Cultural Heritage as a Human Right

Gonzaga University School of Law
2024 Human Rights Conference
May 23-25, 2024 | Florence, Italy

Considering the complex link between human rights and international cultural heritage law.
Gonzaga University School of Law
Florence Summer Program 2024,
Gonzaga in Florence, Center for Civil
and Human Rights-Gonzaga Law, Global
Legal Education Program, Human-
Rights Interest Group of Asian Society
of International Law, Cultural Heritage
Partners, PLLC and
the Soufan Center Present:

**Cultural Heritage as a Human Right**

An Annual International
Human Rights Conference
# Cultural Heritage as a Human Right

**2024 Gonzaga University School of Law Human Rights Conference**

## Thursday, May 23, 2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>VENUE</strong></td>
<td>Palazzo Budini Gatai, Florence, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Pre-conference Reception Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6:30 - 6:45 p.m.</strong></td>
<td>Intro to the Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Professor Upendra Acharya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dean Jason Houston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6:45 - 7:00 p.m.</strong></td>
<td>Remarks by Dr. Carlo Francini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7:00 - 7:15 p.m.</strong></td>
<td>Special Remarks and Intro to Keynote Speaker by Dean Jacob Rooksby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7:15 - 7:45 p.m.</strong></td>
<td>Keynote Speaker: Greg Werkheiser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8:30 p.m.</strong></td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Friday, May 24, 2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>VENUE</strong></td>
<td>Gonzaga, in Florence, Via Giorgio la Pria, 11/13 50121 Florence, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8:00 - 8:30 a.m.</strong></td>
<td>Check-in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8:30 - 8:45 a.m.</strong></td>
<td>Opening Remarks by Dean Jason Houston and Professor Upendra Acharya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8:45 - 9:00 a.m.</strong></td>
<td>Remarks on the Theme by Jacob Rooksby, J.D., Ph.D Smithmore P. Myers Dean Professor of Law &amp; Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9:00 - 9:15 a.m.</strong></td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Friday, May 24, 2024**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 9:15 - 10:45 a.m.   | **Panel 1: Cultural Heritage Right as A Human Right (Cultural Heritage Governance)**<br>Moderator: Professor Sandra Simpson<br><br>Dr. Thiago Burckhart, Post-Doc Research Fellow at UNESCO Chair on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Comparative Law, University of Rome Unitelma Sapienza, Italy<br>  
  *Cultural heritage and International Human Rights: A Critical Outlook on Case Law of the Inter-American Human Rights System*<br><br>Katie Klass, General Counsel for the United South and Eastern Tribes “United South and Eastern Tribes (UEST) and the USET Sovereignty Protection Fund<br>  
  *Protection of Tribal Cultural Heritage and Sacred Landscapes*<br><br>Dr. Dominika Kuznicka-Blaszkowska, Post-Doc. and Researcher, School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology<br>  
  *The Role of Cultural Heritage and Right to Identity – Children and Young People Perspective* |
| 10:45 - 11:00 a.m.  | Break                                                                   |
| 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | **Panel 2: Human Survival and Cultural Heritage: Conflict and Political Change**<br>Moderator: Professor Drew Simshaw<br><br>Kitcki A. Carroll, Executive Director for United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (UEST) and the USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF), enrolled citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma<br>  
  *The Story of Tribal Nation-United States Relations and Its Impact on Our Cultural Survival and Perseverance*<br><br>Murtaza Mohiqi, Assistant Professor, Department of Culture, University of South-Eastern Norway<br>  
  *Strategies to Prevent Cultural Genocide: Armed Conflict, Cultural Cleansing, and International Humanitarian Law – A Case Study of the Hazara Community in Afghanistan*<br><br>Marland Buckner, President and CEO of the Shockoe Institute, Virginia<br>  
  *Rooting Policy in History: What Does Cultural Heritage Have to Do With Political Change* |
Cultural Heritage as a Human Right
2024 Gonzaga University School of Law Human Rights Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:30 - 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 - 3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker: Marion Werkheiser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15 - 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A (Will be answered by both keynote speakers.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 - 3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Moderator: Professor Upendra Acharya |
|                  | James French, Founder, The Montpelier Descendants Committee and Brownland Leadership Solutions  
  Advancing Structural Parity in Cultural Heritage Governance: Toward a Legal framework for Equity and Accountability |
|                  | Dr. Didier Bouakaze-Khan, Senior Antiquities & Cultural Heritage Consultant, The Soufan Group  
  How Investigative & Intelligence Work in Antiquities Matters to Global Security |
|                  | Dr. Araki Ichiro, Professor of Law, National Yokohama University, Japan  
  Cultural Heritage and International Trade Law |
|                  | Dr. William A. Hayes, Professor, Sociology and Criminology, Gonzaga University  
  Historical Wrongs and Cultural Rights: The Repatriation of Cultural Properties and Heritage to South Korea |
| 5:15 - 5:30 p.m. | Closing Remarks: Professor Upendra Acharya                              |
| 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. | Apericena Dinner and Social                                             |
Saturday, May 25, 2024

