Review of the Gurlitt Trove

The following graphs illustrate the research results by the ***Taskforce Schwabinger Kunstfund*** (Taskforce) as well as by the ***Gurlitt Provenance Research Project*** as part of the German Lost Art Foundation (DZK). All information is publicly available at:
http://www.taskforce-kunstfund.de/fileadmin/_downloads/factsheet_en.pdf;
https://www.kulturgutverluste.de/Webs/EN/ProjectGurlitt/Gurlitt-Provenance-Research/Results/Index.html;

The Gurlitt art trove was found at the homes of Cornelius Gurlitt (1932–2014), the son of Nazi art-dealer Hildebrand Gurlitt (1895 – 1956), in Munich and Salzburg in 2012. Additional artworks surfaced later, including the so-called *Kofferfund* (suitcase find). After Cornelius Gurlitt's passing in May 2014, the *Kunstmuseum Bern* Foundation was named the sole heir.

The aim of the provenance research projects was to clarify provenance gaps and to establish whether any of the artworks were Nazi-confiscated property. The *Taskforce Schwabinger Kunstfund* was established in November 2013 and dealt with a total number of 1,497 artworks. By the end of 2015, the Taskforce concluded its activities, and the research was continued by the newly established *Gurlitt Provenance Research Project* as part of the German Lost Art Foundation (DZK). The *Gurlitt Provenance Research Project* dealt with a total number of 1,566 artworks.

Both research projects first had to classify and categorize the many artworks that were in possession of Cornelius Gurlitt prior to his death, while also carrying out provenance research on artworks with provenance gaps to establish or disprove Nazi-loot. By the end of 2019, the *Gurlitt Provenance Research Project* team had ascertained that 14 works from the Gurlitt art trove were Nazi-confiscated property. This number included five (5) works that were initially not part of the Gurlitt art trove, but rather were part of the so-called 2017 *Konvolut Süddeutschland*, encompassing artworks originally held by Benita Renate Gurlitt (1935–2012). Since 2019, the *Kunstmuseum Bern* is carrying out provenance research on about 400 artworks, labeled as *Legat Cornelius Gurlitt – Konvolut «entartete» Kunst*. The provenance research project is carried out in cooperation with the *Forschungsstelle Entartete Kunst* at the University of Hamburg and is expected to provide research results shortly (https://www.kunstmuseumbern.ch/de/forschen/legat-cornelius-gurlitt-1969.html; https://www.kulturwissenschaften.uni-hamburg.de/ks/forschung/forschungsstelle-entartete-kunst.html).

Due to the nature of this research, many questions are left unanswered, and research must ideally continue at least for artworks with one or more red flags referring to mentions of Nazi agents or art dealers who collaborated with the National Socialist regime. A Claims Conference/WJRO review of all 615 "yellow" cases that are listed on the DZK website found that 155 artworks that were categorized as "yellow" by the *Gurlitt Provenance Research Project*, grouping artworks with provenance gaps between 1933 and 1945, should be reviewed again as most of these cases have one or more red flags. The review also found that an additional 77 cases should be more appropriately categorized as "orange," meaning that in these specific cases there are numerous red flags and prominent provenance gaps that suggest that

they are between "yellow" and "red". Of particular importance among the 77 cases are the 54 in which a claim was filed (https://art.claimscon.org/work-provenance-research-archives/gurlitt-collection/).

