

No. 16343

**FRANCE
and
MONACO**

Agreement concerning the protection of the historical and cultural heritage of the two countries (with exchange of letters). Signed at Monaco on 1 August 1977

Authentic text: French.

Registered by France on 31 January 1978.

**FRANCE
et
MONACO**

Accord concernant la protection des patrimoines historiques ou culturels des deux pays (avec échange de lettres). Signé à Monaco le 1^{er} août 1977

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistré par la France le 31 janvier 1978.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF H.S.H. THE PRINCE OF MONACO CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of H.S.H. the Prince of Monaco,

Bearing in mind the special bonds of a common language and culture between their two countries,

Being of the view that it would be desirable for both Parties to add to their respective historical and cultural heritages by purchasing at public sales movable objects of national historical or artistic significance,

Have resolved to conclude this Agreement and have for that purpose agreed as follows:

Article 1. At any public sale of works of art held either in the territory of Monaco or in the territory of France, a right of pre-emption may be exercised either by the Government of H.S.H. the Prince, or by the Government of the French Republic, depending on whether the object put up for sale belongs to the historical or cultural heritage of one or the other Party.

Curios, antiques, antiquarian books, collectors' items, paintings, watercolours, pastels, drawings, original sculptures and old tapestries shall be considered works of art under this article.

Article 2. The judicial official responsible for the public sale of works coming within the purview of the preceding article shall notify the competent authorities of both countries of the sale at the earliest opportunity and, if possible, at least 15 days in advance.

When either of the two Authorities intends to reserve the option to exercise the right of pre-emption, it shall, through its representative, so inform the judicial official immediately after the sale of the work concerned has been announced. This shall be reported in the record of the sale.

The decision to pre-empt shall subsequently be confirmed within a period of 15 days.

Any disagreement as to whether the work belongs to the heritage of France or to that of Monaco shall be settled by negotiation between the two Governments.

Article 3. This Agreement shall be approved in accordance with the constitutional provisions in force in each of the two countries. It shall enter into force on the first day of the month following mutual notification by the two Parties to the effect that those provisions have been fulfilled.

¹ Came into force on 1 October 1977, i.e., the first day of the month that followed the month during which the Parties informed each other (on 30 August and 6 September 1977) that it had been approved in conformity with the provisions of their constitutions, in accordance with article 3.

It shall remain in force until terminated by one of the Contracting Parties with prior notice of six months.

DONE at Monaco, in duplicate, on 1 August 1977.

For the Government of the French Republic:
The Consul-General of France,

[Signed]

MARCELLE CAMPANA

For the Government of H.S.H. the Prince of Monaco:
The Minister of State,

[Signed]

ANDRÉ SAINT-MLEUX

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

I

CONSULATE-GENERAL OF FRANCE
AT MONACO

Monaco, 1 August 1977

No. 251

Sir,

With reference to the Agreement signed on this day between our two Governments concerning the protection of the historical and cultural heritages of the two countries, I have the honour to inform you that it is understood that the competent authorities referred to in article 2 shall be the following:

For the Government of H.S.H. the Prince of Monaco:

His Excellency the Minister of State;

For the Government of the French Republic:

The Director of Museums of France.

I should be grateful if you would kindly confirm the foregoing.

Accept, Sir, etc.

MARCELLE CAMPANA

His Excellency Mr. André Saint-Mleux
Minister of State
Monaco

II

PRINCIPALITY OF MONACO
FOREIGN RELATIONS SERVICE

Office of the Director

1 August 1977

Madam,

In your letter dated this day, you kindly informed me as follows:

[See letter I]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of H.S.H. the Prince of Monaco agrees to the foregoing proposals.

Accept, Madam, etc.

The Minister of State,

[Signed]

ANDRÉ SAINT-MLEUX

Mrs. Marcelle Campana
Consul-General of France
Monaco