



Photograph: Maarje Elsevier Stokmans, Drents Museum

## **Negotiating the Human: Justice, Ethics and Culture in Dealing with Human Remains**

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**Friday 16 September 2022, 8h30 - 17h30**  
Geneva - Switzerland

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# Negotiating the Human: Justice, Ethics and Culture in Dealing with Human Remains

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**Friday 16 September 2022, 8h30 - 17h30**  
University of Geneva - Uni Mail - Room R070

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*Conference organized by the*  
**UNESCO Chair in the International Law  
of the Protection of Cultural Heritage,  
Art-Law Centre, University of Geneva (UNIGE)**  
*and*  
**the International Cultural Property Society (ICPS)**

8h30

## **INTRODUCTION**

*Representatives of the Rectorate,  
the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Science of UNIGE*

## **WELCOME**

*Prof. Ana Vrdoljak, TU Sydney, ICPS President and  
Prof. Marc-André Renold, UNIGE and ICPS Vice-President*

9h00

## **Keynote speaker**

Justice Michael Kirby, former Justice of the High Court of Australia

10h00

## **SESSION I. ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES**

*Chair: Prof. Marc-André Renold, UNIGE and ICPS Board*

Dr. Abena Yalley, University of Konstanz, PhD University of Ibadan:  
*The Return of the Head of Badu Bonso II by the Dutch to Ghana – Implications  
for the Ahanta People of Ghana*

Roberta Colombo, Curator of the Oceanic Collections,  
Museum of Ethnography of Geneva (MEG):  
*Repatriation of Human Remains: The MEG's experience*

Prof. Anne Mayor and Prof. Eric Huysecom, Faculty of Science, UNIGE:  
*University Collections of Human Remains - Experience in Geneva*

Update on the UN Expert Mechanism on Indigenous Cultural Property and Human Remains

**11h10** **TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

**11h40** **SESSION 2. USING THE HUMAN: SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE, DNA, FUTURE USES**

*Chair: Prof. Derek Gillman, Drexel University and ICPS Board*

Dr. Chip Colwell, Denver Museum of Nature and Science:  
*The Repatriation Battles and the Ethical Crisis of Ancient DNA*

Margaret Graham, Director, Legacy Center Archives and Special Collections,  
Drexel University College of Medicine:  
*Reckoning with the facts of 19th century body acquisition: one specimen's story*

Dr. Nicholas Marquez-Grant, Institute of Forensic Archaeology,  
Cranfield University:  
*Global issues in contemporary forensic anthropology*

**12h50** **LUNCH (PLEASE REGISTER)**

**14h15** **SESSION 3. REPRODUCING THE HUMAN: ISSUES IN USING IMAGES, BODY CASTS, PHOTOS, EXHIBITIONS**

*Chair: Prof. Keun Gwan Lee, Seoul National University and ICPS Board*

Rebecca Whiting, British Museum:  
*Changing Approaches to the Display of Ancient Egyptian Remains*

Dr. Linda Fibiger and Dr. John Harries, University of Edinburgh:  
*Picturing the Dead: When, Where and How is it Acceptable to Show Images of Human Remains*

Marie Comu, CNRS Paris and Prof. Marie-Sophie de Clippele, Brussels University:  
*The Body in the Museum – Recent Experiences in France and Belgium*

**15h25** **TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

16h00

**SESSION 4. HUMAN REMAINS AND RESTORATIVE/TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE: UNFINISHED PROBLEMS, LOOKING FORWARDS**

*Chair: Prof. Ana Vrdoljak, TU Sydney and ICPS President*

Prof. Jaime Lavallee, University of Saskatchewan:

*Reconciling the Colonial Past: From Cultural Genocide to Indigenous Belonging in Canadian 'Collections'*

Zhen Chen, Groningen University:

*The Buddha Mummy Statue case in the Netherlands: Contemporary Legal Issues*

Dr. Alessandro Chechi, Faculty of Law, UNIGE:

*Human Remains, Cultural Diplomacy and Transitional Justice*

17h10

**DISCUSSION AND WRAP-UP**

Attendance is free (except for lunch) but registration is required by 5 September 2022, using the online form available on the Art-Law Centre's website: **[www.art-law.org](http://www.art-law.org)**