

SAMPLE RESOLUTION 2

Submitter: Cyprus

Question of revisionism concerning historical monuments

THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE,

Reminding that the preservation of historical monuments plays a cultural role, since the architectural monuments stand testimony to our evolution and are a symbol of our past and heritage, making us unique in the world,

Underlining the economic importance of maintaining historical monuments since they are great attractors of tourists who can provide locals with jobs and extra income

Acknowledging that restoration works require more skills and knowledge than simple building and, thus, result in higher salaries, contributing to boosting the economy,

Emphasizing that maintaining historical monuments is environmentally friendly since reservation and restoration is the ultimate form of recycling because it helps reduce construction waste and save the energy that is usually spent on manufacturing and transporting building materials and tools,

Bearing the Resolution 2347, adopted on 24 March 2017 which condemns unlawful destruction and pillaging of cultural heritage such as religious sites and artifacts,

Declaring that wanton vandalism is part of a cycle of theft and profit that finances the activities of terrorists, who are fully aware that by destroying cultural artifacts, buildings and monuments, they can divide people, erase their common values, and create greater fragility and vulnerability,

1. Supports UNESCO, INTERPOL, UNODC, WCO and other relevant organizations to continue helping Member States evaluate the damage and protect their priceless cultural heritage in order to serve their role as symbols of unity and peace;

2. Encourages volunteer groups from each Member State areas to be established which will:
 - a) research and nominate buildings for landmark designation;
 - b) create a website in order to raise awareness, generate publicity and explain to a wider audience why these types of places are significant and worthy of protection;
 - c) Host tours and other special events which will encourage those interested in mid-century architecture to connect with like-minded people. There could be also included:
 - i. fundraising events
 - ii. special exhibitions featuring the architecture and modern heritage of each Member State;

3. Recommends that state and municipal historic preservation officers, local planning agency staff, and preservation commission members be educated about the importance of maintaining our historical monuments;

4. Calls upon identification and research from experts to decide which historical monuments merit protection, which will not be limited to:
 - a) establishing historic context;
 - b) educating and involving the community;
 - c) identifying areas for future research;

5. Proclaims educational programs to be hosted by experts in order to:
 - a) help teach participants the basics of historic preservation;
 - b) give them an overview of the history of post-war architecture
 - c) offer tips on how to identify threats or problems;

6. Deplores and condemns the illegal destruction of cultural heritage, including the smuggling of cultural works from places such as archaeological sites, museums and libraries, as well as the looting of religious sites and objects during armed conflicts, particularly by terrorist and extremist groups.

7. Urges the Member States to implement effective national measures, both at legislative and operational level, to prevent the trafficking of cultural goods and related crimes, including the identification of activities that can benefit organized criminal or terrorist groups;