

# REPORT TO THE PUBLIC ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION IN 2011

*Decree 99-778 of September 10, 1999, which creates a Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation Resulting from the Anti-Semitic Legislation in Force during the Occupation*

Article 1

“Under the auspices of the Prime Minister, a commission is hereby set up to examine individual claims from victims or their beneficiaries to compensate for losses involving the spoliation of property due to anti-Semitic legislation in force during the Occupation both by the occupying power and the government of Vichy.

The commission is responsible for researching and proposing appropriate measures for reparation, restitution and compensation.”





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## Introduction

The 2011 annual report, the twelfth since the creation of CIVS, confirms a continued reduction in the work of the Commission and the response by its staff and in its work methods to the situation.

The year saw the handling of claims for spoliation committed during the short period of occupation of Tunisia by German troops.

The year also witnessed a generational shift among claimants. New claims now originate from persons with an increasingly distant relationship, a sign that the mission of the CIVS is coming to an end.

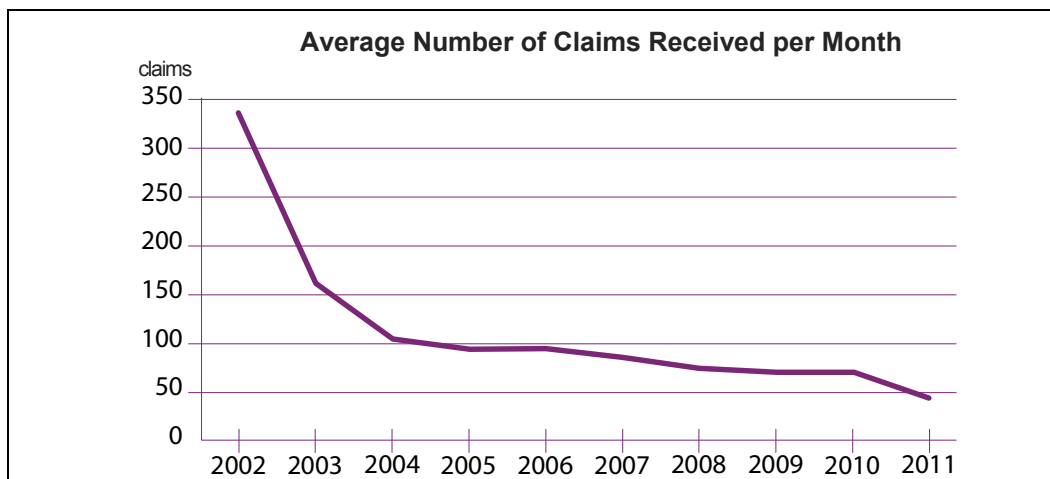
Finally, 2011 was marked by a major change in the management team. Two of its outstanding members, **Chairman Gérard Gélinau-Larrivet** and **Principal Rapporteur Jean Géronimi** have retired from their duties. Their long-standing commitment, the richness of their human qualities and the quality of their work have made a significant contribution to achieving the mission of the CIVS. They were singled out by the Cour des Comptes, whose audit of the CIVS of October 20, 2011 observes, “...the exceptional work and strong moral commitment of the members and officers of the CIVS, particularly its Chairman and Principal Rapporteur”.

## A further but limited decrease in activity

### Drop in material and bank-related claims

From the start of its work in 2000 through December 31, 2011, the Commission has received 28,689 claims. Of these, 18,481 involve material spoliation and 9,335 bank-related spoliation. In total, 873 cases were closed due to withdrawal or disqualification of the claim or the case exceeded the jurisdiction of the Commission.

In 2011, CIVS received 532 claims (373 material, 96 bank-related and 63 reexaminations). The figures represent a decrease of 37% from 2010, which itself saw a decline of 18% over 2009. This drop is part of a long-term natural process that began in 2007, as seen in the following chart.





## Bank-related claims

In 2011, 186 claims were examined by the banking unit, compared with 244 in 2010, a decrease of 24%. They are divided as follows:

- ▶ 44 claims involved Fund B, of which 38 were rejected due to exceeding the time limit for this fund;
- ▶ the remaining 142 claims were investigated, and the existence of 259 bank accounts was confirmed. The latter will likely receive compensation from the Fund A escrow account or the national budget with, if appropriate, additional compensation in accordance with the Washington Agreement.

### Fund A and Fund B

The Washington Agreement (Decree of March 30, 2006) led to the creation of two distinct funds by banking institutions to provide compensation for bank-related claims as recommended by the CIVS.

The first, Fund A, known as the "Deposit", with holdings of \$50,000,000, is earmarked for the compensation of victims whose assets have been identified. The second, Fund B, known as the "Fund" provides compensation in the form of a lump sum (initially \$1,500) based on credible evidence or a signed affidavit filed before July 18, 2002 by victims or their heirs. As of December 31, 2011, the balances of Funds A and B were respectively €5,384,352 (\$6,966,813) and €296,101 (\$383,125).

