

Chairman Grassley and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for your continued commitment to confronting difficult truths that many would prefer to remain hidden. For me, this work is deeply personal. I am the son of Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor and Nobel Laureate who testified to this same Committee on this same subject nearly 30 years ago. I was raised with the understanding that truth is both fragile and essential. When deceit is allowed to harden into accepted history, injustice is prolonged and memory itself is endangered.

Your efforts to expose the role Swiss banks played in collaborating with the Nazis, and the decades of deception that followed, matter profoundly. The passage of time does not absolve institutions that profited from persecution, nor does it erase the harm done to survivors and their families who were met for generations with denial and deliberate concealment. Bringing these facts into the public record affirms that accountability is not optional simply because those harmed are fewer in number or further removed in time.

I approach this issue not only as a descendant of the Holocaust, but also as someone who has spent more than twenty-five years in the financial services industry and who continues to work in the industry today. I am acutely aware of how deeply financial institutions shape moral outcomes. I understand banking systems, institutional incentives, and the lasting consequences when financial entities abandon ethical responsibility. That perspective reinforces how critical it is to confront the sordid history of financial collaboration with the Nazi regime and to acknowledge how its legacy continues to shape trust, accountability, and moral credibility today.

This work carries particular weight in the present moment. As antisemitism resurges across the world, as Nazi ideology is minimized or deliberately distorted, and as the Jewish people continue to mourn in the aftermath of October 7, clarity and truth are indispensable. October 7 marked the largest mass murder of Jews since the Holocaust, and we have already seen attempts to deny, excuse, or manipulate its reality. History teaches us the danger of allowing lies to stand unchallenged.

By insisting on documented truth and public accountability, the Committee sends a clear and necessary message. History will not be rewritten to serve hatred, and institutions that participated in or concealed great evil will not be shielded by time or silence. I am deeply grateful for your leadership and moral clarity.

Elisha Wiesel  
*Son of Elie Wiesel, Nobel Laureate*