



Aristotelio College Model United Nations

**United Nations Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization
(UNESCO)**

**Safeguarding cultural heritage in conflict zones
Study Guide**

Aggelopoulou Maria

Saad Anastasia

Kensy Tziatziou Michaela

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| 1. Welcoming letter..... | 3 |
| 2. Introduction to the Committee..... | 3 |
| 3. Introduction of the topic..... | 4 |
| 4. Definition of key terms..... | 5 |
| 4.1 Cultural Heritage..... | 5 |
| 4.2 Cultural War Crime..... | 5 |
| 4.3 Conflict Zones..... | 5 |
| 4.4 List of World Heritage in Danger by UNESCO..... | 5 |
| 4.5 Cultural Cleansing..... | 6 |
| 5. History of the topic..... | 6 |
| 5.1 Actions Already Taken..... | 7 |
| 6. Legal Framework..... | 8 |
| 6.1 Brussels Declaration 1874 (Article 8)..... | 8 |
| 6.2 Hague Convention 1899 (Article 27)..... | 8 |
| 6.3 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of an Armed Conflict 1954..... | 8 |
| 6.4 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972..... | 9 |
| 6.5 Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archaeological Heritage 1990..... | 9 |
| 6.6 Resolution 2347 of the Security Council of the United Nations..... | 9 |
| 6.7 Resolution 2199 of the Security Council of the United Nations..... | 9 |
| 7. Discussion of the topic | 10 |
| 7.1 War effects on Cultural Heritage..... | 10 |
| 7.2 Most affected countries-Case studies..... | 11 |
| a) Afghanistan | |
| b) Iraq | |
| c) Mali | |
| d) Syria | |
| 7.3 Post conflict rebuilding..... | 12 |
| 8. Questions to be addressed..... | 13 |
| 9. Conclusion..... | 14 |
| 10. Bibliography..... | 15 |
| 11. Further Resources..... | 18 |

1. Welcoming Letter

Honourable Delegates,

It is an utmost honour and pleasure to welcome you to *ARCMUN 2019*, and most specifically to this charming Committee- *UNESCO*. We are more than happy to be serving as the Board Members of this Committee and hence to meet each and every one of you, have a great cooperation throughout the whole conference and transmit to you our love and passion for MUN Conferences in general. We totally believe that *UNESCO* is a very unique Committee, as it deals with a plethora of matters- educational, as well as scientific and most importantly cultural ones. However, this year's *UNESCO* is even more fascinating, taking into consideration the topic at hand, which as you already know is "***Safeguarding cultural heritage in conflict zones***". With such an interesting and current topic- as unfortunately many cultural monuments are in danger due to armed conflicts even in our days- we are sure that fruitful debates will take place and all of you will stand for your opinions, always having in mind your country's policy. As your Board, we kindly ask you to start your personal research and preparation by reading carefully this *Study Guide*. Should you have any inquiries, we always remain at your disposal. We are looking forward to meeting you in person as well as making *UNESCO* of *ARCMUN 2019* a really successful and productive Committee. Last, but definitely not least, we would like to remind you the reason why *UNESCO* was founded, and this is "***Building peace in the minds of men and women***".

The Board of UNESCO,

Aggelopoulou Maria

Saad Anastasia

Kensy Tziatziou Michaela

2. Introduction to the Committee

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization –or as it is commonly acknowledged, *UNESCO*- is an international agency founded by the United Nations (UN) in the 16th of November 1945. Its headquarters are located in France. The countries that are members of this organization are the Member-States of the United Nations. Each one of the 58 members has one vote in *UNESCO*'s General Conference that is held every two years in order to set the organization's budgets and evaluate the contributions of each member to live up to the goals set by the agency¹. *UNESCO* is defined as an organization that "seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture. *UNESCO*'s programmes contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals defined in Agenda 2030, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015".

¹ Encyclopedia Britannica. (2019). *UNESCO | Definition, History, Members, & Facts*. [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/UNESCO> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

The actions that *UNESCO* can take in order to ensure the safety of the cultural and natural heritage in danger is to provide funds for its protection, to organize educational programs and to request reports on the state of the heritage and the actions taken by the government of each nation, in order to apply the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972².

3. Introduction of the Topic

World Heritage as defined from the *World Heritage Centre* (WHC) of *UNESCO* is “our legacy from the past, what we live with today, and what we pass on to future generations. Our cultural and natural heritages are both irreplaceable sources of life and inspiration. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (*UNESCO*) seeks to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity³.” This way the *WHC* can act on time to prevent or restore the destruction of cultural heritage⁴.

Destruction of cultural heritage may come from various reasons; decay and abandonment of the heritage, urban development and most importantly armed conflict. For this reason, the Member-States voted the *World Heritage Convention* which allowed the creation of the *World Heritage List*. The *World Heritage List* lists the human natural and cultural heritage that is under the *WHC*’s protection in Africa, the Arab States, Asia and the Pacific Ocean, Europe, North and Latin America and the Caribbean⁵. During the years that the *World Heritage Convention* is active, it has protected The Pyramids of Giza from the creation of a highway near them and it blocked the construction of a salt mine near a grey whale nursery in Mexico⁶.

