

Regulation for the Elimination of the Jews from the Economic Life of Germany, November 12, 1938

On the basis of the regulation for the implementation of the Four-Year Plan of October 18, 1936 (Reichsgesetzblatt, I, p. 887), the following is decreed:

§1

- 1) From January 1, 1939, Jews (§ 5 of the First Regulation to the Reich Citizenship Law of November 14, 1935, Reichsgesetzblatt , I, p. 1333) are forbidden to operate retail stores, mail-order houses, or sales agencies, or to carry on a trade [craft] independently.
- 2) They are further forbidden, from the same day on, to offer for sale goods or services, to advertise these, or to accept orders at markets of all sorts, fairs or exhibitions.
- 3) Jewish trade enterprises (Third Regulation to the Reich Citizenship Law of June 14, 1938 – Reichsgesetzblatt , I, p. 627) which violate this decree will be closed by police.

§2

- 1) From January 1, 1939, a Jew can no longer be the head of an enterprise within the meaning of the Law of January 20, 1934, for the Regulation of National Work (Reichsgesetzblatt, I, p. 45).
- 2) Where a Jew is employed in an executive position in a commercial enterprise he may be given notice to leave in six weeks. At the expiration of the term of the notice all claims of the employee based on his contract, especially those concerning pension and compensation rights, become invalid.

§3

- 1) A Jew cannot be a member of a cooperative.

- 2) The membership of Jews in cooperatives expires on December 31, 1938. No special notice is required.

§4

The Reich Minister of Economy, in coordination with the Ministers concerned, is empowered to publish regulations for the implementation of this decree. He may permit exceptions under the Law if these are required as the result of the transfer of a Jewish enterprise to non-Jewish ownership, for the liquidation of a Jewish enterprise or, in special cases, to ensure essential supplies.

Berlin, November 12, 1938

Plenipotentiary for the Four-Year Plan

Goering

Field Marshal General

Source: *Documents on the Holocaust, Selected Sources on the Destruction of the Jews of Germany and Austria, Poland, and the Soviet Union*, Y. Arad, Y. Gutman, A. Margalot (editors), Yad Vashem, 1981, pp. 115-116.