

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Office for Victims of Crime



DIRECTORY OF INTERNATIONAL
CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAMS

2004-2005

Compiled by the Office for Victims of Crime,
U.S. Department of Justice, in coordination with the
Office of Overseas Citizens Services, U.S. Department of State

Office for Victims of Crime
OVC
"Putting Victims First"



**DIRECTORY OF INTERNATIONAL
CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAMS
2004-2005**

September 2005



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Dear Colleague

It is our pleasure to present the 2004–2005 update of the *International Crime Victim Compensation Program Directory* (now called the *Directory of International Crime Victim Compensation Programs*), which for the first time has been created collaboratively between the U.S. Departments of Justice and State. In preparing the directory, staff from the Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) discovered that more countries with compensation programs are establishing an online presence to publicize their programs and to provide guidance on applying for benefits. These Web sites revealed new programs and provided a wealth of additional details on existing ones. The material for this directory was gathered by consular officers and foreign service nationals working in U.S. embassies and consulates around the world, and was compiled and edited by the Department of State, Office of Overseas Citizens Services. It identifies 35 countries and Taiwan that have compensation programs—8 of which were not in the previous edition. The new entries are Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, New Zealand, Slovakia, Republic of Korea, Taiwan, and Trinidad and Tobago (where a program has been authorized, but not funded).

Crime victim compensation programs have become a significant resource to victims of violent crime and their families as they recover from the devastating impact of crime. The programs provide desperately needed financial assistance that helps victims pay for some crime-related costs such as medical treatment, mental health counseling, lost wages, and funeral and burial expenses. International crime victim compensation programs are not a panacea because they rarely cover all of the victim's loss. But U.S. state compensation programs, working in conjunction with foreign programs, can create effective partnerships that better address the needs of American citizens who are victimized overseas.

OVC supports a wide range of activities on behalf of crime victims, including victim compensation and assistance services, demonstration programs, training and technical assistance, program evaluation and replication, and programs to assist victims of terrorism and mass violence. The Department of State, Office of Overseas Citizens Services uses consular information documents to disseminate an array of information about foreign countries, including threats of terrorism and other information relating to the safety and well-being of overseas citizens. The United States has embassies in almost every country in the world, and where there is no diplomatic representation, these consular information documents advise American citizens on how to seek assistance. Any U.S. citizen who becomes a victim of a serious crime should contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. Contact information may be found online at <http://travel.state.gov>.

We have provided as much up-to-date information as possible. OVC welcomes new additions and corrections. To suggest an addition or change, please complete the electronic Information Update Form at the end of the directory and mail or fax it to OVC. Additional copies of the directory (NCJ 206874) are available by contacting the OVC Resource Center. As always, thank you for your excellent work on behalf of crime victims.

John W. Gillis

Director
Office for Victims of Crime
U.S. Department of Justice

Maura Harty

Assistant Secretary of State
for Consular Affairs
U.S. Department of State

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The State Department's draft was supplemented with additional material obtained through reviews of relevant literature and compiled by Greg Morris of OVC. OVC also recognizes the work of Debra Christenberry, Theodosia Craig, Barbara Johnson, and Brad Mitchell, all of OVC, for their input and editorial direction. Finally, OVC gratefully acknowledges the guidance and support provided by Carolyn Hightower, Principal Deputy Director of OVC.



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Directory of International Crime Victim Compensation Programs

Compensation

Programs



Australia

In Australia, compensation programs for victims of violent crime are state- or territory-based. Each of Australia's six states and one territory administers its own program in accordance with its own statutes. This overview provides information generally applicable to each program within the country. For information on a specific program, contact the program directly. Contact information for each program is provided below.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes; some exceptions may be made for cause.

Filing period. Time limits vary across programs; 2 to 3 years from the date of the crime is typical.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation in the state or territory where the crime occurred.

Claimants

- Victims of violent crime
- Dependents of homicide victims
- Family members of victims of violent crime (limited to specific programs)

Procedures

Application forms are available from each program. Victims of crimes that occurred in Tasmania should contact the victim assistance unit for help in completing the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) clearance form if necessary.

Benefits and Award Limits

The programs provide some compensation according to a schedule of injuries that specifies the compensation amount for a particular injury. Most states can pay a maximum combined award between \$A15,000 and \$A60,000. The maximum compensation paid in Western Australia is between \$A15,000 and \$A50,000 depending on the date of the offense.

Compensable costs. These vary by program, but may include—

- Medical expenses
- Mental health counseling
- Lost wages
- Funeral expenses

Australia (continued)

- Travel expenses
- Loss of enjoyment of life
- Incidental costs

Emergency awards. Some programs provide emergency awards or expedite processing for victims faced with extraordinary financial hardship.

Funding sources. Compensation programs in Australia are funded with consolidated revenue.

Contact Information (by State and Territory)

New South Wales

The Victims of Crime Bureau, Level 6,
299 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW 2000

Telephone: 61-2-9374-3005, 1-800-633-063

Telephone callers needing speech or communication assistance: 13-36-77, 1-800-555-677

Fax: 61-2-9374-3020

Internet: www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/voc

Languages used (translation service available)—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Northern Territory

Attorney General's Office, Compensation Program,
P.O. Box 1722, Darwin, NT 0810

Telephone: 61-8-8999-6047

Fax: 61-8-8999-6347

Internet: www.justice.nt.gov.au

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Queensland

Criminal Compensation Area, Department of Justice, GPO Box 149, Brisbane, QLD 4001

Telephone: 61-7-3239-6546

Fax: 61-7-3239-6557

Internet: www.justice.qld.gov.au

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

South Australia

Attorney General's Office, Compensation Program,
GPO Box 464, Adelaide, SA 5000

Telephone: 61-8-8207-1687

Fax: 61-8-8207-2500

Internet: www.cso.sa.gov.au

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Tasmania

Victims Assistance Unit, Ground Floor,
Superannuation Management Fund (SMF)
House, 169 Liverpool Street, Hobart, TAS 7001

Telephone: 61-3-6233-5002

Fax: 61-3-6233-5031

Internet: www.justice.tas.gov.au

Australia (continued)

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Victoria

Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal, Level 2,
233 William Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000

Telephone: 61-3-9628-7855 or 1-800-882-752
(toll-free)

Fax: 61-3-9628-7853

Internet: www.magistratescourt.vic.gov.au

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Western Australia

Victims of Crime Unit, Western Australia Police
Service, 8 Burton Street, Cannington, WA 6107

Telephone: 61-8-9356-0555

Fax: 61-8-9356-0506

Internet: www.police.wa.gov.au

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

The Australian Capital Territory does not have a
victim compensation program.





Austria

Austria has a government program that provides financial assistance for nationals of the European Economic Area (EEA) who are victims of crime. In addition, the Weisser Ring, an independent nonprofit organization, provides assistance and compensation to victims of crime, including foreign citizens. The government program is described below, followed by information about the Weisser Ring.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Victims should report crimes to the relevant Austrian social services office (Bundessozialamt).

Filing period. An application must be filed within 2 years. Note: There is a 6-month deadline in cases involving ongoing payments such as lost wages, maintenance, blindness, and assisted living allowances.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Nationals of EEA, which includes the European Union (EU) countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway, are eligible to apply for financial assistance under the Austrian Crime Victims Law (Verbrechensopfergesetz).

Claimants

- Victims of serious crimes who have suffered physical or mental injuries that have resulted in medical expenses or a reduced capacity to work. Serious crimes are premeditated crimes with sentences of more than 6 months of imprisonment.
- Dependents of homicide victims (Austrian or EEA nationals) are eligible for compensation if the victim was legally required to pay maintenance.

Procedures

The program is administered/implemented by the Austrian social services offices (Bundessozialämter). The Ministry for Social Affairs acts as a technical supervisory body (Bundesministerium für Sozial Sicherheit und Generationen). Applications must be obtained and submitted to the relevant Austrian social services office (Bundessozialamt). The claimant will receive notification after an average of 2 to 9 months, but there may be a waiting period of more than 12 months in special cases.

Benefits and Award Limits

Maximum award limits exist for lost wages, lost support, funeral costs, blindness, and assisted living allowances (approximately EUR2,000).

Compensable costs

- Lost wages
- Medical and mental health expenses

Austria (continued)

- Orthopedic expenses
- Rehabilitation expenses (medical, professional, and social)

Special allowances in cases of disabilities.

Loss of eyesight, need for daily care, and nursing. Assistance for the family of the victim.

Emergency awards. There are no emergency awards, but assistance may be available prior to an offender's conviction. Money also may be advanced.

Funding sources. The program is funded through fines imposed on convicted offenders and from other sources.

Contact Information (Bundessozialämter (Social Services Offices))

Wien, Niederösterreich und Burgenland
Babenbergerstraße 5, 1010 Wien

Telephone: 01/588 31

Fax: 01/5862016

E-mail: bundessozialamt.wnbl@basb.gv.at

Kärnten Kumpfgasse 23-25, 9010 Klagenfurt

Telephone: 0463/5864

Fax: 0463/5864/888

E-mail: bundessozialamt.ktn@basb.gv.at

Oberösterreich Gruberstraße 64, 4010 Linz

Telephone: 0732/76040

Fax: 0732/7604-471

E-mail: bundessozialamt.ooel@basb.gv.at

Salzburg Auerspergstraße 67a, 5027 Salzburg

Telephone: 0662/88983

Fax: 0662/88983/988

E-mail: bundessozialamt.sbg1@basb.gv.at

Steiermark Babenbergerstraße 35, 8021 Graz

Telephone: 0316/7090

Fax: 0316/7090 501

E-mail: bundessozialamt.stmk1@basb.gv.at

Tirol Herzog Friedrich-Straße 3, 6010 Innsbruck

Telephone: 0512/563101

Fax: 0512/582609

E-mail: bundessozialamt.tirol1@basb.gv.at

Vorarlberg Rheinstraße 32, 6901 Bregenz

Telephone: 05574/6838

Fax: 05574/6838-5

E-mail: bundessozialamt.vlbg@basb.gv.at

Languages used—

- On application forms: German, English
- In correspondence: German, English
- By telephone: German, English

The Weisser Ring

The Weisser Ring is an independent nonprofit organization that provides assistance and compensation to victims of crime throughout Austria, including foreign citizens.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, within a specific time limit.

Filing period. Approximately 12 months from the month in which the crime occurred.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries may apply for restitution (e.g., loans and grants) through the Weisser Ring, which can provide services such as counseling and assistance with the criminal justice process. For a list of other nonprofit organizations, *Weitere Hilfsorganisationen*, see www.weisser-ring.at/index3.htm.

Claimants. Victims of any crime are eligible. Victims of traffic accidents may receive compensation from another source, *Kuratorium für Verkehrssicherheit* (www.kfv.at), *Rotes Dreieck* (www.rotesdreieck.at).

Austria (continued)

Procedures

The applicant files a claim with the Weisser Ring, either in writing or in person. In lieu of an official application form, applicants may submit an informal written statement. It is required that the applicant provide personal data (name, telephone number, address, date of birth, marital status, and number of children), details of the crime (including the case number of the police report), as well as information on income. If available, applicants should submit a copy of the court decision and other relevant legal material. Claims are means-tested and subject to special authorization by a review board.

Benefits and Award Limits

There is no official maximum award limit. Compensation is awarded on a case-by-case basis depending on the severity of the damage and the person's income. Authorization by a panel of three to six board members is mandatory.

Compensable costs. Victims may be compensated for all kinds of expenses, but there is no legal entitlement to compensation. Financial compensation may be granted on a case-by-case basis and is subject to a means test and special authorization.

Emergency awards. Emergency compensation awards are granted in cases of special emergency.

Funding sources. The program is funded through membership fees and sponsorship. Government funding is assigned for special purposes such as legal aid and administration.

Contact Information

The Weisser Ring, Marokkanergasse 3/2, 1030 Vienna, Austria

Telephone: (43) (1) 712-14-05 or
07114/200155 (within Austria only)

Fax: (43) (1) 718-83-74

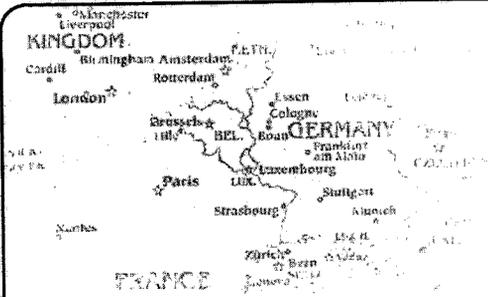
E-mail: weisser-ring.Austria@aon.at

Internet: www.weisser-ring.at (in German)

Languages used—

- On application forms: There is no application form
- In correspondence: German, English
- By telephone: German





Belgium

Belgium has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial assistance for victims of criminal violence.

Eligibility Requirements

Police report. Yes.

Filing period. A claim for financial assistance must be submitted within 3 years of a final court ruling. In the absence of a ruling, claims must be filed within 3 years of the case having been closed by Belgian investigative authorities. A victim needing additional assistance (aide complémentaire/aanvullende hulp) may apply within 10 years after the initial financial aid has been paid.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Foreign nationals are eligible to apply for compensation if they were lawfully present in Belgium at the time of the crime (e.g., legal visitors).

Victims of trafficking in human beings. These individuals are eligible under certain circumstances (effective January 1, 2004).

Claimants

- Victims who suffer serious injuries due to criminal violence. Injuries that result from offenses committed through carelessness or neglect, or offenses committed against property, are purposely excluded from the program.
- Family members (may only apply in the case of death)
- Parents of victims who are underage and need medical care for a long period of time (effective January 1, 2004)
- Relatives of a person who has been missing for more than 1 year, with the disappearance likely having been the result of a crime (effective January 1, 2004)

Procedures

Application forms are available from the Commission pour l'aide aux victimes d'actes intentionnels de violence (the Commission). Victims must file a police report as well as a claim with the Commission. Applicants can obtain assistance in filing their claim from the Ministry of Justice's Service d'Accueil des Victimes (Victims' Assistance Office).

Benefits and Award Limits

Financial assistance is limited to damage claims exceeding EUR375. For claims filed after January 1, 2004, the minimum amount is EUR500. The maximum financial assistance that may be granted to a victim or his or her family member is EUR62,000.00.

Belgium (continued)

Legal expenses. Limited to EUR4.000,00 (effective January 1, 2004).

Material damages. Clothes, transportation expenses, etc., not to exceed EUR1.250,00.

Funeral expenses. Not to exceed EUR2.000,00.

Compensable costs

- Temporary or permanent disability
- Scars and disfigurements
- Physical or psychological suffering
- Medical and hospitalization expenses
- Lost wages
- Legal expenses (except for lawyers' fees) such as court expenses and expenses incurred by the court (including translation fees, photocopying of files or documents, autopsy and other expert fees, and process servers' fees)
- Material damages, such as clothes, transportation expenses, etc.
- Loss of 1 or more school years
- Temporary living support for family members of victims killed in criminal acts
- Funeral expenses

Emergency awards. Effective January 1, 2004, there is no limit on emergency assistance for emergency medical expenses. For other expenses, the maximum is EUR15.000,00.

Funding sources. The program is funded through fines imposed on convicted offenders.

