UPDATE ON UNIDROIT'S ACTIVITIES RELATED TO CULTURAL PROPERTY



Ninth Session of the Subsidiary Committee to the Meeting of States Parties to the 1970 UNESCO Convention

Paris, 27 - 28 May 2021





UNIDROIT WORK PROGRAMME 2020-2022

A. Legislative activities

...

4. Cultural Property - Private art collections *

. .



B. Implementation and promotion of UNIDROIT instruments ***



(f) Cultural Property - UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects

and UNESCO-UNIDROIT Model Provisions on State Ownership of Undiscovered Cultural Objects

Cultural Property - Private art collections





INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ON CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

University of Gdańsk, Faculty of Law and Administration June 6-7, 2019, Poland

CONFERENCE 2

Private Collections: Historical and Legal Perspective

June 7, 2019, auditorium C





16-17 March 2017

Rome

UNIDROIT - Via Panisperna, 28









Private Collections

Manio Feot professor at the University of Miles, extraney Miles (of counsel at Bosell-Ereds, focus Issem Firt and Cultural Property). Jackims Featmans, president of ICCHR,

Jurge Stroke Cookin, member of UNIDROIT Coverning Council, professor, director of the Mexican Center of Uniform Law Marries Sonition, Senior legal of Totac UNIDROIT

The constitution of private collections

Chaired and introduced by Jorge Strox2 Coroxe

9538 The history of private collections Patrick Micki, professor at the Université de Life and École du

18h R comparison of private/public collecting Ristoinette Illinoi-Commox, senior lecturer at the University of Lucame law faculty

18h38 The collection as a source of knowledge / the

Michel Vitt Pinkt, general heritage curator

Th Break

11h15 The history of the forming of art collections in Italy Guido Guiton, professor at the Socconi University of Milan

11M5 National laws on private collections: problems and

Eleni Mouston, professor at the University of Rithers

12h15 Discussion

The public protection of private collections

Chaired by Marina Somoor

Wh The notion of private collections, views from

Italy and France Mathide Rocursot, attorney, Paris

Suitzedand Marie Comu, director or research, CRRS

Marc-André Rinco, professor at the University of Geneva director of the Rit-Law Centre

151/38 Collectors and deontology Vincent Nov, researcher, CTRS

6h Round table on institutional instruments

(foundation, trust, waqr)
Draned by Veronique (finance, professor at the Universit

Peris Sacies, director of the IDEP Governe Formiu Rom, vice-president of the Fordazione luigi Roveti, Monze Jean-Claude Groun, president of the Fondation Gendur pour First, Geneva

Promotion and accessibility of collections

9h The access of the public to private collections (loans,

deposits, opening to the public) Mac-André Repa 9h38 The interaction of private collections with the

private sector (corporate foundations, bank collections) Italian law: Sivia Stress, attorney, Milan (of course) at Borell Erade, focus faun firt and Cultural Property) French law: Genitine Corrus, professor at the Universit

of Orlinero

18NS The enrichment of public collections through ownership transfer (donations, bequests) Appline Sns, Art market master (cole du Louve

TINE Private archives or archives in private hands: their protection, modelities of their acquisition and their entry into public collections Staghare Duror, professor at the Università Paris Sacia,

Th36 Scientific communication on the archaeological and ethnological collections of the Gardur Art Foundation Isobelle Tassaron, curato; Broheeology collection

th Does French taxation encourage the access

to private collections? Rome lie Vourt PHD in law 12h38 Italian taxation













- "Private collections - Historical and legal perspectives" - this introductory document examines the definition of public and private collections and collectors; a comparative analysis (France, Italy and the United States) of national legislation that bases the public protection of private collections on the concept of public interest; the status of private collections in European and international law;

- "The public interest in the protection of cultural heritage in private collections under United States law" - the public interest in heritage preservation, the public interest and moral rights (California, Massachusetts, New York) and the public interest as justification for private collection protection legislation;

- "Private collections in the United States, Mexico and Colombia: legal challenges, the role of private actors and proposed solutions".





















INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WHAT PROSPECTS FOR « ORPHAN WORKS «?

Reflections on cultural goods without provenance

University of Geneva, 4th and 5th February 2021*

THURSDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2021



(no) PROVENANCE

COLLOQUE
INTERNATIONAL

QUEL AVENIR POUR
LES « ŒUVRES
ORPHELINES » ?

Réflexions sur les biens culturels sans provenance Université de Genève, 4 et 5 février 2021*

JEUDI 4 FÉVRIER 2021

Group of legal experts to discuss possible avenues









UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects



UNESCO-UNIDROIT Model Provisions on State Ownership of Undiscovered Cultural Objects

STATES PARTIES

SIGNATURE (France, Georgia, Guinea, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Switzerland and Zambia)

Adoption: Place: Rome

Date: 24.06.1995

Entry into force: **01.07.1998** (Art. 12)



Other countries are working at becoming a Party ...

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iran, Italy, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia







25 years of the **UNIDROIT 1995 Convention** 8 and 9 October 2020

The 1995 UNIDROIT Convention -Cultural objects at the crossroad of rights and interests

Protection and circulation Synergies between instruments

Time limitation for actions

Non retroactivity























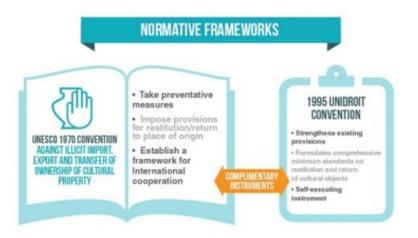








50 years of the 1970 UNESCO Convention and 25 years of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention





UNICEUB ISSN 2237-1036









UNIDROIT is not the Depositary of the 1995 Convention but UNIDROIT is the guarantor of the treaties that are adopted by States under its aegis



Advocacy and technical assistance to States



Awareness raising and capacity building





Research

G20 Culture 2021



- •Protection of cultural heritage and illicit trafficking: The Future will give us back our Past - 9 April 2021
- •Addressing the Climate crisis through culture: Preserving Cultural Heritage, Supporting the Green Transition - 12 April 2021

•Building capacity through training and education: Human Capital, The driver of

Culture-led Regeneration - 13 April 2021



Culture Ministers' Meeting on 29 and 30 July 2021

UNESCO and partners celebrate 50th anniversary of 1970 Convention with regional dialogue in Africa



Also future events on the Roadmap of the African Union 2021 Year

...



ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE: Levers for Building the Africa we Want











African Union vision adopted by African Heads of States.

"A united and prosperous Africa, at peace with itself and with the rest of the world, governed and built by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force on the international scene"

5. An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics

Charter for African Cultural Renaissance, 2006

Article 26

African States should take steps to put an end to the pillage and illicit traffic of African cultural property and ensure that such cultural property is returned to their countries of origin.

Model Law on the Protection of Cultural Property and Heritage, 2018

Endorsed at the African Union 3rd Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sport (STC-YCS3) that took place in Algiers, Algeria from the 21st to 25th October 2018

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)



ECOWAS 2019/2023 action plan for the return of African cultural property to their countries of origin



ADVOCACY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE





Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)



ECOWAS 2019/2023 action plan for the return of African cultural property to their countries of origin

The ECOWAS Commission organised, on 18 March 2021, a virtual meeting of the Directors General in charge of Cultural Heritage of the Member States in order to review the legal framework of the Member States to enable them to accelerate the ratification of international texts related to the restitution and return of cultural property, in particular the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Property.



A technical meeting with the authorities of Togo was held before to finalise the procedure of accession to the 1995 Convention

UNIDROIT is willing to assist all States



Plaidoyer de la CEDEAO pour le retour des biens culturels à leurs pays d'origine: M. Mamadou TRAORÉ, le Commissaire par Interim Education, Science et Culture et Dr Kossi Gbényo LAMADOKOU, le Ministre de la Culture et du Tourisme du Togo, échangent pour le renforcement du cadre juridique du patrimoine culturel, notamment la situation de la ratification des textes internationaux liés au retour des biens culturels.

