



Nordic Council
of Ministers



Illicit trade in cultural artefacts

**Stronger together: How can the Nordics
join forces to stop the illegal import
and export of cultural objects?**



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Nordic co-operation

Nordic co-operation is one of the world's most extensive forms of regional collaboration, involving Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Åland.

Nordic co-operation has firm traditions in politics, the economy, and culture. It plays an important role in European and international collaboration, and aims at creating a strong Nordic community in a strong Europe.

Nordic co-operation seeks to safeguard Nordic and regional interests and principles in the global community. Shared Nordic values help the region solidify its position as one of the world's most innovative and competitive.

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Introduction

Stronger together? – How the Nordic countries can optimise collaborative initiatives and measures to combat illicit sale

As part of their follow-up of the UN Security Council's resolution 2199, the Nordic ministers of culture at their meeting in May 2015 decided to hold a joint Nordic expert conference with a view to exploring the potential for a wider Nordic cooperation on action against illicit trade. The conference was organised by the Norwegian Ministry of Culture and held 2 and 3 December 2015 in Oslo, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Nordic Council of Ministers.

Day 1 of the conference concentrated on summarising the status quo in the five Nordic countries, while Day 2 was dedicated to more detailed discussions of potential specific cooperation measures.

The conference was primarily intended for government agencies, institutions and experts tasked with implementing measures against illicit trade. The objective was to foster greater understanding among the actors involved, exchange experiences and share best practice, and to discuss opportunities for a closer Nordic cooperation on measures that better utilise the Nordic countries' aggregate resources.

The work to prepare a conference report as a part of the Nordic Council of Ministers' publication series was launched after the meeting of the Nordic Ministers of Culture in Helsinki on 2 May 2016, at which the ministers adopted the final document and encouraged the five Nordic countries to pursue the outlined cooperative measures.

In order to avoid an unduly extensive report, we have limited ourselves to including summaries of the different subject-specific introductions and presentations. The introductions and presentations have been prepared by the introductory speakers themselves, based on their respective contributions to the conference.

The programme and presentations are available in their entirety in their original languages on kulturkrim.no. The website was established as a platform to enable conference attendees to share information, current news and contact details. For relevant resources – sources, references and literature – please refer to the above-

mentioned website. For this report, the Scandinavian language contributions have been translated into English.

The Ministry of Culture would like to thank all contributors, both in the discussions during the conference, and in the work on the report.

The report was edited by Hilde Madsø Jacobsen for the Ministry of Culture.

Figure 1: Lapis lazuli cylinder seal, Babylon, 14th century BC, 5 x Ø 1.6 cm



Source: © Vorderasiatisches Museum – SMB, Berlin / Olaf M. Teßmer. Courtesy of ICOM Red List.

Figure 2: Bronze statuette of a man marching with an arm raised high, the head covered with gold appliqué, Ugarit, approx. 1300 BC, 12 cm



Source: © National Museum of Damascus / Sophie Cluzan. Courtesy of ICOM Red List

Preface

Preface by Minister of Culture Linda Hofstad Helleland

Safeguarding our cultural heritage is an important political responsibility that is prioritised in the Nordic countries. Our cultural heritage tells us how nations and cultures have developed throughout history, and about who we are today. Taking responsibility for our cultural heritage is vital if we are to preserve our shared patrimony and if future generations are to understand their past.

The market for art and cultural artefacts is a global one. Therefore, we must act responsibly also in relation to other countries and regions where protecting important cultural heritage can be difficult for reasons that include armed conflict, crises or natural disasters. Museums and archaeological excavation sites are being looted, particularly in the Middle East; the illegal export and sale of important cultural artefacts, both registered and unregistered, generate income for extremist groups. Also, the sale of high-quality forgeries of such objects is a problem for both experts and the market generally.

In May 2015, the Nordic Ministers of Culture decided to hold a joint expert conference to look into opportunities for closer cooperation, particularly with a view to following up UN Security Council resolution 2199. About 100 people attended the conference, with participants coming from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The conference's final document recommends proceeding with 13 measures that can be completed either in the short or somewhat longer term. At the meeting in Helsinki in May 2016, the Nordic ministers gave their endorsement to the document and encouraged continued cooperation.

In 2017, Norway has assumed the presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers. The cooperation to combat illicit trade in cultural artefacts will be in focus during the Norwegian presidency. To target this area is a good way to pave the way for the proposal to making 2018 the European Year of Cultural Heritage.

Linda Hofstad Helleland

Linda Hofstad Helleland
Minister of Culture



Foto: Thomas Haugersveen/Statsministerens kontor.

Figure 3: From Syria: Square bronze tablet, Mari, 21st century BC, 11 x 11 cm



Source: © Mari archaeological mission. Courtesy of ICOM Red list.

Figure 4: Parchment prayer book, Qasr Elwiz (Nubia), 4th to 6th century AD, 11.6 x 16.5 cm



Source: © Nubia Museum, Aswan. Courtesy of ICOM Red List.

1. Director-General of UNESCO Irina Bokova: Greeting to the conference¹

Excellencies, Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen! I wish to thank the government of the Nordic council for their commitment to fight the illicit trafficking of cultural goods. This inspired by the appeal in March by the Norwegian minister of Culture Mrs. Torhild Widvey and the minister of foreign affairs Mr. Børge Brende; urging professional communities and the public to counter the illegal trade in cultural artefacts. This builds on the joint declaration of May by the cultural ministers of Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden to halt the illicit trade of cultural objects from Iraq and Syria.

Let me highlight the social media campaign; #Unite4Heritage that I launched in the University of Bagdad in March, and also the global coalition for the protection of cultural heritage launched at the world heritage committee meeting in Bonn last June. This mobilization has never been more important.

Cultural cleansing is accelerating in Iraq and Syria. Satellite images show archaeological sites riddled by thousands of holes. Illegal excavations and lootings are taking place on a massive scale with artefacts disseminating world-wide mostly through illegal channels.

This is a call to action! Together we must ensure the effective implementation of the 1970-convention on the means of prohibiting and preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property.

Together with partners, Unesco is leading the implementation of United Nations Security Council's resolution 2199 – Banning the trade of cultural objects from Iraq and Syria. Unesco has deployed action plans for Syria, Iraq, Libya and Jemen to protect build immovable heritage to build capacity with heritage managers, lawyers, architects, conservators, police and custom officers.

¹ Transcript from video speech.

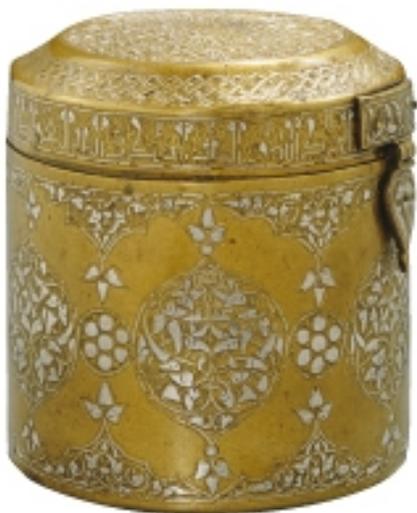
I wish to thank Norway for its generous support of our efforts in Iraq.

This is why this Nordic conference on illicit trafficking on cultural property is so important. We must strengthen coordination ever more in order to safeguard humanity's common heritage.

This is about identity and history. Fundamentally this is about setting the ground for peace and defending the humanity we all share.

In this spirit, I thank you again and wish you every success!

Figure 5: Decorative brass box with silver inlay, Mosul, second quarter of the 13th century AD, 11 x Ø 10.4 cm and 423 g



Source: © Museum für Islamische Kunst – SMB, Berlin. Courtesy of ICOM Red list.

Figure 6: From Egypt: Woven wool and flax textile fragment, 3rd to rd – 9th century AD, 96 x 102 cm



Source: © Musée Royal de Mariemont, Morlanwelz. Courtesy of ICOM Red list.

2. Presentations

2.1 Thorhild Widvey – the Minister of Culture’s opening speech

The Minister of Culture of Norway from October 2013 to December 2015.

Dear all!

I am pleased that we have succeeded in holding this conference – it is an example of a positive Nordic initiative to meet major, shared challenges. The proposal for a Nordic initiative to boost our efforts springs from the notion that small countries such as the Nordic countries are more likely to succeed with their actions in implementing their obligations under international conventions if we achieve a closer cooperation among stakeholders and colleagues at all levels and among different bodies – across national borders.

This conference is primarily targeted at those government agencies, institutions and experts who are responsible for implementing measures against illicit trade, and where closer Nordic cooperation has the potential to generate Nordic “added value”. In other words, this conference aims to reach out to police, customs, institutions, cultural experts and commercial parties, as well as ministries and agencies.

Our five Nordic countries have a lot in common that can foster a potential and fertile cooperation to fight trafficking in cultural objects:

We are party to the UNESCO’s 1970 convention on combating the *illicit* import and *export* and transfer of ownership of cultural property. All the Nordic countries (except Iceland) have ratified the UNIDROIT Convention of 1995 on the return of cultural objects that have been imported illegally. Furthermore, all five countries have acceded to the former EU directive of 1993 on the return of objects and are about to accede to the directive of 2014 relating to the return of such property.

Recent developments in the Middle East have given the “illicit trade in cultural artefacts” a significance that extends beyond the protection of cultural heritage. Illicit

trade has also become relevant in terms of security policy, as a source of income for extremist groups and their egregious acts.

This development has highlighted the problem of cultural heritage crime and its association with acts of war and armed conflict. The destruction of irreplaceable cultural monuments, the looting of excavation sites, the theft of artefacts from museums, libraries and other cultural institutions, money laundering, organised crime and terrorist activities are all different aspects of the same phenomenon – they are the means of obliterating cultural identity. All the Nordic governments are currently much preoccupied with the refugee situation. One of the ways of making many regions in the Middle East a safer place to live is to prevent terrorist groups from earning revenue that enable them to purchase weapons and finance continued acts of terror and destruction.

Several media outlets have referred to trafficking in cultural objects as an important source of finance – possibly second only to oil. In February, the UN Security Council therefore adopted a resolution obliging member states to implement measures against illicit trade and report back within four months to the so-called “Al-Qaida Committee”. This is an extraordinary measure that comes in addition to the member states’ ordinary follow-up within the framework of UNESCO’s 1970 Convention.

When my Nordic colleagues and I decided to organise this conference, this was in response to the obligations under the UN Security Council resolution *and* UNESCO’s Convention of 1970, as well as in recognition of the fact that our work and initiatives can be structured more efficiently. At the national level, the fact that responsibility for this area is divided among several public administration bodies and government agencies poses a number of challenges. Sound coordination and cooperation across professional divides is therefore required. If they are to handle their duties successfully, customs and police must have access to cultural expertise.

The role and responsibilities of government agencies in connection with the illicit trade in cultural objects is threefold. They shall:

- Prevent the import of illicit materials to the Nordic countries.
- Prevent the illicit export of cultural artefacts.
- Prevent the trade in illegally imported or exported art and cultural artefacts.

This conference primarily addresses the import of such objects and their sale.

The problems we are faced with are both demanding and complex. If we are to eliminate the illegal streams of revenue that are enabling extremist groups to force people to flee their homes, we need to fully utilise the means available to us within our own Nordic jurisdictions.

On 22 November 2015, the Norwegian newspaper Aftenposten provided an overview of ISIL's most important sources of income. The newspaper stated that the sale of antiquities and cultural artefacts allegedly earned the movement as much as USD 100 million, making it perhaps the terrorist organisation's second most important source of income after oil.

The objective of this conference is to explore the possibility of Nordic cooperation with regard to specific measures to stop illegal import and sale of illicit cultural artefacts in the Nordic countries.

The Nordic countries alone are not able to resolve this enormous problem, but we can do our bit by directing our efforts and resources at those areas where they can make the greatest difference. I believe that our joint resources can generate the best outcome through concrete and practical cooperation.

Another aspect of the Nordic initiative is that UNESCO is now looking to the Nordic countries as forerunners in terms of specific, practical measures to follow up the 1970 Convention. If we succeed in implementing concrete joint measures, this may have positive ripple effects to other regions and may perhaps become a model that could be applied by other small countries.

It is our hope that this conference will result in concrete proposals for specific follow-up measures that we can continue to work with together. The plan is to then present these measures to the Nordic Council of Ministers with a view to agreeing on a few shared objectives which could inspire further Nordic efforts to prevent Nordic money finding its way to ISIL and "al-Qaida" through the illicit trade of cultural artefacts.

The question which you are going to discuss and examine today and tomorrow, is whether the Nordic countries can succeed better through cooperation and joint actions than if we face these tremendous challenges individually. I believe we can!

After the conference I will discuss with my Nordic ministerial colleagues how to pursue the recommendations from this conference and how we can, together, follow up the resolution of the UN Security Council – which, unfortunately, is no less relevant today than it was when it was adopted at the beginning of 2015.

Best of luck with your work!

2.2 Tone Skogen – the Nordic countries as a regional actor in the international efforts to combat illicit trade in cultural artefacts

State secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Dear Minister of Culture, dear conference participants, dear colleagues,

First, please allow me to thank you for the invitation to speak to you today. This conference is an important event on an issue that, unfortunately, is both timeless and becoming ever more relevant.

Sadly, the destruction of cultural monuments and cultural artefacts is not a new phenomenon in war and situations of conflict. Nor is looting of cultural objects and their sale across national borders.

The plundering and sale of objects of cultural heritage has become an even more pressing issue as a result of war and terrorist acts in Afghanistan, Mali and, last but not least, in Iraq and Syria. In the past year, the international community has been appalled by the destruction of cultural heritage in both Iraq and Syria. These are places with cultural heritage dating back millennia, places that have been identified as part of the world's cultural heritage – places that belong to humanity.

2.2.1 *Two issues*

When cultural monuments and artefacts is destroyed in this manner, this is a matter above and beyond material destruction. In the first instance, this is a question of identity. The destruction and desecration of symbols of identity and pride is an attack on our core values, both as individuals and as communities; such acts deeply affect contemporary society, and, not least, future generations. Our children and our children's children are robbed of a part of their history and identity

The destruction of cultural objects is like tearing out a page from the book of history, or even redacting an entire chapter. This is a question of irrevocably removing the cultural pillars of our understanding of who we are. We consider such destructive and ruinous acts to be acts of war, no less.

The Rome Statute sets out what acts are defined as war crimes, including "attacks against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, historic monuments". For the first time in history, a person is to be brought before the

court in the International Criminal Court in The Hague, accused of this very war crime. He stands suspected of the destruction of cultural treasures in Timbuktu during the civil war in Northern Mali in 2012.

Secondly, we must be aware of the financial interests associated with the illicit trade in and sacking of cultural objects.

The international demand for antiquities and cultural artefacts fuels the growth of the market in which cultural objects are bought and sold.

We should not delude ourselves into believing that this is a problem that does not exist in the Nordic countries. Most likely, the Nordic countries both receive and act as transit countries for the illicit trade in cultural property. There is considerable buying power in the Nordic countries, and there are potential buyers out there.

This illicit trade takes place both on the black market in semi-underground systems, but also on the open market where such acts amount to financial crime.

Increased international mobility, the use of cyberspace, organised networks and the recent influx of refugees to Europe are factors that complicate the fight against the illicit trade and economic crime – both in the countries of origin and in the market where the trafficked goods are destined.

The illicit trade in cultural artefacts is often channelled through networks also associated with other types of crime, such as the illegal arms trade, drugs trade or human trafficking. This is an area where we need to take in the whole picture – domestic and international developments must be considered together, as must different types of crime.

2.2.2 *Agreements*

The first international agreement to protect cultural heritage was the Convention of 1954 for the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict. This convention was established in the wake of the looting of art and its destruction during World War II.

It is with great pleasure I can report that Norway is now in the process of ratifying the second protocol of this convention.

So far, Finland is the only country to have ratified the convention and I would like to make use of this opportunity to encourage the other Nordic countries to follow suit.

Numerous references have been made to the other two important international agreements in this field. 1) The UNESCO Convention of 1970 on the means of

prohibiting and preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property, and 2) UNIDROIT's *Convention* of 1995 on stolen or illegally exported cultural objects and the return of such property. Together, these three agreements form the framework for the international obligations in the area, domestically and internationally. However, the challenges reside in the ratification of the agreements, and not least in securing a high degree of compliance and capabilities nationally.

It is with pleasure I commend UNESCO for the important normative role it plays, and for its global efforts and work within the UN system. UNESCO focuses attention on the destruction of cultural heritage and is a strong driving force and capacity-builder in its state parties, targeting museums, auction houses, police forces, and customs and excise authorities.

Director-General Bokova played an active part in securing the UN Security Council's resolution 2199, which was approved in February of this year.

The resolution commits member states to preventing terrorist groups in Syria and Iraq from benefiting financially from ransom and the sale of oil and antiquities.

The UNESCO's campaign "#Unite4Heritage" is directed especially at young people and is backed by a broad coalition of partners dedicated to protecting cultural heritage and diversity, and to fighting illicit trade in cultural artefacts across national borders.

Earlier this year, the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs Børge Brende and Minister of Culture Thorhild Widvey made a public appeal to help stop the illegal trade in cultural artefacts from Iraq and Syria.

The Nordic ministers of culture seconded this appeal in a joint statement, with this conference being a direct outcome of this joint Nordic initiative.

2.2.3 Policy in changing times – meeting new challenges

Terrorism, organised crime, piracy and security challenges in cyberspace are all obstacles to development, putting states and entire regions at risk. This is the backdrop to the fight against the illicit trade in cultural artefacts – both for countries currently undergoing and that have suffered war and strife in the past.

Security and development are inextricably linked.

Norway will work to promote security and development in partnership with other parties – through a broad international cooperation involving states, organisations, the private business sector, think tanks and researchers. It goes without saying that the EU and our Nordic neighbours are our partners in this work.

As part of this effort, the government is establishing an aid programme targeting organised crime and illicit trade. This programme will be set up next year and will be gradually stepped up to NOK 100 million per year.

Among other things, it will contribute to building up analytic capabilities, information-sharing systems and targeted efforts within the police forces and customs and excise agencies and in the judicial systems of the Nordic countries.

2.2.4 *Joint Nordic effort*

The Nordic countries have a high level of credibility in the UN system, partly due to their contributions to making UNESCO more operational and result-oriented.

Both the Nordic countries and the UN stand to gain considerably from further expanding joint efforts. Focusing more attention on the 1970 Convention and the UNIDROIT Convention of 1995, as well as enhancing compliance with these conventions, are potential areas of cooperation.

Specifically, the Nordic countries could become a role model for how small countries can work together to meet international targets and obligations, such as on the UN Security Council's resolution 2199 to prevent laundering of proceeds and organised crime.

This autumn, the UNESCO General Conference approved a new strategy to reinforce the UNESCO's role in preserving cultural heritage and cultural diversity in areas with armed conflict.

Among other things, the strategy includes a proposal to set up a mechanism that would make it easier to take action in such situations. A further strategic measure could be building capabilities to prevent and reduce the risk of losing cultural artefacts. Some countries stressed that UNESCO could form part of the UN's humanitarian operations.

The Nordic countries should support UNESCO's new strategy and support the organisation and its work to play an operational role.

In 2011, Norway participated in a capability-building project in Poland, in which the cultural heritage administration authorities; police; customs and excise and border control agencies; museum staff and academics were gathered to share experiences.

This cooperation project resulted in the publication “Fighting Cultural Crime. Guidelines and recommendations”.² This type of cooperation could serve as inspiration and become an example of best practice to be replicated in other regions. It is also a project that we should consider working with in a Nordic context.

The results to date are positive. It is my hope that these two days can generate further enthusiasm and ideas to build further opportunities for a joint Nordic initiative to counter illicit trafficking in cultural property. This would not only reinforce our own profile, but also illustrate ways in which small countries can work together. Our initiative may lead the way for others, creating a win-win situation for all parties.

Thank you very much for your time!

