

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

LAW PROPOSAL

PRESENTED BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

(FANFANI)

JOINTLY WITH THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(GONELLA)

WITH THE MINISTER OF BUDGET

(MEDICI)

WITH THE MINISTER OF THE TREASURY

(ANDREOTTI)

WITH THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

(PRETI)

WITH THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(MORO)

AND WITH THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE

(COLOMBO)

Adhesion to the Statute of the International Centre of Studies for the conservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, adopted in New Delhi by the General Conference of 'U.N.E.S.C.O. in its ninth session, ratification of the Agreement between Italy and U.N.E.S.C.O. regulating the establishment and legal status of the aforementioned Centre on Italian territory, concluded in Paris on 27 April 1957 and implementation of the Statute and the aforesaid Agreement

Presented at the Presidency November 8, 1958

HONORABLE COLLEAGUES! — With this bill we propose the establishment in Italy of the International Study Centre for the conservation and restoration of cultural property promoted by U. N. E. S. C. O., and the membership of our country to the Statute of the Centre.

The choice of Italy as the venue of an international institution, of so strong

cultural relevance, while represents, on the ground of the facts, the more explicit recognition of the completeness of the whole of the Italian institutions dealing with restoration and study of the art materials, and high capacity of the Italian specialists in this field, is the culmination of a long action of the relevant bodies aimed at putting in value internationally,

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and more specifically within U.N.E.S.C.O., the elements that make our country the most appropriate to host such a body.

Since the fifth session of the General Conference of U.N.E.S.C.O. it was outlined the need of creating an international central entity susceptible to advise and assist the Member States in the conservation and restoration of their monuments, works of art, museum objects, historical and scientific collections and other cultural goods. In practice, it was to set up a body to which, besides the general tasks of study and research, individual countries could appeal for advice and guidance, even special asylum cases restoration and prevention measures, that, after suitable examination on site, or in the same body, this could indicate what interventions were necessary and which specialists outsource.

In its seventh session of 1952, the General Conference authorized the Director General to study in collaboration with the International Council of Museums and the International Committee on Monuments (I.C.O.M.) the practical possibility of establishing such an entity. It was immediately clear that as far as the site of the future Centre, the simplest and cheapest solution would be to connect the new organization to an existing national institution. Having identified the issue, the choice was reduced to a few cities. Finally Brussels and Rome remained in competition, the first for the existence of the Central Laboratory of the museums of Belgium, the second for the National Central Institute of Restoration. Both institutions which, for their size and scientific level, turned out to be the only suitable to support for a international body such as the planned Centre.

The two Governments were then invited to make concrete proposals about the possibility of creating the Centre in their national institutions. This was the decisive step for the allocation of the seat, and it was at this stage that all necessary steps were made to properly highlight the high value of our Central Institute, as well as to assert the existence in Italy of a complex of other scientific institutions that could offer timely collaboration. These institutions are: the Institute of the Book of Rome disease, the central fire fighting School of Rome, the Opificio delle Pietre Dure in Florence, the Art Institute for Ceramics in Faenza, the mosaic school

in Ravenna. In addition they were specified the facilities which, besides the performance of these institutions, the Italian Government could offer to the Centre.

At the conclusion of the action carried out by our competent bodies, the Executive Council at its September 1955 session, he opted for the Italian headquarters and since then began among the representatives of U.N.E.S.C.O. and those of the Italian government for a joint work that led to the drafting of the draft statutes of the body and forming a U.N.E.S.C.O.- Italian agreement for its establishment in Rome.

The General Conference of U.N.E.S.C.O., in the ninth session held in New Delhi in 1956, sanctioned what already approved, and authorized the Director General to conclude with the Italian Government the special agreement mentioned above. In April 1957, the document was signed in Paris by our Foreign Minister and the Director General of U.N.E.S.C.O.

While the Agreement shall enter into force upon ratification Italy (Agreement, Article 13), the Centre formally began his life with the participation of 5 States (Statute, Article 15). In agreeing, Member States undertake to contribute to the costs of the Centre in an amount to be specified in the future by the General Assembly of the participating States, but that for the first two years, is fixed (Statute, Article 12) to 1 percent of the contribution of those Member to UNESCO for 1957. For Italy this membership fee then it amounts to about 1,500,000 lire. The U.N.E.S.C.O., for its part, will pay to the Centre a contribution for each of the first four years, which will not be less than \$ 12,000 (Statute, Article 12).

In the management of the Centre, Italy is ensured a constant presence through the statutory participation in the Council by a representative of the Government and the central national director of the restoration (Statute, Article 12). As for the facilities granted by Italy and sanctioned by the Agreement, the most important is the assistance provided free of charge by the Italian specialized institutes for carrying out investigations and special investigations. National Central Institute of Restoration, of course, will be reserved, with the honor, the burden of far greater and more continuous operational performance. It is,

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however, to be emphasized that the costs resulting from prolonged research or requiring the use of rare and expensive materials, as well as the movement of personnel, will be refunded to our Institutes. (Agreement, Article 4).

The Italian Government is also committed to providing the essential premises, which must be in the immediate vicinity of our restoration institute, to provide for normal maintenance, etc. (Agreement, Article 2). We shall provide free to the Centre the administrative staff necessary, whose salary paid by the Italian Government will be complemented by an equal contribution of the Centre.

Other exemptions of fiscal, customs, and legal nature, are designed to ensure, according to international practice, the independence of the Centre in carrying out its duties.

As for the benefits arising from the presence in Italy of the Centre concerned, next to the great prestige that comes down to our studies, our students and our institutions of such recognition, with which it is to consecrate themselves in a

lasting scientific and technical leadership, it must put the mind to the movement of the experts and the work that the Centre and the countries that will require his intervention will also be able to rely on private Italian. Should be remembered that the field of art, especially of ancient art, more subject to the care of the Centre, reconnecting large financial movements; the creation of such a Centre, even if qualified, involves somehow gravitation around an environment and the call of a complex of concrete interests also. These effects, of course, are destined to always phi noted significant progress in the years with a development that even now promises with ease.

The already successful accession of nine States members of UNESCO, such as Austria, Spain, Morocco, the Dominican Republic, Poland, Israel, Lebanon, Jordan and Ceylon, and the others that are ahead with certainty, are the best proof of the compliance of the Centre to a need internationally felt, and makes the adhesion and the ratification with UNESCO extremely urgent, in order to give this institution real life.

LAW PROPOSAL

ART. 1

The President of the Republic is authorized:

- - to accede to the Statute of the International Centre of Studies for the conservation and restoration of cultural heritage it adopted in New Delhi, 5 December 1956 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in its ninth session;

- - to ratify the Agreement between Italy and UNESCO regulating the establishment and legal status of the "International Centre of studies for the conservation and restoration of property cultural 'on Italian territory, concluded in Paris April 27, 1957.

ART. 2.

Full and complete implementation is given to the Statute and the Agreement referred to in Article pre-transferor as from their respective entry into force in conformity, Article 2 of the Statute and Article 13 of the Agreement.

ART. 3.

The cost of enforcing this Act and the Italian participation in the International Centre of studies for the conservation and restoration of cultural property, expected for the 1958-59 financial year, at 1,500,000 lire, it shall be borne the allocation of the chapter No. 32 of the estimates of expenditure of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for that fiscal year and the corresponding chapters for future years.

The Minister for the Treasury is authorized to issue, by decree, the necessary budgetary changes.