

# RED LIST OF BRAZILIAN CULTURAL OBJECTS AT RISK



**RedList**  
**Lista Vermelha**  
**ICOM**



# RED LIST

## OF BRAZILIAN CULTURAL OBJECTS AT RISK

### Why a Red List for Brazil?

The cultural heritage of Brazil is protected by strong national and international laws, but this diverse heritage is still at risk of being stolen, looted or illegally traded. The purpose of this *Red List of Brazilian Cultural Objects at Risk* is to contribute to the protection of cultural heritage by identifying the type of objects that are most at risk.

Museums, auction houses, art dealers and collectors are urged not to acquire objects similar to those presented in this Red List, without having carefully and thoroughly researched their origin and all the relevant legal documentation. Any cultural artefact that could have originated from Brazil should be subject to detailed scrutiny and precautionary measures before any transaction is concluded.

In cooperation with ICOM Brazil and a dedicated team of Brazilian specialists, ICOM has published this *Red List of Brazilian Cultural Objects at Risk* thanks to the support of Itaú Cultural and Moreira Salles Institute.

### Protecting cultural heritage

Every day, somewhere in the world, objects are either stolen, looted or illegally sold on the market or online, resulting in an irreparable loss of heritage of great historical, scientific and societal value. Over the past 30 years, the illicit trade in art and antiquities has become a serious issue which transcends borders and whose impact reaches far beyond the loss of cultural heritage.

Since 2000, ICOM has published Red Lists that detail categories of endangered cultural goods from all over the world. These Red Lists have become important instruments in the fight against the illicit traffic in cultural goods. Red Lists are practical tools that help in particular art and heritage professionals, and law enforcement officials, identify cultural objects that are protected by national and international legislation.

The ICOM Red Lists were preceded by the *One Hundred Missing Objects* series: an ICOM publication that high-lighted missing cultural objects. For decades, ICOM has been at the forefront of actions to protect heritage from illicit trafficking, using the unique experience of museum professionals to assist heritage and non-heritage experts alike identify and protect cultural heritage.

### Should you suspect that a cultural object originating from Brazil may be stolen, looted or illegally exported, please contact:

**International Council of Museums (ICOM)**  
15, rue Lasson - 75012 Paris - France  
Tel.: +33 (0)1 47 34 05 00  
E-mail: [illicit-traffic@icom.museum](mailto:illicit-traffic@icom.museum)

**National Institute of Historic and Artistic Heritage (IPHAN)**  
(Concerning Archeological and Movable Cultural Goods)  
Centro Empresarial Brasília 50 - SEPS 702/902,  
Bloco C, Torre A - Bairro Asa Sul, Brasília.  
CEP 70390-025  
Tel.: +55 61 20246000  
E-mail: [cna@iphan.gov.br](mailto:cna@iphan.gov.br)  
[depam@iphan.gov.br](mailto:depam@iphan.gov.br)

**National Mining Agency (ANM)**  
(Concerning Paleontological Goods)  
Edifício CNC III, SBN Quadra 2, Bloco N,  
Asa Norte, Brasília/DC  
Tel.: +55 61 33126611

**Brazilian Institute of Museums (IBRAM)**  
(Concerning Movable Cultural Goods)  
SBN Q 2, Bloco N, Edifício CNC III, Lote 8,  
Brasília/DC, Brazil, 70040-020  
Tel.: +55 61 35214035  
E-mail: [dpmus@museus.gov.br](mailto:dpmus@museus.gov.br)

## IMPORTANT NOTE

### A Red List is NOT a list of actual stolen objects.

The cultural goods depicted are inventoried objects within the collections of recognised institutions, public property belonging to the State, or images which are in the public domain. They serve to illustrate the categories of cultural goods protected by legislation which are most vulnerable to illicit traffic.

# Main laws protecting cultural heritage from Brazil

This list is non-exhaustive. All instruments and regulations should be read to include eventual amendments and/or implementation acts.

## NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Decree-Law No. 25 *organising the protection of national historic and artistic heritage* (Promulgated 30 November 1937).

Decree-Law No. 4,146 *providing for the protection of fossiliferous deposits* (Promulgated 4 March 1942).