Contact Information

Service Publique Federal Justice, Federal
Ovweheidsdienst Justice, Boulevard de Waterloo,
Waterloolaan 115, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Telephone: +32-2-542-65-11

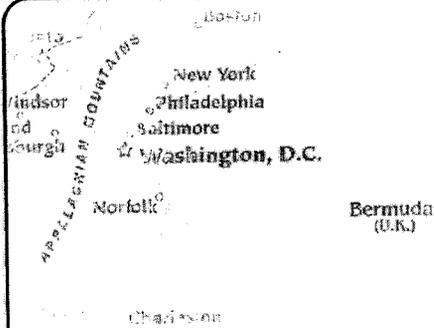
Fax: +32-2-542-72-40

E-mail: info@just.fgov.be

Internet: <http://just.fgov.be>

Languages used—

- On application forms: Dutch, French, German
- In correspondence: Dutch, French, German
- By telephone: Dutch, French, German



Bermuda

Bermuda has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, as soon as possible.

Filing period. Within 1 year of injury or death. Exceptions may be made.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crime
- The spouse and biological children of a deceased victim

Procedures

Claimants must obtain an application form and file it with the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. The claimant will receive notification of the program's decision between 2 weeks and 6 months. Compensation is received between 2 and 3 weeks after the application has been approved. This decision can be appealed to an independent committee of three persons, appointed by the government.

Benefits and Award Limits

The maximum award is Ber\$70,000.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses
- Lost wages for disabled victims
- Lost support for dependents of deceased victims
- Funeral expenses
- Travel expenses
- Rehabilitation for disabled victims

Bermuda (continued)

- Services to replace work in the home previously performed by the victim
- Pain and suffering
- Loss of proceedings under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1973

Emergency awards. An interim award may be available if the applicant is in actual financial need and it appears that the board will award compensation.

Funding sources. The program is funded through tax revenue.

Contact Information

Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, c/o The Supreme Court, 113 Front Street, Hamilton HM12, Bermuda

Telephone: (441) 292-1350

Fax: (441) 292-2268

Internet: None

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Canada

In Canada, financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crimes is administered by the provinces, according to their own rules and standards. This overview provides information generally applicable to all provincial programs; however, some programs may offer more services and benefits than those listed here. For information concerning specific provincial programs, contact information for each is provided below.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Generally within 1 year (2 years for some provinces), but exceptions are made.

Filing period. Generally within 1 year from the date of the crime (2 years for some provinces), but exceptions are made.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crimes
- Dependents of homicide victims

Procedures

A claimant may obtain an application by contacting the program within the province where the crime occurred. The application should be sent directly to the program office. Decisions are generally made between 1 and 5 years after an application is made. Once a decision is made, compensation will be paid to the claimant in approximately 4 weeks.

Benefits and Award Limits

The maximum award benefits range between Can\$5,000 and Can\$25,000.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses
- Lost wages for incapacitated or disabled victims
- Lost support for dependents of victims
- Funeral expenses
- Rehabilitation for disabled victims
- Services to replace work in the home previously performed by the victim

Canada (continued)

Emergency awards. Expedited compensation is offered for aged or terminally ill victims.

Funding sources. Each of the provincial programs is funded through either consolidated revenue of the province, surcharge revenue, general tax revenue, or a combination of these.

Contact Information (by Province and Territory)

Alberta

Alberta does not offer victim compensation, but financial benefits and assistance for victims are available.

Alberta Solicitor General Victims Programs, 10th Floor, J.E. Brownlee Building 10365-97, St. Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3W7

Telephone: 780-427-3460 or 780-427-7217

Fax: 780-422-4213

Internet: www4.gov.ab.ca/just/victims/index.html

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

British Columbia

The Crime Victim Assistance Program, Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5550 Stn. Terminal, Vancouver, BC V6B 1H1

Street Address: None provided

Telephone: 604-660-3888 or 1-866-660-3888 (within BC)

Fax: 604-244-6480

Internet: www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/victim_services

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Manitoba

Manitoba Compensation for Victims of Crime Program, 202-379 Broadway, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0T9

Telephone: 204-945-0899 or 1-800-262-9344 (toll-free in Manitoba)

Fax: 204-948-3071

Internet: www.gov.mb.ca/justice/victims

Languages used—

- On application forms: English, French
- In correspondence: English, French
- By telephone: English, French

New Brunswick

Victim Services Program, Department of Solicitor General, 4th floor, Barker House, 570 Queen Street, P.O. Box 6000, Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1

Telephone: 506-453-3992

Fax: 506-453-7481

Internet: www.gnb.ca/0276/corrections/vicser_e.asp

Languages used—

- On application forms: English, French
- In correspondence: English, French
- By telephone: English, French

Newfoundland

Newfoundland does not offer compensation, but victim assistance is available.

Canada (continued)

Victim Services (Provincial Office), 315 Duckworth Street, P.O. Box 8700, St. John's NL A1B 4J6

Telephone: 709-729-0900

Fax: 709-729-0053

Internet: www.gov.nl.ca/just/PUBLICPR/victimservices/victim_services.htm

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Northwest Territories

The Northwest Territories government does not offer compensation, but victim assistance is available.

Internet: www.justice.gov.nt.ca/VictimsServices/victimsservices.htm

Nova Scotia

Victim Services Unit, 5151 Terminal Road, P.O. Box 7, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2L6

Telephone: 902-424-8785

Fax: 902-424-0252

Internet: www.gov.ns.ca/just/PoIVS/victimservices.htm

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Ontario

Ontario Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, 439 University Avenue, 4th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1Y8

Telephone 416-326-2900 or 1-800-372-7463 (toll-free)

Internet: www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/about/vw/cicb.asp

Languages used—

- On application forms: English, French
- In correspondence: English, French
- By telephone: English, French

Prince Edward Island

Prince Edward Island does not offer compensation, but victim assistance is available.

Internet: www.gov.pe.ca/infopei

Québec

Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail. Direction l'indemnisation des victimes d'actes criminels, 1199 rue Bleury, P.O. Box 6056, Station Centreville, Succursale A, Montréal, Québec H3C 4E1

Telephone: 1-800-561-IVAC

Internet: www.justice.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/generale/rec-ress-a.htm

Languages used—

- On application forms: French, English
- In correspondence: French, English
- By telephone: French, English

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Justice Victims Services, 6th Floor, 1874 Scarth Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada S4P 3V7

Telephone: 306-787-3500

Fax: 306-787-0081

E-mail: victimservices@justice.gov.sk.ca

Internet: www.saskjustice.gov.sk.ca/victimsservices

Canada (continued)

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Yukon Territories

The Yukon Territories government does not offer compensation, but victim assistance is available.

Victim Services and Family Violence Prevention Unit, J-7, Department of Justice, Government of Yukon, 301 Jarvis Street, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

Telephone: 867-667-8500 or 1-800-661-0408
(within Yukon)

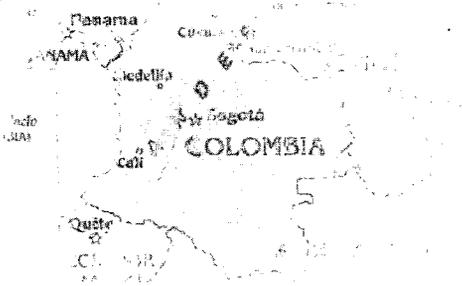
Fax: 867-393-6240

E-mail: information@gov.yk.ca

Internet: www.justice.gov.yk.ca/prog/cor/vs/index.html

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English



Colombia

Colombia operates a compensation program for civilian Colombian citizens who, as a result of any terrorist act, guerrilla attack, combat, or massacre, are personally injured or suffer economic or property losses. Colombia does not currently have a compensation program for victims of other violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, within 1 year of the incident.

Filing period. Within 1 year of the incident.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are not eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of a terrorist act, guerrilla attack, combat, or massacre
- Dependents of victims of a terrorist act, guerrilla attack, combat, or massacre

Procedures

To receive compensation, the victim must obtain a certification from a competent authority stating the reason the applicant believes she or he is a victim of terrorist violence. Application forms and assistance in applying are available from the nearest Territorial Unit of the Social Solidarity Network (Red de Solidaridad Social).

Benefits and Award Limits

Compensation is awarded on a case-specific basis.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Rehabilitation and transportation expenses
- Replacement or repair of lost or damaged property
- Funeral expenses
- Family housing allowance

Emergency awards. Emergency or expedited claims are handled on a case-by-case basis.

Funding sources. Information not available.

Colombia (continued)

Contact Information

Red de Solidaridad Social, Carrera 7, No. 6-54, Piso
2.4, Linea Gratuita 9800117733

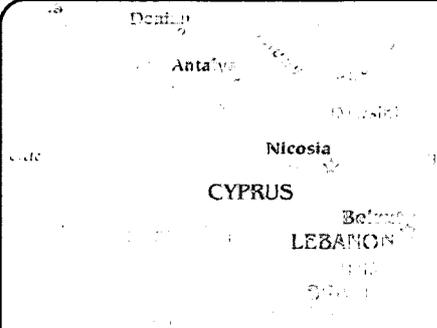
Telephone: 596-0800

Fax: None

Internet: None

Languages used—

- On application forms: Spanish
- In correspondence: Spanish
- By telephone: Spanish



Cyprus

Cyprus has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, within 5 days after the crime.

Filing period. As soon as possible, but must be filed within 2 years of the crime.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Nationals of the states party to the European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes are eligible. Nationals of all member states of the Council of Europe who are permanent residents in Cyprus are eligible. (A permanent resident is any citizen of a foreign country who has filed for residency in Cyprus through the Ministry of Interior.)

Claimants

- Victims of violent crime (i.e., any offense that is committed intentionally and contains the element of violence, and which is the direct cause of death, serious bodily injury, or impairment of health)
- Dependents of homicide victims, including a husband or wife, or a child under the age of 15 (child includes a stepchild, child born out of wedlock, and legally adopted child)
- A child, regardless of age, who is permanently incapable of supporting him- or herself

Procedures

Application forms are available from the Department of Social Insurance. The claimant must submit an application with the Director of Social Insurance. The claimant will receive notification of the decision as soon as it is reasonably possible for the Director of Social Insurance to establish eligibility in accordance with the provisions of the law and upon the review of police and medical reports.

Benefits and Award Limits

All compensation and benefits are covered by the Social Insurance Law on a case-by-case basis.

Compensable costs

- Public medical expenses (up to the amount of £1,000)
- Hospitalization expenses in public institutions
- Sickness benefits
- Invalidity and dependent's pension (widow's pension and orphan's benefit)

Cyprus (continued)

- Funeral grant (£303.00, effective January 2004)
- Disability pension
- Pension to dependents

Emergency awards. No emergency awards. Immediate expenses are covered under the Social Insurance Law.

Funding sources. General revenue of the Republic of Cyprus.

Contact Information

Department of Social Insurance, Ministry of Labor and Social Insurance, 7 Byron Avenue, 1465 Nicosia, Cyprus

Telephone: (357) (22) 401 882 (Principal Insurance Officer)

Fax: (357) (22) 672-984

E-mail: soc.ins.@cytanet.com.cy

Internet: None

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English



Czech Republic

The Czech Republic has a crime victim compensation program that provides financial compensation for victims of violent crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, without unwarranted delay.

Filing period. No later than 1 year following the date of the criminal act. Exceptions are made for good cause (e.g., in cases where the victim is not in a position to file because of severe medical reasons).

Foreign citizen eligibility. Foreign nationals are eligible to apply for compensation to the extent provided by a valid international agreement to which the Czech Republic is a party.

Claimants

- Victims of violent crime who suffer physical injury
- Survivors of victims

Procedures

Application forms are available from the Ministry of Justice or by e-mailing odsk@msp.justice.cz. The victim must submit an application to the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry of Justice shall dispense aid within 3 months following submission of the application and appropriate documentation.

Benefits and Award Limits

There is no maximum award limit.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Burial expenses
- Lost support
- Mental health counseling

Emergency awards. May be adjudicated at a flat rate of up to CZK25,000.

Funding sources. Funds originate from persons convicted of causing harm.

Czech Republic (continued)

Contact Information

Compensation Department, Czech Ministry of Justice, Na Dekance 3, Praha 2, Vysehradská 16, 128.10, Czech Republic

Telephone: 420-221 799 941

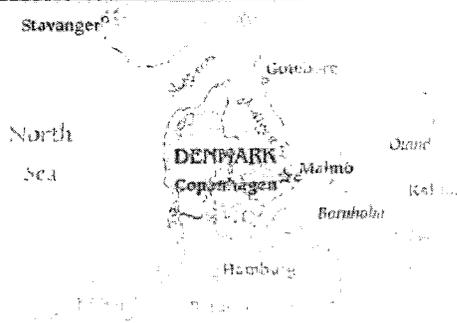
Fax: 420-221 799 967

E-mail: odsk@msp.justice.cz (Czech/English language available)

Internet: www.justice.cz (in Czech)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Czech
- In correspondence: Czech, English
- By telephone: Czech



Denmark

Denmark has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims who suffer serious criminal injuries.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, within 24 hours.

Filing period. Within 2 years of the crime; exceptions are made.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of crime who suffer serious criminal injuries
- Dependents of homicide victims
- Danish citizens victimized in a foreign country

Procedures

Application forms are available from the local police department where the victim reports the crime. Pursuant to Danish law, the police must inform the victim of his or her eligibility for filing a claim for compensation. The application form is submitted to the police department where the crime is reported. The police forward the application with the police report and any supporting documentation from the victim (i.e., a statement from the victim's employer clarifying loss of wages, medical bills, etc.) to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (Erstatningsnaevnet). If the offender is prosecuted, the victim has to state a claim for compensation during the trial (with assistance from the prosecution if necessary). Compensation cannot be paid until the offender has been found guilty of the crime; however, it is possible to gain compensation if the police determine that the offender is unknown or is unlikely to be found. The police will forward the application to the compensation board for consideration. The length of time it takes for the claimant to be notified of the program's decision depends on the case, but the earliest is 4 weeks. After a decision, it will take 14 days for a claimant to receive compensation.

Benefits and Award Limits

Compensation in Denmark is determined pursuant to Danish law on victim's compensation and liability for damages. The payable compensation amount is adjusted annually. There is no maximum award limit.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses

Denmark (continued)

- Disability
- Lost wages for disabled or incapacitated victims
- Lost support for dependents of victims
- Pain and suffering
- Death
- Funeral expenses
- Travel expenses
- Rehabilitation for disabled victims
- Replacement of personal effects and clothing worn by the victim at the time of the crime
- Attorneys' fees

Emergency awards. The program does not provide emergency compensation awards.

Funding sources. The program is funded by state appropriations.

Contact Information

Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (The Compensation Board), St. Kongensgade 1, DK-1264 Copenhagen K, Denmark

Telephone: 453-391-3500

Fax: 453-391-3540

E-mail: erstatningsnaevnet@erstatningsnaevnet.dk

Internet: www.erstatningsnaevnet.dk (in English or Danish)

Languages used—

- On application forms: English, Danish
- In correspondence: English, Danish
- By telephone: English, Danish



Estonia

Estonia has a crime victim compensation program for victims of severe crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes. Although there is no time limit on reporting a crime to the police, a court decree or a letter from the investigating organization is required.

Filing period. One year from the date the crime was committed or from the date of the victim's death; exceptions may be made.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Foreign nationals residing in Estonia on temporary or permanent residency permits and refugees staying in Estonia are eligible for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of violent crime who have suffered profound bodily injury (i.e., a health disorder that has lasted for at least 6 months)
- Dependents of homicide victims

Procedures

Application forms are available from the Pension Board of the Estonian Social Welfare Agency (www.ensib.ee/fram_seadusandlus.html). Applications should contain personal data on the victim, information regarding the crime and damage caused by the crime, and information about compensation received from other sources. The director of the pension board has 30 days after the documents have been submitted to decide whether to grant compensation to the victim. If an applicant disagrees with the decision, he or she has the right to appeal to the local administrative court within 30 days after receiving the copy of the decree regarding his or her case.

