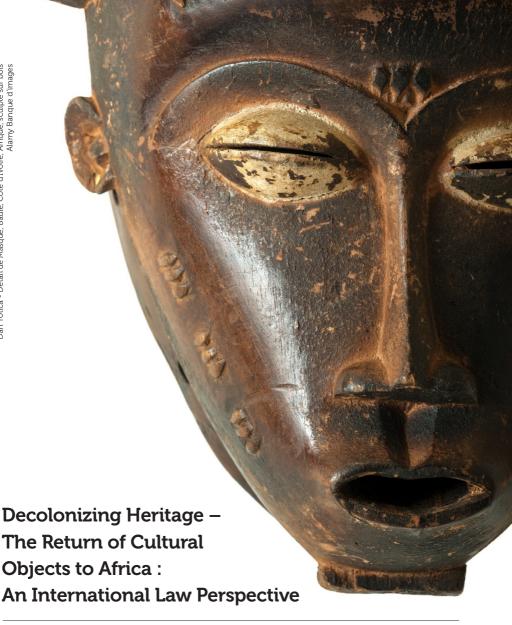
Dan Totica - Détail de Masque, Baulé, Côte d'Ivoire, Afrique, sculpté sur bois Alamy Banque d'images



Thursday 23 September 2021, 18h - 20h (CET), Inaugural lecture Friday 24 September 2021, 9h30 - 18h (CET)









## Decolonizing Heritage – The Return of Cultural Objects to Africa : An International Law Perspective

**Thursday 23 September 2021**, 18h - 20h (CET), Inaugural lecture **Friday 24 September 2021**, 9h30 - 18h (CET)

Conference organized by the

UNESCO Chair in International Law of the Protection of Cultural Heritage, Art-Law Centre, University of Geneva,

and

Department of Public International Law and International Organization, University of Geneva,

in partnership with

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Senegal to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva,

Global Studies Institute, University of Geneva,

African Union,

and

International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT)

## Thursday 23 September 2021

Room U600, Uni Dufour

## INAUGURAL LECTURE

Welcome: Prof. Nicolas Levrat, Director, Global Studies Institute (GSI)

Opening Speech: Prof. Yves Flückiger, Rector of the University of Geneva

Introduction: Gorgui Wade Ndoye, United Nations accredited Journalist, Director of the

Pan-African Magazine Continent Premier

**Lecture:** Prof. Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Director, Institute of African Studies; Professor of French and of Philosophy, Columbia University, *Les objets d'art africains et leurs traductions* – online presentation

Discussant: Prof. Didier Péclard, Director of the Master in African Studies, Global Studies Institute (GSI)

## Friday 24 September 2021

Auditorium Arditi Avenue du Mail 1 1204 Geneva

TN	TD	$\cap$	חור	TI	UNI

Chair: Gorgui Wade Ndoye, United Nations accredited Journalist, Director of the Pan-African Magazine Continent Premier

9h30 Opening speeches

Prof. Bénédict Föex, Dean of the Law Faculty, University of Geneva H.E. Mr. Colv Seck. Permanent Representative of the Republic of Senegal

Keynote address

10h00 Prof. Felwine Sarr, Anne-Marie Bryan Chair in French and Francophone Studies Duke University

10h40 Coffee break

PANEL I - CHALLENGES TO THE RETURN OF CULTURAL OBJECTS

Chair: H.E. Kadra Ahmed Hassan, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Djibouti to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

11h00 H.E. Namira Negm, Legal Counsel and Director of the Office of Legal Affairs, African Union, The African Union: policy and action for the return of cultural objects

11h20 George Abungu, Consultant and Fellow of the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies, The unfinished agenda of decolonization in relation to the return of cultural objects removed during colonialism: policy and practice of African states – online presentation

11h40 Marina Schneider, Principal Legal Officer & Treaty Depositary, UNIDROIT, The 1995 UNIDROIT Convention and colonial heritage – online presentation

12h00 Dr. Alessandro Chechi, University of Geneva, *The return of colonial objects and international law* 

12h20 Discussion and lunch break

PANEL II - A PANORAMA OF PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS

Chair: Prof. Marc-André Renold, University of Geneva, UNESCO Chair

14h00 Irina Bokova, Former Director-General of UNESCO (2009 – 2017), Cultural diplomacy and the decolonization of collections

14h20	Robert Peters, Senior Officer, German Federal Foreign Office, Dealing with collections from colonial contexts: recent developments in Germany
14h40	Verhoogt Robert and Boer Maurice, Senior policy officers, Dutch Ministry of Culture, Redressing an injustice. Dutch policy on collections from a colonial context
15h00	Carlo Sommaruga, Council of States, Swiss Parliament, Le retour des biens coloniaux: Quel rôle pour la Suisse ?
15h20	Discussion and coffee break
16h00	Prof. Clémentine Bories, University of Toulouse 1 Capitole, Le retour des biens culturels coloniaux à l'Afrique : l'approche de la France
16h20	Prof. Carsten Stahn, University of Leiden, The return of cultural objets: legal and ethical dimensions in museum practices
16h40	Boris Wastiau, Director, and Floriane Morin, Curator of the African Department, Ethnographic Museum of Geneva (MEG), Les biens culturels africains conservés au MEG : enjeux et défis
17h00	Prof. Marc-André Renold, Establishing a platform for the diplomacy of cultural heritage at the University of Geneva
17h20	Discussion
	CONCLUSIONS
17h40	Prof. Makane Moise Mbengue, University of Geneva, An action plan for African States

Attendance is free but registration is required by 19 September 2021, using the online form available on the Art-Law Centre's website:

www.art-law.org

Centre du droit de l'art Uni Mail – Faculté de droit 40, boulevard du Pont d'Arve – 1205 Genève – Suisse www.artlawfoundation.com T +41 22 379 80 75



