

**JOINT DECLARATION OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA
CONCERNING
THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN
CULTURAL PROPERTIES**

The Government of the United States of America and the
Government of the Republic of Austria,

Expressing their conviction that the cultural heritage of all nations
must be preserved, protected, and transmitted to future
generations,

Acknowledging that it is desirable to promote a mutual knowledge
of their respective cultures and cultural heritages, and seeking to
further mutual cooperation in the field of cultural heritage,

Expressing the importance of honoring the memories of victims of
repression, war and genocide,

Desiring to pursue their co-operation in line with the principles of
the 1975 Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and
Cooperation in Europe, and the Declaration of the Stockholm
International Forum on the Holocaust of 28 January 2000,

Reaffirming their commitments under existing conventions
concerning the protection and preservation of cultural heritage
such as the 1972 UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the
World Cultural and Natural Heritage, as well as the bilateral or
multilateral agreements that dealt with the consequences of the
National Socialist era or World War II, including the Washington
Agreement of 17 January 2001, which shall continue to govern in
their respective spheres of application,

solemnly agree to the following:

1. The Government of the United States of America and the Government of Austria reaffirm their mutual interest in the protection and preservation of burial sites, places of worship, and other places of commemoration in their respective territories, in particular those important to individuals and groups that were victims of genocide during World War II.
2. The Government of the United States of America and the Government of Austria emphasize their determination to identify, protect, and preserve the cultural heritage of national, ethnic or religious groups with all appropriate measures and to effectively prevent every form of discrimination against or prejudicial treatment of such groups.
3. The Government of the United States of America and the Government of Austria are committed to resolve issues that may arise related to this Joint Declaration of Agreement on an expedited basis, acting through designated representatives of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad and designated representatives of the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria who shall meet as a joint cultural heritage working group on a regular basis as mutually agreed.

DONE at VIENNA this 13th day of April 2004, in duplicate, in the English language.



FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA



FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF
AUSTRIA