Benefits and Award Limits

Compensation is calculated as a percentage of expenditures (usually 50 percent of expenses related to lost wages, medical expenses, funeral expenses, and material losses), or a percentage of a deceased victim's income prior to the crime. The maximum amount of compensation is 50,000 Estonian kroons.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Funeral expenses
- Lost wages due to the inability to work
- Loss of support caused by the death of a victim

Estonia (continued)

- Cost of glasses, false teeth, contact lenses, other accessories, and clothes in cases in which the total sum of loss exceeds 50 percent of the person's income

Emergency awards. The director of the pension board has the authority to give a victim an advance payment if it is obvious that an applicant will be granted compensation and he or she is in a difficult situation. The maximum amount of the advance payment is 10,000 Estonian kroons.

Funding sources. Funded by government budget outlay and court fines assessed against criminals.

Contact Information

Liidia Siil (Room 203), Pension Board, Tallinn Office,
Pronksi 12, 10117 Tallinn, Estonia

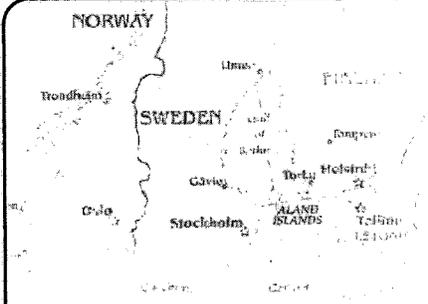
Telephone: (372) 697-5131

E-mail: Liidia.Siil@pronksi.ensib.ee

Internet: www.ensib.ee (in English at www.ensib.ee/toetused/kuriteoohvrid2002_eng.html)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Estonian
- In correspondence: Estonian
- By telephone: Estonian



Finland

Finland has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes; no time limit.

Filing period. Within 10 years of the date of the crime; exceptions are made.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crime
- Dependents of victims of crime
- Residents of Finland victimized in a foreign country

Procedures

A crime victim may obtain an application from the state treasury, the police, or the local offices of the Social Insurance Institution. Abroad, applications are normally available at embassies and consulates of Finland. The application should be sent either directly to the state treasury or to any local office of the Social Insurance Institution. The following should be appended to the application: a copy of the court decision or a copy of the pretrial investigation report of the police if the offender has not been ascertained or if the matter has not been handled by the court for another reason, and the amount of all damages sought. If the matter is handled in court, the victim shall claim compensation from the offender. It will take 6 months, on average, for a victim to receive notification of the program's decision. Compensation is paid immediately after the decision is made.

Benefits and Award Limits

The maximum awards are personal injury, EUR51,000; property damage, EUR25,500; and person close to the deceased, EUR3,700.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Pain and suffering
- Lost wages for invalidity or other permanent handicaps, as well as permanent cosmetic damage
- Lost support for dependents of homicide victims

Finland (continued)

- Reasonable funeral expenses
- Any clothing or articles for daily use, such as eye glasses and dental plates, damaged by the crime
- Litigation expenses to recover compensation from the offender
- Transportation costs to and from the hospital

Emergency awards. The program does not offer emergency compensation. However, the Act on Compensation for Crime Damage obliges the state treasury to pay advance compensation where the applicant's right to compensation is evident and the decision is delayed.

Funding sources. The program is funded by the state.

Contact Information

Valtiokonttori/Victim Compensation Program,
P.O. Box 68, 00531 Helsinki, Finland

Telephone: 358-9-772 5736

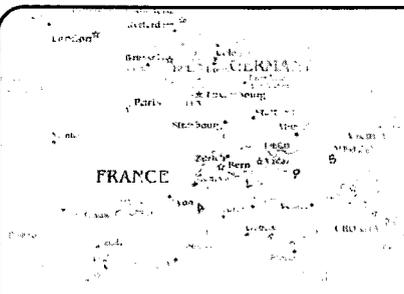
Fax: 358-9-772 58 556

E-mail: www.valtiokonttori.fi

Internet: www.valtiokonttori.fi (in Finnish and English)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Finnish, English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English



France

France has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime as well as a program for victims of terrorist acts.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, the victim must file a formal complaint in person with the police. The complaint must be filed within 3 years for misdemeanors and within 10 years for other crimes. If the victim is a minor, the 10 years begin accruing when he or she reaches 18 years of age.

Filing period. Within 3 years after the crime, 1 year after the last court decision, or 10 years after a terrorist act. Late filing is possible, but it must be approved by a panel of judges. One must file a claim for compensation within 3 years from the date of the crime; this date can be extended for another year after the last court decision.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries who were legally admitted into France are eligible to apply for compensation. (This includes U.S. citizens without visas who have entered France as tourists for less than 3 months.)

Victims of terrorist acts. Full compensation is payable for personal injury or death caused by an act of terrorism that occurs either on French soil or, solely in the case of French nationals, outside of France.

Claimants

- Victims of violent and personal crime
- Dependents of victims of violent and personal crime
- Victims of terrorist acts
- French nationals who are victimized in a foreign country

Procedures

A state fund, the Fonds de Garantie, was established for victims to ensure remuneration for victims of serious crimes, especially in cases involving homicide, serious injuries, and sexual violence. A victim may claim financial damages through the Crime Victim Compensation Commission, Commission d'Indemnisation des Victimes d'Infractions (CIVI). Application forms are available online at www.fgti.fr. A CIVI office is available at each court (Tribunal de Grande Instance). Appointed Commissions d'Indemnisation des Victimes d'Infractions determine the damages and the amount of compensation. Nongovernmental organizations, S.O.S. Attentats, and L'Institut National d'Aide aux Victimes et de Médiation (INAVEM) can help claimants complete application forms. Victims of personal crimes may also file a claim for civil damages by attaching a civil complaint (partie civile) to the criminal prosecution. This can be at any time throughout the trial.

France (continued)

Benefits and Award Limits

There are no limits on compensation for personal injury, serious crimes, or minor offenses, but compensation is limited to injuries resulting from the crime. The maximum amount for destruction of goods is EUR3,811. The maximum amount for property offenses is EUR3,656.

Compensable costs

- Medical and mental health expenses (including dental care)
- Lost wages (if out of work more than 1 month)
- Loss of support
- Funeral expenses
- Pain and suffering
- Disfigurement
- Loss of clothing, eyeglasses, and so forth
- Physical therapy
- Vocational rehabilitation
- Rehabilitation for disabled victims
- Services to replace work in the home that was previously performed by the victim
- Travel to and from France for the legal process

Emergency awards. The victim is eligible to receive an advance award in a minimum of 2 days to 1 month.

Funding sources. The program is funded by tax revenue.

Contact Information

Fonds de Garantie, Commissions d'Indemnisation des Victimes (CIVI). There are many CIVI offices throughout France. Contact information is available on the Web site of the office nearest to where the crime occurred.

Internet: www.fgti.fr/civi.htm (in French)

Languages used—

- On application forms: French
- In correspondence: French
- By telephone: French

Another organization that may be helpful with compensation in cases of terrorism is

S.O.S. Attentats, Hotel des Invalides, 6 Boulevard des Invalides, 75007, Paris, France

Telephone: 33(0)1-45-55-41-41

Fax: 33(0)1-45-55-55-55

Languages used—

- On application forms: French
- In correspondence: French
- By telephone: French

The following nongovernment organization may provide assistance with compensation in violent crime cases:

Institut National d'Aide aux Victimes Et de Mediation (INAVEM) (National Organization for Victim Assistance and Victim/Offender Mediation), 4-14, Rue Ferrus, Paris, France 75014

Telephone: (+33) 1-45-88-19-00

Fax: (+33) 1-45-88-94-02

E-mail: inavem@wanadoo.fr

Internet: www.inavem.org (in French)

Languages used—

- On application forms: French
- In correspondence: French, English
- By telephone: French, English



Germany

Germany has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes. There is no time limit to report the crime to the police, but a police report is needed for the compensation application.

Filing period. Although there is no time limit for filing a claim, the standard filing period is usually within 1 year. Compensation, if approved, will be made only from the date of filing and not from the date the crime occurred, if the claim is not filed within 1 year.

Foreign citizen eligibility. European Union (EU) citizens from reciprocal states are eligible. Citizens from foreign countries (or states) that have a reciprocal agreement covering German citizens are eligible. Foreigners who have been officially living in the Federal Republic of Germany for a continuous period of 3 years are eligible. Foreigners who have not yet resided in the Federal Republic of Germany for a continuous period of 3 years may be eligible under certain circumstances.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crime
- Dependents of homicide victims
- Damages, harm, or injuries caused by vehicles are not included

Procedures

The victim must report the crime to the police and provide the date, location, and injuries and losses resulting from the crime. A claimant can obtain an application for compensation from the Versorgungsamt (war pension office) in almost every large town. A nonprofit organization, the Weisser Ring, provides a wide array of support services to victims of crime. The Weisser Ring will help victims apply for compensation and provide other forms of financial support. Notification of an award can take approximately 6 months.

Benefits and Award Limits

There is no maximum award limit.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Psychological care
- Vocational rehabilitation

Germany (continued)

- Pensions for disabled victims if the victim's earning capacity is reduced
- Benefits for dependents of homicide victims
- Physical therapy
- Funeral expenses
- Lost support for dependents
- Services to replace work in the home previously performed by the victim

Emergency awards. The program does not provide emergency compensation awards.

Funding sources. Funding comes from the individual German state budget.

Contact Information

Contact the Versorgungsamt in the area where the crime occurred. A list of Versorgungsamt offices can be found at the following Web site:

www.global-help.de/wissenwertes/content/behoerden-versorgungsaemter-20031008.htm
(in German, English)

Languages used—

- On application forms: German*
- In correspondence: German*

- By telephone: German*

* German is the official language for filing. However, because English is widely spoken in Germany, some officials may also be able to correspond in English.

Assistance from the Weisser Ring (a victim support organization funded through private donations) is available at offices throughout the country. The location of offices is on the Web site (www.weisser-ring.de/bundesgeschaeftsstelle/index.php) in German, English, and French.

The main office of the Weisser Ring is

Bundesgeschaeftsstelle, Weisser Ring e.V.,
Weberstrasse 16, 55130 Mainz

Telephone: (01149) (6131) 83030

Fax: (01149) (6131) 830345

Languages used—

- On application forms: German
- In correspondence: German, English (at the Mainz office)
- By telephone: German, English (at the Mainz office)



Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Great Britain (including England, Scotland, and Wales) has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent crime. Northern Ireland has a separate compensation program. The programs are similar, but some differences are noted below. The victim's injury can be physical, including fatal injuries, or mental. Indeed, the victim's injury may be a medically recognized psychiatric or psychological illness, or it may be a disease that is a medically recognized illness or condition.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. As soon as possible; exceptions may be made.

Filing period. Within 2 years; exceptions may be made.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Foreign nationals who are victims of a personal injury while in Great Britain are eligible to apply in Great Britain. Foreign nationals who are victims of a personal injury while in Northern Ireland are eligible to apply in Northern Ireland.

Claimants

- Victims of violent crime in Great Britain
- Close relatives and dependents of homicide victims in Great Britain
- Victims of violent crime in Northern Ireland

Procedures

In Great Britain, a claimant can obtain an application from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA), police stations, local victim support programs, or local citizens' advice bureaus. Comprehensive information about compensation is available on the CICA Web site (www.cica.gov.uk). In Northern Ireland, a claimant can obtain an application from the Compensation Agency, police stations, local victim support programs, or local citizens' advice bureaus. Comprehensive information about compensation is available on the Compensation Agency's Web site (www.compensationni.gov.uk). A user-friendly guide, application forms, and program guidance can be downloaded and printed from both Web sites. The completed application should be sent to CICA or the Compensation Agency. The program's initial decision should normally be made within 12 months, although reviews and hearings may take several months longer. Compensation will be paid within 28 days of the compensation program receiving notification that the claimant accepts the decision. Both compensation programs are a payer of last resort.

Great Britain and Northern Ireland (continued)

Benefits and Award Limits

The maximum award in Great Britain is £500,000. The minimum award is £1,000. There is no maximum award in Northern Ireland. If a death results from a crime, compensation for the bereavement of a close relative may be paid. In Great Britain, qualifying claimants are eligible for a payment of £11,000 if there is one claimant, and £5,500 each if there is more than one claimant. In Northern Ireland, each qualifying claimant is eligible for a bereavement support payment of £12,000.

Compensable costs

- Pain and suffering
- Lost wages for disabled victims
- Medical expenses (if unavailable via National Health Service or other sources)
- Mental health expenses (if unavailable via National Health Service or other sources)
- Reasonable funeral expenses
- Damage to property or equipment relied upon as a physical aid
- Provision of special equipment to aid mobility
- Adaptations to accommodation
- Travel expenses
- Rehabilitation for disabled victims (if unavailable via National Health Service or other sources)
- Bereavement
- Lost financial support for dependents of homicide victims
- Loss of parental services for qualifying claimants under 18 years of age

Emergency awards. Interim payments may be made when a final decision regarding the appropriate award is uncertain, for example, when the victim's medical prognosis is unclear.

Funding sources. The program is funded by the government from taxpayers' revenue.

Contact Information

Great Britain

Great Britain Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA), Tay House, 300 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4LN

Telephone: 44-141-331-2726

Fax: 44-141-331-2287

E-mail: enquiries.cica@gsi.gov.uk

Internet: www.cica.gov.uk

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA), Morley House, 26-30 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2JQ

Telephone: 44-20-7842-6800

Fax: 44-20-7436-0804

E-mail and Internet: Same as above

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Northern Ireland

The Compensation Agency, Royston House, 34 Upper Queen Street, Belfast, BT1 6FD

Telephone: 44-28-9024-9944

Fax: 44-28-9024-6956

E-mail: comp-agency@nics.gov.uk

Great Britain and Northern Ireland (continued)

Internet: www.compensationni.gov.uk

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Victim Support

Victim Support is a national charity that provides assistance and support for victims of crime. There are separate organizations for England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

England and Wales

England and Wales Victim Support National Office,
Cranmer House, 39 Brixton Road, London SW9
6DZ

Telephone: 44-20-7735-9166

Fax: 44-20-7582-5712

E-mail: contact@victimsupport.org.uk

Internet: www.victimsupport.org.uk

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Scotland

Victim Support Scotland, 15/23 Hardwell Close,
Edinburgh-EH8 9RX, Scotland

Telephone: 44-131-668-4486

Fax: 44-131-662-5400

E-mail: info@victimsupportscotland.demon.co.uk

Internet: www.victimsupportscotland.demon.co.uk/main/intro.html

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

Northern Ireland

Victim Support Northern Ireland, Annsgate House,
70-74 Ann Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1
4EH

Telephone: 028 9024 4039

Fax: 028 9031 3838

E-mail: info@victimsupportni.org.uk

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English



Hong Kong (SAR)

Hong Kong is the Special Administrative Region (SAR) of the People's Republic of China. Hong Kong has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, without unreasonable delay.

Filing period. Within 3 years from the date of the crime.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Foreign nationals, including tourists, who have the proper visa to stay in Hong Kong and who are not in contravention of a limit of stay (if any) against them at the time of the crime are eligible to apply.