Distribution of bank accounts, by banking institution:

Banking Institution	Percentage
Groupe La Poste	24.0
Groupe BNP Paribas	18.0
Société Générale	15.0
Groupe Crédit Agricole	13.0
HSBC France	8.0
Groupe BPCE	8.0
Groupe CIC	6.0
Banque de France	5.0
Crédit du Nord	2.5
Other institutions*	0.5

\*Combination of banking institutions representing less than 0.5% of accounts identified





In 2011, investigation was completed on 187 claims: 130 were turned over to the Principal Rapporteur for examination by a rapporteur and 57 were subject to the simplified procedure in which the Chairman of the Commission presides alone<sup>1</sup>.

As of December 31, claims submitted to the CIVS, either to a sub-committee or the Chairman presiding alone, concerned 512 bank accounts likely to be compensated under the provisions of the Washington Agreement.

Finally, Information Notices relating to the management of bank-related claims and the depletion of Funds A and B were produced half-yearly on June 15 and December 15, 2011. These notices are sent to the United States Department of State and representatives for the claimants.

## **Towards an irreducible minimum?**

The drop observed in the number of material and bank-related claims may be less significant in the future.

Three reasons may contribute to maintaining, and possibly increasing, submission of new claims.

First, the CIVS has not organized a systematic publicity campaign to encourage claims by victims and their heirs. It is clear that such efforts would likely result in the filing of new claims.

Secondly, based on the calculation of the number of claims from victims of spoliation, it must be noted that only around a quarter have submitted claims to the Commission<sup>2</sup>. It can thus be deduced that a majority of victims have not yet had recourse to this procedure. Of these, it is conceivable that some have legitimate claims.

Finally, if the drop in the number of claims has extended over many years and even became more pronounced in the first months of 2011, such is not the case for the last months of the year. The drop has slowed, and the situation has stabilized, with some fifty claims received per month.

If this tendency continues in 2012, this may be an irreducible minimum below which it will be difficult to drop.

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<sup>1</sup> See inset on page 9.

<sup>2</sup> For example, only 17,500 cases of deportation (out of a total of 76,000) have been processed as part of a claim by the Commission.



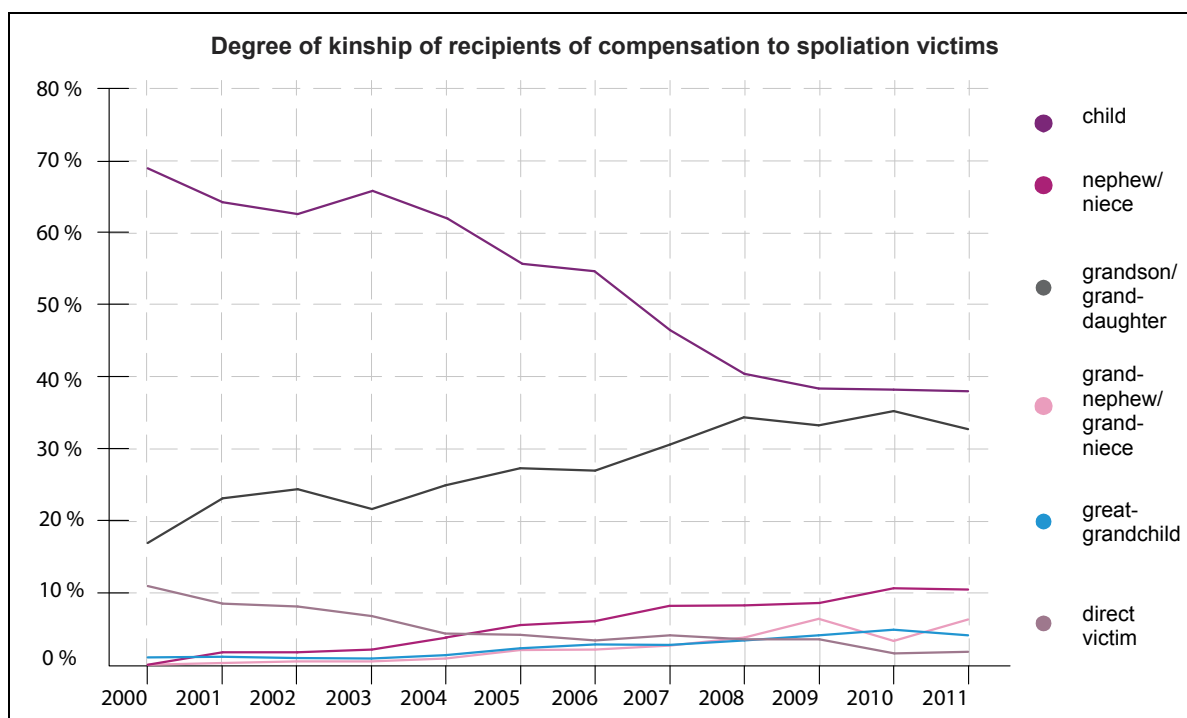
## Claims that are more complex and often more difficult to handle

### Generational shift

Since the start of the Commission, and especially in recent years, there is a change in the profile of beneficiaries.

While direct victims of spoliation accounted for 11% of those receiving compensation in 2000, they now account for less than 2%.

Likewise, sons and daughters of direct victims now represent only 38% of beneficiaries, while they accounted for 69% in 2000.



Grandchildren (33% of claimants, compared with 17% in 2000), nieces and nephews (10%), great-grandchildren (4 %) and even grandnieces and nephews (6%) have taken the place of their elders.

