

<p>RESOLUTION AGN/59/RES/9</p> <p>SUBJECT: Trafficking in stolen works of art and cultural property</p>	<p>TO BE CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS:</p> <p>1 copy in the CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES: Year 1990</p> <p>1 copy in the SUBJECT SERIES: Heading: Theft and receiving</p> <p>Sub-heading: Theft and receiving of stolen property</p>
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TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION

RECALLING the terms of Resolutions AGN/40/RES/6 and AGN/41/RES/9 concerning the theft of cultural property,

CONSIDERING the importance countries attach to protecting their national cultural heritage and their continuing interest in this subject,

CONSIDERING the steady, appreciable increase in the number of thefts of cultural property and works of art and in the seriousness of the offences,

RECALLING the International Symposium on Theft and Illegal Trafficking of Cultural Property and Works of Art, held in Lyons from 5th to 8th December 1989,

RECOGNIZING that there is an urgent need to strengthen action taken to combat the theft and illicit trafficking of cultural property,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Ottawa from 27th September to 3rd October 1990 at its 59th session:

RECOMMENDS that member countries give priority to adopting the measures listed below.

1. Prevention

Museums and similar institutions should prepare descriptive and photographic inventories for all very valuable objects, and private collectors should be urged to do the same, with a view to more effective international co-operation;

Cultural property should be better protected, especially by more careful guarding of archaeological sites;

Educational and publicity campaigns should be conducted to make ordinary people more aware of the need to protect cultural property.

2. Training

Adequate training should be provided for the personnel of all the bodies concerned (police, customs, museums and any other institutions responsible for protecting cultural property).

3. Illicit traffic - Theft and recovery

Particulars of any easily identifiable stolen property should be circulated as rapidly and as widely as possible through Interpol channels, especially to professional art-dealing circles, museums and other institutions responsible for protecting the national heritage;

Co-operation between all those concerned (police forces, customs services, museums, art dealers, insurance companies) should be intensified, both within each country and between countries, to facilitate searching for stolen property and identifying property of suspect origin that has been discovered;

National and international data bases should be developed or augmented so that more information can be shared (in conformity with the relevant national laws) and so that traffickers and international networks can be identified.

4. Discovery of stolen property

Support should be given to the efforts currently being made by other international institutions to improve international rules on the restitution of stolen property and to refine the concept of "acquisition in good faith", so that victims can be better protected;

Similarly, efforts should be made to harmonize national laws on the receiving of stolen property, and on movements and restitution of cultural property, particularly when the property has been stolen in another country.

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