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German occupation of Estonia during World War II

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Main article: Estonia in World War II

After **Nazi Germany invaded** the **Soviet Union** on June 22, 1941, **Army Group North** reached **Estonia** in July. Initially the Germans were perceived by most Estonians as liberators from the **USSR and its repressions**, having arrived only a week after the first mass deportations from the Baltics. Although hopes were raised for the restoration of the country's independence, it was soon realized that they were but another occupying power. The Germans pillaged the country for the war effort and unleashed the **Holocaust**. For the duration of the occupation, Estonia was incorporated into the German province of **Ostland**.

- Navigation
- Main page
- Contents
- Featured content
- Current events
- Random article
- Donate to Wikipedia

Interaction

- Help
- About Wikipedia
- Community portal
- Recent changes
- Contact page

Toolbox

- What links here
- Related changes
- Upload file
- Special pages
- Permanent link
- Page information
- Data item
- Cite this page

Print/export

- Create a book
- Download as PDF
- Printable version

Languages

- Eesti
- Español
- Galego
- Português

Edit links

Contents

- Occupation
- Political resistance
- Estonians in German military units
- German administrators
 - Generalkommissar
 - S.S. und Polizeiführer
 - Lagerkommandant
- Collaboration
 - Estonian Self-Administration
 - Directors
 - Holocaust
 - Estonian military units' involvement in crimes against humanity
- Controversies
- See also
- References
- External links

Occupation [edit]

Nazi Germany invaded the **Soviet Union** on June 22, 1941. On the same day, Finland was attacked by the Soviet Union and three days later, on June 25, Finland declared herself to once again be in a state of war with the USSR, starting the **Continuation War**. On July 3, **Joseph Stalin** made his public statement over the radio calling for **scorched-earth** policy in the areas to be abandoned. Because the northernmost areas of the Baltic states were the last to be reached by the Germans, it was here that the **Soviet destruction battalions** had their most extreme effects. The Estonian **forest brothers**, numbering about 50,000, inflicted heavy casualties on the remaining Soviets; as many as 4,800 were killed and 14,000 captured.

Even though the Germans did not cross the Estonian southern border until July 7–9, Estonian soldiers who had deserted from Soviet units in large numbers, opened fire on the **Red Army** as early as June 22. On that day, a group of forest brothers attacked Soviet trucks on a road in the district of **Harju**.^[1] The Soviet 22nd Rifle Corps was the unit that lost most men, as a large group of Estonian soldiers and officers deserted from it. Furthermore, border guards of Soviet Estonia were mostly people who had previously worked for independent Estonia, and they also escaped to the forests, becoming one of the best groups of Estonian fighters. An Estonian writer Juhan Jaik wrote in 1941: "These days bogs and forests are more populated than farms and fields. The forests and bogs are our territory while the fields and farms are occupied by the enemy [e.g. the Soviets]".^[1]

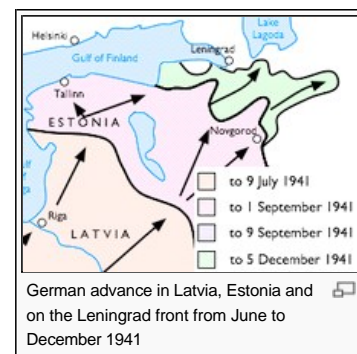
The **8th Army** (Major General Ljubovtsev), retreated in front of the 2nd corps of the German Army behind the **Pärnu River** - the **Emajõgi** River line on July 12. As German troops approached **Tartu** on July 10 and prepared for another battle with the Soviets, they realized that the Estonian partisans were already fighting the Soviet troops. The **Wehrmacht** stopped its advance and hung back, leaving the Estonians to do the fighting. The battle of Tartu lasted two weeks, and destroyed most of the city. Under the leadership of Friedrich Kurg, the Estonian partisans drove out the Soviets from Tartu on their own. In the meanwhile, the Soviets had been murdering citizens held in Tartu Prison, killing 192 before the Estonians captured the city.