The situation has consequences for the work of the Commission because sources of information are less abundant and testimony collected is indirect.

Nevertheless, this generational shift is evidence of obvious motivation and interest on the part of the younger generation. The CIVS, which has learned so much from the direct victims of the Shoah, today serves as a preserver of memory for heirs seeking information about their family history.





## The Commission's role as preserver of memory

Excerpts from correspondence from claimants:

"With this letter I would like to thank you for the depth and rigor of your investigative work, from which I learned many things – painful as they may be – about my parents' and my own past."

"I was touched by the documentation which the CIVS uncovered. Of the materials you sent me, the item that most moved me was the photograph of my father, whom I had never seen before."

## Claims that are more difficult to examine

The increasing distance from the events and this generational shift make examining claims more complex, especially those involving spoliation that took place in Tunisia. In 2011, 683 claims were sent to the Principal Rapporteur for examination (compared with 739 in 2010) of which 275, or 40%, involve spoliation in Tunisia.

The Commission also handles a significant number of claims that do not involve "typical" examination of a claim: reexaminations, allocation of portions (392 in 2011 compared with 308 in 2010, an increase of nearly 10%), artworks, etc. The low number of requests for reexamination (around 1%) may constitute a significant indicator of the quality of work performed, particularly that in favor of claimants.



## Adjusting working conditions

### Staff adjusted to effort

Over 11 years, the staff of rapporteurs and employees has consistently adapted to CIVS's workload. A reduction in the backlog of claims systematically results in to staffing changes through internal transfers, ad hoc hiring and termination of posts after a departure. Today, 30 staff members perform the work of the Commission, compared with 41 in 2007.

In addition, the activity of the rapporteur magistrates has also been adjusted. Between 2007 and 2011, their number decreased from 30 to 18. Since 2009, they all work two days a week instead of the previous three.

This strategy is intended to maintain a high level of competence, and, in particular, to enable each one to be ready for a change in function, either internal or external, as part of a personal career plan. This policy of adjusting staff size and maintaining competence is essential for efficient, high quality handling of the claims of victims and their heirs.

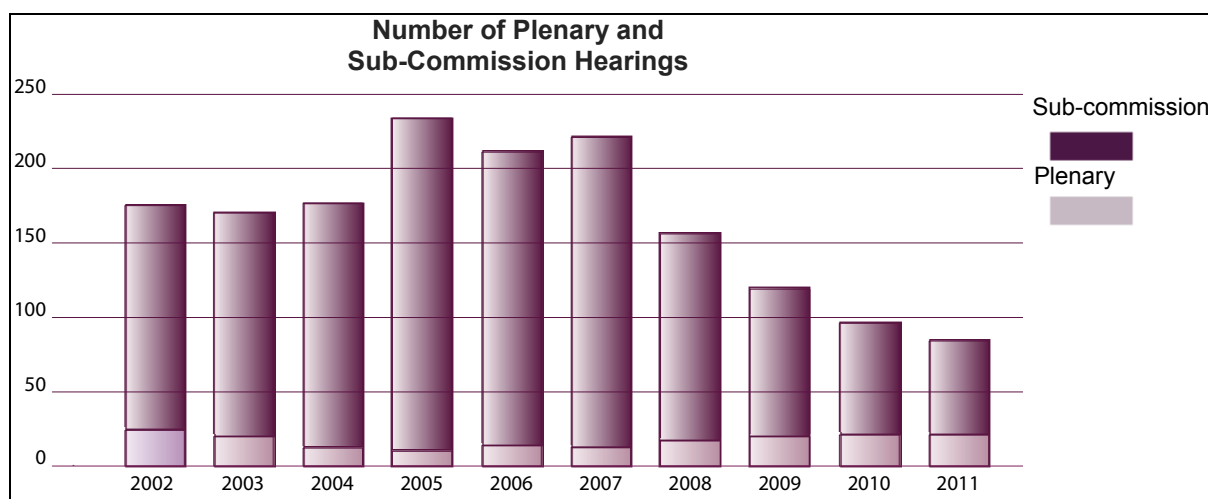
### Increased plenary sessions due to high number of sensitive matters

#### Hearings

In 2011, the Commission organized 84 sub-commissions, 12% fewer than in 2010. They examined 675 cases (an average of eight per hearing).

In addition, 21 plenary hearings were held (the same as in 2010) and 111 cases were examined, for an average of five cases per hearing.

Handling of cases involving spoliation that occurred in Tunisia and their examination during plenary hearings lead to the increase in the average number of cases heard in sub-commissions.





## Recommendations

In 2011, 1,189 recommendations were issued, of which 969 concerned material spoliations and 220 concerned bank-related spoliations, for a total amount of €15,735,236 (€15,193,494 for material spoliations and €541,742 for bank-related spoliations). Of these, 439 recommendations were issued by the Chairman presiding alone in the examination of 394 cases.

### Procedure of the Chairman presiding alone

The decree of June 20, 2001 gives the Chairman the option of presiding alone. Claims using this process are based on the urgency of the personal situation of the claimant when the case presents no particular difficulties.

Beginning in 2002, the procedure was extended to bank-related claims in which the banks questioned have agreed to cooperate with the Commission for compensation purposes.

