

28th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists

Budapest, Hungary, 31 August – 3 September 2022



CALL FOR PAPERS SESSION #237

PROTECTING THE PAST IS THE KEY TO THE FUTURE:

**RIGHTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE STAKEHOLDERS
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

ORGANIZERS: Andris Kairiss – Riga Technical University (Latvia); Marianne Mödlinger – University of Genoa (Italy); Irina Olevska – Maastricht University (the Netherlands).

KEYWORDS: Protection, Damage assessment, Socio-economic values, Socio-economic development, Social justice, Financial benefits

Intentional **damage and destruction** of archaeological sites, **looting and illicit trade** of antiquities is a crucial point of concern of different interested parties. The aftermath of these criminal activities affect local communities, visitors, scientists, businesses, public institutions, governments, amongst others, in addition to broader society (hereinafter – the stakeholders).

As well as **scientific and other non-material losses** suffered by these and other groups of cultural heritage stakeholders, there are **interests of purely economic nature** that are directly affected by archaeological damage. Thus, damaged sites may cause attendance slippage, loss of jobs, market loss for site-related goods (e.g., souvenirs) and services. As a consequence, a decreasing quality of life and touristic attractiveness of an area occurs alongside the need for substantial resources for restoration.

Due to a lack of experience, established practice and social awareness, **different groups of stakeholders** are afforded little to no attention in criminal proceedings and do not get structurally accounted for in subsequent restoration or development projects. Thus, for example, the principle that everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests linked to the works that result from one's cultural activity (Fribourg Declaration of Cultural Rights, Art.5(b)) is becoming purely declarative.

We aim to discuss theoretical and practical issues concerning the application of this principle in the context of the **protection and development of archaeological heritage sites**, as well as to share ideas on different opportunities that **respect the interests of all stakeholders** to the highest extent possible.

Papers for this session may include but are not limited to:

- Impact of archaeological research on the economic and touristic development of an area;
- Heritage-based socio-economic development;
- Rights and obligations of heritage stakeholders;
- Offences against archaeological heritage sites and damage assessment;
- Role of NGOs and other organizations in the protection and development of archaeological sites.

Submit your proposal at <https://submissions.e-a-a.org/ea2022/> by 10 February 2021