Decree No. 44,841 *concerning the 1954 Hague Convention and its First Protocol* (Promulgated 11 November 1958).

Law No. 3,924 *providing for archaeological and prehistoric monuments* (Promulgated 26 July 1961).

Law No. 4,845 *prohibiting the departure of works of art and crafts produced in the country until the end of the monarchical period* (Promulgated 19 November 1965).

Law No. 5,471 *providing for the export of antique books and Brazilian bibliographical sets* (Promulgated 9 July 1968).

Decree No. 72,312 *concerning the 1970 UNESCO Convention* (Accession 31 May 1973).

Ordinance No. 262 of IPHAN *providing for the authorisation for the temporary export of goods with restrictions by Decree-Law No. 25/1937 and Law No. 4,845/1965* by Brazilian Institute of Cultural Heritage (Created 14 August 1992).

Ordinance No. 93 of IBAMA *providing for the Import and Export of Native or Exotic Wild Fauna and List of Domestic Fauna for IBAMA Operationalisation Purposes* (Created 7 July 1998).

Decree No. 3,607 *providing for the implementation of CITES and other provisions* (Promulgated on 21 September 2000).

Decree No. 5,760 *concerning the Second Protocol relating to the 1954 Hague Convention* (Promulgated 24 April 2006).

Normative Instruction No. 1 of IPHAN *creating the National Register of Art and Antiques Dealers (CNART)* (Created 11 June 2007).

Law No. 12,840 *providing for the destination of goods of cultural, artistic, or historical value to museums* (Promulgated 9 July 2013).

Ordinance No. 44 of IPHAN *concerning IPHAN's statement regarding claims about the existence of a legal restriction for the exit of cultural goods from the country* (Created 19 February 2016).

Ordinance No. 197 of IPHAN *requesting for the shipment of archaeological material for analysis abroad* (Created 18 May 2016).

Ordinance No. 396 of IPHAN *commands to be observed in the sale of antiques or works of art under the terms of Law No. 9,631/1998* (Created 15 September 2016).

Ordinance No. 80 of IPHAN *determining administrative infractions in the sale of antiques and works of art under the terms of Law No. 9,631/1998* (Created 7 March 2017).

## INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

The Hague Convention of 14 May 1954 *for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention.*

First Protocol (Ratification 12 September 1958)

Second Protocol (Accession 23 December 2005)

UNESCO Convention of 14 November 1970 *on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.* (Ratification 16 February 1973)

UNESCO Convention of 16 November 1972 *concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.* (Ratification 1 September 1977)

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna – CITES of 3 March 1973. (Ratification 17 November 1975)

UNIDROIT Convention of 24 June 1995 *on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects.* (Accession 23 March 1999)

## BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Brazil has bilateral agreements in place to ensure the return of stole cultural heritage from the following countries:

Peru (9 April 2002)

Bolivia (28 October 2002)

Botswana (17 October 2011)

Ecuador (1 October 2012)

Spain (12 November 2012)

Uzbekistan (5 February 2013)

## MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS

MERCOSUR Declaration of Buenos Aires (Decision of the Community Market Council No. 02/95) *for the Commission on Cultural Heritage (CPC) on Preventing and Combating Illicit Traffic in Cultural Goods.*

UNASUR Declaration *on Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property and Cultural Heritage.* (Ratification 14 September 2015)

# RED LIST OF BRAZILIAN C

ICOM wishes to thank all of the institutions and people who so generously provided the photographs presented in this *Red List of Brazilian Cultural Objects at Risk*. All institutions (and where necessary, individuals) are credited with their names or acronyms. Where acronyms are used, please see their full institutional names in the following list:

**FBN:** National Library Foundation

**IPHAN-MG:** National Institute of Historic and Artistic Heritage  
Minas Gerais State Superintendence

**IPHAN-RJ:** National Institute of Historic and Artistic Heritage  
Rio de Janeiro State Superintendence

**MAE/USP:** Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology  
of the University of São Paulo

**MCT:** Museum of Earth Sciences

**MN:** National Museum

**MRCO:** Regional Museum Casa dos Ottoni

**UERJ:** University of State of Rio de Janeiro

**UFRJ:** Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

## THE RED LIST INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES AND SUB-CATEGORIES:

### Books, Documents, Manuscripts and Photographs

15<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century AD

**Books** including some of the first books printed in Brazil, as well as those from abroad, dating back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century, including Brazilian and foreign literature in Portuguese and other languages, in Brazilian collections and protected by law. [1–2]

