



Fighting Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property

A UNESCO/ICOM Capacity Development Workshop for European Museum and Cultural Heritage Professionals

4 - 5 October 2021
09:30-12:00h (CET)
[Zoom Link](#)

1. BACKGROUND

UNESCO in partnership with ICOM presents a capacity-development workshop for European Union (EU) Member States' museums and cultural heritage professionals on the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property. The workshop is part of the ongoing [EU-UNESCO](#) project “Inter-regional and crosscutting action aiming to strengthen the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property”, which aims to reduce the illicit trafficking of cultural property in the European Union and neighbouring countries by reinforcing the skills of key professionals and stimulating new synergies between source, transit and destination countries.

Every day, somewhere in the world, a cultural object is looted, stolen from a museum, illegally excavated, or smuggled across a border. European Union Member States are at the same time countries of source and transit, as well as among the key destination countries for cultural objects trafficked from areas all over the globe. Next to the evolving body of national legislations, EU-wide directives and regulations have been put in place to govern the movement of cultural goods, and many Member States have established specialized enforcement authorities to investigate and counter illicit trade.

Cooperation is key to addressing the scourge of illicitly trafficked cultural property, and museums and cultural heritage professionals have an important role to play, along with law enforcement agencies, customs services, and other stakeholders.

2. OBJECTIVES

This UNESCO-ICOM workshop intends to foster the network of museums and cultural heritage experts, raise awareness and fight against the illicit trade of cultural property across the European Union and beyond. This workshop will feature good practice examples in collection management, due diligence, and cooperation among institutions to identify areas for joint action.

As part of the EU-UNESCO joint initiative, this workshop shall strengthen expertise, dialogue, and linkages of museums and cultural heritage professionals as stakeholders in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural property.

3. AGENDA

Day 1: Monday, 4 October 2021

Session 1: Opening – Museums and their role in fighting illicit traffic	
9:30 – 9:45	<p>Opening Remarks <i>Opening remarks by the representatives of the two organizations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Lazare Eloundou Assomo, Director, Culture and Emergencies Entity, UNESCO▪ Peter Keller, Director General, ICOM
9:45 – 10:15	<p>Background <i>Introductory presentations specifying the context and statutory framework for the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property relevant to the action by museum and cultural heritage professionals, adding a focus on the European legal and procedural frameworks.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ International Cooperation and its Legal Context: achievements of the 1970 Convention and the 2015 Recommendation (Daoud Bouledroua, Associate Programme Specialist, Movable Heritage and Museums Unit, UNESCO)▪ The European Union context – legislation, policy and funding (Anna Kedziorek, Policy Officer, Cultural Policy Unit, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, European Commission)▪ Museum’s role in fighting illicit trafficking of cultural property (Sophie Delepierre, Head of Heritage Protection Department, ICOM Secretariat)
Session 2: Collections’ Management and Preventive Conservation	
10:15 – 10:30	<p><i>Speaker and panelists will address the importance of preventive action by presenting management methods and hands-on experience with handling museum collections and heritage sites</i></p> <p>Speaker: Protecting by documenting our heritage collections (Trilce Navarrete, Secretary of ICOM-CIDOC)</p>
10:30 – 11:00	<p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Storage Rooms & the RE-ORG(anization) Method (Marjolijn Debulpaep, Head of Preventive Conservation, Royal Institute for Cultural Heritage, Belgium)▪ The means and challenges of securisation of public collections (David Toubalem, Head of Security Service, National Library of France) <p>Moderator: Valerie Magar, Manager of Programmes Unit, ICCROM</p>

Session 3: Due Diligence and Practical Tools

	<p><i>Speaker and panelists will discuss how due diligence in collections' management can be ensured and enhanced through legal frameworks as well as through communication tools and new technologies</i></p>
11:00 – 11:15	<p>Speaker: The importance of the Code of Ethics for professional museum practice (Andrea Kieskamp MA, Secretary of ICOM IC-Ethics)</p>
11:15 – 12:00	<p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Museums and provenance research (Maria Dahlström, Curator - Department of Collections, National Museums of World Culture, Sweden)▪ Creating a Red List for Southeast Europe: the Slovenian Experience (Darinka Kolar Osvald, Senior Police Inspector, Museum Adviser and Head of the Slovenian Police Museum, Slovenia)▪ Illicit traffic of Cultural Property and INTERPOL capabilities (Corrado Catesi, Coordinator, Works of Art Unit, INTERPOL)▪ The KIKu App and lessons from the ILLICID Project (Martin Steinebach, Head of Media Security and IT Forensics, Fraunhofer Institute, Germany) <p>Moderator: Marina Schneider, Principal Legal Officer and Treaty Depository, UNIDROIT</p>

Day 2: Tuesday, 5 October 2021

Session 4: Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies

	<p><i>Speaker and panelists will discuss experiences and ways to enhance the cooperation between law enforcement agencies and museum and heritage professionals to ensure provision of expertise</i></p>
9:30 – 9:45	<p>Speaker: Lt. Gilda Guerisoli (Carabinieri, Italy)</p>
9:45 – 10:45	<p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cooperation between the police and museums (Lucas Verhaegen, Federal Judicial Police, DJSOC ART, Belgium)▪ Protecting portable heritage in Ireland from illicit trafficking (Matthew Seaver, Assistant Keeper, National Museum of Ireland)▪ Cooperation among customs authorities and the museum and institutions specializing in the protection of monuments - Polish experience (Anna Skaldawska, Expert of the Customs and Tax Service, Poland)▪ Institutional Cooperation Mechanisms in the Netherlands (Marja van Heese, Information and Heritage Inspectorate, Ministry of Culture, The Netherlands)

	Moderator: Corinne Chartrelle, Expert, Research Centre, National Police and former Deputy Chief of OCBC (Office central de lutte contre le trafic de biens culturels, France)
Session 5: International Cooperation and Education	
	<i>This panel will highlight current initiatives and training offers, and discuss needs and opportunities for enhancing education and cooperation for countering illicit trafficking in cultural property internationally and cross-disciplinarily</i>
11:00 – 11:05	Introduction by moderator: Kerstin Manz (Project Officer, Movable Heritage and Museums Unit, UNESCO)
11:05 – 11:45	Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exhibition at the Louvre « Sculptures antiques de Libye et de Syrie. Lutter contre le trafic illicite de biens culturels » (Vincent Michel, Professor of art history and archaeology, University of Poitiers, France) ▪ Promoting international cooperation and education through the UNESCO Chair network (Alicja Jagielska-Burduk, UNESCO Chair in Cultural Property Law at University of Opole, Poland) ▪ CPP Master Studies: the need for interdisciplinary competences (Alessio Re, Secretary General at Fondazione Santagata; Adjunct Professor at University of Turin and University of Pisa, Italy) ▪ ICOM International Observatory on Illicit Traffic in Cultural Goods (Edward Oakes, Heritage Protection Department, ICOM Secretariat)
11:45 – 11:55	Discussions
11:55 – 12:00	Wrap-up session (UNESCO and ICOM)