**TIME** | **SESSION**
--- | ---
**VENUE** | Gonzaga, in Florence, Via Giorgio la Pria, 11/13 50121 Florence, Italy
**8:30 - 9:00 a.m.** | Coffee and Gathering
**9:00 - 10:45 a.m.** | Panel 4: Destruction & Trafficking of Cultural Artifacts, Sovereignty Over Cultural Resources, Cultural Identity, Common Cultural Heritage, and International Law
Moderator: Professor Angela Aneiros

Haekal Al Asyari, Lecturer, International Law, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia and Ph.D. Scholar at University of Debrecen, Hungary  
*Earth's Dark Skies as Cultural Heritage: Assessing the Protection of Dark Skies under International Human Rights Law*

Michaela Millender, Program Officer, The Soufan Center  
*Identities Destroyed, Histories Revised: The Targeting of Cultural Heritage and Soft Targets by Illicit Actors*

Alesia Koush, Professor, Gonzaga University in Florence and Institute of Art and Restoration Palazo Spinelli, Italy  
*Illegal Antiquities Trafficking and Sovereignty Over Cultural Resources: The Right to Cultural Self-Determination in Iraq*

Victoria Maatta, J.D., LLM Candidate, Queen Mary University of London  
*Preserving Palestine: How Protection of Cultural Heritage Can Help Preserve Palestinian Identity*

Lauren Gowler, J.D., LLM Candidate, Queen Mary University of London  
*Cultural Heritage Destruction and Cultural Rights in the Russia & Ukraine Conflict*

**10:45 - 11:00 a.m.** | Break
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Special Round Table Panel on Cultural Heritage in Italy in the Local and Global contexts: Preservation, Protection, and Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moderator: Dr. Jason Houston, Professor and Dean, Gonzaga In Florence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avv. Lorenzo D’Ascia, State’s Attorney, Agency of the Italian Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Before the European Court of Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carlotta Del Bianco, President, Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco – Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beyond Tourism, Florence, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Colin P. Clarke, Senior Research Fellow and the Director of Research,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Soufan Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Upendra D Acharya, Professor and the Director of Global Legal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education Program, Gonzaga University School of Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maria Katharina Rauchenberger, Ruffino &amp; EMEA Legal and Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Francesco Vossilla, Professor and Art Historian, Gonzaga in Florence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alesia Koush, Professor, Gonzaga University in Florence and Institute of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Art and Restoration Palazo Spinelli, Italy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Marion Werkheiser

Marion Werkheiser is an award-winning lawyer and internationally recognized trailblazer in cultural heritage law. Marion is Founding Partner of Cultural Heritage Partners, PLLC, a law firm with a public mission: to leverage humanity’s past to create a better future. CHP takes on matters that advance the principle of access to cultural heritage as a human right. A team of attorneys, historians, tribal specialists, archaeologists, and art scholars serves clients globally. The firm’s victories have strengthened international and federal preservation law, secured the protection of important sites, objects, and traditions, affirmed the sovereignty of Tribal and First Nations, and helped communities whose culture has been systematically devalued be heard in the courts, legislatures, and before international tribunals.

Marion has a proven track record convening diverse stakeholders to identify shared values, solve tough problems, and scale solutions. An important part of her practice is to advocate for increased support for historic preservation at the federal and state levels. Among other landmark pieces of legislation, her efforts contributed to the recent establishment of the African American Burial Grounds Preservation Program at the National Park Service and the legal requirement that the Commonwealth of Virginia consult Tribal Nations before issuing permits that could impact their environmental, historic, and cultural interests. Marion’s well-established practice is firmly rooted at the intersection of development and preservation. Marion represents clients in negotiations with governments and corporations to achieve creative, win-win outcomes that appropriately balance preservation values and development needs. She advises indigenous peoples on developing their own consultation and engagement protocols to promote the human right of free, prior, and informed consent.

