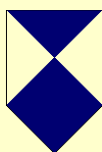


did you know?



Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention

Article 30 Dissemination

1. The Parties shall endeavour by appropriate means, and in particular by educational and information programmes, to strengthen appreciation and respect for cultural property by their entire population.

2. The Parties shall disseminate this Protocol as widely as possible, both in time of peace and in time of armed conflict.

3. Any military or civilian authorities who, in time of armed conflict, assume responsibilities with respect to the application of this Protocol, shall be fully acquainted with the text thereof. To this end the Parties shall, as appropriate:

(a) incorporate guidelines and instructions on the protection of cultural property in their military regulations;

(b) develop and implement, in cooperation with UNESCO and relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations, peacetime training and educational programmes;

(c) communicate to one another, through the Director-General, information on the laws, administrative provisions and measures taken under sub-paragraphs (a) and (b);

(d) communicate to one another, as soon as possible, through the Director-General, the laws and administrative provisions which they may adopt to ensure the application of this Protocol.

For further information about other related articles:
<http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/FULL/590?OpenDocument>

The Regime of International Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict: the role of the ICBS and cultural NGOs against UNESCO

Ten years ago, thanks to the joint action of UNESCO and four main organisations of professionals of culture was created the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS). A new international NGO aimed to promote and to concretely apply, together with Governments, the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict as well as to disseminate its content. It became in fact increasingly evident that, due to UNESCO objective difficulties and problems in these particular kind of situations, there was the necessity to entrust this responsibility to an operational organisation, active in the field, and independent.

In spite of the reasons behind its creation, ICBS is still far from being operative and it is not fully recognised and supported, including by the same institutions that created it, because the 1999 Protocol assigned to ICBS only a limited duty concerning professional advice and proposal, basically a simple observer, or advisor at the most.

As a result ICBS cannot secure enough presence at the international and national level, as it is proved by the limited number of national committees established so far. This despite ICBS relies on highly skilled specialist (30.000 cc.) working in the fields of salvage, safety and prevention, conservation and regulation, as well as training, information and dissemination, who represent a great potential. Therefore, the signatory states – and perhaps UNESCO itself – should recognise what ICBS could achieve if it was entrusted for the implementation of international activities, endorsed greater legitimacy according to the Hague Convention and its Two Protocols. Specifically, the Second Protocol highlights three main areas of expertise that should be addressed by ICBS and the civil society organizations (NGOs) at large, which include:

- Preventive and preparatory measures
- Dissemination and public awareness promotion
- Training of experts

With regard to the first area, preparatory measures, Art. 5 of the 1999 Second Protocol highlights the necessity to act in advance to prevent the effects expected in case of an armed conflict and/or of a natural disaster, by implementing some preparatory measures such as: inventories and planning of emergency measures, and training not only for the military staff but also for the civil employees and volunteers.

As for the second area regarding dissemination and public awareness promotion, it is also fundamental that professionals in the field of culture are enabled to disseminate the Convention and its two Protocols as well the criteria set for their adoption at an international level. This is why it is necessary to organize an efficient system for the promotion of information, public awareness and training, concerning and by the NGOs.

The third area focuses on training, and, it is important to highlight Article 30.3b: “any military or civilian authorities who, in time of armed conflict, assume responsibilities with respect to the application of this Protocol, shall be fully acquainted with the text thereof.

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To this end the Parties shall, as appropriate: (...)and(b) develop and implement peacetime trainings and educational programmes, in cooperation with UNESCO and relevant GOs and NGOs.

This last reference is the most explicit and compulsory reference to the cooperation between the armed forces and the NGOs to study, implement and deploy protective measures for cultural heritage.

Apart from the institutional work in the international field, the newly established organisation (ICBS) will be dealing with the need for the activity technically defined as "dissemination", a term more or less synonymous with information, raising public awareness and training. This activity will have to be spread and with steady backing throughout all sectors of society, including military and civilian personnel.

Based on the above articles one could easily deduct the role played by the civil society both at stakeholder (that should be trained as much as field experts are) and at target group level, while ICBS should go beyond its advisory role as the involvement of civilians represents a key contribution for an effective promotion and successful implementation of the Convention and its Protocols.

Finally ICBS and the civil society organizations at large can play a decisive role in support to IGOs and GOs to turn the Convention, its two Protocols and all the other international normative for the protection of cultural heritage in critical areas into concrete practice on the ground.