However, there are still many steps to be taken. Unfortunately, 54 properties are listed in the *List of World Heritage in Danger* which is subject to the *World Heritage Convention*. An example of heritage property in danger is the *Chan Chan Archaeological Zone in Peru* that entered the *List of World Heritage in Danger* due to damage caused in the historic structures by natural erosion⁷.

A topic of interest is the world heritage that is under extreme danger in conflict zones, for instance, the city of *Palmyra* in Syria. In those areas looting occurs during war times, leaving cultural heritage of utmost importance completely and irreversibly ruined. With the help that is provided from the *Convention*, the buildings can be

² Unesco.org. (2018). Director Office | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. [online] Available at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/jakarta/about-this-office/whos-who/director-office/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

³ Khan Academy. (2018). What is Cultural Heritage?. [online] Available at: <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history-basics/beginners-art-history/a/what-is-cultural-heritage> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁴ Centre, U. (2019). *UNESCO World Heritage Centre*. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

⁵ Centre, U. (2019). *UNESCO World Heritage Centre - World Heritage List*. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

⁶ Centre, U. (2019). *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

⁷ Centre, U. (2019). *UNESCO World Heritage Centre - List of World Heritage in Danger*. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/danger/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

restored and return to their initial state in a great part. What *UNESCO* tries to accomplish is for governments to enlist their cultural and natural heritage, so that they can interfere and take actions in time in order to avoid as much damage as possible.

4. Definition of Key Terms

4.1 Cultural Heritage

“Heritage is a property, something that is inherited, passed down from previous generations. In the case of ‘cultural heritage’, the heritage doesn’t consist of money or property, but of culture, values and traditions. Cultural heritage implies a shared bond, our belonging to a community. It represents our history and our identity; our bond to the past, to our present, and the future”⁸. An important aspect of the world heritage is whether it is moveable (paintings) or immovable (archaeological sites), underwater (shipwrecks), intangible (oral traditions)⁹.

4.2 Cultural War Crime

Cultural war crime is deliberately destroying religious, historic and cultural sites during conflicts. It was officially recognized as a war crime by the *International Criminal Court (ICC)* for the first time in the prosecution of Ahmad Al Faqi Al Mahdi who was accused of ordering attacks in sites in Timbuktu as the leader of Hisbah (or Manners Brigade)¹⁰. The punishment can be up to 9 years of sentence in jail¹¹.

4.3 Conflict Zones

“The term “conflict” indicates a confrontation between one or more parties aspiring towards incompatible or competitive means or ends. Their origins (of the conflicts) range from ethnic and economic inequalities, social exclusion of sectors of the population, social injustice, competition for scarce resources, poverty, lack of democracy, ideological issues to religious differences and political tensions¹²”.

4.4 List of World Heritage in Danger by UNESCO

⁸ Khan Academy. (2019). *What is Cultural Heritage?*. [online] Available at: <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history-basics/beginners-art-history/a/what-is-cultural-heritage> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

⁹ Unesco.org. (2019). *Definition of the cultural heritage | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*. [online] Available at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/illicit-trafficking-of-cultural-property/unesco-database-of-national-cultural-heritage-laws/frequently-asked-questions/definition-of-the-cultural-heritage/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

¹⁰ Icc-cpi.int. (2019). *Home*. [online] Available at: <https://www.icc-cpi.int/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

¹¹ Apollo Magazine. (2018). *Is the destruction of cultural property a war crime?* | Apollo Magazine. [online] Available at: <https://www.apollo-magazine.com/is-the-destruction-of-cultural-property-a-war-crime/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

¹² Women Win. (2019). *Defining Conflict/post Conflict*. [online] Available at: <http://guides.womenwin.org/gbv/conflict/context/defining-conflict-post-conflict> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

“*The (World Heritage) Committee* compiles (a) list of sites it considers to be "in danger" of losing their heritage status. The "in danger" list is designed to inform the international community about the conditions that threaten the very characteristics for which a property was added to the *World Heritage List* in the first place, and to encourage governments to take action to protect the sites. A country can ask for one of its sites to be listed in order to receive help to address the threats. If a site loses the characteristics which determined its inscription on the *World Heritage List*, it could be deleted from both the *List of World Heritage in Danger* and the main *World Heritage List*.¹³¹⁴.

4.5 Cultural Cleansing

This term is used to describe the extinction of the language, religion, and customs and in general the cultural characteristics of a particular group, even of a whole country¹⁵. The destruction of cultural heritage consists a Cultural Cleansing and a war crime¹⁶. And that is absolutely true, if we consider that the destruction of a country’s cultural sites leads to the erosion of its cultural identity and history¹⁷.