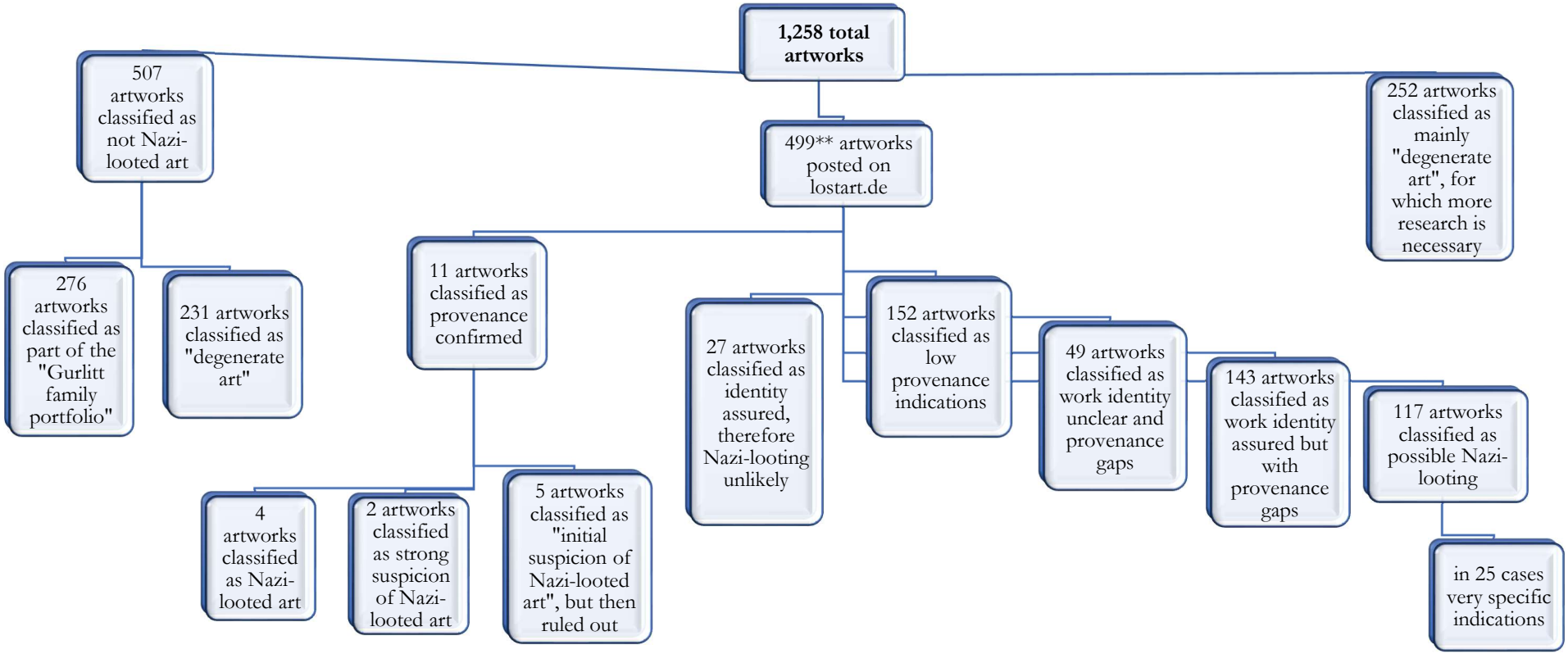
At the same time, a clear and organized overview of other artworks that are part of the Gurlitt trove is still missing. Currently, the DZK provides a searchable overview of artworks in the "red", "yellow" and "green" categories, albeit at least in regard to the "red" category, artworks researched and determined by the *Taskforce* as looted are not included, neither are the five artworks determined as looted that are part of the *Konvolut Süddeutschland*. There is no publicly available or searchable list of artworks that are classified as "degenerate art." The same is true for artworks that are part of the Gurlitt family portfolio and for artworks that are classified as mass production.

Accordingly, an overall list of all artworks dealt with by the *Gurlitt Provenance Research Project* is still missing, which would include artworks classified as *Konvolut Süddeutschland*. Rather, partial information on various specific aspects of the collection is available on various online platforms, such as on the DZK website, Proveana (*Datenbank Provenienzforschung*) or the online database lostart.de, yet often without the necessary explanations that would help navigate the various collection categories.

