

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM OF UKRAINE
ON THE COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PROTECTION OF CULTURAL
HERITAGE**

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Ukraine, hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties,

Confirming the wish to ensure the protection of cultural heritage of both States,

Attaching considerable significance to the development of cooperation in the field of the protection of cultural heritage,

Confirming the necessity and importance of bringing cultural valuables back to the cultural and scientific life,

Acknowledging the existence of historical links between the cultural heritage of the Republic of Lithuania and Ukraine and the fact that it forms a significant share of the cultural heritage of the entire Europe,

Considering that the protection of cultural heritage, being of great significance to the entire cultural identity of Europe, should not depend on political conjuncture,

Aiming at discovering and assessing the state of cultural heritage objects related to common history and culture in the territories of the States of both Contracting Parties,

Wishing to prevent illicit import and export of movable cultural valuables,

Being convinced that cooperation in this field would contribute to the preservation of the cultural heritage of the entire Europe,

In accordance with the Agreement on the Cooperation between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania and the Ministry of Culture and Art of Ukraine, of April 23, 2001, Vilnius,

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall account, research and protect immovable cultural heritage objects and movable cultural valuables related to common history and culture of both States in accordance with legislative acts valid in a respective State.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall exchange information on protection of immovable cultural heritage objects and movable cultural valuables related to common history and culture of their States that are located in the territories of their States as well as documents, publications, information and specialists necessary to ensure knowledge related to and protection of the cultural heritage of both States.

Article 3

Having concluded and agreed on the lists of immovable cultural valuables located in the territories of their States and related to common history and culture of the States, the Contracting Parties shall cooperate in research and restoration of those valuables. To carry out the above mentioned work, organisations or experts of the third countries may be involved.

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall within their competence cooperate in the solution of issues related to the return of cultural valuables illicitly exported from the territories of their States.

Article 5

The Contracting Parties shall cooperate in the field of protection of cultural heritage by concluding groups of cultural heritage experts. The number of experts in the group shall be set forth by the Contracting Parties in a joint protocol on the grounds of parity. The task of the groups of cultural heritage experts shall cover preparation of and discussions related to the lists mentioned in Article 3 of this Agreement and discussions related to the inventory methods of objects put on the lists of each Contracting Party as well as of their research results.

Article 6

The expenditure of the groups of cultural heritage experts shall be covered and proportioned by the agreement of the Contracting Parties.

Article 7

The Contracting Parties shall at least biannually assess results of the completed work and discuss the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall also undertake to maintain favourable conditions for specialists and experts of the protection of cultural heritage to share experience in the field of knowledge related to and protection of cultural heritage, arrange and share information on international conferences, and participate in joint international programmes and projects.

Article 9

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signing.

This Agreement shall be valid for the period of five years and it shall be automatically extended every five years.

This Agreement may be amended subject to a written agreement of the Contracting Parties. Any amendments of the Agreement shall enter into force following the same procedure as the one applied for entering into force of this Agreement.

Any issues or disputes related to the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be solved by mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties.

Concluded in Kyiv on 26 November 2009 in two copies in Lithuanian, Ukrainian and English languages. All texts are equally authentic.

In case of difference in interpretation of this Agreement, the English text shall prevail.

On behalf of
the Ministry of Culture of
the Republic of Lithuania



On behalf of
the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of
Ukraine