5. History of the Topic

The destruction of cultural heritage during armed conflicts is definitely not a new phenomenon. The World War II was one of the periods in recent history where most monuments were destroyed. A characteristic example is the bombing of a medieval church- the Christchurch Greyfriars- by the Nazi forces in late 1940¹⁸. Some years later, in 1945, the Baroque city of Dresden in Germany was firebombed¹⁹. Unfortunately, in the following years many more destructions of cultural heritage took place, making it necessary for the international community to take measures to safeguard the World Heritage. The first international Treaty referring to the protection of cultural heritage was the *Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict*, adopted in Hague in 1954²⁰. However, it was in November 1972 when UNESCO decided to establish an effective system of protection of the cultural heritage, acknowledging that there is a big threat for the World Heritage, by

¹³ BBC News. (2018). Q&A: World Heritage In Danger List. [online] Available at: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-32894863> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

¹⁴ Unesco.org. (2019). *Definition of the cultural heritage | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*. [online] Available at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/illicit-trafficking-of-cultural-property/unesco-database-of-national-cultural-heritage-laws/frequently-asked-questions/definition-of-the-cultural-heritage/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

¹⁵ Oxford Dictionaries | English. (2018). cultural cleansing | Definition of cultural cleansing in English by Oxford Dictionaries. [online] Available at: <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/cultural%20cleansing> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

¹⁶ UN News. (2018). “Cultural cleansing” by terrorists is a war crime: UNESCO chief. [online] Available at: <https://news.un.org/en/audio/2017/03/625382> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

¹⁷ The Irish Times. (2018). Why the tide of ‘cultural cleansing’ must be rolled back. [online] Available at: <https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/why-the-tide-of-cultural-cleansing-must-be-rolled-back-1.2859974> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

¹⁸ Armitage, H. (2018). 10 Cultural Landmarks Destroyed By War. [online] Culture Trip. Available at: <https://theculturetrip.com/middle-east/articles/10-cultural-landmarks-destroyed-by-war/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

¹⁹ S.U.R.E. (2018). What happens to heritage sites in times of conflict?. [online] Available at: <http://www.nlb.gov.sg/sure/what-happens-to-heritage-sites-in-times-of-conflict/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

²⁰ S.U.R.E. (2018). What happens to heritage sites in times of conflict?. [online] Available at: <http://www.nlb.gov.sg/sure/what-happens-to-heritage-sites-in-times-of-conflict/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

adopting the *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*²¹.

After the World War II, although it seemed that a period of global peace had come, many more conflicts occurred, which had their core in Middle East. The armed rebellions and anti-government movements during the Arab Spring, had as a result many of the cultural monuments to be threatened. In Timbuktu, many religious sites were attacked by a Malian jihadist in 2015, while in Iraq in 2014, a religious site of great importance was blown up by ISIS militants²². Of course, these countries were not the only ones affected, as many destructions happened also in Afghanistan and Syria.

It is widely known, that up until today, conflicts in Middle East continue to take place. Countries such as Syria, Afghanistan and Yemen overpass a civil war. Civilians every day lose their homes and become refugees in order to survive and terroristic groups- such as, but not limited to, ISIS- have gained enough strength to destroy whole cities, for example the ancient city of Palmyra in late December 2016²³. More specifically, in Yemen, 59 sites have been damaged by the bombing of the Saudi-led coalition, the historic old city of Saana has been hit, and two of the UNESCO protected monuments- namely the historic town of Zabid and the Great Dam of Marib- were also damaged²⁴. The war, though, hasn't ended yet, which makes us wonder how many more monuments of our World Heritage will be threatened in the future.

5.1 Actions Already Taken

Having made clear that the cultural heritage is in danger almost for a century, it is important to see how the international community has reacted to this threat over the years. As mentioned before, the first crucial conventions adopted were the *Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict* and the *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*²⁵. Due to these conventions and with the cooperation of UNESCO and the UN, in 2004 the first-ever sentence of imprisonment was posed for the destruction of cultural heritage (in former Yugoslavia). Furthermore, in 2015 the UN Security Council adopted a *Resolution* (2199) which prohibits trade in cultural property from Syria and Iraq²⁶, while the same year the global campaign *United4Heritage* for safeguarding

²¹ Centre, U. (2018). Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

²² Armitage, H. (2018). 10 Cultural Landmarks Destroyed By War. [online] Culture Trip. Available at: <https://theculturetrip.com/middle-east/articles/10-cultural-landmarks-destroyed-by-war/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

²³ Historians.org. (2018). History in Ruins: Cultural Heritage Destruction around the World | Perspectives on History | AHA. [online] Available at: <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/april-2017/history-in-ruins-cultural-heritage-destruction-around-the-world> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

²⁴ The Globe Post. (2018). Yemen War Erodes the Country's Architectural Heritage. [online] Available at: <https://theglobepost.com/2018/03/06/yemen-war-heritage/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

²⁵ Portal.unesco.org. (2018). Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. [online] Available at: http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=13637&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

²⁶ Un.org. (2018). Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2199 (2015), Security Council Condemns Trade with Al-Qaida Associated Groups, Threatens Further Targeted Sanctions | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. [online] Available at: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc11775.doc.htm> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

cultural heritage was launched by UNESCO²⁷. More recently, in 2016 with a judgment of the *International Criminal Court*, the destruction of cultural heritage was for the first time considered as a war crime. Apart from the aforementioned actions, Italy has cooperated with UNESCO in order for an *emergency task force for culture* to be created, but also the United Arab Emirates together with France have formed an alliance only for protecting the cultural heritage in armed conflicts under the auspices of UNESCO. Moreover, in 2017 the UN Security Council adopted unanimously the *Resolution 2347*, referring to the defense of cultural heritage²⁸. Last but not least, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre has launched the *World Heritage Volunteers Campaign 2018*, whose aim is to encourage young people to play an active role in the protection of world heritage sites²⁹.

