

UNESCO 1970 Convention - Periodic Reporting Form 2019

Respondent Information

Name: Delegation of Italy/Délégation de l'Italie

Position :	Segretariato Generale
Organization/Agency :	Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali
Country :	Italy

Policy and Legislative Framework

1. Did your country implement the 1970 UNESCO Convention, and if so, how?

	Civil Law
	Criminal Law
X	Specific Law

Please describe the specific law(s) used by your country.

The principal national regulation in order to implement the 1970 Convention are Act no. 873 of 30 October 1975 and the Legislative Decree no. 42 of 22 January 2004 (Art. 87 bis), that is the special law regarding the protection and enhancement of cultural heritage ("Code of the Cultural Heritage and Landscape", hereafter "Code") and its amendments. In particular the 'Code' has been amended by Legislative Decree no. 62 of 26 March 2008 that introduced the Article 87bis specifically concerning the application of the UNESCO Convention.

2. Does your country have an overall policy and/or strategy for fighting illicit trafficking of cultural property (i.e., a document that describes the country's overall vision for fighting illicit trafficking)?

X	Yes
	No

3. Please provide the name and year the policy was passed (and web link to the policy/strategy if available).

"Committee for the recovery and return of cultural heritage". It is a Committee that acts within the Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali (acronym: MiBAC) with the collaboration of the Comando Carabinieri Tutela Patrimonio Culturale (acting in the framework of MiBAC), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Justice, to coordinate activities for the recovery of cultural heritage and to fighting illicit trafficking using mainly tools offered by the UNESCO Convention of 1970, the Unidroit Convention of 1995 and the EU Directive 2014/60. The Committee was established in 2005.

4. Please describe your country's overall legal framework for protecting cultural property from illicit trafficking, referencing specific laws and years passed (including specific provisions on the return of cultural objects illegally exported from other States Parties to the Convention).

The principal national regulation in order to implement the 1970 Convention are Act no. 873 of 30 October 1975 and the Legislative Decree no. 42 of 22 January 2004 (Art. 87 bis), that is the special law regarding the protection and enhancement of cultural heritage (“Code of the Cultural Heritage and Landscape”, hereafter “Code”) and its amendments. In particular the 'Code' has been amended by Legislative Decree no. 62 of 26 March 2008 that introduced the Article 87bis specifically concerning the application of the UNESCO Convention. According to the “Code” and its amendments, cultural heritage consists of immovable and moveable things which, pursuant to Articles 10, 11, and 13, involve artistic, historical, archaeological, ethno-anthropological, archival and bibliographical interest, and of any other thing, identified by law or in accordance with the law as testifying to the values of civilization. The aforesaid 'Code' provides a public and private responsibility to protect cultural heritage (see Article 1 prgs. 2-5). Moreover, depending on the nature of the violation committed could be apply the criminal code, the code of criminal procedure, as well as the civil code and the code of civil procedure.

5. To what extent does your country’s policy and legislation on this issue address the following topics (Please rate the degree of achievement in accordance to options available in the drop down boxes below).

5	Excellent
4	Very Good
3	Good
2	Satisfactory
1	Poor

5	Clear definition of cultural property
5	State ownership of undiscovered cultural heritage
4	Regulations on trade of cultural property
4	Export controls
4	Export certificates
3	Certificate of authenticity
3	Import controls
4	Establishment of national services
3	National inventory of cultural property
3	Inventory requirements for museums, public institutions, private collections
4	Protection of archaeological sites and regulation of archaeological excavations
4	Public education and awareness raising
5	Measures to prevent museums and similar institutions from acquiring illegally exported cultural property
5	Prohibition of import of cultural property stolen from a museum or religious/secular institution
4	Regulation of the diplomatic pouch
4	Provisions for the return of cultural objects stolen from a museum or other public institution

3	Sanctions (criminal and/or administrative and/or civil) of illicit activities related to destruction and illicit trafficking of cultural property
4	Requirement of register of sales for antique dealers, auction houses, dealers of cultural heritage and art galleries
3	Protection of underwater cultural heritage
3	Regulations regarding the use of metal detectors
3	Regulations regarding the trade of cultural artefacts on internet
Other (please specify):	

6. Did your country's legal framework regarding illicit trafficking of cultural property change as a result of ratifying the 1970 Convention?