Prof. Massimo Carcione, Università del Piemonte Orientale

To read more:

http://academia.edu/1913221/The_Regime_of_International_Protection_of_Cultural_Property_in_the_Event_of_Armed_Conflict_the_role_of_the_ICBS_and_cultural_NGOs_against_UNESCO_Sanremo_2009

<http://www.archivistes.be/forum/viewtopic.php?f=4&t=974>

<http://www.minervaedizioni.com/SchedaProdotto.aspx?oid=015a0249-881b-47ba-9099-5fa4844fb6dc>

Additional links:

<http://www.sitiunesco.it/comitato-patrimonio-mondiale-unesco.html>

<http://www.ancbs.org/cms/index.php/en/about-us/about-icbs>

<http://www.ancbs.org/cms/index.php/en/about-us/about-ancbs>

The Georgian National Committee of the Blue Shield

The International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) performs its institutional tasks to promote and protect cultural property against threats more efficiently through the support of local initiatives. In this regard, the National Committees of the Blue Shield (NCBS) play a key role. Among their tasks: raising national awareness of the threats to cultural heritage, a forum to improve emergency preparedness by sharing experiences and exchanging information and the promotion of the ratification and implementation by national governments of the Hague Convention. The number of National Committees is gradually growing and in March 2013 also a Georgian National Committee of the Blue Shield (GNCBS) was founded and recognized by the International Committee of the Blue Shield.

The founders and members of the GNCBS, as in the case of the ICBS, are the National Committees of ICOM (International Council of Museums), ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), representatives of IFLA (Georgian Library Organisation) and ICA (National Archive of Georgia).

The main goals of Blue Shield Georgia are to raise awareness on and facilitate implementation of both protocols of the Hague Convention in Georgia, mobilise cross-sectoral joint actions that will better protect cultural heritage against natural and human-made disasters and facilitate the creation of a management plan for cultural heritage protection during natural catastrophes and armed conflicts.

The Committee plans to work closely with its founding members, other NGOs and governmental organisation as well as international organisations active in this field. Ms. Manana Tevzadze, a young well known cultural heritage expert and member of the Georgian ICOMOS Committee, was elected to serve as the Chairperson of the organisation.

The creation of the GNCBS arrives at a proper time as the project WFWHLC has reached its momentum and a dossier for the nomination of the listed historic sites of the city of Mtskheta is about to be submitted to the 1999 HP Committee. The existence of a NCBS will contribute to secure sustainability once enhanced protection would be granted.



Ms. Manana Tevzadze,
GNCBS Director

This endeavour will be supported in various forms also by the project partners and associates upon project completion also through ex-post project agreed upon further initiatives

War Free World Heritage Listed Cities International Workshop Rome 16-17 May 2013

An International Workshop gathering in Rome project partners and associates from Lebanon (Council of the United Municipalities of Jbail), Georgia (Head of the Municipality of Mtskheta), Italy and Turkey, together with representatives from the Georgian Ministries of Culture, Defence, Interiors and Municipality of Mtskheta, members of the Advisory Board (UNESCO, ICCROM, the Austrian Army) and other international experts met during the two very intense days of the workshop hosted at the University La Sapienza in Rome.

The workshop was also attended by experts from the Italian Carabinieri Headquarters for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, the Military Chief of Staff Office for Juridical Affairs and other organizations active in the contrast of various forms of illicit towards Cultural Heritage.



Workshop plenary session

This activity was designed to gather around a table experts from a multidisciplinary arena to discuss, review, integrate and/or highlight eventual gaps to be filled in the documentation, records acquired as well as plans made within the project framework to satisfy the provisions contained within the 1999 Second Protocol to the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Given the importance of the two world heritage sites beneficiaries of the project that are embedded in two historic core city centres that are quite different in terms of their urban fabric, territorial history and demographic consistencies, both for Byblos and Mtskheta a priority at the workshop was to verify how the prescriptions of the 1972 WH Convention with those of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two protocols were reconciled in full compliance with the more applicative articles 54 through 62 of the latest version of the Guidelines issued by the 1999HP Committee.

Three thematic tables were set for a deeper and more specialised review of the materials available and several crucial inputs were given by participants to the workshop on a variety of issues at stake and they more precisely addressed:

1. Urban planning and protective measure for urban heritage



2. Reconciling national laws with the second protocol of the Hague Convention



3. Emergency measure for the protection of movable heritage



Check videos on: <http://www.warfreeheritage.net/2013/07/international-workshop-in-rome/>

Between those elements emerged some minor legislative upgrading resulted still necessary especially better specifying existing legislation.

The need for a firmer implementation of the urban regulatory policy was highlighted to match with the requirements set for the world heritage sites, especially as far as the impact caused by some latest urban development. An overall improvement of the state of heritage sites management is required despite concrete measures already undertaken by the concerned authorities indicate that a drive in that direction has been established both in Lebanon and Georgia.

(continued on page 4)

The workshop proved to be a very useful instrument for the advanced verification of the state of implementation of the project and especially to review the supporting materials and evidence that the project produced to support a dossier for the nomination of the world heritage sites of Byblos and Mtskheta to the status of enhanced protection to be submitted to the 1999 Second Protocol to the Hague Convention Committee.

The Georgian dossier reached an advanced level of preparation and it is estimated that its submission will be possible during the coming few months upon completion of a few additional inputs required from the competent national authorities.

