



UNESCO's actions in Libya

Dedicated webpage on initiatives and actions taken to combat illicit trafficking



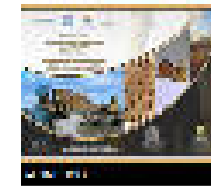
STATEMENTS & PRESS RELEASES



- 10 November 2014 - UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova is invited to inaugurate the opening of the new exhibition "The Heritage of the Mediterranean Sea" in the National Museum of the Louvre, Paris.
- 10 October 2014 - UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova is invited to inaugurate the opening of the new exhibition "The Heritage of the Mediterranean Sea" in the National Museum of the Louvre, Paris.
- 20 May 2014 - UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova is invited to inaugurate the opening of the new exhibition "The Heritage of the Mediterranean Sea" in the National Museum of the Louvre, Paris.
- 15 May 2014 - The Director-General Irina Bokova is invited to inaugurate the opening of the new exhibition "The Heritage of the Mediterranean Sea" in the National Museum of the Louvre, Paris.

www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/illicit-trafficking-of-cultural-property/emergency-actions/libya

UNESCO WORKSHOP FOR



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UNESCO first-aid and preventive conservation training,
Leptis Magna and Villa Silin, 6 June -4 July 2013



April 2013

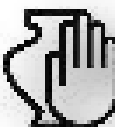
- Introductory workshop on Prevention and Fight against Illicit Trafficking of Libyan Cultural Property (Tripoli)

September 2013

- Training workshop for the Libyan Police on the prevention and fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property (Sabratha)

November 2013

- Training workshop for the Libyan Police on the prevention and fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property (Shahat)



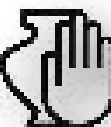
June 2013

- Restitution of 2 statues

In March 2013, two statue heads from the classical museum of the archaeological site of Sabratha, inscribed on the World Heritage List (1982), were looted and the statues damaged.

On 7 June 2013, the police in coordination with the 1st Infantry Battalion Libya Shield arrested a network of smugglers indicted in the robbery of two heads of statues from the Sabratha Museum.

On this occasion, the Minister of Culture, the Chairperson of the Local Council of Sabratha and the UNESCO Representative in Libya awarded the 25 former freedom fighters and civil society members, who successfully contributed to seize the smugglers and returned the stolen artifacts to the museum.



**January-February 2014:
Training in preventive
conservation of archival
records, introduction to
records management,
Tripoli, Red Castle**

40 staff from the archives, cartographic and photographic units of various territorial offices of the Department of Antiquities of Libya (Benghazi, Sabratha, Leptis Magna, Shahat, Tobruk, Tripoli), as well as from the Centre for Historic Studies and National Archives in Tripoli, were trained in preventive conservation and management of archival records.



The course aimed at gaining physical control over the rich archival holdings (including drawings, photographs, maps and plans, reports, etc.) hosted at the Department of Antiquities, by introducing principles for properly storing, handling and maintaining collections and for making them available for consultation to researchers and the general public. It further aimed at establishing effective networking with other ³⁵relevant national and international institutions

October 2014

- Deliberate destructions, Mezaran Mosque, Tripoli





November 2014

- UNESCO Director-general alerted neighbouring countries on the risk of increased illicit export of Libyan cultural property
- DoA started evacuation of collections, and precious apparatus from Gurji Mosque, Old Town of Tripoli

Libya



UNESCO Technical Round Tables to strengthening security at Museums and World Heritage Sites in Libya, Tunis, 27 – 29 April 2015

In the context of the serious challenges the country faces at present, and the increased threats posed by the emergency of terrorism groups as operational entities in Libya, a 3-day round table was organized with DoA, on urgent measures to strengthen protection & security at museums/warehouses, as well as at World Heritage Sites

Libya

June 2015: 2 training courses for inspectorates of DoA, in addition to civil protection, Red Cross, Red Crescent and crisis management at selected municipalities:

