

THE ROERICH PACT CHRONOLOGY

1904: Nicholas Roerich conceived the idea of the protection of artistic and scientific achievements of humanity. After travelling with his wife, Helena Roerich, about 40 Russian cities in which he could see the state of vulnerability and abandonment of many of the ancient monuments, he submitted a report to the society of Architects in Russia about the sad state of historical monuments and the need to take immediate action to protect them. He wrote in his article "Through ancient times": *"Last summer I had the chance to see much of our antiqueness and little real love for her"*.

1914: N. Roerich proposed his idea to the then Russian Imperial Government during World War I. So did with U.S. and France suggesting the conclusion of an international treaty to protect cultural values in armed conflict.

1915: N. Roerich wrote a report to the Emperor Nicholas I of Russia and Prince Nicholas Nicolayevich containing a call for the state to take real measures for national protection of cultural values.

1929: N. Roerich formally presented this proposal in New York, according to the codes of international law. The text of the pact was written by Georges Chklaver, PhD in International Law and Political Science at the University of Paris. The Committee of the Banner of Peace is based in New York and its principles are published in the press.

1930: The Pact was submitted to the League of Nations and approved by the Museum Committee of this League. The Committee by the Roerich Pact in Paris and the International Union for the Roerich Pact in Bruges, Belgium, is founded, this last one under the direction of a member of the Committee of Belgium for the protection of monuments, M. Camille Tulpinck.

1931: September 13-15. The First International Conference dedicated to the promulgation of the Roerich Pact is held in Bruges.

1932: August 8-9. The Second International Conference of the Roerich Pact in Bruges is done with the participation of 22 countries. In the same city after the Conference was inaugurated "Foundation Roerich pro Peace, Art, Science and Work. The Conference recommends that all countries recognize the Pact as an international document.

1933: November 15. The Steering Committee of the Third Convention of the Roerich Pact visit to President Roosevelt in the U.S.

November 17-18. The Third International Conference of the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace is performed on the Mayflower in Washington, USA, with the assistance of representatives from 35 nations, who recommend to all nations signing the Pact.

December. The Seventh Conference of the Pan American Union takes place in Montevideo (Uruguay) and adopted a resolution recommending the signing of the Pact to the 21 participating countries in North, Central and South America.

The Washington conference also elected a Standing Committee for Progress in the adoption of the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace, located in what is now the Master Building in New York. Was appointed as Director Louis Horch - President of Roerich Museum- , Vice Director Frances Grant and Secretary Ralph Magoffin Professor of University of New York. This body negotiated with all governments, organizations and individuals interested in the promotion and adoption of the Pact and received their formal expressions of adhesion.

1934: April 4. A report of the Special Committee of the Pan American Union dedicated to the Roerich Pact was approved.

August 11. President Roosevelt authorized the Minister of Agriculture Henry Wallace to sign the Pact on behalf of the U.S.

September 2: It is based in Harbin (Manchuria) the Pact and Banner of Peace Committee.

A similar committee was established in Bulgaria.

While Panama - the first country to announce that he was ready to sign the Pact-, Honduras, USA, Ecuador, Uruguay, Guatemala and Brazil had already placed their firm adhesion or had appointed their plenipotentiaries delegates to do that at the next Pan American Conference to be done on American Day, April 14, 1935.

Chile and China later reported that shortly be ready to sign Pact.

Several European countries reported to the Standing Committee that their governments had the Pact under consideration.

In Japan, the Banner of Peace was hoisted at the Ministry of Education on November 17, 1933, the day of the third conference in Washington.

1935: April 15. Is signed at the White House in Washington, USA, the Treaty "On the Protection of Artistic and Scientific Institutions and Historic Monuments (Roerich Pact)." The emblem for identification of protected objects (Banner of Peace) proposed by Roerich is adopted in this Treaty signed by the 21 countries of the Pan American Union:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela.

July 2: The U.S. Senate ratifies the Pact.

July 10: U.S. President ratifies the Pact.

October 25: The U.S. President promulgates the Pact.

1937: October. In the First Congress of Roerich Societies Baltic in Riga, the creation of Committees of the Roerich Pact in all Roerich Societies of the Baltic States was resolved.

The First Congress of International Research in Paris unanimously accepted the resolution of ratification of the Roerich Pact.

1938: November 6. Nagari Pracharini Sabha, the oldest Benares Literary Society adheres to the Roerich Pact.

November 17: The Banner of Peace is hoisted in Karachi, India.

