

Lieber Code and the protection of cultural property in times of war

Cultural goods, movable and immovable, are testimonies to the historical memory, and the need to protect them in times of war and hostilities has occupied all the nations around the world, which have been active in establishing a strong legal framework for protection.

The Lieber' s code , who was written and published during the American Civil War, in 1863, is the first codification of rules of war and among other things includes provisions concerning the protection of cultural property in wartime. Despite the fact that the code was not binding, was a huge legal value, as it was one of the earliest texts of modern humanitarian law, and also served as a model for subsequent coding and contributed to the development of laws concerning the protection of cultural heritage.

This paper examines the contents of the Code, regarding protection of cultural property in wartime while aiming to highlight the need for statutory protection requiring the treasures of the past are keepers of memory and bridges that connect the present with the past .

Keywords: cultural property, cultural goods, protection of cultural property, Lieber 's code.

Anthi Atzamidaki