



Science 9 MAR 2022 9:02 PM AEDT

Share

## New platform for diplomacy of cultural heritage

### Timeline

PACE to debate consequences of Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine at two-day extraordinary session

8:14 PM AEDT

Abramovich and Deripaska among seven Oligarchs targeted in estimated £15bn sanction hit

8:14 PM AEDT

Researchers launch engagement toolkit to support future digital projects

8:08 PM AEDT

ESCWA: Historic rise in wealth concentration in Arab region: Richest 10% control more than 80% of wealth

8:08 PM AEDT

Infant with meningococcal disease

8:05 PM AEDT

EOI for advisory groups to help end child sexual abuse

8:04 PM AEDT

University of Liverpool formalises partnership with CPI

7:56 PM AEDT

Using Cell Phone GNSS Networks to Monitor Crustal Deformation

7:54 PM AEDT

UNIGE is launching a platform for cultural diplomacy to support the restitution of looted cultural property.

In 2017, the Centre for Art-Law enabled the return of a 2nd century Roman sarcophagus to Turkey.

(c) Marc-André Renold

Paintings, sculptures, ceramics, archaeological remains: many cultural objects resulting from past spoliations still lie dormant in museums and in the attics of private individuals. To encourage their restitution, the University of Geneva (UNIGE) is launching a platform in the diplomacy of cultural heritage. The platform seeks to assist States, communities, museums and individuals in returning these



Asia-Pacific countries discuss ways of improving nutrition, lives and livelihoods in wake of global pandemic

7:46 PM AEDT

African agriculture's digital revolution: UN report pinpoints main obstacles and opportunities

7:46 PM AEDT

Victorian company Getafix Café Pty Ltd fined \$13,320 for alleged unlawful advertising of Covid Rapid Antigen Test Kit

7:34 PM AEDT

Greenpeace Hungary creates huge peace sign in Budapest to protest against war in Ukraine

7:32 PM AEDT

Allens recognised for Deal of Year and PPP of Year at global awards

7:32 PM AEDT

WHO Global Health Facilities Database: Ensuring access to primary healthcare and UHC

7:28 PM AEDT

Greenpeace Hungary creates huge peace sign in Budapest to protest against war

7:22 PM AEDT

Crime news Crown Court fee guidance updates and new claim forms

7:22 PM AEDT

TSU will examine Kolva River and plan restoration

7:20 PM AEDT

Imperial Lates comes back to South Kensington with mind-bending science

7:15 PM AEDT

How cyber operations, social media and artificial intelligence are changing warfare

7:15 PM AEDT

Multilingualism in young children is good thing: 'Languages don't bite'

objects to their owners or countries of origin. This initiative aims in particular to promote transitional justice by participating in the recognition of certain past abuses. To date, the UNIGE has already participated in several restitutions, including those of an 18th century Cypriot icon at the end of February of this year and a 2nd century Roman sarcophagus in September 2017.

What are the steps to be taken to return a cultural object held illegally, whether voluntarily or not? After having put online the [ArThemis](#) database (2010), intended to list decisions in this area, the Art-Law Centre of UNIGE is launching a platform for the diplomacy of cultural heritage. The aim is to offer States, communities, institutions and individuals a physical and [virtual](#) place to declare the possession of an object of delicate provenance in complete confidentiality. The platform will also provide support throughout the restitution process.

"We want to encourage people who own these type of objects to return them. Those wishing to recover objects of which they have been dispossessed will also be able to call on us," explains Marc-André Renold, director of the Art-Law Centre at the UNIGE and initiator of the platform. Training courses on the legal principles for obtaining restitution will also be offered and one is planned in the next few months in Senegal.

Promoting transitional justice

"This is truly a platform for cultural diplomacy, continues Marc-André Renold. Returning these types of objects or works of art can indeed be very useful in improving relations between certain countries and communities by promoting so-called transitional justice." Such an approach can, among other things, contribute to the recognition of certain abuses committed in the past, by one or other of the actors involved. "In the long term, the ambition is to make Geneva a key platform in this field, as it is already, for example, in the field of international commercial arbitration."

