

COMPENSATION BOOKLET

victims of
terrorism acts

JUNE 2020



FGTI
GUARANTEE FUND FOR VICTIMS
OF TERRORIST ACTS AND OTHER OFFENCES

This document is intended for the victims of acts of terrorism.

It is intended to explain, in simple terms, the role of the French Guarantee Fund for Victims, from the moment your case is taken under management to the compensation of your losses.

With this document, the French Guarantee Fund for Victims wishes to inform you of the steps to be taken and thereby help you through any difficulties encountered.

The Law of 9 September 1986 on the fight against terrorism and breaches of national security created a Guarantee Fund for Victims responsible for compensating personal injury resulting from an act of terrorism. This fund is financed by a contribution from property insurance contracts.

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PERSONS RECEIVING COMPENSATION

IN FRANCE

If the act of terrorism occurred in France, any victim, regardless of their nationality, may be compensated.

ABROAD

If the act of terrorism occurred abroad, French victims may be compensated.

► In the event of the death of a victim of French nationality, their beneficiaries* may also be compensated, regardless of their nationality.

► In the event of the death of a foreign victim, their beneficiaries of French nationality may be compensated.

The victim or the beneficiaries* have a period of 10 years to apply to the French Guarantee Fund for Victims. Beyond that time, it is possible to request that the FGVI Board of Directors lift the time limit.

**A beneficiary is understood as the spouse, children, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, brothers and sisters, etc.*

DAMAGES COMPENSATED

Personal injury (death, injuries including psychological harm).

You will get full compensation for your personal injury. This generally takes place after a medical examination by a doctor appointed by the French Guarantee Fund for Victims.

FIRST STEPS

The public prosecutor (or the ministry of foreign affairs if the act of terrorism occurred abroad) informs the French Guarantee Fund for Victims of the circumstances of the event and the identity of the victims. However, any person may apply directly to the Guarantee Fund for Victims if they consider themselves to be the victim of a terrorist act.

When beginning the process, you must send to the French Guarantee Fund for Victims :

- ▶ proof of your civil status (photocopy of ID card or passport)
- ▶ if you are a beneficiary of a deceased person: proof of your degree of kinship (copy of the family record book)
- ▶ supporting documents relating to your personal injury (initial medical certificate and, if applicable, a statement of the first expenses incurred following the attack).
- ▶ a bank account details

THE COMPENSATION PROCESS

The French Guarantee Fund for Victims assists you in preparing your claim. It will pay you an initial advance within a maximum of one month of your claim. This advance allows you to deal with your initial expenses.

Other advances may be paid to you depending on your medical and personal situation. The Guarantee Fund for Victims then carries out a personalised examination of your situation.

All your losses resulting from the act of terrorism are taken into account by the Guarantee Fund for Victims, whether you are an injured victim or a beneficiary (close family) of a deceased victim.

The French Guarantee Fund for Victims has a period of three months from receipt of proof of your losses to make a definitive offer of compensation.

If you do not accept this offer, you will have the option to take your case to the county court.

► **if you were injured**

The French Guarantee Fund for Victims assesses all your losses and takes into account the sums that may be collected from other sources (e.g. social security or a mutual insurance company) for the same losses.

This compensation may be paid following a medical examination requested by the French Guarantee Fund for Victims.

► **If you have lost a loved one**

As a beneficiary (spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother or sister, etc.) you can obtain compensation for the emotional distress, as well as, if applicable, the economic loss that you may suffer as a result of this death.

The economic loss and funeral costs are assessed by the French Guarantee Fund for Victims, which also takes into account the sums that may be paid for the same losses by another body.

CIVILIAN CASUALTY OF WAR STATUS

As a victim of an act of terrorism, you also gain the status of a civilian casualty of war. The rights and benefits deriving therefrom are contained in the Code of Military Disability and War Victims' Pensions (award of a non-cumulative pension, right to medical care and equipment, etc.).

Your claims must be submitted to the Ministry of Veterans Affairs.

You are also covered by the National Office for Veterans and Victims of War (ONAC).

In particular, this institution issues a disability card based on your disability. It is also authorised to help you with all your administrative and social procedures.

The heirs of victims of terrorist acts are exempt from inheritance taxes.

CONTACT US

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