

JUST Act Quotes of Support and Endorsements

"Holocaust-era property restitution provides a measure of justice to victims and their families, and to surviving Jewish communities, for the violation of their basic human rights. JUST Act would encourage countries around the globe to live up to the existing international consensus they endorsed in 2009."

- Abraham Biderman, co-chairman of the World Jewish Restitution Organization's Executive Committee.

"We commend Sens. Baldwin and Rubio for helping advance America's leadership in the fight for justice for Holocaust victims and for the restitution of Holocaust era property. It is critical to spotlight how countries are fulfilling property restitution commitments and to hold them accountable if they fail to do so. Enshrining this as a priority of America's human rights reporting provides another diplomatic tool to enhance the vital efforts of the Office of the Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues."

- Stacy Burdett, Vice President, Government Relations, Advocacy & Community Engagement, Anti-Defamation League

"Seventy years after the end of World War II and twenty-five years since democracy has been restored to the nations of Central and Eastern Europe there can no longer be any excuse for delaying the restitution of Holocaust-era properties to their rightful owners. We hope this legislation will push those governments to finally act."

- Rabbi Andrew Baker, Director, International Jewish Affairs, AJC

"Justice delayed is justice denied, so the Federation is extremely grateful to Senator Baldwin for her leadership on this issue. Too many Holocaust survivors and families of Holocaust victims, including right here in Wisconsin, continue to face inexcusable barriers to fair compensation from foreign governments. Requiring the State Department to report on countries' actions on Holocaust-era asset return and restitution will send a powerful message that the United States views countries' progress on this issue to be an American foreign policy priority."

- Hannah Rosenthal, Chief Executive Officer and President, Milwaukee Jewish Federation

"It is not possible to ever fully right the horrific wrongs of the Holocaust, yet it is critical that we encourage and mark the progress of restitution to its victims. J Street is proud to support this bill that will make clear whether countries are undertaking this responsibility with due seriousness."

- Dylan Williams, Vice President of Government Affairs, J Street

“JFNA is extremely grateful for Senators Baldwin and Rubio’s leadership on the important issue of Jewish property return and restitution through their introduction of The Justice for Uncompensated Survivors Today (JUST) Act of 2015. While many countries have made progress in addressing property restitution, numerous others have not and time is running out. This bill would help ensure that Central and Eastern European countries meet the goals and objectives of the 2009 Terezin Declaration on Holocaust Era Assets, which will provide much needed resources for Holocaust victims and their families. JFNA supports the JUST Act and looks forward to it being brought expeditiously to a vote on the Senate floor.”

- William Daroff, Senior Vice President for Public Policy & Director of the Washington Office of The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA)

“The restitution of Jewish property in Central and Eastern Europe remains a crucial priority not only for the Jewish world, but for the trans-Atlantic partnership. This bipartisan bill will help the U.S. marshal its resources to move the restitution process forward. We applaud Senators Baldwin and Rubio for leading this important initiative.”

- Daniel S. Mariaschin, Executive Vice President of B’nai B’rith International

“We are grateful to Senator Baldwin for her leadership on this issue. We have Holocaust survivors living in our communities that are still grieving and dealing with the horrors they experienced during WWII. This bill will benefit them greatly. After 70 years, we need to make sure that the remaining survivors receive the restitution they deserve.”

- Deborah Rosenthal Zemel, Director, Chai Point, Milwaukee

“We applaud the efforts of Senators Baldwin and Rubio to pursue justice and compensation for Holocaust survivors, many of whom were refugees and clients of HIAS. The importance of restitution for refugees, as well as for people who were trapped inside Nazi controlled Europe, resonates today, with 65 million refugees and internally displaced persons, the largest number since the Shoah. HIAS urges every Senator to support the Baldwin-Rubio bill on Holocaust Era Property Restitution, and every Congressman to support the Crowley-Smith companion bill in the House.”

- Mark Hetfield, President & CEO of HIAS, the international the global nonprofit that protects refugees