Marion earned her J.D. from Harvard Law School and is licensed to practice law in California, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Greg Werkheiser

Greg Werkheiser’s mission is connecting the lessons of our past to the leadership of our future. He believes this is achieved by protecting, conveying, and applying wisdom gleaned from history and diverse cultures to solve modern challenges and build a better society. To realize this goal, Greg has pursued three professional practices – cultural heritage and civil rights law, augmented reality technology entrepreneurship, and leadership education.

As Founding Partner of Cultural Heritage Partners, PLLC, a pioneering law firm in the field, Greg helps clients protect special places, objects, and practices, including artifacts, artworks, architecture, landscapes, and traditions. Greg and his colleagues have secured numerous landmark victories, particularly for Indigenous and Black heritage and civil rights, work for which he was awarded the Simons Medal of Excellence.

In addition, Greg serves as CEO of technology company ARtGlass, the global leader in bringing wearable augmented reality (AR) to heritage tourism. ARtGlass software and services help cultural sites deploy exciting and educational experiences on smartglasses, tablets, and phones.

Greg has also pioneered influential new methods of leadership education, establishing institutes that have nurtured tens of thousands of emerging leaders of positive social change. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching recognized Greg as one of America’s top civic educators.

Greg is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law and the College of William and Mary.
Jacob H. Rooksby is an academic, administrator, and attorney. Appointed Dean of Gonzaga Law School in 2018, Rooksby’s focus at Gonzaga has been on innovating the law school’s programming, facility, and operations and integrating the school further into the broader university and regional communities. A champion of diversity who established the first LGBTQ+ rights legal clinic at a Catholic law school in the country, Rooksby has worked to establish pay equity for faculty and provide equality of opportunity for students, faculty, and staff alike. He holds a joint appointment as a Professor of Law and Leadership Studies and has taught five different courses throughout his deanship.


Rooksby enjoys a strong connection to the legal profession. He holds law licenses in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Washington and formerly practiced with McGuireWoods LLP and Dentons Cohen & Grigsby P.C., the latter while a full-time academic. He currently serves as IP Optimization Strategist for FIG. 1 Patents, PLLC, a boutique IP law firm based in Spokane, and is an elected member of the American Law Institute, a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, and a member of the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Rooksby earned his A.B., summa cum laude, in Hispanic Studies and Government from the College of William & Mary, where he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and spent his senior year living amidst costumed interpreters in Colonial Williamsburg. He holds J.D., M.Ed., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Virginia and completed post-graduate training in higher education leadership and management in 2019 at Harvard University. He is a graduate of the Ignatian Colleagues Program, a program run by the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities designed to educate and inform administrators and faculty more deeply in the Jesuit and Catholic tradition of higher education.

Rooksby is married to Kelly Drew Rooksby, an attorney who is a double Zag grad (‘04 & Law ‘07). Together they raise three young girls. An avid enthusiast of the outdoors who has summited the highest point of elevation in 44 states, Rooksby enjoys hiking, golfing, skiing, and camping with his family.
Professor Upendra D Acharya

Professor Upendra D Acharya is a professor and Norman & Rita Roberts Scholar at Gonzaga University School of Law. He served as an associate professor at the Faculty of Law, Tribhuvan University and practiced law in the Supreme Court of Nepal. He has represented landmark cases in the Supreme Court of Nepal, including a daughter’s right to inherent property, and the Godabary Marble case that resulted in the passage of the first Environmental Protection Act in Nepal.

He has been visiting professor at several law schools, including in Brazil, France, China, India, Italy, Lebanon, Philippines, and Mexico. He has served as the vice president of the Asian Society of International Law for two terms. He also serves as the chair of the Human Rights Special Interest Group of the Asian Society of International Law. He is a founding member of Global Policy Forum for Nepal, a global think tank headquartered in London. Professor Acharya has presented papers on human rights, humanitarian law, international economic law and other areas of international law in North and South America, Middle East, Europe and Asia. He has written extensively on cutting-edge issues of international law, including terrorism, U.S. Foreign Policy, globalization, international economic law, and human rights and human security.

