

Country Name: **BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA**

Looted Judaica and Judaica with Provenance Gaps in Country		Yes
Existing Projects	N/A	
Overview	Looted Cultural Property Databases	N/A
	Publications	<p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) http://www.zemaljskimuzej.ba/o_nama/biblioteka.php, last accessed on 20 January 2009. (2) Email exchange with Jakob Finci, then President, Jewish Community of Bosnia and Herzegovina (3/2009) (3) Cerkez, Aida. "Sarajevo Haggadah: Bosnia's Prized Jewish Manuscript Won't Show in NYC." <i>Huffington Post</i>, 6 February 2013. (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/02/06/sarajevo-haggadah-bosnia-prized-jewish-manuscript-wont-show-in-nyc_n_2632809.html) (4) "The Sarajevo Haggadah", http://www.haggadah.ba/, last accessed on April 2015. <p>The Library of the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina holds ancient Jewish books, including a Haggadah. The provenance of these items is unclear. The National Museum also holds the famous Sarajevo Haggadah which was sold to the Museum in 1894. The Haggadah was taken out of Sarajevo during the Holocaust and five decades later, during the siege of Sarajevo, was stored for safekeeping in an underground bank vault. The manuscript is believed to be \$7 million worth.</p> <p>In November 2012, the Metropolitan Museum offered to host the Haggadah for three years, but the United States' Commission for the Preservation of National Monuments intervened by conditioning the trip to New York with Bosnia solving the legal status of the museum.</p> <p>Due to a lack of funding, the museum shut down in October 2013. Despite the Museum's closure, the Haggadah remains in Bosnia.</p>
	Information from Other Sources	<p><u>Source:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Email exchange with Jakob Finci, then President, Jewish Community of Bosnia and Herzegovina, March 2009. (2) http://muzejsarajeva.ba/, last accessed 22 April 2015. <p>In the 1950's, a few Judaica pieces owned by the Jewish Community or individuals were transferred to Belgrade for the soon-to-be established Jewish Museum.</p> <p>The Jewish Museum located in Sarajevo, which was established in 1965, does not own any valuable Judaica objects. Its collection consists mainly of "third class Judaica" displayed for the purpose of illustrating what a Torah, etc. looks like.</p> <p>The famous "Pinchas of Sarajevo's Jewish Community" was looted by the Nazis and subsequently disappeared. According to Mr. Finci, these documents might be held in Russian archives.</p>

	Historical Commission	<p>“Plunder and Restitution. Findings and Recommendations of the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States and Staff Report” (December 2000, Appendix D, p 54)</p> <p>The report notes that preliminary research into wartime activities was begun.</p>
Selected Bibliography	→ Please note that the general literature may also contain information on the specific country.	
Notes		