Marc-André Renold has accompanied several important restitutions over the last ten years. In 2017, his involvement led to the return of a 2nd century Roman sarcophagus to its country of origin, Turkey. Discovered in a warehouse of the Geneva freeport, it was held by an antiquities dealer who had inherited it from his father. The specialist stresses: "Such objects may be the product of illicit trafficking in cultural property, but it also happens that people or institutions find themselves unknowingly in possession of such objects."



7:14 PM AEDT

Innovation Day Upper Rhine provides cross-border knowledge transfer

7:14 PM AEDT

Coronavirus update for Victoria 10 March 2022

7:10 PM AEDT

Natural England prescribes ponies and pasties to improve wellbeing

7:04 PM AEDT

Republic of Korea contributes US\$ 7.8 million to improve health and nutrition of school-aged children

7:03 PM AEDT

With EU funding, WFP continues ramping up school feeding programme for Afghan children

7:02 PM AEDT

Why an old idea could breathe new life into rural Alberta economies

7:02 PM AEDT

Frequent External Childcare Can Affect Children's Behavior

6:50 PM AEDT

"We need to understand even worst case scenarios"

6:34 PM AEDT

Show More

Popular Topics

- Australia, Government, university, police, community, Australian, research, NSW, Victoria, Professor, covid-19, Minister, business, Queensland, environment, health, council, New South Wales, UK, industry, local council, education, Investment, investigation, infrastructure, AusPol, project, technology, crime, QLD

Restitution in progress

More recently, Marc-André Renold was instrumental in the return of an 18th century Cypriot icon to the Church of Cyprus. The icon had been acquired in Cyprus in the 1970s by an English officer serving on the island during the conflict between Greek Cypriots and Turks. According to the wishes of the soldier's son, who called on the services of the Art-Law Centre of the UNIGE, the painting was handed over to the country's religious authorities on 23 February. Within the framework of the new platform, a new restitution is being processed. It concerns two Roman vases acquired by a couple from Geneva in the 1970s and illegally exported from Italy. Their descendants now wish to return them to Italy, their country of origin.

The platform team is currently composed of three collaborators: Marc-André Renold, Alessandro Chechi (lecturer at the Art-Law Centre) and Morgane Desboeufs (assistant at the Art-Law Centre).

/Public Release. This material from the originating organization/author(s) may be of a point-in-time nature, edited for clarity, style and length. The views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s).View in full here.



Why?

Tags: conflict, cultural heritage, Cyprus, Diplomacy, director, English, Geneva, Italy, justice, property, religious, Senegal, Soldier, Turkey, university, University of Geneva

You might also like



Higher risk of psychotropic medication after sexual ha... workplace



Using Cell Phone Networks to Monitor Volcanic Activity





- Emergency
- UK Government
- coronavirus
- court
- New Zealand
- Impact
- future
- Sydney
- President
- Aussie
- Internet
- United States
- science
- import
- sustainable

Floods claim life of highly-respected Queensland doctor

Mutations that interfere with cytokinin signaling help... tolerate high salinity

- [Latest Live News](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Disclaimer](#)
- [Code of Ethics](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Complaints](#)

Mirage.News real-time media portal. We acknowledge the traditional owners of country throughout Australia. All timestamps on this site are AEST/AEDT and all times in the articles are local times unless indicated otherwise.

All trademarks and rights are owned by their respective owners.

All content is used for news reporting purposes. For news reporting purposes, we rely on fair use (fair dealing) <sup>[1]</sup> <sup>[2]</sup> for textual and media content to keep the public informed on the developments. If you are a person mentioned in the story or you are a copyright holder and believe that any content should be removed, revised or taken down, please [contact us](#). See [our disclaimer page](#).