1. Preventive measures to protect museums and sites, antiterrorism techniques and procedures (mail bomb attacks, telephone bomb call, explosion effects – how to carry on a search for a suspect Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), etc.
2. Preventive Conservation and Risk preparedness for Cultural Heritage, with special reference to Rapid Documentation, Risk Mitigation and museum evacuation



UNESCO's actions in Syria



Aleppo, House Abu Al-Huda Al-Sayyadi

Context - Emergency actions



Artefacts from Palmyra



Apamea – illegal excavations





Aleppo, Science Museum

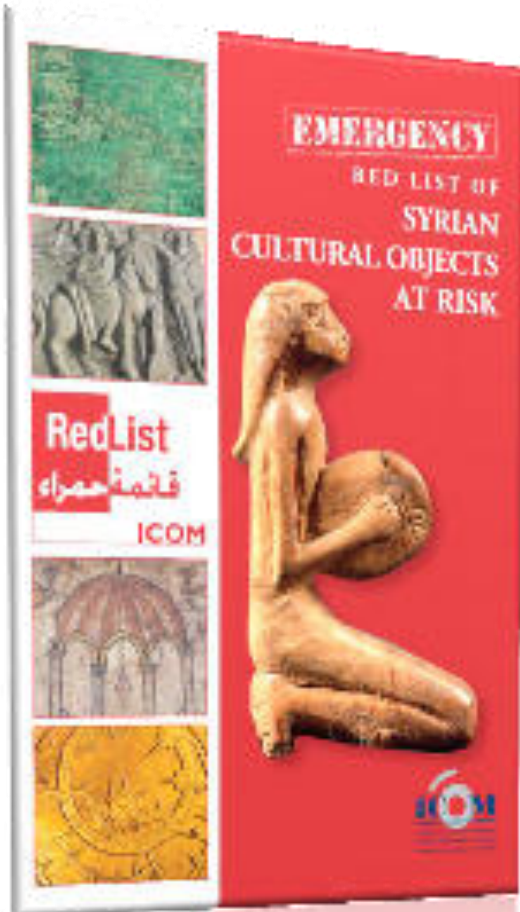
10-13 February 2013, Amman (Jordan)

- **Emergency regional training workshop to raise awareness on the protection of the movable cultural heritage in Syria**
- International cultural heritage experts, as well as representatives from Syria and neighbouring countries (Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan and Turkey) discussed and developed an emergency strategy to address the issue of illicit trafficking of Syrian cultural property
- Representatives of FEDPOL, ICA, ICCROM, ICOM, ICOMOS, IFLA, INTERPOL, UNIDROIT, WCO-RILO as well as specialized police (Carabinieri and OCBC) and international auction houses (Christies and Sotheby's) participated in the workshop





<https://en.unesco.org/syrian-observatory>



Visibility given to the ICOM Emergency Red List of Syrian Cultural Objects at Risk

- The UNESCO's Director-General joined the President of ICOM to launch this Red List in September 2013
- In order to show UNESCO's support to this project



February 2013, Amman (Jordan)

- ‘National Workshop on the Fight against Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property’

Organized in the wake of a meeting hosted by UNESCO on the strategy to fight the illicit trafficking of cultural property, held in Amman, Jordan, 10-13 February 2013.

A broad range of actors were present including national authorities, as well as members of INTERPOL National Liaison Office in Damascus and local community organizations.

Scholars, artists and local citizens were also invited to participate



EU-UNESCO: Emergency Safeguarding of the Syrian Heritage project

Under the funding of the European Union, and in collaboration with UNESCO and other strategic partners, the project was officially launched on 1 March 2014 for three years



Global objective

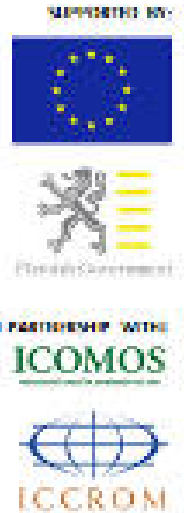
To contribute to restoring social cohesion, stability and sustainable development through the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage.

In particular...

the project is a first step to monitor the on-going destruction and loss of cultural heritage, mitigate its destruction and loss, and prepare the post-conflict priority actions, as well as the medium and long term actions, as a means to restore normalcy and social cohesion.

