

Chapter I. General provisions

Studies will be undertaken jointly between all the administrations concerned regarding problems raised by the proximity to cultural property to be protected, of objectives which, while not of a strictly military character (industrial installations, goods stations and warehouses, radio transmitters, port installations, etc.), nevertheless have to be taken into account as far as minimum safety distances are concerned.

Having regard to the necessity of making provision in time of peace for all the measures and working operations involved, besides also the technical and administrative structures best fitted to deal at the right time with the necessities of an immediate protection of cultural property, an endeavour has been made to create the most favourable conditions for the establishment of a special chapter in the budget from which the funds necessary for the provision of protective installations, especially shelters for cultural property capable of being transported, may be allocated.

At the initiative of the Centre for Civil Defence Studies which is affiliated to Defence Headquarters, provision has been made for studying the problems inherent in the protection of the country's artistic heritage as regards both immovable and movable property.

The direct and indirect risks deriving from military operations and especially mechanical, physical, chemical and biological risks have been analysed.

The necessity has been realized of providing special reinforcement of structures and shelters so as to make them capable of withstanding the shocks caused by the explosion of bombs in the vicinity.

The problem of transport and shelters has also arisen in respect of movable property.

With regard to transport, study has been given to questions of packing, security during carriage by road and the capacity of road transport to avoid possible risks (shocks, jolts, vibrations etc.) such as may cause damage to the transported property.

As regards shelters designed to house works of art, study has been given to conditions of temperature, the degree of humidity, and ventilation which alone can guarantee proper safeguarding and effective preservation of movable works of art.

Finally, as far as the problem of preserving and protecting the heritage of archives is concerned, the only practical measure to safeguard such property, i.e. the microfilm, was adopted in 1951. About thirteen million microphotographs, corresponding approximately to some twenty million pages of documents, are at present available. The establishment of "safety archives" for photographic

reproductions in specially protected and equipped premises has also been studied and provided for.

Current economic difficulties have prevented the immediate realization of the contemplated plans, but it is hoped that in the near future conditions will allow a more complete and advantageous implementation of these plans.

Chapter II. Special protection

An endeavour has been made to identify centres for which Italy could request entry in the International Register under the terms of Article 8 of the Convention; the places contemplated, which must be regarded as special protected zones, are the following: Venice, Vicenza, the Centre of Florence, Siena, Assisi, the city of Rome within the Aurelian walls, Caserta and Monreale.

As regards the heritage of archives, such places as Naples and Rome-EUR (where the Central State Archives outside the Aurelian Walls are situated) are contemplated.

Chapter V. Designation of cultural property

The study of preparing distinctive signs for works of art has been started, and it has been found that the problem offers various possible solutions depending upon what funds can be used for the purpose.

The necessity has been studied, as regards immovable works of art to be protected at the site, of arriving at an effective designation by signs painted on the works themselves or on the buildings containing them.

Chapter VII. Execution of the Convention

As regards sanctions under Italian penal law (Article 28 of the Convention), the problem is being studied of a possible extension of the rules contained in the Military Penal Codes in time of war, which already protect the material governed by The Hague Convention, though not completely.

Executive Regulations

Chapter I. Provision has been made for the preparation of a list of persons capable of exercising the duties of Commissioner-General for Cultural Property under the terms of Article 1 of the Regulations for the Execution of the 1954 Convention. The names of these persons are as follows: Professor Carlo Argan, Titular Professor of the History of Art at the University of Rome, writer and art critic; Professor Cesare Brandi, ex-Director of the Central Restoration Institute, Titular Professor of the History of Art at the University of Palermo;

Mr. Guglielmo De Angelis d'Ossat, Architect, Titular Professor at the Faculty of Architecture of Rome from 1947 to 1960; Former Director-General of Antiquities and Fine Arts;

Mr. Ferdinando Forlati, Civil Engineer, at present Overseer Superintendent of the Basilica of San Marco and Architect of other important monuments such as the Saint of Padua and the School of San Rocco;

Professor Pietro Romanelli, Superintendent of Antiquities of various cities and for a long time President of the Roman Pontifical Academy of Archaeology;

Mr. Antonino Rusconi, Civil Engineer, ex-Member of the Higher Council of Antiquities and Fine Arts, Member of the Italian National Commission for Unesco (1950-1953);

Professor Mario Salmi, Former Professor of the History of Mediaeval Art at the University of Rome;

Mr. Roberto Ago, Titular Professor of International Law at the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Rome;

Mr. Giorgio Balladore Pallieri, Titular Professor of International Law at the Faculty of Laws of the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan;

Mr. Gaetano Marelli, Titular Professor of International Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Rome;

Mr. Aldo Ferrabino, Titular Professor of Ancient History at the University of Studies of Rome;

Professor Antonino Cardarella, ex-Superintendent of the State Central Archives - National Member of the Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts of Palermo;

Professor Armando Lodolini, Counsellor of the Institute for the History of Feudal Law; ex-Superintendent of the National Archives.