X	Yes
	No

7. What laws were passed or changed as a result of ratification? (Please provide the name of the law and the year it was passed)

Law 30 October 1975, No. 873, was passed to implement the 1970 Convention into the Italian legal system. It gives full execution to the 1970 Convention. The application of the 1970 Convention (and the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention as well) has been confirmed by the Code of Cultural Properties and Landscape.

8. Please add any additional comments on the legislative/policy framework

Several among the provisions of the 1970 Convention can be considered as self-executing and can be automatically applied by Italian courts.

9. Has your country implemented a policy to prevent the illicit export of cultural property?

X	Yes
	No

Please specify :

Italy protects its cultural heritage in accordance with the 1970 UNESCO Convention. Mibac makes its efforts to: 1. check, in agreement with the Customs Agency, the circulation of cultural goods; 2. make all possible efforts to strengthen the Comando Carabinieri for the protection of the artistic heritage and facilitate the exchange of information with the competent agencies; 3. create and pursue innovative and effective ways to detect and stop the looting of archaeological sites originating the illicit traffic of archaeological items.

10. Does the implemented policy include the requirement of a legally issued export certificate of the country of origin and/or transit?

X	Yes
	No

	No
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Please specify :

With Ministerial Decree no. 537 of 6/12/2017, the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities issued its “general guidance for evaluating the issue or refusal, by the Export Offices, of the certificate of free movement of items of artistic, historical, archaeological and ethno-anthropological interest”. So far archaeological materials are concerned, particular attention is paid to their contextual value and their relevance as testimony of “significant relations between cultural areas, including those of foreign origin and/or production”.

11. **Has your country encountered difficulties in returning/restituting cultural property to its place of origin due to incompatibilities with national judicial decisions?**

X	Yes
	No

Please specify :

In several concrete cases, it has been verified that the diversity of national legislation has prevented or made the return of illicitly exported cultural goods more difficult.

Implementation and operative framework

Institutional Framework

12. **Does your country have a specialized service for the protection of cultural property (as described in Article 5 of the Convention) whose functions may include drafting laws and legislation, establishing national inventory, promoting establishment/development of scientific and technical institutions, organizing the supervision of archaeological sites, establishing rules for curators, antique dealers, etc., developing educational activities and/or publicizing the disappearance of cultural property?**

X	Yes
	No

13. **Please describe this service’s major roles and responsibilities.**

The institution is the Ministry of cultural heritage and activities (Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, acronym:MiBAC). Its major roles and responsibilities are the protection of artistic, archaeological and monumental heritage and landscape to ensure an organic management at National, European and International level. The Ministry is organized in such a way as to ensure the accomplishment of its activities throughout the country.

14. **Please indicate which of the following departments/ministries/agencies also have specialized services for the protection of cultural property against illicit trafficking (mark all that apply).**

X	Magistrates and/or judges
X	Police, gendarmerie, and/or Department of Interior

X	Public prosecutor
X	Customs
	None
	Other (please specify):

15. **Please describe the roles and responsibilities of these specialized services in more detail.**

