

October 24, 2012

Deutscher Bundestag  
Platz der Republik 1  
11011 Berlin  
Germany

From: Mrs. Terezia Gelb  
120 Torresdale Ave Apt 1012  
Willowdale, Ontario  
M2R 3N7  
Canada

Attention: Ms. Ulla Jelpke (Fraktion Die Linke).

Without Prejudice

Dear Ms. Jelpke:

Re: ZRBG Law (2002). Bundestag Antrag 17/7985.

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First of all, let me say this: It gives me a pleasure to say: Thank you Ms. Jelpke and Fraktion Die Linke for relentless pursue to restore justice in Retroactive Payments to former Nazi Ghetto workers, justice as was intended in ZRBG Law (2002).

Few thinks about myself. I am a 92 year old survivor of Auschwitz-Birkenau and Bergen-Belsen Nazi death camps. My Auschwitz tattoo number - A-7957. I was employed in Nazi ghetto, before I was deported; I applied first for German Ghetto Pension in 1997, my application was rejected few times and only in 2010 my Application was approved, so I have a vested interest in German Ghetto Pension Retroactive Payments issues.

Now let me bring to your attention few points:

First. Since June 2010 I receive German Ghetto Pension, retroactive to January 1, 2005, reconsidered in accordance with the order of Judge Dr. Jan-Robert von Renesse of June 2009 of the German Social Court. The Judges order is unique in nature, first of all, it restored in full the intent and purpose - the will of Bundestag in ZRBG Law (2002), in respect of eligibility criteria (what constitutes remuneration for Ghetto employment)

The named order of the German Social Court dramatically changed the outcome, by reversing, at least in half of the Applications from negative to positive grants. For that, of course, we are enormously in debt to Judge Renesse, who, by the way, penalized later for his sense of duty, sense of fairness, great common sense and core belief, that it is ridiculous that 93 % of former ghetto employees Applications were rejected.

Furthermore, for the Judges remarkable honesty, judicial independency of mind in the sense of reality, he was dismissed and not allowed to continue his function in Social Court. We all loose, when such remarkable, distinguished Judge find himself in trouble for his morally driven common goods.

Second. I am grateful to you personally and to the Fraktion Die Linke for pursue the issue of Retroactive Payment of the German Ghetto pension as was intended by the Law, from July 1, 1997. I find, in my heart, that your Fraktion Die Linke is exemplary: in devotion to social justice and resoluteness to uphold the ZRBG Law (2002) to the highest moral intent.

I had a chance to read your Articles in respect to honor Retroactive Payments to July 1, 1997, I also read the tabled Antrag 17/7985 in this respect. All are drafted with the highest integrity and confidence, with vigor and fairness - that justice ought to be restored, that indeed we are victims, and we pay enormously for the mistakes that our Applications were not approved in the first instances.

Sincerely, I honor Fraktion Die Linke determination and deep dedications to common sense and good will.

Third. Myself (we) as a victim of Ghetto injustices I (me) deserve every penny in Pension for my (our) employment in Nazi Ghettos.

Ghetto was a terrible place, to be sure, but the employment itself was a form of guarantee of essential food on the table, the escape from hunger suffering. As a young women I was lucky of sort, to find employment in the Nazi Ghetto, it gave me the "honor" to help my family live "in comfort" by knowing that I was the essential "bread winner" to the family's "well being" in the terrible inhuman conditions in the Ghetto.

Make no mistake, Nazi ghetto was exceptionally terrible place to be in, it was a place to break the Jewish will, to impose terrible hardships, to prepare for "Final Solution" - to deport to Auschwitz-Birkenau for certain death.

Fourth. On February 23-37, 2012 in writing to distinguished Members of Bundestag, in particular, Mr. Peter WeiB (CDU/CSU), Dr. Heinrich L. Kolb (FDP) and Mr. Anton Schaaf (SPD) I urged them to support without any further delays the Antrag 17/7985. I also brought to their attention, that limitations in Retroactive Payments are appalling, serve nobody's best interest when Nazi injustices are concerned.

My argument to them was simple, precise, I believe convincing, that unanimosity of all political Parties in adopting ZRBG Law (2002) ought to be considered as unique approach and must be applied to the tabled Antrag 17/7985 in an expeditious way, because time is of essence. I also gave them the guidance to follow - and the Name of the guidance - Fraktion Die Linke.

Fifth. For reasons, beyond my belief, so far Antrag 17/7985 is not succeeded yet. Of course, it is not for the lack of trying by your respected Fraktion Die Linke, not at all, but rather stubborn approaches by the Governing Parties, which are unable or unwilling to cooperate in high moral sense. Shame on the Governing coalition in majority, who blocks the progress of consciousness.

To tell the truth, the members of the Governing coalition Parties not only disrespect the will of the Antrag 17/7985, but show to me, to a tattooed A-7957 Auschwitz-Birkenau Nazi Holocaust survivor, absolute contempt to courtesy, by not acting and/or responding in responsible way.

Contrary to members of the Governing coalition, the Honorable Anton Schaaf (SPD) responded in amicable way with encouraging words in prospect that his Party will unconditionally support Antrag 17/7985 and, in addition, his Party together with the Bundnis 90/Die Grunen tabled in Bundestag Antrag 17/10094, which is more progressive in nature and might be the optional way to resolve the issues of Retroactive Payments in the future standing in the Bundestag.

No question, I feel excited and acknowledge that distinguished Parties (Fraktion Die Linke, Bundnis 90/Die Grunen and SPD already signed up to resolve the issues of Retroactive Payments and sooner or later the remaining Governing Coalition Parties find the wisdom and sense of duty, to respond in kind, and bring the peace of mind to those, who deserve to be recognized in Ghetto Pension from July 1, 1997.

Finally, you personally and Fraktion Die Linke made a huge impression upon me, that your respectability and sense of duty far overwhelming in caring for people, when ordinary justice is concerned. The compassion, the empathy of your respectful Party to others is exceptional, and deep sense of fairness is in vigor.

Again, thank you very much for attention and I hope that you will respond in your convenient time.

Sincerely,



Terezia Gelb