Professor Angela Aneiros

Angela Aneiros is an Assistant Professor of Law, Co-director of the Center for Law, Ethics, and Commerce, and the Co-director of the Gonzaga University Wine Institute at Gonzaga University School of Law. Prior to joining Gonzaga Law, she was a Lecturer of Business Law & Ethics at Indiana University’s Kelley School of Business. Professor Aneiros earned her J.D. from IU Maurer School of Law and her B.A. in Business Administrations-Prelaw from Michigan State University.

Drawing on more than a decade-long experience as a practitioner and as a scholar of business law and ethics, Professor Aneiros’ research focuses on the intersection of law and corporate governance. In particular, how recent social unrest and social movements influence diversity, equity, inclusions and justice in corporations. This includes both how social movements impact corporate America and corporate law and how stakeholders influence corporate behavior through legal avenues.

Prior to transitioning to academia, Professor Aneiros spent over a decade as a trial attorney in Illinois and Indiana. She spent six years in private practice representing individuals, businesses, and government entities in federal, district and state courts. She then transition of practice, she served as a supervising attorney at IU Student Legal Services, a clinical program for IU Maurer School of Law students, representing and advising IUB students.
Haekal Al Asyari is a dedicated scholar and educator, currently serving as a Lecturer in the International Law Department, Faculty of Law, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia. He is also a Ph.D. Candidate at the Géza Marton Doctoral School of Legal Studies, University of Debrecen, Hungary, supported by the prestigious Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship.

Haekal’s research areas and expertise span a wide range of topics in international law, with a particular focus on cyberspace governance, artificial intelligence, and regional security. His publications delve into critical issues such as cyber security, data protection, and the impact of AI on international humanitarian law and legal education. Additionally, Haekal’s expertise extends to air and space law, as well as legal pedagogy. Haekal have published several articles and book chapters at both national and international journals. Some of them discusses the issues of cyberterrorism, law of arms trade, e-commerce, and space diplomacy. With a robust academic background and extensive research experiences, Haekal emerges as a versatile legal scholar committed to advancing knowledge and fostering dialogue on pressing global issues.
Marland Buckner

Marland Buckner is President and CEO of the Shockoe Institute, a Richmond, Virginia USA-based organization dedicated to uncovering the history of Shockoe, one of America's oldest communities and an epicenter of the American domestic slave trade. Buckner's nearly 30-year career has been informed by a commitment to understanding the historic roots and public policy dimensions of opportunity in America.

After completing his doctoral examinations in American Studies at the College of William & Mary, Buckner worked in Washington D.C. as an analyst at several think tanks prior to serving as Legislative Assistant to Senator Charles Schumer and Chief of Staff to Congressman Harold Ford Jr. From 2001 to 2008 Buckner served as Director of Federal Government Affairs for Microsoft where he led the company's human capital public policy efforts. In 2008 Buckner formed MB² Solutions, a consultancy that for 15 years provided counsel to firms, foundations, and high net worth individuals focused on expanding opportunity to individuals and communities globally.

Buckner serves on the boards of mission driven lenders Bridging Virginia and the Reinvestment Fund, dedicating his volunteer efforts toward addressing socio-economic challenges many of which find their origins, and are rooted, in the history of Shockoe.

Dr. Thiago Burckhart

Thiago Burckhart is Postdoc Research Fellow in Comparative Public Law at the “UNESCO Chair on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Comparative Law”, University of Rome Unite Lama Sapienza, Italy. He holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Law and Processes of Integration from the University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli” (Italy), and a Master’s degree in Law from the Federal University of Santa Catarina (Brazil). He has been Visiting Researcher at the Department of Law and Political Science, Aix-Marseille University (France, 2022). He researches and publishes in the areas of constitutional, international and environmental law, primarily on cultural heritage law and policy, comparative constitutional law, international and comparative environmental law, and human rights.
Kitcki A. Carroll

Kitcki A. Carroll is an enrolled citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and a descendant of Cheyenne Peace Chief, Chief Black Kettle. Since 2010, he has proudly served as the Executive Director for United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) and the USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF), a non-profit and inter-tribal organization representing thirty-three (33) federally recognized Tribal Nations (first contact Tribal Nations) from the Northeastern Woodlands, down the Atlantic coast to the Everglades, and across the Gulf of Mexico.

