

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
CONCERNING THE IMPOSITION OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS
ON CATEGORIES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ETHNOLOGICAL
MATERIAL OF TURKEY

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Turkey;

Acting pursuant to the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, to which both countries are States party; and

Noting the respect the Government of the United States of America has for Turkey's cultural heritage, including materials from the Independence War that led to the establishment of the Republic of Turkey, and materials that belonged to Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, founder of the Turkish Republic; and

Desiring to reduce the incentive for pillage of irreplaceable archaeological and ethnological material representing Turkey's cultural heritage;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

1. The Government of the United States of America shall, in accordance with its legislation, including the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act, restrict the importation into the United States of certain archaeological material, which includes objects in stone, metal, ceramic, plaster and stucco, painting, glass, wood, textile, and other organic material ranging in date from 1,200,000 BC to AD 1770 and certain ethnological material, which includes objects in stone, metal, ceramic, painting, glass, wood, textile, leather and parchment, and other organic material ranging in date from the 1st century AD to 1923 identified in the list to be promulgated by the Government of the United States of America (hereinafter referred to as the Designated List), unless the Government of the Republic of Turkey issues a license which certifies that such exportation was not in violation of its laws.

2. The Government of the United States of America shall offer for return to the Government of the Republic of Turkey any object or material on the Designated List forfeited to the Government of the United States of America.
3. Such import restrictions shall become effective on the date the Designated List is published in the U.S. Federal Register, the official United States Government publication providing fair public notice.

ARTICLE II

1. Both Governments shall publicize this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the reasons for it.
2. The Government of the Republic of Turkey shall continue to use its best efforts to maintain and share with the Government of the United States of America information about unauthorized excavations, thefts of cultural property, trafficking of cultural property, and other threats that jeopardize its cultural patrimony.
3. The Government of the Republic of Turkey shall continue to use its best efforts to take steps consistent with the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property to protect its cultural patrimony. To assist in these efforts, the Government of the United States of America shall use its best efforts to facilitate technical assistance to the Government of the Republic of Turkey as appropriate under available programs in the public and/or private sectors.
4. The Government of the Republic of Turkey shall continue to use its best efforts to engage other countries having a significant import trade in archaeological and ethnological material from Turkey to deter a serious situation of pillage of cultural property.
5. Each Government shall use best efforts to encourage interchange of archaeological and ethnological materials for cultural, educational, and scientific purposes, including long-term loans of such materials to promote widespread public appreciation of and access to Turkey's rich cultural heritage.
6. Each Government shall continue to endeavor to keep the other informed of the measures taken to implement this MOU.

ARTICLE III

The obligations of both Governments and the activities carried out under this MOU shall be subject to their respective laws and regulations, including those with respect to the availability of appropriated funds.

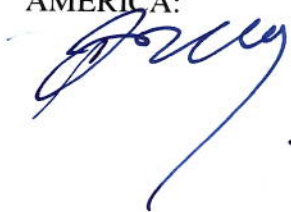
ARTICLE IV

1. This MOU shall enter into force on the date of the later note in an exchange of notes in which the Governments have notified each other of the completion of the internal procedures necessary for that purpose. This MOU shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years, unless extended.
2. This MOU may be extended and/or amended only by mutual written consent. Any extension and/or amendment of this MOU shall enter into force pursuant to the procedures described in paragraph 1 of this Article.
3. The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Turkey shall review the effectiveness of this MOU before the expiration of the five (5)-year period in order to determine whether this MOU should be extended.
4. Either Government may notify the other, in writing through diplomatic channels, of its intention to terminate this MOU prior to its date of expiry. In such a case the termination shall come into effect six (6) months after the date of notification.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed the present MOU.

DONE at Ankara, this 19th of January 2021, in duplicate, in the English and Turkish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA:



FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY:

