



Association of Jewish Refugees
SERVING HOLOCAUST REFUGEES
AND SURVIVORS NATIONWIDE
www.ajr.org.uk

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UK GOVERNMENT APPOINTS FIRST ENVOY FOR POST-HOLOCAUST ISSUES

The Commission for Looted Art in Europe (CLAE) and the Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) welcome the British government's decision to create a United Kingdom Envoy for Post-Holocaust Issues and the appointment of Sir Andrew Burns to this post.

Sir Andrew will be supported in his role by stakeholders with specialist knowledge of the key post-Holocaust issues who will provide expert advice and guidance.

"The Commission for Looted Art in Europe (CLAE) and the Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) have worked closely with the government to achieve this historic appointment", said CLAE Co-Chair, Anne Webber, and AJR Director, Michael Newman, "We very much look forward to working with Sir Andrew on the range of post-Holocaust issues."

"This appointment comes at a crucial time with several matters, including the return of Nazi-looted art, the restitution of private properties in Poland and elsewhere, and the future governance and accessibility of the archives of the International Tracing Service (ITS) requiring urgent attention and decisive leadership.

"As a distinguished former ambassador, Sir Andrew brings to the post the extensive international experience and diplomatic skills which are so essential to resolve these sensitive and complex issues."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
and to speak to families seeking to recover their property,
please contact:

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Notes for Editors:

The ITS Archive contains more than 50 million documents from the Nazi era and post-war period on over 17 million people. They include transportation lists, concentration camp records, death records, forced and slave labour documents, displaced persons and child tracing records.

Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR):

- The AJR is the leading UK charity which provides comprehensive social and welfare services and grants financial assistance to Jewish victims of Nazi persecution living in Great Britain.
- The AJR offers advice and assistance with claims for Holocaust-era compensation and the restitution of expropriated assets.
- The AJR has produced an archive of Holocaust testimonies describing the experiences of 150 former refugees and survivors. Details of Refugee Voices are at www.refugeevoices.co.uk

Commission for Looted Art in Europe (CLAE):

- CLAE is the expert non-profit organisation which negotiates policy with governments and cultural institutions and assists individuals worldwide to locate and recover cultural property looted during the Nazi era.
- CLAE provides a Central Registry of Information on Looted Cultural Property 1933-1945 at www.lootedart.com containing information from 49 countries and a database of over 25,000 missing or looted cultural objects.
- CLAE's Co-Chair Anne Webber convened and chairs the Stakeholder Group working with the UK government on the future of the ITS and its Archive.