Established in 1969, USET and USET SPF collectively advocate on behalf of its thirty-three-member Tribal Nations at the regional and national level. In his capacity as Executive Director, Mr. Carroll works to protect and promote the sovereignty rights of USET/USPF members. He is a strong advocate for all Native people and actively works to ensure that the United States recognizes, honors, and fulfills its sacred trust and treaty responsibilities and obligations to Indian Country.

He has held various Executive/Senior leadership positions in the tribal government and not-for-profit justice and advocacy sector for the past 23 years and has served/serves on various workgroups, panels, task forces, boards, and advisory groups.

Dr. Colin P. Clarke

Colin P. Clarke is a Senior Research Fellow at The Soufan Center. He is the Director of Research at The Soufan Group, where his research focuses on domestic and transnational terrorism, international security, and geopolitics. Prior to joining The Soufan Group, Clarke was a professor at Carnegie Mellon University, and a senior political scientist at the RAND Corporation, where he spent a decade researching terrorism, insurgency, and criminal networks. At RAND, Clarke led studies on ISIS financing, the future of terrorism and transnational crime, and lessons learned from all insurgencies since the end of the World War II. Clarke has testified before Congress on numerous occasions as an expert witness on a range of terrorism-related issues, appears frequently in the media to discuss national security-related matters, and has published several books on terrorism, including his most recent, After the Caliphate: The Islamic State and the Future Terrorist Diaspora. Clarke earned his Ph.D. in international security policy from the University of Pittsburgh’s Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA).

Carlotta Del Bianco

Since 2002 she was an hotel entrepreneur aimed at promoting the internationalization of cultural expressions in business organization, human resources management and certification systems. This experience allowed her to perceive the need to harmonize the sustainable development and local cultural awareness in potential tourist destinations.

She then contributed to the definition of certification ‘Dialogue between cultures’, leading to the publication of the DTC LBT H4PE: 2021 Certification System, as tool to diversify economic and cultural operators, at local communities’ level, to direct their activities to intercultural dialogue, a tool recently included into the recent 2021 Management Plan by the City of Florence UNESCO OFFICE.

(Bio continued on next page.)
James French, a respected leader in tech, banking, and social innovation, has dedicated his career to enhancing economic prospects in emerging markets. At Citigroup, as a Senior US Treasury Advisor to Algeria, as a board director for Africa’s largest microfinance bank, and as a fintech entrepreneur, he focused on this goal. Recently back in the U.S., James has worked to reshape institutional norms for stewardship of cultural sites.

As a descendant of enslaved people in Virginia’s Piedmont, James founded the Montpelier Descendants Committee (MDC). Over four years, he led a successful equal power-sharing revolution between the MDC and The Montpelier Foundation, once home to the 4th US President, James Madison. In 2022, he made history as the first Chair of a Founder site from a descendant background, securing a groundbreaking $5.8 million Mellon Foundation grant.

This innovative governance model, ‘structural parity,’ has earned global acclaim and is positioned to ignite an institutional renaissance, reshaping power and equity dynamics across sectors ranging from museums to corporate boardrooms, and even in the realm of AI.

Subsequently, James established Brownland Leadership Solutions (BLS), a consultancy dedicated to this mission. His world view has been shaped by a childhood in the Ivory Coast, education at Phillips Exeter Academy, Boston University and the University of Virginia’s Darden School of Business and the stories of his ancestors.

Carlo Francini, art historian, is, since 2005, the site manager of the UNESCO World Heritage site “Historic Center of Florence” and the responsible for the Florence World Heritage office of the Municipality of Florence. In his long-standing career in heritage management, Carlo has served crucial roles, acting as a key mediator between private local actors and international bodies such as the UNESCO. Since 2009 he has also took the role of scientific coordinator of the Italian World Heritage Association, as well as coordinating HeRe_Lab - Heritage and Research, the joint research laboratory in heritage-related topics between the Municipality of Florence and the University of Florence.

Accordingly, she contributed to the definition of the ethos of the Romualdo Del Bianco Foundation named of Life Beyond Tourism and promoting the training, educational and cultural initiatives for its dissemination. Since 2021 is the President of the Foundation, succeeding his father Paolo.