**Photographs and lithographs** featuring images of Brazil from the 19<sup>th</sup> century or the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including photos, engravings, drawings and prints; labels and menus. [3–4]



1



2



3



4

1. The Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas, by Machado de Assis, Rio de Janeiro, 19<sup>th</sup> c., 20 x 14 cm. © FBN

2. Mainz Bible by Johanne[n] Fust et Petru[m] Schoiffher, Germany, 15<sup>th</sup> c., 42 x 31 cm. © FBN

3. Albumen photo of Palmeiras Avenue, by Revert Henry Klumb, Rio de Janeiro, 19<sup>th</sup> c., 9 x 6 cm. © FBN

4. Lithograph of the view of São Sebastião, Rio de Janeiro, from Ilha das Cobras, Germany, 19<sup>th</sup> c., 34.2 x 44.2 cm. © FBN

**Manuscripts, maps and periodicals** including original texts and documents; printed maps and atlases of Brazil from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries; magazines and newspapers from 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, including comics. [5–6–7]



5



6



7

5. Letter from John VI concerning the opening of the ports in Brazil, 19<sup>th</sup> c., 34.5 X 22.2 cm. © FBN

6. Map of Brazil, by Giacomo Gastaldi, Italy, 15<sup>th</sup> c., 30.9 x 39.4 cm. © FBN

7. First edition of O TICO-TICO, Rio de Janeiro, 20<sup>th</sup> c., 30.5 x 22 cm. © FBN

## Archaeology

Pre-historic period – 17<sup>th</sup> century AD

Archaeological objects from various regions in Brazil, in ceramic and polished stone, of different shapes and sizes, from pre- and post-colonial periods.

**Funerary urns** belonging to pre-colonial and historical indigenous communities, made of clay, in different shapes, including anthropomorphic. [8–9]

**Tanga and Muiraquitã**, pubic coverings and ornaments, belonging to historic indigenous communities, including the pre-colonial culture. [10–11]



**8.** Spherical Marajoara funerary urn with anthropomorphic designs, Marajó Island, Pará, 5<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> c., 80 x 70 cm. © MAE/USP

**9.** Guarita funerary urn in the shape of seated human body, Amazonas, 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> c., 67 x 42 x 40 cm. © MAE/USP

**10.** Ceramic triangular body covering with holes, red and black paint, with geometric motifs over white slip, Marajó Island, Pará, 5<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> c., 12 x 15 cm. © MAE/USP

**11.** Frog pendant sculpture in stone, various regions of Brazil, pre-colonial period, 5.4 x 4.9 x 1.2 cm. © MAE/USP

**Ceramic statues, figurines and rattles** from indigenous communities and pre-colonial cultures, in various shapes and materials. [12–13–14]



**12.** Ceramic pipe bowls with floral decorations in high relief, various regions of Brazil, pre-colonial and colonial period, 7.6 x 5.1 cm/15 x 4 x 3.5 cm. © MAE/USP

**13.** Santarém figurine representing seated pregnant woman, with semi-circular base, Santarém, Pará, 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> c., 27 x 17 cm. © MAE/USP

**14.** Phallic Marajoara rattle figurine with decoration in high relief, Lower Tapajós, Pará, pre-colonial period, 5.4 x 4.9 x 1.2 cm. © MAE/USP

**Stone weapons and tools** including axe blades and arrow points, from various regions of pre-colonial Brazil. [15–16]



**15.** Arrowheads in different types of rock, various regions of Brazil, pre-colonial period, 11 x 3.5 cm/7 x 4.7 cm/6 x 2 cm. © MAE/USP

**16.** Axe blades in polished stone, half-moon-shaped or oblong, various regions of Brazil, pre-colonial period, 17 x 17 cm/22 x 9 cm. © MAE/USP

## Sacred and Religious Art

16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century AD

Religious statues, artifacts and accessories of Catholic tradition and ritual objects of African origin in Brazil.