A specialized police service belonging to the Carabinieri corps, named Comando Carabinieri Tutela Patrimonio Culturale (Carabinieri Command for the Protection of Cultural Heritage) (hereafter Carabinieri TPC), was established in 1969 acting in the framework of Mibac. Specified tasks are mainly concerned with the protection of the national cultural heritage through the prevention and repression of criminal activities, the recovery of looted cultural objects, the cooperation with international organizations and other law enforcement agencies worldwide. These activities are developed through traditional judiciary/police procedures and particular attention is given to prevention through the surveillance of archaeological sites with helicopter patrols, control of fixed or itinerant trade in antiquities, verification of security measures in museums, libraries, and archives, check of auction house catalogues and monitoring of ecommerce, focused on cultural objects proposed for sale through Internet. Moreover, prosecutors' teams consecrated to prosecute criminals who act in the specific field are established in some attorney's offices, as, for example in Rome and Milan. Since the 1980s, the Carabinieri TPC manage a Database specifically dedicated to cultural goods stolen and that have to be searched. This is a real useful tool in fighting the illicit trafficking in cultural objects and related crimes both in preventive and repressive police activities. It is the biggest database of its kind which currently includes information on more than 1.200.000 described objects and almost 700.000 images of artworks. Related pieces of information on stolen artworks with pictures are also disseminated to the public through the section of the official website of the Carabinieri Corps (www.carabinieri.it) dedicated to the Carabinieri TPC.

16. **How do relevant stakeholders (Ministry of Culture, police, customs, etc.) coordinate regarding the protection of illicit trafficking? Mark all that apply**

X	Formal coordinating committee, working group, etc.
X	Coordination lead by specialized service (as described in Article 5), antenna or focal point
X	Communication and meetings as necessary (i.e., for specific cases)
X	Cross-trainings (i.e., trainings for police from Ministry of Culture staff)
	No Coordination
	Other (please specify) :

17. **Please provide more detail on this coordination, including how it functions and who is involved.**

The Comando Carabinieri TPC acts in cases under their specific competences. Moreover, within the structure of MiBAC, a special Committee has been established, with the aim of conducting negotiations with the museums or collectors of cultural goods proved to have been illegally looted from the national territories, coming from other linked crimes or recognized to have a doubt provenance. At the same time, it has strengthened synergies between the institutions (MiBAC, State Attorney General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, etc.), which are all involved in the initiation of requests of works stolen from Italy, either through diplomatic and administrative actions or by international legal requests. In addition to the aforementioned Committee, many initiatives with representatives from other countries to improve cooperation in the fight against illegal trafficking of cultural goods are held by MiBAC. The Comando Carabinieri TPC, took part in meetings, conferences, and workshops all over the world, and trained the managerial and organizational personnel of foreign countries. The "Directorate-General for Archaeology, Fine Arts and Landscape" participates in these activities with the presence of experts to train foreign officers and support international activities, especially in cooperation with relevant international Organizations like INTERPOL, EUROPOL, UNESCO, UNODC, WCO, OSCE, UNIDROIT, ICROM, IILA, ICOM etc.

18. **Does your country use a database of stolen cultural objects?**

	Yes, we have our own national or/and regional database that is not linked with the INTERPOL database
X	Yes, we have our own national or/and regional database that is linked with the INTERPOL database
	Yes, we use the INTERPOL database (and do not have our own national database)
	No, we do not currently have a national database or use the INTERPOL database
	We would request assistance to establish such a database

19. **Please provide additional details on how your country uses such a database.**

The National Stolen Works of Art Database contains all the information concerning the stolen WOA (type, description, pictures, material, category, etc.), and combined with the information system, developed around it to store all the information about all the national crime events against the Cultural Heritage, and all the Carabinieri TPC activities (in terms of controls, verifications and monitoring), is a real useful and important tool in fighting the illicit trafficking of cultural objects and related crimes both in preventive and repressive police activities.

Protection and Prevention Systems

20. **To what extent do museums and religious or secular public monuments have their own specific inventories of their cultural property/collections?**

	All/almost all cultural property is inventoried
	Most, but not all, cultural property is inventoried
X	Some cultural property is inventoried, but significant gaps remain
	Very little cultural property is inventoried
	No/almost no cultural property is inventoried

21. **Please provide additional details on these inventories, specifying whether they are digitized, and including any challenges in creating/maintaining them.**

The national digitized inventory system is continuously implemented, but, because of the large amount of items composing the cultural patrimony, it still needs to be increased.

