

CONCLUSIONS

The participants of the 6th International Conference on the illicit Traffic in Cultural Property Stolen in Central and Eastern Europe
meeting in Vienna, Austria, from 8 to 10 June 2010,

AWARE of the importance of the cultural heritage for all countries and the need for its protection from damages, destruction and theft,

RECOGNIZING that the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property requires the application of appropriate legislation and adequate resources,

CONVINCED that reliable inventories with photographs of good quality are the precondition for search measures by means of databases,

CONSCIENT of the benefits arising from a well established inter-agency co-operation on a national level,

RECOGNIZING that counteracting illicit traffic in cultural property requires co-operation on an international level,

ACKNOWLEDGING the communication and investigation tools developed by the Interpol General Secretariat,

RECOMMEND member countries:

1. to review their legislation and, where necessary, adapt it to the needs of an effective protection of cultural property,
2. to provide and regularly update UNESCO with their national legislation, to be included in UNESCO's database of national cultural heritage laws,
3. to consider ratifying the 1970 UNESCO Convention and the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention if they are not already State Parties, and implementing its provisions,
4. to examine the possible use of the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime for investigations against illicit trafficking in cultural property,
5. to establish an institutionalized co-operation on a national level between all the bodies and agencies involved in the safeguarding of cultural property,
6. to encourage public-private partnership including clerical institutions, universities, research institutes, and art trade professionals,
7. to encourage national art trade professionals, museums and other stakeholders to inform the police of suspicious offers of cultural property,
8. to raise public awareness of the importance of cultural heritage and the need for its protection through media campaigns and educational programs,
9. to improve the protection in museums, public and private collections, places of worship and archaeological sites,

10. to support the setting up of inventories including photographs, i. a. by using internationally recognized description standards, such as Object ID,
11. to regularly check offers on the art market and the sales of cultural property over the Internet, and to encourage the implementation of the Basic Measures concerning cultural objects being offered for Sale over the Internet, jointly recommended by UNESCO, ICOM and INTERPOL,
12. to communicate relevant information about cultural property thefts, fakes and forgeries, stolen or recovered objects, and details on the criminal individuals and networks involved in the illicit trafficking, to the Interpol General Secretariat for data entry and crime analysis purposes,
13. to use the Interpol eASF works of art database for remote queries and promote its public online access to all concerned parties.