
NEWS RELEASE

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LATVIAN-CANADIANS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR RETURN OF PROPERTIES CONFISCATED UNDER SOVIET RULE

External Affairs and International Trade Canada announced today that the Republic of Latvia has passed legislation that allows Canadians of Latvian origin to apply for the return of properties confiscated for political reasons while Latvia was under the control of the former Soviet Union.

Where restitution is impossible or impracticable, owners will be compensated for the losses suffered. While the form or extent of such compensation have not yet been determined, compensation in the form of state securities is likely.

Claims may be filed by the owners of confiscated properties or their legal heirs, regardless of the claimant's current citizenship status. The deadline for applications is July 20, 1992. In order to ensure that an application meets the deadline, a preliminary copy may be filed with the Office of the Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Latvia or with any lawyer in Latvia.

Claimants must provide proof of ownership or, where the property belonged to a deceased relative, proof of inheritance or of their relationship to the previous owner. Claims must be filed with the council of the district in which the property is located.

Affaires extérieures et
Commerce extérieur Canada

External Affairs and
International Trade Canada

Canada