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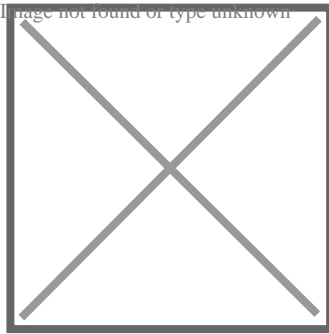


## Final Report of the Claims Committee

The final report of the Claims Committee of the General Settlement Fund for Victims of National Socialism documents the activities of this independent, internationally composed body that decided on 20,702 applications for compensation of asset losses. The significance of the Washington Agreement between the USA and the Republic of Austria of 17 January 2001 in dealing with the aftermath of National Socialism in Austria, the complexity of the aspects to be considered in its implementation, as well as the procedure before the Claims Committee and the high standards applied in the process are described in detail in this report.

The General Settlement Fund was established in 2001 for the comprehensive resolution of open questions regarding the compensation of victims of National Socialism for losses and damages incurred during the period of National Socialism on the territory of the present-day Republic of Austria. In addition to efficient historical and legal work, the proceedings before the Claims Committee were characterized by the concern of special responsibility towards the victims of National Socialism. Finally, these proceedings resulted in compensation payments in the amount of approximately USD 215 million to approximately 24,000 beneficiaries.

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