Part A - TASKFORCE SCHWABINGER KUNSTFUND

Graph I – Total Artworks*

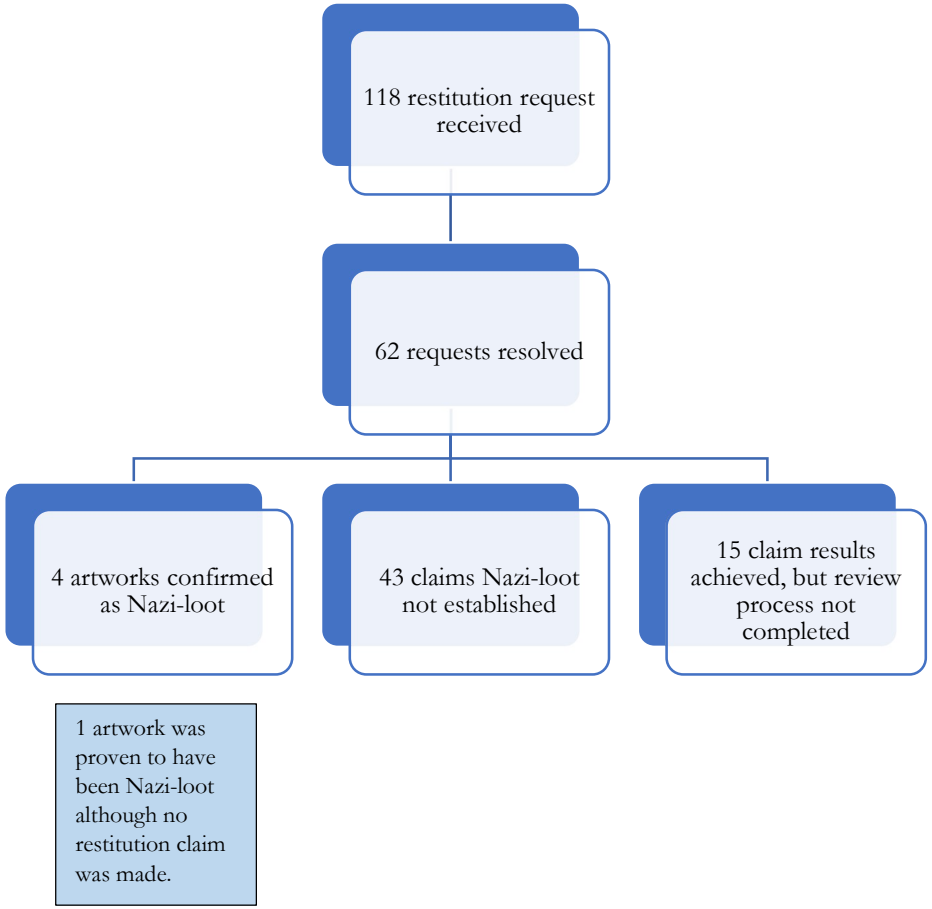
Information for graphs I – IV taken from: http://www.taskforce-kunstfund.de/fileadmin/_downloads/factsheet_en.pdf



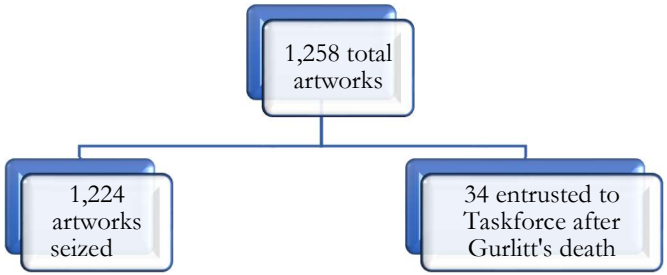
*… Total number of artworks as presented on the Taskforce's website. This number does not include the 239 artworks that were found in Salzburg.

