



ANTI-SEIZURE CONSULTATION FORUM

London, 5th December 2007

Anti-seizure has become a central factor in the legal security of art loans and the cross-border mobility of art. The grant of immunity from legal action for travelling art raises fundamental questions about the efficient conduct of international exhibitions, the fair treatment of claimants, the reassurance available to lenders and the maintenance of ethical standards.

Parliament has now enacted sections 134 to 137 of the Tribunals Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 with the aim of conferring such immunity, and the Department of Culture Media and Sport has published its consultation paper (<http://www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/40CF359B-B464-49B1-BAE6-7E15156FE5E7/0/draftregulations_immunityfromseizure.pdf>) on Regulations to be published under the Act. These are matters of crucial importance to all museums in the United Kingdom, to their overseas lenders, to potential claimants and to their advisers and insurers.

The closing date for responses to the DCMS consultation paper is 21st December 2007; see generally:

<http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Consultations/2007_current_consultations/draftregs_immunityfromseizure.htm>

The aim of this meeting is to explore and develop attitudes to the proposals and to encourage the exchange of ideas. A group of specialist speakers will outline and comment on the proposals, following which the subject will be open for general debate. The Forum, organised by the Institute of Art and Law in association with the Foundation for International Cultural Diplomacy, will enable those who seek advice about the current position to clarify their views, crystallise their response to the DCMS paper and prepare themselves for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Speakers will include Judge Shoshana Berman (Israel); Charles A. Goldstein, Attorney, Herrick Feinstein, New York; Lord Howarth of Newport; Anna O'Connell (solicitor) and Professor Norman Palmer (barrister).

The cost of the seminar is £117.50 including VAT (50% reduction for members of the Institute of Art and Law).