2.3 Frederik Rosén – Cultural artifacts as illegal commodity: Who profits? Who pays the price?

Senior researcher at the Danish Institute for International studies.

When we today speak about illicit trade with artefacts, we do not only speak about the fate of art and our common cultural heritage. We speak of objects that the highest levels of the international community view as closely connected to the most serious crimes – including ethnic cleansing and terrorism. We speak of objects of violence; objects connected to atrocities and crimes. UNESCO thus describes how “Organized looting, illicit trafficking and sale of cultural objects have reached an unprecedented scale. Terrorist groups are using these acts as a tactic of war to intimidate populations and governments. In addition, these acts aim to generate income for terrorist groups across the Middle East and beyond, which is then used to support their recruitment and operational efforts.”³

The United Nations Security Council responded to this situation by adopting Resolution 2199 (12 February 2015), which noted “with concern that ISIL, ANF and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, are generating

² Norwegian version: “Bekjemp kulturkriminalitet. Retningslinjer og anbefalinger”.

³ ‘UN community rallies around new global initiative to counter the destruction and trafficking of cultural property, UNESCO Press Release, 28 September 2015.

income from engaging directly or indirectly in the looting and smuggling of cultural heritage items from archaeological sites, museums, libraries, archives, and other sites in Iraq and Syria, which is being used to support their recruitment efforts and strengthen their operational capability to organize and carry out terrorist attacks.” Invoking Chapter 7 powers, the Council decided that “all Member States shall take appropriate steps to prevent the illegal trade in Iraqi and Syrian cultural property and other items of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific, and religious importance” including by prohibiting cross-border trade in such items.” The Council reinforced Resolution 2199 in subsequent Res 2249 (20 Nov 2015) and Res 2253 (17 Dec 2015).

In that way, recent events and actions taken by the Security Council recast the meaning of the 1970 UNESCO convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. We created the convention to save art and heritage but now it appears as a key international instrument for guarding peace and security. It is in this new light also the Nordic countries should view the question of regulating trade with illicit artefacts.

Although we see strong high-level commitments to the problem, we still need to establish better facts. As noticed by the UN Sanctions Monitoring Team that assesses the impact of resolution 2199, we lack credible estimates related to the overall value of antiquities smuggling by ISIL. The Monitoring Team however emphasized how the risk of terrorism financing is significant in the trading of illicit artefacts and calls for better monitoring and reporting on initiatives that member states have deployed to address the problem.⁴

To establish a Nordic approach to and regional cooperation on implementing national obligations under Resolution 2199 and the 1970 convention, the Nordic countries could undertake a coordinated review of the legislative, administrative and operational provisions they have adopted, as well as on any other actions taken for meeting the requirements under Resolution 2199 as well as the 1970 convention. This should be done with a view to the new character that the illicit international trade with artefacts has been given due to its connection to terrorism and atrocities.

The Nordic countries could also collaborate on establishing an overview over the scale and nature of the illicit trade in the Nordics. As the Monitoring team for resolution 2199 notices, it is important that the documentation of intercepted cultural artefacts

⁴ The Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team of the UN Security Council, report S/2014/815 (14 Nov 2014).

by Member States includes details such as date of interception, location of interception and origin of the artefacts. Furthermore, the Nordic debates about resolution 2199, the 1970-convention and the question of looting and trafficking and terror financing and cultural cleansing would benefit greatly from better facts about what actually happens on the ground in Syria and Iraq and other countries with challenges linked to terrorist financing and looting. Joint Nordic research could be initiated to underpin the work towards meeting the requirements under Resolution 2199 and the 1970 convention.

2.4 Dima Chahin – Syrian cultural heritage: What has been done and what still needs to be done?

Architect at the Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU).

The rapid development of the Syrian crises confused the whole world. Especially experts and archaeologists who were working in Syria for decades.

The quickly declining situation hardly gave the chance for Syrians specialists to work on protecting their heritage and hardly to save museum's collections in war zones. Leaving behind hundreds of storage houses and tens of thousands of unprotected sites both excavated and unexcavated. These archaeological sites were exploited by hundreds of illegal diggers, they destroyed the story telling of the sites, and the historical component, to get few objects that could be sold. Whether these destructive activities were done on the individual levels or organized groups levels, the historical knowledge has been lost to provide an easy money in the times of crises.

The great richness of Syrian heritage, and the wide range of destruction that it faces, can only be compared to the richness and damage that Iraqi heritage has been faced after the American invasion. As both consists the Fertile Crescent where civilization had been emerged.

The failure to protect Iraqi historical heritage is one of the biggest setbacks in the history of the modern world. Today after more than fifteen years, thousands of archaeological objects that were looted from Iraqi museums are still lost. Learning the hard lesson from this cultural catastrophe, specialists in the field are working hard to protect Syrian heritage from suffering a similar fate.

That's where the untraditional approach came from, analyzing past experiences, and trying to evaluate and compare what was done, and what is currently being done whether in Syria or Libya or other areas of armed conflict. The reality that the same reaction faced this issue has been practiced throughout history in many different countries says a lot about the need for a new approach towards this huge problem.

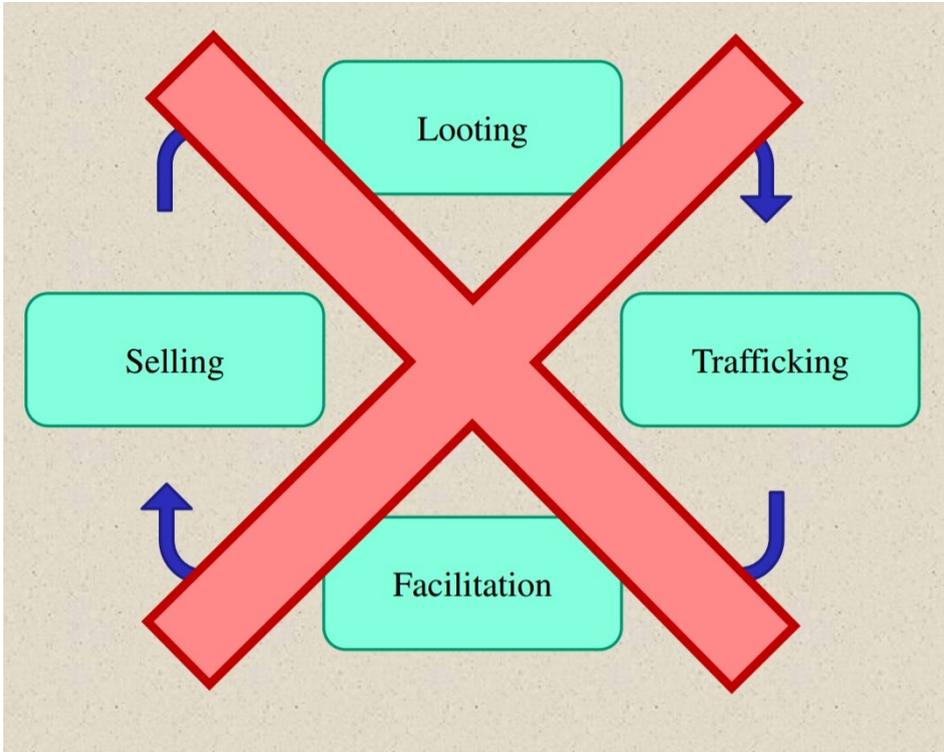
The traditional approach focuses on the conflict country and its local inhabitants; working on raising awareness and training working groups, and may be proceeding it to the bordering countries. While this is a great method in preparation for post-conflict phase, it does very little to preserve heritage during the conflict time itself, that in the case of Syria might last for years to come; and if not dealt with may leave very little culture at the end .

In this new approach, we are trying to protect Syrian heritage, though very little is possible on the ground, we can fight against looting and illegal excavation, and stop the money flow coming from selling these looted objects.

By targeting the market countries first, working on raising awareness among buyers instead of sellers, improving laws and their implementation, and providing very necessary knowledge to law men both on the borders and those inland.

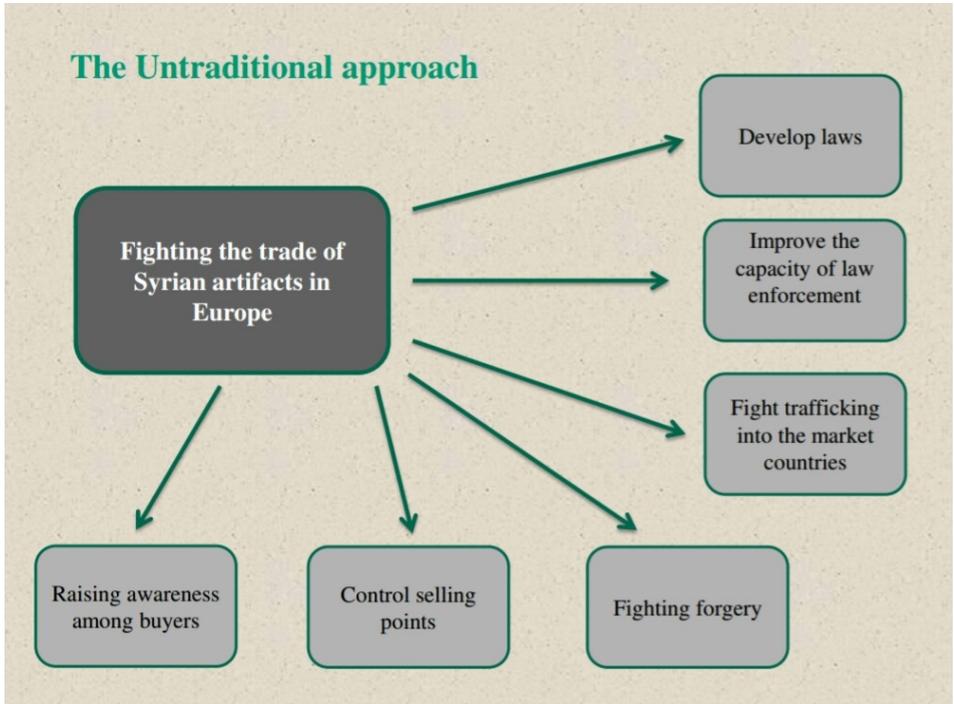
When we break the circle of illegally trading antiquities, we will not just be helping to preserve Syrian heritage, but we would also be helping to shorten the length of the conflict.

Figure 7: The circle of illegally trading antiquities



One subject that was widely and openly discussed in this conference was the genuine need for proper training and education to law enforcement, we heard from them their need for guidance about how and where to look for illegal trade of antiquities, and how to be able to develop their techniques to face very sophisticated smugglers with long years of experience. This was exactly what the untraditional approach aimed to achieve.

Figure 8: The untraditional approach



Closing borders and markets against illicit antiquities is not an easy job, it needs full intention and collaboration on many different levels, political, legislations, law enforcement and finally the public. But we have been able to achieve this collaboration before with the bloody diamond trade, and hopefully we will be able to achieve it again against bloody antiquities to protect heritage in conflict lands now and in the future.

2.5 Neil Brodie – Transnational Organised Crime and Trade in Art and Antiquities

Professor at the University of Glasgow, Centre for Crime and Justice Research.

It is now well established that small, well-organized groups of criminals operate over decades stealing and trafficking large quantities of cultural objects from countries all around the world. This international trade in cultural objects meets the UNODC definition of organized crime contained in its 2003 Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime that an “‘Organized criminal group’ shall mean a structured group of three or more persons, existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established in accordance with this Convention, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit”. This definition of what comprises organized crime alters the way we think about the trade in cultural objects – about how it is organized and how it might be regulated or controlled. Looking at case studies involving customs seizures of cultural objects in New York and London through the lens of organized crime reveals much about how the trade operates, and allows some suggestions to be made about how it should be tackled.

Although it is conventional to consider the trade in terms of looters, dealers and collectors, the case studies highlight the roles of other actors – specialist shipping companies transporting and storing material, insurance companies, professional conservators and restorers, and university academics and museum conservators, all actively and profitably engaging with and facilitating the trade. These expert facilitators are professional people with established careers and reputations and should be more open to moral persuasion and the deterrent threat of law enforcement than habitual thieves and traffickers. Policies or practical actions aimed at controlling the trade should pay more attention to the activities of these facilitators.

The case studies also show the importance of customs for intercepting material in transit before it enters the broader market. Customs agencies need good intelligence to identify suspect material, and ways should be explored of improving cooperation and intelligence sharing, both within countries between different but relevant regulatory and enforcement agencies, and internationally, either through direct cooperation with partner agencies or through international organisations such as Interpol or the Regional

Intelligence Liaison Offices of the World Customs Organisation. The ARCHEO web platform has been developed with exactly this purpose in mind.

Finally, the case studies show the difficulty of investigating trafficking networks, which extend across countries and jurisdictions. But even when convictions are achieved, sentencing is light, and often non-custodial. Light sentences have minimal deterrent effect and convicted criminals are known to have re-entered business once sentences have expired. Stronger sentencing guidelines should be introduced.

2.6 Rubina Raja – A virtual market for illegal trade in cultural goods: Palmyra in Syria as an example

Professor of classical archaeology and director of the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre of Excellence for Urban Network Evolutions (UrbNet), Aarhus University.

2.6.1 Introduction

The archaeological heritage in Syria was once among the richest in the Middle East. Recent years' civil war, however, has been detrimental to the region and led to irreversible damage of cultural heritage – not least in the oasis city Palmyra, which is home to the largest corpus of funerary portraiture from the Roman period outside of Rome. The still escalating conflict and the long tradition of looting and illegal excavations in the Middle East have led to increasing importance being placed on efforts of documenting sites, monuments and objects, as such records may soon constitute the only proof of the provenance and mere existence of these objects.⁵

The Palmyra Portrait Project (PPP) was initiated in 2012 with the intention of compiling a corpus of Palmyrene funerary portraiture.⁶ Presently, the corpus comprises almost 3,000 portraits from both private and public collections – far more than previous estimates by any scholar;⁷ however, the relevance of the project extends well beyond its size, as the PPP corpus now constitutes the most comprehensive documentation and critical archaeological evidence of these portraits.

⁵ See e.g. www.apsa2011.com which also provides links for other documentation sites.

⁶ The project is financed by the Carlsberg Foundation. Read more at <http://projects.au.dk/palmyraportrait/>

⁷ Kropp and Raja, "The Palmyra Portrait Project", Syria 91, 2014.

2.6.2 *Portraits on the international art market*

In the light of the conflict situation in Syria and the subsequent value ascribed to the portraits, two unfortunate trends are seen: 1) the illegal export and sale of cultural goods and 2) an explosion in the falsification industry.

Based on careful monitoring of the international art market, the PPP has traced the history of traded portraits. Initially, many were auctioned off as antiquities on the legal art market, but later – as auction houses became more aware of the critical situation, portraits made their way onto the illegal art market – often as illegally excavated and looted items. Needless to say, the illegal art market is extremely difficult to monitor, and we are thus left with coincidental evidence of trades and can only guess who the agents are, and where the money goes.⁸ Moreover, matching traded portraits with objects in the PPP database is only possible insofar as the objects have been properly documented and published, and for this reason, the provenance of many traded portraits cannot be ascertained with any certainty.

Not surprisingly, the growing interest in Palmyrene funerary portraiture has created a market for falsifications of these objects. A large variety of fake portraits are put up for sale – both on the internet and through antiquities dealers. It is clear that an awareness of the value of these objects – both aesthetic and monetary – has increased over the past few years, and in a number of cases, private collectors have purchased sets of portraiture that turn out to be falsifications.

2.6.3 *Conclusion*

The dedicated efforts of the Palmyra Portrait Project have shown that meticulous research and detailed documentation can aid – and alter – our understanding of the endlessly complex mechanisms at play in the escalating conflict in Syria. It is clear that research efforts in this context must be a collaborative endeavour between researchers, on the one hand, and institutions in charge of the protection of cultural heritage, on the other. It is painstakingly clear that detailed documentation is not always enough to prove illegal export of objects; however, further research and monitoring may provide

⁸ In the article “Syrian ‘Monuments Men’ Race to Protect Antiquities as Looting Bankrolls Terror”, the authors Joe Parkinson, Ayla Albayrak and Duncan Mavin give a balanced insight into various possible scenarios. However, they also clearly underline that it is impossible to give a trustworthy estimate of how large a part of ISIS’ budget is based on the dealing with antiquities.

us with the tools to better handle issues of documentation, preservation of cultural goods and portraiture entering the illegal art market.

2.7 Geir Petter Gjefsen – Internet trade in art and cultural artefacts in the Nordic region – experiences, preventive measures, cooperation with national authorities

Security adviser and consumer security director at FINN.no

2.7.1 FINN.no – brief facts

FINN.no was set up in 2000. The company currently has about 400 employees, and is Norway's largest online marketplace. FINN.no is owned by the media group Schibsted ASA which has marketplaces in more than 30 countries globally, including in Sweden and Finland.

In 2014, Norwegians spent an average of 22 hours surfing on FINN.no. In total, 5.4 million listings were placed on FINN.no in 2014. 3.9 million of these were listed on "Torget", the "market square". People in Norway on average visited FINN.no 38 times over the course of the year and made 130 free text searches in 2014.

2.7.2 FINN.no and art

We have not had any listings or cases relating to illicit trade in cultural artefacts from Iraq and Syria, but we cannot be positive that there is no trade in illicit art objects on FINN.no. The relevant categories (listed with the number of listings for each category in 2014) are:

Listings in the category antiquities and art (main category)

- Other antiquities – 63,350 listings
Antique furniture – 29,089 listings.
- Pottery, china and glass – 59,143 listings
Art – 42,868 listings
Silverware and cutlery – 9,683 listings.

Listings in the category leisure time, hobbies and entertainment (main category)

- Collectors' items – 43,055 listings.

What does FINN.no do to combat fraud and other undesirable activities?

- We have our own security team which includes developers.
- We undertake listing verification
About 85–90% of the listings are checked automatically; the remainder are checked manually. However, performing these checks is contingent on knowing what, specifically, we are searching for. Currently, the most relevant search terms are: Amstaff, Bitcoin and Ivory.
- We check emails and do scam checks.
- We alert our stakeholders.
- We encourage our users to report any problems to the police.
- We cooperate with external parties such as police, customs, and other authorities.
- We cooperate with the media and provide information on our own website.
- We have our own brand programme for brand owners.
- We process all listings-related tips, and encourage anybody who makes any suspicious observations or observes undesirable activity to notify us.

Procedures to counteract fraud or other illegal acts

We suspend or delete user accounts in the event of:

- Suspicion of fraud or other criminal offences.
- Repeated/serious user complaints.
- Repeated violations of listing rules.
- We do extended searches on the basis of intelligence; this means that we search our systems in order to identify any trails linking users.
- We regularly update our listing control procedures and email filters.
- We notify users if we see that they have been in touch via email with listings that we have established are fraud.
- We report matters to the police as required.

2.8 Finn Petter Øyen – How an art dealer perceives the market, its driving market mechanisms and his own role and responsibilities

Antique dealer and a member of the Union of the Norwegian Art and Antique Traders.

Norges Kunst- og Antikvitethandlers Forening (The Union of the Norwegian Art and Antique Traders, abbreviated as NKAF in Norwegian) was founded in 1945. We are an industry association comprising different trades, including antique dealers, art dealers, antiquarians and traders in Oriental carpets. The association currently has 21 member businesses. Admission is subject to strict requirements and among other things contingent on expertise, quality requirements for the items being marketed, and business practice requirements. The union has its own ethical guidelines. For 70 years, our objects clause has been to safeguard the interests of our trade, promote the understanding of art and culture and to keep up and promote the industry's ethical standards.

In the 1990s we joined CINOA, a global industry association, which currently includes associations from 27 countries. Through CINOA we are associated with the Art Loss Register in London. Today's discussion about illicit trade in cultural artefacts brings me back to what things were like in Norway in the 1980s and 1990s. At the time art and antiques theft from private and public ownership was considered to be a growing problem and, given our role in the market, our industry was thought to be a potential channel for the sale of stolen goods. Police and government representatives expressed their scepticism towards the industry in a variety of different forums, creating great frustration in our professional group.