**… 499 ORE's posted on http://www.taskforce-kunstfund.de/en/nc/materialien.htm

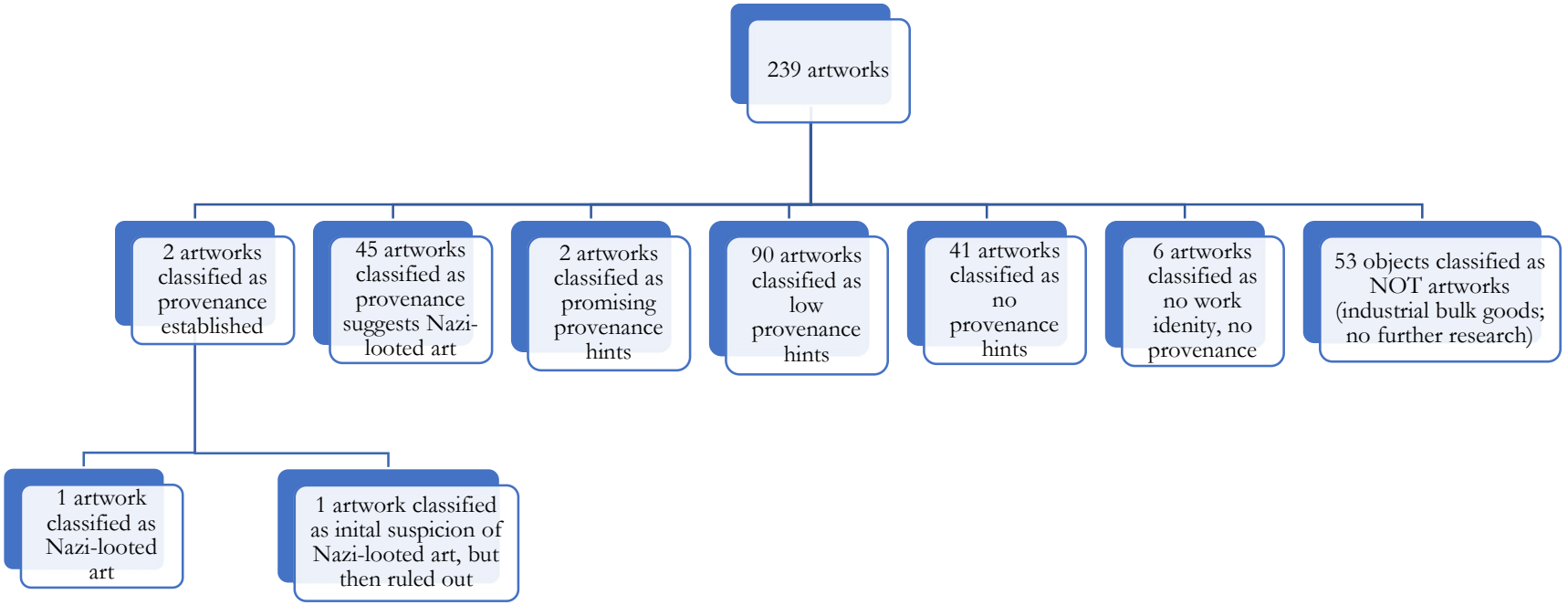
Graph II - Restitution claims received by the Taskforce