This procedure is also used to draft recommendations on allocation of portions reserved for identified heirs who are not named on the claim. It is also used after the examination of additional claims (e.g., fees for being smuggled into Unoccupied France, looted refugee shelters, money confiscated during arrest or internment in French camps, etc.).

The number of cases giving rise to reexamination by the Commission totaled 8 (compared with 14 in 2010), only .67% of all recommendations.

Of these 1,189 recommendations, 193 recommendations for refusal were formulated, including 126 “material” claims and 67 “bank-related” claims, of which 25 resulted from foreclosure linked to Fund B. Finally, 392 recommendations of allocation of reserved portions were issued (343 material and 49 bank-related).

### Reserved portions

During the investigation and examination of cases, heirs may emerge who were not named in the current procedure. They may be individuals who did not agree to being named by the initial claimants, or whose identity and whereabouts were unknown or not communicated. In such cases, the Commission “expressly” reserves their portions of the compensation. It is up to their beneficiaries to take the required steps to be allocated their portion.

## Reduction number of current cases

The number of current cases in the Control and Investigation Network (RCI) dropped significantly during the year: 442 cases as of January 1, and 156 as of December 31. This reduction is due to the RCI’s forwarding of the majority of cases concerning Tunisia in 2011 (which were in its backlog) to the Principal Rapporteur. Over the course of the year, RCI reduced its caseload concerning Tunisia from 174 in January to 3 at the end of December. It should be noted that these cases, received in significant and growing numbers in 2010, were submitted to RCI between 2010 and 2011 for investigation. After consulting the Centre des Archives Diplomatiques de Nantes, which houses the archive of wartime damages in Tunisia,





RCI was able to forward the cases quickly to the Principal Rapporteur, who then appointed rapporteurs.

For their part, the CIVS Archives Search Teams worked on a “just-in-time” basis throughout 2011. They were consistently able to reduce their respective case backlogs.

	<b>Berlin Search Team</b>	<b>French National Archives Search Team</b>	<b>Paris Archives Search Team</b>
<b>Total number of cases received since the start of the CIVS’s work</b>	17,495	13,062	11,461
<b>Backlog as of January 2011</b>	153	164	91
<b>Total number of cases forwarded to search teams in 2011</b>	275	222	158
<b>Backlog as of December 2011</b>	74	107	22

In 2011, 403 cases were forwarded by the administrative unit to RCI, a drop of nearly 50% over 2010. In addition, a quarter (105) of these cases concerned spoliation in Tunisia. The average number of cases forwarded each month was 33, down from 58 in 2010.



## Improving statistical tools

The Supervision Unit (CDS) was created in 2004 to verify the accuracy of cases. The unit monitors their consistency with information in the electronic database.

It monitors cases that have been submitted by the Hearings Secretariat after they have been heard by the Commission, in addition to those already examined before the database was created.

As of December 31, 2011, CDS had performed 23,515 verifications, which corresponds to 14,275 cases, as several verifications may be needed for a single case.

The first quarter of 2011 was disrupted by IT problems. Once the database was running again, CDS employees updated information that could not be entered.

This work will continue in 2012, with

- ▶ review of all cases already verified since June 2010,
- ▶ inspection of all cases examined by the Commission that were not verified.

The recorded data constitutes a significant statistical source and serves as an “administrative memory” of the Commission that can be made available to researchers.



## Continuing openness

### Communication efforts

In 2011, the CIVS continued its efforts to inform the public, community organizations and various institutions of its work.

The Commission has taken several initiatives to locate victims and heirs of spoliation that have not yet been informed of its existence and their rights. Thus, after discussions with the National War Veterans and War Victims Administration (ONAC) to exchange information to identify potential claimants, the Commission contacted the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL) to determine the legal framework for this effort.

On June 22-24, Jean-Pierre Le Ridant, CIVS director, and Pierre-Alain Weill, Principal Rapporteur, traveled to Berlin with several members of the Commission's staff. The main purpose of their visit was to meet the heads of the German archives with whom members of CIVS's Berlin Search Team conduct research essential for the Commission's compensation work. These archives include:

- ▶ Federal Office for Central Services and Unresolved Property Issues (**BADV**),
- ▶ Landesarchiv Berlin.

This trip also provided the occasion to introduce Mr Weill, recently appointed, to the various interlocutors met during the visit.

As in 2010, the CIVS discussed how its compensation effort has evolved with Mr Douglas Davidson, Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues with the US Department of State. Mr Davidson met with CIVS's representatives on two points that he considers essential: how long the work of the Commission will continue and his perspective on the class action suit<sup>3</sup> which has been filed in the United States against the SNCF, the French National Railway Corporation.

The CIVS has also continued to develop its internet portal ([www.civs.gouv.fr](http://www.civs.gouv.fr)), which serves as an interface with claimants, their heirs, the media and other institutions interested in its work. The internet site is updated regularly with information concerning its own operations (monthly statistics, reports and publications) and existing compensation procedures outside its jurisdiction.

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<sup>3</sup> A lawsuit in which a large group of people collectively bring a claim to court.





