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**International Conference**

# **THE NICOSIA CONVENTION: A CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE TO OFFENCES RELATING TO CULTURAL PROPERTY**

National Library,  
15 - 16 June 2023  
Riga, Latvia

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**SPEAKERS, MODERATORS, ORGANISERS**

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### **Dr. iur. INESE LĪBIŅA-EGNERE**

Minister of Justice of the Republic of Latvia since 14 December 2022, Dr Lībina-Egnere has been elected in several previous convocations of the Parliament (Saeima) since 2011. She represents the "New Unity" Party and has been a Deputy Speaker of the Saeima, Chairperson of the National Security Committee, Member of the Legal Commission, Chairperson of the Judicial Policy Subcommittee of Legal Affairs Committee, and Head of the Latvian Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Dr Lībina-Egnere holds a PhD in law and is Assistant Professor at the University of Latvia, Civil Law Department.



### **Mr Nauris PUNTULIS**

Nauris Puntulis has been the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Latvia since 2019. He was previously a member of the Riga City Council (as from 2013). He represents the "National Alliance" party and was elected in the current convocation – the 14<sup>th</sup> Saeima, that started its work in 2022. Mr Puntulis holds a master's degree in opera singing and pedagogy from the Latvian Academy of Music. He has been a singer at the Latvian National Opera and "Perkons" rock band.



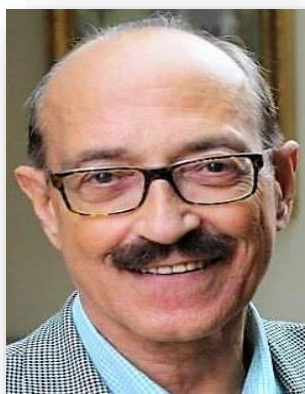
### **Mr Matjaž Gruden**

Matjaž Gruden is Director of Democratic Participation at the Council of Europe, and responsible for activities and programmes in the areas of education, including education for democratic citizenship, youth cooperation, and culture, nature and heritage. His Directorate also includes the Platform for the protection of Journalists, and the Eurimages film fund. Matjaž Gruden previously served as Director of Policy Planning, Deputy Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General, political adviser and speechwriter for the Secretary General and President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Prior to his career at the Council of Europe, he was a diplomat at the Slovenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, posted in Brussels. He holds a law degree from the Law Faculty of the University of Ljubljana, as well as a post-graduate degree in EU law from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium.



### **Ms Alexandra Xanthaki**

Alexandra Xanthaki was appointed UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights in October 2021. Ms Xanthaki is Greek and lives in the United Kingdom where she works as a Professor of Laws at Brunel University London. Throughout her academic career, Ms Xanthaki has published over 50 publications relating to the cultural rights of minorities and indigenous peoples, cultural diversity, cultural heritage, balancing cultural rights with other rights and interests, and multiculturalism and integration in international human rights law. She has worked with NGOs, civil society and has consulted States on such issues.



### **Dr Carlos María Romeo-Casabona**

Full Professor of Criminal Law. Founder and former Director of the Chair in Law and the Human Genome, University of the Basque Country. Doctor in Law and in Medicine. He is a member of the Bioethics and external consultant of the Committee of Parties of the MEDICRIME Convention, both of the Council of Europe. Chair of Ethics Clinical Research Committee of the Basque Country.



### **Uldis ZARIŅŠ**

Uldis Zariņš has been Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia since 2018, where he is responsible for development and implementation of cultural policy. He holds a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Latvia. Since 2009 he has worked in a number of different roles at the National Library of Latvia, particularly in the areas of digitisation and strategic development. He has also actively worked at international level – he was director of The European Library in 2016, and has been a member of the European Commission Digital Cultural Heritage and Europeana expert group (2017-2021), member of Europeana Foundation Governing Board (2017-2019), member of the Europeana Network Association Management Board (2017-2019), member of the Europeana Network

Association Members Council (2015-2019), member of the EBLIDA Executive Committee (2015-2018), member of the IFLA Copyright and other Legal Matters committee (2011-2015), Member of the EBLIDA Expert group on Information Law (2011-2015), member of the LIBER Copyright working group (2013-2015), as well as vice president and subsequently president of the Latvian Library Association (2014-2017).



### **Ms Rebeka Laveniece**

Rebeka Laveniece is a lawyer at the Criminal Justice Department of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia in international cooperation issues. She previously worked as an assistant to a member of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia. Ms Laveniece obtained a bachelor's degree in law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Latvia. She is currently studying in the master's study programme "Law" at the Faculty of Law of the University of Latvia.