At the time NKAF made considerable effort to learn more about theft-related problems. We considered descriptions of our trade as a potential player in the trade in stolen objects of art to be a far cry from the truth. Given our knowledge of who the buyers, second-hand dealers and private collectors are and our industry in general, there was little that accorded with the image which both the press and the authorities were painting. It was difficult to quantify the extent of stolen goods. The crime statistics were inadequate because art and antiques were not listed separately. The police lacked a national overview, nor did the insurance companies list separate statistics for

insurance payments for stolen art and antiques. In other words, it was impossible to quantify the extent and values one was talking about.

All we were left with were speculations on where the stolen goods were going. Who were the sellers and who were the buyers? Were stolen, Norwegian objects being sold abroad in Europe and the USA? Was this part of some form of organised crime? Was there an illegal market out there we knew nothing of? We never learned the answer. At the time, prices for Norwegian antiques were sky-high; matching these prices abroad would have been impossible. Today, we are faced with many of the same questions. We are concerned about the illicit trade in cultural artefacts, primarily because it impoverishes the world's cultural heritage in specific locations and possibly even helps fund terrorist activities, but also because it threatens the international, legitimate trade in art and antiques.

In the beginning of the 1990s and following a request from UNESCO, NKAF raised the problem of illicit trade with its members. As late as in 2011 the issue was discussed at several meetings initiated by the Ministry of Culture. We also invited representatives to a productive meeting for our members held by NKAF, which was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Culture, Økokrim (the Norwegian National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of Economic and Environmental Crime), the customs authorities and museums. In the same year, CINOA held a conference in Belgium, which was dedicated to the problem of illicit trade.

In connection with these meetings, and most recently in preparation for this conference, our association's members have been asked if they have ever been contacted or offered artefacts of cultural historical or archaeological value that evidently derived from foreign cultures or countries where infrastructure has been impaired by acts of war or looting. The answer to our inquiries has been a resounding "no". Our members have responded that there are no potential buyers for such objects; that this is not their professional field of expertise and therefore difficult to determine the authenticity or provenance of such objects, which is a prerequisite for any purchase.

Only yesterday, the chairman of NKAF was in touch with the chairman of our Swedish counterpart, Erik Edelstam, who is key player in CINOA. He stated the following, and I quote: "No, we have not heard of any objects coming to Scandinavia from war-torn areas such as Syria or Iraq. I don't think that this is going to be a problem in our countries, for a number of reasons. Traditionally there has been no demand or market for objects from these areas. Also, we are further away – geographically – from the countries where these objects come from than most other countries that have

significantly larger markets for objects from the Muslim world. Nor, from what I've heard, have these questions been a problem in CINOA."

It has been claimed that Norway, due to its proximity to the United Kingdom and the British market, has become – or could potentially become – a transit country for illicit trade targeting the West. CINOA annually surveys the global trade in art and antiques through a system of extensive feedback from its member businesses in the different countries. The last few years' responses have shown that the trade is moving eastwards rather than to the west. Countries such as China, Russia and India have become the new primary markets, growing more quickly every year, with a dramatic rise in the purchase of art, antiques and luxury products.

Over the past few years, Internet has created a marketplace also for art and antiques; however, this marketplace is significantly smaller than for other objects. To the extent there is such a market, it usually involves small objects of limited value, or is directed at existing connections. More expensive objects require physical closeness to establish their authenticity, verify restoration, etc.

Traditional art and antique dealing is primarily channelled through businesses, auction houses, galleries and fairs. In the international context, Norway is a small market where the trade in art and antiques tends to concentrate on Norwegian objects, with a few objects coming from Northern Europe. There are several things we do not understand in the current situation: who are the sellers; who are the buyers; is this organised crime? Where is the illicit market; and, not least, how large is it?

The answers may prove elusive. Until we learn more and have better cooperation platforms, implementing effective measures to target illicit trade with cultural objects may prove difficult. Needless to say, NKAF wishes to contribute to these efforts in every way it can.

2.9 Françoise Bortolotti – Combating cross-border crime: Where and how should governments intervene to stop the trade in illegal art and cultural objects?

Criminal Intelligence Officer, Works of Art Unit, INTERPOL.

2.9.1 I. INTERPOL Presentation

Interpol was created in 1923 and is an intergovernmental organization with currently 190 member countries. It is the largest international police organization, and is responsible for providing assistance to the competent authorities and services, whose mission is the prevention and the fight against international crime.

Its Headquarters, the General Secretariat, is located in Lyon (France).

The Organization also operates:

- Seven Regional Bureaus (Argentina, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, El Salvador, Kenya, Thailand and Zimbabwe).
- Three Liaison Offices at Europol in The Hague, at the United Nations in New York and at the European Union in Brussels.
- Three Command and Co-ordination Centres (CCCs) in Lyon (operational since 2003), Buenos Aires (operational since 2011), and Singapore (operational since 2015), which around-the-clock provide INTERPOL member countries with complete and reliable real-time coverage of events around the world.

2.9.2 II. The role of the NCBs and INTERPOL'S Mission

In each Interpol member country, the task of cooperation is assigned to the National Central Bureau (acronym NCB), usually located in the country's capital city, which centralizes all information of international interest for the police forces.

The NCB is the designated point of contact for the General Secretariat, Interpol's Regional Bureaus and member countries' law enforcement agencies requiring assistance in transnational inquiries.

INTERPOL's mission is to improve existing police resources around the world by assisting all organizations, authorities and services whose mission is to prevent or combat international crime.

2.9.3 III. INTERPOL's initiatives against the illicit trafficking in cultural goods

First of all, the fight against crime related to cultural property is one of the 18 priority crime areas of INTERPOL.

Since 1947, INTERPOL has invested a lot of effort in this matter with the creation of a specialized unit.

The various tools developed by the General Secretariat to assist its member countries in fighting illicit traffic of cultural heritage:

- The poster of the most wanted works of art: every 6 months we publish on our public website a poster showing the six most wanted works of art of the previous six months. Each poster features a wide variety of significant stolen art works and artefacts from all over the world.
- The Works of Art Computerized Database.

This tool is essential for locating stolen and missing artworks and then for the judicial authorities to seize them:

- Since January 1999 it has been available to all NCB's and other authorized national law enforcement agencies.
- Since August 2009, the public has had online access to the database via Interpol's secure web-site (HTTPS). It means that online access is not limited any more to the law enforcement community, but is open to all interested parties wishing to access the database, notably to private or professional potential buyers (museums, auction houses, galleries, art dealers, foundations and any other individual or organization).

This is a further step in granting wide access to stolen art information providing the means to check items before buying them.

INTERPOL has now entered the final test phase of the PSYCHE project (Protection System for Cultural Heritage), which consists of modernizing Interpol's stolen works of art database. 15 EU Partner Countries participate as official partners in this project.

The project aims to accelerate the procedure of insertion of stolen objects into the database and thus increase the amount and quality of records included on stolen cultural goods in order to facilitate their identification and increase the chances of their recovery through the database.

It means that thanks to this project, each Member State will be able to autonomously manage information about works of art stolen and then to search, including for image-matches, the Interpol database. This process should be easier and faster than with the current database.

2.9.4 IV. Cooperation between INTERPOL and its partner organizations, in particular in war-torn countries

- INTERPOL publishes alert messages on its WOA public website: for example, on 21 May 2012, the General Secretariat published an alert message to call for vigilance on looting of ancient mosaics in Syria.
- Interpol cooperates regularly and closely with UNESCO whose workshops and meetings it attends and supports, especially in the framework of the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2199 adopted on 12 February 2015. This resolution on Iraq and Syria aims to reinforce measures against Daesh, Al-Nusrah Front (ANF) and all other individuals, terrorist groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida and to ban the trade in cultural objects from Syria and Iraq.
- It is important to note also that during the first network meeting on the implementation of Resolution 2199, which took place at UNESCO HQ on 30 September 2015, the creation of a "list of seized artefacts" by international organizations was highly recommended, with the objective of facilitating the safe return of the illicitly exported artefacts.

The creation of a national Syrian police database of looted works of art should be also further encouraged:

- Interpol also closely collaborates with ICOM. In the framework of the implementation of the “International Observatory on illicit traffic in cultural goods” under the aegis of ICOM, Interpol has accepted since January 2013 to be part of the project as a member of the editorial committee.

To conclude

- Importance of good cooperation between the different ministries and institutions involved in the field of protection of cultural heritage, INTERPOL’s role consisting primarily of facilitating and maintaining contact with a large range of specialized stakeholders.
- Usefulness of INTERPOL database – particularly for art dealers, as it is the only international database fed with police information which enables the information on stolen cultural property to be diffused quickly and stored as long as possible.

2.10 Lars Korsell – Cultural Heritage Crime – the Nordic dimension (2006). Reflections ten years after the report. The way forward in 2016: Separately or together?

Research Director, Brottsförebyggande rådet (the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention), Sweden.

2.10.1 The study

In 2005 and 2006 a comprehensive study on cultural heritage crime was undertaken in the Nordic countries, entitled “Cultural Heritage Crime – the Nordic Dimension” (Report 2006:2. Stockholm: Brottsförebyggande rådet). Unfortunately, the study did not include Iceland. The study was EU-funded through the EU’s AGIS programme and coordinated by the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention in Stockholm. The project was a cooperation between Riksantikvarieämbetet (the Swedish National Heritage Board) in Stockholm and its counterparts in Copenhagen, Oslo and Helsinki.

The cooperation also involved Swedish police and customs, and the European law enforcement agency Europol.

The study was based on 2,111 responses to a survey sent by post to museums, churches, libraries, archives and open-air museums. Auction houses, antique dealers and antiquarians also participated in the study. The response rate was 75 percent. In addition to the above-mentioned survey, in Sweden the study also included 886 responses from representatives of church parishes. In addition, 150 interviews were conducted with professionals in the field of culture and cultural heritage in the Nordic countries, such as museum officials, dealers and conservators.

The criminal activities being mapped were theft of cultural artefacts from the above-mentioned institutions and organisations, as well as any handling of such objects. Other types of crime that we looked at included crimes against historical sites and remains, failure to report a find of archaeological or historic interest, and vandalism (damage to objects of historic or archaeological interest, including shipwrecks) as well as the illicit export of pre-modern cultural artefacts. Forgery-related crime was not included in the study as this is an area that involves a number of specific issues and is not included in the term cultural heritage crime. Nor were illegal imports covered, as these, at least in Sweden, are not explicitly defined as a crime, providing that they cannot be traced to stolen objects.

2.10.2 *Theft from museums*

Every year, about 10% of museums are affected by theft. The problem is more prevalent in Swedish museums than in the other three Nordic countries. It is difficult to establish why this is so, but a partial explanation may be the fact that Swedish museums exhibit their objects more accessibly than is typical in the other Nordic countries.

The objects most likely to be stolen from museums were historical utility goods (36%). These objects rarely have a high monetary value, and a possible explanation for this figure may be that they are less protected against theft than more valuable objects in the museums. Other objects liable to be stolen were art (12%) and antique arms (12%), as well as silver and other precious objects (7%), sculptures (8%) and archaeological objects (8%). Furniture (8%), coins (3%) and books and archive materials (4%) were also coveted museum exhibits.

To summarise the characteristics of the stolen objects, they tend to be collectors' items (42%); they are easy to steal (31%) and easy to sell on (27%). In 18% of the cases the objects were very valuable and in 20% they had high cultural and historical value.

2.10.3 *Theft from libraries and archives*

Every year, 12% of libraries suffer theft. This applies particularly to older books that fetch high prices or that are valuable in terms of cultural heritage. Many of these books are considered collectors' items. At the time of the study, stealing from libraries was relatively easy, but security has since improved, partly following the public attention attracted by the insider thefts from the national libraries in both Copenhagen and in Stockholm. Both these libraries and their counterpart in Helsinki became the victims of cunning map thieves who cut out antique maps from valuable map books in the reading rooms.

According to the study, 7% of archives had had materials stolen. A typical problem for archives is that the documents, photographs, etc., are kept in boxes, and the material included in each box is rarely registered. The theft of individual documents or images is therefore not always discovered.

2.10.4 *Theft from churches*

In Norway, 1 to 2% of churches had been affected by theft. The corresponding figures were 3% for Finland, one out of nine churches in Denmark and 5% of churches in Sweden. Overall, Swedish churches were affected twice as often as the churches in neighbouring countries. In the case of Sweden, objects had been stolen from churches all over the country.

Many of the objects stolen from churches were priceless objects. In a number of churches there are both pre-Reformation and Mediaeval fixtures. Church silver, sculptures and chandeliers proved especially attractive to thieves.

2.10.5 *The status quo*

In response to the study and the fact that cultural heritage crime has been given more attention in Sweden, the authorities introduced special crime codes for the theft and burglary of cultural artefacts from churches, museums and other cultural institutions.

In this way, statistical monitoring of these reports has been made possible. Fortunately, over the past decade, police-reported theft and burglaries have been in decline. A possible explanation is that there is more awareness of cultural heritage crime and that security has increased, making such crime more difficult. Not least, the ravages wrought in Sweden by a church thief from Spain garnered much public attention and alerted the relevant actors to the security problems.

2.10.6 Further reading

The report can be downloaded from the following website: www.bra.se The website also includes reports about theft from churches (Brottsplats kyrkan – Crime Scene Church), crimes against historical sites and remains (Brott under ytan – Crime goes underground), illicit exports (Förebygga illegal utförsel av kulturföremål – Preventing the illicit export of cultural objects) and about cultural heritage crime generally, including famous cases (Kulturarvsbrott – Cultural Heritage Crime). There is currently a project ongoing regarding the possible trade in cultural objects that typically come from war-torn and conflict-ridden areas:

- Contact details: lars.korsell@regeringskansliet.se

2.11 Linda Ervik – Cultural artefacts in transit – potential smuggling routes to an illicit market in the Nordic countries

Nordic Liaison Officer in Bulgaria and Romania, Nordic Police and Customs Cooperation.

The smuggling of cultural heritage objects is not a new phenomenon. Such trafficking has long historical roots.

A topical question today is whether the influx of refugees also brings along a flux of cultural objects? As per today we have no basis for confirming this hypothesis, even though the possibility that some refugees may take with them valuable objects from their home countries cannot be discarded.

2.11.1 *The Balkans*

In the wake of the fall of communism and the processes of political transformation in the late 1980s, travel across national borders suddenly became much easier. The existing organised criminal groups and family networks used this opportunity to extend their horizon and networks, and came to expand their areas of influence correspondingly.

For better or worse, a few years later the Internet developed, profoundly changing the world. Today, criminals with mutual interests are able to find each other all over the world and can easily share information, with the police one step behind. Anything can be bought on the Internet, ranging from drugs and questionable pharmaceuticals products to valuable cultural heritage objects. To combat this, the Bulgarian police has procedures for continually scanning websites such as Amazon, Ebay and other online auction sites. If, for instance, ancient Norse objects or objects dating to the Viking age are sold on these websites by persons in Bulgaria, a report is sent via the appropriate police channels.

2.11.2 *Today's smuggling routes follow traditional trails*

A much-used smuggling route used for drugs and commodities, not to mention trafficking in humans, originates in Turkey. Bulgaria, with its land route connecting it to both Europe and Asia, is considered a hub for this traffic. According to the authorities, the border checkpoint Kapitan Andreevo between Turkey and Bulgaria is the world's second-largest, measured in number of vehicles and persons passing it per day. Lorries queue for kilometres, and must often wait in line for many hours while checks are done on every 20th vehicle.

Furthermore, Bulgaria and Turkey are the countries with the largest number of lorry drivers in the world and rely on extensive use of freight companies, compounding the amount of traffic.

Bulgaria is also one of Europe's most corrupt countries and paying bribes to customs and police officers on the borders is common. However, Bulgaria is now making an effort to address the problem of corrupt border guards and in 2015 no less than two entire guard teams lost their job as a result of organised corruption on their set.

On its course towards the Black Sea, the Danube passes many cities and capitals. There are numerous large ports on the Danube, facilitating the transport of enormous containers along the river or by sea. I do not know how much corruption there is in the

ports, but it would be naive to believe that there are no established networks of corruption, providing artefacts with false export papers and false certificates.

2.11.3 Who are the sellers and who are the buyers?

The Bulgarian police unit for organised crime is explicit that these activities are run by professionally organised networks with good contacts in all walks of life.

Further, they report that valuable objects stop over in the large auction houses in Munich, near the Maximillian Square. The fact that many auctions are online makes monitoring all auction houses difficult; in addition, the trade in the objects is brisk, with shipping companies and courier services delivering the goods directly to the buyers. We have no information to indicate that smuggled objects are destined for the Nordic countries, but of course we cannot discard the possibility that cultural property traded in Munich, London or elsewhere is acquired by buyers in the Nordic countries.

The Bulgarian police are hungry for action; they monitor websites and seize objects, but they want more international cooperation.

We must conclude that combatting illicit trade is an area where crossborder and cross-sectorial cooperation is needed, involving collaboration and close contact between law enforcement and government agencies across national borders.

2.12 Hilde Madsø Jacobsen – Working with cultural property – The need for skills-building among staff in the cultural sector, customs and police.

Co-author of the Albatross report (2008) – Project Director at the University of Oslo.

In the pilot project examining post- and continuing education at the Institute for Archaeology, Conservation and History (IAKH), which was completed in the autumn of 2006, it emerged that archaeologists and conservators in Norway have a great need for post- and continuing education. One of the reasons is the fact that cultural heritage management has been both expanded and decentralised, with opportunities for post- and continuing education remaining limited. There have been rapid technological and methodological advances in the fields of archaeology and conservation; new European

frameworks and guidelines have been adopted, and more attention is being dedicated to the ethics of handling archaeological artefacts. All this would indicate that there is a need to raise the level of competencies, not only among archaeologists and conservators, but also among police and customs. This was the background for Albatrass, in the spring months of 2007, being tasked with analysing and reporting on the needs for skills-building. Albatrass conducted a two-part national survey. Part I of the survey was sent to archaeologists, conservators and other cultural heritage management staff to assess the overall need to improve competencies. The survey's Part II was sent to police and customs to evaluate the need for skills-building in connection with countering cultural heritage crime specifically. As many as 357 respondents replied to the survey's Part I, while 176 customs and excise officers and 44 police officers responded to Part II. Both surveys show that a majority of respondents indicate that they have a considerable need for post- and continuing education in cultural heritage work, with the archaeologists and conservators primarily needing updated training in new technologies, practical methods, theoretical methodology, material knowledge, preventive conservation work (for conservators) and legal theory and practice. The police and customs officers stated that they were primarily in need of a general introduction to the field of cultural heritage, law and legislation, visual training in recognising cultural heritage artefacts and in cultural heritage crime (whitewashing; who, where and how). Creating an appropriate training framework for these groups would require a cooperation involving both IAKH and other areas of expertise at the University of Oslo, in addition to cooperation with other agencies. Many of the respondents stated that their motivation sprang from the desire for technical knowledge and to learn things they can use in their work; moreover, such a course would have to be funded by their employer. The needs assessment has also identified that the requirements within the cultural heritage sector and in the cultural heritage crime field exceed what can be supplied by the post-and further education opportunities provided at IAKH. Furthermore, archaeologists, conservators and other employees in the cultural heritage sector, as well as police and customs officers, want more than enhanced competencies; they also expressed the need for greater financial resources, more clearly defined leadership, clarification and development of new cooperative relations and procedures, attitude changes, updated research and interdisciplinary cooperation. In the report's conclusion, Albatrass encourages IAKH to engage in the above-mentioned efforts jointly with specialists from other fields at the University of Oslo – not only as an arena for skills-building for archaeologists and

conservators, police and customs, but also as part of its role as an educational and academic institution in the cultural heritage field in the broadest sense.

