

Reagan Library Topic Guide – Captive Nations

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White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) [Alphabetical Files](#).

An overview of the entire Reagan Presidential Collection is available in the [Guide to Holdings](#).

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CAPTIVE NATIONS

See also: [Soviet Union](#)

Scope and Content

“Captive Nations” was the term used to describe nations under Communist domination, primarily Soviet domination. The tradition continues today describing nations under non-democratic regimes.

As part of the United States Cold War strategy, Captive Nations Week was officially established in 1959 to educate the public of the plight of these nations. The week was traditionally proclaimed for the third week in July.

The Library considers the following countries from the 1980s as meeting the definition of “captive nations”: Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia. Also included are the Baltic nations: Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania. Minority regions with a strong nationalist tradition are also included such as: Armenia, Byelorussia, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and the Ukraine.

WHORM SUBJECT FILE

[HU013](#) Entire Category (Human Rights: Ethnic Origin Groups)

[HU013-50](#) Entire Category (Human Rights: Eastern European American)

[HU013-51](#) Entire Category (Human Rights: Hungarian-American)

[HU013-52](#) Entire Category (Human Rights: Lithuanian-American)

[HU013-53](#) Entire Category (Human Rights: Polish-American Groups)

[IT005](#) Entire Category (Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe [Helsinki Commission])

WHITE HOUSE STAFF AND OFFICE FILES

COMMUNICATIONS, OFFICE OF

Maseng, Mari: Files – Office of Communications

Box 2

Captive Nations Day: Statement 07/13/1988 (P)

PUBLIC LIAISON, OFFICE OF

Chumachenko, Katherine: Files

OA 18287

Armenian (1)(2)

Baltic

Baltic Freedom Day 1988

[Baltic Independence Letters & Petitions, December 1988] (1)-(6)

[Letters Urging Presidential Action on Baltic Independence, December 1988] (1)-(3)

Captive Nations Week 1988

Czech-Americans (1)-(5)

Czech-American Issues (1)(2)

Czechoslovakian

Estonian

Estonian-Americans

Estonian-American Issues (1)(2)

Helsinki Human Rights Day 1988

Human Rights (1)(2)

Human Rights Advocates

Human Rights Day 1988 (1)-(6)

Hungarian-Americans (1)-(3)

Hungarians

Hungarian Issues (1)-(5)

Hungary (1)-(3)

Latvia

Latvian-American Issues

Lithuania - I (1)-(3)

Lithuania - II

Lithuanian American Issues

Lithuanian American Community (1)-(8)

Lithuanian

Moscow Summit

Moscow Summit 1988 (1)-(9)

Polish

Polish [Polish American Heritage Month 1988]

Polish American Congress (1)(2)

Polish-American Issues (1)-(4)

Polish Americans

Polish Sanctions

Romania - II

Slavic [Slavic-American Culture Week 1988]

Slovak American Issues (1)(2)

OA 18288

Ukraine
Ukrainian-American Issues (1)-(4)
Ukrainian Catholics
Ukrainian Issues (1)-(7)
Ukrainian [Presidential Message 11/25/1988]
Polish American Congress 06/08/1988
Vice President - Captive Nations [Week] 07/20/1988
Knights of Lithuania 07/30/1988
Hungarian Briefing 08/05/1988
Baltic Conference 10/14/1988
Latvian-American Briefing 10/21/1988
Latvian Conference 10/21/1988
Human Rights Day POTUS 12/08/1988 (1)(2)
Armenian Presidential 12/22/1988

Dole, Elizabeth: Files

Box 17

[Captive Nations Week] *Addresses and Statements in the House of Representatives and Senate*

Kojelis, Linus: Files

OA 8631

Albanian - American Issues

Albanian-Americans

American East European Ethnic Conference (AEEEC)

American Friends of the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations

OA 8632

Baltic American Freedom League

Baltic-American Issues (1)-(3)

Baltic-Americans (1)-(5)