6. Legal Framework

6.1 Brussels Declaration 1874 (Article 8)

The *Brussels Declaration of 1874* in Article 8 defines that every destruction or intended damage to institutions like historic monuments, works of art and science should follow the legal proceedings by the competent authorities³⁰.

6.2 Hague Convention 1899 (Article 27)

The Article 27 of the Hague Convention of 1899 also protects the cultural heritage, as it states the following: “*In sieges and bombardments all necessary steps should be taken to spare as far as possible edifices devoted to religion, art, science, and charity, hospitals, and places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided they are not used at the same time for military purposes*”³¹.

6.3 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of an Armed Conflict 1954

The Article 7 of this highly important *Convention* promotes the respect for the culture and cultural property by the armed forces, but also in times of peace the safeguarding of cultural property and the cooperation with the authorities responsible for securing it³².

²⁷ UNESCO. (2019). *#Unite4Heritage brings cultural heritage to the heart of UNESCO General Conference*. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/news/unite4heritage-brings-cultural-heritage-heart-unesco-general-conference> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

²⁸ UNESCO. (2018). A historic resolution to protect cultural heritage. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/courier/2017-october-december/historic-resolution-protect-cultural-heritage> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

²⁹ Centre, U. (2018). Join the World Heritage Volunteers Campaign 2018. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1815> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

³⁰ Web.ics.purdue.edu. (2018). Brussels Declaration 1874. [online] Available at: <https://web.ics.purdue.edu/~wggray/Teaching/His300/Handouts/Brussels-1874.html> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

³¹ Ihl-databases.icrc.org. (2018). Treaties, States parties, and Commentaries - Hague Convention (II) on the Laws and Customs of War on Land, 1899 - 27 -. [online] Available at: <https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=C50B4EE486305FF5C12563CD00515E60> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

³² Portal.unesco.org. (2018). Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. [online] Available at: http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=13637&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

6.4 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972

In this Convention, Article 11 states that: “Every State Party to this Convention shall, in so far as possible, submit to the World Heritage Committee an inventory of property forming part of the cultural and natural heritage, situated in its territory and suitable for inclusion. On the basis of the inventories submitted by States in accordance with paragraph 1, the Committee shall establish, keep up to date and publish, under the title of "*World Heritage List*", a list of properties forming part of the cultural heritage and natural heritage. The Committee shall establish, keep up to date and publish, whenever circumstances shall so require, under the title of "*List of World Heritage in Danger*", a list of the property appearing in the World Heritage List for the conservation of which major operations are necessary and for which assistance has been requested under this Convention. The Committee shall define the criteria on the basis of which a property belonging to the cultural or natural heritage may be included in either of the lists mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 4 of this article³³”.

6.5 Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archaeological Heritage 1990

This *Charter*, in Article 6, promotes the preservation of archaeological heritage, monuments and sites and also stresses out that any transfer of heritage to new locations is thought to be a violation of the principle of preserving the heritage in its original context³⁴.

6.6 Resolution 2347 of the Security Council of the United Nations

The *Resolution 2347* is a crucial one, as it takes important measures about the cultural heritage. More specifically, it disapproves the destruction of cultural heritage, if this refers to religious sites and artefacts, and also the looting of cultural property from archaeological sites, museums, libraries, archives, and other sites, notably by terrorist groups. Moreover, it encourages Member States to propose listings of terrorist groups involved in the illicit trade in cultural property. Lastly, it further urges Member States to develop law enforcement and policies for countering trafficking in cultural property³⁵.

6.7 Resolution 2199 of the Security Council of the United Nations

This *Resolution* has some really important operative clauses, namely the following: “Condemns the destruction of cultural heritage in Iraq and Syria particularly by ISIL and ANF, whether such destruction is incidental or deliberate, including targeted destruction of religious sites and objects; Reaffirms its decision in paragraph 7 of resolution 1483 (2003) and decides that all Member States shall take appropriate steps to prevent the trade in Iraqi and Syrian cultural property and calls upon the United

³³ Centre, U. (2018). Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

³⁴ Icomos.org. (2018). [online] Available at: https://www.icomos.org/images/DOCUMENTS/Charters/arch_e.pdf [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

³⁵ Un.org. (2018). S/RES/2347 (2017) | United Nations Security Council Subsidiary Organs. [online] Available at: <https://www.un.org/sc/suborg/en/s/res/2347-%282017%29> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, Interpol, and other international organizations, as appropriate, to assist in the implementation of this paragraph;³⁶.

7. Discussion of the Topic

7.1 War Effects on Cultural Heritage

As described previously in the History of the Topic, most armed conflicts in the recent history had a catastrophic effect on cultural heritage. When in times of war, the preservation of a country's cultural identity becomes a priority.

