lost status, benefits or income resulting from your acceptance of this one-time payment.

No application received by the GWF after the December 31, 2023 deadline will be considered for payment. Payments to approved applicants are expected to be made by July 1, 2025.

You do not need to pay anyone for this application form, and you are not required to obtain assistance in completing and/or submitting this application form. For assistance, please call the Good Will Foundation at +370 5 261 12 59 or email rolandas@gvf.lt or natalija@gvf.lt if you have questions.

Thank you for your careful attention to the requirements described in this letter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Baker
Co-chair of the Board
Good Will Foundation

Faina Kukliansky
Co-chair of the Board
Good Will Foundation

**COMPENSATION FOR IMMOVABLE PRIVATE PROPERTY IN LITHUANIA
APPLICATION FOR ONE-TIME PAYMENT**

SECTION 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION

APPLICANT

First Name: _____ **Last Name:** _____

Address: _____ **Apartment:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Country:** _____

Telephone: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Email (Required): _____

DETAILS OF ORIGINAL OWNER (if not the same as Applicant)

First Name: _____ **Last Name:** _____

Date of birth: _____ **Place and country of birth:** _____

Citizenship at the time persecution: _____

Address at the time of persecution: _____

If the original owner is deceased:

Date he/she died: _____

Place he/she died: _____

Last permanent address: _____

SECTION 2: ELIGIBILITY

Please read the statements below carefully and check the appropriate answers:

- I am the original owner of the property.

OR

- The original owner is deceased, and I am their heir (select one):

- Spouse
- Parent (or adoptive parent)
- Child (or adopted child)
- Grandchild
- Grandchild's spouse
- Heir stipulated in the will of original owner
- Other (specify): _____

AND (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)

- The original owner was person of Jewish descent who lived in Lithuania at any time prior to May 8, 1945;

AND

- The original owner owned property that was nationalized or otherwise illegally expropriated during the period of occupation by totalitarian regimes between June 15, 1940 and March 10, 1990 (select all that apply);

- Structure(s) used for economic and commercial purposes
- Residential house(s)
- Apartment(s)
- Other (specify): _____

AND

- I did not have the legal opportunity to restore property rights in accordance with legislation in the Republic of Lithuania (Law on the Procedure and Conditions of the Restoration of the Rights of Ownership to the Existing Real Property) because: (select all that apply):

- I was not Lithuanian citizen between June 18, 1991 and December 31, 2001.
- I did not permanently reside in Lithuania between June 18, 1991 and December 31, 2001.
- Other (specify): _____

SECTION 3: INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER HEIRS

Are there other successors to the original owner apart from yourself (widow, child, grandchild, or other)?

(select one)

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If yes, please give their names, relationship to the original owner and addresses:

SECTION 4: INFORMATION ABOUT THE ILLEGALLY EXPROPRIATED IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Location of the real estate (information from the cadaster, kept by the regional land registry office)

Address: _____

Cadastral region / township _____

Current owner of the real estate (if known) _____

Type of real estate (select all that apply)

- Commercial building
- Residential house
- Apartment
- Other (specify): _____

Detailed description of the real estate (number of floors, rooms, location of the building etc.)

Date real estate was confiscated (loss of title to the real estate)

Manner in which the real estate was lost (e.g. official reason, decision made by authorities, contract of sale in the case of a forced sale)

SECTION 5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED IN APPLICATION

Please attach a photocopy of all relevant documentation corroborating information presented in this application and indicate below all documents that will be included. Any foreign language documents must be translated into Lithuanian or English.