Graph III - Munich Art Trove



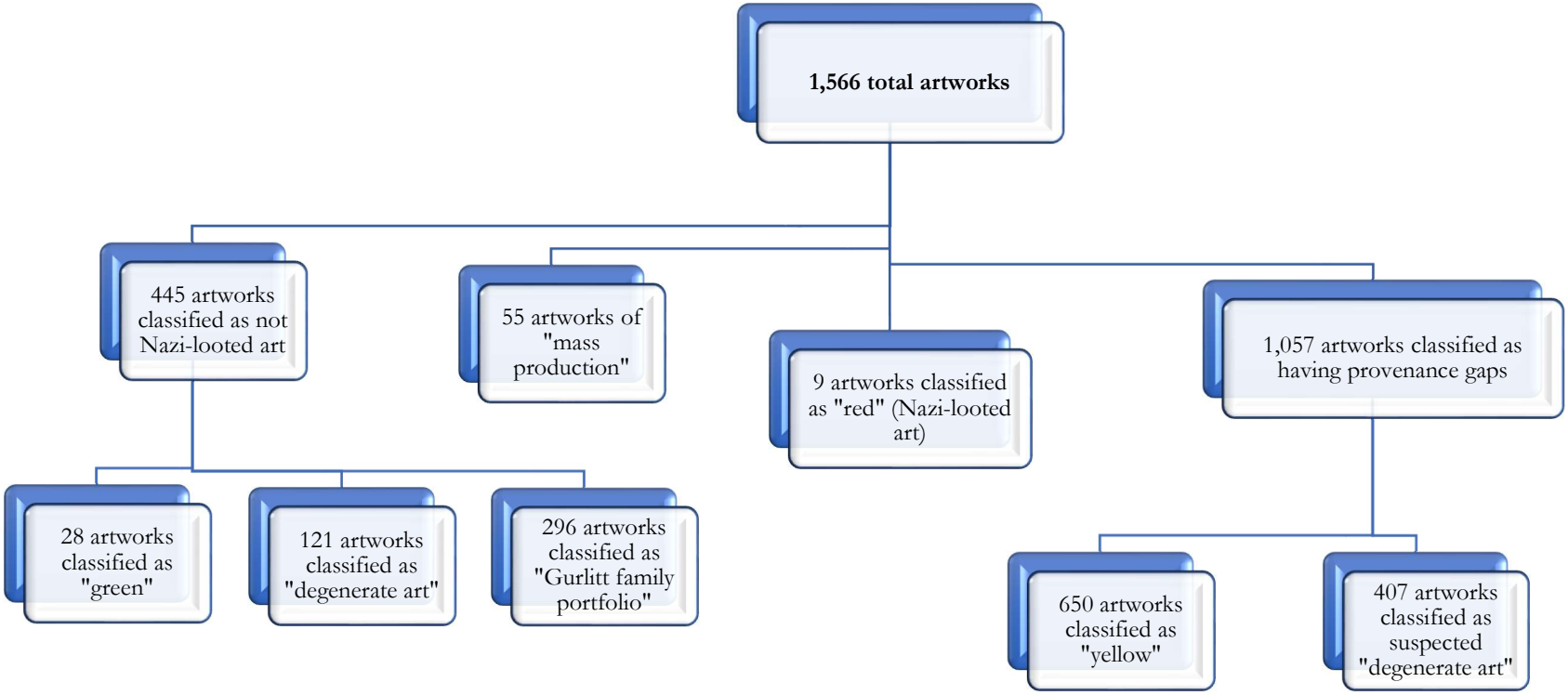
Graph IV- Salzburg Art Trove



Part B - GERMAN LOST ART FOUNDATION – GURLITT PROVENANCE RESEARCH

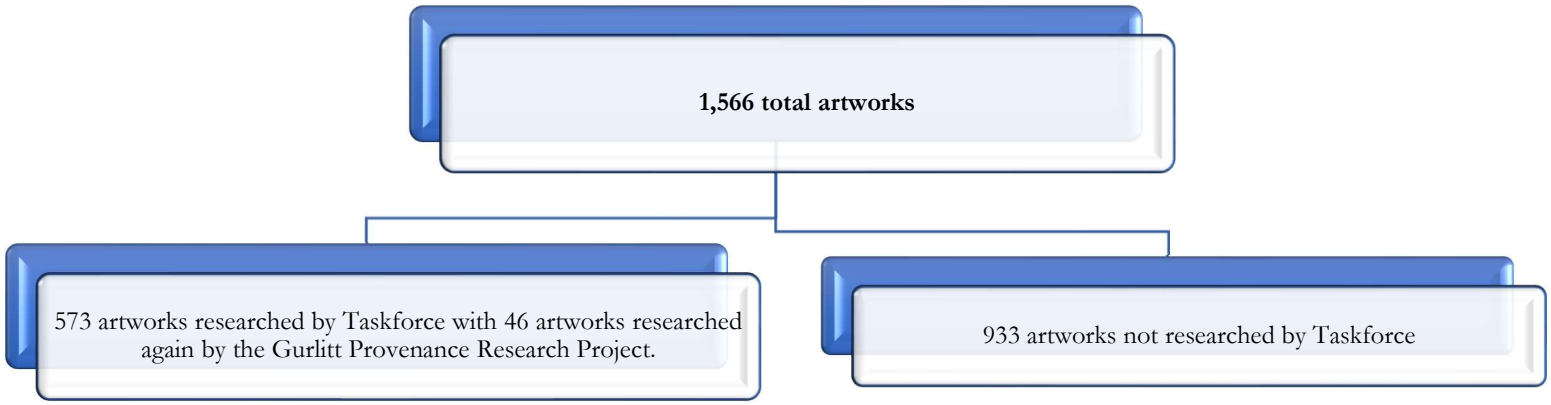
Graph I - Total Artworks

Information for graphs I - III taken from:
https://www.kulturgutverluste.de/Webs/DE/ProjektGurlitt/Provenienzrecherche-Gurlitt/Arbeitsergebnisse/Index.html