The destruction of cultural heritage is not always accidental, but most of the times cultural monuments become deliberately targets of violence³⁷. Taking into consideration that targeting religious and cultural sites for destruction has disastrous results, many armed groups have employed it as a tactic of war. The Nazi and the Taliban consist historic examples, however the only certain fact is that targeting cultural property to spread terror and to achieve a country's cultural cleansing is a common strategy of ISIS³⁸.

Hence, the aftermath of a conflict is either completely destroyed cultural sites of exceptional importance, or irreplaceably damaged monuments, that most of the times cannot be rebuilt.

Further consequences are the looting of moveable cultural heritage and even the illicit trade of them. Looting of cultural heritage is a very common, yet extremely damaging, practice during armed conflicts. Many armed and terrorist groups but also individual looters loot moveable cultural monuments found on museums and archaeological storages, in order to sell them. For example, in Syria, because of looting, most moveable monuments are still unexcavated³⁹.

Such as looting, trafficking and illicit trade of cultural heritage are also usual phenomena. The illegal practices of trafficking and illicit trade have become very wide-known and "easy" financial resources, however it is certain that they destroy human history and culture. Especially armed groups use these methods in order to collect money for weapons and men. This is the reason why ISIS's second largest

³⁶ Un.org. (2018). Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2199 (2015), Security Council Condemns Trade with Al-Qaida Associated Groups, Threatens Further Targeted Sanctions | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. [online] Available at: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc11775.doc.htm> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

³⁷ Britishcouncil.org. (2018). Destroying cultural heritage: more than just material damage | British Council. [online] Available at: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/voices-magazine/destroying-cultural-heritage-more-just-material-damage> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

³⁸ ATHA. (2018). Attacks on Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflict. [online] Available at: <http://atha.se/blog/ihl-briefing-2> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

³⁹ Fighting the looting of Syria's cultural heritage_PURE. (2018). [ebook] Available at: http://pure.au.dk/Sofiareport_2016 [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

financial resource is illicit trade⁴⁰. In order to prevent this situation, UNESCO has created a database, named *UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws*⁴¹.

7.2 Most Affected Countries- Case Studies



At this point, we will focus on examining the specific countries that faced the biggest catastrophe of their cultural heritage during armed conflicts.

a) Afghanistan

Afghanistan had always been the crossroads of cultures and a country with a unique cultural heritage. However, because of the oppressive Taliban regime, many sites have been destroyed. More precisely, the *Bamiyan Buddhas* were dynamited in 2001, while their remains were illegally sold. Moreover, hundreds of statues in the *Kabul Museum* were destroyed⁴². Also, the great Buddhist Temple *Tepe Shuttur-e-Hadda* was demolished, and the *Minaret of Chakari*, one of the greatest monuments of the first century A.D., was destroyed⁴³.

b) Iraq

Another remarkable case concerns the country of Iraq. In Iraq, three out of four registered cultural heritage sites are officially threatened. Many cities were occupied by ISIS, like *Hatra*, *Mosul*, *Nimrud* and *Nineveh*. The aforementioned cities have been bulldozed, burned down and destroyed. Especially in *Mosul*, ISIS destroyed the historic library, looted a tomb, devastated a monastery dedicated to Saint George and ruined the *Mosul Museum*⁴⁴.

⁴⁰ Fighting the looting of Syria's cultural heritage_PURE. (2018). [ebook] Available at: http://pure.au.dk/Sofiareport_2016 [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁴¹ UNESCO. (2018). UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws Updated. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-database-national-cultural-heritage-laws-updated> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁴² Centre, U. (2018). Afghanistan's cultural heritage: Safeguarding Campaign. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/2/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁴³ Cemml.colostate.edu. (2018). Untitled. [online] Available at: <https://www.cemml.colostate.edu/cultural/09476/afgh08-01enl.html> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁴⁴ artnet News. (2018). A Monumental Loss: Here Are the Most Significant Cultural Heritage Sites Destroyed by ISIS | artnet News. [online] Available at: <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/isis-cultural-heritage-sites-destroyed-950060> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

c) Mali

In 2012, Tuareg and Islamic separatists occupied northern Mali. According to UNESCO, 15 mausoleums in *Timbuktu* were destroyed, including 9 that are in the World Heritage list. Moreover, about 4.200 manuscripts were burned and another 300.000 are in the threat of illicit trafficking⁴⁵. In 2016, the International Criminal Court sentenced to nine years of imprisonment a Malian citizen, who was found guilty for intentionally attacking buildings dedicated to religion and historic monuments⁴⁶. The trial focused on cultural destruction as a war crime and it was based in the *Hague Convention*⁴⁷.

d) Syria

The last case study refers to the country of Syria. Syria's 6 cultural heritage sites have been reported damaged in 2016 and many important cities have been endangered by ISIS. According to UNESCO, 30% of the historic old city of *Aleppo* has been destroyed by rebel fighters. Regarding the damage of Aleppo, the director-general of UNESCO stated: "To destroy Syria's heritage is to kill the Syrian people a second time". Also, in the city of *Raqqa* three historic Shiite shrines to Islamic figures were destroyed. The biggest catastrophe, however, has taken place in *Palmyra*. Being occupied by ISIS twice, in *Palmyra* a 2.000-year-old statue, the *Al Lat Lion*, was destroyed, many objects from the *Palmyra Museum* went to the "black market", the *Temples of Bel and Baalshamin* were bombed and the city's *Monumental Arch* was damaged⁴⁸.

