**Main submitters:** Israel (23ekjos@isstavanger.no)

**Co- Submitters:** Haiti, United States of America, France, European Union, Morocco

**Forum:** Special Conference

**The question of:** The Protection, Return, and Restitution of Cultural Heritage.

The Special Conference,

*Recognizes* that cultural heritage has a variety of categories to go under, such as movable heritage (physical paintings/artwork, manuscripts, literary work, sculptures, etc.), immovable heritage (statues, archaeological sites, monuments, buildings, etc.), underwater heritage (submerged ruins, shipwrecks, etc.) and intangible cultural heritage (songs/ rhymes, traditions performed orally, rituals, dances, etc.),

*Emphasizes* the importance of cultural expression, knowing it is a key variable within the economy due to tourism, which there has been a lack of due to COVID- 19 and travel restrictions as well as health issues,

*Reminds* Member States of the importance of educating and communicating cultural related items and cultural historical places as there is pride in history and culture,

*Bearing in mind,* preserving a culture, in addition to national support, needs international support, hence forth, urges all Member States to collaborate towards this common goal to convey justice,

1. Asks that Member Nations in the possession of historical artifacts that are not in the nation of origin collaborate with the nations where these objects originate from to:
2. Return these artifacts to their rightful owners by:
3. Tracking the history of the artifacts using resources such as, but not limited to:
4. Global resources,
5. Regional resources specialized to a certain area or artifact,
6. Contacting historical experts that are knowledgeable about that artifact to:
7. Validate the authenticity of the artifact,
8. Locate the time period and region that the artifact originates from,
9. Share information with other experts that can be more knowledgeable in the field,
10. Discussing the means of transportation of the artifact to:
11. Agree upon which party should pay the fees of transportation,
12. Ensure the preservation of the artifact,
13. Agree upon a location where the artifact should be delivered to ensure that:
14. The artifact is returned to where it rightfully belongs,
15. The artifact is not displaced even further,
16. Create a way by which the artifacts can be presented, with the permission and approval of the country of origin such as but not limited to:
17. Museum exhibits,
18. Documentaries and TV shows,
19. Newspaper and magazine articles,
20. National Radio anthems,
21. Websites and blogs;

1. Requests the implementation of a validation process, run by the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, regarding the current status of countries which are requesting the restitution and return of historical and cultural artifacts including, but not limited to:
2. Economic status and stability,
3. Political stability,
4. Ability and means to protect said artifact;

1. Suggests previous colonizers to document stolen artifacts so as to:
2. create a digital exhibition in the relevant museums and/or galleries,
3. to allow said Member States to educate their population while still retaining cultural heritage by returning the artifacts to the country of origin;

1. Urges the implementation and increase of workshops and exhibitions in museums with a fee to enter to help raise the economy in regards to tourism, as well as preserving artifacts while restituting culture by showcasing cultural heritage;

1. Strongly encourages all Member Nations to which a stolen historical artifact has just been returned to implement safety regulations for the first year in order to safeguard the artifact, such as but not limited to:
2. Constant monitoring of the artifact through:
3. Security guards,
4. Safety cameras,
5. The artifact being displayed in museums with the following recommendations:
6. Being encased in a thick layer of glass that is not easy to penetrate,
7. being monitored at all times,
8. Monthly Written reports with specific information on the artifact such as:
9. What state the artifact is in,
10. Where is the artifact being kept,
11. How the artifact is being protected,
12. Any attempts of theft,
13. Any damage,
14. In the case of theft, it is necessary to write a report to INTERPOL immediately providing information such as:
15. Time and date of the theft,
16. How the artifact seemed to have been stolen,
17. Safety camera footage, if in possession;

1. Trusts that protection of cultural heritage shall be solely for public interest, and protected for its historical/cultural significance, regardless of place, time, creator, or the manner of creation;

1. Encourages Member Nations to facilitate educational programs, nationally and internationally, specific to the respective Member Nation to bring awareness to the issue of intentional destruction of cultural heritage and cultural misappropriation and helping citizens understand the importance of their own cultural heritage, but also international cultural heritage, by educating people on topics such as:
2. Safeguarding cultural heritage within their own Member Nation by:
3. Learning the beliefs and history of their Member Nation and how certain artifacts represent this historical background,
4. Integration of intangible cultural heritage in education programs to grow awareness,
5. Respecting international cultural heritage by:
6. Learning the culture from other countries to promote understanding of each individual and their culture,
7. Educating citizens on the consequences of illicit trafficking of historical artifacts,
8. Enrich the school curriculum on subjects such as but not limited to:
9. History,
10. Individuals and Societies,
11. City, Society and Environment,
12. Culture, Arts and History,
13. Geography,
14. Anthropology;

1. Calls for financial support for these programs, such as the workshops, through Most Developed Countries (MDCs) by:
2. Using MDCs’ checklist to motivate engagement,
3. Negotiations supervised by the secretariat should not take more than one week so action is being done,
4. The amount of money donated should have a significant impact where the significance will be measured based on cultural and historical value.