

## **PROVISIONS REGARDING THE REGISTRATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Act No. 25197**

**Cultural heritage. Centralization of the recording of data on national cultural property. Cultural, historical and artistic property. Single Registry of Cultural Property. Appointment of the National Secretariat for Culture as the enforcement authority for this act.**

**Adopted on 10 November 1999**

**Promulgated on 9 December 1999**

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of Argentina, in Congress assembled,

### **PROVISIONS REGARDING THE REGISTRATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE**

#### **TITLE I**

##### **Cultural Heritage**

**SECTION 1** — This act aims at centralizing the recording of data on national cultural property, in the framework of a system for collective protection, identification and registration of heritage under the National Registry of Cultural Property.

**SECTION 2** — For the purposes of this act, “cultural property” means all the objects, beings and sites making up or reflecting human creation and the evolution of nature that have exceptional archaeological, historical, artistic, scientific or technical value. Such property shall constitute the national cultural heritage.

“Cultural, historical and artistic objects” means all the works by man or by man and nature together that are irreplaceable and whose peculiarity, uniqueness, singularity and/or age make them invaluable in national or international terms from the historical, ethnological or anthropological point of view, as well as the architectural and archaeological works, sculptures and paintings.

Therefore, “cultural, historical and artistic property” means property belonging to the following categories:

- (1) Products of land, underwater, archaeological and paleontological explorations and excavations;
- (2) Any kind of instruments, pottery, inscriptions, coins, seals, jewelry, weapons and funerary objects;
- (3) Elements forming a part of historical monuments which have been dismembered;
- (4) Material of anthropological and ethnological interest;

(5) Property relating to history, including the history of science and technology and military, political, cultural and social history, to the life of the peoples, national leaders, thinkers, scientists and artist of national importance;

(6) Immovable property listed as national architectural heritage;

(7) Property of artistic interest, such as:

—Pictures and drawings produced on any support and in any material;

—Original engravings, prints, lithographs, serigraphs, posters and photographs;

—Original artistic assemblages and montages in any material;

—Works of art and crafts;

—Works of statuary art;

—Rare manuscripts and incunabula, codices, books, documents, and publications of special interest, singly or in collections;

—Objects of numismatic or philatelic interest;

—Archives, including collections of texts, maps and other cartographic, photographic, cinematographic, video, sound and similar material;

—Articles of furniture, musical instruments, tapestries, carpets and costumes.

**SECTION 3** — The enforcement authority for this act shall be the National Secretariat for Culture.

**SECTION 4** — In compliance with this act, the National Secretariat for Culture shall be responsible for:

(1) Surveying national cultural property in the public domain, according to the procedure established herein;

(2) Cataloguing the cultural property of the agencies that do not do so specifically;

(3) Identifying the cultural property covered by the Single Registry;

(4) Creating a data and image bank of national cultural property;

(5) Arranging, together with the provincial governments and the government of the City of Buenos Aires, the implementation of a single registry network;

(6) Supervising the property comprising the national historical and cultural heritage.

## TITLE II

## Single Registry of Cultural Property

**SECTION 5** — The computer-based registry mentioned in Section 4 (4) herein shall include a detailed description of each item with the following characteristics: title, author, date, technique, material, measurements, description, references, bibliography, place of origin, additions and deletions, state of preservation, location, agency in charge, legal status and economic value, and a photograph shall be annexed.

**SECTION 6** — Museums and all national public bodies that have been loaned works of art shall report to the National Secretariat for Culture the data on their artistic historical property, so as to establish a thorough inventory in the framework of a computerized system.

**SECTION 7** — The National Secretariat for Culture shall audit the existence and state of preservation of cultural property in all the agencies reporting to it, whether the registration data has or has not been received.

**SECTION 8** — All these data shall be available to the public, except for data related to the property's legal status and economic value, which shall be made available with the enforcement authority's prior consent.

**SECTION 9** — The necessary funds for the operation of the system hereby created shall be allocated by the National Secretariat for Culture from its own budget.

**SECTION 10** — The enforcement authority shall keep a record of any transfer of ownership of registered property.

**SECTION 11** — This act shall be implemented within 120 days from its date of promulgation.

**SECTION 12** — All provincial governments and the government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires are hereby invited to endorse these provisions.

**SECTION 13** — Be it notified to the National Executive.

DONE IN THE CHAMBER OF THE ARGENTINE CONGRESS, IN BUENOS AIRES, ON THE TENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER OF NINETEEN NINETY NINE.

—RECORDED UNDER No. 25197—

ALBERTO R. PIERRI.— EDUARDO MENEM.— Esther H. Pereyra Arandía de Pérez Pardo.— Juan C. Oyazún.

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*Yo, María Marta Semberoiz, Traductora Pública, por la presente HAGO CONSTAR que la que antecede es traducción fiel y completa al inglés del documento en castellano que tengo ante mí y al cual me remito. EN FE DE LO CUAL estampo mi firma y sello en la ciudad de Buenos Aires, a los 27 días del mes de junio de 2007.-----*