22. **To what extent does your country have a centralized national inventory of cultural property?**

	All/almost all protected cultural property is inventoried
X	Most, but not all, protected cultural property is inventoried

	Some protected cultural property is inventoried, but significant gaps remain
	Very little protected cultural property is inventoried
	No/almost no protected cultural property is inventoried

23. **Please provide additional details on this inventory, including any challenges in creating/maintaining it.**

The major challenge is the digitalization of the existent written documents along with the implementation of inventories of the newly excavated items.

24. **Please describe the extent to which looting/pillaging/illegal excavations of archaeological and ethnological objects is a challenge, including actions taken to combat it.**

The looting of archaeological heritage through illegal excavations is a serious problem for Italy, as all the country is rich of archaeological sites, even unexcavated. In the last years criminal organizations of looters and traders specialized in exporting illegally excavated cultural properties and selling them abroad, have been discovered and subjected to criminal proceedings. The buyers were major foreign museum and collectors. Some of the objects have been recovered as a consequence of bilateral agreements concluded by the MiBAC and a number of foreign museums.

Knowledge, Skills and Values of Stakeholders and the Public

25. **Has your country undertaken any public awareness campaigns related to the protection of cultural property in the past five years?**

X	Yes
	No

26. **Please describe, including methods, target audience, etc.**

The Carabinieri TPC promote campaigns to arise awareness in public opinion; in particular, they frequently hold lessons in every kind of school in order to make understand how important cultural heritage itself and its promotion are. On the website, www.carabinieri.it, suggestions regarding casual finds are available for citizens, etc. In addition, the Carabinieri TPC have created the "I-TPC", the first specific application for smartphone in the world on this sector. Anyone can download 'I-TPC' application for mobile devices (smartphone/tablet) that, by providing contents of great cultural interest, allows everyone to contribute to the fight against art-related crime, supporting the police activity by reporting to the Carabinieri TPC or other police agencies works of doubtful origin. In addition, the application offers the following services: • consultation of the bulletins, which allows you to search for information on the works of art mentioned in these bulletins published by the Carabinieri TPC; • visual search, which allows citizens to choose an image and recognize, in real-time, valuable stolen works of art through the comparison of images with those contained in a dedicated computer file; • creation of the Document of the artwork (Object ID), or an 'identity card' of the object, kept by the owner, that allows a comprehensive description of the cultural asset and is useful in case of theft, since it allows, to the operating staff, to have information to identify the piece; • information on the possible ways to contact or reach the closer Carabinieri TPC office using geo-localization. Moreover, the Carabinieri TPC, in special occasions like relevant and important seizures of stolen artworks or in occasion of restitutions to/from foreign countries, organize with the support of MiBAC, exhibitions open for free to the public. The visitors of these exhibitions in addition to admire real masterpieces obtain information about the history of the recover activities.

27. **To what extent is the public in your country engaged in the protection of cultural property? Examples of engagement may include :**

5	Excellent
4	Very Good
3	Good
2	Satisfactory
1	Poor

3	Protection of local archaeological and heritage sites by the public (eg. assistance in monitoring of sites, support in documenting etc.)
3	Return of objects to relevant authorities
4	Sharing information on stolen objects with authorities
3	Placing pressure on museums to change acquisition policies
2	Advocating for policy change

28. **Overall, to what extent do police and/or gendarmerie have the necessary resources and knowledge to address cultural property crime?**

	To a great extent
X	To a considerable extent
	To some extent
	To no extent

29. **Overall, to what extent do customs officers have the necessary resources and knowledge to address cultural property crime?**

X	To a great extent
	To a considerable extent
	To some extent
	To no extent

30. **What type of training do police receive on cultural property crime?**

	No specific training on this issue
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	Training has occurred in the past, but is not ongoing
	Training occurs periodically
X	In-depth, specialized training for officers working on this issue
	Assistance is required from UNESCO and its partners
	Other

31. **Please provide additional details on the content and frequency of these trainings.**

Officers belonging to the Specialized Unit attend a 5 weeks specialization course prior to be employed in the particular sector. The course program contains basic notions on art history, archaeology, and bibliography as well as more detailed information on national and international laws on protection of cultural property, investigative techniques, technical instruments for analysis on cultural property and protection of landscape. Practical session with units working on the field are also included within the course.