## Resources and assistance

In 2011, the CIVS website counted 50,000 page views<sup>4</sup>, compared with 65,000 in 2010, or a drop of 23%. The most popular pages included “Headlines” (70%), “Questions/Answers” (21%) and those discussing the operations of the CIVS (19%). Geographic location of internet users also changed from 2010. The number of page views originating in Europe dropped by 8.5% while the number increased in North America and Asia by 4.3% and 3.1% respectively. There were fewer French users than in 2010 (74% compared with 85%), in contrast with North American users (8.7% compared with 4.6%). In France, website visitors primarily are in Île-de-France (54%, compared with 78% in 2010) followed by Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur (3.5% compared with 4% in 2010), Rhône-Alpes (3.1% compared with 3% in 2010) and Aquitaine (2%, as in 2010).

Finally, so that the Commission could enrich its knowledge of the historical context of its mission, a visit to the Royallieu Internment and Deportation Memorial in Compiègne took place on December 1. The visit was also the occasion to discuss a partnership with officials at the site to assist them in their task of collecting documents and testimonies for its history.

## Receiving claimants and listening to their concerns

One person is responsible for receiving and listening to claimants.

A third of telephone calls concern requests for information about the status of current cases. Other calls involve requests for meetings and information about any foreclosure dates, procedures for compensation offered by the CIVS and other organizations and allocation of reserved portions.

In 2011, 419 claimants and representatives were received during the examination of their cases. All had the benefit of a personal meeting in advance.

Lastly, 78 individuals came to consult their personal files and obtain copies of documents.

## History Committee

The CIVS History Committee, whose research is directed by Dr Anne Grynberg, professor of contemporary history, was instituted by decree of the Prime Minister on August 3, 2007. Its purpose is to:

- ▶ analyze the origin of the CIVS, the conditions in which it was founded, how it is run, and prepare an initial objective review of its activity;
- ▶ place the history of the CIVS within the wider history of French compensation policy, starting immediately after the war until the present; and study the various steps taken to repair the spoliation of material property which was one component of anti-Semitic persecution in the 1940s;

<sup>4</sup> Number of page views, rather than hits.



*Order of August 3, 2007 setting up a history committee as part of the Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation Resulting from the Anti-Semitic Legislation in Force during the Occupation.*

### Article 1

“For a period of five years from the publication of this order, a history committee will be set up within the Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation Resulting from the Anti-Semitic Legislation in Force during the Occupation.”

### Article 2

“The mission of this committee is to improve knowledge of the French policy for compensating anti-Semitic spoliation, the history and operation of the Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation and to study comparable instances in other countries.”

- ▶ trace the history and preserve the memory of Jewish families in France during the war and occupation, as well as during post-war “reconstruction”;
- ▶ perform comparative research on France, other European countries (both East and West) and non-European countries, comparing the viewpoints of researchers working in the field as well as the leaders of various national commissions set up since the 1990s.

The CIVS History Committee is actively pursuing research in various archives in France and abroad, and collecting oral testimony.

In summer 2012, it is scheduled to publish a collection of biographical narratives of Jewish artists from Germany and Austria who sought refuge in France beginning in 1933 and who were victims of spoliation and persecution. The project is conducted in collaboration with the Koordinierungsstelle Magdeburg, Germany’s central office for the documentation of lost cultural property.

## Conclusion

The slowdown in new requests and the generational shift among beneficiaries of victims of anti-Semitic spoliation are likely precursors of the completion of CIVS’s mission.

They also indicate it is now time for discussion, to offer proposals for informing victims who have not yet declared their right to compensation and to ensure the ongoing search for beneficiaries of reserved portions so that they may receive the legitimate compensation set aside for them as part of France’s debt.



## Organization

### *Executive Board*

Chairman: **Mr Michel Jeannoutot**, Honorary Counselor at the Cour de Cassation, former First President of the Court of Appeals

Director: **Mr Jean-Pierre Le Ridant**, former member of Parliament

Principal rapporteur: **Mr Pierre-Alain Weill**, Chairman of the honorary chamber at the Paris Court of Appeals

### *Members of the Deliberative Panel*

**Mr Jean-Pierre Bady**, Honorary Counselor at the Cour des Comptes

**Mr François Bernard**, Honorary State Counselor, Vice Chairman of the Commission

**Mr Bernard Boubli**, Honorary Senior Counselor at the Cour de Cassation

**Ms Anne Grynberg**, Professor at the National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations (INALCO) and researcher at the Institute of Contemporary History (IHTP)

**Mr Gérard Israël**, philosopher, writer and member of the steering committee of the Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France (CRIF)

**Mr Michel Jeannoutot**, Honorary Counselor at the Cour de Cassation, Chairman of the Commission

**Mr Pierre Kauffmann**, Secretary General of the Shoah Memorial in Paris

**Mr Pierre Parthonnaud**, Honorary Counselor at the Cour des Comptes

**Mr David Ruzié**, Honorary Dean and Professor Emeritus

**Mr Henri Toutée**, President of the Finance Section of the Conseil d'État

### *Government Commissioner*

**Mr Bertrand Dacosta**, Master in Chambers at the Conseil d'État, Government Commissioner

### *Rapporteurs*

**Ms Monique Abittan**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Mr Jean-Michel Augustin**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Mr Christophe Baconnier**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Ms Françoise Chandelon**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Mr Brice Charles**, magistrate of the administrative court system