At the end of July the Germans resumed their advance in Estonia working in tandem with the Estonian Forest Brothers. Both German troops and Estonian partisans took **Narva** on August 17 and the Estonian capital **Tallinn** on August 28. On that day, the Soviet flag shot down earlier on Pikk Hermann was replaced with the Flag of Estonia by Fred Ise. After the Soviets were driven out from Estonia, German troops disarmed all the partisan groups.^[2] The Estonian flag was soon replaced with the flag of Nazi Germany, and the 2,000 Estonian soldiers that took part in the parade in Tartu (July 29), were disbanded.^[3]

Most Estonians greeted the Germans with relatively open arms and hoped for the restoration of independence. Estonia set up an administration, led by **Jüri Uluots** as soon as the Soviet regime retreated and before German troops arrived. Estonian partisans that drove the Red Army from Tartu made it possible. That all was for nothing since the Germans disbanded the provisional government and Estonia became a part of the German-occupied "**Ostland**". A **Sicherheitspolizei** was established for internal security under the leadership of **Ain-Ervin Mere**.

In April 1941, on the eve on the German invasion, **Alfred Rosenberg**, Reich minister for the Occupied Eastern territories, a **Baltic German**, born and raised in Tallinn, Estonia, laid out his plans for the East. According to Rosenberg a future policy was created:

- Germanization (Eindeutschung) of the "racially suitable" elements.
- Colonization by Germanic peoples.



German advance in Latvia, Estonia and on the Leningrad front from June to December 1941

3. Exile, deportations of undesirable elements.

Rosenberg felt that the "Estonians were the most Germanic out of the people living in the Baltic area, having already reached 50 percent of Germanization through Danish, Swedish and German influence". Non-suitable Estonians were to be moved to a region that Rosenberg called "Peipusland" to make room for German colonists.^[4]

The initial enthusiasm that accompanied the liberation from Soviet occupation quickly waned as a result and the Germans had limited success in recruiting volunteers. The draft was introduced in 1942, resulting in some 3400 men fleeing to Finland to fight in the **Finnish Army** rather than join the Germans. **Finnish Infantry Regiment 200** (Estonian: *soomepoisid* 'Finnish boys') was formed out of Estonian volunteers in Finland.

With the Allied victory over Germany becoming certain in 1944, the only option to save Estonia's independence was to stave off a new Soviet invasion of Estonia until Germany's capitulation.

Political resistance [edit]

Main articles: [Estonian anti-German resistance movement 1941–1944](#) and [National Committee of the Republic of Estonia](#)

In June 1942 political leaders of Estonia who had survived Soviet repressions held a hidden meeting from the occupying powers in Estonia where the formation of an underground Estonian government and the options for preserving continuity of the republic were discussed.^[5]

On January 6, 1943 a meeting was held at the Estonian foreign delegation in Stockholm. It was decided that, in order to preserve the legal continuity of the **Republic of Estonia**, the last constitutional prime minister, Jüri Uluots, must continue to fulfill his responsibilities as prime minister.^{[5][6]}

In June 1944 the elector's assembly of the Republic of Estonia gathered in secrecy from the occupying powers in Tallinn and appointed Jüri Uluots as the prime minister with the responsibilities of the President. On June 21 Jüri Uluots appointed Otto Tief as deputy prime minister.^[5]

As the Germans retreated, on September 18, 1944 **Jüri Uluots** formed a government led by the Deputy Prime Minister, **Otto Tief**. On September 20 the Nazi German flag on **Pikk Hermann** was replaced with the tricolor flag of Estonia. On September 22 the Red Army took Tallinn and the Estonian flag on Pikk Hermann was replaced with the Soviet flag. The Estonian underground government, not officially recognized by either the Nazi Germany or Soviet Union, fled to **Stockholm, Sweden** and operated in exile until 1992, when **Heinrich Mark**, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia in duties of the President in exile,^[7] presented his credentials to the newly elected President of Estonia **Lennart Meri**. On February 23, 1989 the flag of the Estonian SSR had been lowered on **Pikk Hermann**; it was replaced with the flag of Estonia to mark Estonian Independence Day on February 24, 1989.