32. **What type of training do customs officers receive on cultural property crime?**

	No specific training on this issue
X	Training has occurred in the past, but is not ongoing
	Training occurs periodically
	In-depth, specialized training for officers working on this issue
	Assistance is required from UNESCO and its partners
	Other

33. **Please provide additional details on the content and frequency of these trainings.**

There is no regular training on protection of cultural property for customs officers at the moment, however some courses tailored for customs officers have been realized in the past. Nevertheless custom offices are in direct contact with the local units of the Carabinieri for the Protection of Cultural Heritage and are instructed to immediately contact them in case of identification of object that may be of cultural interest and are of unknown or suspicious origin.

34. **To what extent have museums in your country adopted a code of ethics, such as the ICOM Code of Ethics, that is in line with the principles of the 1970 Convention?**

	All or almost all have adopted such a code of ethics
X	Most have adopted such a code of ethics
	Some have adopted such a code of ethics
	None/only a few have adopted such a code of ethics
	Other (please specify) :

35. Please provide additional details on the degree to which museums adhere to such a code of ethics.

All the public museums adhere to the ICOM Code of ethics and the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Cultural Activities promulgated the standards of quality for museums in february 2018, following a long-term collaboration with ICOM.

36. To what extent do dealers and auction houses in your country follow practices that are in line with the principles of the 1970 Convention, such as those outlined in the UNESCO International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property and the Operational Guidelines of the 1970 Convention?

	All or almost all follow such practices
X	Most follow such practices
	Some follow such practices
	None/only a few follow such practices
	Other (please specify) :

37. Please provide additional details on the policies and practices of dealers and auction houses in your country.

Moreover, the Code of Cultural Properties and Landscape is binding regarding many aspects provided by the ICOM Code of Ethics.

38. How has your country engaged art and antiquities dealers around the issue of illicit trafficking of cultural property?

The MiBAC engaged art and antiquities dealers in a working table that elaborated the general guidelines for the evaluation of the issue or the refusal of the free circulation certificate by the Export Offices.

39. Do you regulate the trade of cultural objects on internet?

	Yes
X	No

40. Have you entered into a specific agreement with an internet platform?

X	Yes
	No

International Cooperation

41. Please list any bilateral agreements your country has regarding the protection of cultural property, including the years for which the agreement is in effect.

Memorandum of understanding between Italy and the United States concerning the imposition of import restrictions on categories of archaeological materials representing the pre-classical, classical and imperial Roman periods of Italy (2001; renewed in 2006, 2011, 2016). Agreement between Italy and Switzerland on the import and repatriation of cultural properties (2006). Agreement between China and Italy on the fight against thefts, illegal excavations and illegal import and export of cultural properties (2006).

42. Please indicate how the 1970 Convention helped with return/restitution cases your country has been involved in?

	To no extent	To some extent	To a considerable extent	To a great extent
Provided a legal framework for return/restitution			X	
Provided a moral framework for return/restitution			X	
Provided a diplomatic framework for return/restitution			X	
Other (please specify):				

43. Please provide additional details on or examples of how the 1970 Convention has facilitated return/restitution cases

The 1970 Convention has facilitated the conclusion of the above mentioned three bilateral agreements. The first two provide effective tools for the restitution of stolen or illegally exported cultural properties. However, they relate only to certain categories of cultural properties included in a List attached to the Agreement.

44. Does your country have a system in place to facilitate international cooperation (e.g. single points of contacts and easily accessible information) in cases of illicit trafficking of cultural property?