Claimants

- Victims of crime who suffer serious injuries that have resulted in at least 3 days' loss of earnings or capacity to work
- Dependents of deceased victims

Procedures

Application forms can be obtained from the Criminal and Law Enforcement Injuries Compensation Board, police stations, district offices of the Home Affairs Department, medical social services units, and Social Security Field Units of the Social Welfare Department. Applications are also available online. When the criminal incident, as stated by the victim or applicant, has been confirmed by the police, the application will be processed and a decision will be made about whether compensation is payable. The applicant will be notified in writing of the board's decision.

Benefits and Award Limits

The levels of compensation for criminal injuries are based on the Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) scale and subject to regular revision. The maximum awards are—

- Burial Grant: HK\$10,530
- Death Grant: HK\$48,750–HK\$97,500
- Disability Grant: HK\$117–HK\$117,000
- Injury Grant: HK\$504–HK\$41,950
- Interim Maintenance Grant: HK\$271–HK\$48,780

Hong Kong (SAR) (continued)

Emergency awards. Not applicable.

Funding sources. The program is funded by the government of Hong Kong.

Contact Information

Criminal and Law Enforcement Injuries Compensation Section, Social Welfare Department, Room 703, 7/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Telephone: (852) 2838-6079, 2892-5220, 2892-5222, or 2892-5223

Fax: (852) 2575-7938

E-mail: grcleic@swd.gov.hk

Internet: www.info.gov.hk/swd/html_eng/ser_sec/soc_secu/index.html

Languages used—

- On application forms: English, Chinese
- In correspondence: English, Chinese
- By telephone: English, Cantonese



Hungary

Hungary has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, as soon as possible.

Filing period. The standard filing period is usually within 6 months of the crime. If the claim is not filed within 6 months, compensation, if approved, will be made from the date of filing and not from the date the crime occurred.

Foreign citizen eligibility. European Union (EU) citizens from reciprocal states became eligible when Hungary joined the EU in May 2004. Citizens from foreign countries (or states) that have a reciprocal agreement covering Hungarian citizens are eligible. Foreigners who have been officially living in Hungary as immigrants, permanent residents, or refugees, and their close relatives, are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crime
- Dependents of homicide victims

Procedures

The victim must report the crime to the police and provide the date, location, and injuries and losses resulting from the crime. A claimant can obtain an application for compensation from the Foundation for Safe Hungary in Budapest, the capital of Hungary. A nonprofit organization, the Feher Gyuru (White Ring), provides support services for victims of crime. Feher Gyuru (White Ring) will assist victims with application forms and provide other forms of financial support.

Benefits and Award Limits

The maximum award is 15 times the minimum wage.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Psychological care
- Vocational rehabilitation
- Pensions for disabled victims if the victim's earning capacity is reduced
- Benefits for the dependents of homicide victims

Hungary (continued)

- Physical therapy
- Lost support for dependents

Emergency awards. The emergency awards program does not provide emergency compensation.

Funding sources. Funding comes from the state budget.

Contact Information

Foundation for Safe Hungary, 1539 Budapest, PF: 640

Telephone: 36-1-266-3048, 36-1-266-2645, or 36-1-317-3641

Internet: www.b-m-k.hu (in Hungarian)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Hungarian
- In correspondence: Hungarian
- By telephone: Hungarian

For assistance from a nongovernment organization, contact

Feher Gyuru (White Ring; victim support organization funded through private donations and government funding), Budapest 1055, Szent Istvan korut 1

Telephone: 361-312-2287

Fax: 361-472-1162

E-mail: fehergyuru@axelero.hu

Internet: None

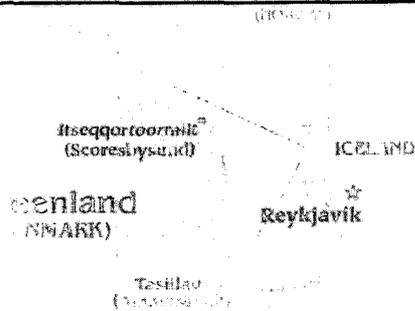
Languages used—

- On application forms: Hungarian, English
- In correspondence: Hungarian, English
- By telephone: English

During the tourist season from May to September, White Ring also has two offices near Lake Balaton that are open from noon to 6 p.m. English is spoken at these offices:

Siofok, Hotel Balaton (Petofi setany 9). Telephone: 36-87-343-644, ext. 4006.

Balatonfured, Hotel Marina (Szechenyi ut 26). Telephone: 36-84-310-655, ext. 1604.



Iceland

Iceland has a compensation program that provides financial compensation for victims who suffer losses as a result of crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes; immediately.

Filing period. Within 2 years of the date the crime was committed.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Foreign national residents are eligible to apply for compensation. Foreign nationals who are in Iceland for a short time (e.g., foreign tourists) are excluded.

Claimants

- Victims who suffer losses as a result of crime
- Dependents of deceased victims
- Icelandic citizens who are victims of a crime overseas

Procedures

There is currently no special application form to fill out. The victim (or his or her next-of-kin) writes a letter to the Compensation Committee, in care of the Ministry of Judicial and Ecclesiastical Affairs, and provides information about the crime and the request for compensation. To support their claims, victims should submit a police report, medical bills, and other evidence of loss. Claims are processed within 2 to 3 months, or up to 1 year, depending on the case. A decision can be delayed if the case is before the courts or if the victim fails to provide the necessary evidence to justify the claim. There is no administrative appeal; however, a decision of the Compensation Committee could be appealed to the courts.

Benefits and Award Limits

Minimum of ISK100,000.

The maximums are:

- ISK250,000 for damage to personal belongings (e.g. clothing)
- ISK2,500,000 for bodily injury
- ISK600,000 for pecuniary damages
- ISK2,500,000 for loss of breadwinner

Iceland (continued)

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses (bodily injury)
- Damage to clothing
- Loss of small amounts of cash
- Reasonable funeral expenses
- Pecuniary losses suffered as a result of injuries (e.g., lost wages)
- Mental health losses (these costs are eligible for the same level of compensation as others so long as they fulfill the conditions of the law)

Emergency awards. The program does not provide emergency compensation awards.

Funding sources. Funds come from a special section of the Ministry's budget. The state can claim repayment from the offender.

Contact Information

Compensation Board (Botanefnd), Ministry of Judicial and Ecclesiastical Affairs, Arnarhvoli, 150 Reykjavik, Iceland

Telephone: 354-560-9000

Fax: 354-552-7340

Internet: www.stjr.is/dkm

Languages used—

- On application forms: There is no application form
- In correspondence: Icelandic, or Nordic if the victim is from the Nordic countries
- By telephone: Icelandic



Ireland

The Republic of Ireland has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes.

Filing period. Within 3 months of the crime; exceptions may be made.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crime
- Dependents of victims of violent or personal crime

Procedures

A claimant can obtain an application from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal. The victim must report the crime to the police and provide the date and place it occurred as well as a full list of injuries and losses suffered. Decisions on claims and awards can take several months or longer depending on circumstances.

Benefits and Award Limits

There is no maximum award limit.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses
- Loss of earnings
- Travel expenses
- Lost support (for the dependents of victims)
- Funeral expenses
- Rehabilitation for disabled victims

Ireland (continued)

Emergency awards. The program does not provide emergency compensation awards.

Funding sources. Tax revenue.

Contact Information

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal,
13 Lower Hatch Street, Dublin 2, Republic of
Ireland

Telephone: (353) 6610604

Fax: (353) 6610598

Internet: None

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English



Israel

Israel operates a program to provide financial compensation for victims of terrorism and does not currently have a program for compensating victims of violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes; usually within 1 year of the terrorist act.

Filing period. Usually within 1 year of the terrorist act. Although the failure to file within 1 year may not prevent eligibility, it does increase the investigation time and decreases the likelihood of fair compensation.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries who are victims of terrorism are eligible to apply for compensation if they were legally staying in Israel at the time of the incident and are not members of illegal organizations or hostile countries.

Claimants

- Victims of terrorism
- Dependents of victims of terrorism

Procedures

Application forms are available from any branch of the National Insurance Institute (NII). The victim must file an application with the NII Department for Victims of Hostilities. In practice, those hospitalized will receive and complete forms with assistance from the hospital social worker. Citizens of foreign countries should submit the application before leaving Israel; however, the application may also be processed abroad via the nearest Israeli embassy or consulate. The length of time for review and notification of NII's decision varies depending on the case facts. It can take as little as a few weeks or, in cases where permanent disability must be determined, many months. NII does not award permanent disability until an applicant's condition is stable (no significant further improvement can be expected).

Benefits and Award Limits

Compensation amounts are case specific. The maximum award for funeral expenses is NIS7,000 unless the victim is a citizen of a foreign country and is to be buried abroad. In that case, NII will arrange for transporting the body to the family's place of residence and will reimburse burial expenses up to NIS995 based on receipts.

A widow's benefit of NIS4,400 is also available, as is a bereavement benefit of NIS6,150, which is intended to cover the expenses incurred while sitting shiva (the 7-day mourning period observed by members of the Jewish faith).

Israel (continued)

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Rehabilitation
- Pension for disabled victims
- Lost wages or support
- Rest and recreation allowances
- Funeral expenses
- Replacement services

Emergency awards. Emergency or expedited claims are handled on a case-by-case basis.

Funding sources. The program is funded by the National Insurance Institute.

Contact Information

National Insurance Institute of Israel (Israel's NII Head Office), Department for Victims of Hostilities, 13 Weizmann Blvd., 91909 Jerusalem

Telephone: 972-2-646-3223

Fax: 972-2-538-2417

Internet: www.btl.gov.il/English/eng_index.asp
(in English)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Hebrew (available soon in English)
- In correspondence: English, Hebrew
- By telephone: English, Hebrew



Italy

Italy operates a program to provide financial compensation for victims of terrorism, but does not have a program for compensating victims of other violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Police report. Yes, the crime must be reported to the local prefect's office where the crime occurred.

Filing period. Within 3 months after the last judicial decision.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries who are victims of terrorism are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of terrorism in Italy
- Dependents of victims of terrorism in Italy

Procedures

No application form exists. Victims must report the crime in writing to the prefect's office, the Ufficio di Gabinetto della Prefettura, and provide the date, location, injuries, and losses resulting from the crime.

Benefits and Award Limits

In the case of a death, the monetary maximum compensation is established at EUR 18,000,00. Victims who suffer damage equal to 25 percent of partial disability are also entitled to a lifetime monthly allowance of EUR 268. In the case of a partial disability, the monetary compensation is based on a percentage established by a medical committee. Each percentage point is equal to EUR 1,180,00.

Compensable costs. None at this time. The Italian government is currently working on a bill to compensate costs (e.g., medical expenses, mental health counseling, rehabilitation, travel expenses, etc.).

Emergency awards. After the Italian authorities determine the origin of the crime, victims can apply for 90 percent of the monetary compensation before the last judicial decision is made.

Funding sources. The program is funded by state appropriations.

Italy (continued)

Contact Information

Ministero dell'Interno (Ministry of the Interior),
Direzione Centrale Diritti Civili (Central Direction
Civil Rights), Cittadinanza e Minoranze (Citizenship
and Minorities), Area I—Speciali Elargizioni
(Department I—Special Compensation Program),
Vittime Terrorismo (Victims of Terrorism), Piazza
del Viminale, 00184 Rome

Telephone: 39 06 46541

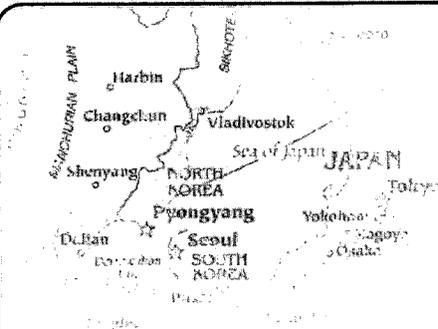
Fax: 39 06 46547209

E-mail: fliviana@tiscali.it

Internet: www.interno.it

Languages used—

- On application forms: There is no application form
- In correspondence: Italian
- By telephone: Italian



Japan

Japan has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes.

Filing period. Within 2 years from the day the applicant reports the crime and 7 years from the day the crime is committed.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation if the victim was a legal resident of Japan at the time of the crime. Tourists and visitors are not eligible.

Claimants

- Victims of violent crime who suffer serious injuries
- Dependents of deceased victims if they legally reside in Japan

Procedures

The police must verify the victimization. A claimant can obtain an application from any police station or prefectural police department. The claimant should send the application to the prefectural public safety commission through the police station or the prefectural police department that has jurisdiction over the address of the claimant. It takes approximately 5 months for the applicant to be notified of the decision, and it takes approximately 2 more weeks for the applicant to receive the benefit.

Benefits and Award Limits

- Survivor Benefit for Death. Provides reimbursement for medical expenses incurred prior to the death: ¥10,790,000 (¥15,730,000 for crimes committed after July 1, 2001)
- Incapacity Benefit: ¥12,730,000 (¥18,492,000 for crimes committed after July 1, 2001)
- Scholarships are available through the Crime Victims' Relief Fund for bereaved children.

Compensable costs. None. The program provides lump sum awards only.

Emergency awards. If the program cannot quickly render a judgment because the offender is unknown or the degree of disability is unclear, the program may offer an unspecified provisional benefit to the applicant.

Funding sources. The program is funded by the national government.

Japan (continued)

Contact Information

Information National Public Safety Commission,
National Police Agency, Office for Victims of Crime,
Pay and Welfare Section, 2-1-2 Kasumigaseki,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8974, Japan

Telephone: 81-3-3581-0141, ext. 2811

Fax: 81-3-3580-1009

Internet: www.npa.go.jp/higaisya/en/main.html
(in English)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Japanese
- In correspondence: Japanese
- By telephone: Japanese



Luxembourg

Luxembourg has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims for losses resulting from personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. As soon as possible, but within 1 year.

Filing period. Within 1 year; exceptions may be made.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Victims of crime who have their regular and habitual residence in Luxembourg are eligible for compensation. Victims from the member states of the Council of Europe are eligible. Victims who were legally authorized to enter Luxembourg when the crime was committed (including tourists) and who are nationals of a country that grants reciprocity to Luxembourg for this kind of compensation are eligible.

Claimants

- Victims of personal crime
- Dependents of homicide victims
- Luxembourg citizens victimized in a foreign country

Procedures

The victim must report the crime to the police. The victim must send a letter requesting compensation within 1 year of the crime to the Ministry of Justice and include information about the crime and documentation of the costs. The Service D'Accueil et D'Information Juridique will provide victims with procedural information. The ministry forwards the letter to a commission that will contact the victim for additional information. The commission makes recommendations to the Minister of Justice, who makes the final decision on granting compensation and the amount of the award. The length of the process is indeterminate. No application form exists.

Benefits and Award Limits

EUR62,000.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses

Luxembourg (continued)

- Lost wages for disabled or incapacitated victims
- Family home aid for disabled victims

Emergency awards. The program may grant partial compensation awards prior to a final judgment if the victim can prove urgent financial need.

Funding sources. The program is funded by general appropriations.