2.13 Juha Maaperä – Illegal export of cultural heritage from the EU/EEA territory – Finnish experiences

*Legal adviser, The National Board of Antiquities, Finland.*⁹

2.13.1 Introduction

Museiverket (the National Board of Antiquities) is the Finnish expert authority on material cultural heritage and environmental cultural heritage expertise. Together with other authorities and the rest of the museum sector, the Board is responsible for protecting monuments and environments of cultural and historical value, archaeological heritage sites and historical buildings, as well as other cultural property. The Board is also the competent agency for issuing permits for the export of cultural objects of scientific, artistic or historical value.

2.13.2 Background

The trade in cultural objects is not regulated. There used to be an antiquities trade regulation, but this was revoked in the 1990s. Nor is the importation of cultural objects subject to regulation. A working group that undertook an inquiry into the matter concluded that regulating the importation of cultural objects would be useful, providing there were sufficient other countries with similar legislation. The Finnish authorities can currently only make administrative decisions relating to the import or trade in cultural objects if there are specific grounds, such as if there is a suspicion that the object may have been stolen.

The Finnish authorities are not aware of any large-scale trade in illicit cultural objects in Finland, an impression that is backed up by the fact that the volumes and prices in the Finnish antiquities trade are typically lower than in the rest of Europe.

⁹ Museiverket.

However, what sets Finland apart from the other Nordic country is Finland's 1,300 km-long border to the East, which also forms the EU's external border. This means that Finland must go beyond controlling its own export of cultural objects and also take responsibility for cultural objects exported from the other EU member states.

2.13.3 *Interagency cooperation in Finland*

The National Board of Antiquities has observed a significant rise in transit volume this year. Along the eastern border, the Finnish customs has stopped dozens of long-distance lorries loaded with antiquities lacking the appropriate export permits.

This development has led to increased interagency cooperation, with customs in charge of controlling the export of cultural artefacts. This control is primarily related to customs clearance processes, but the customs authorities also perform random checks at border checkpoints. The National Antiquities Board has the authority to issue permits and is the expert authority that provides the customs with assistance. The Board has for instance designated contact persons to assist the customs in clarifying whether specific objects require an expert permit (be it an EU or Finnish export permit). The Board and the customs authorities hold annual meetings to intensify and coordinate their cooperation, and the Board also offers training courses to the customs officers. The customs authorities have been very pleased with the cooperation, which also the Board considers to have been successful and effective.

In 2015 an event occurred that drew international media attention. The case concerned an Oriental plaque one suspected was from Syria. Although the news item built on erroneous information, the case is a good example both of cooperation between public authorities and of the difficulties in export controls. At the beginning of the year, customs stopped a cargo containing a plaque that, according to the exporter's papers, was of Syrian origin. The exporter also claimed to have bought the plaque from France. The cargo was *en route* to Russia. The National Antiquities Board took note of the provenance that was stated for the plaque and initiated an inquiry, which continues ongoing. Investigations are taking a considerable amount of time, with several facts remaining unclear. However, it seems likely that the plaque is in fact not Syrian.

2.13.4 *Some perspectives*

The National Board of Antiquities has noticed that Finland is not the final destination for cultural artefacts, but primarily used as a transit country for the trafficking of European cultural artefacts through Finland and out of the EU. According to the customs authorities, they do not systematically control the import of cultural objects, not even in cases in which the customs clearance process for export was initiated in another member state. Thus, the focus of the customs authorities is directed at the export of cultural objects in those cases in which the customs clearance process is initiated in Finland.

According to the Finnish customs authorities, assessing the age and value of cultural objects is difficult. It is common for exporters to claim that their cargo is of low financial value and the customs authorities are positive that many of the invoices being presented in customs clearance are fabricated. The illicit trade in cultural objects is also linked to the illegal trade in goods under CITES (Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species).

2.13.5 *Summary*

From the Finnish point of view, the major problem is the transit of illicit cultural objects via Finland. Information sharing among the competent authorities in the Nordic countries is obviously essential, especially on which objects are exempt of permit requirements and legislation in other countries. When a customs clearance process has been initiated in another member state, Finnish authorities rely on the authority in question to having ascertained that these cultural objects are legal and being provided with the appropriate export permits. Focusing on national clearance processes is therefore quite essential.

2.14 Tone Hansen – The relationship between looting and the market: a critical perspective on cultural institutions

Director of the Henie Onstad Kunstmuseum (the Henie Onstad Art Centre).

The circulation of objects, art, ideas and artefacts in the market is incontrovertibly associated with notions of ownership and the legal and moral bonds between possessions and their owner. An area that has been studied much by art historians is provenance, which relates to the ownership history of works of art. In practical terms, provenance is closely linked to the work of auction houses where an unbroken chain of ownership assures the work's value because such a chronology is required to establish ownership.

In theory, museums are the endpoint for the circulation of works of art or artefacts in the market. Museums constitute both the objects' final destination (from the museum's focus on the eternal) and their safe haven (protection from the external world). When this function is invalidated, be it because of wartime looting or the sale of objects from a collection, leaving the museum devoid of objects, a museum's basic function is tested to the very core. This was the case with the National Museum of Iraq in the aftermath of the 2003 invasion. The same questions arise under much less dramatic circumstances, for instance when museums are obliged to give up – i.e. return – a work of art that was acquired illicitly or which has been sold illicitly at some point during its chain of custody. Such acts are fundamentally at odds with the essential function of museums.

The museum, such as we know it in the Western world, is part of public domain in that its mission is to visualise concepts and create a sense of joint ownership, be it to culture or to art history. The moment when an object is transferred from private ownership to public ownership – represented by a museum – it also changes status, requirements to legitimacy becoming more stringent.

In 2012, a letter and telephone conversation precipitated a research project at the Henie Onstad Art Centre in Bærum that was to go on for more than three years. The letter in question had been sent by the heirs of the Jewish art collector Paul Rosenberg through the organisation Art Loss Register (ALR). In the letter, the museum was informed that the painting "Profil bleu devant la cheminée" (whose Norwegian title referenced the blue dress in the oak armchair) of 1937 by the French painter Henri

Matisse, had been confiscated from Mr Rosenberg's storage rooms when the German forces invaded France during World War II. The family had been searching for the painting ever since.

The request precipitated a number of investigations in both internal and external archives that made the institution take up a historical journey, to pre-World War II events, the role of art in funding the war machinery, the history of provenance and the significance of ownership in art history, not to mention the significance of the historical circulation of artefacts.

The fact that the painting had been stolen was news to the Henie Onstad Art Centre, which had, since the 1960s, always cited Mr Rosenberg as the first buyer of the work. For more than two years, the Henie Onstad Art Centre and Mr Rosenberg's heirs searched in public and private archives in the USA and France for details on the painting's history, and on the transactions it had been involved in. The inquiry revealed that there was a ten-year period in which it was impossible to account for the painting's movements. It was established that the painting was sold, or rather exchanged for a Florentine Tondo when it changed hands from Herman Göring's collections to be acquired by the German art dealer Gustav Rochlitz, who had opened shop in Paris, and became an important intermediary for the Nazis. After this, the trail went cold, and no other owners could be documented with any degree of certainty before the painting was bought by Nils Onstad in the early 1950s from the gallery Bénézit in Paris, and exported to the USA. Here, the painting remained in Mr Onstad's ownership until 1961, when the foundation which preceded the Henie Onstad Art Centre was established. The painting was eventually donated to the institution.

Given the lack of historical detail, the Henie Onstad Art Centre returned the painting to Paul Rosenberg's descendants on 20 March 2014, about two years after the museum first received the letter with the request for the painting. The Henie Onstad Art Centre is the first museum in Norway to have returned a work of art which it has been established was stolen during World War II. What lessons have we learned in the process?

"We have realised that we did not know the whole story. We had taken for granted the information passed on by our predecessors. Once the case had been opened, we also had to investigate 19 other paintings in the collection. As per today they have all been given a clean bill of health – we have no suspicion that any other works are the result of theft. Resolving this sort of case alone is impossible; in such contexts, sharing knowledge and getting help is vital. Ultimately, any decision must be made based on

the available facts, with the ethical perspective often being more important than the purely legal position.

Our advice to other museums on charting ownership history and provenance of any artefacts would be to:

- Be as open, transparent and honest as possible. Make use of this type of internal discussions as an opportunity to update the collections and engage the broader public.
- Better safe than sorry: when buying historical works of art, investigate their ownership history.
- Cross-check the works against the many international databases that are available in this day and age.
- Dedicate the time it takes to find the required information.

Other countries, in possession of much larger and more valuable collections than Norway, have appointed national commissions that handle this type of investigation. Norway has signed a treaty that recommends a much more proactive approach. However, in a Norwegian and Nordic context I believe that a national group for the restitution of art would be excessive. Having said that, obviously works of art were not the only things to be stolen from their owners during World War II, and such issues will continue to arise in the future.

2.15 Christopher Prescott – Looting and illicit trade in cultural artefact: challenges and implications for academia

Professor at the University of Oslo.

Throughout my career, I've had several involuntary engagements with looting, collectors and the academics who are involved in supporting these activities. The Norwegian Schøyen case is an illuminating and internationally cited case. The way institutions, governmental management and academia have handled cases like the Schøyen collection is characterised by lack of insight, conflict of interest, avoidance of

confrontation and lack of credible information from those involved. It has at times been disheartening to witness. However, the flipside of the coin is the commitment to ethical standards, the pursuit of information and integrity that a number of researchers, journalists and cultural managers have shown in the wake of these cases. The outcomes: legislation, international collaboration, institutional transparency, undermined markets, returned objects and reduced looting.

The attention allotted Islamist destruction of the Buddhas of Bamiyan, shrines in Timbuktu, churches, shrines, mosques, museums and archaeological sites in Syria and Iraq is understandable. However, from the vantage point of knowledge production and archaeology, another activity is probably more irreversibly destructive: The systematic looting, smuggling, sale and collecting of archaeological objects from sites in, e.g., Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria, Iraq and Egypt. This business has a further consequence for contemporary societies. It is a source of revenue for those involved in crime (extending in to drugs, trafficking and weapons) and violence.

Many academics shrug their shoulders, and readily view the antiquities business as a crime without victims. This view is stimulated by the fact that prominent and wealthy members of society, as well as academic specialists in developed countries are involved. A sort of defence is built around a concept of unfettered research – that research is an immediate obligation that has priority over social, political or long term consequences. Indeed, it is strange that in 2016 one should have to argue the imperative of ethical responsibilities with researchers from the humanities – that all actions cannot be defended in reference to the sanctity of research, that national prestige and career advancement do not trump ethical standards, and that ethics is more than an abstract concept to be debated in mandatory courses for PhD-students.

Variable views in academia are also based on disciplinary background. For archaeology the concepts of context and knowledge production are pivotal. This is all the more important in light of archaeology's continued integration with the natural sciences. For a number of text-based researchers, the textual source here-and-now is essential – the consequences of acquiring texts are of less significance (e.g. recently Elizabeth C. Stone 2015: An update on the looting of archaeological sites in Iraq. *Near Eastern Archaeology* 78/3, 186). However, there are clear ethical guidelines that professional societies and serious publishing houses enforce (e.g., ICOM, European Association of Archaeologists and the *American Journal of Archaeology*). These include a ban on publishing dubious materials, restrictions on researching such materials, prohibitions concerning sale, borrowing or gifting such materials, transparency

requirements and due diligence. When temptation is great these requirements are often ignored, circumvented with the help of manufactured ownership histories or by publication at self-owned publishing companies, information is suppressed, institutions are indifferent to their responsibilities or hired legal aid and PR-consultants strong-arms and stonewall critics so owners and their experts avoid accountability.

In 2005 colonel Matthew Bogdanos (US marines, head of the investigation into the looting of Iraq's National Museum and assistant district attorney Manhattan) coined the phrase "The cozy cabal of academics, dealers and collectors". (The terrorist in the art gallery. New York Times 10. des 2005). Academic specialists are an essential part of the antiquities trade. This means that academics can make a difference, primarily by impacting the final market end of the chain. This is accomplished by not helping out in the clearance and white washing of objects, but also through the production and dissemination of knowledge. Through this activity we can hopefully render the provision of academic services to traders and collectors (in their endeavours to determine provenience, authenticity, generate ownership history and suppress information) difficult and socially unacceptable. A priority should therefore be research into the inner workings of the trade.

Though the destructive trade in archaeological materials seems difficult to stem, there have been advances in legislation, law enforcement, international collaboration, public awareness and increased institutional responsiveness. This is clearly seen in the Schøyen case, where the owner and his collaborating academics were forced to come forth with some information, Norwegian public institutions withdrew from collaboration, Schøyen was forced to return material looted from Pakistan and the museum in Kabul, the UNESCO 1970 agreement was ratified, the material is virtually unsellable, public awareness is raised and the material is pretty much published outside of serious scientific channels.

To further combat the destruction of cultural heritage in countries like Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan and Pakistan we need:

- Research concerning the chain of looting, transportation, trade and collecting.
- The sociology, economy and anthropology of those involved.
- The role of academic specialists.
- Ethics and law.

Institutions (museums and research institutions) must be constantly educated in regard to their responsibilities. International collaboration is a must, campaigns for public awareness are beneficial and academics that breach basic fundamental ethical guidelines should be held accountable.

The food chain of illicit trade can be perceived shown in table 1.

Table 1: Food chain of illicit trade

Supply	Distribution	Dealers	[Enablers]	Buyers
Looters	Smugglers	Dealers	Experts [authentication, whitewashing, value appraisal, cataloging]	Collectors
Supply ->		Market		

Here, little can be done on the supply side as heritage management often has collapsed. Policing transportation is difficult in today's globalised world. The Schøyen case demonstrated that uncovering the activities on the supply side – dealers, academics and collectors – can undermine trade and collecting, and thus looting. In terms of the Schøyen case, it would seem that public involvement undermined the market for manuscripts from Pakistan and Afghanistan, and for incantation bowls from Iraq. The outcome was a halt in looting.

2.16 Maria José Miñana – What measures does the UNESCO Secretariat recommend that member states should implement to prevent illicit trade? What can the UNESCO Secretariat offer in the way of facilitation?

Associate Programme Specialist, Section for Movable Heritage and Museums, Division for Heritage Culture Sector, UNESCO Secretariat.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), is the only agency within the United Nations system with a specific mandate on the protection of cultural heritage. This mandate is reflected in the implementation of

several international conventions, such as the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (and its two protocols 1954 and 1999), the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, or the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

The 1970 Convention – ratified by 129 States as of December 2015 – is the first normative instrument on the protection of culture heritage in times of peace, and has three pillars: firstly, the development of preventive measures, such as the development of inventories or export certificates, the monitoring of the art trade, the imposition of penal or administrative sanctions, the development of educational campaigns, etc. The second pillar covers the restitution provisions under which States Parties undertake appropriate steps to recover and return any such cultural property imported after the entry into force of this Convention in both States concerned provided that just compensation is paid by the requesting State to an innocent purchaser of that property. Lastly, the Convention provides an international cooperation framework. Where cultural patrimony is in jeopardy from pillage, Article 9 provides a possibility for more specific undertakings such as a call for import and export controls. The 1970 Convention is complemented by the UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects – ratified by 37 States, which covers elements of international private law not regulated by the 1970 Convention and dealing more specifically with the harmonization of legislations in the field of restitution of cultural objects. It is worth noting that all Scandinavian countries have ratified both Conventions – with the exception of Iceland, which still has not ratified the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention.

The unprecedented destruction of cultural heritage in Syria and Iraq is an intentional attempt to erase the identity of millions of people and humanity's common history; UNESCO's Director-General, Ms. Irina Bokova, described this as an act of "cultural cleansing". In a groundbreaking effort to curb these practices, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 2199 (February 2015) which includes, among others, a trade ban on cultural property. In April 2015, the Director-General convened a meeting with key international partners (UNSMC Coordinator, INTERPOL, WCO, UNIDROIT, UNODC, ICCROM, ICOMOS, ICOM, IFLA and ICA), to strengthen coordination mechanisms and to map out the effective implementation of Res. 2199 with a view to effectively counteract the trade of Iraqi and Syrian cultural heritage. A roadmap was established for international actions among these partners, focusing on coordination mechanisms for information sharing and joint actions, as well as the

creation of a network with focal points from each organization to facilitate information exchange and expedite responses to emergency situations.

Nevertheless, UNESCO remains at the disposal of its Member States to ensure the effective implementation of the 1970 Convention and to disseminate legal, ethical and practical tools to fight against the illicit trafficking in cultural property. Therefore, in recent years the Organization has focused on intensifying the organization of capacity-building workshops in close collaboration with the above-mentioned institutions, as well as with other stakeholders such as representatives of the art market and specialized police forces. During the period between 2012 and 2015, 26 workshops took place, benefiting more than 132 countries and over 1000 participants. The success of these workshops is attributed to the comprehensive approach provided (with legal, operational and sensitization components) as well as in the strengthening of networks at national and international level. Additionally, special attention is given to emergency trainings in countries affected by a conflict situation or natural disaster (Syria, Iraq, Mali, Libya, Yemen, Haiti...).

For instance, thanks to the generous contribution of the European Union, UNESCO has implemented a project for the emergency safeguarding of the Syrian Cultural Heritage. The project includes technical assistance, capacity-building and awareness-raising activities. Regarding the latter, UNESCO recalls at every occasion the importance of awareness-raising as a pillar of the preventive action in order to build a long-term and sustainable strategy regarding the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural property. The Organization has produced in recent years several publications, documentaries and other sensitization materials, addressing different segments of the population (academics, tourists, youth...), and has launched the global initiative #Unite4heritage, which aims at celebrating cultural heritage and mobilizing young people to stand up against violent extremism. UNESCO has also recently developed new outreach partnerships, with museums, travel guides, and research projects and works actively for strengthening cooperation with the art market.

One of the most prominent awareness-raising projects conducted in recent years has been possible thanks to the generous support of the Norwegian government. With special emphasis on fighting against the illicit trafficking in cultural property in Iraq, it focuses on one of the objectives of the Emergency Response Action Plan for the Safeguarding of Iraqi Cultural Heritage that was established by UNESCO in July 2014, namely "Enhancing communication, and raising awareness with regards to the importance of safeguarding of Iraqi cultural heritage". In the framework of this project,

a number of communication materials –postcards, leaflets, posters- were produced and disseminated, a video highlighting the country's cultural diversity and heritage was made, and a special issue of the World Heritage magazine in Arabic dedicated to Iraq's cultural heritage under threat was published. Furthermore, an app game and a puzzle entitled “Sarmad the Adventurer” was produced for Iraqi children.

UNESCO's normative framework provides a unique global platform for international cooperation and for the sustainable safeguarding of cultural property. Therefore, States are encouraged to ratify and benefit from the provisions of the instruments and fully participate in all activities, especially in view of the responsibility to protect heritage against natural disasters, civil unrest and armed conflicts. The fight against the illicit trafficking in cultural property is now at the global security agenda and the Organization deploys all its efforts in supporting States in the implementation of the 1970 Convention through intensive advocacy, capacity-building, outreach, partnership development and the reinforcement of institutional environments. Despite the series of actions already taken, more efforts are still required and UNESCO remains committed to continue to guide the international community in the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property.

2.17 Greger Bergvall – “Cold case” – Kungliga biblioteket, perspectives on restitution of stolen books and cooperation with law enforcement agencies?

Librarian – The National Library of Sweden.

The National Library of Sweden is an agency of the state. The book collection of the library, date as far back as the 16th century and consists of more than 4 million books. A majority of the old book collections has a royal provenance or likewise.

Beginning in 1995 until his arrest in November 2004, the head of the manuscript collection, a senior librarian, stole at least 62 rare books from the National Library of Sweden, all of which were auctioned at the German auction house Ketterer Kunst in Hamburg. In total, the senior librarian stated, that he received approximately 1 million USD for the stolen books.

In October 2003 the library received an e-mail from a German researcher who was asking for detailed information about *Das Illustrierte Mississippthal...* by Henry Lewis. However, when we searched for the book in the collections, it was not there. The missing book raised suspicion and questions whether the book was misplaced or lost? Was the loss a result of a theft or was there any other explanation?