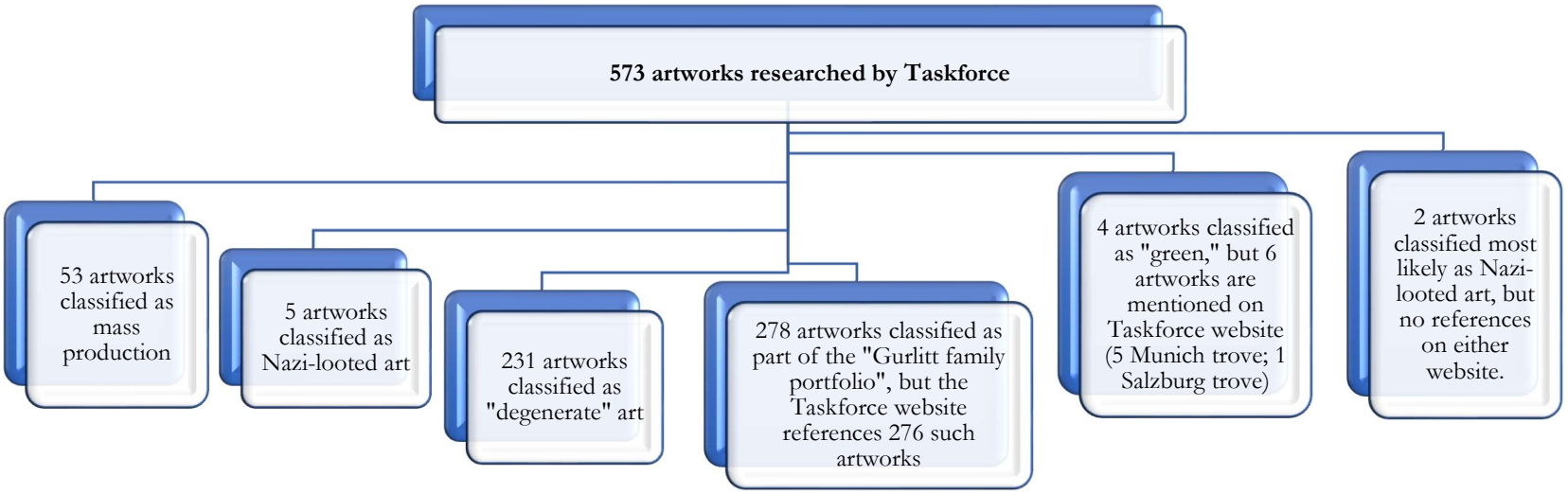


Category Definitions:
Red: A work is proven or highly likely to be Nazi-looted art.
Yellow: Provenance during the period between 1933 and 1945 is not entirely clear; there are gaps in the provenance.
Green: A work is proven or highly likely not to be Nazi-looted art.
(Source: https://www.kulturgutverluste.de/Webs/EN/ProjectGurlitt/Gurlitt-Provenance-Research/Results/Index.html)