Mardi 04 Mai 2021 Lomé, TOGO











International virtual conference organised by the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), July 2020



MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums



FIGHTING AGAINST THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF CULTURAL PROPERTY
Capacity Building Meeting on Activities and Cooperation - South-East Europe Cooperation Process



List of UNESCO capacity building activities with the participation of UNIDROIT (October 2020 – May 2021) - (Annexe II of doc C70/21/6.MSP/7)

October 20 – 21 2020	Online from Venice (Italy)	Regional cooperation assessment workshop on the implementation of the 1970 Convention in South-Eastern Europe	60
November 10 2020 – March 29 2021	Online from Paris	"Peer-to-Peer" workshops of the EU-UNESCO project for the exchange among countries of origin, transit and destination (5 workshops)	22
		International conference celebrating the 50th	

	(Costa Rica)	trafficking in cultural property in relation to money laundering	45
April 26 - 27 2021	Online from Nairobi (Kenya)	50th anniversary of the 1970 UNESCO Convention: An online regional dialogue on the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property and the return and restitution of cultural property in the Africa region	500

November 10 2020 – March 29 2021	Online from Paris	"Peer-to-Peer" workshops of the EU-UNESCO project for the exchange among countries of origin, transit and destination (5 workshops)	22
November 16 - 18 2020	Online from Berlin (Germany)	International conference celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Convention "Cultural Heritage and Multilateralism: Regional and International Strategies for the Protection of Cultural Heritage"	500
December 1 - 10 2020	Montevideo (Uruguay)	Webinars cycle on the art market	100
December 7 - 8 2020	Bamako (Mali)	Capacity building workshop on the protection of cultural heritage	50
February 11 2021	Online from Almaty (Kazakhstan)	Capacity-building webinar for museum workers in Central Asia and the South Caucasus: Emergency evacuation and rescue of museum collections and objects	70
April 7 2021	Online from Almaty (Kazakhstan)	Capacity building webinar for museum workers in Central Asia and South Caucasus No 5: Digitization of museum collections: Standards and procedures	200



Celebration of the International Museum Day with a workshop for Somalia – 18 May 2021

14 November – We must all in together to fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property!



Today, on 14 November 2020, UNIDROIT joins UNESCO and others to promote international frameworks for the prevention of theft and looting, and the return of illegally traded cultural property, in parallel with other advances in the fight against illicit trafficking.

We must all join together to fight illicit trafficking in cultural property.



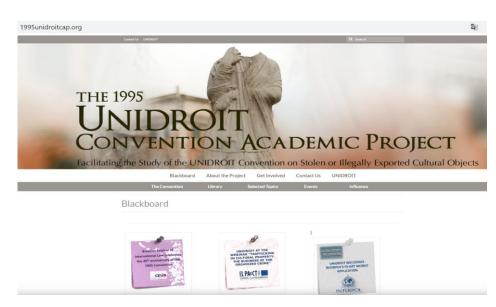








Updating of the Academic Project (UCAP)





(ENTRY INTO FORCE 01.12.2012)

DIARIO OFICIAL – LEY 1304 DE 2009 (junio 3) por medio de la cual se aprueba el "Convenio de Unidroit sobre los Bienes Culturales Robados o Exportados Ilícitamente", firmado en Roma el 24 de junio de 1995.

Compulsory Declarations

Article 16(1)(c) The Colombian State applies the procedure provided for paragraph 1(c) of Article 16 of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects namely, through diplomatic or consular channels, in order that other States Parties may, under Article 8 of the said Convention, submit their requests for return or restitution of cultural property to the Colombian authorities.