Estonians in German military units [edit]

The annexation of Estonia by the USSR in 1940 was complete, but never recognized internationally except by **Eastern Bloc** countries. After the annexation, Estonians were subject to conscription into the Red Army, which by international law is illegal if Estonia is not considered to have been a part of the USSR. When the Soviets retreated from Estonia and Germany fully occupied it, in the summer of 1941, the Germans continued the practice of dragooning Estonian men, although a number joined the German Army voluntarily, often out of the desire to fight the USSR, which had made strong enemies with many groups of society in Estonia after introducing their socialist economic system. Up to March 1942 drafted Estonians mostly served in the rear of the Army Group North security. On August 28, 1942 the German powers announced the legal compilation of the so-called "Estonian Legion" within the **Waffen SS**. Oberführer **Franz Augsberger** was nominated the commander of the legion. Up to the end of 1942 about 1,280 men volunteered into the training camp. Bataillon Narwa was formed from the first 800 men of the Legion to have finished their training at Heidelager, being sent in April 1943 to join the **Division Wiking** in Ukraine. They replaced the **Finnish Volunteer Battalion**, recalled to Finland for political reasons.^[8] In March 1943, a partial mobilization was carried out in Estonia during which 12,000 men were conscripted into the SS. On May 5, 1943 the 3rd Waffen-SS Brigade (Estonian), another fully Estonian unit, was formed and sent to the front near **Nevel**.

By January 1944, the front was pushed back by the Red Army almost all the way to the former Estonian border. **Jüri Uluots**, the last constitutional Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia,^[9] the leader of Estonian **underground government** delivered a radio address on February 7^[5] that implored all able-bodied men born from 1904 through 1923 to report for military service in the SS (before this, Uluots had opposed any German mobilization of Estonians.) Following Uluots' address, 38,000 conscripts jammed registration centers.^[10] Several thousand Estonians who had volunteered to join the Finnish army were transferred back across the **Gulf of Finland** to join the newly formed Territorial Defense Force, assigned to defend Estonia against the Soviet advance. The maximum amount of Estonians enrolled in German military units was 70,000.^[11] The initial formation of the volunteer Estonian Legion created in 1942 was eventually expanded to become a full-sized conscript division of the **Waffen SS** in 1944, the **20th Waffen Grenadier Division of the SS (1st Estonian)**. Units consisting largely of Estonians — often under German officers — saw action on the **Narva line** throughout 1944. Many Estonians hoped that they would attract support from the Allies, and ultimately a restoration of their interwar independence, by resisting the Soviet reoccupation of their country.^[12] In the end, there was no physical Allied support, largely because they were fighting under Nazi flags.



On February 2, 1944 the advance guard units of the **2nd Shock Army** reached the border of Estonia as a part of the **Kingisepp–Gdov Offensive** which began on February 1. Field Marshal **Walter Model** was nominated the leader of the German **Army Group North**. The Soviet **Narva Offensive (15–28 February 1944)** led by Soviet General **Leonid A. Govorov**, the commander of the **Leningrad Front**, commenced. On February 24, **Estonian Independence Day**, the counterattack of the so-called Estonian Division to break the Soviet **bridgeheads** began. A battalion of Estonians led by **Rudolf Bruus** destroyed a Soviet bridgehead. Another battalion of Estonians led by **Ain-Ervin Mere** was successful against another bridgehead, at Vaasa-Siivertsi-Vepsaküla. On March 6, this work was complete. The Leningrad Front concentrated 9 corps at Narva against 7 divisions and one brigade. On March 1, the Soviet **Narva Offensive (1–4 March 1944)** began in the direction of Auvere. The **658th Eastern Battalion** led by **Alfons Rebane** and the 659th Eastern Battalion commanded by **Georg Sooden** were involved in defeating the operation. On March 17, twenty Soviet divisions again unsuccessfully attacked the three divisions in Auvere. On April 7, the leadership of the Red Army ordered to go on the defensive. In March the Soviets committed bombing attacks towards the towns of Estonia, including the **bombing of Tallinn** on March 9.