Baltic Dissidents October 1987 (1)(2)

Belorussian-American Issues (1)(2)

Bulgarian-American Issues (1)-(3)

Captive Nations [Week]

Captive Nations Week 1987 (1)-(3)

Croatian-American Issues

Croatian-Americans

Joint Baltic American National Committee (1)(2)

Lithuanian-American Republicans

Lithuanian-Americans-Vilnius

Lithuanian Independence Day 1985

Lithuania Independence Day 1986

Lithuania 600th Christianization Anniversary

OA 11521

Serbian-Americans

Serbian-Americans: Kosovo

Shultz/Baltic Leaders Meeting September 1987

Slovak-Americans (1)-(4)

Slovenian-Americans

OA 13513

Ukrainian American Bar Association

Ukrainian-American Friends of ABN (Anti-Bolshevik Nations) 02/24/1987

Ukrainian Famine

Ukrainian Famine Commission - Public Delegates

USSR - Human Rights

OA 13514

Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

Vienna – Helsinki Review Meeting 1986

OA 16007

Coalition of Polish American Women 01/20/1984

Ukrainian American Briefing 02/01/1984

Detroit Trip 02/04/1984

Lithuanian Independence Day Chicago, 02/12/1984 - Vice President

Chicago Trip 02/19/1984 (empty)

Lithuanian Briefing and Reception 02/21/1984

Lithuanian Catholic Alliance 06/24/1984

Lithuanian American Catholic Students Association 07/06/1984

Tenth Annual Lithuanian Congress - Chicago 10/27/1984

OA 18282

Captive Nations Week 07/21/1986 (1)(2)

OA 18283

Human Rights Day 12/10/1986 - I (1)-(4)

Human Rights Day 12/10/1986 - II

OA 18284

American Latvian Association 02/06/1987

Polish Sanctions 02/19/1987 (1)(2)

Latvian American Briefing 10/23/1987

Pre-Summit Soviet Human Rights Seminar 12/03/1987 (1)(2)

Human Rights Day 12/09/1987

Hungarian-American Briefing 02/10/1988

American Hungarian Federation 05/06/1988

OA 18290

Talking Points - Human Rights

SPEECHWRITING, OFFICE OF

Dolan, Anthony: Files

Box 3

Proclamation: Captive Nations Week – 05/29/1981

Box 14

Captive Nations Ceremony – 07/19/1982 (1)-(3)

Speechwriting, Office of: Speech Drafts

Box 13

Proclamation: Captive Nation Week (Dolan) Week of 07/12/1981

Box 45

Signing Ceremony for Captive Nations Week Proclamation (Dolan) 07/19/1982 (1)(2)

Box 99

Signing Ceremony for Captive Nations Week Proclamation (Elliott) 07/19/1983 (1)-(3)

Box 168

Signing Ceremony for Captive Nations Week Proclamation (Elliott)(Cave) 07/16/1984
(1)-(3)

Box 224

George Bush: Captive Nations Week (Robinson)(Timmons) 07/25/1985

Box 281

Captive Nations Week Signing Ceremony (Rohrabacher)(Hayes) 07/21/1986 (1)(2)

Box 343

Captive Nations Day (Rohrabacher)(Itchon) 07/24/1987 (1)-(4)

PRESIDENTIAL HANDWRITING

Presidential Handwriting File: Records: Speeches

Box 5, Folder 97

07/19/1982 Captive Nations Week

Box 10, Folder 190

07/19/1983 Captive Nations Week Observance Ceremony

Box 16, Folder 303

07/17/1984 Captive Nations Week Proclamation 232258 HO011

Box 24, Folder 466

07/21/1986 Captive Nations Week Signing Ceremony 330673 HO011

Box 28, Folder 566

07/24/1987 Captive Nations Week Ukrainian Shrine Washington, DC 517366 SP1164

Box 33, Folder 661

07/13/1988 Signing Ceremony for Captive Nations Week Proclamations 576478 HO011