

Cultural Property Advisory Committee
Cultural Heritage Center
U.S. Department of State
301 4th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20547

Dr. Michael Müller-Karpe
T +49 (0) 6131 9124-267
F +49 (0) 6131 9124-199
muellerkarpe@rgzm.de

E-mail: culprop@state.gov

Import restrictions for coins from Cyprus

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Dear Madam,
Dear Sir,

The value of an archaeological find for the history of mankind lies in the information it carries.

The main body of information is inseparably associated with the object's situation in the earth, that is, its archaeological context.

An archaeological object torn out of context has also lost its meaning, its real value - like a single letter, torn out of the pages of a history book.

The ongoing looting and destruction of archaeological sites, caused by the insatiable demand of a voracious antiquities market lends dramatic relevance to the legislative initiative of the Cypriote Government to protect our shared archaeological heritage.

The coin market plays a decisive role in the destruction of archaeological sites.

As a scholar I therefore strongly recommend to include coins into import restrictions.

Sincerely



(Dr. Michael Müller-Karpe)