



PROTECTING AND PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE

How Agreements are Formed Through the CCPIA

STEP 1



REQUEST

UNDER ARTICLE 9 OF 1970 UNESCO CONVENTION

State Parties whose cultural heritage is in jeopardy from pillage may submit a request to the United States seeking import restrictions on archaeological and/or ethnological materials. Notification of requests to the State Department are published in the Federal Register.

STEP 2



DETERMINATIONS

FROM RECOMMENDATION TO DECISION

The State Department asks the Cultural Property Advisory Committee to review a request based on four criteria—known as determinations—set forth in the CCPIA. The Committee then submits its recommendation to the State Department, which makes the ultimate decision to enter into or extend an agreement.

STEP 3



AGREEMENT

BY SIGNATURE OR EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES

If a favorable decision is made by the Department, terms are negotiated and the agreement is signed by both governments. Agreements are valid for five years at which point they can be extended through the CCPIA process and an exchange of diplomatic notes.

STEP 4



IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ETHNOLOGICAL MATERIAL

Promulgated and enforced by other federal agencies (CBP and ICE), import restrictions are effective from the date of the agreement and not retroactive. A designated list of restricted objects is published in the Federal Register, the official notification, and on the State Department website.