A project sparked from a cooperation between Local Authorities in Lebanon and Georgia and Civil Society Organisations and NGOs, in a time of global economic hardship when most national institutions are challenged by budgetary restrictions posing severe limitations even to the daily heritage administration, War Free World Heritage Listed Cities represents an alternative approach to support the concerned national institutions with a bottom-up initiative that launches a message calling for international cooperation for the protection of heritage sites included within the world heritage list as a globally shared responsibility. This especially if they are exposed to extreme hazards connected both to natural and man-made disasters, including armed conflicts.

EU-LEBANON COOPERATION DAYS

Working together

Conference and Exhibition UNESCO Palace Beirut - March 18 & 19, 2013

In the framework of the relations between UE and Lebanon, strengthened after the entry into force of the Association Agreement in 2006, the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon decided to organize the 2nd EU-LEBANON COOPERATION DAYS, a two-day event, in order to discuss and share views on European programmes in Lebanon, including the CIUDAD EU funded project War Free Heritage Listed Cities (Byblos).

The conference and exhibition, that took place at the UNESCO Palace in Beirut on March 18 & 19 2013, was open by a vibrant speech addressed by Her Excellency Ambassador Angelina Eichhorst, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon, followed by a speech of his Excellency Minister Marwan Kheireddine and was concluded with a word of thanks by Mr. Yassin Jaber, member of the parliament and head of the parliament friendship committee for Lebanon and the EU cooperation.

The event pulled attracted in a very large and diverse crowd of politicians, economists, and representatives from public and private sectors; besides of a large exhibition highlighting 10 different sectors of EU-Lebanon cooperation, (human rights & governance, economic development, social development, decentralization & local development, infrastructure, natural resources & agriculture, peace reconciliation &

stability, culture & heritage, refugees, humanitarian aid), 8 interactive panel debates and video screenings on EU programmes were organized.

As such, draft dossiers for the enhanced protection of two urban heritage sites registered in the world heritage list are being completed based on Guidelines for the implementation of the 1999 Second Protocol to the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Among the displays, **“War Free Heritage Listed Cities (Byblos)”**, that received Her Excellency accompanied by ministers and parliament members, was composed of four informative display panels and encompassed visual representations ranging from the project vision, objectives and diverse activities towards promoting good governance in urban management through international civil military cooperation for world heritage sites at risk in order to apply for enhanced protection under UNESCO Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention.

The local project coordinator, Prof. Rachid Chamoun, presented and elaborated the project's immediate aims, distributed together with the project assistants over 1000 Brochures (in Arabic and English) and experienced valuable interactive discussion with a diverse and distinguished crowd, local, international and EU delegation and representatives that was composed of social, political and institutional, both from the private and public sectors.



Prof. Rachid Chamoun, presents the Project during the exhibition

“War Free Heritage Listed Cities (Byblos)”

moreover interactively participated in a panel discussion group on **“Saving Cultural Heritage”**, sharing views and project vision with the audience on a wide range of topics such as: accessibility to a cultural heritage under threat, preserving the intercultural exchange between communities in Lebanon, encouraging art as an expression of our cultural heritage, making use of cultural heritage for peace building, the war-affected buildings be protected as heritage and the protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in times of armed conflict.

Prof. Rachid Chamoun, Local Project Coordinator - Lebanon

One more step towards risk management

On the initiative of the Municipality of Mtskheta and with institutional support of the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia a meeting was held on July the 7th with the aim to establish Inter-agency Coordinating Board for Risk Management of Mtskheta World Heritage Sites.

The representatives of the Ministries of Defence, Interior and Justice participated to the meeting joined also by participants representing the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation and the Patriarchate of Georgia. The scope and composition of the prospective Inter-agency Board was discussed by the participants.



The Board objective shall be to promote and ensure the implementation of the provisions of the 1999 Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.



The board tasks shall be to take and implement the preventive measures for safeguarding of Mtskheta World Heritage Site in time of peace, to take relevant measures for safeguarding of Mtskheta World Heritage Site in the period of possible armed conflict and subsequently:

to coordinate preparation and periodically update the risk preparedness plan of Mtskheta World Heritage Site;

to plan and organize the training for the respective personnel;

to draft the legislative initiatives for enhancement of the safeguarding and safety of Mtskheta World Heritage Site;

to identify the concrete issues that may contradict the 1999 Second Protocol;

to carry out the monitoring of the existing safety measures and implement the respective protection measures at the Mtskheta World Heritage Site;

to plan and promote implementation of the educational and informational programs.

Nino Chanishvili, Local Project Coordinator-Georgia

Project calendar in pills

Forecast:

A Training will be held the first week of September in Mtskheta (Georgia) focusing on civil military cooperation for the implementation of the 1999 Second Protocol to the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1999HP).

Project final publications & dissemination activities to be released late this year.

Memory of the project and instrument for the dissemination of the 1999HP, a publication is under preparation within the War Free World Heritage Listed Cities framework and to be issued by the end of October

Success stories and failure collected during almost four years of international cooperation will be reviewed in the form of lessons learned with contributions from a pool of civil and military international experts of various disciplines who participated on a voluntary basis to the development of this project.