**Mr Claude Cohen**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Ms Rosine Cusset**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Ms Chantal Descours-Gatin**, magistrate of the administrative court system

**Ms Marie Franceschini**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Mr François Gayet**, magistrate of the administrative court system

**Ms Nicole Julienne-Saurin**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Ms France Legueltel**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Mr Ivan Luben**, magistrate of the administrative court system

**Mr Jean-Pierre Marcus**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Ms Éliane Mary**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Mr Michel Morel**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Ms Marie-Hélène Valensi**, magistrate of the regular court system

**Ms Sophie Zagury**, magistrate of the regular court system





***Registered Cases: 28,689, including***

- ▶ 18,481 material cases
- ▶ 9,335 bank-related cases
- ▶ 873 cases were closed due to withdrawal or disqualification of the claim or the case exceeded the jurisdiction of the Commission.

***Frequency of Hearings***

- ▶ Sub-commissions: two per week
- ▶ Plenary sessions: two per month.

***Hearings organized in 2011: 105***

- ▶ Sub-commissions: 84
- ▶ Plenary sessions: 21.

***Average number of cases examined per hearing***

- ▶ Sub-commissions: 8
- ▶ Plenary sessions: 5.

***Recommendations adopted<sup>5</sup>: 31,119***

- ▶ 19,415 material-related recommendations
  - ▶ 11,704 bank-related recommendations
- including 3,566 recommendations allocating reserved portions, or 11.45% of recommendations.

***Cases examined by the Commission<sup>6</sup>: 27,029***

***Recommendations for rejection: 3,540 (i.e., 11.37 % of recommendations)***

- ▶ for material spoliations: 1,367
- ▶ for bank-related spoliations: 2,173.

***Requests for reexamination performed by the Commission: 617***

***Current cases as of January 1, 2012: 962***

- ▶ Material cases: 816
- ▶ Bank-related cases: 146.

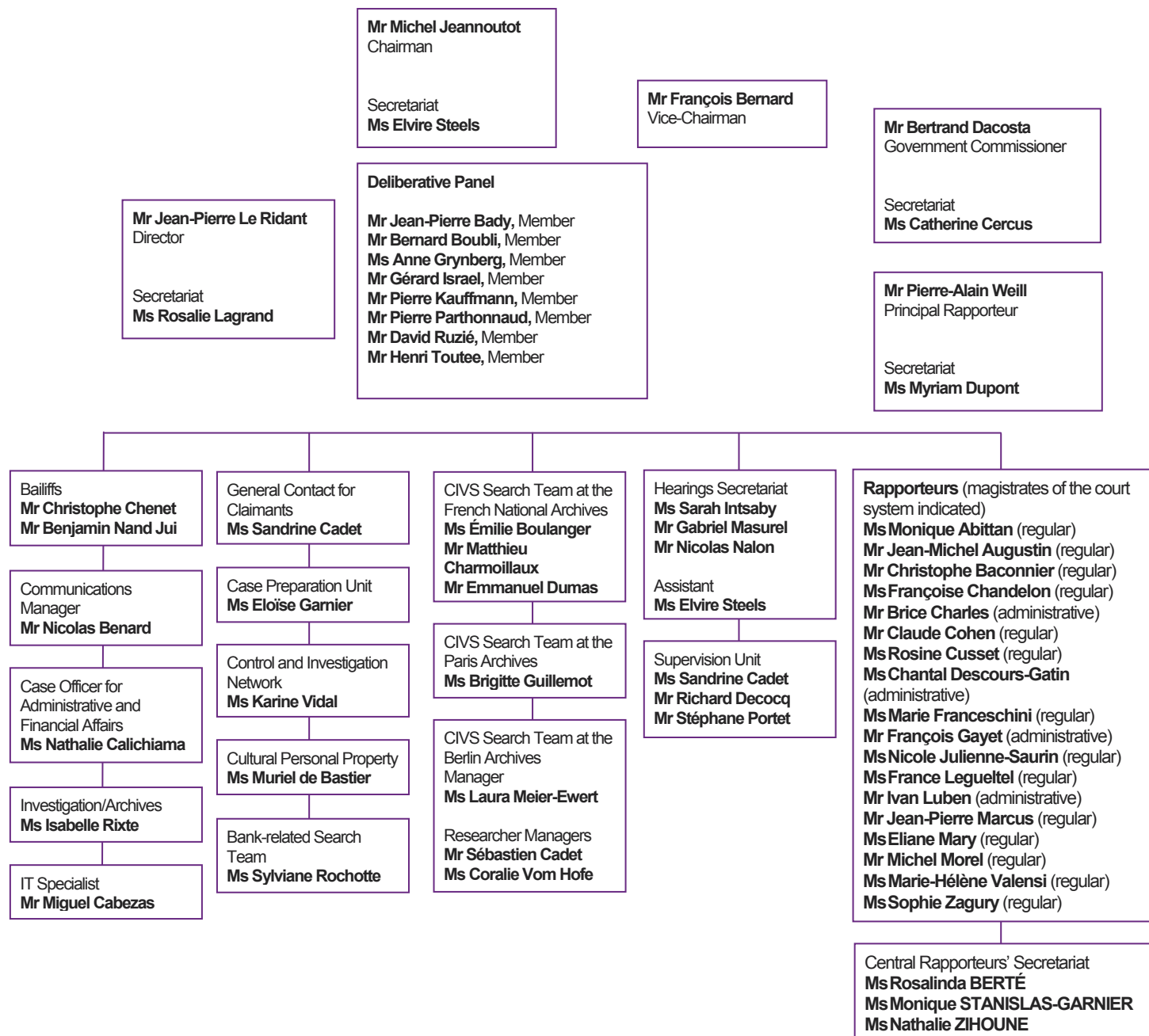
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<sup>5</sup> All losses combined, including rejected claims.