Contact Information

The Service D'Accueil et D'Information Juridique, Bureau 102, 12 Cote D'Eich, Luxembourg

Telephone: +352-22 18 46

Fax: +352-47 05 50 (attention: Service D'Accueil et D'Information Juridique)

Internet: www.mj.public.lu/index.html

Languages used—

- On application forms: There is no application form

- In correspondence: French (German occasionally if necessary, no English)
- By telephone: French (German, English if necessary)

Ministry of Justice, 13, rue Erasme, L-2934 Luxembourg

Telephone: +352-478-4516 or 4555; Mrs. Clement/ Mr. Reding

Fax: +352-22 52 96

E-mail: info@mj.public.lu

Internet: www.mj.public.lu/index.html

Languages used—

- On application forms: There is no application form
- In correspondence: French (German occasionally if necessary)
- By telephone: French (German, English if necessary)



The Netherlands

The Netherlands has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Within 3 years; exceptions are made.

Filing period. No time limit.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crime who suffer serious injuries
- Dependents of homicide victims

Procedures

The application form for state compensation is available in Dutch only and may be requested in writing from the Netherlands Victim Support Organization at the address on the following page or by telephone at 070-4142000. Volunteers and staff of the Netherlands Victim Support organization can assist victims with submitting an application for compensation. On average, it takes about 1 year to close a case, but it might take longer for a crime victim to receive a decision on compensation. The victim receives compensation 6 weeks after notification.

Benefits and Award Limits

Material damage of EUR22,700.00, immaterial damage (not for dependents of deceased victims) of EUR9,100.00.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses
- Lost wages for disabled victims
- Lost support for dependents of homicide victims
- Funeral expenses
- Travel expenses
- Rehabilitation for disabled victims

The Netherlands (continued)

- Services to replace work in the home previously performed by the victim
- Removal expenses
- Legal aid
- Any other expense reasonably related to the injury

Emergency awards. The program makes emergency awards when the request meets all of the eligibility conditions (except documentation of exact extent of damage) and when good reason for expediting payment exists.

Funding sources. The program is funded by the national government and the Ministry of Justice.

Contact Information

Commissie Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven
(Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund), P.O. Box
1947, 2280 DX RIJSWIJK, The Netherlands
or
Sir Winston Churchillaan 295B, 2288 DC RIJSWIJK,
The Netherlands

Telephone: 01131-70-414 2000

Fax: 01131-70-414 2001

E-mail: info@schadefonds.nl

Internet: www.schadefonds.nl

Languages used—

- On application forms: Dutch
- In correspondence: Dutch
- By telephone: Dutch, English

For victim support and assistance with the compensation application process, contact

Slachtofferhulp Nederland (The Netherlands Victim Support), P.O. Box 14208, 3508 SH Utrecht, The Netherlands

Telephone: (+31) 30-234-0116

Fax: (+31) 30-231-7655

E-mail: lbs@slachtofferhulp.nl

Internet: www.slachtofferhulp.nl

Languages used—

- On application forms: Dutch
- In correspondence: Dutch, English, French
- By telephone: Dutch, English, French

New Zealand

Victims of violent crime can obtain compensation from the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC), which is a no-fault program to provide financial support for crime victims and others who suffer physical injuries from other causes.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. No restriction.

Filing period. No restriction.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Foreign nationals are eligible to apply.

Claimants

- Victims of violent crime who suffer a physical injury or a mental injury as a result of the physical injury
- Dependents of victims of violent crime
- Victims of accident or other injury

Procedures

Victims of crime should telephone Victim Support at 0-800-VICTIM or call a local police station for information about how to apply. Victim Support will provide victim assistance, including assessing and advising on the best place for a victim to apply for financial assistance. All local Victim Support organizations are listed in the local telephone book.

Benefits and Award Limits

There is no maximum amount that can be awarded to a victim. Each application is considered on its own merit.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses
- Funeral and burial costs
- Lost wages due to serious injury
- Loss of support for dependents of a deceased victim
- Travel expenses
- Court expenses

New Zealand (continued)

Emergency awards. Each application is considered on its own merit.

Funding sources. The program is funded from premiums paid by motorists, employers, earners, and the government.

Contact Information

Accident Compensation Corporation, National Office, Shamrock House, 81-83 Molesworth Street, P.O. Box 242, Wellington

Telephone: 04 918 7700

Fax: 04 918 7701

E-mail: information@acc.co.nz

Internet: www.acc.co.nz

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

For assistance with applying for compensation, contact

Victim Support, National Office, Level 1, 180 Molesworth Street, P.O. Box 3017, Wellington

Telephone: 04 474 8862

Fax: 04 495 3076

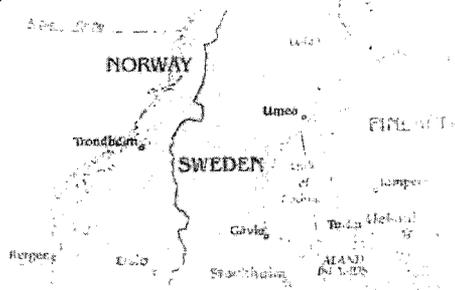
E-mail: victim@xtra.co.nz

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English

New Zealand Council of Victim Support Groups

The New Zealand Council of Victim Support Groups includes 77 groups that provide support for all victims of crimes, accidents, and emergencies throughout New Zealand (www.victimsupport.org.nz/about/index.shtml).



Norway

Norway has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, without undue delay; exceptions are made.

Filing period. Within 3 years; exceptions are made.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crime
- Dependents of homicide victims
- Citizens of Norway who are victimized in a foreign country

Procedures

A claimant can obtain an application form for compensation from the police station, the advisory agencies for victims of violent crime, the county governor, the National Insurance Office, or the Ministry of Justice. The application should be sent to the Claims Office for Victims of Violent Crimes in Vardoe, Norway. The claimant will receive notification of the program's decision within 6 months. Compensation is received between 1 day and 3 weeks after the decision. The decision can be appealed to an appointed administrative body, the Compensation Board for Victims of Crime.

Benefits and Award Limits

For all payments made after July 1, 2001, the maximum award is 20 times the national insurance base rate, or approximately Nkr1,000,000. If the amount of the loss is less than Nkr1,000, no compensation will be paid.

Compensable costs

- Medical and dental expenses
- Mental health expenses
- Loss of income
- Lost support for dependents of deceased victims
- Pain and suffering
- Funeral expenses

Norway (continued)

- Travel expenses
- Damage to ordinary clothing, glasses, artificial limbs, or other articles for personal use that were damaged when the crime occurred

Special compensation is available for persistent injury when the degree of disability is 15 percent or more.

Emergency awards. The program may give a prepayment if the award decision is delayed due to no fault of the claimant and if it would be reasonable to do so.

Funding sources. The program is funded through tax revenue.

Contact Information

Kontoret for Voldsoffererstatning (Claims Office for Victims of Violent Crimes), Boks 253, 9951 Vardoe, Norway

Telephone: 47 78 98 95 00

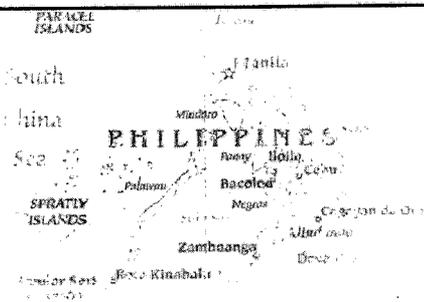
Fax: 47 78 98 95 10

E-mail: post@voldsoffererstatning.no

Internet: www.ft.dep.no

Languages used—

- On application forms: Norwegian, English
- In correspondence: Norwegian, English
- By telephone: Norwegian, English



Philippines

The Philippines has a victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime and unjust imprisonment or detention.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes.

Filing period. Within 6 months from when the victim suffered damage or injury or within 6 months after the victim was released from imprisonment or detention.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of crime
- Dependents of homicide victims
- Victims who were unjustly imprisoned or detained

Procedures

A claimant can obtain an application from the Board of Claims through the Secretariat of the Board of Claims, Department of Justice, Republic of the Philippines. Victims should submit copies of all medical records from treating hospitals and physicians with the application. The Board of Claims is required to render a decision within 30 days.

Benefits and Award Limits

The maximum award to victims of crime or the dependents of homicide victims is PHP10,000. The maximum award to victims of unjust imprisonment or detention is PHP60,000.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses
- Lost wages
- Lost support for dependents of homicide victims
- Funeral and burial expenses

Philippines (continued)

Emergency awards. The program does not offer emergency compensation awards; however, the Board takes into account the urgent needs of applicants from depressed areas by processing their claim more quickly than the allotted 30-day review.

Funding sources. The program is funded by the government of the Philippines.

Contact Information

Department of Justice, Padra Faura Street, Rm. 125,
Ermita, Manila, Philippines 1000

Telephone: 632 523-8481, local 328 219-281, 632
525-0952 (dl)

Fax: 632 525-0952 or 526-2751

Internet: www.doj.gov.ph

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English, Tagalog



Poland

Poland has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial assistance for victims of personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes.

Filing period. Within 2 years from the date of the crime.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Victims of a crime against life and health
- Dependents of victims of a crime against life and health

Procedures

A victim of crime should write a letter to the Foundation for Assistance to Crime Victims describing the incident and its consequences, and justifying the claim for compensation. After preliminary review, the foundation mails an application form and instructions to the victim. A crime victim must complete the application form and send it to the Foundation for Assistance to Crime Victims. The following items should be included with the application: documentation of the court sentence or a document stating that the investigation has been discontinued by the prosecutor, medical documentation describing the injuries received as a result of the crime, and income declaration information. Decisions to award or deny an application are issued within 2 months of receipt of the application.

Benefits and Award Limits

The amount of assistance depends on the economic status of the victim and the extent of the victim's losses.

Compensable costs. Medical expenses not covered by insurance.

Funding sources. The program is funded through court-awarded damages for drunk driving and donations from individuals and institutions.

Poland (continued)

Contact Information

Foundation for Assistance to Crime Victims, ul.
Wisiniowa 50, 02-520 Warszawa

Telephone and fax: 48-22-848 2890

Internet: None

Languages used—

- On application forms: Polish
- In correspondence: Polish, or the native language of the victim (the foundation will arrange for translation)
- By telephone: Polish



Portugal

Portugal has a compensation program for some victims of crime with serious injuries.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. No.

Filing period. Within 1 year after the crime.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation if the crime was committed on Portuguese territory or onboard a Portuguese ship or aircraft.

Claimants

- Victims of crime who suffer serious injuries (incapacitated for 30 days) and the perpetrator is unable to pay restitution or compensation to the victim. Rape is not included.
- Victims of crime who suffer permanent inability to work
- Dependents of victims of crime
- Portuguese citizens who are victimized in a foreign country if compensation is not available in the country where the crime took place

Procedures

To request compensation, the claimant must complete an application form provided by the Comissão de Protecção às Vítimas de Crime Violento. The Associação Portuguesa de Apoio à Vítima (APAV) will assist victims with completing and submitting an application for compensation. Although it is not mandatory to report the crime to the police, proof that a crime has occurred is required. This condition is usually satisfied with a police report. With the form, the claimant must also submit his or her last income tax return, the police report documenting the crime, and medical reports proving the injuries suffered. The claim must be sent to the Comissão de Protecção às Vítimas de Crime Violento. The Comissão should review the file and conclude its investigation within 3 months and forward a recommendation to the Minister of Justice, who will make a final decision.

Benefits and Award Limits

The maximum award is EUR29,928 per person. The total amount payable may not exceed approximately EUR90,000. Income and need are considered in making award decisions.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Lost wages

Portugal (continued)

- Loss of support for the dependents of victims
- Funeral and burial expenses
- Rehabilitation for disabled victims

Emergency awards. The program offers expedited or emergency compensation on a case-by-case basis.

Funding sources. The program is funded by state appropriations called Seguro Social (Social Insurance).

Contact Information

Comissão para a instrução dos pedidos de indemnização, às vítimas de crimes violentos (Commission for Protection of Crime Victims), Escadinhas de São Crispim n. 7, 1149 049 Lisbon, Portugal

Telephone: 351-218-824-500/9

Fax: 351-218-870-499

E-mail: jose.duarte@tac.mj.pt

Internet: None

Languages used—

- On application forms: Portuguese
- In correspondence: Portuguese
- By telephone: Portuguese

For assistance in requesting compensation, contact

Associação Portuguesa de Apoio à Vitima (APAV) (Portuguese Association for Victim Support), Main Office, Rua do Comercio, 56-5, 1100-150 Lisboa

Telephone: 21-885-40-90

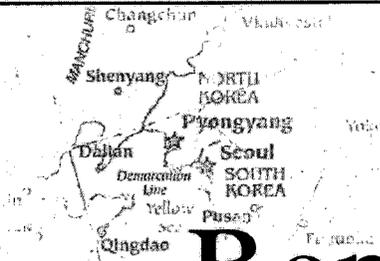
Fax: 21-887-63-51

APAV has 12 branch offices located in several areas of the country.

Internet: www.apav.pt (in Portuguese, English)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Portuguese
- In correspondence: Portuguese, English
- By telephone: Portuguese, English



Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes, without unreasonable delay.

Filing period. Within 1 year from the day the applicant reports the crime and 5 years from the day the crime is committed.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Foreign nationals, including tourists, who have a proper visa to stay in the Republic of Korea and who are not in contravention of a limit of stay (if any) in force against them at the time of the crime are eligible to apply.

Claimants

- Victims of crime who suffer serious injuries
- Dependents of deceased victims

Procedures

Application forms can be obtained from police stations or prosecutor offices at the Public Service Center. When the criminal incident, as stated by the victim or applicant, has been investigated and confirmed by the police or prosecutor, the application will be processed and a decision will be made as to whether compensation is payable.

Benefits and Award Limits

Disability relief funds 3,000,000 to 6,000,000 won. Family relief funds 10,000,000 won.

Emergency awards. Disability relief funds 1,000,000 won. Family relief funds 2,000,000 won.

Funding sources. The program is funded by the Republic of Korea.

Contact Information

Seoul District Court, Public Service Center, 1724 Seocho-dong, Seocho-Gu, Seoul 137-741 Republic of Korea

Telephone: 82-2-530-1114

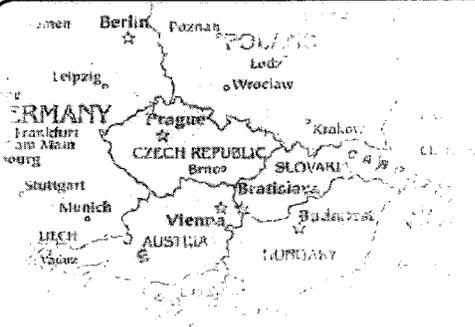
Fax: 82-2-530-2609

Internet: www.scourt.go.kr

Republic of Korea (continued)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Korean
- In correspondence: Korean
- By telephone: Korean



Slovakia

Slovakia has a compensation program for certain injuries and damages that result from a crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes.

Filing period. Within 18 months from the month in which the crime occurred, or 6 months from the date a court judgment becomes effective if after the 18-month limit.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are not eligible to apply for compensation. Only Slovak citizens or stateless residents of Slovakia are eligible to apply under this law.

Claimants

- Victims of crime who suffer serious injuries or damage to their health
- Victims of rape
- Next-of-kin of homicide victims

Procedures

Applicants must file a claim in writing at the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic. No application forms are used. The applicant must supply personal data and identification, information from a hospital that documents the injuries received as a result of the crime, documentation of income and property, and documentation of any other source of compensation received before and after the claim was filed. Compensation is only provided once.

Benefits and Award Limits

Compensation is awarded in Slovak koruna. The total amount of compensation for health damage may not exceed 50 times the minimum wage (currently Sk5,570 per month), except in cases of rape when the limit is 30 times the minimum wage. Compensation for rape does not exclude compensation for other health damage caused by the same crime.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses
- Burial expenses

Slovakia (continued)

Funding sources. The program is funded through fines imposed on the convicted offender or by the state.

