

AGREEMENT
FOR THE PROTECTION AND
PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTIES
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH AND SLOVAK FEDERAL REPUBLIC

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic,

Bearing in mind the respect due to fundamental human rights, and seeking to promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups,

Desiring to enhance the protection of cultural properties and provide access to the treasures of national and world culture without discrimination,

Convinced that each culture has a dignity and a value which must be respected and preserved, and that all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all mankind,

Considering that deterioration or destruction of items of the cultural heritage constitutes an irreparable impoverishment of the heritage of all the nations of the world,

Reaffirming their condemnation of genocide and their determination to take steps to frustrate the objectives of those who sought to eradicate the culture and heritage of its victims,

seeking to honor the memories of those victims and to promote knowledge of and respect for their culture and heritage,

Considering that the protection of cultural heritage can be effective only if organized both nationally and internationally among states working in close cooperation,

Desirous of elaborating concrete steps in furtherance of the principles and purposes of the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage with respect to certain items of the cultural heritage of the victims of genocide during the Second World War, and

In accordance with the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on Cooperation in Culture, Education, Science and Technology and Other Fields signed in Prague on April 15, 1986,

Have agreed as follows:

1. Each Party will take appropriate steps to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of all national, religious or ethnic groups (hereinafter referred to as "Groups") who reside or resided in its territory and were the victims of genocide in its territory during the Second World War. The term "cultural heritage" for the purposes of this Agreement means places of worship, sites of historical significance, monuments, cemeteries and memorials to the dead, as well as archival material relating thereto.

2. The Parties shall cooperate in identifying lists of appropriate items falling within the scope of paragraph 1, particularly those which are in danger of deterioration or destruction. Such lists may be published jointly.

3. Each Party will ensure that there is no discrimination, in form or in fact, against the cultural heritage of any Groups or against the nationals of the other party in the scope and application of its laws and regulations concerning:

- (a) the protection and preservation of their cultural heritage;
- (b) the right to contribute to the protection and preservation of their cultural heritage; and
- (c) public access thereto.

4. In cases where the authorities and organizations concerned state that the Groups are unable, on their own, to ensure adequate protection and preservation of their cultural heritage, each Party shall take special steps to ensure such protection and preservation within its territory and shall invite the cooperation of the other Party and its nationals where assistance is required for this purpose.

5. Properties referred to in paragraph 4 that are of special significance shall be designated in the list of properties annexed to this Agreement, publicly announced and communicated to appropriate local agencies. All properties so designated shall be protected, preserved, and marked with a special plaque. Access thereto shall be

assured. The list of properties forms an integral part of this Agreement. Through the Commission referred to in paragraph 6 each Party may, at any time, make such changes in the list as it deems desirable or necessary on the condition that these changes will be communicated through diplomatic channels.

6.(A) A Joint Cultural Heritage Commission is hereby established to oversee the operations of the lists referred to in paragraphs 2 and 5, and to perform such other functions as are delegated to it by the Parties which will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels. Each Party shall appoint two members of the Commission, consisting of the Chairman plus another member, who may be assisted by alternates and advisers. Decisions of the Commission shall require the assent of both Parties. The Parties shall cooperate in supplying the Commission with access to properties and information necessary for the execution of its responsibilities.

6.(B) The Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad shall be the Executive Agent for implementing this Agreement on the side of the United States of America. The authorities and organizations concerned, which are according to the valid laws and regulations of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic responsible for the protection of cultural monuments in accordance with this Agreement, shall be the Executive Agent for implementing this Agreement on the side of the Czech and Slovak Federal

Republic. Either Party by diplomatic note to the other may change its Executive Agent.

7. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to relieve either Party of its obligations under the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage or any other agreement for protection of cultural heritage.

8. This Agreement shall be subject to the laws and regulations of both countries and the availability of funds.

9. Disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be submitted to the Agencies referred to in paragraph 6.(B).

10. This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain in force subject to termination upon one year's written notice by one Party to the other.

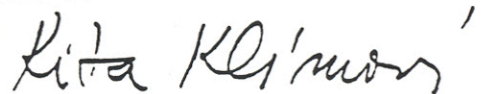
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Washington, in duplicate, this seventeenth day of March, 1992, in the English and Czech languages, each text being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lawrence R. Goldhamer", followed by a horizontal line.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
CZECH AND SLOVAK FEDERAL
REPUBLIC:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kája Kleimová", with a small apostrophe at the end.