



50th Anniversary of the 1970 Convention in 2020

Combatting Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property during COVID-19: illegal excavations and online trade

Online Expert Meeting

26 June 2020
2:30 PM GMT + 2

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Moderator: **Ernesto Ottone R.**, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Culture

Panel 1: Illegal excavations

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm



Amr Al-Azm, Co-Director, Antiquities Trafficking and Heritage Anthropology Research (ATHAR) Project.

He is a Professor of Middle East History and Anthropology at Shawnee State University in Ohio, USA. He is a founder and board member on The Day After project (TDA) and currently coordinates the Heritage Protection Initiative (TDA-HPI) for cultural heritage protection at the TDA. He is also a co-Director of the Antiquities Trafficking and Heritage Anthropology Research (ATHAR) Project and a co-founder of ACCO.



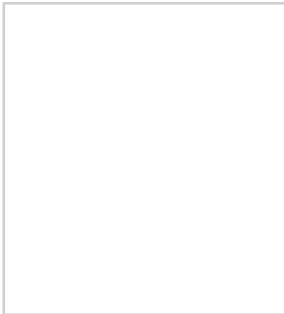
Marina Schneider, Senior Legal Officer & Treaty Depository, International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT).

Senior Legal Officer at UNIDROIT where she is responsible for the instruments and tools developed on the international protection of cultural objects (1995 Convention, Model Provisions on State Ownership of Undiscovered Cultural Objects and the UNIDROIT Convention Academic Project (UCAP)).



Vincent Michel, Researcher-Professor, University of Poitiers/HeRMA, France

He is a professor at the University of Poitiers (Poitiers). Archaeologist and orientalist, specialist in the Middle East and the fight against the illicit traffic in cultural goods. He divides his time between teaching, research and field work in the MENA region and collaborates with investigation services (police and custom) national and international, heritage institutions for heritage protection.



Mariya Polner, Senior Policy Advisor, World Customs Organization.

She is a Senior Policy Advisor and the Lead of the Cultural Heritage Programme at the Enforcement and Compliance Subdirectorate of the World Customs Organization. She has seven years' experience in enforcement matters, and more than 12 years' experience in Customs and cross-border trade issues. Mariya received two Master degrees, from the Central European University in Budapest and from the Collège d'Europe in Bruges. She speaks fluent English, French, Russian, Ukrainian, as well as some Spanish and Turkish. She is an author of multiple publications on illicit trade and general customs matters.



Eva Martínez, Assistant Director for Heritage, Honduran Institute of Anthropology and History, Honduras.

Honduran archaeologist, university professor and civil servant. She has been working in the field of cultural heritage since 2007, as Chief of Cultural Heritage at the Honduran Institute of Anthropology and History (IAAH), as private consultant and lecturer. Such an experience has broadened her academic understanding of archaeology and anthropology in terms of what cultural heritage means in the present from the perspective of multiple stakeholders.

Panel 2: Online trade

3:45 pm – 5:00 pm



Corrado Catesi, Head of Works of Art Unit, INTERPOL.

He is a Lieutenant Colonel of the Italian Carabinieri Corps and the INTERPOL Works of Art Unit Coordinator. He dedicated his last 16 years of professional experience in the fight against the illicit traffic of cultural property at national and international level. He is the INTERPOL contact point to coordinate the INTERPOL actions with all other International and Regional Organizations involved in this field.



Christos Tsirogannis

Associate Professor, Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Aarhus, Denmark.

He is a forensic archaeologist researching international illicit antiquities trafficking networks through the identification of illicit antiquities in auction houses, galleries, museums and private collections. He worked for the Greek Ministries of Culture and Justice and for the Greek police Art Squad, before joining Greece's repatriation taskforce. He developed interdisciplinary methods at the ERC-funded Trafficking Culture project. His articles delve into duplicitous practices in the art market, museum ethics, forgeries, and government policy in cultural heritage protection.



Katie A. Paul, Co-Director, Antiquities Trafficking and Heritage Anthropology Research (ATHAR) Project.

Katie Paul, is an anthropologist and research analyst who specializes in tracking criminal activity on online platforms such as Facebook. She is co-director of the Antiquities Trafficking and Heritage Anthropology Research (ATHAR) Project and a founding member of the Alliance to Counter Crime Online (ACCO).



Lazare Eloundou, Director of Culture and Emergency Entity/ Secretary of the UNESCO 1970 Convention, UNESCO.

Lazare Eloundou Assomo is Director for Culture and Emergencies at UNESCO since November 2018. The entity for which he is responsible deals with all matters regarding the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural objects, the return and restitution of cultural objects, the protection of cultural heritage in emergency situations, the protection of underwater heritage, and the promotion of museums.