



# SAIMUN 2022

## Resolution #174

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POWERED BY MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE MANAGER

**Committee:** SPECPOL

**Question of:** Returning artefacts to their original countries

**Main submitter:** South Korea

**Co-submitters:** Lebanon, New Zealand, Gabon, Monaco, Fiji, Malta, Canada, Cambodia, Mexico

THE SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLINIZATION COMMITTEE,

*Recalling* the unanimous resolution of the 44th plenary meeting on 6.12.2021 titled "Return or restitution of cultural property to countries of origin",

*Further recalling* the 1994 UNIDROIT "Convention on stolen or illegally exported cultural objects",

*Aware of* the importance to the original countries to the returning of artefacts that are of significant historical, spiritual and cultural value to them, so that they may compose collections of these cultural, historical and spiritual artefacts,

*Recognising* that the illegal trafficking of artefacts affects all regions of the world and that all countries might be a source, transit or final destination are for these artefacts at the same time,

Commending all Member States, museums and cultural and educational institutions for their efforts to stop the illegal trade and trafficking in artefacts, and welcoming all initiatives for the voluntary return of these artefacts which have been illegally appropriated,

*Expressing deep concern* about the destruction, theft, loss, illegal removal and export of artefacts from archeological sites, museums, libraries, and any other sites and any intentional damage against these artefacts, including in territories that are occupied, whether international or non-international conflicts,

1.

Calls

for a bi-annual conference to be held in Geneva, Switzerland between member nations help build connections between these

- a. Encourage relations between countries with artefacts of foreign origin and countries from which these artefacts originate;
- b. Create diplomatic agreements on the topic of returning these artefacts;

2.

Requests

that any member nations in the possession of a cultural or historical artefact shall return it to its country of origin in cases such as

- a. If the artefact in question was obtained unlawfully or unethically,
- b. If the country of origin requests the return of the artefact, in which case if the artefact was indeed lawfully and ethically procured, the processor of the artefact will be entitled to a suitable and fair compensation for the return of the artefact.

3.

Suggests

the World Bank provides funds, overseen by the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property

- a. Develop appropriate accommodation to house and preserve the artefacts in question, such as national museums or archives,
- b. ensure the safe transportation of these artefacts during their return,
- c. Restore and repair the artefacts in question
- d. Display the artefacts for viewing by locals and tourists;

4.

Requests

the creation of a public listing of the known artefacts of each member state that are in the possession of a foreign nation, over

5.

Endorses

the creation of a mass media campaign allowing the general public to know the true scale of the amount of lost patrimony, th

- a. Increase awareness on the subject matter at hand,
- b. Commend UNESCO on the Unite4Heritage campaign to raise awareness in young people of the importance of the val
- c. Provide perspective on the true scale of the amount of dispossessed items, as well as to push political leaders to act up

6.

Further calls

upon Member States to introduce legislation mandating the repatriation of artefacts to their country of origin, which would c

7.

Further suggests the security council impose sanctions

to member nations who refuse to comply with the legislation, denouncing any claim to the item under pretences that the laws

- a. Financial penalisations for private collectors,
- b. Political and public relations repercussion;

8.

Urges

the action of private collectors to contribute to the LARA Document and enlist any item in their possession that is of a foreign

9.

Requests

for member nations to work with the help of historians, collectors, archaeologists, heritage foundations, and political officials

10.

Reaffirms

the right of the country of origin of whose artefacts have been taken by applying prerogatives to countries to ensure the safe

11. Encourages

member nations to discourage the selling or leasing of culturally or historically significant objects by private individuals or N

- a. Prevent more artefacts leaving their home countries,
- b. Encourage private collectors of historical artefacts to move their collections into public ownership and museums, by any item that is found to violate these regulations may be seized and returned to their country of origin.

12.

Requests

the assistance of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin

- a. Help and co-ordinate the transferral of artefacts being transferred to their original location, which may include charte
- b. Deem the worthiness of countries to effectively care for, store and display countries that are deemed worthy until the
- c. In cases when intended countries may be war torn, at risk of conflict or may not be able to supply adequate housing