On July 24 the Soviets began the new **Narva Offensive (July 1944)** in the **direction of Auvere**. The 1st battalion (Stubaf **Paul Maitla**) of the 45th Regiment led by Harald Riipalu and the fusiliers (previously "Narva"), under the leadership of Hatuf **Hando Ruus**, were involved in repelling the

attack. Finally, Narva was evacuated and a new front was settled on the [Tannenberg Line](#) in the [Sinimäed Hills](#).

On the first of August the Finnish government and President [Ryti](#) were to resign. On the next day, [Aleksander Warma](#), the Estonian Ambassador to Finland (1939–1940 (1944))^[13] announced that the National Committee of the Estonian Republic had sent a telegram, which requested the [Estonian volunteer regiment](#) to be returned to Estonia fully equipped. On the following day, the [Finnish Government](#) received a letter from the Estonians. It had been signed in the name of "all national organizations of Estonia" by Aleksander Warma, Karl Talpak and several others, seconding the request. It was then announced that the regiment would be disbanded and that the volunteers were free to return home. An agreement had been reached with the Germans, and the Estonians were promised amnesty if they chose to return and fight in the SS. As soon as they landed, the regiment was sent to perform a counter-attack against the Soviet 3rd Baltic Front, which had managed a breakthrough on the Tartu front, and was threatening the capital Tallinn.

After an attempt to break through the Tannenberg Line failed, the main struggle was carried to the [south of Lake Peipus](#), where on August 11, [Petseri](#) was taken and [Võru](#) on August 13. Near [Tartu](#), the 3rd Baltic Front was stopped by the Kampfgruppe "Wagner" which involved military groups sent from Narva under the command of Alfons Rebane and [Paul Vent](#) and the [5th SS Volunteer Sturmbrigade Wallonien](#) led by [Léon Degrelle](#).

On August 19, 1944 Jüri Uluots, in a radio broadcast, called for the Red Army to hold back and a peace agreement to be reached.^[5]

As Finland left the war on September 4, 1944 according to their peace agreement with the USSR, the defence of the mainland became practically impossible and the German command decided to [retreat from Estonia](#). Resistance against the Soviets [continued in the Moonsund Archipelago](#) until November 23, 1944, when the Germans evacuated the [Sõrve Peninsula](#). According to the Soviet data, the conquest of the territory of Estonia cost them 126,000 casualties. Some disregard the official figures and argue that a more realistic number is 480,000 for the [Battle of Narva](#) only, considering the intensity of the fighting at the front.^[14] On the German side, their own data shows 30,000 dead, which some have similarly seen as underrated, preferring at the minimum 45,000.^[15]

German administrators [\[edit\]](#)

In 1941 Estonia was occupied by German troops and after a brief period of military rule — dependent of the Commanders of the [Army Group North](#) (in the occupied [U.S.S.R.](#)) — a German civilian administration was established and Estonia was organized as a General Kommissariat becoming soon afterwards part of the Reichskommissariat Ostland.

Generalkommissar [\[edit\]](#)

(subordinated to the Reichskommissar Ostland)

- 1941–1944 SA-Obergruppenführer [Karl Sigismund Litzmann](#) (1893)

S.S. und Polizeiführer [\[edit\]](#)

(responsible for internal security and war against the resistance — directly subordinated to the H.S.S.P.F. of Ostland, not to the Generalkommissar)

- 1941–1944 SS-Oberführer [Hinrich Möller \(SS-Mitglied\)](#) (1906–1974)
- 1944 SS-Brigadeführer [Walter Schröder](#) (1902–1973)

Lagerkommandant [\[edit\]](#)

(responsible for the operation of all concentration camps within the Reichskommissariat Ostland)

- SS-Hauptsturmführer [Hans Aumeier](#) (1906–1947)

Collaboration [\[edit\]](#)

Estonian Self-Administration [\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [Estonian Self-Administration](#)

Estonian Self-Administration (*Estonian*: *Eesti Omavalitsus*), also known as the *Directorate*, was the [puppet government](#) set up in [Estonia](#) during [occupation of Estonia by Nazi Germany](#). According to Estonian International Commission for the Investigation of Crimes Against Humanity