Contact Information

Ministry of Justice, section of Rehabilitation and Compensation, Zupne nam, 13, 813 11 Bratislava, Slovakia

Telephone: 421 2 5935 3306

Fax: 421 2 6428 4260

Internet: www.justice.gov.sk

Languages used: The official language is Slovak, but stateless residents have the right to communicate in their own language, and the state administration provides translation.

- On application forms: There is no application form
- In correspondence: Slovak, English
- By telephone: Slovak

For victim assistance, contact Victim Support Services, an NGO, with regional centers in Slovakia:

Pomoc obetiam nasilia (Victim Support Services for Slovakia), P.O. Box 83, 820 05 Bratislava 25, Slovakia

Telephone: 0850-111 321 (helpline)

E-mail: info@pomocobetiam.sk

Internet: www.pomocobetiam.sk/html/top2eng.htm

Languages used—

- On application forms: There is no application form
- In correspondence: Slovak, English
- By telephone: Slovak



Spain

Spain has a compensation program for victims of terrorism and other crimes in which the victim suffers serious bodily or mental injury or death.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. As soon as possible; exceptions are made.

Filing period. Within 1 year; exceptions are made. However, if a criminal process is begun against the perpetrator of the crime within the 1-year time limit, the time limit will be suspended once the trial is initiated and will continue after the case is resolved.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of a foreign country who are in Spain legally on the date of the crime are eligible to apply for compensation if their country of nationality provides similar assistance to Spanish nationals.

Claimants

- Victims of serious bodily or mental injury who suffer damages that necessitate rehabilitation for more than 6 months
- Victims of sexual offenses who suffer physical and psychological injuries
- Victims of terrorist acts who suffer physical and psychological injuries
- Dependents of homicide victims and persons who have been living permanently with the deceased for 2 or more years
- Victims with private insurance that covers the same losses are not eligible to apply for compensation.

Procedures

Application forms can be obtained and questions about the process can be answered through the Ministry of Finance (telephone: 34-91-349 1611). In addition, a separate petition for assistance must also be filed with the Ministry of Economy and Finance. Decisions to award compensation shall be made after a hearing and after the consideration of a report by the state attorney who participates in the processing of these cases. The victim must show that he or she was legally in Spain at the moment of the crime. The application also has to include evidence of reciprocity in the United States for Spanish citizens in similar situations. Compensation is provided only after the offender has been found guilty.

Benefits and Award Limits

Although the law does not state a numerical maximum award, each individual's award has a specific maximum based on the minimum monthly salary and the negative mental and physical effects the victim suffers as a direct result of the crime. The financial situation of the victim and the beneficiary, the number of people

Spain (continued)

who depend on the victim and the beneficiary, and the cost of therapy for mental health care are considered in compensation awards. The amount of assistance shall in no event exceed the compensation determined in the court judgment.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Mental health expenses
- Lost wages for disabled victims
- Lost support for dependents of homicide victims
- Funeral and burial expenses

Emergency awards. Provisional assistance may be granted before a final court decision provided the precarious situation of the victim or his beneficiaries has been substantiated.

Funding sources. The funding for the compensation comes from the perpetrator. If the perpetrator cannot pay, the Spanish government will be the funding source.

Contact Information

El Ministerio de Hacienda (The Ministry of Finance), Dirección General de Costes de Personal y Pensiones Públicas

General information is available at

C/Almagro 34, 28010 Madrid, Spain

Telephone: 34 91 349 15 00

Fax: 34 91 349 17 63/15 74

Information regarding specific forms and petitions is available at

Monte Sesquinza, 43, 28010 Madrid, Spain

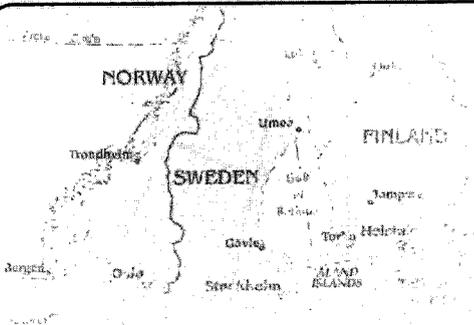
Telephone: 34 91 349 16 11

Internet: www.igae.minhac.es/dgcp/inicio/inicio.asp
(in Spanish, English translation)

www.mir.es/indeyayu/vicdelvi/vicdelvi.htm (in Spanish, English translation)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Spanish
- In correspondence: Spanish (limited English upon request)
- By telephone: Spanish (limited English upon request)



Sweden

Sweden has a criminal injuries compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent, personal, and property crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes; with no time limit. However, exceptions can be made if the victim can establish a good reason why a report was not made.

Filing period. Within 2 years of the date the criminal case is closed. Exceptions are possible, such as when the crime victim is a child when the proceedings are completed and dependent on an adult to file the application.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries who are victims of crime on Swedish territory are eligible to apply for compensation. However, if the victim's and offender's affiliation to Sweden is transitory in nature, compensation may not be awarded even though the crime occurred on Swedish soil.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crime
- Dependents of homicide victims
- People with permanent residence in Sweden who are victimized in a foreign country

Procedures

Application forms are available at local police stations, district courts, local enforcement service offices, insurance companies, and from the Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority, which is a central agency covering criminal injuries throughout the country. Application forms in Swedish are also available at victim services offices and can be printed from the Web (www.brottsoffermyndigheten.se). Completed applications must be sent to the Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority for consideration. The claimant is generally notified of the program's decision within 4 months. Compensation will be received within 1 to 2 weeks. Compensation from the state will be granted only if the victim has no possibility of receiving compensation from other sources.

Benefits and Award Limits

Awards are made in Swedish krona (SKr). Violation of personal integrity (sexual assault, robbery, assault, home invasion) results in 10 times the basic amount. In 2003, this was SKr38,600.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Eyeglasses, hearing aids, and clothing damaged as a result of the crime

Sweden (continued)

- Hospitalization
- Permanent disability
- Lost wages
- Lost support for dependents of deceased victims
- Funeral expenses
- Travel expenses
- Pain and suffering
- Violation of personal integrity
- Inconveniences resulting from the injury

Funding sources. The program is funded by tax revenue.

Contact Information

Brottsoffermyndigheten (the Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority), Box 470, S-901 09 Umeå, Sweden

Telephone: 46-90-16-57-10

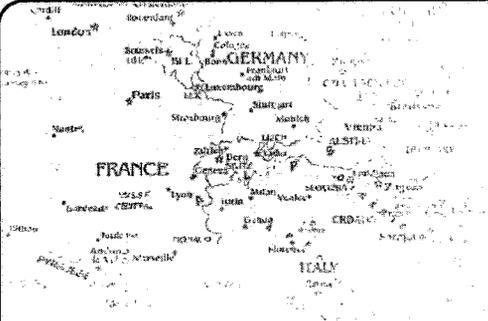
Fax: 46-90-17-83-53

E-mail: registrator@brottsoffermyndigheten.se

Internet: www.brottsoffermyndigheten.se
(partial English translation)

Languages used—

- On application forms: Swedish, English
- In correspondence: Swedish, English
- By telephone: Swedish, English



Switzerland

Crime victim compensation in Switzerland is available through victim assistance programs administered in each of the cantons (states). Each canton establishes its own guidelines for the amount and kind of compensation to be awarded.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Not required.

Filing period. Within 2 years of the date of the crime.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Foreign citizens are eligible to apply for compensation.

Claimants

- Anyone whose physical, sexual, or mental integrity has been immediately affected by a crime, regardless of nationality or whether the perpetrator has been located and found guilty
- Dependents of victims (e.g., spouse, children, and parents) and other persons who have a close relationship with the victim
- Swiss citizens victimized in a foreign country that does not have a satisfactory compensation program

Procedures

Application forms are available from the cantonal crime victim compensation offices (a list of addresses for these offices and the application forms are available online at www.ofj.admin.ch/e/index.html). Claims for compensation must be filed with the appropriate authorities in the canton where the crime was committed. Lists with the addresses of cantonal compensation authorities can be obtained from the investigating police and victim assistance counseling centers or the U.S. embassy in Bern. To qualify for compensation, the victim must demonstrate that no, or only inadequate, compensation from third parties (perpetrator, insurance companies, etc.) can be obtained. Payments from the cantonal authorities supplement payments from other sources.

Benefits and Award Limits

The federal law provides for income limits (means test) unless the crime is particularly severe. If a victim's income is less than the amount for social security and disability, the victim receives full compensation. If the victim's income is more than that amount, the award is reduced. Effective January 1, 2002, the minimum income for a single person in Swiss francs is Sw F69,200; for couples it is Sw F103,800; for the first and the second child it is Sw F36,240. Damages for pain and suffering can be paid to seriously affected victims and under justifiable special circumstances, regardless of the victim's income. The amount of compensation available varies from canton to canton, and income is considered in most cases. Maximum compensation is Sw F100,000. Minimum compensation is Sw F500.

Switzerland (continued)

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses
- Psychological care
- Lost wages
- Funeral expenses
- Burial expenses

Emergency awards. Local counseling centers render immediate emergency assistance and, if needed, will provide assistance for an extended period of time.

Funding sources. The funding is from cantonal resources.

Contact Information

Swiss Federal Bureau of Justice, Division of Legislative Projects and Methods, Office of Crime Victim Assistance, Taubenstrasse 16, 3003 Bern, Switzerland

(Office will refer callers to cantonal authority.)

Telephone: 011 4131 322 4767

Fax: 011 4131 322 8401

Internet: www.ofj.admin.ch/e/index.html

Languages used—

- On application forms: The Swiss national languages (German, French, Italian) depending on the language spoken in the canton; assistance from interpreters is available
- In correspondence: Same as above and English
- By telephone: Same as above and English

For compensation information and victim assistance in the cantons, contact a nongovernmental organization at

Weisser Ring—The Weisser (White) Ring, P.O. Box 1156, 8302 Kloten

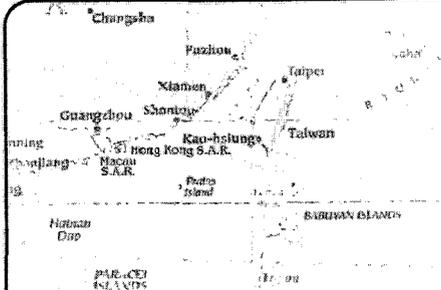
Telephone: 01/491 2627

Fax: 041/671 0406

Internet: www.weisser-ring.ch

Languages used—

- On application forms: German, French, Italian; interpreters available
- In correspondence: Same as above and English
- By telephone: Same as above and English



Taiwan

Taiwan has a crime victim compensation program to provide financial compensation for victims of violent or personal crime.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes.

Filing period. Within 2 years from the date of the crime.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Citizens of foreign countries are eligible to apply for compensation only when their country of nationality has a valid international agreement for reciprocity with Taiwan.

Claimants

- Victims of violent or personal crime who suffer serious injuries
- Dependents of deceased victims

Procedures

Application forms are available from the Investigation Bureau, district court, and American Institute in Taiwan. The claimant should file an application with the Committee of Crime Victim Compensation Association, the Investigation Bureau, or the district court in the jurisdiction where the crime occurred. Applications are processed within 3 months. Appeals of a decision by the district court to deny compensation may be filed with the High Court.

Benefits and Award Limits

The maximum awards are: medical, NT\$400,000.00; funeral, NT\$300,000.00; death, NT\$1,000,000.00; and disability, NT\$1,000,000.00.

Compensable costs

- Medical expenses associated with injuries received as a result of the crime
- Funeral and burial expenses
- Disability expenses

Emergency awards. Emergency funds are available.

Taiwan (continued)

Contact Information

Department of Rehabilitation and Social Protection, Ministry of Justice 130, Section 1, Chungking S. Road, Taipei, 100, Taiwan

Telephone: (02) 2370-0436

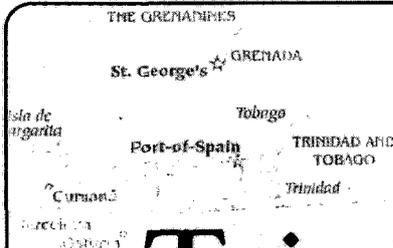
Fax: (02) 2389-6364

E-mail: hotline@mail.moj.gov.tw

Internet: www.moj.gov.tw

Languages used—

- On application forms: Chinese (Language help is available in each district court when the application is submitted, if needed.)
- In correspondence: Chinese
- By telephone: Chinese



Trinidad and Tobago

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Act was proclaimed on October 30, 2000. As of December 2003, the board that would administer the program was not yet in existence. The following information describes the program authorized in law, but which is not yet operational.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Yes.

Filing period. Not specified.

Foreign citizen eligibility. Not specified.

Claimants

- Any person who has suffered injury resulting from a crime
- Dependents of a person who dies as a result of a specified crime, including murder, manslaughter, wounding with intent, inflicting injury, offenses under the Sexual Offences Act, and so forth
- A person responsible for the care and maintenance of the victim or dependent, where that person has suffered pecuniary loss or has incurred expense in the care of the injured victim or dependent

Procedures

Application forms are included in the law. A victim or dependent applies directly to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board and must provide a medical or death certificate as evidence of injury and other relevant documents as required by the board. The board must obtain a copy of the police report and it has the discretion to request and consider any other evidence it considers appropriate to reach a decision. The board is not bound by rules of evidence or legal procedure. There is no appeal process. The board will make its determination within 30 days of acknowledgment of receipt of the application and all supporting documents and information.

Benefits and Award Limits

The maximum award is TT\$25,000. This maximum may be increased by Minister's order up to TT\$50,000. There is no established minimum award.

Compensable costs. Any reasonable expenses incurred as a result of the crime, including loss of earning power and pecuniary loss to the dependent of a deceased victim. No specific types of losses or expenses are mentioned in the Act.

Emergency awards. There is no provision for awarding funds in an emergency.

Funding sources. The Act states that Parliament shall also appropriate moneys from the Consolidated Fund for the payment of compensation to victims or their dependents.

Trinidad and Tobago (continued)

Contact Information

The Minister of Social Services, Autorama Building,
El Socorro, San Juan, Trinidad

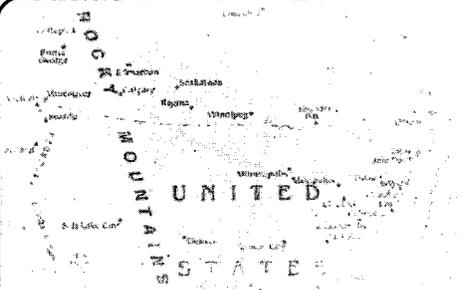
Telephone: 1-868-674-2245

Fax: 1-868-674-6728

Internet: None

Languages used—

- On application forms: English
- In correspondence: English
- By telephone: English



United States

Each state in the United States, as well as the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and Puerto Rico, operates a crime victim compensation program to provide financial assistance for victims of violent or personal crime. Each state administers its own program in accordance with its state statute. The U.S. Department of Justice provides supplemental Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding and technical support to the states. The following information is generally applicable to all state compensation programs. For information regarding specific programs, contact the programs directly.

Eligibility Requirements

Report to police. Usually within 72 hours; exceptions are made for good cause.

Filing period. One year is typical; exceptions are made for good cause.