**Religious sculptures** from Catholic tradition in Brazil, depicting different saints, in terracotta and carved wood. [17–18–19–20]

**Moveable oratories and sculpture accessories** from Catholic tradition in Brazil, in silver and carved wood, housing statues of religious figures. [21–22]



17. Gilded and polychrome wood sculpture of Our Lady of Carmel, Mitra Archdiocese, Diamantina, Minas Gerais, 18<sup>th</sup> c., 100 x 50 x 30 cm. © MRCO

18. Gilded polychrome wood sculpture of St. Anthony, Minas Gerais, 18<sup>th</sup> c., 26 x 11 x 6.5 cm. © IPHAN-MG/Cibele B. S. de Andrade

19. Terracotta sculpture of Our Lady of Conception, Minas Gerais, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> c., 12 x 31.5 x 8 cm. © IPHAN-MG/Cibele B. S. de Andrade

20. Polychrome wood sculpture of Infant Jesus, Mitra Archdiocese, Diamantina, Minas Gerais, 18<sup>th</sup> c., 36 x 14.2 x 13.5 cm. © MRCO

21. Beaten silver halo tiara with small stones, stars and flowers, Brotherhood of the Blessed Sacrament of Candelaria, Rio de Janeiro, 19<sup>th</sup> c., 31 x 34 cm. © IPHAN-RJ

22. Portable gilded and polychrome wood oratory, Mitra Archdiocese, Diamantina, Minas Gerais, 18<sup>th</sup> c., 114 x 68 x 35 cm. © MRCO

**Service artifacts and artistic elements integrated into architecture** from Catholic tradition in Brazil, used in ceremonials and in churches. [23–24]

**Ritual objects of African origin** used in ceremonies of African origin in Brazil, often seized by judicial police and later transferred to Brazilian museums. [25–26–27]



23. Fragment of altarpiece, gilded and polychrome wooden roundel, Minas Gerais, 18<sup>th</sup> c., 53 x 54 x 5 cm. © IPHAN-MG/Cibele B. S. de Andrade

24. Turned and cast pewter candlestick, Mitra Archdiocese, Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> c., 50 x 23.5 x 17.5 cm. © IPHAN-MG/Cibele B. S. de Andrade

25. "Edan" brass neck symbol of the Ogboni society, Rio de Janeiro, 1880, 40 x 2 cm. © MN/Roosevelt Mota

26. "Abebé" brass ritual object of Orixá Oxum, Rio de Janeiro, 1880, 28 x 20 cm. © MN/Roosevelt Mota

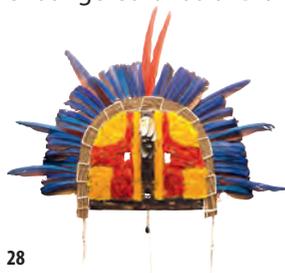
27. Ritual wood sculpture of Orixá Xangô, Rio de Janeiro, 1880, 24 x 12 cm. © MN/Roosevelt Mota

## Ethnographic Objects

20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> century AD

Headdresses, necklaces and other objects belonging to contemporary indigenous communities of Brazil.

**Feather objects** including indigenous headdresses and masks made from prominent feathers of wild or endangered birds of Brazil. [28–29–30–31]



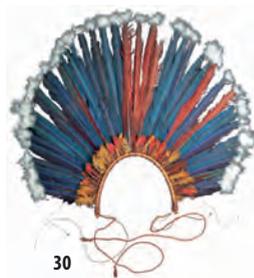
28

28. Tawã mask on feathered wooden base with macaw feathers, mother-of-pearl eyes, Apyãwa/Tapirapé People, Mato Grosso, 21<sup>st</sup> c., 70 x 60 cm. © MAE/USP/Ader Gotardo



29

29. "Leque de Ocipício" head ornament with macaw feathers, jabiru, parrot and wild duck, Iny/Karajá People, Tocantins, 20<sup>th</sup> c., 74 x 135 cm. © MAE/USP/Wagner S. e Silva



30

30. "Pariko" head ornament with macaw feathers and white feathers on the extremities, Boe/Bororo People, Mato Grosso, 20<sup>th</sup> c., 45 x 70 cm. © MAE/USP/Wagner S. e Silva