Article 17

- Ley 1185 del 12 de marzo 2008 "por la cual se modifica y adiciona la Ley 197 de 1997 Ley General de Cultura"
- Resolución no. 983 de 2010 Por la cual se desarrollan algunos aspectos técnicos relativos al Patrimonio Cultural de la Nación de naturaleza material
- Constitución política de Colombia, artículos 8, 63, 72, 82 y 102

Legislative Procedure

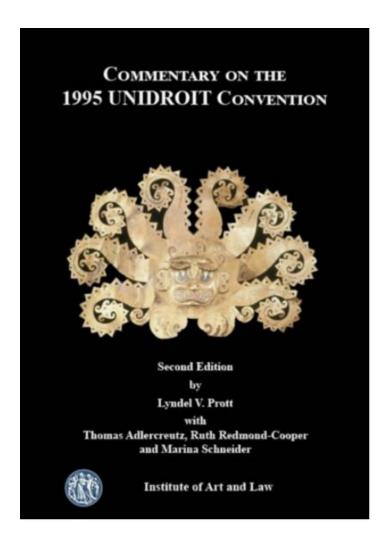
Gaceta del Congreso - Senado y Camar

Sentencia C-125/11

Sentencia C-224/16

Articles

DERECHO INTERNACIONAL PRIVADO Y CONVENIO UNIDROIT DE 24 DE JUNIO DE 1995 SOBRE BIENES CULTURALES ROBADOS O EXPORTADOS ILEGALMENTE



The second edition of Lyndel Prott's Commentary on the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects was just published with the Institute of Art and Law (ISBN: 978-1-903978-43-8).

This Commentary was prepared by Prof. Lyndel Prott who was deeply involved in the elaboration and adoption of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention.

Contribution







Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico and Peru





Resolution 2347

19. Affirms that the mandate of United Nations peacekeeping operations, when specifically mandated by the Security Council and in accordance with their rules of engagement, may encompass, as appropriate, assisting relevant authorities, upon their request, in the protection of cultural heritage from destruction, illicit excavation, looting and smuggling in the context of armed conflicts, in collaboration with UNESCO, and that such operations should operate carefully when in the vicinity of cultural and historical sites;



AWARENESS RAISING AND Contribution CAPACITY BUILDING

The European Union decided to include the Protection of Cultural Heritage among the training areas for personnel employed on Common and Defence Security Policy (CDSP) missions.

Training Requirements Analysis (TRA) - "Cultural Heritage Protection" identifying existing training and gaps, relevant target audience, as well as proposing to the EUCTG High Level Learning Outcomes aiming to improve current activities in this specific training area.

1. MAIN FINDINGS

 Preliminary Analysis on International Conventions on Cultural Heritage Protection in Host States

....

The situation varies significantly among the different Host States In view of the EU interest to contribute to the preservation and protection of Cultural Heritage in the most efficient way with its CSDP missions and operations (Ref. G), it seems appropriate to raise awareness on the necessity to ratify these conventions.

Just presented to EU

sity t	o ratify these conventions.	Since 2014			
		EUCA			
6	MAIN FINDINGS	Si			
6.1	Preliminary Analysis on International Conventions on Cultural Heritag Host States	EU' Central African R Sin			
6.2	Analysis of existing trainings				
6.3	Qualitative requirements: Civilian Training Area High Level Learning Out on Cultural Heritage Protection	so we include it have			
6.4	Mapping of awareness level on Cultural Heritage Protection of CSDP Civ and missions' personnel	rilian Missions			
6.5	Quantitative requirements				
6.6	Identification of possible training providers on Cultural Heritage Protection				
6.7	Identification of areas to be included in training programmes for C personnel	SDP mission's			

EUROPEAN UNION CSDP MISSIONS AND OPERATIONS 2020





UNIDROIT COVID-19 ESSAY COMPETITION - IMPACT OF COVID ON UNIDROIT'S INSTRUMENTS

Prof. Szabados - a partner of UCAP – won the fourth prize with an essay on the 1995 Convention and online sales

The Global Pandemic as an Opportunity: Towards a Cutting-edge Legal 'App' for Online Art Trade

Tamás Szabados*

Seleucia...

was stormed by the generals of Verus Cæsar, who carried the image of the Cumæan Apollo to Rome, and placed it in the temple of the Palatine Apollo ... But it is said that after this statue was carried off, and the city was burnt, the soldiers, searching the temple, found a narrow hole, and when this was opened in the hope of finding something of value in it, from some deep gulf ... issued a pestilence, loaded with the force of incurable disease, which ... polluted the whole world from the borders of Persia to the Rhine and Gaul with contagion and death. (Ammianus Marcellinus, The Roman History, Book XXIII. VI. 23-24; translated by C. D. Yonge)

I. Introduction

The Roman historian Ammianus Marcellinus gives the above account for the origin of a disease sweeping over the ancient world. Accordingly, the outrage against a sacred monument and the theft of a statue led to the outbreak of a devastating pandemic. Today, we know that pandemic on ot spring up because of violence against art and holiness. Nevertheless, local and even more global epidemics, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, can undoubtedly put works of art in danger.

