



The Legal Dimension of Provenance Research: International, Comparative, Indigenous

Co-organized by the Cultural Heritage and the Arts Interest Group of the American Society of International Law and the Interest Group on International Law of Culture of the European Society of International Law

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm EST

Via Zoom

The Cultural Heritage and the Arts Interest Group and the Interest Group on International Law of Culture of the European Society of International Law invite members and interested individuals to a webinar exploring the meanings and significance of provenance research in the current legal debate on the return and restitution of cultural objects.

Provenance research is an invaluable tool for addressing past cultural injustices and wrongs against individuals, groups, and communities that have been subjected to genocidal acts and legislation, colonial exploitation, and discriminatory practices. The webinar will discuss the significance and practice of provenance research in ensuring justice for victims of the Holocaust, colonialism, and discrimination against Indigenous Peoples. From another perspective, provenance research is instrumental in combating the illicit trafficking of cultural objects, such as theft, looting, and illegal archaeological excavations. These activities can result in the forced loss of cultural identity, serious human rights violations, and the rise of organized crime and terrorism. The webinar will facilitate a debate on the return of cultural objects, bringing together experts from different fields to identify shared pathways for advocacy. The format will be a roundtable to encourage dialogue across these areas, followed by a Q&A session.

Speakers:

- **Afolasade A. Adewumi**, Reader, Department of Jurisprudence and International Law, University of Ibadan
- **Evelien Campfens**, Lecturer of Cultural Heritage Law, University of Amsterdam
- **Tess Davis**, Executive Director, Antiquities Coalition
- **Rebecca Tsosie**, Regents Professor, James E. Rogers College of Law, University of Arizona
- **Andrzej Jakubowski (moderator)**, Vice-Chair of the ASIL Cultural Heritage and Arts Interest Group, Polish Academy of Sciences
- **Lucas Lixinski (moderator)**, Co-Convenor of the Interest Group on International Law of Culture of the European Society of International Law, University of New South Wales

Registration for this online webinar is free and open to the public. Register at www.asil.org/events.