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Since the early 1990s, there has been a real boom of property restitution systems. Mass claims action systems such as the United Nations (UN) Compensation Commission,¹ the property restitution systems for Bosnia-Herzegovina²

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² In the case of Bosnia Herzegovina, a Commission on Real Property Claims with the competence to receive and decide any claims for real property was established pursuant to Annex 7 of the General Framework Agreement for
or the Kosovo\textsuperscript{3} and various Holocaust-related mechanisms have been set up.\textsuperscript{4} At the same time, a number of restitution claims have been filed before human rights bodies, such as the UN Human Rights Committee\textsuperscript{5} or the


\textsuperscript{4} See Holtzmann/Kristjansdottir (eds.), \textit{supra} note 1.

\textsuperscript{5} For instance, in some Czech cases relating to Communist expropriations, communications to the UN Human Rights Committee (HRC) were declared inadmissible (based on reasons such as non-exhaustion of local remedies, \textit{cf.} Mazurkiewiczova v. Czech Republic, Communication No. 724/1996, HRC, 2 August 1999 (UN Doc. CCPR/C/66/D/724/1996); Koutny v. Czech Republic, Communication No. 807/1998, HRC, 18 April 2000 (UN Doc. CCPR/C/68/D/807/1998); or because of lack of arbitrary discrimination, \textit{cf.} Malik v. Czech Republic, Communication No. 669/1995, HRC, 3 November 1998 (UN Doc. CCPR/C/64/D/669/1995); Schlosser v. Czech Republic, Communication No. 670/1995, HRC, 3 November 1998 (UN Doc. CCPR/C/64/D/670/1995). Since the right to property is not protected by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 19 December 1966 (ICCPR, 999 UNTS 171, see \textit{infra} at 9), the communications submitted to the UN Human Rights Committee will have to invoke other provisions in order to avoid a negative outcome. Usually, Article 26 ICCPR providing for a general prohibition of discrimination is referred to. However, the HRC seems to take a rather restrictive position. For instance, in Drobek v. Slovakia, Communication No. 643/1995, HRC, 15 August 1997 (UN Doc. CCPR/C/60/D/643/1995), national laws providing for compensation