X	Yes
	No

If yes, please specify

Italy uses the Internal Market Information System (IMI) the multilingual online tool that facilitates the Exchange of information between public authorities involved in the practical implementation of Directive 2014/60/Eu of The European Parliament And The Council, of 15 May 2014, on the return of cultural objects unlawfully removed from the territory of a Member State and amending Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012.

45. How has your country promoted this system and ensure the international community is aware of it?

The Carabinieri TPC, according to the Minister of Interior Affairs Decree of 28 April 2006, have been identified as the information and analysis focal point for all Police agencies both at a national and an international level. They work in close cooperation with the Italian national central office of INTERPOL, as well as with EUROPOL, in the field of illicit behaviors and crimes against cultural heritage. The Carabinieri TPC cooperate with all police specialized offices who deal with the protection of cultural heritage (France, Belgium, Germany, Argentina, Spain, USA, etc.). They also are committed to promoting studies, research and collaborations, also operational ones, so as to take the most appropriate action to fight crimes against cultural heritage, which has become increasingly globalized. All this through an update of the network of contacts, or by joining or creating initiatives such as project PSYCHE (Protection System for the Cultural Heritage): funded by the European Commission and led by the Carabinieri TPC. Thank to this project, the exchange of information between the Police offices and the INTERPOL stolen works of art Database has been standardized and automated.

Overall

46. Yearly statistics

Thefts

1st Year reporting	450	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
2nd Year reporting	449	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
3rd Year reporting	419	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
4nd Year reporting	479	Number of objects
Additional information : //		

Illegal Excavations

1st Year reporting	21	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
2nd Year reporting	14	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
3rd Year reporting	17	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
4nd Year reporting	55.149	Number of objects
Additional information : //		

Seizures (cultural objects originating from own country)

1st Year reporting	34.705	Number of objects
Additional information : //		

2nd Year reporting	94.162	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
3rd Year reporting	54.598	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
4nd Year reporting	55.149	Number of objects
Additional information : //		

Seizures (cultural objects originating from another country)

1st Year reporting	7	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
2nd Year reporting	6	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
3rd Year reporting	22	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
4nd Year reporting	4	Number of objects
Additional information : //		

Restitutions

1st Year reporting	0	Number of objects
Additional information :		
2nd Year reporting	16	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
3rd Year reporting	10	Number of objects
Additional information : //		
4nd Year reporting	5	Number of objects
Additional information : //		

47. Please rate the extent to which each of the following is a challenge your country faces in preventing theft and illicit exportation of its cultural property.

	Not a challenge	Somewhat of a challenge	A considerable challenge	A major challenge
Gaps in national legislation to protect cultural property	X			
Lack of police capacity related to cultural property	X			

Lack of customs capacity related to cultural property		X		
Lack of coordination between relevant stakeholders		X		
Lack of inventories and databases in museums			X	
Inadequate security systems in museums and places of worship			X	
Inadequate security of archaeological sites			X	
Lack of cooperation from the art market		X		
Lack of expertise/capacity in the legal field (lawyers, judges, prosecutors, etc.)		X		
Lack of regulation on the internet		X		
Lack of public awareness		X		
Other (please specify):				

48. **If applicable, please describe the three biggest barriers your country faces in securing the return/restitution of cultural property that has been stolen/illegally exported (e.g., cost of legal proceedings in other countries, lack of communication with counterparts in other countries, etc.).**

- different legislation in cultural property protection matter, especially in mutual terms of crimes; - lack of communication with counterparts in some countries; - non-ratification/signature of relevant international Conventions and/or multilateral agreements in the specific field from some countries; - The cost of legal proceedings in other countries.

49. **If applicable, please describe the most common reasons why your country is not able to fulfill requests for return/restitution made by other countries (e.g., requests made outside parameters of existing legal framework, lack of evidence for claims, etc.).**

Normally, Italy fulfills the requests by other countries for the return of cultural properties that have been stolen or illegally exported. In particular, the special Carabinieri unit for the protection of cultural heritage has developed the practice of asking the competent tribunal for the judicial seizure of cultural properties found during control operation for their being imported without the required certificates. Once experts and competent institutions have determined the area of provenance of the artefacts, the Carabinieri unit informs the presumed State of origin, asking it to confirm the theft or the illicit export of the objects and, if so, to issue a request through diplomatic channels for their return. On the basis of this request, the judicial authority authorizes the restitution of the objects to the owner. They are usually delivered to the ambassador of the States concerned.