7.3 Post Conflict Rebuilding



⁴⁵ Smarthistory.org. (2018). Cultural heritage at risk: Mali – Smarthistory. [online] Available at: <https://smarthistory.org/cultural-heritage-risk-mali/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁴⁶ Obenland, W. (2018). The ICC convicts Al Mahdi for the destruction of cultural heritage in Mali. [online] Globalpolicy.org. Available at: <https://www.globalpolicy.org/component/content/article/52882-the-icc-convicts-al-mahdi-for-the-destruction-of-cultural-heritage-in-mali-htm> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁴⁷ Burke, J. (2018). ICC ruling for Timbuktu destruction 'should be deterrent for others'. [online] the Guardian. Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/sep/27/timbuktu-shrines-icc-sentences-islamic-militant-nine-years-destruction-ahmad-al-faqi-al-mahdi> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁴⁸ artnet News. (2018). A Monumental Loss: Here Are the Most Significant Cultural Heritage Sites Destroyed by ISIS | artnet News. [online] Available at: <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/isis-cultural-heritage-sites-destroyed-950060> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁴⁹ Mail Online. (2019). *ISIS show off their destruction of 2,000-year-old temple at Palmyra*. [online] Available at: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3229268/Pictured-ISIS-destruction-2-000-year-old-temple-Palmyra-left-just-one-arch-standing.html> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

In case of destruction of cultural heritage during an armed conflict, it is of high importance the attempt to restore the war-damaged buildings and monuments. These procedure most of the times is very demanding and acquires the help of specialised professionals and experts. Such procedures also demand political and financial support as well as local institutional and human capacity⁵⁰.

Moreover, sometimes it is challenging defining what reconstruction means. In some cases, if there is extensive knowledge about the materials and the history of the site, the remains can be reconstructed. In other cases, a replica can also be built. Some other monuments may need to be modified. However, there are also times that people want some monuments to be left as a reminder of destruction⁵¹.

To contribute to that kind of efforts especially for the post-conflict reconstruction in Middle East, in June 2015 a meeting was organized by the *World Heritage Centre of UNESCO*. In this meeting, many experts participated- archaeologists and sociologists included⁵². Lastly, in November 2015, UNESCO adopted a *Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO's Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict*, which aim is to strengthen countries' ability to prevent and recover the loss of cultural heritage and incorporate the protection of culture into humanitarian and peace building processes⁵³.

8. Questions to be addressed

- Why the preservation of cultural heritage is important for all Nations, and which are the dangers of its destruction?
- Bearing in mind that there were two cases of cultural heritage being taken out of the World Heritage List due to irreversible damage, is it wise for the *WHC* to take out the buildings and sites of the list? Should these buildings be considered world heritage by the *WHC* even after they have been damaged?
- Which may be the impacts of the destruction of cultural heritage in both a national and an international level?
- Why is the targeting of cultural heritage so dangerous for countries? Who can take advantage of it?
- Is the already existing progress enough to adequately address the issue of, trafficking and illicit trade of cultural heritage in conflict zones? If not, which

⁵⁰ Cultural Heritage in Postwar Recovery. (2018). .

⁵¹ Gendall, J. (2019). *Do We Need to Rebuild Historic Sites Ruined by Terrorism?* | *Architectural Digest*. [online] Architectural Digest. Available at: <https://www.architecturaldigest.com/story/do-we-need-to-rebuild-historic-sites-ruined-by-terrorism> [Accessed 11 Jan. 2019].

⁵² Centre, U. (2018). Post-Conflict Reconstruction in the Middle East Context, and in the Old City of Aleppo in particular (18-19 June 2015). [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1286/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

⁵³ UNESCO. (2018). *Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO's Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict*. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/heritage-at-risk/strategy-culture-armed-conflict> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

are the measures that need to be taken to avoid the severe consequences of these actions?

- Which are the consequences of looting of cultural heritage during armed conflicts and which actions should be taken by the international community in order to preserve the existence of monuments and cultural sites?
- A perspective of the recovery of destructed sites is always possible? What are the circumstances under which the process of recovery will be successful?
- What is the role of NGOs to the protection of cultural heritage in conflict zones?
- Which are the benefits of the safeguarding of cultural heritage have for every Nation individually?
- How can UNESCO further help to protecting our cultural heritage from all the aforementioned dangers? Which measures are effective yet realistic?

9. Conclusion

All things considered, it is clear that protection of cultural heritage in conflict zones is of utmost significance and a very important issue nowadays. The need of protecting the cultural heritage in conflict zones is a topic that concerns worldwide the countries, for securing their history and what they represent. The heritage is a sign of what makes every country unique and important part of the world history. Possible consequences could be cultural loss, with disastrous impacts as losing identity, forgetting the history of entire civilizations and repeating the destroying moments. This will also conduce to an economic, political and cultural crisis. Many organizations, like UNESCO, have taken serious steps to state the need for keeping safe the cultural heritage. Nevertheless, there are still many goals to be reached and in order to achieve them all Nations should be united to this common goal.