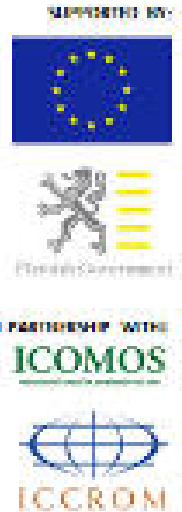
26 – 28 May 2014 – International Expert Meeting:
“Rallying the international community to safeguard Syria's cultural heritage”

- Objectives:
 - Share information
 - Devise policies
 - Improve international cooperation during and after the conflict
- Participation:
 - More than 120 international experts from 22 countries, including representatives of Syrian NGOs, archaeologists, UNESCO institutional partners, and major auction houses



Within the framework of the EU-funded Emergency Safeguarding of the Syrian Heritage project, three workshops were delivered in Beirut, Lebanon

- **Workshop to fight against illicit trafficking of cultural heritage** (10 – 14 November 2014)
 - 35 police and customs officers were trained on the use of existing tools to combat illicit trafficking of cultural property
- **Training to protect movable heritage during and after the conflict and protect the museums from looting”** (26 – 30 January 2015)
 - Targeted at heritage professionals responsible for the protection of museum collections, manuscripts, archives and books
- **“Meeting on improving inventories of built, movable and intangible cultural heritage”** (16 - 18 February 2015)
 - More than 20 Syrian and international experts specialized in inventories and documentation participated in the meeting



UNESCO's actions in Iraq



Information regularly updated on the Secretariat's webpage on emergency actions in Iraq

www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/licit-trafficking-of-cultural-property/emergency-actions/iraq

The screenshot shows a webpage titled "Licit Trafficking of Cultural Property in Iraq". The page is organized into several columns and sections. At the top, there are logos for UNESCO and the Secretariat, along with the title. Below the title, there are three main columns of content. The left column features a photo of a woman and a list of news items. The middle column contains a large text block with a sub-heading "The Impact and Culture of Illicit Trafficking in Iraq" and a small image of a globe. The right column includes a section titled "UNEP/WHO/UNESCO" with a logo, a video player, and a photo of a person. At the bottom, there is a section for "UNEP/WHO/UNESCO" with a list of news items. The page is designed with a clean, professional layout, using blue and white colors.

Some Highlights

- 7 March 2015 "Destruction of Hatra marks a turning point in the cultural cleansing underway in Iraq" (Heads of UNESCO and ISESCO)
- 6 March 2015 The DG discusses with the UN Secretary-General the destruction of cultural heritage in Iraq
- 6 March 2015 D-G condemns destruction of Nimrud in Iraq
- 28 Feb 2015 D-G welcomes UNSC statement on destruction of Mosul Museum
UN Security Council Statement
- 26 Feb 2015 Director-General requests UN Security Council meeting on destruction of heritage in Mosul
- 12 Feb 2015 UNESCO Director-General welcomes UN Security Council Resolution to step up protection of cultural heritage in Syria and Iraq
- 3 Dec 2014 UNESCO Conference calls for protected cultural zones to be established Syria and Iraq (HQ)
- 2 Nov 2014 Irina Bokova visits Baghdad and Erbil
- 27 Oct 2014 Irina Bokova condemns the destruction of the Iman Dur Shrine in Iraq
- 22 Sept 2014 State Secretary Kerry and DG Bokova Call for End to Cultural Destruction in Iraq and Syria⁴

July 2014

A consultation meeting was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 17 July to develop an Emergency Response Action Plan to safeguard Iraq's rich and diverse cultural heritage.



The Plan is intended to secure the cooperation of all stakeholders, including national and international organizations, humanitarian relief workers in the field, art dealers, international museums and law enforcement authorities, in safeguarding Iraq's heritage.