Victims of terrorist acts. Compensation is payable through the federal Antiterrorism Emergency Reserve for residents and nonresidents who are injured or killed in acts of terrorism within the United States or for U.S. nationals, officers, and/or employees of the U.S. government who are injured or killed in acts of terrorism outside the United States. In addition, some state compensation programs provide benefits to victims of terrorism.

Claimants. The following parties are eligible for compensation in most states:

- Victims of crime
- Dependents of homicide victims
- Relatives of victims of crime
- Citizens of foreign countries

Procedures

The claimant must file an application with the compensation agency in the state where the crime occurred. Based on information submitted by the victim, the agency determines if the claimant is eligible and has suffered a financial loss. In most states, the victim can appeal the agency's decision to deny or reduce the amount of compensation.

Benefits and Award Limits

Maximum benefits available to victims from the state programs average about \$25,000, though a number of states have higher or lower maximums.

Compensable costs. All states will cover the following:

United States (continued)

- Medical expenses
- Mental health counseling
- Lost wages for disabled victims
- Lost support for dependents of homicide victims
- Funeral and burial expenses

In addition, many states cover the following:

- Travel for medical treatment
- Services to replace work previously performed by the victim
- Crime scene cleanup
- Moving expenses
- Essential medical personal property (such as prosthetic devices, glasses)
- Rehabilitation
- Attorneys' fees

Emergency awards. Some states provide emergency awards or expedite processing for victims faced with extraordinary financial needs.

Funding sources. Most states obtain their funding from fees or charges assessed against offenders. Some states receive appropriations from general revenue. OVC provides supplemental funds from federal criminal fines and penalties.

Contact Information (by State and Territory)

Alabama

Telephone: 334-242-4007

Fax: 334-353-1401

Internet: www.acvcc.state.al.us

Alaska

Telephone: 907-465-5525

Fax: 907-465-2379

Internet: www.state.ak.us/admin/vccb

Arizona

Telephone: 602-364-1155

Fax: 602-364-1175

Internet: www.azvictims.com/resources/compensation.asp

Arkansas

Telephone: 501-682-1323

Fax: 501-682-5313

Internet: www.ag.state.ar.us

California

Telephone: 916-323-3432

Fax: 916-322-1487

Internet: www.boc.ca.gov

Colorado

Telephone: 303-239-4442

Fax: 303-239-4411

Internet: http://dcj.state.co.us/ovp/comp_english.htm

Connecticut

Telephone: 860-747-4501

Fax: 860-747-6428

Internet: www.jud.state.ct.us

Delaware

Telephone: 302-995-8383

Fax: 302-995-8387

Internet: <http://courts.state.de.us/vccb>

District of Columbia

Telephone: 202-879-4216

Fax: 202-879-4230

Internet: www.mpdcc.dc.gov/serv/victims/victimsfaq.shtm

Florida

Telephone: 850-414-3300

Fax: 850-487-1595

Internet: <http://myfloridalegal.com/victims>

Georgia

Telephone: 404-559-4949

Fax: 404-559-4960

Internet: www.ganet.org/cjcc/victimscmp.html

Guam

Telephone: 9-1-671-475-3324, ext. 285

Fax: 9-1-671-472-2493

Internet: www.guamattorneygeneral.com

United States (continued)

Hawaii

Telephone: 808-587-1143
Fax: 808-587-1146
Internet: www.ehawaii.gov/psd/cvcc/html

Idaho

Telephone: 208-334-6000
Fax: 208-334-5145
Internet: www2.state.id.us/iic/crimevictims.htm

Illinois

Telephone: 312-814-2581
Fax: 312-814-5079
Internet: www.ag.state.il.us

Indiana

Telephone: 317-232-2927
Fax: 317-233-3912
Internet: www.in.gov/cji/victim

Iowa

Telephone: 1-800-373-5044
Fax: 515-281-8199
Internet: www.state.ia.us/government/ag/cva.html

Kansas

Telephone: 785-296-2359
Fax: 785-296-0652
Internet: www.accesskansas.org/ksag/Crime/victims_comp_program.htm

Kentucky

Telephone: 1-800-469-2120
Fax: 502-573-4817
Internet: www.state.ky.us/agencies/cppr/cvcb

Louisiana

Telephone: 225-925-1997
Fax: 225-925-1998
Internet: www.cole.state.la.us/cvr.htm

Maine

Telephone: 207-626-8800
Fax: 207-624-7730
Internet: www.state.me.us/ag/crime/victimcomp.html

Maryland

Telephone: 410-585-3331
Fax: 410-764-3815
Internet: www.dpsc.state.md.us/cicb

Massachusetts

Telephone: 617-727-2200
Fax: 617-367-3906
Internet: www.ago.state.ma.us/sp.cfm?pageid=1657

Michigan

Telephone: 517-334-9941
Fax: 517-241-2769
Internet: www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2940_3184---,00.html

Minnesota

Telephone: 651-282-6256
Fax: 651-205-4808
Internet: www.ojp.state.mn.us/mccvs/index.htm

Mississippi

Telephone: 601-359-6766
Fax: 601-359-3262
Internet: www.dfa.state.ms.us/cvcomp.html

Missouri

Telephone: 573-526-6006
Fax: 573-526-4940
Internet: www.dolir.mo.gov/wc/cv_help.htm

Montana

Telephone: 406-444-3653
Fax: 406-444-4722
Internet: www.doj.state.mt.us/victims/victimcompensation.asp

Nebraska

Telephone: 402-471-2194
Fax: 402-471-2837
Internet: www.ncc.state.ne.us/services_programs/victim_services.htm

Nevada

Telephone: 702-486-2740
Fax: 702-486-2825
Internet: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/help/compdir/nevada.htm

New Hampshire

Telephone: 603-271-1284
Fax: 603-271-2110
Internet: www.unh.edu/womens-commission/legal-handbook/compensation.html

United States (continued)

New Jersey

Telephone: 973-648-2107
Fax: 973-648-7031
Internet: www.state.nj.us/victims/vccbdir.htm

New Mexico

Telephone: 505-841-9432
Fax: 505-841-9437
Internet: www.state.nm.us/cvrc

New York

Telephone: 1-800-247-8035
Fax: 518-457-8658 (Albany)
Internet: www.cvb.state.ny.us

North Carolina

Telephone: 919-733-7974
Fax: 919-715-4209
Internet: www.nccrimecontrol.org/Index2.cfm?a=000003,000016

North Dakota

Telephone: 701-328-6195
Fax: 701-328-6186
Internet: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/help/compdir/northdakota.htm

Ohio

Telephone: 614-466-5610
Fax: 614-995-5412
Internet: www.ag.state.oh.us/sections/crime_victims_services

Oklahoma

Telephone: 405-264-5006
Fax: 405-264-5095
Internet: www.odawan.net

Oregon

Telephone: 503-378-5348
Fax: 503-378-5738
Internet: www.doj.state.or.us/CrimeV/comp.htm

Pennsylvania

Telephone: 717-783-0551, ext. 3093
Fax: 717-783-7713
Internet: www.pccd.state.pa.us/pccd/cwp/view.asp?a'3&Q'571196

Puerto Rico

Telephone: 787-641-7480
Fax: 787-641-7477
Internet: www.justicia.gobierno.pr/rs_template/v2/CompVic

Rhode Island

Telephone: 401-222-3264
Fax: 401-222-2212
Internet: www.treasury.state.ri.us/vcfund.htm

South Carolina

Telephone: 803-734-1930
Fax: 803-734-1708
Internet: www.govoep.state.sc.us/sova/vcfund.htm

South Dakota

Telephone: 605-773-3656
Fax: 605-773-6834
Internet: www.state.sd.us/social/cvc

Tennessee

Telephone: 615-741-2734
Fax: 615-532-4979
Internet: www.treasury.state.tn.us/injury.htm

Texas

Telephone: 512-936-1200
Fax: 512-320-8270
Internet: www.oag.state.tx.us/victims/cvc.shtml

U.S. Virgin Islands

Telephone: 340-774-1166
Fax: 340-774-3466
Internet: None

Utah

Telephone: 801-238-2360
Fax: 801-533-4127
Internet: www.crimevictim.utah.gov/about.htm

Vermont

Telephone: 802-241-1250
Fax: 802-241-1253
Internet: www.ccvs.state.vt.us

Virginia

Telephone: 804-378-3434
Fax: 804-378-4390
Internet: www.vvc.state.va.us/cicf/cicf_start_page.htm

Washington

Telephone: 360-902-5340
Fax: 360-902-5333
Internet: www.lni.wa.gov/ClaimsIns/CrimeVictims/default.asp

United States (continued)

West Virginia

Telephone: 304-347-4850

Fax: 304-347-4915

Internet: www.legis.state.wv.us/joint/victims/main.cfm

Wisconsin

Telephone: 608-266-6470

Fax: 608-264-6368

Internet: www.doj.state.wi.us/cvs

Wyoming

Telephone: 307-777-7200

Fax: 307-777-6683

Internet: <http://vssi.state.wy.us>



Directory of International Crime Victim Compensation Programs

Status

Summaries

The status summaries on the following pages, which illustrate at a glance the countries that provide victim compensation programs, are organized by region. To ascertain the region of particular countries, visit the U.S. Department of State's Countries and Regions' Web site at—

<http://www.state.gov/countries>

Select "Background Notes and Links to Country Pages" from the left column. Then, click on any of the countries listed in alphabetical order in the center of the page. The resulting page highlights specific information about the country (including its region). For a map, click on the country's official name. For regional maps, see the next section in this directory.

International Compensation Programs: Status Summary for the Western Hemisphere

Country	Compensation Program	No Compensation Program
Antigua and Barbuda		✓
Argentina		✓
Aruba		✓
Bahamas, The		✓
Barbados		✓
Belize		✓
Bermuda	✓ (pages 13-14)	
Bolivia		✓
Brazil		✓
Canada	✓ (pages 15-18)	
Cayman Islands		✓
Chile		✓
Colombia	✓ (pages 19-20)	
Costa Rica		✓
Cuba		✓
Dominica		✓
Dominican Republic		✓
Ecuador		✓
El Salvador		✓
Grenada		✓
Guatemala		✓
Guyana		✓
Haiti		✓
Honduras		✓
Jamaica		✓
Mexico		✓
Netherlands Antilles		✓
Nicaragua		✓
Panama		✓
Paraguay		✓
Peru		✓
St. Kitts and Nevis		✓

continued on page 90

**International Compensation Programs:
Status Summary for the Western Hemisphere (continued)**

Country	Compensation Program	No Compensation Program
St. Lucia		✓
St. Vincent and the Grenadines		✓
Suriname		✓
Trinidad and Tobago	✓ (pages 79–80)	
United States	✓ (pages 81–85)	
Uruguay		✓
Venezuela		✓

International Compensation Programs: Status Summary for Europe

Country	Compensation Program	No Compensation Program
Albania		✓
Andorra		✓
Armenia		✓
Austria	✓ (pages 7–9)	
Azerbaijan		✓
Belarus		✓
Belgium	✓ (pages 11–12)	
Bosnia and Herzegovina		✓
Bulgaria		✓
Croatia		✓
Cyprus	✓ (pages 21–22)	
Czech Republic	✓ (pages 23–24)	
Denmark	✓ (pages 25–26)	
Estonia	✓ (pages 27–28)	
Finland	✓ (pages 29–30)	
France	✓ (pages 31–32)	
Georgia		✓
Germany	✓ (pages 33–34)	
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	✓ (pages 35–37)	
Greece		✓
Holy See (The Vatican)		✓
Hungary	✓ (pages 41–42)	
Iceland	✓ (pages 43–44)	
Ireland	✓ (pages 45–46)	
Italy	✓ (pages 49–50)	
Kazakstan		✓
Kyrgyzstan		✓
Latvia		✓
Liechtenstein		✓
Liberia		✓
Lithuania		✓

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International Compensation Programs: Status Summary for Europe (continued)

Country	Compensation Program	No Compensation Program
Luxembourg	✓ (pages 53–54)	
Macedonia		✓
Malta		✓
Moldova		✓
Monaco		✓
Netherlands, The	✓ (pages 55–56)	
Norway	✓ (pages 59–60)	
Poland	✓ (pages 63–64)	
Portugal	✓ (pages 65–66)	
Romania		✓
Russia		✓
San Marino		✓
Serbia and Montenegro		✓
Slovakia	✓ (pages 69–70)	
Slovenia		✓
Spain	✓ (pages 71–72)	
Sweden	✓ (pages 73–74)	
Switzerland	✓ (pages 75–76)	
Tajikistan		✓
Turkey		✓
Turkmenistan		✓
Ukraine		✓
Uzbekistan		✓

International Compensation Programs: Status Summary for Africa

Country	Compensation Program	No Compensation Program
Angola		✓
Benin		✓
Botswana		✓
Burkina Faso		✓
Burundi		✓
Cameroon		✓
Cape Verde		✓
Central African Republic		✓
Chad		✓
Comoros		✓
Congo, Democratic Republic of the		✓
Congo, Republic of		✓
Cote d'Ivoire		✓
Djibouti		✓
Equatorial Guinea		✓
Eritrea		✓
Ethiopia		✓
Gabon		✓
Gambia, The		✓
Ghana		✓
Guinea		✓
Guinea-Bissau		✓
Kenya		✓
Lesotho		✓
Liberia		✓
Madagascar		✓
Malawi		✓
Mali		✓
Mauritania		✓
Mauritius		✓

continued on page 94

International Compensation Programs: Status Summary for Africa (continued)

Country	Compensation Program	No Compensation Program
Mozambique		✓
Namibia		✓
Niger		✓
Nigeria		✓
Rwanda		✓
Sao Tome and Principe		✓
Senegal		✓
Seychelles		✓
Sierra Leone		✓
Somalia		✓
South Africa		✓
Sudan		✓
Swaziland		✓
Tanzania		✓
Togo		✓
Uganda		✓
Zambia		✓
Zimbabwe		✓

International Compensation Programs: Status Summary for the Near East

Country	Compensation Program	No Compensation Program
Algeria		✓
Bahrain		✓
Egypt		✓
Iran		✓
Iraq		✓
Israel	✓ (pages 47–48)	
Jordan		✓
Kuwait		✓
Lebanon		✓
Libya		✓
Morocco		✓
Oman		✓
Qatar		✓
Saudi Arabia		✓
Syria		✓
Tunisia		✓
United Arab Emirates		✓
Yemen		✓

International Compensation Programs: Status Summary for South Asia

Country	Compensation Program	No Compensation Program
Afghanistan		✓
Bangladesh		✓
Bhutan		✓
India		✓
Maldives		✓
Nepal		✓
Pakistan		✓
Sri Lanka		✓

International Compensation Programs: Status Summary for East Asia and the Pacific

Country	Compensation Program	No Compensation Program
Australia	✓ (pages 3–5)	
Brunei		✓
Burma		✓
Cambodia		✓
China		✓
East Timor		✓
Fiji		✓
Hong Kong (SAR)	✓ (pages 39–40)	
Indonesia		✓
Japan	✓ (pages 51–52)	
Kiribati		✓
Korea, North		✓
Korea, Republic of	✓ (pages 67–68)	
Laos		✓
Malaysia		✓
Marshall Islands		✓
Micronesia		✓
Mongolia		✓
Nauru		✓
New Zealand	✓ (pages 57–58)	
Palau		✓
Papua New Guinea		✓
Philippines	✓ (pages 61–62)	
Samoa		✓
Singapore		✓
Solomon Islands		✓
Taiwan	✓ (pages 77–78)	
Thailand		✓
Tonga		✓
Tuvalu		✓
Vanuatu		✓
Vietnam		✓