Although the Directorate did not have complete freedom of action, it exercised a significant measure of autonomy, within the framework of German policy, political, racial and economic. For example, the Directors exercised their powers pursuant to the laws and regulations of the Republic of Estonia, but only to the extent that these had not been repealed or amended by the German military command.^[16]

Directors [\[edit\]](#)

Director General

- 1941–1944 [Hjalmar Mäe](#) (1901–1978)

Director for Home Affairs

- 1941–1944 [Oskar Angelus](#) (1892–1979)

Directors for Justice

- 1941–1943 [Hjalmar Mäe](#)
- 1943–1944 [Oskar Õpik](#)

Director for Finance

- 1941–1944 [Alfred Wendt](#) (1902)

Holocaust [\[edit\]](#)

Main articles: [Holocaust in Estonia](#) and [History of the Jews in Estonia](#)

The process of Jewish settlement in Estonia began in the 19th century, when in 1865 [Alexander II of Russia](#) granted them the right to enter the region. The creation of the Republic of Estonia in 1918 marked the beginning of a new era for the Jews. Approximately 200 Jews fought in combat for the creation of the [Republic of Estonia](#) and 70 of these men



were volunteers. From the very first days of her existence as a state, Estonia showed her tolerance towards all the peoples inhabiting her territories. On 12 February 1925 The Estonian government passed a law pertaining to the cultural autonomy of minority peoples. The Jewish community quickly prepared its application for cultural autonomy. Statistics on Jewish citizens were compiled. They totaled 3,045, fulfilling the minimum requirement of 3000 for cultural autonomy. In June 1926 the Jewish Cultural Council was elected and Jewish cultural autonomy was declared. Jewish cultural autonomy was of great interest to global Jewish community. The Jewish National Endowment presented the Estonian government with a certificate of gratitude for this achievement.^[17]

There were, at the time of Soviet occupation in 1940, approximately 4000 Estonian Jews. The Jewish Cultural Autonomy was immediately abolished. Jewish cultural institutions were closed down. Many of Jewish people were [deported to Siberia along with other Estonians](#) by the Soviets. It is estimated that 350–500 Jews suffered this fate.^{[18][19][20]} About three-fourths of Estonian Jewry managed to leave the country during this period.^{[16][21]} Out of the approximately 4,300 Jews in Estonia prior to the war, almost 1000 were entrapped by the Nazis.^{[20][22]}

With the invasion of the Baltics, it was the intention of the Nazi government to use the Baltics countries as their main area of mass genocide. Consequently, Jews from countries outside the Baltics were shipped there to be exterminated. Round-ups and killings of Jews began immediately following the arrival of the first German troops in 1941, who were closely followed by the extermination squad [Sonderkommando 1a](#) under [Martin Sandberger](#), part of [Einsatzgruppe A](#) led by [Walter Stahlecker](#). Arrests and executions continued as the Germans, with the assistance of local collaborators, advanced through Estonia.



Holocaust memorial at the site of the former [Klooga concentration camp](#), opened on 24th July 2005

Unlike German forces, some support apparently existed among an undefined segment of the local collaborators for anti-Jewish actions on the political level, but not on a racial basis. The standard form used for the cleansing operations was arrest 'because of communist activity'. The equation between Jews and communists evoked a positive response among some Estonians because of the behavior of part of the Jewish population during the first Soviet occupation, and attempts were made by Estonian police to determine whether the arrested person indeed supported communism. Estonians often argued that their Jewish colleagues and friends were not communists and submitted proofs of pro-Estonian conduct in hope to get them released.^[22]