- A valid document confirming the applicant's citizenship** (copy of passport / identity card)

- Documents to establish that the original owner was a Lithuanian Jew, defined as persons of Jewish descent who lived in Lithuania at any time prior to May 8, 1945.**
This list is not exhaustive, and applicants do not need to have a copy of every one of these items.
 - Birth certificates
 - Marriage certificates
 - Certificates issued by state archives
 - Certificates issued by a Rabbi or the relevant Jewish religious community
 - Court decisions establishing a fact of legal significance
 - Other documents

- Documents identifying the property as precisely as possible and proving ownership.**
This list is not exhaustive, and applicants do not need to have a copy of every one of these items.
 - Records from mortgage books
 - Property transfer deeds or contracts
 - Court decisions
 - Certificates issued by state archives
 - Wills drawn up in accordance with the law
 - Documents from inheritance proceedings
 - Other documents

- Where the original owner of the property is deceased, the applicant must corroborate their family connection to the original owner.**
This list is not exhaustive, and applicants do not need to have every one of these items.
 - Birth certificates
 - Marriage certificates
 - Certificates issued by a Rabbi or the relevant Jewish religious community
 - Records from other religious communities/organizations
 - Wills or other testamentary documents
 - Other documents

- Where the original owner of the property is deceased, the applicant must provide a copy of a death certificate or other official document (e.g. certificates issued by state archives, records from state registers, etc.) confirming this fact. Where the original owner's spouse or children are also deceased, a valid document confirming this fact must also be supplied.**

- If applicable, information and documents about when and where the original owner or the applicant previously applied for the return of immovable property pursuant to Lithuania's 1991 Law on the Procedure and Conditions of the Restoration of the Rights of Ownership to the Existing Real Property and what response was received.**

SECTION 6: PAYMENT INFORMATION

If your application is approved, your one-time payment will be sent by **WIRE TRANSFER** to the account you specify. No checks can be issued. Applicants must be alive at time of application. If you need assistance with your bank information, **please contact your bank. Bank account must be in your name. Bank must not be under USA or EU sanctions. Payment will be made from a Euro account.**

IF POSSIBLE, INCLUDE A VOID CHECK OR A SIGNED DOCUMENT FROM YOUR BANK TO CONFIRM THE DETAILS.

Name of Bank	
Address of Bank	

What type of account are you designating? CHECKING/REGULAR SAVINGS
Which currency can your account receive money in? EURO US DOLLARS

FOR BANKS IN USA

Account Number	ABA Routing Number for WIRE TRANSFER (9-Digit) -----
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ALL OTHER COUNTRIES

IBAN number	SWIFT/BIC Code
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You may need an INTERMEDIARY OR CORRESPONDENT BANK to accept wire transfers.

Name of Intermediary Bank	Account Number	SWIFT Code
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Additional for Banks in Canada ONLY:

Transit (Branch) Number (5-digits) -----	Institutional Number (Bank Code) (3-digit Bank Code) ---
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Additional for Banks in Australia ONLY:

“BSB” Bank State Branch number (6-digits) --- - ---
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Additional for Banks in United Kingdom (UK) ONLY:

Sort code (6-digits) -- - - - -

Applicant’s Name Printed: _____ **Phone (required):** _____

Applicant’s Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

SECTION 7: DECLARATIONS

- I declare that all above statements are true. I am aware that knowingly making untrue statements will result in a rejection. Positive decisions made on false information will be overturned and I will return the full amount paid to me by the GWF.
- In the event that I am obligated, pursuant to this declaration or otherwise, to return payment to GWF, I hereby agree that I shall also be liable to reimburse the GWF for any costs and expenses incurred by the GWF in obtaining the return of such payments.
- I am aware that I have no legal entitlement to receive this assistance. Without derogating from the above, I irrevocably waive — insofar as this is legally admissible — any claim that I have or may later assert against the GWF relating to or connected with this application or the processing thereof.
- I unconditionally agree that Vilnius, Lithuania is the court of exclusive jurisdiction for this program.
- I agree that the GWF may request additional documents and information from me to process my application.

SECTION 8: CONSENT

I authorize the authorities, courts, archives and institutions in Lithuania, Germany, and abroad to grant the GWF access to my compensation files, including those based on the Bundesentschädigungsgesetz, the laws and provisions of Wiedergutmachung of the German State Governments, or German Federal or State hardship funds for victims of national socialist persecution, to provide information necessary for the examination and execution of my application. I authorize the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) to share information and documents relating to me with the GWF.