Directory of International Crime Victim Compensation Programs

Regional

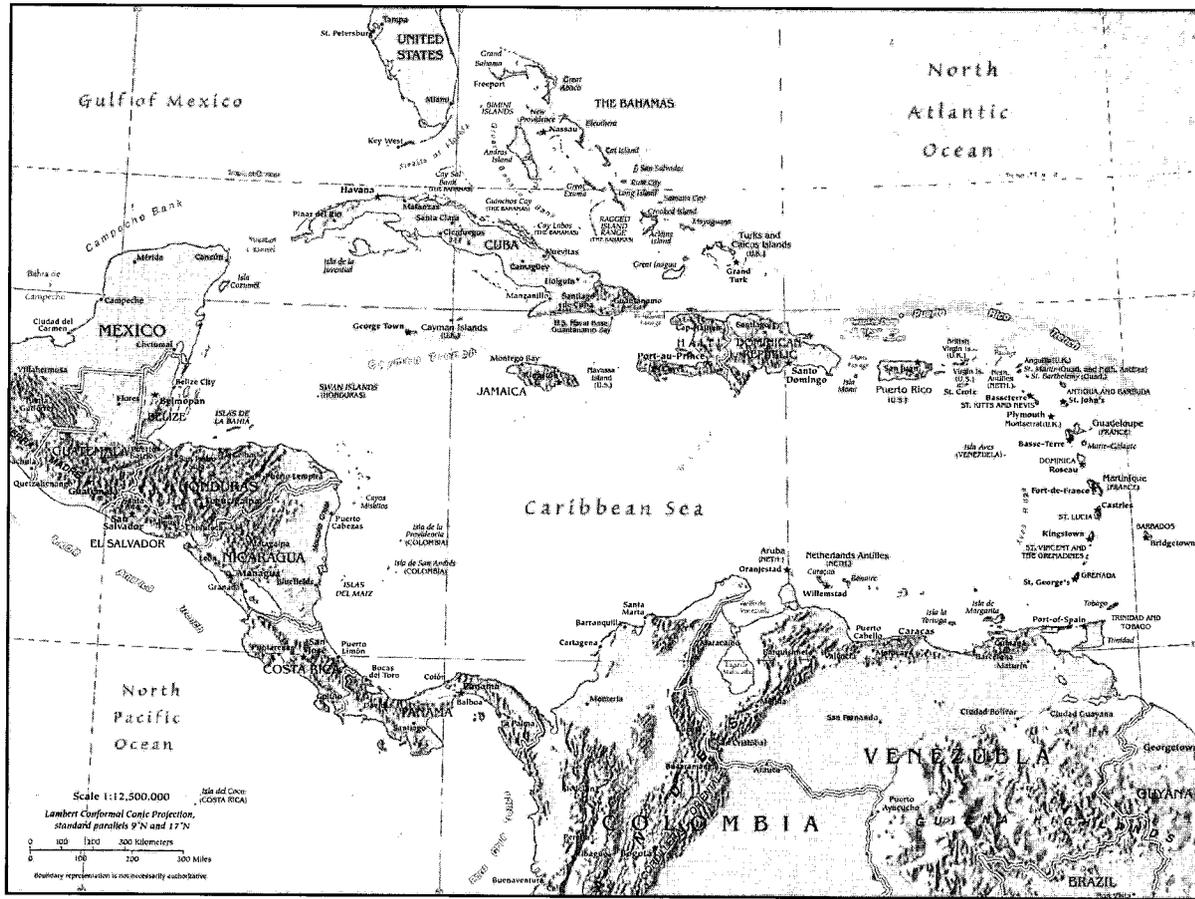
Maps

Maps appear courtesy of the Central Intelligence Agency's World Factbook (2004). They were downloaded from www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/docs/refmaps.html on November 17, 2004.

NORTH AMERICA



CENTRAL AMERICA



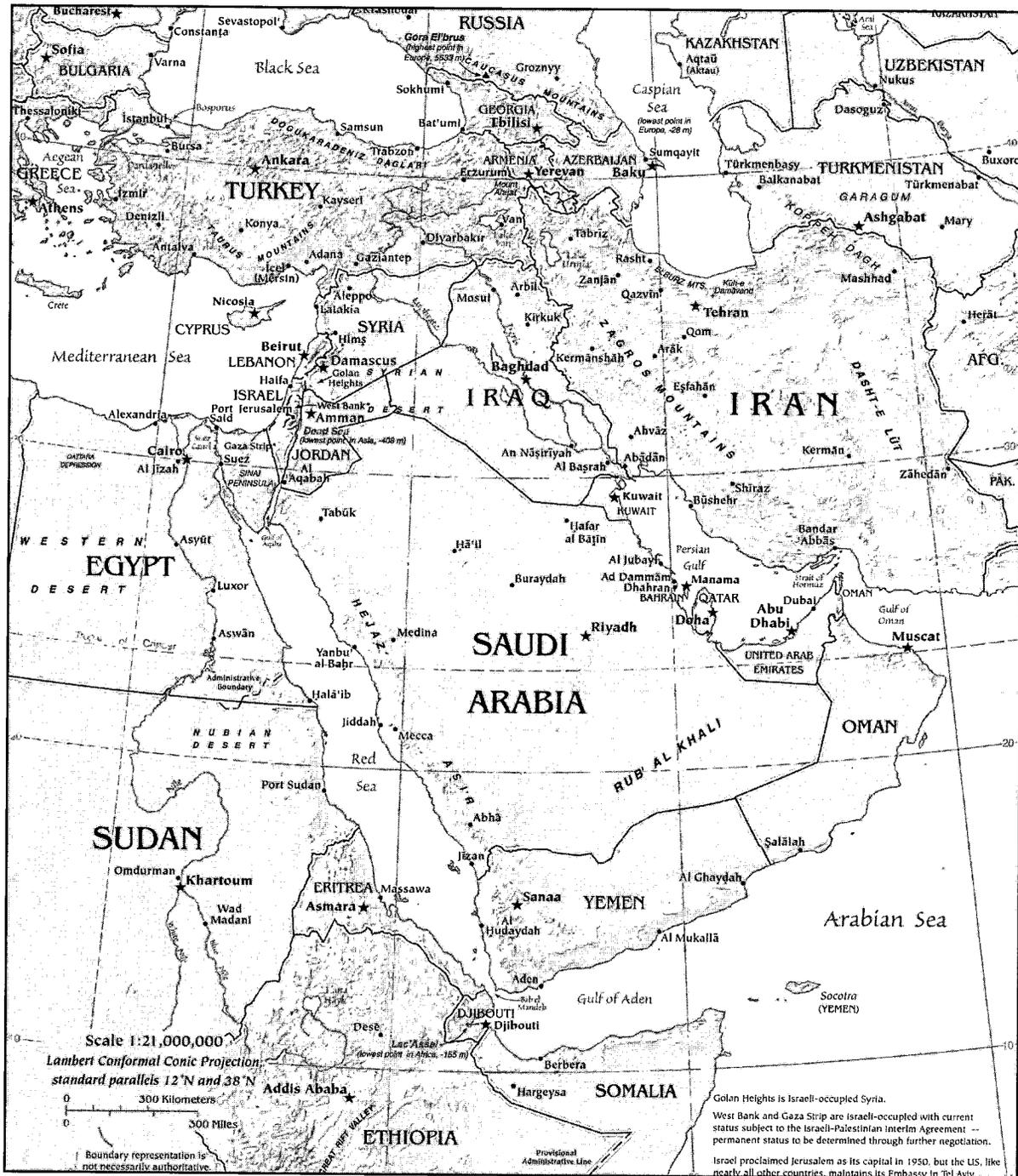
SOUTH AMERICA



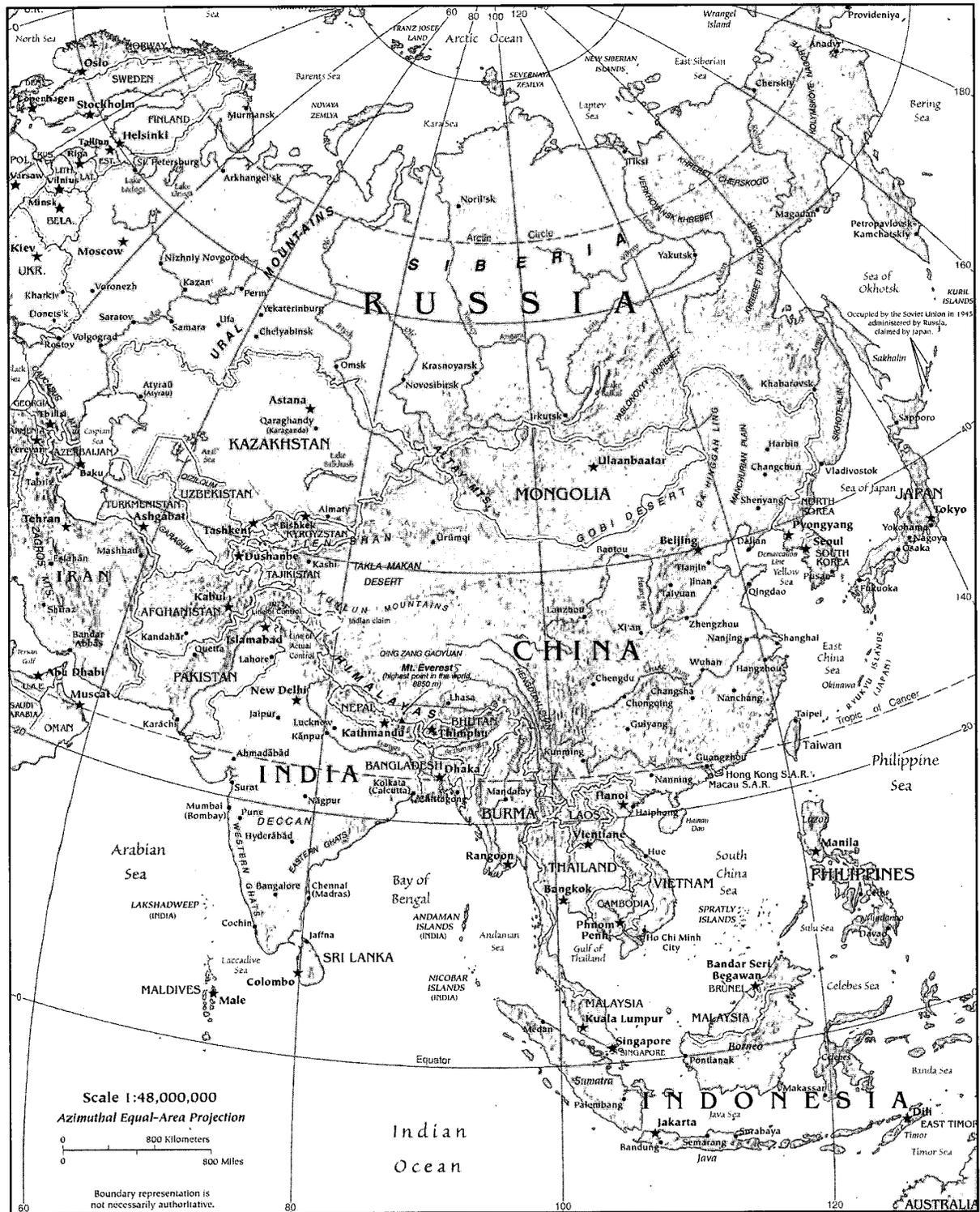
EUROPE



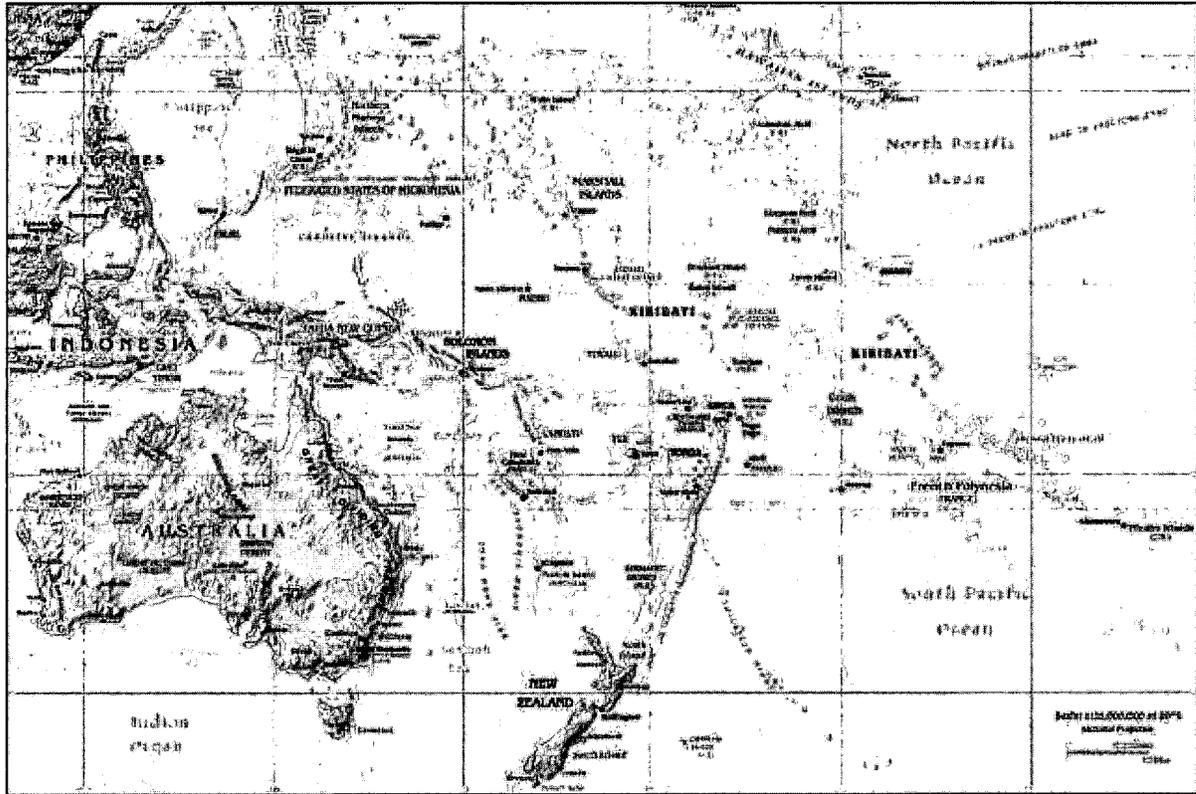
MIDDLE EAST



ASIA



OCEANIA







For Further Information

Office for Victims of Crime

Office of Justice Programs
U.S. Department of Justice
810 Seventh Street NW.
Washington, DC 20531
202-307-5983
Fax: 202-514-6383
Web site: www.ovc.gov

OVC Resource Center

1-800-851-3420 (TTY 1-877-712-9279)
Web site: <http://virlib.ncjrs.org/VictimsOfCrime.asp>

National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards (NACVCB)

703-780-3200
Web site: www.nacvcb.org

U.S. Department of State

Bureau of Consular Affairs
Overseas Citizens Services (OCS)
1-888-407-4747 or 317-472-2328 (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
202-647-4000 (after hours, weekends, holidays, and in emergencies; ask for the OCS duty officer)
Web site: http://travel.state.gov/travel/about/about_1247.html
OCS is open Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. eastern time.