UNESCO Support for the Implementation of the 1970 Convention

General awareness raising and communication strategies

50. **UNESCO and its partners have developed a number of tools to help State Parties implement the 1970 Convention. Please rate how helpful these tools have been to your country :**

	Not helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful	Extremely helpful
Object ID Standard (ICOM, the Getty, and UNESCO)				X
UNESCO International Code of Ethics for Cultural Property Dealers				X
ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums				X
UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws		X		
Basic Measures Concerning Cultural Items Offered for Sale on the Internet (INTERPOL, UNESCO, ICOM)			X	
Model Provisions Defining State Ownership of Undiscovered Cultural Property (UNESCO and UNIDROIT)			X	
Model Export Certificate for Cultural Objects (UNESCO and WCO)			X	

51. **Please provide additional details on how your country has used UNESCO's tools.**

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52. **Please indicate whether your country has uploaded relevant national laws to the UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws.**

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53. **What additional tools would be helpful for UNESCO to develop ?**

The 1970 Convention should be strengthened and the its gaps, in particular its limited scope of application, should be filled.

54. **Have you or other stakeholders in your country participated in any of UNESCO's capacity building workshops or projects related to preventing illicit trafficking of cultural property in the past five years?**

X	Yes
	No

55. **How did these workshops or projects contribute to the implementation of the 1970 Convention in your country? Please provide specific examples where possible.**

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56. **There are a number of ways the UNESCO Secretariat could support State Parties in the implementation of the 1970 Convention in the future, in addition to servicing the governing bodies of the Convention. Please indicate the extent to which the Secretariat should give priority to the following activities :**

	No priority	Low priority	Somewhat of a priority	High priority
Support in reforming national policies and legislation				X
Promoting policy dialogues between countries		X		
Support for inventorying projects				X
Specialized trainings for police				X
Specialized trainings for customs				X
Specialized trainings for museum staff			X	
National workshops to bring together stakeholders across departments, ministries, etc.			X	
Regional workshops to bring together stakeholders from across the region across departments, ministries, etc.			X	
Awareness raising activities (press releases, video clips, etc.)				X
Development of more legal and practical tools such as the WCO model export certificate, the Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws, etc.			X	
Facilitating the sharing of best practices between countries (e.g., online or through a newsletter)		X		
Other (please specify):				

57. **Please provide any additional suggestions for how UNESCO should focus its work on this topic going forward.**

The answers given to question No. 36 are referred to the case of Italy and do not relate to the case of other countries. For example, a reform of national policies and legislation would be useful in other countries (in particular, the countries of destination of stolen or illegally exported cultural properties); specialized training of police and customs officials may be useful in other countries and Italy is available for such activities.

58. **What difficulties did you State encounter while implementing the Convention during the last reporting cycle period ?**

No difficulty

59. **How has your country used the Operational Guidelines of the 1970 Convention adopted in UNESCO during the Third Meeting of States Parties (2015)?**

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60. **Any other additional issues or comments you would like to share.**

As already remarked, the 1970 Convention presents some evident gaps that need to be filled, first of all regarding the looting of archaeological sites and the return of the looted objects to the countries of origin. Italy is going to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Crimes relating to Cultural Heritage, Nicosia 19th May 2017. The purpose of this Convention is to: a. preventing and combating the destruction, damage and trafficking of cultural goods, making certain behaviors offenses; b. strengthen the prevention activity and the reaction of the criminal justice system to all crimes related to cultural heritage; c. promote national and international cooperation in the fight against crimes related to cultural heritage; and protect cultural assets in this way.