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Transnational crime and the interface between legal and illegal actors : the case of the illicit art and antiquities trade

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Citation

Tijhuis, A. J. G. (2006, September 6). *Transnational crime and the interface between legal and illegal actors : the case of the illicit art and antiquities trade*. Wolf Legal Publishers. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/4551>

Version: Corrected Publisher's Version

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How does transnational crime interact with legal companies and governments? Are legal actors primarily victimized by transnational criminals or are the two connected by collaborative relationships? And how are these crimes transformed into legitimate activities?

This book seeks to answer these and related questions. The research presented is based on a thorough study of the literature on transnational crime as well as an empirical study of the illicit art and antiquities trade. Transnational crime in this study includes, besides the illicit art and antiquities trade, for example drug trafficking, cigarette smuggling, the trade in 'blood diamonds', human trafficking and international terrorism. The study of the illicit art and antiquities trade is based on data that were gathered in the Netherlands, France, Italy and the United Kingdom. The data sources included official files as well as interviews with archaeologists, museum curators, art dealers and other persons in and around the art and antiquities trade.

Edgar Tijhuis (1976) studied Law, Political Science and American Studies at the University of Amsterdam. He currently works as a lawyer at Pontius Lawyers in Amsterdam. The present research was conducted at the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement in Leiden.



ISBN 10: 90-5850-195-7
ISBN 13: 978-90-5850-195-0



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