Estonia was declared *Judenfrei* quite early by the German occupation regime at the [Wannsee Conference](#).^[23] Jews that had remained in Estonia (921 according to Martin Sandberger, 929 according to [Evgenia Goorin-Loov](#) and 963 according to Walter Stahlecker) were killed.^[24] Fewer than a dozen Estonian Jews are known to have survived the war in Estonia. The Nazi regime also established 22 [concentration and labor camps](#) on occupied Estonian territory for foreign Jews. The largest, [Vaivara concentration camp](#) housed 1,300 prisoners at a time. These prisoners were mainly Jews, with smaller groups of Russians, Dutch, and Estonians.^[25] Several thousand foreign Jews were killed at the [Kalevi-Liiva camp](#).^[23] Four Estonians most responsible for the murders at Kalevi-Liiva were accused at [war crimes trials in 1961](#). Two were later executed, while the Soviet occupation authorities were unable to press charges against two who lived in exile. There have been knowingly 7 [ethnic Estonians](#): Ralf Gerrets, [Ain-Ervin Mere](#), Jaan Viik, Juhan Jüriste, [Karl Linnas](#), Aleksander Laak and Ervin Viks that have faced trials for crimes against humanity. Since the reestablishment of

the Estonian independence markers were put in place for the 60th anniversary of the mass executions that were carried out at the Lagedi, Vaivara and Klooga (Kalevi-Liiva) camps in September 1944.^[26]

There are two Estonians who have been honoured with The [Righteous Among the Nations](#): [Uku Masing](#) and his wife Eha.^[27]

Estonian military units' involvement in crimes against humanity [edit]

The [Estonian International Commission for the Investigation of Crimes Against Humanity](#) ^[28] has reviewed the role of Estonian military units and police battalions in an effort to identify the role of Estonian military units and police battalions participation during World War II in [crimes against humanity](#).

The conclusions of the Estonian International Commission for the Investigation of Crimes Against Humanity are available online.^[28] It says that there is an evidence of Estonian units' involvement in crimes against humanity, and acts of genocide; however, the commission noted

Given the frequency with which police units changed their personnel, the Commission does not believe that membership in the cited units, or in any specific unit is, on its own, proof of involvement in crimes. However, those individuals who served in the units during the commission of crimes against humanity are to be held responsible for their own actions.

Controversies [edit]

Views diverge on history of Estonia during World War II and following the occupation by Nazi Germany.

- According to Estonian point of view, the occupation of Estonia by Soviet Union lasted five decades, only interrupted by the Nazi invasion of 1941-1944.^[29] Estonian representatives at the [European Parliament](#) even made a motion for a resolution acknowledging the 48 years of occupation as a fact.^[30] The final version of the resolution of European parliament, however, only acknowledged Estonia's loss of independence lasting from 1940 to 1991 and that annexation of Estonia by Soviet Union was considered illegal by Western democracies.^[31]
- The position of the Russian Government: Russia has denied that Soviet Union illegally annexed the Baltic republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia in 1940. The Kremlin's European affairs chief Sergei Yastrzhembsky: "There was no occupation."^[32] Russian State officials look at the events in Estonia in the end of World War II as the liberation from fascism by the Soviet Union.^[33]
- Views of World War II veteran, an Estonian Ilmar Haaviste fought on the German side: "Both regimes were equally evil — there was no difference between the two except that Stalin was more cunning".
- Views of World War II veteran, an Estonian [Arnold Meri](#) fought on the Soviet side: "Estonia's participation in World War II was inevitable. Every Estonian had only one decision to make: whose side to take in that bloody fight — the Nazis' or the anti-Hitler coalition's."



Map titled "Jewish Executions Carried Out by [Einsatzgruppe A](#)" from January 31, 1941 report by commander [Stahlecker](#) of a [Nazi death squad](#). Marked "Secret Reich Matter," the map shows the number of Jews shot in [Ostland](#), and reads at the bottom: "the estimated number of Jews still on hand is 128,000". Estonia is marked as *Judenfrei*.

- Views of World War II veteran, a Russian fought on the Soviet side in Estonia answering a question: How do you feel being called an "occupier"? " Viktor Andreyev: "Half believe one thing half believe another. That's in the run of things."^[34]

In 2004 controversy regarding the events of World War II in Estonia surrounded the [Monument of Lihula](#).

In April 2007 the divergent views on history of World War II in Estonia centered around the [Bronze Soldier of Tallinn](#).