1939: MCTulpinck announced that during the celebrations of Hans Memling in Bruges will be subscribed the adherence to Roerich Pact.

1942: Culture Association (ARCA) between the U.S. and Russia is founded. Helena Roerich said, "ARCA is another step of the Banner of Peace".

1946: January 23. First Meeting of the New York Committee for the resumption of the Pact and Banner of Peace.

April 18: The Sixth Pan-India Conference for Cultural Unity supports the Pact.

1948: August: The government of India, headed by Sri PJ Nehru adopted the resolution approving the Roerich Pact.

1948-1949: The Italian Association of Roerich Pact in Bologna organizes work to support the Pact on a broad basis. Committees of the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace working on: Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, France, England, Portugal, Brazil, Colombia, Uruguay, Bolivia and Cuba.

1949: The Fourth Session of the General Conference of UNESCO makes the decision to initiate the development of a new instrument of international standards for the protection of cultural values in armed conflicts.

1950: The New York Committee of the Roerich Pact transferred all documentation on Roerich Pact to UNESCO. At the Fifth Session of the General Conference of UNESCO Director General is entrusted with the preparation and submission of a draft convention. The Special Committee of the UNESCO prepares the draft international convention on the basis of the documents submitted.

1954: May 14. The United Nations Conference in The Hague accepts the "Convention for the protection of cultural values in the case of armed conflict." The paper was presented in 4 languages: English, Spanish, Russian and French. The convention explicitly accepts that it is based on the conventions of peace Hague 1899 and 1907 and also in the Roerich Pact. It was signed by representatives of 37 countries.

1956: August 7. Becomes effective the Hague Convention.

1968: April 1. The Hague Convention was signed by 59 countries including the Soviet Union.

1970: November 14. The 16th General Conference of UNESCO -UN body of education, science and culture body-, adopted in Paris the "Convention on measures aimed at prohibiting and preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural values." The Convention is issued in 4 languages: English, Spanish, French and Russian.

1972: November 23. The 17th General Conference of UNESCO in Paris adopted the "Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage." The document is issued in 5 languages: English, Spanish, French, Russian and Arabic.

1974: Novosibirs climbers hoisted the Banner of Peace in Roerich peak near Mount Belukha, Altai.

1988: May 6. The banner of peace is hoisted at the North Pole.

1990: February 11. Soviet cosmonauts A. Balandin and A. Solovyov deploy the Banner of Peace aboard the Mir orbital station.

1995: June 26. The Banner of Peace is given to G. von Moltke, Assistant Secretary for Political Affairs at NATO headquarters in Brussels.

October 9-11. The International Roerich Centre of Moscow organizes the International Conference "Protection of Culture" celebrating 60 years of the Roerich Pact.

1997: The Banner of Peace was given to the crew of the Soviet Soyuz-TM space station under the scientist-educator "Banner of Peace" project. It was delivered to the space station Mir and remained in space for two years -5 August 1997 August 28, 1999 - following the work of international crews.

1998: October 9. The Banner of Peace is hoisted at the Nicholas Roerich Museum in Moscow.

1999: January 5. The Banner of Peace was presented to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

March 26. The Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 "Convention for the protection of cultural values in armed conflict" is signed at The Hague. Thrown in 6 languages: English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic and Chinese

2000: January 8. The Banner of Peace is hoisted at the South Pole.

January 28. The Banner of Peace that was brought to the South Pole is delivered to the Secretary General of the UN, Kofi Annan as a gift of the expedition.

2001: November 2. The "Convention for the protection of underwater cultural heritage" is adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO.

2003: October 17. The 32nd General Conference of UNESCO accepts the "Convention for the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage". It is broadcast in 6 languages: English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic and Chinese.

2004: October 25. The Banner of Peace of the cosmic station Mir is delivered to the President of the Indian Parliament on the occasion of the 100th Birth Anniversary of Svetoslav Roerich, younger son of Nicholas and Helena Roerich.

2005: February 25. The Banner of Peace is hoisted in Antarctica Argentina in Esperanza Base.

2007: The Baltic Assembly adopted the Pact and declared April 15th as the Day of Culture in the three states: Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

2009: March 27. The Central American Parliament (PARLACEN) gives the AP/4-CCVIII-2009 resolution which resolves to retake the principles and commitments of the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace.

2012: November 28. It is sanctioned in the Argentina Republic the Law 26819 declaring September 21 as the International Day of Peace in joining the Order of the General Assembly of the United Nations and is authorized to raise the Banner of Peace in the buildings of the legislative, judicial and executive powers and in all public and private educational institutions throughout the nation.