In order to answer these questions a secret inventory was ordered by a group of managers, that a year later unveiled systematic inside thefts at the library. The inventory showed that books were missing from the foreign collection in a stack with restricted access even for the library staff.

In November 2004, the senior librarian were apprehended and interrogated by the police in Stockholm. The senior librarian was subsequently taken into custody, where he confessed to stealing books from the library. He used the alias "Karl Fields" when he consigned books to the German auction house, Ketterer Kunst.

At some point during the investigation, the senior librarian was released from police custody. A few days later, he committed suicide by blowing up his apartment in the city Centre of Stockholm. The investigation was subsequently closed down in 2006 due to the fact that Germany had not yet signed the European arrest warrant which reduced the chances of getting a conviction for the fencing crime. Unfortunately, neither the police nor the library made any efforts to search and retribute the stolen books, meanwhile the books were sold around the world and the case became cold.

In June 2011, I received a catalogue with printed books and maps from a New York bookseller who had a copy of an atlas for sale. The atlas was the *Descriptionis Ptolemaicæ augmentum...* by Cornelius Wytfliet, printed 1597 in Leuven which has been an integral part of the collection at National library of Sweden for over 300 years. When I checked the library collection for the Stockholm copy it was missing in the stacks. I suspected that it might be one of the stolen books and it soon became clear that this was the case.

The atlas became the first (of seven) of the 62 stolen books to be restituted and the starting point for the library's efforts to retribute all of the stolen books.

The first thing we did was to spread a list of the stolen books. We also published the list on the library web page so that it was easy accessible for a broader audience.

We then started to collect all types of metadata about the stolen books and entered the data into a database so that it would be easy to access certain metadata. Much of the information in the database is bibliographical information, but it also contains information about provenance, catalog records and information about the auctions.

Some of the booksellers that bought the stolen books still had them for sale so we started contacting them. Each book demanded an individual strategy depending on which country it was located in. If for example we found a stolen book in the U.S. the chance of restitution was good since we have a good cooperation with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York who helped in restituting the Wytfliet atlas. This cooperation has been very successful and resulted in the restitution of five books.

We have also found books in Europe and countries outside of Europe but the different legal systems and statute of limitations makes the restitution very time consuming and difficult.

During our work with stolen books we have come to the same conclusions as Interpol concerning how to deal with cultural heritage crimes.

First and foremost, it is important to report thefts immediately to the police or other law-enforcement authorities and to provide them with a full list of stolen items together with photographs if possible. Bookseller or art dealers should be alerted to take extreme care when purchasing items and use all available means to determine their origin and provenance. We even suggest that provenance should be mandatory for cultural objects above a certain value. Before purchasing cultural objects, booksellers and dealers must check against relevant stolen art databases and refuse to buy objects without adequate documentation about their origin.

Our experiences of the cooperation with the police, law enforcement agencies and the book market clarified the importance of different expertise's and good networks for exchange of information. But we still need to create routines for how to act and cooperate in order to deal with cultural heritage crimes.

Finally and possibly the most important lesson, is that cooperation between the cultural heritage institutions, law enforcement agencies and the dealers/auction houses is essential to decrease stolen cultural objects on the markets.

Figure 9: Alabaster Buddha sculpture from the 19th century, probably from Mandalay in Myanmar (Burma). An attempt was made to illicitly import the sculpture to Norway in 2011, and it remained in customs storage until the matter was settled judicially in 2015. The sculpture is currently being exhibited in the Museum of Cultural History in Oslo, pending a potential agreement on its return to Myanmar



Source: ©Kulturhistorisk museum, UiO/Ellen C. Holte.

3. Reports From The Working Groups

3.1 Working group for Customs and Police: notes and observations from conference discussions

During the conference “Illicit trade in cultural objects” in Oslo 2 and 3 December 2015, Nordic police and customs officers formed a dedicated working group chaired by Dr Lars Korsell from the Swedish Council for Crime Prevention.¹⁰ He was assisted in the reporting tasks by police superintendent Kenneth Didriksen, the Norwegian National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of *Economic and Environmental Crime*,¹¹ Tuva Brørby, the Police University College in Oslo, and customs specialist Martin Johansson, from the Swedish Customs.¹² The questions that were discussed are listed below, as are the working group’s proposals for future efforts.

3.1.1 *Proposal for a Nordic register of cultural artefact experts*

In line with the Norwegian expert list, it was suggested that it could be useful for operational personnel in the police and customs to establish a joint expert list with contact details for Nordic experts in cultural artefacts. The purpose would be to provide easy and rapid preliminary assessment of cultural artefacts that are intercepted. Such a list should contain information regarding area of expertise. Naturally, the list could also be expanded with experts from beyond the Nordic area.

¹⁰ Brottsförebyggande rådet.

¹¹ ØKOKRIM.

¹² Tullverket.

3.1.2 *Annual seminar*

The working group emphasised the importance of regular meetings. It was proposed to organise an annual joint Nordic seminar for police and customs officers, to which persons from the museum and cultural heritage sectors could also be invited. The objective would be to maintain and reinforce networks, share experiences and discuss issues of joint interest, including possibly joint operations. The Swedish police will look into this possibility.

3.1.3 *Nordic register of stolen cultural artefacts*

The possibility of a Nordic register or database of stolen artefacts was discussed. However, the group was of the view that such a proposal should be left pending, as other initiatives are being taken, including improving Interpol's database to make it more user-friendly. The participants at the meeting stressed the importance of the Nordic police forces taking an active part in the development of Interpol's database so that it is adapted to the police's operational needs.

3.1.4 *Customs control actions*

With a view to improving customs control actions including selection, it is paramount to ensure access to cultural expertise (cf. the proposed list of contact persons above). In particular, there is a need to facilitate access to expert knowledge on foreign cultural artefacts. The Swedish customs emphasised the importance of receiving intelligence that can help improve selection. As an example, given the commodity flow, intelligence is needed on importers of interest, as well as exporters, goods and relevant countries. Access to relevant and reliable information could enable customs to improve their selections. In this respect the expert contact list suggested above could have a vital function, as the customs require rapid assistance from experts when controls uncover cultural artefacts.

3.1.5 *Import and export permits*

Customs highlighted the need to introduce a permit requirement for import and export of artefacts beyond a certain age. Such a requirement would simplify customs control actions. However, as it is possible to falsify or tamper with documents, a mechanism

that allows verification of certificates is needed. The authorities should examine how databases can be used in processing applications for export and import of art and cultural artefacts. The use of databases could give police and customs access to all relevant details online, thus greatly facilitating their control activities.

3.1.6 *Training*

The Norwegian Police University College¹³ offers a six-month programme of studies in “the investigation of art and cultural heritage crime”. This programme is open to students from the other Nordic countries. Training opportunities are also provided in other Nordic countries. The working group recommended that these efforts be coordinated to prevent duplication of training opportunities.

3.1.7 *Skills-building*

Linked to the above issue of training, is the question of how to continuously enhance and update the police and customs competencies in this field? This is a question of training packages, information provided on the respective intranets, providing officers in charge of registering and taking down reports with the right training, etc.

3.1.8 *Problem identification*

There is a need to build a better picture of and assess the Nordic countries’ problems with regard to cultural heritage crime. While such an analysis could be done with varying degrees of thoroughness, even a rough sketch would be a useful starting point.

3.1.9 *Action plan*

Considering the events in Iraq and Syria and the trade in cultural artefacts from these areas, has the time come for a Nordic police and customs action plan? The working group was certainly of the view that joint actions should be pursued, which could of course also have other focus areas than looted objects from war zones.

¹³ Norges Politihøgskole.

3.1.10 Organisation

How is crime prevention and customs work organised in the Nordic countries, and what can we learn from each other? How can we spread examples of organisational best practice across national borders? These are questions to be addressed in the proposed annual seminars.

3.2 Working group for culture – notes and observations from conference discussions

The working group for culture was chaired by Ragnheiður Helga Þórarinsdóttir from the Ministry for Education, Science and Culture, Iceland. Because there was a need to cover different issues and because of the large number of participants, the working group was divided into three different discussion groups. The demanding task of chairing three different forums of discussion was resolved with the help of senior advisers Unni Fortun and Ingrid Louise Flatval, Arts Council Norway,¹⁴ senior adviser Josephine Munch Rasmussen, the Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage¹⁵ and Secretary-General Liv Ramskjær of the Norwegian Museum Association.¹⁶

The working group was divided into three parallel discussion groups pursuing the following main directions: 1) Dissemination, information and attitude formation, 2) Ethics and awareness raising in institutions and among commercial parties, 3) Collaborative measures to bridge the gap between cultural experts/institutions and law enforcement (customs and police). The task of the individual groups was not to *resolve* all challenges, but primarily to identify problem areas, propose measures and networking structures based on an assessment of the present situation. Key questions are:

- Where is there a need for targeted efforts? In what areas can Nordic collaboration bring added value through more efficient utilization of resources?

¹⁴ Norsk Kulturråd.

¹⁵ Riksantikvaren.

¹⁶ Norsk museumsforbund.

3.2.1 *Discussion group 1: Dissemination, information and attitude formation*

Points of discussion

- What information measures should the five countries collaborate on, and which groups should these initiatives be directed at?
- How can we reach out to the public at large, as well as musicians and other groups who trade in or move cultural artefacts across borders, to provide them with information?
- The potential for setting up a joint training programme for refugees covering the rules on illicit import and sale of cultural objects.
- Evaluate the need for and if necessary establish a joint training programme for UN soldiers on cultural artefacts and the need to protect such objects.
- Cooperation project on information campaigns and awareness-raising campaigns for relevant target groups, including possibly holding a joint seminar with a keynote speaker from CITES.
- Is there a potential for training, information and practical exercises in visual recognition of different types of art and cultural objects that may be sold illicitly?
- Should the Nordic countries develop and disseminate knowledge on methods used in the illicit trade, e.g. false certificates of authenticity, or “whitewashing” through multiple commercial links in the chain of distribution.
- How to identify illicitly exported objects?
- Awareness raising and attitude formation: How should members of the general public act if they observe anything suspicious?

The following points of view were presented in the discussion.

Several participants pointed out the need for closer cooperation among customs and police on the one hand and the cultural sector on the other, and the need to secure systematic backing for strategic information plans. Information measures and the need to educate the general public were stressed. A proposal for a joint Nordic web page was discussed.

3.2.2 *Discussion group 1 agreed on the following main conclusions:*

- Long-term measures: an inter-Nordic cross-sector committee should be appointed to draw up an information and communication strategy for illicit trade in cultural objects. The Nordic Council of Ministers should take the initiative.
- Short-term measure: bearing in mind the ongoing conflict in Syria and UN resolution 2199, a targeted joint Nordic information and attitude development campaign should be designed, based on existing information materials prepared by UNESCO.

3.2.3 *Discussion group 2: Ethics and awareness raising among cultural institutions and commercial parties*

Points of discussion

- Should museums and other relevant parties change their approach and attitudes – and in what way?
- Is there a basis for joint ethics-promoting and awareness-building initiatives among professionals and experts in the Nordic countries?
- Should there be courses and skills-building initiatives on ethical challenges for persons working in cultural institutions?
- Draw up a joint document with recommended guidelines for how to work with systematic ethics education in cultural institutions?
- How to respond if one learns of questionable objects? Should procedures for reporting to police and customs be drawn up?
- Should the Nordic countries propose joint recommendations to Nordic insurance companies with regard to documentation of ownership and provenance requirements before they give insurance for art and antiquities?
- Establish a shared policy and guidelines for handling illicitly exported and non-returnable cultural objects that have been detected and seized on their way into the country?

3.2.4 *Discussion group 2 agreed on the following main conclusions:*

- To establish a dedicated working group to draw up joint guidelines for ongoing ethics work in cultural institutions based on the existing ethical guidelines used by ICOM, ICA (International Council on Archives), etc.
- To establish a dedicated working group or use the same project group to draw up standard guidelines for the handling of non-returnable cultural artefacts. These guidelines should be based on the same ethical guidelines as for returning cultural objects. Finding temporary depot solutions with a view to prospective return to the country of origin.
- Draw up examples of best practices and checklists to handle suspicions of illicit activities, donation offers, tips from the general public regarding illicit trade in cultural objects, etc. – if required, these could be adapted to the respective national context.

3.2.5 *Discussion group 3: Promoting interaction between cultural experts and law enforcement (customs and police)*

Points of discussion

- How to promote closer operational collaboration between cultural institutions and customs/police?
- Is there a basis for inter-Nordic cooperation on procedures and guidance documents for both sides in connection with cases where consultation is required?
- Should further education and guidance initiatives be directed at customs and police?
- Would inter-Nordic seminars be feasible – if yes, how frequent?
- Set up a pilot Internet monitoring project in the Nordic countries as a preventive measure?
- Organise a Nordic seminar on judicial questions related to export, import and trade in cultural objects: Similarities and differences among the respective countries.
- The burden of proof, regulations/follow-up in relation to the art and antiquities trade?

- Preparing a guidance document for cultural institutions and commercial parties, based on input from police and customs?
- Initiating a pilot project with a joint cultural expertise support scheme/expert contact list for customs and police. Possibly a joint duty roster system with on-call telephone duty?
- Collaborate on information campaigns and education initiatives for cultural institutions involving police and customs?
- Organise a Nordic workshop in collaboration with UNESCO, based on UNESCO's training courses?

The following points of view were presented in the discussion:

- It is important not to get side-tracked by the big issues, but rather to focus on organising initiatives that can further develop the collaboration with police and customs. The Coast Guard should also be involved, as much of the world's cultural heritage is maritime and situated on the seabed, e.g. in the Baltic Sea.
- Blue Shield Norway has a good collaboration with the Norwegian Armed Forces, who are the first to arrive on the scene in connection with armed conflict. The Armed Forces are willing to work with this and have their own ethics council and higher institute of education, the Norwegian Defence University College. The experience with ad hoc cooperation with the Armed Forces of Denmark on The Hague Convention and military manuals has been positive, and should be included in further follow-up.
- Defining the roles of all involved parties and making them aware of their responsibilities is important, so that the various agencies and authorities can exercise "ownership" and true authority. Such authority must be held by all actors. The higher education sector must be included as an important partner.
- There is a need for common terms of reference and framework; databases are an option. Such a tool must include the information required by all actors. Proposal to develop a Nordic database accessible to all parties, including sellers and buyers?
- What can be done to help customs and police learn to identify relevant objects? Any Nordic cooperation must take into account the EU's customs union.

Protected cultural heritage objects require export permits; in the absence of such permits, their export – and import – is illegal. Customs must establish a single point of contact, perhaps at the Nordic level.

- There are several ICOM red lists; some believe the red list concept to be outdated, citing the example of the carabinieri in Italy who are working on an app built on their database. It was proposed that ICOM should follow suit and develop a central app that would facilitate navigation for police and customs, if possible with a solution that includes recognition or identification technology.

3.2.6 *Discussion group 3 agreed on the following main conclusions*

- Create Nordic points of contact and a database to improve customs and police preparedness. National points of contact are required in order to provide customs and police with preliminary assessment of objects; in addition, a system should be established for referral on to experts able to carry out more thorough investigations. The police and customs authorities require a system that ensures prompt follow-up, preferably in the form of 24/7 support. The potential for a shared Nordic solution should be examined more closely.
- Closer cooperation among the cultural institutions in the Nordic countries should be facilitated. There is a need for greater openness between institutions and agencies, and to ensure continuity in the networks.
- Actions and strategies must have political backing and be well coordinated with the relevant ministries. A proposal was made to recommend that the Nordic ministers of culture appoint a dedicated Nordic group to coordinate the involved sectors with a view to ensuring follow-up and prioritisation.
- Initiate closer cooperation with the Armed Forces, Coast Guard and the transport industry.

Figure 10: From Syria: Gypsum low relief of "Asadu and Sadai", Dura-Europos, 1st to 2nd century AD, 46 x 46 x 8 cm



Source: © National Museum of Damascus. Courtesy of ICOM Red list.

4. Final document from The Nordic Conference on the illicit trade of cultural objects

4.1 Lars Amréus – preamble

Lars Amréus, Director of the Swedish National Heritage Board,¹⁷ chaired the Nordic policy group that drew up the final policy document.

We, the authorities and organisations in the Nordic countries working against international cultural heritage crime, have been gathered for two days in Oslo to further develop inter-Nordic cooperation. Our objective has been to identify effective forms of collaboration in our fight against the illegal trade in cultural property. We stand united against the growing challenges resulting from war and destruction in different parts of the world. Without any doubt, closer dialogue and increased cooperation form part of the solution, also in our field of work.

The Nordic countries are well positioned for cooperation, not least by virtue of our close historical bonds. We already have established cooperation frameworks that we can draw on; we face similar problems and can make use of each other's capabilities and learn from each other's experiences.

The problem of international cultural heritage crime acquired unprecedented topicality following the UN Security Council's resolution 2199 of February 2015. This resolution directs member states to adopt measures against trafficking in cultural objects, as this is turning into an important source of funding for terrorist groups. The resolution is primarily targeted at ISIL/Daesh and the systematic looting of cultural

¹⁷ Riksantikvarieämbetet.

property in Iraq and Syria, resulting in the destruction of irreplaceable cultural monuments, theft from museums, money laundering, etc.

During our meeting in Oslo, a policy group consisting of 20 individuals representing all the Nordic countries was gathered to draw up a document outlining specific actions to be taken in the coming years. Some of these were:

- Appointing a joint Nordic steering group for continuing work.
- Setting up a single-point of contact for the Nordic Customs making it easy to access expertise on different types of cultural objects.
- Offering training programmes and disseminating expertise, primarily directed at military personnel destined for international missions.
- Establish a joint Nordic practice for the handling of unreturnable objects.
- Improving Interpol's database. Register more objects from the Nordic countries, rather than developing new databases.

Many of the refugees fleeing conflict areas in the Middle East have witnessed cultural heritage crime, or have themselves participated in such crime in order to fund their flight. These individuals may have knowledge that can potentially be useful to improve our competence with regard to the situation in Syria and Iraq.

By way of conclusion, the importance of all five Nordic countries working on these matters together jointly was emphasised. The conference's powerful buzz word was *Five countries, five Ks* – short for the Scandinavian translation of the words *Coordination, Communication, Skills-building and Knowledge*, as well as *Identification of existing measures and initiatives* in the Nordic countries.¹⁸

Illicit dealers and traffickers in cultural objects should be worried, very worried. The world stand united in its efforts to counter their crimes. The conference in Oslo showed that we, the Nordic countries, are prepared to do everything within our power, individually and together, to put an end to their crimes.

¹⁸ In Swedish: Koordinerig, Kommunikation, Kompetensutveckling, Kunskap, Kartläggning.

4.2 Final document

At their meeting on 12 May 2015 at Tórshavn in the Faeroe Islands, the Nordic Ministers of Culture decided to organise an expert conference on the illicit trade in cultural artefacts as part of the Nordic countries' joint follow-up of United Nations Security Council resolution 2199 of 12 February 2015. The conference was held at the National Library of Norway in Oslo, from 2 to 3 December 2015, and gathered about 100 attendees from different expert institutions and administrative agencies in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, including representatives from the customs and excise authorities, the police, the ministries and key stakeholders in the cultural sector.

The conference's objective was to explore the Nordic countries' collaboration potential on specific follow-up measures/joint strategy to act on UN Security Council resolution 2199 and UNESCO's Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property of 1970. More specifically, the conference was aimed at identifying areas in which broader collaboration will be of mutual benefit and at recommending measures to ensure more efficient use of the countries' resources jointly compared with each country acting on its own.

One of the topics that was addressed was the situation in the Middle East and funding of terrorist activities, among other things through the sale of stolen and looted artefacts; market mechanisms and smuggling routes; learning points from specific cases; skills gaps that have been identified and cultural crime in the Nordic countries, etc.