<sup>6</sup> There may be several recommendations for a given case.

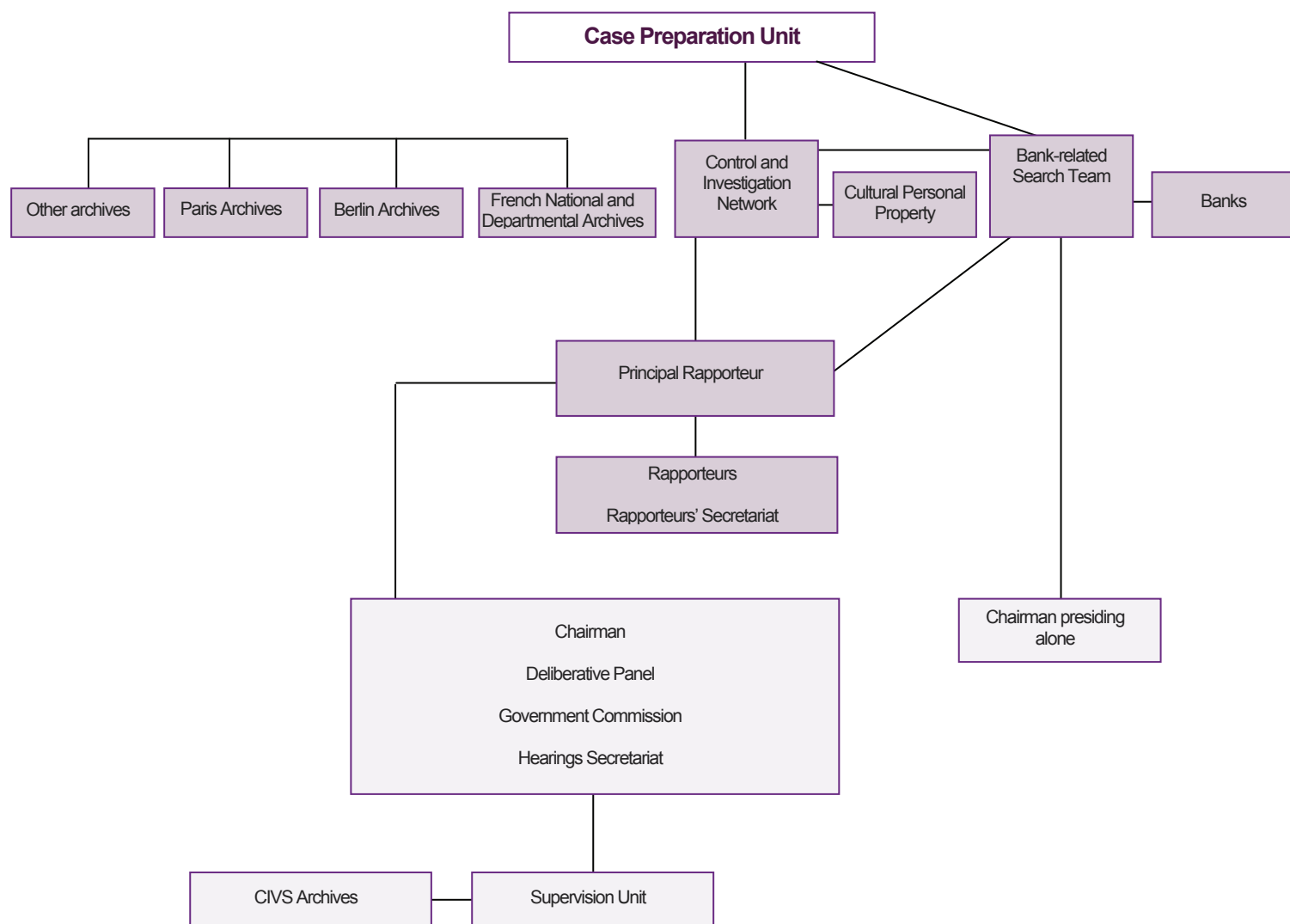


## Organization Chart





## Diagram of how a case is processed





## Search teams and archive centers consulted by the RCI and cultural personal property unit

<b>CIVS Search Team in Berlin</b>  French Embassy in Germany Pariser Platz 5 10117 BERLIN	<b>CIVS Search Team at the French National Archives</b>  20th Century Department 60, rue des Francs-Bourgeois 75003 PARIS	<b>CIVS Search Team at the Paris Archives</b>  18, boulevard Sérurier 75019 PARIS
<b>Center of Contemporary Jewish Documentation</b>  17 rue Geoffroy L'Asnier 75004 PARIS  <b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</b>  Fonds d'archives de la Récupération artistique 3, rue Suzanne Masson 93126 LA COURNEUVE CEDEX  <b>The Central Archives for the History of Jewish People</b>  (for consulting archives at the personal property spoliations unit at the FSJU)  <i>Hebrew University of Jerusalem</i> 46 rehov Jabotinsky JERUSALEM	<b>Departmental Archives</b>	<b>Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations</b>  DBRP2. Cellule des biens spoliés 15, quai Anatole France DBRA5-Pôle 4 75356 PARIS 07 SP  <b>Ministry of Culture and Communication</b>  Direction générale des patrimoines Service des musées de France 6, rue Pyramides 75041 PARIS CEDEX 01  <b>Ministry for the Budget, Public Accounts and State Reform</b>  Direction Générale des Finances Publiques Bureau GF3B 86, allée de Bercy 75572 PARIS CEDEX 12
	<b>Prefecture de Police</b>  1 bis, rue des Carmes 75005 PARIS	
	<b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</b>  Centre des Archives diplomatiques 17, rue Casterneau B.P. 43605 44036 NANTES	
	<b>Fédération Française des Sociétés d'Assurance (F.F.S.A.)</b>  26, boulevard Haussmann 75311 PARIS CEDEX 09  <b>Centre des Archives d'Outre-mer</b>  (for "Algérie" case files) 29, chemin du moulin de Testa 13090 AIX-EN-PROVENCE	





## **Summary of funds committed since the start of the Commission's work through December 31, 2011**

### ***Total amount of allocated compensation, all damages combined:***

€469,889,791

### ***Total amount of compensation paid for bank-related spoliation:***

€49,002,538

This amount is broken down as follows:

- ▶ Escrow account – Fund A: €14,494,023 + €2,109,355 (under Fund B since October 2008)<sup>7</sup>
- ▶ Fund B: €24,080,820 (closed in October 2008)

For a total of **€40,684,198**

To this figure is added the amount allocated by the State for bank-related spoliation:  
**€8,318,340.**

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<sup>7</sup> Numbers supplied by the CDC – exchange rate for dollar as of December 31, 2011: 1.2939.



## Measures relative to the Washington Agreement

The following measures are contained in the various Exchanges of Letters

### **2001: August 7-10, 2001**

- ▶ introduction of a supplement of up to \$1,500 from Fund B for compensation of less than \$1,500 pertaining to Fund A;
