

Country Name: SLOVAKIA

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| Looted Judaica and Judaica with Provenance Gaps in Country | | Yes |
| Existing Projects | <p>Yes.</p> <p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) http://www.synagogue.sk/, last accessed on 5 March 2014. (2) Email exchange with Mr. Maros Borsky, Director, Jewish Community Museum, March 2014. (3) Borský, Maroš. "Inside the Museum: When Orthodox synagogue meets museum: the New Jewish Community Museum in Bratislava." <i>East European Jewish Affairs</i>, 2015, Vol. 45, Nos. 2–3, 261–26. <p>The Jewish Community Museum, which holds the Judaica collection of Bratislava's Jewish Community (opened in 2012) ran a special exhibition entitled "Shadows of the Past." The exhibition presented works of European art that were looted from Bratislava's Jewish community by the Slovak state and during World War II. After 1948, by the time the Slovak National Gallery was established, these objects were transferred to the Gallery's collection.</p> | |
| Overview | Looted Cultural Property Databases | <p><u>Source:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) www.slovak-jewish-heritage.org, last accessed June 2014. <p>The project Synagoga Slovaca, which documents synagogues in Slovakia and their present use, was launched in summer 2001 as a joint-project of three Slovak institutions: the Institute of Jewish Studies, Comenius University, the Slovak National Museum – Museum of Jewish Culture and the Faculty of Architecture, Slovak Technical University. (see http://www.slovak-jewish-heritage.org/documentation-project.php for more information)</p> <p><u>Source:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Email exchange with Mr. Maros Borsky, Director, Jewish Community Museum, March 2014. <p>The Jewish Community Museum conducted a Judaica project which catalogued most Judaica collections throughout Slovakia, with the exception only of the Presov Jewish Community. The project was completed in December 2013.</p> |
| | Publications | |
| | Information from Other Sources | <p>At the urging of the Claims Conference/WJRO, the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic has published on its website the results of the activities of 1999 that were related with the Ministry's effort to create a database of works of art seized from the property of Jewish citizens during the Holocaust, or objects of art seized from the Slovak Republic during and after the 2nd World War. In 2007, the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic readdressed all of the Slovak museums and galleries, requesting the revision of art collections in terms of their acquisition and the provision of information on specific objects in such collections that were originally owned by Jewish citizens who were deported during the 2nd World War. Based on the request, the ministry received replies from 57 museums (out of 86 addressed) and 11 galleries (out of 25 addressed). The replies from the addressed organisations were, however, negative, i.e. according to the available documentation and records on their acquisition, none of the registered objects in such collections were identified as objects originating from the property of Jewish citizens who were deported from the Slovak Republic during the 2nd World War. Information on the results of the research was published on the website of the</p> |

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| | | Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic. |
| | Historical Commission | Slovakian Holocaust Commission. |
| Selected Bibliography | <p>→ Please note that the general literature may also contain information on the specific country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Borsky, Maroš and Jana Švanterova. <i>Židia v Bratislave a ich kultúrne dedičstvo</i>. (The Jews in Bratislava and their cultural heritage). Katalóg stálej expozície Židovského komunitného múzea. Bratislava, 2012. ▪ Borský, Maroš. "Inside the Museum: When Orthodox synagogue meets museum: the New Jewish Community Museum in Bratislava." <i>East European Jewish Affairs</i>, 2015, Vol. 45, Nos. 2–3, 261–26. | |
| Notes | <p>Small museums throughout Slovakia hold Judaica, sometimes in good condition but sometimes not. Dr. Maros Borsky, the Executive Director of the Slovak Jewish Heritage Center in Bratislava, reported that some endangered Judaica objects are actually held by small Jewish communities that neither have the training nor the money to appropriately handle Judaica (including valuable objects). In addition, most community members are above 80 and with their passing, these objects are likely to disappear. The objects are de facto the property of the UZZNO (Union of Jewish Communities in Slovakia).</p> | |