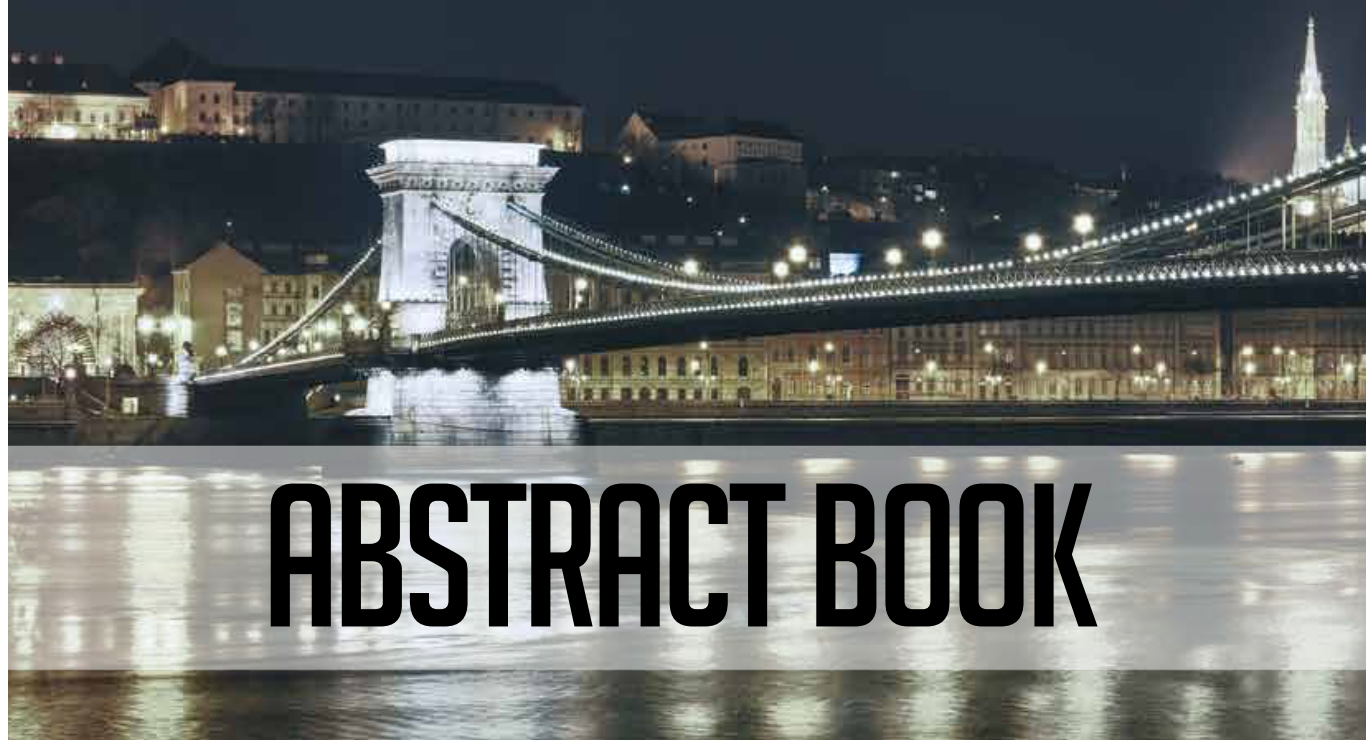




**28<sup>TH</sup> EAA ANNUAL MEETING**  
**BUDAPEST, HUNGARY**  
**31 AUGUST - 3 SEPTEMBER 2022**



**ABSTRACT BOOK**

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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.

## ABSTRACTS

### 1 OFFENCE AGAINST ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE – IS EACH OF US A VICTIM?

**Abstract author(s):** Kairiss, Andris (Riga Technical University) - Olevska, Irina (Maastricht University)

**Abstract format:** Oral

Heritage offences affect socio-economic interests of various stakeholders - their owners, local communities, researchers, visitors, businesses, media, heritage institutions, etc., as well as society as a whole.

Damaging of archaeological sites and illegal acquisition of antiquities therefrom is more frequent offence in Latvia. The Latvian State is usually recognized as the only victim in these crimes, but the question arises as to whether the interests of other stakeholders are not significant enough to be identified and accounted?

While different countries approach these issues differently, international community recognizes that offences against cultural heritage can impact victims (also legal persons) directly and indirectly. Moreover, the impact of such offence may transcend the socio-geographical space it occupies, leading to a global impact that is identifiable in criminal proceedings (ICC, Policy on Cultural Heritage). As everyone has the right to enjoy culture and to participate in cultural life, it can be assumed that offences against archaeological heritage are detrimental to everyone, as everyone is deprived of the potential to enjoy or explore relevant cultural objects. Thus, assessing the damage to the interests and appropriate form of compensation of the stakeholders ensures both social justice and promotes crime prevention (e.g., by emphasizing the social impact of illegal activities, making perpetrator compensate relevant losses, etc.).

The presentation, analyzing Latvian situation and making international comparisons, uses the integration of socio-economic and legal approaches to the impact of heritage offences, providing theoretical and practical insights into:

- identifying the stakeholders whose interests are mostly affected (also for criminal proceedings),
- determining the type and amount of damage caused,
- identifying opportunities to protect stakeholders' interests,
- identifying possible regulatory improvements,
- promoting awareness among stakeholders of the harm caused to and advocacy of their interests.

The presentation is based on a study conducted by the authors in 2021-2022.

### 2 STEALING HISTORY: ILLICIT TRADE OF ARCHEOLOGICAL ARTEFACTS IN LATVIA

**Abstract author(s):** Kalnins, Marcis (National Heritage Board of Latvia; Faculty of History and Philosophy of University of Latvia)

**Abstract format:** Oral

In last 4 years more than 7,200 illegally traded or stored archaeological artefacts have been seized in Latvia, with estimated value of more than 115,000 EUR. Although the value of artefacts has been determined, the actual damage to the cultural heritage is immeasurable as illicit trade of archeological artefacts entails destruction of archaeological context and a loss of archaeological provenance.