- ▶ implementation of a second round of compensation totaling \$1,500 for Fund A claims, the balance of compensation for which is under \$1,500 and for Fund B claims submitted before the foreclosure date of July 18, 2002, for a total indemnity of \$3,000.

### **2002: May 30-31, 2002**

- ▶ the foreclosure date for claims relating exclusively to Fund B is extended from July 18, 2002 to January 18, 2003.

### **2005: February 2, 2005**

- ▶ compensation for debtor accounts: debit balances are no longer deducted from total compensation granted;
- ▶ compensation supplement totaling up to \$3,000 taken from Fund B for each account managed by a provisional wartime administrator if less than this amount. Proven amounts, however, are still paid out from the State budget;
- ▶ compensation for unproven accounts held by individuals residing abroad during 1940-1944.

### **2006: February 21, 2006**

- ▶ a lump sum of \$15,000, drawn from Fund A, is awarded to all direct survivors of the Shoah meeting four criteria;
- ▶ award of an additional sum of up to \$10,000, drawn from Fund A, for personal or business accounts with a proven, compensated amount of over \$3,000;
- ▶ a fixed indemnity of \$1,000 drawn from Fund B to proven personal or business accounts with a proven, compensated amount of under \$3,000;
- ▶ postponement of the foreclosure date for Fund B from January 18, 2003 to February 2, 2005;
- ▶ substitution of Fund A for Fund B if the latter becomes depleted;
- ▶ reduction of the Fund A escrow account to \$10,000,000.

### **April 12, 2006**

Interpretative letter attached to the Exchange of Letters of February 21, 2006.

The signature of the last Exchange of Letters constituting a comprehensive, definitive rule for final settlement of the Washington Agreement was finalized in 2006.



## Abbreviations

- AN: *French National Archives Search Team (CIVS)*
- AP: *Paris Archives Search Team (CIVS)*
- BCM: *cultural personal property*
- CDC: *Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations (State Official Deposit Bank)*
- CIVS: *Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation*
- CRIF: *Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France*
- DMF: *French Museums Directorate (French Culture Ministry)*
- IHTP: *Institute of Contemporary History (CNRS)*
- INALCO: *National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations*
- MAE: *Ministry of Foreign Affairs*
- MNR: *National Museums list of artwork retrieved from Germany following the war*
- OBIP: *Office for Personal Property and Interests*
- RCI: *Control and Investigation Network (CIVS)*
- SDS: *Hearings Secretariat (CIVS)*

**PRIME MINISTER OF FRANCE**

Commission for the Compensation  
of Victims of Spoliation  
resulting from the Anti-Semitic Legislation  
in Force during the Occupation  
– CIVS –

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