10. Bibliography

- UNESCO. (2019). *UNESCO*. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- Encyclopedia Britannica. (2019). *UNESCO / Definition, History, Members, & Facts*. [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/UNESCO> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ UNESCO. (2019). *UNESCO in brief*. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/about-us/introducing-unesco> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Encyclopedia Britannica. (2019). *UNESCO / Definition, History, Members, & Facts*. [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/UNESCO> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Unesco.org. (2018). Director Office | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. [online] Available at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/jakarta/about-this-office/whos-who/director-office/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Centre, U. (2019). *World Heritage Emblem*. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/emblem/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Khan Academy. (2018). What is Cultural Heritage?. [online] Available at: <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history-basics/beginners-art-history/a/what-is-cultural-heritage> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Centre, U. (2019). *UNESCO World Heritage Centre*. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Centre, U. (2019). *UNESCO World Heritage Centre - World Heritage List*. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Centre, U. (2019). *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Centre, U. (2019). *UNESCO World Heritage Centre - List of World Heritage in Danger*. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/danger/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Khan Academy. (2019). *What is Cultural Heritage?*. [online] Available at: <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-history-basics/beginners-art-history/a/what-is-cultural-heritage> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Unesco.org. (2019). *Definition of the cultural heritage | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*. [online] Available at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/illicit-trafficking-of-cultural-property/unesco-database-of-national-cultural-heritage-laws/frequently-asked-questions/definition-of-the-cultural-heritage/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Icc-cpi.int. (2019). *Home*. [online] Available at: <https://www.icc-cpi.int/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Apollo Magazine. (2018). Is the destruction of cultural property a war crime? | Apollo Magazine. [online] Available at: <https://www.apollo-magazine.com/is-the-destruction-of-cultural-property-a-war-crime/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Women Win. (2019). *Defining Conflict/post Conflict*. [online] Available at: <http://guides.womenwin.org/gbv/conflict/context/defining-conflict-post-conflict> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ BBC News. (2018). Q&A: World Heritage In Danger List. [online] Available at: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-32894863> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Unesco.org. (2019). *Definition of the cultural heritage | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*. [online] Available at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/illicit-trafficking-of-cultural-property/unesco-database-of-national-cultural-heritage-laws/frequently-asked-questions/definition-of-the-cultural-heritage/> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].

- ¹ Oxford Dictionaries | English. (2018). cultural cleansing | Definition of cultural cleansing in English by Oxford Dictionaries. [online] Available at: <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/cultural%20cleansing> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ UN News. (2018). “Cultural cleansing” by terrorists is a war crime: UNESCO chief. [online] Available at: <https://news.un.org/en/audio/2017/03/625382> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ The Irish Times. (2018). Why the tide of ‘cultural cleansing’ must be rolled back. [online] Available at: <https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/why-the-tide-of-cultural-cleansing-must-be-rolled-back-1.2859974> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Armitage, H. (2018). 10 Cultural Landmarks Destroyed By War. [online] Culture Trip. Available at: <https://theculturetrip.com/middle-east/articles/10-cultural-landmarks-destroyed-by-war/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ S.U.R.E. (2018). What happens to heritage sites in times of conflict?. [online] Available at: <http://www.nlb.gov.sg/sure/what-happens-to-heritage-sites-in-times-of-conflict/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ S.U.R.E. (2018). What happens to heritage sites in times of conflict?. [online] Available at: <http://www.nlb.gov.sg/sure/what-happens-to-heritage-sites-in-times-of-conflict/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Centre, U. (2018). Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Armitage, H. (2018). 10 Cultural Landmarks Destroyed By War. [online] Culture Trip. Available at: <https://theculturetrip.com/middle-east/articles/10-cultural-landmarks-destroyed-by-war/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Historians.org. (2018). History in Ruins: Cultural Heritage Destruction around the World | Perspectives on History | AHA. [online] Available at: <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/april-2017/history-in-ruins-cultural-heritage-destruction-around-the-world> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ The Globe Post. (2018). Yemen War Erodes the Country's Architectural Heritage. [online] Available at: <https://theglobepost.com/2018/03/06/yemen-war-heritage/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Portal.unesco.org. (2018). Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. [online] Available at: http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=13637&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Un.org. (2018). Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2199 (2015), Security Council Condemns Trade with Al-Qaida Associated Groups, Threatens Further Targeted Sanctions | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. [online] Available at: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc11775.doc.htm> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ UNESCO. (2019). #Unite4Heritage brings cultural heritage to the heart of UNESCO General Conference. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/news/unite4heritage-brings-cultural-heritage-heart-unesco-general-conference> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ UNESCO. (2018). A historic resolution to protect cultural heritage. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/courier/2017-october-december/historic-resolution-protect-cultural-heritage> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Centre, U. (2018). Join the World Heritage Volunteers Campaign 2018. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1815> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Web.ics.purdue.edu. (2018). Brussels Declaration 1874. [online] Available at: <https://web.ics.purdue.edu/~wggray/Teaching/His300/Handouts/Brussels-1874.html> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Ihl-databases.icrc.org. (2018). Treaties, States parties, and Commentaries - Hague Convention (II) on the Laws and Customs of War on Land, 1899 - 27 -. [online] Available at: <https://ihl->

