

By [CYNTHIA KROET](#)

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<http://www.politico.eu/article/minister-backs-call-to-stop-german-pension-payments-to-belgian-ex-nazis-1945/>



An actor in period uniform take part in a war reenactment | John THYS/ AFP via Getty

Minister backs call to stop German pension payments to Belgian ex-Nazis

An estimated 2,500 Belgian former Nazis are given money from the German government.

A Belgian minister on Thursday backed calls from Holocaust survivors and their relatives to stop Belgian ex-Nazis receiving German pension payments.

Survivors of Nazi persecution asked the Belgian government to stop the payments, and Pensions Minister Daniel Bacquelaine “shares their indignation,” his spokeswoman told the [BBC](#).

There are believed to be 2,500 Belgian ex-Nazis being given money by the German authorities.

A Belgian government spokesperson said the payments are managed by Germany, but “he [the minister] is in talks with colleagues” to deal with the issue.

Pieter Paul Baeten, the president of the Memorial Group — representing Belgians who survived the Nazi regime and which started a petition to stop the payments — [told](#) RTBF that “Belgium can’t get hold of the information [on pension recipients], or doesn’t want to.”

“But I don’t understand how, in today’s Europe, Belgium and Germany can’t manage to exchange this information,” he said.

After the 1945 liberation, 57,000 Belgian collaborators were convicted.