



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

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

Tijhuis, A.J.G.

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

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/4551>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Acknowledgements

This dissertation would not have been possible without the help of a number of people. Thanking all of them for what they contributed would make these acknowledgements too long and hard to read. Furthermore, a number of them wish to remain anonymous, for different reasons. Nevertheless, I would like to name several people and institutions that have been particularly helpful.

First of all I want to express my gratitude to the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR) in Leiden. It was a pleasure to work here for over four years. Dedicated and hardworking researchers, good facilities and ample opportunities for conferences and courses make it an ideal place to work on a PhD study. A special word of thanks goes to Melvin Soudijn, Jasper van der Kemp and Albert Hartevelde.

The empirical study of the illicit art and antiquities trade would not have been possible without the generous and ample support of Charlotte van Rappard-Boon, the head of the Inspectorate of Cultural Heritage at the Dutch Ministry of Education, Sciences and Culture. At the Inspectorate I was able to analyze files on the import and export of cultural goods to and from the Netherlands. Thanks to the always helpful inspectors and other staff members, this was not only a fruitful but also a pleasant endeavour.

The work at the Inspectorate included a range of visits to Dutch Customs, where cooperative and qualified staff enabled me to make the most of the available data. Furthermore, via the Inspectorate, I was able to visit a number of foreign law enforcement agencies in France, Italy and the United Kingdom. In the United Kingdom this included the Cultural Property Unit at the Department for Culture Media and Sport as well as New Scotland Yard. In Italy, I made an extensive visit to the art squad of the Carabinieri, the military police. Finally, in France, I stayed with the L'Office Central de lutte contre le trafic des Biens Culturels, the art squad of the national police. For obvious reasons, I cannot mention the names of the persons involved.

These visits not only provided me with useful data but were also a unique chance to experience the *modus operandi* of specialized foreign law enforcement agencies that have no Dutch equivalent. I am indebted to all the persons that were willing to dedicate their time to a foreign academic.

Besides the official sources, I spoke with a long list of people in and around the art and antiquities trade. Art dealers, museum curators, archaeologists, art historians, as well as some people who do not fit into one of these general categories. In different ways, these people provided me with interesting data, insights or just opinions. I would like to thank all of them for their varying contributions to my study. Furthermore, I am much indebted to Antoon Ott, former director of NedArt, who assisted me in various ways with this study.

Finally I would like to thank some people that were not hindered by any criminological or artistic affiliation. James Bennett, Jan Klijn, Dennis van der Wal, Ineke Tjhuis-Brand and especially Samia Dualeh were helpful by, among other things, critically reading (parts of) the text and drawing the figures. Without their support, writing this book would have been a lot tougher.

Curriculum Vitae

Edgar Tijhuis werd op 20 januari in 1976 geboren in Borculo. In 1994 begon hij zijn studie aan de Universiteit van Amsterdam. Hij studeerde af in de Politicologie (1999), Rechten (2001) en Amerikanistiek (2002, met lof). Gedurende de studiejaren 1999 en 2000 studeerde hij respectievelijk aan de Fort Hare Universiteit in Zuid Afrika en de Universiteit Wenen in Oostenrijk. Van 2001 tot 2005 was hij als AIO van de faculteit bestuurskunde van de Universiteit Leiden gedetacheerd bij het Nederlands Studiecentrum voor Criminaliteit en Rechtshandhaving. In 2005 richtte hij, samen met Dennis van der Wal, Pontius Advocaten op in Amsterdam. Sindsdien is hij aldaar als advocaat werkzaam.

Edgar Tijhuis was born on the 20th of January in Borculo, the Netherlands. In 1994, he started studying at the University of Amsterdam. He obtained his LLM degree in Dutch Law (2001) and his MA degree in Political Science (1999) and American Studies (2002). Furthermore he studied a semester at Fort Hare University (South Africa) in 1999 and at the University of Vienna (Austria) in 2000. From 2001 till 2005 he did his Ph.D. research at the Faculty of Public Administration of Leiden University, seconded at the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement in Leiden. Since 2005, he works in Amsterdam at Pontius Lawyers, which he founded together with Dennis van der Wal.