

Country Name: ESTONIA

<b>Looted Judaica and Judaica with Provenance Gaps in Country</b>	
<b>Existing Projects</b>	N/A
<b>Overview</b>	<b>Looted Cultural Property Databases</b> No
	<p><b>Publications</b></p> <p><u>Source:</u>            (1) <a href="http://eja.pri.ee/">http://eja.pri.ee/</a>, last accessed, 24 April 2015            (2) Email exchange with Mark Rybak, creator of the Jewish Museum Estonia, on November 17, 2015.</p> <p>The museum holds several objects from pre-war Tartu synagogues which were transferred from the Estonian National Museum. Some of these objects were saved immediately after the Nazi occupation and deposited into museums and libraries for safe keeping (the synagogue itself was destroyed). Other items currently in the museum came from a pre-war Tartu University organization and were transferred to the Jewish Museum from the Tartu City Museum.</p> <p><i>Book Collection of Julius Genss</i></p> <p><u>Source:</u>            (1) <a href="http://restaurator-muenchen.com/">http://restaurator-muenchen.com/</a>, last accessed February 2016.            (2) <a href="http://eja.pri.ee/Culture/Julius%20Genss_en.html">http://eja.pri.ee/Culture/Julius%20Genss_en.html</a>, last accessed November 2015.            (3) Email exchange with Julia Gens, granddaughter of Julius Genss, in November 2015 – January 2016.</p> <p>Julius (Idel) Gens (Genss), born in 1887, Jurjev, now Tartu, Estonia, and died in 1957, Tallinn, Estonia was an art critic, bibliophil, bibliographer. By 1941 he had collected one of the more significant libraries of art and illustrated books (an estimated 20,000 volumes). His collection included more than 5,000 prints and several thousand ex-libris. During the war, his library and collection of prints was confiscated by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (ERR) and taken to Germany. However, the collection ended up as “a war trophy” in the former USSR and part of it was eventually passed on to the Science Academy library in Belorussia, with some 780 volumes thought to be Estonia today.</p>
	<b>Information from Other Sources</b>
	<p><b>Historical Commission</b></p> <p>(1) <a href="http://www.historycommission.ee/temp/conclusions.htm">http://www.historycommission.ee/temp/conclusions.htm</a>, last accessed June 2014.</p> <p>In 1998 the International Commission for the Investigation of Crimes Against Humanity was established. In 2001, the Commission released its final report, which was divided into two parts: (1) The Soviet Occupation of Estonia 1940-1941, and (2) The German Occupation of Estonia, 1941 - 1944.</p>
<b>Selected Bibliography</b>	→ Please note that the general literature may also contain information on the specific country.
<b>Notes</b>	Some items brought to the USSR by the Soviet Trophy Brigades were reportedly distributed to Estonia. It is not known whether there were items of Judaica among them.