



COMMISSIE Individuele
TEGEMOETKOMING Slachtoffers
WOII Transporten NS

- Press release -

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Committee advises NS on target group and amount of individual moral gestures

The Committee Individual Gesture Victims Second World War Transportation NS offered its advice to NS on Wednesday 26 June 2019. The advice focuses on how a moral gesture for survivors and direct next of kin of the NS transportation during the Second World War can be shaped. Job Cohen is President of the Committee, which also consists of Lillian Gonçalves - Ho Kang You and Ellen van der Waerden. Eva van Ingen is secretary of the Committee.

Giving advice about a scheme that fulfills the intentions of NS and can also be accepted as "appropriate and reasonable" by those involved was an extremely difficult task. Job Cohen worded it thus: "a reasonable or appropriate amount of money that can compensate for anything that has been done to the people involved cannot be mentioned. Therefore, there can be no "compensation". It is a payment that must be seen as a moral gesture. "

Beneficiaries

The Committee recommends opening up the scheme to all living persons from the Jewish Community and the Roma and Sinti community, who were during the Second World War by order of the occupier transported by NS to Westerbork, Vught or Amersfoort for the purpose of transporting them to concentration or extermination camps outside the national borders, or from other locations in the Netherlands being transported directly to concentration and extermination camps outside the Netherlands, this with aim of exterminating them as a population group. They are the direct beneficiaries.

Amount of the moral gestures

The Committee advises, based on research into other schemes, to set the gesture at €15,000 for direct beneficiaries . If this person died during or after the war, the Committee recommends making a moral gesture for immediate relatives available. This applies to widows and widowers and, when they are no longer alive, to the children of the person concerned together. The amounts here are €7,500 and € 5,000. The scheme is based on the situation as it was on 27 November 2018. This is the date on which NS and Salo Muller agreed that this scheme should be introduced. The full advice and substantiation can be found on www.commissietegemoetkomingns.nl. The aim is to ensure that the scheme comes into effect on 1 August 2019.

Historical research

In addition to these individual arrangements, the Committee advises to have in-depth historical research into the role of NS during the Second World War, with the perspective focused on 'transportation' during the war. This with a view to deepening the historical insight and the reflection on their own actions during the years of war, in order to do justice to the feelings of other victims of transportation on behalf of the occupier, who are not eligible for the individual moral gesture of this scheme.

In addition to this investigation, the Committee advises NS to consider, in consultation with the groups involved, another collective expression of recognition for the group of prisoners transported that fall outside the scope of this regulation.

This text is a translation of the Dutch original. In case of any discrepancies, the Dutch text is leading.

Not for publication: for more information on the advice of the Committee you are requested to contact Ms Linda Verkerk: 0622728077 / communicatie@commissietegemoetkomingns.nl