The still ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has not left the sphere of protecting cultural heritage untouched. Among the restrictive measures introduced by governments to tackle the coronavirus, almost all museums of the world have been closed, and some of them will probably never reopen. Profiting from the weakened security controls in museums, important works of art have been stolen. An oil painting by Vincent van Gogh, The Parsonage Garden at Nuceen in Spring, was stolen from the Singer Laren Museum in the Netherlands on 30 March 2020, on van Gogh's own birthday, during the closure of the museum due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Archaeological sites in remote places have been left without surveillance, providing an opportunity for illegal excavations. Most auction houses, galleries and antiquities shops closed temporarily. The arts trade has been compelled to move to online platforms, where stolen, illegally excavated and forged works of art turn up increasingly often.

Special rules adopted to react to crisis situations are not unknown in cultural heritage law. Interestingly, the 1954 Hague Convention, the first global convention on the protection of



^{*} Associate professor, ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Egyetem tér 1-3, Budapest, 1053 Hungary.

1

ICOM, 'Report — Museums, museum professionals and COVID-19' (26 May 2020) https://icom.museum/en/news/museums-museum-professionals-and-covid-19-survey-results/> accessed 15 August 2020, 2-3; UNESCO Report — Museum around the World in the Face of COVID-19 (UNESCO, Paris 2020) 12-3.

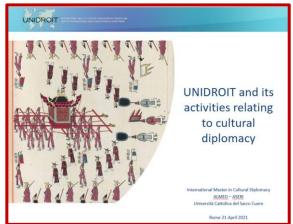
² Singer Laren Museum, 'Burglary at Singer Laren' (30 March 2020) https://www.singerlaren.nl/en/nieuws/460/diefstal_schilderij_vincent_van_gogh/accessed 15 August 2020.
³ On the increase in looting of archaeological sites during the COVID-19 pandemie: Emily Sharpe, 'Online antiquities smugglers are taking advantage of the coronavirus crisis' The Art Newspaper (29 April 2020) -.

EDUCATION – University lectures



UCAP – Academic Project

Education is a key tool in protecting cultural property and combating illicit traffic and UCAP is meant to increase the awareness and knowledge about the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects. It aims at promoting and linking pertinent (inter)national research made by entities and Universities holding courses in the field of cultural heritage law, in particular on the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention. It also works at promoting the development of specific programs or modules.





Annexe II of document C70/21/6.MSP/7 - Consultation des organes directeurs de la Convention de 1970 sur la préparation de la Stratégie à moyen terme pour 2022-2029 (41 C/4) et du Programme et budget pour 2022-2025 (41 C/5)

Key challenges for the effective implementation of the 1970 Convention during the 2022-2029 period

= clear indications on how to assist States also on the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention

1995 Convention = Inventory is fundamental but not a condition for restitution

- > capacity-building of relevant stakeholders on both legal and operational matters
- > strengthening legal frameworks on the protection of cultural property
- and inventories and updating national databases of cultural property
- prevention of clandestine excavations and illegal exports of cultural property from conflict zones
 1995 Convention: illegal excavation
- > Recognition of **State's ownership** of cultural assets

>

= theft = automatic restitution







UNIDROIT stands next to
States to assist them in
adopting the 1995 Convention
and will continue to
collaborate with UNESCO and
all Partners to elaborate and /
or disseminate tools to fight
against illicit traffic in cultural
property

Marina SCHNEIDER
UNIDROIT Principal Legal Officer
& Treaty Depositary

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