

HUNGARY

General remarks

It is the conviction of the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic that it is primarily the safeguarding of peace that could best serve the purposes of the Convention. In the opinion of the Hungarian Government, the Member Countries should, therefore, do everything possible to maintain the peace, to avoid armed conflicts and to prevent war, and they should make efforts towards the achievement of general and total disarmament, especially with a view to the prohibition of the use of thermonuclear weapons, the A and H bombs, the most murderous of all weapons ever known, and work in the interest of friendship and mutual respect among the peoples.

Having regard to the fundamental importance of the question, the Hungarian Government considers it necessary to define once again its position of principle already expressed several times previously, and to emphasize that the basic principle of its foreign policy is the safeguarding of peace and peaceful living together.

To be sure, the government and its competent services have nevertheless thought fit to take numerous practical measures to ensure that the protection of cultural property and the constant care which it requires should be effected in the most efficient way. Furthermore, they are doing everything to ensure that the population - within the framework of instruction both inside and outside the schools - should become familiar with these treasures and understand their importance to the cultural progress of humanity and the cultural progress of Hungary.

Chapter I, Items 1 and 2

With a view to ensuring the protection of immovable and movable property in time of peace, the People's Republic of Hungary has adopted numerous effective legislative measures at a high level.

Decree-Law no. 9/1963 of the Presidential Council of the People's Republic of Hungary, Ministerial Order no. 136/1965, MK. 12/MM as well as Ordinance no. 2/1965 of the Minister of Public Instruction govern the protection of cultural property kept in museums or existing outside museums as well as the conditions concerning their maintenance and use.

The Decree-Law of the Presidential Council refers to the general measures adopted on the subject, the Ministerial Order specifies the conditions of application of this Decree-Law and also makes provision for practical measures and directives; as for the Ministerial Ordinance, it specifies the concrete tasks of museums and museum workers on the subject concerned.

Apart from the above-mentioned texts, numerous legislative regulations have been issued by the competent services especially with regard to the protection of immovable cultural property. The most important of these are: Law III of 1964 on the application of measures regarding buildings, and the executory regulation no. 30/1964 on the application of this Act, besides also Decree no. 5/1961.EM relating to the Building Statutes in Hungary, Ordinance no. 38/1965.EM regulating the duties of the National Inspectorate of Monuments concerning the questions here under consideration, and finally Decree no. 3/1964.EM relating to the procedure to be followed for obtaining building permits.

Item 3 of Chapter I

The competent Hungarian services attach great importance to information and popular science lectures being systematically given to members of the armed forces, enabling them to appreciate the value of universal and Hungarian cultural property and their rôle in human civilization. This educational activity is exercised in a spirit of respect and esteem for the various civilizations and the cultural property of all peoples.

Chapter II

The competent civil and military authorities of the Hungarian Government have taken all necessary steps to ensure, wherever necessary, the effective protection of the property in question.

Chapter VII

The text of the Convention has been published in the official journal of the government in the Hungarian language.