

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEALERS IN ANCIENT ART

#### **COLLECTORS AND DEALERS**

an old tradition

preparing for transparency

by

Vincent Geerling

## the topics of my contribution

- Fake figures and stories without provenance
- Financing terror: Fact or fiction?
- Protecting the sites, educating the population.
- Some history, invoices and export licences from the past
- The source of our objects and the problem of provenance
- UNESCO 1970 and the founding of IADAA
- Future transparency of the legitimate trade



## Fake figures Quoting newspapers:

#### The size of the illegal market is:

2 – 3 billion \$



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Fake figures Quoting newspapers: The size of the illegal market is: 2 - 3 billion \$ 6 – 8 billion \$ 7 – 15 billion \$



## IADAA research shows the size of the legitimate ancient art market\* to be Euro 150 – 200 million per year

Achieving this figure is only possible with objects that have provenance and are presented in elegant galleries, glossy catalogues and expensive art fairs.

How could anyone ever believe that the illegal market is

### 10 to 40 times as big

as the legitimate one??

\* Excluding low value internet sales



# Financing terror ???



Recovered artifacts at the National Museum of Iraq in Baghdad <u>©Reuters</u>



During the past two years, IADAA has checked several times with every member to ask if anything from the troubled areas had been offered, and they reported back; not a single dodgy Syrian or Iraqi object had been offered to any of our members.



#### Dealer in Ancient Art, Naples 18th century





#### The Egyptian Museum in Cairo, room 91, "the sale room", one of the 120 licensed dealers





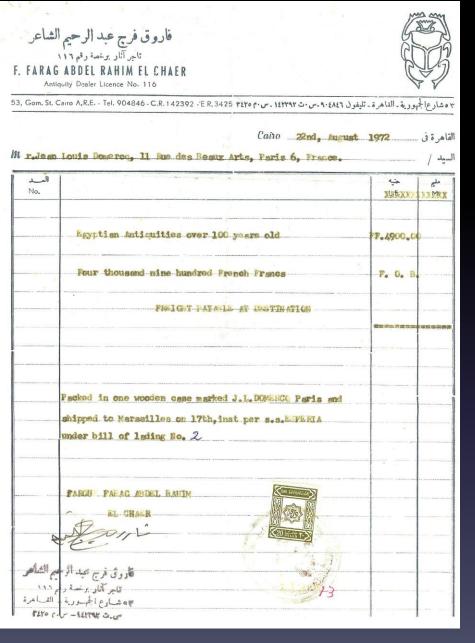
#### Complete invoice with licence

Antiquity Dealer Licence No. 116

Egyptian Antiquities over 100 years old

Packed in one wooden crate .....

Tax / permit stamp





#### Invoice with licence from Beirut

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" 3rd. " A#D	650
<i>n n n n</i>	300
	700
11 11 11 11	350
	200
"Laddle" " "	200
" " " annulette -	20
otta small bowl - 3rd. A D	150
" necklace	700
ent coins in bronze and silver	1317
tine - pieces 145 -	
ent coins - Roman & Byzantine -	
pieces at L.L. 2 =	1360
and Phoenecian beads - assorted -	
pieces at L.L. 5 =	750
Total L.L.	30984.

sand Nine Hundred Eighty Four Lebanese Pounds -

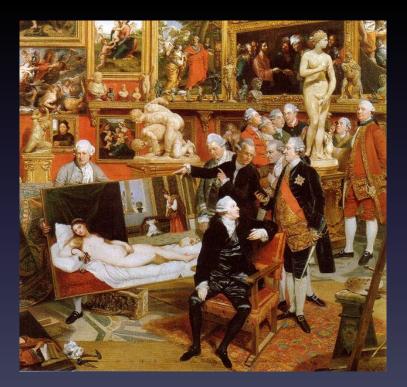
e that all the above mentioned pieces are all ies of the stated periods - and to the best of our lief, they are over 1000 years of age -



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### Hundreds of thousands of objects in private collections today are the source for the legitimate trade.

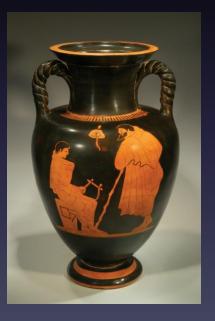




# Inherited cultural property









#### UNESCO 1970; number and Year of Acceptance or Ratification for major art market countries

50 United States of Ame	erica 1983	Acceptance	
Founding of the IAI	DAA 1993	before major art	markets
85 France	1997	Ratification	
<ul> <li>95 United Kingdom</li> <li>102 Switzerland</li> <li>115 Germany</li> <li>118 Netherlands</li> </ul>	2002 2003 2007 2009	Acceptance Acceptance Ratification Acceptance	

As the UNESCO convention is not self executing, it becomes valid in the year of ratification or acceptance and can **NOT be retroactive back to 1970**.





INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF DEALERS I N ANCIENT ART

- Dealing in Classical, Egyptian and Near Eastern antiquities
- Code of ethics
- Due dilligence guidelines
- Search of objects < 5.000 with Art Loss Register (including INTERPOL database) obliged



### The IADAA Archive



- •Database of all newly acquired objects over € 3.000
- •First searched by the Art Loss Register
- •Pictures, description and provenance information.
- •Login and password for ALL interested parties
- •Authorities in source countries will be notified of new entries
- •Recovering stolen objects not known by INTERPOL or ALR
- •Claims should be based on UNESCO 1970 or EU 2014/60



## Lets all work together

- The trade is as horrified by the destruction and iconoclasm as anyone else and we share a common cause in wishing to defeat it.
- The trade has more incentive than anyone else to stop the crooks because of the damage they risk causing the reputation of the legitimate trade.
- We will not find a workable solution unless all parties to the debate work together, including the trade.