At the conference, a range of issues were discussed. These included identifying needs and assessing the feasibility and desirability of, among other things, the following proposed follow-up measures: monitoring trafficking on the Internet; pooling cultural expertise and skills and defining "single points of contact" for the customs and excise and police authorities; information measures targeted at specific groups; drawing up customs guidance documents; the need for more effective information and intelligence sharing among the Nordic countries' police and customs and excise authorities; "best practice" on confiscation and the possible return of objects from areas of conflict or objects of uncertain origin; skills-building measures for the respective expert institutions, and raising ethical awareness among expert institutions, commercial parties, etc.

The principal key points for developing a joint Nordic strategy for a more comprehensive collaboration are *Coordination*, *Communication*, *Skills-building* and

Knowledge, as well as the *Identification* of measures and initiatives already in place in the five countries and which the Nordic countries can build on (*Five countries, five Ks*, based on the first letter of these five points in the Scandinavian languages). It emerged during the conference that the countries already have a number of services and programmes in place which may also benefit the other Nordic countries. The conference was thus a step towards mapping out the current status, and establishing that the Nordic countries stand to gain considerably from utilising shared resources; considerable savings can be achieved if the countries avoid duplicating their services and efforts.

4.2.1 *Coordination measures*

Measure 1

There is a need for an overarching structure to ensure that measures and networks in the different fields of expertise in the Nordic countries are coordinated.

Proposal: Setting up a coordination group with contact points/contact persons tasked with promoting post-conference follow-up, with coordinating the various networks of experts, and with facilitating the implementation of measures, as required.

Practical implementation: The Nordic ad hoc group that organised the conference will continue its coordinating function for the time being, i.e. until a decision is made on how to continue this work. The contact points are the Swedish National Heritage Board (Riksantikvarieämbetet) in Sweden, the Agency for Culture (Kulturstyrelsen)/the Ministry of Culture (Kulturministeriet) in Denmark, and the Ministries of Culture in Finland, Iceland and Norway respectively.

Measure 2

There is a need to improve registration of stolen art and culture artefacts in the Nordic countries. At the conference the establishment of a Nordic register/joint database of stolen objects of art and culture was discussed as a potential measure.

Proposal: The Nordic countries should primarily assist in INTERPOL's database being utilised and developed.

Practical implementation: The police authorities are considering submitting a possible joint request to INTERPOL aimed at simplifying authorisation to register objects in the database/registry as well as making it available to potential registry users, including antiquarians, auction houses, etc.

Measure 3

There is a need for cross-sector collaboration and improved cooperation between customs and excise/police and cultural experts. In order to combat illicit trading, the customs and excise authorities and police require assistance and must be able to quickly liaise with experts. More and better information, e.g. information on specific importers, exporters, objects, etc., will help the customs and excise authorities improve their selections. The customs and excise authorities must be able to access prompt preliminary assessments as to whether artefacts are suspicious and should be held back for further investigation. One might also envision coordinating and/or sharing any answers.

Proposals:

- A pilot project involving a joint cultural support function for the customs and excise authorities and police is set up with the objective of establishing a “single Nordic point of contact” where customs and excise and police authorities can quickly access assessments of artefact provenance and get advice on whether to hold back objects for further investigation.

Practical implementation: Cultural institutions with a key role in the evaluation of art, antiques and cultural artefacts draw up a proposal for a joint rotating support function/duty roster scheme. This should be done in dialogue with the customs and excise and police authorities to ensure that the scheme matches their needs:

- As part of improving the information flow and coordination efforts in the Nordic countries, it is imperative that tips and information are channelled to customs and excise and the police speedily and effectively. It is therefore recommended that the respective countries establish/appoint a permanent national contact point (“single point of contact”) where tips from the public and professionals can be directed if there is a suspicion of cultural crime.

Practical implementation: To be followed up by key cultural authorities together with the customs and excise and police authorities:

- A joint Nordic control operation will be undertaken in the course of 2016/2017 to help improve inter-agency communication lines at the national and level and among the Nordic countries, promote better information sharing and clarify the distribution of responsibilities and roles. A joint control operation will help build effective contact networks among the agencies, and help focus attention on the illicit import and export of cultural artefacts, both externally, i.e. in terms of raising awareness among the general public, and internally, vis-à-vis authorities and government agencies. Such an operation may have a preventive effect and educate the general public, while also increasing knowledge on the issue.

Practical implementation: To be followed up by the customs and excise and police authorities in dialogue with the key cultural authorities.

4.2.2 *Communication*

Measure 4

There is a need to deliver better and more targeted information on applicable rules to the general public and specific target groups such as tourists, refugees and personnel in the foreign service, airlines and airports, etc. The information measures under the CITES³⁹ collaboration project on importing products and artefacts from endangered species have had considerable success and it was recommended to look more closely at what the cultural authorities can learn from this.

Proposal:

- There will be a joint project that will prepare information programmes and public awareness campaigns targeting relevant groups.
- An information seminar will be held for the Nordic countries with introductory speakers from CITES.
- There will be a joint information and public awareness campaign based on existing information materials, including materials from UNESCO.

³⁹ The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Practical implementation: The agencies in charge of information measures will plan these projects in partnership (Norsk Kulturråd (the Arts Council of Norway), Kulturstyrelsen (the Agency for Culture) representing both Iceland and Denmark, Museiverket (the National Board of Antiquities) in Finland and Riksantikvarieämbetet (the National Heritage Board) in Sweden).

Measure 5

It is important that all commercial parties, regardless of their specific line of business, follow the advice and guidelines on putting an end to the illicit sale of cultural artefacts. Illicitly exported artefacts may have forged export permits and copies or forgeries may be provided with false "certificate of authenticity". Insurance of such objects may help legitimise them unlawfully.

Proposal: Identical letters will be written to insurance companies in the Nordic countries recommending that they, prior to insuring any art artefacts, antiques or materials from libraries or archives, demand documentation and ownership histories.

Practical implementation: To be followed up by the Nordic points of contact as part of their electronically based collaboration/coordination efforts.

Measure 6

In its recommendations, the UNESCO secretariat advises setting up mechanisms to monitor the trade on the Internet. The Nordic countries intend to assist in this by making UNESCO a more operational stakeholder.

Proposal: A project group will be tasked with investigating the potential for a pilot project on Internet monitoring with a view to preventing illicit trading in the Nordic countries (drawing on experiences from Poland and possibly Italy).

Practical implementation: To be followed up by relevant bodies and the ABM sector in collaboration with the respective Nordic points of contact/coordinating authorities.

Measure 7

In order to improve cross-sector collaboration between the customs and excise/police authorities and the cultural agencies there is a need for measures to facilitate improved communication and more regular contact.

Proposal: There are plans to organise annual seminars for customs and excise, police and cultural authorities.

Practical implementation: To be followed up by the Nordic points of contact/authorities in collaboration with customs and excise and police authorities, and the cultural agencies. If appropriate, the responsibility for organising the seminar may follow the presidency in the Nordic Council of Ministers.

4.2.3 *Skills-building*

Measure 8

There is a need to enhance competencies on illicit trafficking in the police and the customs and excise authorities, and in the cultural sector. There is already a range of different training initiatives on offer, and these must be mapped to avoid duplicating efforts. A prerequisite for delivering satisfactory training is identifying current needs and what initiatives are in place already.

Proposal: In collaboration with the customs and excise and police authorities and cultural institutions, begin working together on developing information campaigns/training programmes targeted at the different authorities and based on input from the respective sectors, including:

- Mapping out existing training programmes in the Nordic countries and the EU. (The Police University College in Oslo offers a six-month programme open to all police students in the Nordic countries).
- Look into what extent the Coast Guard should be involved in broader collaboration.

Practical implementation: The Nordic points of contact will coordinate this work collaboratively; in addition, regular joint seminars will be organised for the three sectors.

Measure 9

There is a need to build skills among personnel serving abroad.

Proposal: To prepare a joint skills-building programme for military personnel serving abroad (possibly also for relief personnel, etc.) on cultural heritage objects and cultural artefacts and their protection. With a view to expanding the Nordic countries' collaboration, ongoing programmes must first be mapped out. (Sweden has prepared

a skills-building programme that may become the starting point for a joint Nordic scheme; Denmark has experience from working with its Armed Forces on teaching the Hague Convention and military manuals; in Norway, the Armed Forces provide teaching on “international law of armed conflict” in which the Hague Convention, etc., is covered)

Practical implementation: The Nordic points of contact will gather information in their respective countries and consider further initiatives.

Measure 10

There is a need to determine how the authorities can best handle objects which may, for a variety of reasons, be difficult to return to their country of origin. Possible reasons include not knowing who the owner is, or that transporting the artefact back to its country of origin may be too risky at this point in time. At the conference, the desire was expressed that the Nordic countries develop/establish a common procedure on how to handle non-returnable cultural artefacts that the authorities have confiscated in connection with attempts at illicit importation.

Proposal: Jointly discuss issues related to artefacts whose return may be difficult:

- Draw up a checklist based on experiences made in the Nordic countries.
- Evaluate temporary depot systems with a view to prospective return to areas that are currently marred by war and conflict.
- Assess the need to establish a Nordic committee on the return of such objects.

Practical implementation: The Nordic points of contact will share details on how these matters are handled in their respective countries and consider whether a meeting/seminar dedicated to discussing the problem of returning such artefacts should be organised.

Measure 11

There is a need for continuous efforts to raise awareness on ethical issues, both with cultural institutions and in the art and antiques trade and associated trades and industries. Guidance on ethical dilemmas and problematic areas within the various institutions may also be useful/desirable.

Proposal: As part of their ongoing work, the respective ABM sectors cooperate more closely with their Nordic sister institutions on the practical follow-up of ethical

guidelines and measures to combat illicit trading/import/export. Basing ourselves on existing ethical guidelines we should seek to design shared Nordic procedures for following up our ethics work internally, as well as measures against illicit trafficking in the various cultural institutions (ICOM, Art Dealers, ICA, etc.)

This includes fostering greater openness and communication among the Nordic institutions in the archive, library and museum sectors and working actively to disseminate the existing guidelines, as well as providing introductory courses, systematic in-house training and raising general role awareness and understanding in cultural institutions. Once a shared platform has been established, the ABM institutions can then develop “best practice” and checklists on how to respond to suspicious situations, donation offers involving artefacts of dubious origin, and tips from the general public on illicitly imported or exported cultural artefacts, etc.

Practical implementation: The national archive, library and museum institutions (the ABM sector) are encouraged to contact and coordinate their work with their sister institutions in the Nordic countries within their respective fields, be it through dedicated meetings to discuss the ethical issues in their own sector, or by including work on ethics/implementation of ethical guidelines in other contexts where these Nordic institutions meet.

4.2.4 Knowledge

Measure 12

There is a need for more up-to-date knowledge on illicit trading in cultural artefacts in the Nordic countries. Starting relevant research projects should therefore be considered, e.g. a review study on cultural crime in the Nordic countries ten years post-“Nordic dimensions”, focusing this time on the illicit import, export and trade in cultural artefacts. (Funding maybe sought through EU funds.)

Proposal: Map out existing research that may be relevant for the fight against cultural crime and the illicit sale of cultural artefacts (see the Swedish National Heritage Board’s commission for a summary of current research from the Försvarshögskolan (Swedish Defence University College). Identify gaps of knowledge and potential research needs on cultural crime in the Nordic countries.

Practical implementation: The Nordic points of contact gather information in their respective countries and consider further initiatives.

Measure 13

During the conference the question was raised whether developing a joint Nordic strategy/approach on how to meet ISIS' aggressive propaganda videos in the field of culture might be fruitful.

Proposal: Map out any strategies employed in other sectors. On the basis of the Swedish approach and thinking that has evolved, draft a joint statement that can be discussed in greater detail by the Nordic countries.

Practical implementation: The Nordic points of contact gather information in their respective countries and consider further initiatives, possibly in consultation with their respective ministers/governments.

The Nordic expert conference advises/recommends that the Nordic countries collaborate on the following follow-up measures.

4.2.5 Measures that can be undertaken in the short term (prior to the meeting of the state parties to the UNESCO's 1970 Convention which is to take place in 2017)

1. A Nordic coordination group is set up incorporating contact persons in all Nordic countries. This group will handle coordination and contact with national networks/specialist institutions and ensure broader follow-up of the conference (for further details, see Measure 1).
2. A project group is tasked with looking into the potential for a pilot project on Internet monitoring with a view to preventing illicit trafficking in cultural objects in the Nordic countries, in line with UNESCO's recommendations (see Measure 6).
3. Over the course of 2016 a Nordic seminar on the judicial aspects of cultural crime in the Nordic countries will be held. The seminar will address the approaches of the Nordic countries and any similarities and differences; burden of proof requirements; regulations/follow-up relating to the art and antiques trade; the sentencing framework, etc. (The EU will draw up a summary of legislation on cultural crime in 2016) (see Measure 7).
4. In response to an initiative from the Swedish police, the police and customs and excise authorities in the Nordic countries will hold a meeting in 2016 to continue the discussions that were begun at the conference in Oslo 2 to 3 December 2015 (see Measure 7).

5. The countries will write a joint letter to insurance companies in the Nordic countries, requesting that they demand documentation and ownership histories before insuring art and antiques or materials from libraries and archives (see Measure 5).
6. A joint Nordic control operation is planned during 2016/2017. The operation will help focus the agencies' attention on the illicit import and export of cultural artefacts; increase knowledge about the topic; promote better communication and more information sharing, and extend contact networks among the Nordic agencies. Moreover, such an action could potentially have an informative and preventive effect on the general public (see Measure 3).
7. Design a joint procedure for improved registration of stolen art and cultural objects in the Nordic countries based on more active use of INTERPOL's database (see Measure 2).
8. As a step to enhancing the flow of information among the countries and with a view to coordinating Nordic efforts, it is recommended that each country establish/appoint a regular national point of contact ("single point of contact") for tips from the general public and expert institutions when cultural crimes are suspected (see Measure 3).
9. A project group is tasked with preparing an information and communication strategy to combat illicit trafficking in cultural objects (see Measure 4).
10. A goal-oriented joint information and public awareness-raising campaign is implemented in the Nordic countries based on existing information material (see Measure 4).

4.2.6 Measures that can be implemented or started before 2019 (i.e. prior to the next four-year reporting period to UNESCO's Convention on Illicit Trade of 1970)

11. Organise a Nordic workshop in collaboration with UNESCO based on UNESCO's training programme (see Measure 8).
12. Develop a joint guidance concept for the customs and excise and police authorities listing the Nordic "single points of contact" to facilitate speedy contact when assistance from the cultural sector is needed; to secure preliminary

- assessments when objects are confiscated for further investigation, etc. (see Measure 3).
13. Together with INTERPOL consider organising a symposium for the Nordic countries, and potentially the Baltic and other neighbouring countries, on illicit trafficking in cultural objects.

Figure 11: From Egypt: Limestone wall relief, Saqqara, Old Kingdom, Dynasties 5-6 (2471–2195 BC), 47 x 86 cm



Source: © Salima Ikram. Courtesy of ICOM Red list.

Figure 12: Mummy of Duamuthotep, daughter of Iriheru, with gilded mask, Akhmim, Ptolemaic Period (304–30 BC), 155 cm



Source: © Egyptian Museum, Cairo. Courtesy of ICOM Red list.

Sluttdokument

De nordiske kulturministrene besluttet på sitt møte i Torshavn, Færøyene 12. mai 2015, at det som en felles nordisk oppfølging av FNs sikkerhetsrådsresolusjon 2199 av 12. februar 2015 skulle arrangeres en fagkonferanse om ulovlig handel med kulturgjenstander. Konferansen, som fant sted i Nasjonalbiblioteket i Oslo, 2.-3. desember 2015, samlet rundt hundre deltakere fra ulike fagmiljøer og forvaltningsetater i Danmark, Finland, Island, Norge og Sverige – bl.a. toll, politi, departementer og sentrale aktører fra kultursektoren.

Hensikten med konferansen var å utforske mulighetene for et nordisk samarbeid om konkrete oppfølgingstiltak / felles strategi for oppfølging av FNs sikkerhetsråds res. 2199 og UNESCOs 1970-konvensjon om ulovlig handel. Det mer konkrete siktemål var å peke ut områder hvor videre samarbeid kan gi felles fordeler, og komme med rekommandasjoner om tiltak som kan utnytte landenes samlede ressurser mer effektivt enn om de opererer hver for seg.

Temaer som ble belyst var situasjonen i Midtøsten og finansieringen av terrorvirksomhet bl.a. ved salg av stjålne og plyndrede gjenstander, markedsmekanismer og smuglerruter, erfaringer fra konkrete saker, tidligere kartlegging av kompetansebehov og kulturkriminalitet i Norden, m.v.

Konferansen drøftet behov, gjennomførbarhet og ønskelighet av bl.a. følgende forslag til videre oppfølgingstiltak: overvåkning av internetthandel, kulturfaglig kompetansepool med "single point of contact" for toll og politi, informasjonstiltak mot spesielle miljøer, utforming av tollveiledere, behov for mer effektiv informasjons- og etterretningsutveksling mellom Nordens politi- og tollmyndigheter, "best practices" når det gjelder beslag og eventuell tilbakelevering av gjenstander fra konfliktområder eller med usikker opprinnelse, kompetansefremmende tiltak for respektive fagmiljøer, etisk bevisstgjøring i kulturfaglige miljøer, hos næringsdrivende, m.v.

Viktige stikkord for utvikling av en felles nordisk strategi for videre samarbeid er *Koordinering, Kommunikasjon, Kompetanseutvikling og Kunnskap*, samt *Kartlegging* av allerede igangsatte tiltak og initiativer i de fem land, som det kan bygges videre på (*Fem land, fem K'er*). Konferansen fikk fram informasjon som viste at det i de ulike land var

tilbud og opplegg som også de andre landene vil kunne dra nytte av. Slik sett bidro konferansen til en preliminær kartlegging som tyder på at det kan være en gevinst ved å samarbeide om felles ressurser og besparelser ved å unngå overlappende tilbud og innsatser.

Koordineringstiltak

Tiltak 1

Det er behov for en struktur som sikrer samordning av tiltak og nettverk innen ulike fagområder i de nordiske land.

Forslag: Det etableres en samordningsgruppe bestående av kontaktpunkter/-personer som skal sikre videre oppfølging etter konferansen, ivareta koordinering mellom ulike faglige nettverk, og ved behov tilrettelegge for iverksetting av tiltak.

Praktisk gjennomføring: Den nordiske ad hoc gruppen som forberedte konferansen fortsetter sin samordningsfunksjon inntil videre/ inntil det eventuelt foreligger en beslutning om videreføring. Kontaktpunkter er Riksantikvarieämbetet i Sverige, Kulturstyrelsen /Kulturministeriet i Danmark, samt de respektive kulturdepartementer i Finland, Island og Norge.

Tiltak 2

Det er behov for bedre registrering over stjalne kunst- og kulturgjenstander i Norden. Konferansen drøftet derfor etablering av et nordisk register/felles database over stjalne kunst- og kulturgjenstander som et mulig tiltak.

Forslag: De nordiske land bør i første rekke medvirke til at INTERPOLs database anvendes og utvikles.

Praktisk gjennomføring: Politimyndighetene vurderer en eventuell felles henvendelse til INTERPOL med tanke på å forenkle tilgangen til å registrere gjenstander i databasen/registeret, samt tilgjengelighet for aktuelle brukere av registeret, herunder også antikvariater, auksjonshus etc.

Tiltak 3

Det er behov for et tverrsektorielt samarbeid og bedre interaksjon mellom toll/politi og kulturfaglig ekspertise. For å kunne arbeide med ulovlig handel-spørsmål behøver toll og politi bistand, samt mulighet til raskt å få kontakt med eksperter. Mer og bedre informasjon hjelper Tollverket til å gjøre bedre selekteringer. Eksempelvis informasjon om spesifikke importører, eksportører, gjenstander, etc. Tollmyndighetene behøver en rask foreløpig vurdering om hvorvidt en gjenstand kan synes mistenkelig og bør holdes tilbake for nærmere undersøkelser. Det kan også tenkes å være hensiktsmessig med koordinering/deling av de svar som mottas.