2 November 2014

UNESCO Director-General visited Baghdad and Erbil to stand alongside the people of Iraq in the face of attacks on minority groups and against the country's cultural and religious heritage



Joint initiatives in protecting Syrian and Iraqi Cultural Heritage



Regular public declarations and statements by the UNESCO Director-General

17 June 2014

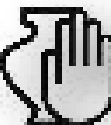
- The Director-General of UNESCO Irina Bokova calls on Iraqis to stand united around their cultural heritage

28 July 2014

- UNESCO Director-General calls for halt to intentional destruction of religious and cultural heritage in Iraq

8 August 2014

- Irina Bokova calls for the immediate protection of the cultural diversity of Iraq



- 3 December 2014 – **Heritage and Cultural Diversity at Risk in Iraq and Syria**
- More than 500 decision-makers, experts and representatives from Syria and Iraq were present
- **Objective**
 - Sensitize decision-makers, humanitarian aid workers and cultural heritage professionals on the critical role of culture within conflicts



- * The **November 2014 Report (S/2014/815)** of the **Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team** made reference to how terrorist groups were generating income via illicit trafficking of cultural property
- * **Terrorist groups** encourage looting and plundering; and **levy ‘taxes’ on the looters as a source of revenue**
- * Resulted in the **adoption of the UN Security Council Resolution 2199**



United Nations

S/RES/2199 (2015)



Security Council

Distr.: General
12 February 2015

Resolution 2199 (2015)

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 7379th meeting, on
12 February 2015**

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming that terrorism in all forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever and by whomsoever committed,

Reaffirming the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including applicable international

Cultural Heritage

15. *Condemns* the destruction of cultural heritage in Iraq and Syria particularly by ISIL and ANF, whether such destruction is incidental or deliberate, including targeted destruction of religious sites and objects;

16. *Notes with concern* that ISIL, ANF and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, are generating 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;

17. *Reaffirms* its decision in paragraph 7 of resolution 1483 (2003) and *decides* that **all Member States shall take appropriate steps to prevent the trade in Iraqi and Syrian cultural property and other items of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific, and religious importance illegally removed from Iraq since 6 August 1990 and from Syria since 15 March 2011, including by prohibiting cross-border trade in such items**, thereby allowing for their eventual safe return to the Iraqi and Syrian people and *calls upon* the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, Interpol, and other international organizations, as appropriate, to assist in the implementation** of this paragraph;

Follow-up and Monitoring

- Calls upon Member States to report to within 120 days on steps taken to comply with the measures imposed in UN Security Council Resolution 2199
- Member States are requested (letters sent by UNESCO on 5 March 2015) to provide information to UNESCO on measures taken in relation to cultural protection within this timeframe
- The UN Security Council Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team will provide a report within 150 days



- * **High Level Meeting** at UNESCO Headquarters on **1 April 2015**

- * To strengthen coordination mechanisms and map out the effective implementation of **UNRES 2199** with a view to improved safeguarding of Iraqi and Syrian Cultural Heritage



- * UNESCO partners participating in the meeting included: the UN **Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team of the UN Security Council, NTERPOL, UNODC, WCO, UNIDROIT, ICCROM, ICOMOS, ICOM, IFLA.**

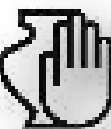
* **Outcomes:**

- * A timeline and roadmap was developed focused on coordination mechanisms for information sharing and joint actions
- * Establishment of a network of focal points to facilitate information exchange
- * Discussion on a set of proposed guidelines for States to take effect national measures for the implementation of UN Resolution 2199



1970 Convention: Article 9

- * Any State to the Convention whose cultural patrimony is in jeopardy from **pillage of archaeological or ethnological materials** may call upon other States Parties who are affected;
- * The State Parties undertake, in this circumstances, to participate in a concerted international effort to determine and to carry out the necessary concrete measures, including the control of exports and imports and international commerce in the specific materials concerned.



The 1970 Convention



Article 13

The Parties to the Convention are required to have their police forces and other competent authorities cooperate to ensure speedy return and restitution of trafficked items

Article 15

The Parties can conclude special agreements among themselves or continue to implement agreements already concluded regarding the restitution of cultural property removed from its territory of origin before the entry into force of this Convention