See also [edit]

- [20th Waffen Grenadier Division of the SS \(1st Estonian\)](#)
- [Estonian resistance movement](#)
- [Judenfrei](#)
- [Klooga concentration camp](#)
- [Reichskommissariat Ostland](#)

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- ↑ ^{***a b***} *Museum of Tolerance Multimedia Learning Center* [], Wiesenthal
- ↑ *Communism and Crimes against Humanity in the Baltic states* []
- ↑ *Vaivara* []
- ↑ *Holocaust Markers, Estonia* [], Heritage Abroad
- ↑ Gilbert, Sir Martin, *The Righteous: The Unsung Heroes of the Holocaust* [], p. 31, ISBN 0-8050-6260-2
- ↑ ^{***a b***} Conclusions of the Estonian International Commission for the Investigation of Crimes Against Humanity []
- ↑ *Moscow celebrations* [] at newsfromrussia
- ↑ *Motion for a resolution on the Situation in Estonia* [], 2007-05-21, retrieved 2010-03-05, "Estonia, as an independent Member State of the EU and NATO, has the sovereign right to assess its recent tragic past, starting with the loss of independence as a result of the Hitler-Stalin Pact of 1939 and including three years under Hitler's occupation and terror, as well as 48 years under Soviet occupation and terror,"
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VTE	Countries occupied by Germany during World War II	
	Albania Austria (Anschluss) Belarus Belgium Channel Islands Czechoslovakia Denmark Estonia France Greece Hungary Italy Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Monaco The Netherlands Norway Poland San Marino Ukraine Yugoslavia	
VTE	History of World War II by region and country	

Europe	Albania Austria Belgium Bulgaria Czechoslovakia Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Greece Hungary Iceland Ireland Italy Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Netherlands Norway Poland Portugal Romania Slovakia Slovenia Soviet Union Azerbaijan Belarus Ukraine Spain Sweden Switzerland Turkey United Kingdom Channel Islands Gibraltar Vatican City Yugoslavia
Africa	Belgian Congo Egypt Kenya South Africa
Americas	Argentina Brazil British Guiana Canada Newfoundland Colombia Cuba Greenland Mexico United States Arizona Nevada New Mexico Puerto Rico Venezuela
Asia	Burma Cambodia Ceylon China Dutch East Indies Hong Kong India Iran Iraq Japan Manchukuo Malaya Sarawak, Brunei, Labuan, and British North Borneo Laos Mongolia Nepal Philippines Singapore Thailand French Indochina
Australasia	Australia Nauru Fiji New Zealand Papua New Guinea



Dependencies shown in brackets. *Italics* indicate countries that became independent.

VTE	The Holocaust in Estonia
	Main article The Holocaust Related articles by country Belarus Latvia Lithuania Norway Poland Russia Ukraine
Crimes	Kalevi-Liiva
Prominent victims	Zelig Kalmanovich
Major perpetrators	Hans Aumeier Karl Jäger Ernst Kaltenbrunner Aleksander Laak Hinrich Lohse Alfred Rosenberg Martin Sandberger Rudolf Joachim Seck Franz Walter Stahlecker
Nazi occupation and organizations	Einsatzgruppen Reichskommissariat Ostland
Notable collaborators	Karl Linnas Evald Mikson
Concentration camps	Klooga Jägala Vaivara
Documentation	Jäger Report Judenfrei
Concealment	Sonderaktion 1005
War crimes investigations and trials	Einsatzgruppen Trial Holocaust trials in Soviet Estonia Estonian International Commission
Righteous among the Nations	Uku Masing Eha Masing Polina Lentsman
Related articles	History of the Jews in Estonia Estonia in World War II Occupation of Estonia by Nazi Germany

Categories: [Occupation of the Baltic states](#) | [History of Estonia](#) | [1941 in Estonia](#) | [Jewish Estonian history](#) | [Military history of Estonia during World War II](#) | [World War II occupied territories](#) | [Politics of World War II](#) | [Estonia in World War II](#) | [German military occupations](#) | [The Holocaust in Estonia](#) | [Estonia–Germany relations](#)

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