- databases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=C50B4E4486305FF5C12563CD00515E60 [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Portal.unesco.org. (2018). Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. [online] Available at: http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=13637&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Centre, U. (2018). Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Icomos.org. (2018). [online] Available at: https://www.icomos.org/images/DOCUMENTS/Charters/arch_e.pdf [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Un.org. (2018). S/RES/2347 (2017) | United Nations Security Council Subsidiary Organs. [online] Available at: <https://www.un.org/sc/suborg/en/s/res/2347-%282017%29> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Un.org. (2018). Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2199 (2015), Security Council Condemns Trade with Al-Qaida Associated Groups, Threatens Further Targeted Sanctions | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. [online] Available at: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc11775.doc.htm> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Britishcouncil.org. (2018). Destroying cultural heritage: more than just material damage | British Council. [online] Available at: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/voices-magazine/destroying-cultural-heritage-more-just-material-damage> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ ATHA. (2018). Attacks on Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflict. [online] Available at: <http://atha.se/blog/ihl-briefing-2> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Fighting the looting of Syria's cultural heritage_PURE. (2018). [ebook] Available at: http://pure.au.dk/Sofiareport_2016 [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Fighting the looting of Syria's cultural heritage_PURE. (2018). [ebook] Available at: http://pure.au.dk/Sofiareport_2016 [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ UNESCO. (2018). UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws Updated. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-database-national-cultural-heritage-laws-updated> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ artnet News. (2019). *ISIS Destroying Iraq's Cultural Heritage - artnet News*. [online] Available at: <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/isis-destroying-iraqs-cultural-heritage-one-site-at-a-time-58790> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
 - ¹ Centre, U. (2018). Afghanistan's cultural heritage: Safeguarding Campaign. [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/2/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Cemml.colostate.edu. (2018). Untitled. [online] Available at: <https://www.cemml.colostate.edu/cultural/09476/afgh08-01enl.html> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ artnet News. (2018). A Monumental Loss: Here Are the Most Significant Cultural Heritage Sites Destroyed by ISIS | artnet News. [online] Available at: <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/isis-cultural-heritage-sites-destroyed-950060> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Smarthistory.org. (2018). Cultural heritage at risk: Mali – Smarthistory. [online] Available at: <https://smarthistory.org/cultural-heritage-risk-mali/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Obenland, W. (2018). The ICC convicts Al Mahdi for the destruction of cultural heritage in Mali. [online] Globalpolicy.org. Available at: <https://www.globalpolicy.org/component/content/article/52882-the-icc-convicts-al-mahdi-for-the-destruction-of-cultural-heritage-in-mali.html> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
 - ¹ Burke, J. (2018). ICC ruling for Timbuktu destruction 'should be deterrent for others'. [online] the Guardian. Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/sep/27/timbuktu-shrines-icc-sentences-islamic-militant-nine-years-destruction-ahmad-al-faqi-al-mahdi> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

- ¹ artnet News. (2018). A Monumental Loss: Here Are the Most Significant Cultural Heritage Sites Destroyed by ISIS | artnet News. [online] Available at: <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/isis-cultural-heritage-sites-destroyed-950060> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ Mail Online. (2019). *ISIS show off their destruction of 2,000-year-old temple at Palmyra.* [online] Available at: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3229268/Pictured-ISIS-destruction-2-000-year-old-temple-Palmyra-left-just-one-arch-standing.html> [Accessed 10 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Cultural Heritage in Postwar Recovery. (2018). .
- ¹ Gendall, J. (2019). *Do We Need to Rebuild Historic Sites Ruined by Terrorism? | Architectural Digest.* [online] Architectural Digest. Available at: <https://www.architecturaldigest.com/story/do-we-need-to-rebuild-historic-sites-ruined-by-terrorism> [Accessed 11 Jan. 2019].
- ¹ Centre, U. (2018). Post-Conflict Reconstruction in the Middle East Context, and in the Old City of Aleppo in particular (18-19 June 2015). [online] Whc.unesco.org. Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1286/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- ¹ UNESCO. (2018). Strategy for the Reinforcement of UNESCO's Action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict. [online] Available at: <https://en.unesco.org/heritage-at-risk/strategy-culture-armed-conflict> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].

11. Further Resources

- Nationalgeographic.com. (2018). *What Is UNESCO World Heritage?.* [online] Available at: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/world-heritage/about/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- Unesco.org. (2018). *Protection of cultural heritage in conflict zones highlighted at the Palais des Nations | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.* [online] Available at: http://www.unesco.org/new/en/geneva/about-this-office/single-view/news/protection_of_cultural_heritage_in_conflict_zones_highlighte/ [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].
- Unesco.org. (2018). *Armed Conflict and Heritage | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.* [online] Available at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/armed-conflict-and-heritage/> [Accessed 21 Dec. 2018].