

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

ROBERT SINGER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

April 6, 2016

The Honorable John Cornyn,
The Honorable Chuck Schumer
The Honorable Ted Cruz
The Honorable Richard Blumenthal

Dear Senators,

I am writing to you in the name of the World Jewish Congress, the international organization representing Jewish communities in 100 countries to governments, parliaments and international organizations, in strong support of the "Holocaust Expropriated Art Recovery Act of 2016."

It may seem hard to believe that we are writing to you in 2016 about World War II, but 71 years after the end of the War, there is still one last outstanding piece of unfinished business. Many of the pieces of art that were stolen by the Nazis from Jews in the 1930s and 40s remain unresolved. For seven decades, governments, museums and dealers have found one excuse after another to keep stolen art from the rightful owners.

This overdue legislation will help to ensure that the victims of Nazi-confiscated art theft, when the art is found in the United States, will have their claims considered on the merits.

We believe your efforts will ensure that justice is afforded to Holocaust victims of Nazi art theft. We firmly believe the moral principles upon which our system of justice is based, requires that these victims be afforded the opportunity to press their cases on the merits.

We commend and applaud your leadership. We fully support this legislation and urge its prompt enactment.

Sincerely,