### **Mr Martins JURJĀNS**

2008 to 2011 – Organised Crimes Prevention and Investigation Prosecutor's Office and Prosecutor General's Office – Assistant Prosecutor; 2011 to 2012 – Latvian State Enterprise Register – State Notary; 2012 to 2016 – Homicide Unit of Criminal Investigation department of the Latvian State police – Senior Inspector, Intelligence Officer. Priorities: prevention and investigation of homicide crimes, especially serious crime investigation related to kidnapping, hostage taking, illegal firearms trafficking of a serial or international character. From 2016, Prosecutor's Office – Prosecutor (Jurmala City Prosecutor's Office, Financial and Economic Crimes Investigations Prosecutor's Office, Zemgale Judicial Region Prosecutor's Office) Specialization: Financial and Economic Crimes.



## **Ms Ruth GARCÍA ÁLVAREZ**

Ruth García has a degree in Art History from the University of Salamanca. Later she specialised in education and communication of cultural spaces at the University of Zaragoza. Her work experience has focused on the management and dissemination of cultural projects. She has also been a teacher in the Master's Degree in Creation and Communication of Cultural Projects. As a result of her interest in combining research and Artistic Historical Heritage, she continued her academic training in the detection and falsification of works of art and in the illicit traffic of cultural assets until joining the National Police. Since then she has been developing her work in the Historical Heritage Brigade in the operational and research part as well as participation in international projects.



## **Major Salvatore RAPICAVOLI**

Electronic Engineer, specialising in Telecommunications, currently at the Data Processing Unit at the Carabinieri Command for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (TPC), since 2013 handles the administration, evolution and management of the Stolen Works of Art database and LEONARDO, the information system of the Carabinieri TPC. Operations manager for the project S.W.O.A.D.S. ("Stolen works of art detection system", proj. n. 114.5.1) started in 2020 and financed by the ISF funds. During his previous assignments, he dealt with IT centralised systems, at the Carabinieri General Headquarters. Before undertaking his military career as a Carabinieri Officer, he had job experience in the field of telecommunications technologies, computer system validation for the pharmaceutical industry and software project management.



### **Ms Yevheniia KRAVCHUK**

Yevheniia Kravchuk is a Ukrainian politician, journalist, and expert in communications and media consulting. In 2019-2021, Ms Kravchuk was the Chairperson of the press office of the political party "Servant of the People". She has extensive experience in co-authoring of legislative acts, being a co-author of more than 100 current laws of Ukraine. She has held management positions in analytical centres, in journalism, and in documentaries. Yevheniia Kravchuk is a Member of the Ukrainian Permanent Delegation to the PACE and OSCE. She is a full member of the PACE Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, the Sub-Committee on Gender Equality and the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media. In January 2023, she was elected Chairperson of the PACE Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media. Ms Kravchuk is the PACE Author of the Resolution "Justice and security for women in peace reconciliation" and the Rapporteur on "Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace". She is Permanent Member of the United for Ukraine (U4U) platform. Since 24 February, 2022, as part of the women's parliamentary delegation, she has participated in a large number of diplomatic visits.



### **Ms Kateryna Chuyeva**

In September 2021, Ms Kateryna Chuyeva was appointed as Deputy Minister of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine. Her portfolio as the Deputy Minister includes cultural heritage protection and museums. She graduated from the History Faculty of National Pedagogical Dragomanov University. Previously, Ms Chuyeva has been working in the Bohdan and Varvara Khanenko National Museum of Arts (1998-2021), and in 2018-2021 held the position of Director General. Curator and co-curator of exhibitions, conferences and other projects of the Khanenko Museum. Since 2008, Kateryna Chuyeva has been ICOM Member and since 2012 – the President of ICOM Ukraine.



### **Ms Paola SACCHI**

Between 2002 and 2003 she took part to the ICC negotiations at the UN headquarter in New York as an NGO representative. Between 2008 and 2010, she worked with Defence in the Gotovina et all case and in Chambers in the Stanisić and Župlajnin case before the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. She works as a lawyer within the Office of the Prosecutor before at the International Criminal Court since May 2011, she worked on several cases both at the investigative and prosecutorial phase. She is member of the Al Hassan Prosecution team since 2018.