Forslag

- Det initieres et prøveprosjekt med felles kulturstøtteordning for toll og politi, med det siktemål å etablere et felles nordisk kontaktpunkt ("Single Nordic point of contact"), hvor toll og politi raskt kan innhente foreløpig provinienbedømming og råd vedrørende tilbakeholdelse av gjenstander for videre undersøkelser.

Praktisk gjennomføring: Kulturinstitusjoner som er sentrale i vurdering av kunst, antikviteter og kulturhistoriske gjenstander utarbeider et forslag til en felles, rullerende støttefunksjon/vaktordning. Dette bør skje i kontakt med toll- og politimyndigheter, slik at ordningen best mulig tilpasses deres behov:

- Som ledd i bedre informasjonsflyt og nordisk samordning av innsats, er det viktig å tilrettelegge for at opplysninger og tips kan komme toll og politi i hende på en rask og hensiktsmessig måte. Det anbefales derfor at de respektive land etablerer/utpeker et fast, nasjonalt kontaktpunkt ("single point of contact") for mottak av tips fra publikum og fagmiljøer når det gjelder mistanke om kulturkriminalitet.

Praktisk gjennomføring: Følges opp av sentrale kulturmyndigheter i samarbeid med toll- og politimyndigheter:

- Det gjennomføres en felles nordisk kontrollaksjon i løpet av 2016/2017. En slik aksjon vil kunne bidra til å få på plass bedre kommunikasjonslinjer mellom etatene

både nasjonalt og nordisk, samt lede til mer informasjonsdeling og tydeligere ansvars- og rollefordeling. En aksjon vil kunne medvirke til å skape et godt kontaktnett mellom etatene, og kan dessuten være en effektiv måte å sette ulovlig innførsel/utførsel av kulturgjenstander på dagsorden, både eksternt i forhold til publikum og internt innen myndigheter/etater. En aksjon vil kunne ha en forebyggende og opplysende virkning, og samtidig bidra til økt kunnskap om tema.

Praktisk gjennomføring: Følges opp av toll- og politimyndigheter i kontakt med sentrale kulturmyndigheter

Kommunikasjon

Tiltak 4

Det er behov for bedre og mer målrettet informasjon om gjeldende regler til publikum generelt og til spesielle målgrupper som eksempelvis turister, flyktninger, personell i utenlandstjeneste, flyselskaper/flyplasser, mv. CITES₁-samarbeidet anses å ha lyktes med informasjonstiltak når det gjelder å hindre innførsel av produkter og gjenstander av materiale fra truede arter. Det anbefales å se nærmere på hva kulturmyndighetene kan lære av dette:

- The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Forslag

- Det etableres prosjektsamarbeid om informasjonsopplegg og holdningskampanjer til aktuelle målgrupper.
- Det arrangeres et nordisk seminar om informasjon med innledere fra CITES.
- Det iverksettes en felles informasjons- og holdningskampanje med utgangspunkt i eksisterende informasjonsmateriell, bl.a. fra UNESCO.

- *Praktisk gjennomføring:* De aktuelle etatene med ansvar for informasjonstiltak samarbeider om videre planlegging (Norsk kulturråd, Kulturstyrelsen (Isl og DK), Museiverket (F), Riksantikvarieämbetet (S)).

Tiltak 5

Det er viktig at alle typer næringsdrivende slutter opp om råd og retningslinjer for å stoppe ulovlig handel. Ulovlig utførte gjenstander kan ha falske utførselstillatelser, kopier/forfalskninger kan ha falske "ekthetsbevis". Forsikring av slike gjenstander kan bidra til urettmessig legitimering.

Forslag: Det utformes en likelydende henvendelse til nordiske forsikringsselskaper med anbefaling om å stille krav til dokumentasjon og eierskapshistorikk, før det gis forsikring av kunst- og antikvitetsgjenstander, arkiv- og biblioteksmateriale.

Praktisk gjennomføring: Følges opp av de nordiske kontaktpunktene gjennom elektronisk samarbeid/samordning.

Tiltak 6

UNESCO-Sekretariatet tilrår i sine rekommandasjoner at det etableres mekanismer for overvåkning av netthandel. Norden har en intensjon om å medvirke til å gjøre UNESCO til en mer operasjonell aktør på dette feltet.

Forslag: En prosjektgruppe får i oppdrag å undersøke mulighetene for å gjennomføre et testprosjekt med internettovervåkning i forebyggende øyemed i Norden. (Trekke på erfaringer i Polen, evt Italia).

Praktisk gjennomføring: Følges opp av aktuelle etater og ABM-sektoren i samarbeid med de repektive nordiske kontaktpunkter/koordinerende myndigheter.

Tiltak 7

For å få til et bedre tverrsektorielt samarbeid mellom toll/politi og kulturfaglige etater er det behov for tiltak som legger til rette for bedre kommunikasjon og mer regelmessig kontakt.

Forslag: Det tas sikte på å arrangere ett årligt seminar for toll-, politi- og kulturmyndigheter.

Praktisk gjennomføring: Følges opp av de nordiske kontaktpunkter/myndigheter i samarbeid med kultur-, toll, og politietater. Om hensiktsmessig kan arrangementsansvaret følge formannskapsperiodene i Nordisk Ministerråd.

Kompetanseutvikling

Tiltak 8

Det er behov for styrket kompetanse på ulovlig handel hos både politi, toll og i kultursektoren. Når det gjelder utdanning finnes det i dag flere ulike initiativ. Her er det i første rekke behov for kartlegging av eksisterende tilbud, slik at man unngår dobbeltarbeid. For å kunne få til bra utdanning er det viktig å ta utgangspunkt i hvilke behov som finnes og hvilke initiativ som er tatt.

Forslag: I samarbeid med toll, politi og kulturinstitusjoner starte opp samarbeid vedrørende utvikling og informasjonkampanjer/undervisning for respektive myndigheter med innspill fra respektive sektorer, herunder:

- Kartlegge eksisterende undervisningsopplegg i Norden og EU. (Politihøgskolen i Oslo har et 1/2-årig tilbud som er tilgjengelig for alle nordiske politistudenter).
- Undersøke hvorvidt Kystvaktene bør trekkes inn i et videre samarbeid.

Praktisk gjennomføring: Følges opp av de nordiske kontaktpunktene gjennom samarbeid/samordning og jevnlig fellesseminarer for de tre sektorene.

Tiltak 9

Det er behov for kompetanseutviklende tiltak for personell i utenlandstjeneste.

Forslag: Utarbeide et felles opplæringsopplegg for militære i utenlandstjeneste (evt. også hjelpekorps, m.fl.) når det gjelder kunnskap om kulturminner og kulturgjenstander, samt behov for beskyttelse av slike. I denne forbindelse først kartlegge eksisterende opplegg med tanke på samarbeid. (Sverige har utarbeidet en utdanningspakke som kan være utgangspunkt for et felles nordisk opplegg. Danmark har erfaringer med ad hoc-

samarbeid med Forsvaret om Haagkonvensjonen og militære manualer. I Norge gir Forsvaret undervisning i "Krigens folkerett", om bl.a. Haagkonvensjonen).

Praktisk gjennomføring: De nordiske kontaktpunktene innhenter nærmere informasjon i sine respektive land og vurderer videre initiativer.

Tiltak 10

Det er behov for å klargjøre hvordan myndighetene best kan håndtere gjenstander som av ulike grunner er vanskelig å tilbakelevere til opprinnelsesland. Dette kan eksempelvis bero på at eieren er ukjent eller at det medfører for stor risiko den dagsaktuelle situasjonen å transportere gjenstanden tilbake til opprinnelseslandet. Konferansen målbar et ønske om å utvikle/etablere en felles praksis for håndtering av ikke-returerbare kulturgjenstander som er forsøkt ulovlig innført, og som myndighetene har tatt beslag i.

Forslag: Løfte fram til felles drøfting spørsmål knyttet til gjenstander hvor tilbakelevering viser seg å være vanskelig. a) Utarbeide en sjekklister med utgangspunkt i nordiske erfaringer. b) Vurdere midlertidige depotløsninger med tanke på mulig seinere tilbakelevering til områder som i dag er preget av krig og konflikt. c) Vurdere om behov for etablering av en nordisk komité for tilbakelevering.

Praktisk gjennomføring: De nordiske kontaktpunktene utveksler nærmere informasjon om håndtering i sine respektive land og vurderer videre initiativer, herunder om det er grunnlag for et eget møte/seminar om tilbakeleveringsproblematikken.

Tiltak 11

Det er behov for kontinuerlig innsats når det gjelder bevisstgjøring om etikk, både innen kulturinstitusjoner, så vel som i kunst- og antikvitetsbransjen og i tilstøtende bransjer. Det kan også være nyttig/nødvendig med veiledende rådgivning når det gjelder etiske dilemmaer/problemområder innen ulike institusjoner.

Forslag: De respektive ABM-sektorene innleder et nærmere samarbeid med sine nordiske søsterinstitusjoner når det gjelder praktisk oppfølging av etiske retningslinjer og tiltak mot ulovlig handel/innførsel/utførsel som del av sitt løpende arbeid. Med utgangspunkt i eksisterende etiske retningslinjer søke å utvikle en felles nordisk praksis for intern oppfølging når det gjelder løpende etikkarbeid og tiltak mot ulovlig handel i ulike kulturinstitusjoner (ICOM, Art Dealers, ICA, mv).

I dette inngår at det oppfordres til mer åpenhet og kommunikasjon mellom nordiske institusjoner innen arkiv-, bibliotek-, og museumssektorene, at det informeres aktivt om eksisterende retningslinjer, at det gjennomføres introduksjonskursing, systematiske internutdanningstiltak og bevisstgjøring i kulturinstitusjoner med hensyn til egen rolleforståelse. Ut fra en felles plattform kan det utvikles en "best praksis" og sjekklister for hvordan man skal opptre i møte med mistanke, tilbud om donasjoner av tvilsomme gjenstander, publikumstips om ulovlig innførte/utførte kulturgjenstander, mv.

Praktisk gjennomføring: De nasjonale arkiv-, bibliotek- og museumsinstitusjonene (ABM-sektorene) oppfordres til å initiere nordisk kontakt og samordning med sine søsterinstitusjoner innen sine respektive områder, enten gjennom egne møter om etiske problemstillinger knyttet til sin sektor, eller ved å inkludere etikkarbeid/implementering av etiske retningslinjer på dagsorden i andre sammenhenger hvor de nordiske faginstitusjonene møtes.

Kunnskap

Tiltak 12

Det er behov for mer oppdatert kunnskap om ulovlig handel med kulturgjenstander i Norden. Aktuelle forskningsprosjekter bør derfor vurderes igangsatt, eksempelvis en mulig sammenfattende studie av kulturkriminalitet i Norden ti år etter "Nordic dimensions", denne gang med fokus på ulovlig innførsel, utførsel og handel med kulturgjenstander. (Kan søkes finansiert gjennom EU-midler).

Forslag: Kartlegge eksisterende forskning som kan være relevant for ulovlig handel med kulturgjenstander og kulturkriminalitet (jf Riksantikvarieæmbetets bestilling av forskningsoversikt fra Førsvarshøgskolan i Sverige). Identifisere kunnskapsmangler og ev behov for videre forskningsinnsats rettet mot kulturkriminalitet i Norden.

Praktisk gjennomføring: De nordiske kontaktpunktene innhenter nærmere informasjon i sine respektive land og vurderer videre initiativer.

Tiltak 13

Det ble under konferansen reist spørsmål om det kunne være hensiktsmessig å utvikle en felles nordisk strategi/holdning for hvordan de respektive myndigheter møter IS' offensive propagandakampanjer når det gjelder kulturområdet.

Forslag: Kartlegge eventuelle andre sektors strategier. Med utgangspunkt i den svenske tenkning som allerede er gjort omkring disse spørsmålene, formulere et utkast til fellesopplegg som kan tas opp til videre drøfting i nordisk sammenheng.

Praktisk gjennomføring: De nordiske kontaktpunktene innhenter nærmere informasjon i sine respektive land og vurderer videre initiativer, eventuelt i samråd med sine respektive statsråder/regjeringer.

Den nordiske fagkonferansen tilrår/anbefaler nordisk samarbeid om følgende oppfølgingstiltak.

Tiltak som kan gjennomføres på kort sikt (før statspartsmøte i UNESCOs 1970-konvensjon i 2017)

1. Det etableres en nordisk samordningsgruppe med kontaktpersoner i alle nordiske land som ivaretar koordinering og kontakt til nasjonale nettverk/ fagområder. Gruppen skal sikre videre oppfølging etter konferansen. (Jf. nærmere beskrivelse tiltak 1).
2. En prosjektgruppe gis i oppdrag å undersøke mulighetene for å gjennomføre et testprosjekt med internettovervåking i forebyggende øyemed i Norden, i tråd med UNESCOs rekommandasjoner. (Jf. tiltak 6).
3. I løpet av 2016 arrangeres et nordisk seminar om rettslige aspekter ved kulturkriminalitet i de nordiske land: Likheter og ulikheter i tilnærming, krav til bevisbyrde, regelverk/oppfølging i ft kunst- og antikvitetsbransjen, strafferammer, etc. (I EU planlegges det i løpet av 2016 en oversikt over lovgivning relatert til kulturkriminalitet). (Jf. tiltak 7).
4. Etter initiativ fra svensk politi arrangeres i 2016 et felles møte for politi- og tollmyndigheter i Norden for å fortsette drøftingene som ble påbegynt under konferansen i Oslo 2.–3. desember 2015. (Jf. tiltak 7).
5. Det utformes en felles henvendelse til nordiske forsikringselskaper med henstilling om å stille krav til dokumentasjon og eierskaphistorikk før det gis

forsikring av kunst- og antikvitetsgjenstander, arkiv- og biblioteksmateriale. (Jf. tiltak 5).

6. Det anbefales å gjennomføre en felles nordisk kontrollaksjon i løpet av 2016/2017. En slik aksjon vil kunne være en effektiv måte å sette ulovlig innførsel/utførsel av kulturgjenstander på dagsorden i de ulike etatene, medvirke til økt kunnskap om tema, bidra til bedre kommunikasjon, mer informasjonsdeling og føre til et større nordisk kontaktnett i etatene. En aksjon vil dessuten kunne ha en opplysende og forebyggende virkning på publikum. (Jf. tiltak 3).
7. Utvikle en felles praksis for bedre registrering av stjålne kunst- og kulturgjenstander i Norden gjennom mer aktiv anvendelse av INTERPOLs database. (Jf. tiltak 2).
8. Som ledd i bedre informasjonsflyt mellom landene med tanke på nordisk samordning av innsats, anbefales det at hvert land etablerer/utpeker et fast, nasjonalt kontaktpunkt ("single point of contact") for mottak av tips fra publikum og fagmiljøer når det gjelder mistanke om kulturkriminalitet. (Jf. tiltak 3).
9. En prosjektgruppe gis i oppdrag å utarbeide en informasjons- og kommunikasjonsstrategi for å bekjempe ulovlig handel med kulturgjenstander. (Jf. tiltak 4).
10. Det iverksettes en målrettet fellesnordisk informasjons- og holdningskampanje med utgangspunkt i eksisterende informasjonsmateriell. (Jf. tiltak 4).

Tiltak som kan gjennomføres eller oppstartes før 2019 (dvs. før neste 4-årsrapportering til UNESCOs 1970-konvensjon om ulovlig handel)

11. Arrangere en nordisk workshop i samarbeid med UNESCO på bakgrunn av deres kursopplegg. (Jf. tiltak 8)
12. Utarbeide et felles veilederkonsept for toll og politi med nordiske "single point of contact" for rask kontakt ved behov for bistand fra kultursektoren, innhenting av foreløpige vurderinger ved beslag av gjenstander for videre undersøkelser, mv. (Jf. tiltak 3).

13. I samarbeid med INTERPOL vurdere å arrangere et symposium for Norden og eventuelt de baltiske og andre tilstøtende land om ulovlig handel med kulturgjenstander.

Appendix

Appendix 1: Conference programme

Programme

Nordic conference about the illicit trade in cultural artefacts, 2 and 3 December 2015.

Illicit Trade In Cultural Artefacts: Stronger Together?

How the Nordic countries can optimise cooperation on initiatives and measures to combat illicit import and sales of cultural artefacts:

- Day 1: The present situation – identifying weaknesses, needs and potential areas of cooperation.
- Day 2: Detailed discussion of specific cooperation projects and areas where cooperation could be beneficial. Overcoming challenges, exploiting synergies and the practical organisation of cooperation. Next steps.

NB: There will be interpretation from the Scandinavian languages into English.

Table 2: Wednesday 2 December

Time	Arrangement
09:30–10:00	Registration/coffee Moderator: Acting deputy director general Espen Hernes, Arts Council Norway.
Part I: Introduction: Why does hindering the illicit trade in cultural property matter?	
10:00	Welcome address: Assistant Director General Roger Jøsevold, the National Library of Norway Nordic collaboration synergies – how the Nordic countries can support efforts to combat illicit trade and restrict terrorist funding. Opening speech: Minister of Culture Thorhild Widvey The importance of a Nordic initiative to combat illicit trade in cultural artefacts. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO
10:20	Cultural artefacts as illegal commodity: Who profits? Who pays the price? On financing ISIL through the trade in cultural artefacts. Senior Researcher Frederik Rosén at the Danish Institute for International Studies Norway's potential for helping preserve cultural heritage in areas of conflict. Reflections built on experiences from the Middle East. Architect and project adviser Dima Chahin, Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research – NIKU.
Part II: The Nordic region as a market for illicitly traded artefacts – supply and entry routes, volume, places and means of trade, purchasers. Challenges and available instruments	
10:40	Transnational Organised Crime and Trade in Art and Antiquities Professor Neil Brodie, University of Glasgow, Centre for Crime and Justice Research
11:10	The virtual market for cultural heritage objects – the case of objects from Palmyra. Professor Rubina Raja, Aarhus University
11:35	Means of combating cross-border crime: where and how should the authorities intervene to stop the trade in stolen art and illicitly traded artefacts? Françoise BORTOLOTTI, Criminal Intelligence Officer, Works of Art Unit, INTERPOL
11:55	Internet trade in art and cultural artefacts in the Nordic region – experiences, preventive measures, cooperation with national authorities. Geir Petter Gjefsen, security adviser, Finn.no How an art dealer perceives the market, its driving market mechanisms and his own role and responsibilities Finn Petter Øyen, Union of the Norwegian Art and Antique Traders. Questions and discussion
12:30	Lunch

Time	Arrangement
Part III: Efforts to combat cultural crime in the Nordic region – current state of affairs: strengths and weaknesses, deficits and needs, potential for further cooperation	
13:15	<p>“Cultural Heritage Crime – The Nordic Dimension” (2006). Reflections 10 years after the report. The way forward in 2016: separately or together? Research Director Dr Lars Korsell, Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention, editor of the report “Cultural Heritage Crime – The Nordic Dimension” (2006)</p>
13:45	<p>Cultural artefacts in transit – potential smuggling routes to the illicit Nordic market. Nordic Liaison Officer Linda Ervik, Nordic Police and Customs Cooperation</p>
14:00	<p>Working with cultural property – The need for skills-building among staff in the cultural sector, customs authorities and police. Presentation of the Albatross report 2008 by co-author Hilde Madsø Jacobsen.</p>
14:15	<p>Illegal export of Cultural Heritage from the EU/EEA Territory – Finnish experiences Legal Advisor Juha Maaperä, Finnish National Board of Antiquities.</p>
14:30	<p>The police’s work relating to art and cultural crime – strengths and weaknesses, deficits and needs. Reports on the Nordic countries’ efforts to combat the sale of stolen and illicitly traded artefacts. Nordic panel: Kenneth Mandergrehn (S), Trond Eirik Schea (N), Lars Thorbjørnsen (DK). Questions and discussion.</p>
15:15	Coffee
15:30	<p>The customs authorities’ efforts to uncover illicit export/import of cultural artefacts – strengths and weaknesses, deficits and needs. Reports on the Nordic countries’ efforts to prevent the import and export of stolen art and illicitly traded cultural objects. Nordic panel: Martin Johansson (S), Anders Bjarne Flekke (N), Erland Kolding Nielsen (DK). Questions and discussion.</p> <p>Challenges linked to museums and the responsibilities and roles of experts. Focus on the triple role of museums: as collectors, as expert advisers to the police and customs authorities, and as institutions authorised to issue export permits.</p>
16:30	<p>The relationship between looting and the market – a critical perspective on cultural institutions. Director Tone Hansen, Henie Onstad Art Center</p>
16:45	<p>Looting and illicit trade in cultural artefact: challenges and implications for academia? Professor Christopher Prescott, University of Oslo</p> <p>Coffee</p>
17:15	<p>The roles and responsibilities of museums and cultural agencies in efforts to prevent the illicit trade in cultural artefacts. Reports on the Nordic countries’ efforts to prevent the import and export and sale of stolen art and illicitly traded cultural objects. Museums’ work on provenance issues. Nordic panel: Lars Amrénus (S), Vibeke Mohr (N), Jan Jans (DK), Kristin Huld Sigurðardóttir (ISL), Jouni Kuurne (F). Questions and discussion.</p>
18:15	End of day 1
18:30–20:00	<p>Nordic policy group: Chair: Director-General Lars Amrénus, Swedish National Heritage Board The relevant authorities meet to discuss further cooperation projects and potential follow-up measures.</p>

Table 3: Thursday 3 December (09:00–15:00)

Time	Arrangement
Part IV: The way forward – measures to prevent the Nordic region from becoming a market for illicitly exported cultural artefacts	
09:00	Summary from Day 1. Advice and guidance to the working groups. Anticipated outcome. Moderator: Director General Carsten Paludan-Müller, NIKU
09:15	The Nordic region as a regional actor in the international efforts to combat illicit trade in cultural artefacts. State Secretary Tone Skogen, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
09:30	What measures does the UNESCO Secretariat recommend that member states should implement to prevent illicit trade? What can the UNESCO Secretariat offer in the way of facilitation? Programme Specialist Maria Miñana, Cultural Heritage Protection Treaties Section, UNESCO Secretariat. <i>Questions and discussion:</i> Relevant Nordic collaboration initiatives under the auspices of the UNESCO Secretariat?
09:50	A success story: The recovery of stolen works from the National Library of Sweden. Perspectives on the illicit market and the cooperation with the police. Relevant experiences and learning points for building a Nordic platform for cooperation? Senior Librarian Greger Bergvall, the National Library of Sweden
10:10	Coffee
10:20	Parallel working groups, followed by presentations: In which areas could Nordic cooperation promote resource efficiency and support the battle against illicit trade? Proposals for specific follow-up measures. Nordic working group: police and customs authorities (closed forum): Chair: Dr Lars Korsell, Research Director, Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention – BRÅ. Nordic working group for cultural authorities and institutions: Chair: Head of division Ragnheiður Helga Þórarinsdóttir, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, Iceland.
11:20	Common needs, joint response? Presentation of the working groups' conclusions: - What Nordic measures could be implemented in the short term? What measures should be implemented in the longer term? Police: Recommendations for follow-up initiatives. Customs authorities: Recommendations for follow-up Cultural authorities and institutions: Recommendations for follow-up. Questions and discussion
12:15	Lunch

Time	Arrangement
Part V: Conclusion: Next steps?	
13:00	Introduction from the policy group. Questions to be discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can Nordic expert institutions support skills-building in the customs authorities and police? - Would inter-Nordic workshops, courses, etc. be beneficial? - Internet monitoring as a joint Nordic project? - How can the Nordic Council of Ministers contribute going forward?
14:00	Government authorities present their views and conclusions, and proposals for potential specific follow-up measures, possibly in the form statement of intent: who will do what, how and when?
14:50	Summary/concluding comments
15:00	End

Appendix 2: Speakers

Figure 13: Minister of Culture Thorhild Widvey



Note: The Minister of Culture Thorhild Widvey (Conservative Party) has been Minister of Culture under Prime Minister Erna Solberg since 2013.

Ms Widvey was Minister of Oil and Energy from 2004 to 2005 and previously worked as state secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Fisheries.

From 1989 to 1997 she was a member of the Storting for the county of Rogaland (Conservative Party). Ms Widvey also has broad experience as a director and chair of boards for a long list of private and listed companies.

The Minister of Culture's speech.

Figure 14: State Secretary Tone Skogen



Note: Tone Skogen (Conservative Party) has been State Secretary for aid and development in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since August 2015. Prior to holding this position, Ms Skogen was the acting Director-General in the Ministry of Oil and Energy, where she has held a variety of different positions. In the period 2004-2005, Ms Skogen was state secretary in the Ministry for Trade and Industry under the second Bondevik government. Ms Skogen studied business economics in the USA and has in-depth studies from France. Ms Skogen has been on the board of organisations such as Ruter A/S, Oslo University Hospital, Vinmonopolet, and been a member of the Akershus County Council and the county's County Executive Board.

Read State Secretary Skogen's speech.

Figure 15: Irina Bokova



Note: Irina Bokova, born on 12 July 1952 in Sofia (Bulgaria) has been the Director-General of UNESCO since 2009, and was successfully re-elected for a second term in 2013.

She is the first woman and the first Eastern European to lead the Organization. As Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova is actively engaged in international efforts to advance gender equality, quality education for all, and combat terrorist financing by preventing the illicit traffic of cultural goods.

Irina Bokova was in June 2014, nominated by the Bulgarian government as a candidate for the next United Nations Secretary-General selection in 2016.

Figure 16: Lars Amréus



Note: Lars Amréus (1964) has been Director-General of Riksantikvarieämbetet (the Swedish National Heritage Board) since 2012. From 2006 to 2012 he was Director-General of Statens historiska museer (Sweden's National Historical Museums). Mr Amréus has also served at the Ministry of Culture, where he has held different responsibilities, including working with international cultural heritage. Mr Amréus has contributed to a long series of government reports and has, among other things, been the chairman of Riksförbundet Sveriges museer (the Association of Swedish Museums) and a fellow of the European Museum Academy. In 2009 he was designated Agency Head of the Year in Sweden. Mr Amréus trained as an archaeologist at the University of Uppsala, and worked for several years as field archaeologist at the Swedish National Heritage Board's division for historical remains.

Figure 17: Greger Bergvall



Note: Greger Bergvall has worked as a librarian at the National Library of Sweden since 2002, at the Department for manuscripts, maps and pictures. Mr Bergvall oversees pre-modern map collections and has since 2011 been active in searching for stolen books and having these restored to the library.

Greger Bergvall's presentation.

Figure 18: Françoise Bortolotti



Note: Françoise Bortolotti began as a police officer in the French Ministry of Interior in 1993. After working in different departments of the Ministry, where she was in charge of issues related to international police cooperation, she spent 2.5 years in the police unit of the French embassy in Berlin and was seconded to INTERPOL “works of art” unit in September 2013.

Françoise Bortolotti's presentation.

Figure 19: Neil Brodie



Note: Neil Brodie graduated from the University of Liverpool with a PhD Archaeology in 1991 and has held positions at the British School at Athens, the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research at the University of Cambridge, where he was Research Director of the Illicit Antiquities Research Centre, and Stanford University's Archaeology Center. Since February 2012 he has been Senior Research Fellow at the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research, at the University of Glasgow, where he is researching the criminology and economics of the antiquities market as part of the ERC-funded Trafficking Culture project. He has published widely on issues concerning the antiquities market, and was co-author (with Jennifer Doole and Peter Watson) of the report *Stealing History* commissioned by the Museums Association and ICOM-UK to advise upon the illicit trade in cultural material. He also co-edited *Archaeology, Cultural Heritage, and the Antiquities Trade* (2006, with Morag M. Kersel, Christina Luke and Kathryn Walker Tubb), *Illicit Antiquities: The Theft of Culture and the Extinction of Archaeology* (2002, with Kathryn Walker Tubb), and *Trade in Illicit Antiquities: The Destruction of the World's Archaeological Heritage* (2001, with Jennifer Doole and Colin Renfrew). He has worked on archaeological projects in the United Kingdom, Greece and Jordan, and continues to work in Greece.

Figure 20: Dima Chahin



Note: Dima Chahin is an architect, with a master's degree in restoration of historical buildings and preservation of archaeological and natural urban regions, from University of Damascus and the Ecole de Chaillot, Paris. She has worked for more than ten years as a supervisor architect in the Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums, Syria. Dima Chain works now at the Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU), as an advisor architect in the project "fighting the looting of Syria's cultural heritage".

Dima Chahin's presentation

Figure 21: Linda Ervik



Note: Linda Ervik graduated from the Norwegian Police University College in 1997, and has worked at different departments in Hordaland police district. She has 10 years' experience from the Section for organised crime at Bergen Police Station, where she led the police's task force against human trafficking "EXIT" during her last years in Bergen. Ms Ervik is currently the Nordic liaison officer for police and customs and excise, with Bulgaria and Romania as her area of work. Ms Ervik lives in Sofia.

Linda Ervik's presentation.

Figure 22: Geir Petter Gjefsen



Note: Geir Petter Gjefsen is 40 years old and trained at the Norwegian Police University College, from which he graduated in 1999. He has a broad background from the police corps, including operational service, investigation and analysis from a range of departments, both in Follo and Oslo. His most recent place of employment in the police was in the Homicide and Serious Violence Unit in Oslo Police District, where he worked as police superintendent/analyst.

He began working as fraud adviser for the consumer security team at FINN.no in August 2012, and became the team's leader in October 2013, a position he continues to hold. He also became FINN.no's privacy protection officer in December 2014. The consumer security team at FINN.no is responsible for listings verification, verification of messages regarding listings, and all other matters relating to consumer safety at FINN.no.

Geir Petter Gjefsen's presentation.

Figure 23: Tone Hansen



Note: Tone Hansen has been director of the Henie Onstad Kunstsenter (the Henie Onstad Art Centre) since August 2011. Ms Hansen has curated several large solo and group exhibitions with international and Norwegian artists, as well as organising seminars and events and editing several publications. Ms Hansen is the author of *Hvordan tenke museum i dag?* (How to think museum today?) (2008, Torpedo Press) and has edited several anthologies, such as *Frihetens skygge: Samtidskunsten og det pedagogiske paradoks / Phantom of Liberty:*

Contemporary Art and the Pedagogical Paradox (2014, Sternberg / Orpheus); *Vi lever på en stjerne* (We're living on a star) (2014, Sternberg Press); *Modernitet i Nord-Europa – 1917-1931: Elektromagnetisk* (Modernity in Northern Europe – 1917-1931: Electromagnetic) (2013, Hatje Cantz); *Entering a Site of Production* (2012); *(Re) Staging the Art Museum* (2011, Revolver). She is also about to publish *Smugglers and Collectors: Provenance Research and the Market* (2015, Walther Koenig) and has been involved in the current exhibition "In Search of Matisse" at the Henie Onstad Art Centre. Tone Hansen's presentation.

Figure 24: Roger Jøsevold



Note: Roger Jøsevold has been employed with Nasjonalbiblioteket (the Norwegian National Library) since 2004. Before beginning at the National Library, he worked with development and restructuring processes in governmental and private enterprises, where he was active from the late 1980s to 2004.

Figure 25: Lars Korsell



Note: Dr Lars Korsell is department head and researcher at the Brottsförebyggande rådet (the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention) in Stockholm. He focuses on financial and organised crime, as well as cultural heritage crime. Dr Korsell has been in charge of several cultural heritage crime reports, including "Cultural Heritage Crime – the Nordic Dimension", "Brott under ytan" (Crime Goes Underground), "Brottsplats kyrkan" (Crime Scene Church) and "Kulturarvsbrott" (Cultural Heritage Crime).

Lars Korsell's presentation.

Figure 26: Juha Maaperä



Note: Juha Maaperä is legal adviser at Museiverket (the National Board of Antiquities) in Finland. His work involves protection of the cultural environment, with an emphasis on historical remains, protection of historical buildings and land use.

Mr Maaperä has also worked as a lawyer specialising in environmental crime.

Juha Maaperä's presentation.

Figure 27: Hilde Madsø Jacobsen



Note: Hilde Madsø Jacobsen is project director for post- and continuing education at the University of Oslo's Institutt for lærerutdanning og skoleforskning (Department of Teacher Education and School Research). She has previously worked on numerous cultural heritage reports and projects, both in her capacity as staff member of the Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Science and through her company Albatross DA.

Ms Madsø Jacobsen was the project manager for the report "Å jobbe med kulturminner" (Working with cultural heritage), which will be presented at the conference.

Hilde Madsø Jacobsen's presentation.

Figure 28: María José Miñana



Note: María José Miñana has been involved in UNESCO's program in the field of the fight against the illicit trafficking in cultural property since 2010, where she is in charge of capacity-building and outreach activities, as well as of the development of partnerships and fund-raising. She studied Translation and Interpreting at the Pompeu Fabra University (Barcelona, Spain) and earned her Master's degree in Art History at the University of Barcelona. She also holds a Masters in Cultural Studies from the University of Edinburgh.

María José Miñana's presentation.

Figure 29: Vibeke Mohr



Note: Vibeke Mohr has been the acting director of the Arts Council Norway since September 2015. Ms Mohr was director of the Council's department for art and culture from 2011 to 2015. Before serving the Arts Council Norway, Ms Mohr was project director for the Telemark canal's centenary celebration 1990-92, project manager for the Ibsen project in the City of Skien 1992-95, director of Telemark Museum from 1995 to 2006 and director of Oslo Museum from 2006 to 2011.

Ms Mohr has been director on a number of boards in the fields of culture and cultural heritage, including Norsk skieventyr AS, Teater Ibsen, Fortidsminneforeningen (the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Norwegian Monuments) and Norges Husflidslag (the Norwegian Folk Art and Craft Association). Ms Mohr is currently a member of the Norwegian UNESCO commission.

Figure 30: Christopher Prescott



Note: Christopher Prescott is professor of archaeology and head-of-research at the Department of Archaeology, Conservation and history at the University of Oslo. Apart from research projects concerned with the late prehistoric periods (Late Neolithic to Early Iron Age) in Northern Europe and Italy, he has taught and researched theory, method and the history of archaeology. In the course of the last fifteen years he has become increasingly involved in issues concerning cultural heritage, focusing on sustainability, minorities, ethics, looting, and the illicit and unethical trade in archaeological materials, focusing on the responsibility and role of academics. This involvement was in part spurred by an interest in globalization and its impact on archaeology and heritage, the destruction of archaeological materials in the recent wars in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, as well as the Norwegian Schøyen case.

Christopher Prescott's presentation.

Figure 31: Rubina Raja



Note: Rubina Raja is Professor of Classical Archaeology at Aarhus University and leads the Centre of Excellence – Centre for Urban Network Evolutions at Denmark’s Grundforskningsfond (the Danish National Research Foundation). She has published broadly on Palmyra, and towards the end of 2011 Professor Raja founded the Palmyra Portrait Project, which is funded by the Carlsberg Foundation. The project began before the outbreak of civil war in Syria. Professor Raja’s research concentrates on the visual and material culture of antiquity and cultural heritage studies, which her Middle East-based research has given greater relevance. Jointly with a German colleague she is currently leading an international excavation project in Jerash, Jordan. Professor Raja is the editor of several international publication series on antiquity.

Rubina Raja’s presentation.

Figure 32: Frederik Rosén



Note: Frederik Rosén is a senior researcher at the Danish Institute for International Studies. He is the director the NATO Science for Peace and Security Project “Best Practices for Cultural Property Protection in NATO Led Military Operations”. He has published widely on international security, and his book *Collateral Damage a Candid History of a Peculiar Form of Death* will be available December 2015.

Frederik Rosén's speech.

Figure 33: Finn Petter Øyen



Note: Finn Petter Øyen is an antiques dealer who has been in the business with his own showroom for the past 35 years. Mr Øyen has been a member of Norges Kunst- og Antikvitethandlers Forening (Union of the Norwegian Art and Antique Traders) since 1990 and is a former chair of the association. Mr Øyen initiated the process of joining the Confederation Internationale des Negociants en Oeuvres d'Art (CINOA) on behalf of NKAF.

Figure 34: Carsten Paludan-Müller



Note: As the General Director, Carsten Paludan-Müller is responsible for the day-to-day management of Norsk Institutt for Kulturminneforskning (Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research – NIKU). His focus areas are the institute's parameters and its strategic academic direction. Furthermore, Mr Paludan-Müller promotes NIKU's international involvement and network development. For many years, Mr Paludan-Müller has contributed his expertise to the Council of Europe in its work to develop and follow up the cultural heritage conventions. He is a corresponding member of "Deutsches Archäologisches Institut"; scientific advisor to CRIC, an EU-funded project studying cultural heritage and conflict that is coordinated by Cambridge University; member of the board of the University of Oslo's Institutt for Arkeologi, Kunst og Historie (Department of Archaeology, History, Cultural Studies and Religion), and a director on the board of Miljøalliansen (the Environmental Research Alliance of Norway, an organisation representing institutes engaged in environmental research). Mr Paludan-Müller has had a long career in Denmark as county archaeologist, museum director and Director-General of the Danish national cultural heritage department. Prior to doing a magister degree in prehistorical archaeology at the University of Copenhagen in 1979, Mr Paludan-Müller held a one-year scholarship from the British Council at the University of Cambridge.

Paludan-Müller, C. (2009) "Europe – A constrained and fragmented space on the edge of the continental landmasses. Crossroad, battlefield and melting pot." In: *Heritage and Beyond*. pp. 83-92. Strasbourg, Council of Europe.

Figure 35: Espen Hernes



Note: Espen Hernes is acting deputy director general of Arts Council Norway's department for culture. Mr Hernes has headed the museum section since 2011, with responsibilities involving development, administration and consulting. Among other things, the section is responsible for following up section 23 of the Cultural Heritage Act relating to the export of cultural heritage objects, and duties under the 1970 convention on illicit trade.

Since 1994, Mr Hernes has played a key role in government initiatives to develop Norwegian museums, specifically through his work in Norsk museumsutvikling (the Institution for the development of museums) and ABM-utvikling (the Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority). Not least, he has worked with the museum reform which was initiated in 2002 and involved consolidating stronger expert communities and the formation of more professionalised museum institutions. Before his work in public administration, Mr Hernes worked as a technical conservator with the archaeological collections at the Historisk Museum/Universitetets Oldsaksamling (Historical Museum/the University's collection of Norwegian antiquities). Mr Hernes has extensive contact with other ministries and agencies, the Ministry of Climate and the Environment and Riksantikvaren (the Directorate for Cultural Heritage) in cultural heritage protection matters, including world heritage issues and matters under The Hague Convention. Mr Hernes was a member of the cultural heritage committee that prepared Norway's official report "NOU 2002:1 Fortid former framtid" (Our past shapes the future).



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Illicit trade in cultural artefacts

This publication is a report from the Nordic expert conference “Illicit trade in cultural artefacts. Stronger together: How can the Nordics join forces to stop the illegal import and export of cultural objects?” which was held in Oslo, 2 to 3 December 2015, following an initiative of the Nordic Ministers of Culture. The objective of the conference was to explore the potential for a closer Nordic collaboration in order to better meet the states’ obligations under international cultural conventions and the UN Security Council’s Resolution 2199 on measures to prevent financing of extremist groups and their activities. A number of knowledgeable speakers shared their insights into current global challenges as regards cultural heritage protection. A particular concern is the ongoing looting in war-torn areas in the Middle East. The conference resulted in 13 joint follow-up recommendations.



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