

Draft Resolution 1

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Topic: Carrying Out the Repatriation of Cultural Artifacts and Intellectual Property

Sponsors: Republic of India, Russian Federation, Kingdom of Spain

Signatories: Commonwealth of Australia, Republic of Cuba, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of France, Federal Republic of Germany, Islamic Republic of Iran, People's Republic of Korea, United States of America

The United Nations Economic and Social Council,

Recalling articles 62, 63 of the UN Charter,

Emphasizing the 3rd Hague Convention which focuses exclusively on cultural property, as well as the UNIDROIT, UNESCO 1970, 1978 conventions, which allow for the seizing of stolen objects and establish the Return and Restitution committee,

Reaffirming articles 11.2 and 12.2 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on the right of indigenous people to repatriate their cultural property through effective mechanisms

Realizing cultural heritage is at risk,

Deeply concerned by the profound impact of looting and plundering of the cultural properties of the indigenous people,

Expressing solidarity with all peoples eagerly yearning for the return of their heritages to the motherland,

Emphasizing the achievement of our Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, specifically, the key goal of Reducing Inequalities, according to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, signed by all the members of the United Nations,

Reaffirming Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations which aims to “achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character”,

Reviewing embezzlement, unlicensed dealings, illicit financing techniques and antique security as highlight areas of common major concern,

Aware of the international scope of this topic,

1. Calls upon UNESCO to launch the **2021 United Nations International Repatriation Movement**, a global repatriation campaign assisted by the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in case of Illicit Appropriation (Return and Restitution Committee) built on the principles of comprehensiveness, inclusivity, and good-faith negotiations and covering the following:

- a. Mechanisms developed by the UNESCO Office of International Standards and Legal Affairs for restitution and dispute settlement that entail:
 - i. Cooperation with national advisory committees and special restitution commissions located in nations possessing illicitly appropriated cultural property in order to provide a facilitated, non-adversarial, extra-legal setting where moral persuasion, professional responsibility, and diplomacy can meet the special dispute resolution needs of these nations;
 - ii. Attendance of the Return and Restitution Committee as an advisory body in all formal negotiations between involved parties as a promotion of good faith;
- b. Invites national authorities of Member states to target the inclusion of private owners of cultural property in the repatriation and management framework by:
 - i. Creating a database of private owners of cultural property;
 - ii. Embedding private owners into the management framework of cultural property by inviting them to policy talks;
 - iii. Setting up a repatriation fund to partly settle the private owners;
 - iv. Using private collections for the purpose of public exhibitions and interest;
 - v. Simplifying the repatriation process for private owners by providing clear guidance and assistance through repatriation claims and processes;
- c. Guidelines governing the prohibition of collection of items that lack provenance or paperwork indicating their origins by “universal” and “encyclopedic museums” monitored by the UNESCO Division of Thematic Programs for Diversity, Development and Dialogue;
- d. Recommends the use of modern 3D-modelling and 3D printing technologies as a compensation for museums repatriating local artifacts, while retaining user engagement and enjoyable experience:
 - i. Stressing that 3D models of expensive cultural heritage can furthermore serve as an act of good faith by the host countries to the countries of origin, until the necessary infrastructure and security procedures have been established to protect the originals in their countries of origin;

2. Further calls upon the IMF in financing the above-mentioned measures:

- a. Cooperation with major Western museums and cultural institutes through:
 - i. Compulsory contributions by member countries that are repatriating the cultural artifacts and donations from NGOs that wish to help, to guarantee that all antiques will be adequately preserved with infrastructure and maintenance;

- ii. Countries repatriating cultural properties may invest in museums located in countries of origin via the General Assembly 5th Committee in order to boost their infrastructure and promote their exposure in their new locations;
- iii. Contributions made by private individuals supporting the cultural cause;

3. Further invites Member states to establish a specialized professional commission with international founding in order to endow it with armament and training to minimize illegal trafficking of cultural heritage in the black market;

4. Recommends **Guidelines of Indigenous Properties** to ensure the usage of cultural artefacts are consent-based and respecting indigenous community with the following steps:

- b. Museums that restore indigenous heritage should promote the existence and rights of indigenous people by:
 - i. Raising awareness about the importance of appreciating indigenous heritage;
 - ii. Campaigning against the harm of cultural appropriation and promoting cultural appreciation;
- c. Countries that are asked to repatriate should be willing to return the cultural objects when they are requested by other countries;
- d. Governments are encouraged to use all the profits to:
 - i. Conduct more research about indigenous property items, including where does it come from and how it was made for academic purposes;
 - ii. Empower indigenous people with further mechanism;

5. Encourages the establishment of an **Indigenous People Empowerment** program to maintain the indigenous people's heritage by:

- a. Giving scholarships to indigenous people to have the knowledge on managing cultural heritage in museums to ensure that they still can control their indigenous property rights;
- b. Providing legal assistance to indigenous people in justice court if they have not received justice yet;

6. Further recommends to national authorities setting up awareness campaigns to reach private individuals:

- a. Private individuals being encompassing private owners and members of the public;
- b. Global awareness campaigns including, but not limited to attending cultural summits, academic conventions, organising workshops.