### **Dr Pavlo PUSHKAR**

Pavlo Pushkar is a Head of Division at the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights of the Directorate General of Human Rights and the Rule of Law of the Council of Europe. The Department's mandate covers advice to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on its tasks of supervision over measures to be taken under the judgments of the European Court as well as advice to member states on measures that they intend to take or have taken to comply with the Strasbourg Court's judgments. His work also covers response to and accountability for gross and serious human rights violations. Dr Pushkar worked at the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights from 2002 to 2016 as a senior lawyer and a non-judicial rapporteur. Before joining the Council of Europe, he worked as an advocate in the areas of international litigation and arbitration and as a public servant at the Supreme Court of Ukraine. Dr Pushkar holds a Ph.D. in criminal justice. He is a graduate of Kyiv Taras Shevchenko University Law Faculty (BA and MA in Laws, with honours); the Nottingham University School of Law (LLM in International Law); Queen Mary College University of London (International Arbitration).



### **Mr Isber SABRINE**

Dr Isber Sabrine is a Syrian archaeologist, specialising in cultural heritage management during conflicts. Since 2011, he has been involved in projects and studies on the protection of cultural heritage during conflicts. He is currently chair and co-founder of the international NGO Heritage for Peace. Since 2015, he has been involved in cultural initiatives for refugees and immigrants in Europe. He is leading the Abuab Initiative, which is a social project that works on using cultural heritage as a tool for intercultural dialogue with refugees and immigrants from the Middle East and North Africa and Ukraine. He is the Founder and director of The Arab Network of Civil Society Organizations to Safeguard Cultural Heritage (ANSCH).



### **Dr Cristina GUIASOLA**

Dr Guisasola's main line of research, which began with her doctoral thesis entitled "Crimes against cultural property", published in 2001, has been dedicated to the analysis of criminal protection of cultural property, both in the Spanish legal system and in comparative law systems. Since then, she has not abandoned this line of research, delving deeper into it through R&D projects. Specifically, she has been PI for three research projects, one of them financed by the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness under the title "Criminal protection of nature and cultural assets", published in Tirant lo Blanch as a monograph in 2020 under the title "Protection of cultural assets. A cosmopolitan vision from criminal law, criminology and international law".



### **Mr Mārcis KALNIŅŠ**

Mārcis Kalniņš is an expert-archaeologist at the Department for Circulation of Cultural Goods of the National Heritage Board of Latvia, and a researcher and a PhD candidate at the Faculty of History and Philosophy of the University of Latvia. He has been working in the field of archaeology for more than 20 years and currently is the head of the board of the Latvian Association of Archaeologists and a member of the European Association of Archaeologists and ICOMOS Latvia. Mārcis has led research in different period archaeological sites and has been participating in international and Latvian-wide projects dedicated to the research and preservation of archaeological sites and cultural heritage.





### **Mr Maurizio PELLEGRINI**

Photojournalist in the 70s/80s, and the only Italian photographer in Iran during the 1979 revolution. Officer of the Ministry of Heritage and Cultural Activities till 2018. For the past 20 years director archaeologist at the Superintendence of Southern Etruria and at the Etruscan Museum of Villa Giulia in Rome, responsible for the “Educational Laboratory and Visual Promotion” and part of the “Seizures and Clandestine Excavations Office”. Consultant to the Attorney General of Rome regarding the clandestine market of archaeological finds and Member of the Committee for Issues Relating to the Exercise of Action for the Restitution of Cultural Assets. Professor of forensic archaeology for crimes against cultural heritage, archaeological documentary, audiovisual documentations technique, museology and archaeological communication.



### **Ms Daniela RIZZO**

Officer of the Ministry of Heritage and Cultural Activities from 1979 to 2017 at the Superintendence of Southern Etruria and at the Etruscan Museum of Villa Giulia in Rome dealing with protection and research within the Etruscan territory. From 1984 onwards, Head of “Seizures and Clandestine Excavations Office” taking care in particular of the circulation of archaeological assets at national and international level. Consultant to the Attorney General of Rome regarding the clandestine market of archaeological finds. Member of the Committee for Issues Relating to the Exercise of Action for the Restitution of Cultural Assets of the Ministry of Heritage and professor and speaker on forensic archaeology for crimes against cultural heritage.



### **Dr Marina SOLOMIDOU-IERONYMIDOU**

Director of the Department of Antiquities since 2014. Member of the Department of Antiquities since 1986, PhD with honours in Medieval Archaeology from Sorbonne University (Paris I) since 2001. President of the National Committee for the Combating of Looting and the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Heritage since 2020. Contributed to identifying and repatriating some of the most important cultural objects illegally exported from Cyprus. Member of the Cyprus National Committee for UNESCO and the National Committees of ICOM and

ICOMOS. Member of the board of the ICCM. National Focal Point for the Cypriot World Heritage Sites of UNESCO. Author of more than 40 scientific publications on matters of Cypriot archaeology.



### **Dr Arianna TRAVIGLIA**

Dr Arianna Traviglia is the Director of the Centre for Cultural Heritage Technology (CCHT), part of the Italian Institute of Technology (IIT). Dr Traviglia's work is placed at the intersection of technology and humanities and most of her research focuses on mediating the inclusion of digital practices within the study, protection and management of cultural heritage. At CHTT she supervises research in the areas of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Computer Vision, Nanotechnologies, and Robotics applied to numerous aspects of heritage. She also acts as Expert Collaborator for the Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) of the Council of Europe and sits as chair of the Technical-Scientific Committee of the Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP) Foundation set up to contribute to Italy's social, cultural, environmental and economic development.



### **Ms Angela BARDENHEWER-RATING**

Angela is a Senior Legal Officer at the European Commission, DG JUST - Criminal Justice. International relations of judicial cooperation in criminal matters are among her responsibilities (negotiations of International Agreements between third countries and the EU on judicial cooperation with Eurojust). She coordinates EU Security Union, Countering Terrorism and Council of Europe related areas. She also deals with Organised Crime related topics such as the fight against trafficking in cultural goods. She has previous experience at Fusion for Energy (F4E), an EU Joint Undertaking, including corporate legal matters, compliance and governance, and Data Protection Officer. Before joining F4E in 2007, she already worked for the European Commission: Since 1999, she has advised three different Commissioners as member of their respective cabinets. In 1997, she joined the Commission's Directorate General for Competition as policy advisor, after having served since 1995 as member of the Task Force for institutional questions (Intergovernmental Conference) negotiating the EU Amsterdam Treaty. She started her career in 1992 in the European Commission as member of its Legal Service



and represented the Commission in various cases before the European Court of Justice. By training, she is a German lawyer with the qualification to be a judge.

### **Mr Cameron WALTER**

Cameron Walter is the OSCE Program Manager for Combatting Trafficking in Cultural Property and Head of the Heritage Crime Task Force since 2020. He was a member of the initial OSCE Task Force for Combatting Trafficking of Cultural Heritage since 2017, with missions to Cyprus, Montenegro, Italy and Mongolia. Since joining permanently, the Task Force has coordinated operations, intelligence and capacity building with over 40 of the 57 OSCE participating States, Partners for Cooperation and assisted investigations/operations/training with external partners in the Middle East, Sub-saharan Africa and Latin America, related to networks and cases with a clear linkage to the OSCE Area. Cameron began his career with the Government of Canada in 2005, following graduation from the University of Victoria with an Honours Degree in Political Science (International Relations) and History (Decolonization and Development). He joined Canada Border Services in 2007 as lead on International Relations for Europe, Africa and Middle East, focused on supply chain security, counter-terrorism, customs intelligence and trade facilitation. He also participated in numerous operations with WCO targeting heritage trafficking networks. Cameron transferred in 2017 to Canadian Heritage as Deputy Director of International Partnerships, where he coordinated efforts to expand Canada's global creative industries trade while also building international partnerships to combat trafficking of cultural property.



### **Ms Marina SCHNEIDER**

Marina Schneider is Principal Legal Officer and Treaty Depositary at the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT). She has been involved, within the UNIDROIT Secretariat, in the elaboration of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects and of the UNESCO-UNIDROIT Model Provisions on State Ownership of Undiscovered Cultural Objects and is responsible for their promotion and follow-up. Marina Schneider is responsible for the project on private art collections currently on the UNIDROIT's Work

Programme and for the UNIDROIT Convention Academic Project (UCAP).

She is the author of the Explanatory Report of the 1995 Convention and several articles on the Convention and more generally on illicit trafficking in cultural property and synergies between relevant international instruments.

Marina Schneider is member of the Board of the International Society for Research on Art and Cultural Heritage Law (ISCHAL) and member of the Scientific Committee of the Certificate in Advanced Studies on International Cultural Heritage Law 2022 (University of Geneva).



