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Jewish Digital Cultural Recovery Project Foundation | www.jdcrp.org

Initial List: Persecuted Jewish Collectors

In honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day the **Jewish Digital Cultural Recovery Project Foundation** has announced an [enlarged initial list](#) documenting the lives of Jewish collectors persecuted during the National Socialist era.

“This is one more step toward helping grasp the vast dimensions of the theft that accompanied the genocide of the Jewish people by the Nazis, their allies, and collaborators. It is an important tool to rediscover long-forgotten histories of the victims of the Holocaust,” said Deidre Berger, Chair of the Executive Board of the JDCRP.

The [enlarged initial list](#) now consists of approximately 2,600 names of collectors from 13 European countries: Austria, Croatia, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, and Serbia.

More research remains necessary, not only to expand the list of Jewish collectors from the countries already covered but also to include persecuted Jewish collectors from countries that have yet to be researched. At the moment, the list presents only the first name, last name, city, and country of a given collector, as well as the source from which the information came.

The JDCRP will develop this initial list further to transform it into an effective research tool. The future more detail-oriented list will include information on collectors’ lives, their family and business connections, the types of their collections, and their persecution histories. Sources will be meticulously listed to provide easily accessible additional information.

The Jewish Digital Cultural Recovery Project Foundation is creating a cross-searchable digital platform for archival documentation, research, and education on the looting of Jewish-owned cultural property by the Nazis, their allies, and collaborators. Information from the list of persecuted Jewish collectors will be integrated into the digital platform.

Suggestions made regarding adjustments to entries, as well as additional information about persecuted Jewish collectors not yet on the list, may be sent to info@jdcrp.org.

The goal of the project [Documentation of Persecuted Jewish Collectors](#) is to contribute to a broader understanding of the significant cultural contribution of pre-war Jewish collectors to European cultural heritage. Each name listed exemplifies the collector’s interests at the time – whether from fine arts to books, from Judaica to musical instruments and beyond - but also his or her story of robbery and loss, of persecution and often death, and post-war attempts to recover what was stolen. The lives and work of a limited number of these collectors have been the focus of monographs, academic research projects, museum exhibitions, media articles, and sometimes restitution proceedings. The project [Documentation of Persecuted Jewish Collectors](#) goes beyond this small number of well-documented and perhaps known Jewish collectors by highlighting lesser known and entirely forgotten collectors.

Support by the [Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany](#) (Claims Conference) for research and development of the list is gratefully acknowledged, as is additional support by the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media (BKM).

Funded by: