



Act for Heritage!

The Council of Europe Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property

CDCPP meeting
19 – 21 November 2024

CDPC Meeting
(20-22 November 2024)

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1. State of play of the Nicosia Convention

NICOSIA CONVENTION

	RATIFICATIONS	SIGNATURES
	Cyprus	Albania
	Greece	Armenia
	Latvia	Montenegro
	Hungary	Portugal
	Italy	San Marino
	Mexico	Slovenia
		Ukraine
		Russia

The convention entered into force on
1 April 2022



2023 – Commission’s Action Plan against Trafficking in Cultural Goods:

- encourage all Member States to sign, ratify and implement the Council of Europe’s Convention on offences relating to cultural property


2024 :


- Nicosia Convention is listed among the top 10 CoE conventions which the EU is committed to promote towards non-European States.


European Unio

Let's look the situation within the Council of Europe...

Albania	Andorra	Armenia	Austria	Azerbaijan
Belgium	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bulgaria	Croatia	Cyprus
Czechia	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	France
Georgia	Germany	Greece	Hungary	Iceland
Ireland	Italy	Latvia	Liechtenstein	Lithuania
Luxembourg	Malta	Monaco	Montenegro	Netherlands
North Macedonia	Norway	Poland	Portugal	Republic of Moldova
Romania	San Marino	Serbia	Slovak Republic	Slovenia
Spain	Sweden	Switzerland	Türkiye	Ukraine
		United Kingdom		

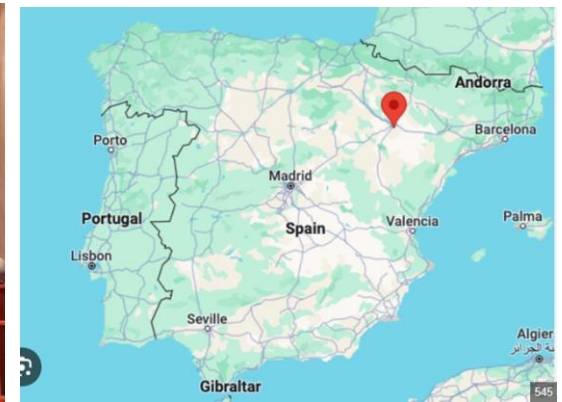
-CoE member states that have ratified the Nicosia Convention  (5)

-CoE member states that have signed the Nicosia Convention  (7)

-CoE member states that have neither signed nor ratified the Nicosia Convention  (35)

2. Promotion of the Convention within the CoE member States

- ❖ International event and contact points meeting in Zaragoza (Spain) – 20-21 June 2024



AIMS OF THE MEETING

- ❖ **Encourage States** to **sign and ratify** the Nicosia Convention.
- ❖ **Raise awareness** the **policies and practical actions** being developed in the light of the Nicosia Convention.
- ❖ Consider the **added value** of the Convention, as well as the **challenges** posed by its ratification.
- ❖ Highlight the importance of **international cooperation** to combat emerging challenges in this area.



1. Facilitate and **strengthen national cooperation** and synergies in the protection and preservation of cultural assets. (**National Platforms**)
2. **Provide a platform** for the exchange of experiences and knowledge.

3. Committee of the Parties

Article 22- Committee of the Parties (CoP)

1. **Composition**: Representatives of the **Parties** to the Convention.
2. **Convocation**: one year following the entry into force of the Nicosia Convention for the 10th ratifying country .

→ Situation now: 6 Parties

→ When the CoP will be set-up?



Action needed



❖ **National Co-operation: article 20 d) / (# 115 ER)**

- establish a central national authority or
- empower existing authorities and
- putting in place other mechanisms for **co-ordinating the activities** related to the protection of cultural property;



❖ **International Co-operation:**

Article 21 – Measures at international level

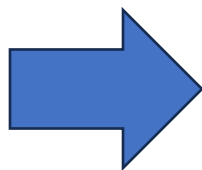
... promote consultation and exchange of information

- should ensure collaboration (**Network of National Platforms**)

❖ **set-up a Network of Contact Points (National Platforms)**

effective co-operation between national authorities in order to, for instance, exchange information about criminal offences relating to cultural property

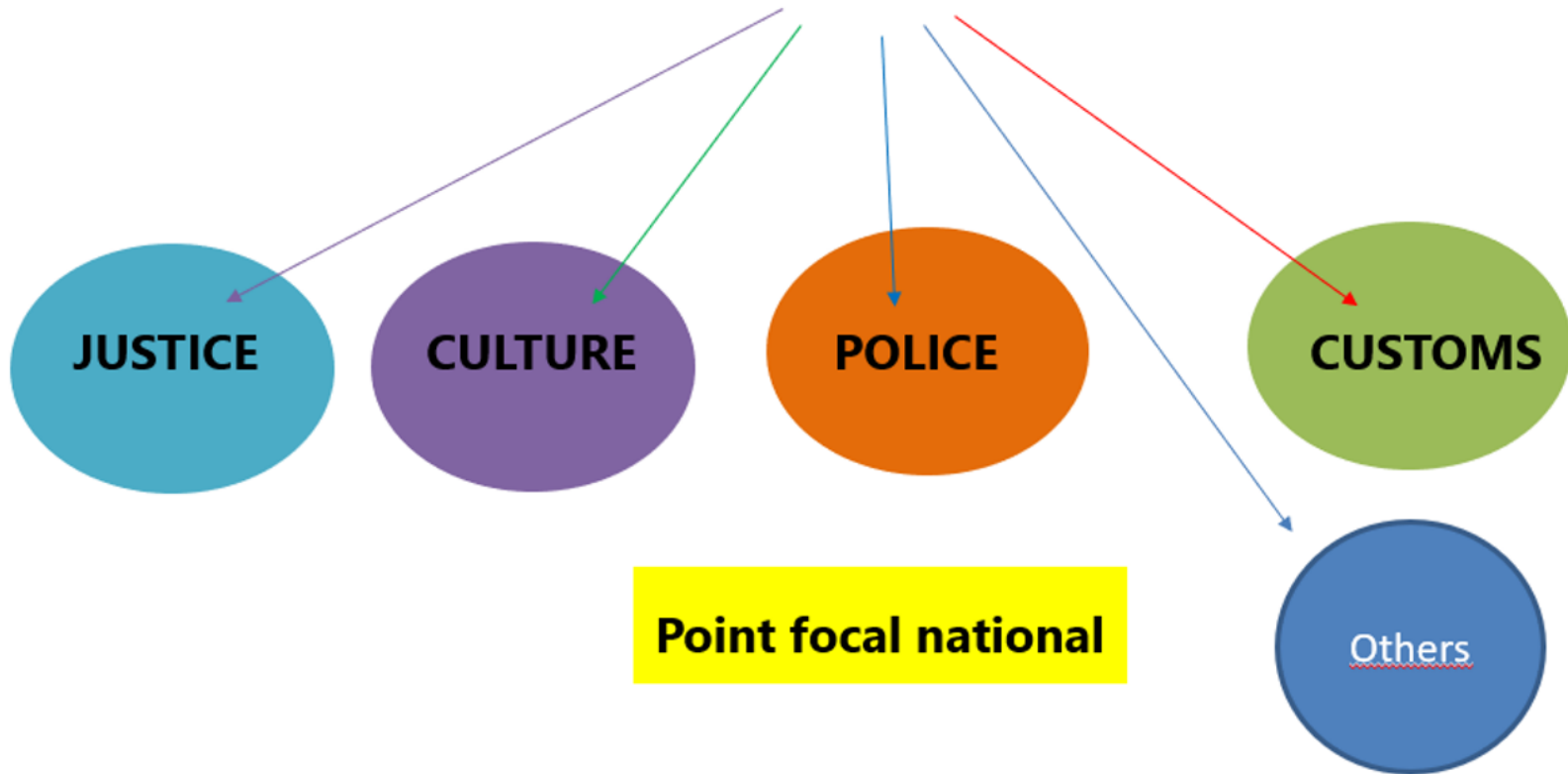
**CONTACT
POINTS**



ARAGON GROUP

Aragon Group: Network of National Platforms

Inter-ministerial cooperation = National Platform





4. TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

4.1. Promotion of the Convention: Legal advice and raise awareness

1. **Conference Trafficking in Cultural Property. A Criminological Perspective** (La Coruña, Spain, 30 April 2024).
2. **European Heritage Days meeting – exploring the next 2027 theme “heritage at risk”** (Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2-4 July 2024).
3. **RITHMS project** (Venice, Italy, 13 September 2024).



4. TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

4.2. Capacity building activities

1. Fighting against the illicit trafficking of cultural property:

❑ in the Western Balkans (in co-operation with UNESCO):

- ❖ Bosnia and Herzegovina (12 June 2024)
- ❖ Montenegro (17 June 2024)
- ❖ North Macedonia (11 July 2024)
- ❖ Albania (23-24 October 2024).

❑ in Central Asia (in co-operation with UNESCO):

- ❖ Astana, Kazakhstan (30 October 2024)

2. International Association of French-Speaking Customs Officials (AIDF) workshop on Council of Europe criminal Conventions (Strasbourg, France, 19 September 2024).



5. Developments of the Nicosia Convention

LA CONVENTION DE NICOSIE EN 10 QUESTIONS ET RÉPONSES

La Convention du Conseil de l'Europe
sur les infractions visant des biens culturels



EL CONVENIO DE NICOSIA EN 10 PREGUNTAS Y RESPUESTAS

Convenio del Consejo de Europa sobre los delitos
relacionados con los bienes culturales



NIKÓZIJSKÝ DOHOVOR V 10 OTÁZKACH A ODPOVEDIACH

Dohovor Rady Európy
o trestných činoch týkajúcich sa kultúrneho majetku



6. Future developments of the Nicosia Convention

- ▶ **Factsheets on the main aspects of the Convention**

Assessment of archaeological plundering for legal proceedings

- ▶ **Report** on legislation leading to the criminalisation of offences relating to cultural property in the different legislations of the States having signed/ratified the Nicosia Convention (in collaboration with DG – I)

- ▶ **Preparation of a Country profile Questionnaire (country profiles)**

- ▶ **Prevention tools** (point 12 of the agenda)



FACTSHEETS



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Thanks for your attention

www.coe.int/cultural-property / www.coe.int/nicosia

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