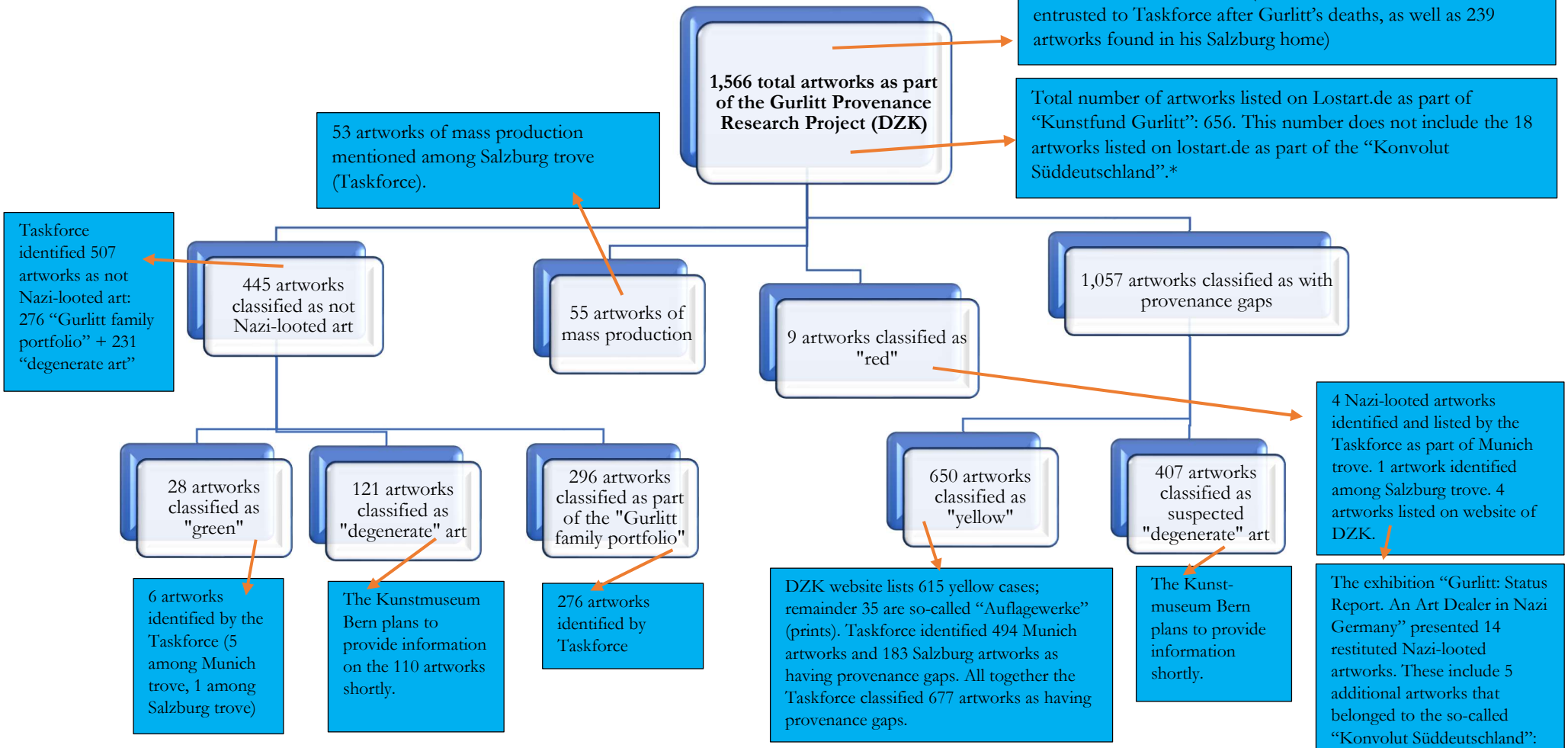
Graph II – Artworks Researched by the Taskforce as Presented on the DZK Website



Graph III – Researched Artworks by Taskforce Schwabinger Kunstfund by Type of Artwork as Presented on DZK website



Part C - Discrepancies / Open Questions in Regard to the Presentation by the Gurlitt Provenance Research Project



* Lostart.de lists the following artwork categories: Funde (Nachlass): 32 [www.lostart.de/DE/Fund/539970]; Koffer Fund: 1 [www.lostart.de/DE/Fund/539971]; Schwabinger Kunstfund: 448 [www.losart.de/DE/Fund/539972]; Salzburg: 173 [www.lostart.de/DE/Fund/539937]; Leihgaben: 2 [www.lostart.de/DE/Fund/569107]
** Lostart.de lists 18 artworks for the category "Konvolut Süddeutschland": https://www.lostart.de/Webs/DE/Datenbank/Suche/SucheSimpelErgebnis.html?cms_param=SUCHE_ID%3D29888741