31

31. Head ornament with white heron and macaw feathers, Mebêngôkre/Kayapó People, Pará, date unknown, 55 x 143 cm. © MAE/USP/Wagner S. e Silva

**Objects featuring elements from wild or endangered animals** including necklaces and chest pieces, made from organic materials including plant fibres, teeth, bones and claws. [32–33]



32

32. Chestplate with giant armadillo claws and red macaw feathers, with details in mother-of-pearl, Boe/Bororo People, Mato Grosso, 20<sup>th</sup> c., 59.5 x 11 cm. © MAE/USP/Wagner S. e Silva



33

33. Necklace of plant fiber with monkey and jaguar teeth, Huni Kuin/Kaxinawá People, Acre, 20<sup>th</sup> c., 37 x 28 cm. © MAE/USP/Ader Gotardo

## Palaeontology

278 million years (MY) – 120 million years (MY)

Fossils recovered from Brazilian sedimentary basins, including remains of vertebrates, invertebrates and plants.

**Palaeovertebrates** including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. [34–35–36]

**Paleoinvertebrates** including ants, snails, worms, flies, spider, grasshopper, shrimp, crab, octopus and starfish. [37]

**Ichnology** trace fossils, recording biological activity including - but not limited - to footprints, nests, and burrows. [38]

**Palaeobotany** including fossilised remains, impressions or compressions of ancient plants. [39]



34

34. *Vinctifer comptoni* fish, Crato Formation/Araípe Basin, Ceará, approx. 120 MY, 51 x 15 cm. © MCT/Rafael Costa da Silva



35

35. Pterosaur *Tupandactylus Imperator* skull, Crato Formation/Araípe Basin, Ceará, approx. 120 MY, 55 x 40 cm. © MCT/Rafael Costa da Silva



36

36. Mesosaur *Mesosaurus Brasiliensis*, Irati Formation/Paraná Basin, Paraná, approx. 278 MY, 50 x 10 cm. © MN/Hermínio Ismael de A. Júnior



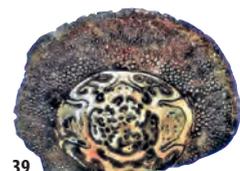
37

37. In situ track of a theropod dinosaur, Antenor Navarro Formation/Sousa Basin, Paraíba, approx. 140 MY, 20 x 15 cm. © UFRJ/Ismar de Souza Carvalho



38

38. Pteridophyte *Psaronius Brasiliensis* Isotype, Motuca Formation/Parnaíba Basin, Piauí, approx. 257 MY, 25 x 20 cm. © MN/Antônio Carlos Fernandes



39

39. *Creতারaneus Martinsnetoi* spider, Crato Formation/Araípe Basin, Ceará, approx. 120 MY, 5 x 5 cm. © UERJ/Hermínio Ismael de A. Júnior

# ICOM AND THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

The International Council of Museums (ICOM) was established in 1946 to represent museums and museum professionals worldwide. ICOM is committed to the promotion and protection of natural and cultural heritage, present and future, tangible and intangible. With a unique network of over 45,000 members in 123 countries and territories (2021), ICOM is active in a wide range of museum and heritage related disciplines.

ICOM maintains formal relations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and has a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) as an expert in the fight against illicit traffic in cultural goods. ICOM also works in collaboration with organisations such as INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization (WCO) and UNIDROIT to carry out some of its international public service missions.

The protection of heritage in the event of natural disaster or armed conflict is also at the core of ICOM's work, supported by its members, and its national and international committees and through its strong involvement in the Blue Shield, of which it is a founding member. In the event of a crisis, ICOM can mobilise its network of experts in the field of cultural heritage from all over the world.

In 2013, ICOM also created the first *International Observatory on Illicit Traffic in Cultural Goods* in order to reinforce its actions in fighting illicit traffic with a database of resources on the subject available online (<https://www.obs-traffic.museum/>).

The Red Lists have been designed as practical tools to fight the illegal trade in cultural objects. ICOM is grateful for the unwavering commitment of the experts and institutions who generously contribute to the success of the Red Lists.

All the Red Lists are available on ICOM website: <https://icom.museum/en/>

*With the generous support of:*

**ICOM** international  
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