I am aware that these documents and the information may include the following categories of personal information: Name, Address, Age, Date of birth, Gender, education, profession, personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political or ideological opinions, religious beliefs or union membership and data concerning health.

I understand that information concerning me collected in this form, and the other individuals referred to on this form (“Third Parties”) will be processed in accordance with GWF privacy notice which can be found at <https://gvf.lt/en/about-us/privacy-policy/>. I confirm that I have made these Third Parties aware of this notice and have their permission for the Claims Conference, and any third parties set out in the notice, to process their personal information in this application form.

The processing of these data serves the purpose of processing my application for compensation from the Lithuania Fund.

I understand that personal data processed in connection with this application may be made available to the Claims Conference for the purpose of processing my application.

Information relating to my ethnic and racial origins, religious beliefs, and health is considered to be special category data under European data protection law (“Sensitive Personal Data”). We require your express consent under European data protection law to process Sensitive Personal Data.

By signing below, I hereby expressly accept that in order to determine my eligibility for this compensation program and receive payment

- My Sensitive Personal Data, as needed, shall be processed by the GWF to determine my eligibility for compensation from the Lithuania Fund.
- My Sensitive Personal Data, as needed, shall be shared with the Claims Conference.
- As needed, my personal data and Sensitive Personal Data collected in this form shall be transferred outside of the European Economic Area.

I understand I have the right to withdraw my consent at any time. To withdraw my consent, to exercise my rights under the privacy notice or to make any complaints I understand I should contact the GWF at info@gvf.lt. The revocation of consent shall not affect the lawfulness of the processing which has been carried out on the basis of the consent until its revocation. If I withdraw my consent, I understand that the GWF may not be able to process my application or comply with its obligations required to make any payment.

SECTION 9: SIGNATURE

APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY MAIL, FAX, EMAIL, ONLINE OR DIRECT DELIVERY TO THE OFFICE OF THE GWF MUST BE SIGNED.

A copy of the ID used to verify the identity must be included with this application. If an applicant is unable to sign this application form, an authorized representative may sign on his/her behalf and a photocopy of the Power of attorney must be included in this Application.

_____	_____	_____
Applicant’s Name Printed	Applicant’s signature	Day / Month / Year
	_____	_____
	Authorized Representative signature	Day / Month / Year

If Applications/signatures of applicants are being certified in front of a Lithuanian consulate, bank, notary, a Jewish social service agency possessing a seal, city/town hall (in Europe), or a governmental office of the State of Israel, officials of these institutions certify the authenticity of the signature of the applicant who signed the Statement.

I certify that the applicant or his/her authorized representative appeared before me today and proved his/her identity by means of: Passport or Other Identity Document (please list) _____

_____	_____	_____
Certifier’s Name	Certifier’s Title	Day / Month / Year
_____	_____	
Certifier’s Signature & Stamp	Certifier’s Organization	

PLEASE CHECK THAT ALL SECTIONS ARE COMPLETE, THAT THE APPLICATION IS SIGNED, AND THAT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE INCLUDED.

**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES
BY DECEMBER 31, 2023:**

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

- Online:** Applications can be completed and submitted online at the Good Will Foundation website: <https://gvf.lt/en/application-for-one-time-payment/>
- Via Mail:** PE "Good Will Foundation"
Pylimo street 4, LT-01117
Vilnius, Lithuania
- Via Fax:** +370 5 2075798
- Via Email:** Applications signed with a secure electronic signature can be submitted to the GWF at rolandas@gvf.lt or natalija@gvf.lt.
- Delivery to GWF:** Applicants themselves can deliver applications directly to the office of PE „The Foundation to GWF for Disposal of Good Will Compensation for the Immovable Property of Jewish Religious Communities“
Pylimo street 4, Vilnius, Lithuania