### **Mr Michalis GAVRIELIDES**

Chief Inspector Head of the Office for Combating Illegal Possession and Trafficking of Antiquities of the Cyprus Police. Holder of an MSc in Criminology, University of Nicosia, holder of an MBA, University of Cyprus, FBI National Academy, Quantico, Virginia, USA. Member of the EU CULTNET expert group. member of the National Committee for the Combating of Looting and the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Heritage. Organised and attended many seminars/trainings and fora at national, European and international level. Participated in research projects and other relevant initiatives. Author of many publications and articles on the looting and illicit trafficking of Antiquities.



### **Ms Monica REDONDO ÁLVAREZ**

Mónica Redondo Álvarez holds a bachelor degree in History, specialising in Archaeology, and a diploma in Restoration and Conservation of cultural heritage. Since 2005, Ms Redondo belongs to the Museum Curators body of the Spanish Ministry of Culture where she held the positions of Head of the Restoration and Conservation Service at the Spanish Cultural Heritage Institute (IPCE) and Senior Advisor to European Affairs. She has represented Spain in different Committees of the European Union, the Council of Europe and UNESCO. Since 2021, Ms Redondo has been working as Programme Manager at the Council of Europe and is responsible for the Nicosia Convention on Offences related to Cultural Property. She is also in charge of issues related to artificial intelligence and cultural heritage.



### **Dr Oscar ALARCÓN JIMÉNEZ**

Oscar Alarcón Jiménez is the Executive Secretary of the Committee of the Parties to both the MEDICRIME Convention and the organ trafficking convention within the Council of Europe. Specialist in criminal-law, his main field of work is the fight against transnational organised crime, in particular the fight against counterfeit medical products and other similar crimes, the combat against trafficking in human organs and offences against cultural property. He is the member of the secretariat responsible for the Nicosia Convention. Since joining the Council of Europe in 2002, he has developed his professional experience within the Council of Europe political bodies as well as in the intergovernmental sector by promoting human rights. Before joining the Criminal Law and Counter-Terrorism Division, Dr Alarcón Jiménez worked as Co-secretary of the European Committee of Crime Problems (CDPC). He holds a PhD in International Law with honours from the University of Strasbourg and the University of Malaga, different post-graduate degrees (LL.M in EU Law and Economic Law) from the Carlos III University (Spain) and the Europa-Institut (Germany) as well as a law degree from Pompeu Fabra University (Spain).



### **Ms Jovana POZNAN**

Jovana Poznan is a Project Assistant at the Culture and Cultural Heritage Division of the Directorate of Democratic Participation at the Council of Europe. She is currently working on The Faro Way: enhanced participation in cultural heritage - a Council of Europe / European Commission Joint Project aiming at promoting the principles of the Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society. Previously, she was a Project Officer at the International Youth Organization for Ibero-America in Madrid. Jovana was also part of the team of the Serbian Permanent Mission to the European Union in Brussels and International and Security Affairs Center in Belgrade. She holds master's degrees in International Relations from the University of Kent and in European Law from the European University Center, University of Lorraine. Prior to this, she graduated in Political Science from the University of Belgrade and the University of Salamanca.



### **Ms Baiba MURNIECE**

Baiba Murniece is a member of the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) of the Council of Europe. Her educational background is cultural management, arts, intercultural relations and public administration. With 24 years of experience in cultural heritage at the National Heritage Board, she now holds the position of the director of the Cultural Policy Department of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia. In her work, she pays special attention to the role of culture in sustainable development. With expertise in national and international cultural and heritage policies, she has participated in the drafting of various international documents. She has been a member of the JPI-CH Governing Board, the Reflection group "EU and Cultural heritage", national coordinator of the European Year for Cultural Heritage, and chaired the Baltic Region Heritage Committee and the heritage expert group of the State Cultural Capital Foundation. She is one of the co-founders and former president of ICOMOS Latvia and is currently a member of the Bureau of the Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.



### **Ms Eliza SPURDZIŅA**

Eliza Spurdziņa has been working at the Department of Cultural Policy of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia since 2020, and currently holds the position of Senior Officer. Eliza Spurdziņa has a degree in Creative Industries from the joint programme of the Latvian Academy of Culture and Riga Technical University.



### **Ms Alma KAURĀTE**

Alma Kaurāte is senior officer at the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia in Archives, Libraries and Museums Division with previous experience in the National Heritage Board of Latvia. She was the national coordinator of the European Heritage Days and the European Heritage Label, from 2019 - 2023, and has served as chair of the European Heritage Days Programme of the Council of Europe. She has been a board member of ICOMOS Latvia since 2021.