Carlotta Del Bianco has recently launched the program Luoghi Parlanti (Talking Places) that aim at involving local communities and youngster in interpreting, communicating storytelling on the cultural and natural expressions of the territory they live, in order to promote local awareness, respect and preservation of the cultural traditions, products and identity and favour local sustainable tourism. For that reason, she has created the Festival of the Talking Places The World in Florence, that each year gather the partners of the Foundation to produce local storytelling and ideal itineraries for discovering the territories.

Carlotta Del Bianco has recently launched the program Luoghi Parlanti (Talking Places) that aim at involving local communities and youngster in interpreting, communicating storytelling on the cultural and natural expressions of the territory they live, in order to promote local awareness, respect and preservation of the cultural traditions, products and identity and favour local sustainable tourism. For that reason, she has created the Festival of the Talking Places The World in Florence, that each year gather the partners of the Foundation to produce local storytelling and ideal itineraries for discovering the territories.

**Carlo Francini**

Carlo Francini, art historian, is, since 2005, the site manager of the UNESCO World Heritage site “Historic Center of Florence” and the responsible for the Florence World Heritage office of the Municipality of Florence. In his long-standing career in heritage management, Carlo has served crucial roles, acting as a key mediator between private local actors and international bodies such as the UNESCO. Since 2009 he has also took the role of scientific coordinator of the Italian World Heritage Association, as well as coordinating HeRe_Lab - Heritage and Research, the joint research laboratory in heritage-related topics between the Municipality of Florence and the University of Florence.

**James French**

James French, a respected leader in tech, banking, and social innovation, has dedicated his career to enhancing economic prospects in emerging markets. At Citigroup, as a Senior US Treasury Advisor to Algeria, as a board director for Africa’s largest microfinance bank, and as a fintech entrepreneur, he focused on this goal. Recently back in the U.S., James has worked to reshape institutional norms for stewardship of cultural sites.

As a descendant of enslaved people in Virginia’s Piedmont, James founded the Montpelier Descendants Committee (MDC). Over four years, he led a successful equal power-sharing revolution between the MDC and The Montpelier Foundation, once home to the 4th US President, James Madison. In 2022, he made history as the first Chair of a Founder site from a descendant background, securing a groundbreaking $5.8 million Mellon Foundation grant.

This innovative governance model, ‘structural parity,’ has earned global acclaim and is positioned to ignite an institutional renaissance, reshaping power and equity dynamics across sectors ranging from museums to corporate boardrooms, and even in the realm of AI.

Subsequently, James established Brownland Leadership Solutions (BLS), a consultancy dedicated to this mission. His world view has been shaped by a childhood in the Ivory Coast, education at Phillips Exeter Academy, Boston University and the University of Virginia’s Darden School of Business and the stories of his ancestors.
Dr. William A. Hayes, an Associate Professor at Gonzaga University, integrates his diverse academic background into a scholarly exploration of Human Rights Regimes and the evolving landscape of third-generation human rights. After graduating from St. Andrews University in Laurinburg, NC, he ventured west to the Bay Area, where he immersed himself in theology studies at the Graduate Theological Union and the San Francisco Theological Seminary. Following a transformative internship year in Seoul, South Korea, and serving as a youth minister in San Francisco, he pursued Asian Studies at the University of Hawai’i in Honolulu. Finally, with a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, Dr. Hayes settled into Spokane and Gonzaga University, seeking to be at the forefront of innovative research and teaching in criminology, particularly focusing on the intersection of culture and crime. Committed to fostering a deeper understanding of this intersection at the global level, Dr. Hayes has integrated innovative courses like Global Criminology and Human Rights Regimes into Gonzaga’s curriculum, and actively engages in community initiatives, aligning with his commitment to social justice and solidarity.

Dr. Jason Houston is Dean and Associate Professor of Italian at Gonzaga in Florence, where he teaches Dante and leads the Gonzaga in Florence campus. He completed his BA in Italian and Medieval Studies at the University of Oregon. He went on to take his M.Phil in Medieval Studies and Ph.D. in Italian Language and Literature at Yale University in 2003. From 2003 to 2016, he was Assistant Professor and then Associate Professor of Italian at the University of Oklahoma, where he created a new Bachelor of Arts program in Italian, developed a new study center for OU in Arezzo, Italy, and managed a public/private partnership between OU/ENEL Green Power/Capitoline Museums of Rome. His research focuses on Giovanni Boccaccio and his complicated relationships with other key Trecento Italian authors: Dante Alighieri, Francesco Petrarca, and Zanobi da Strada. His publications include a monograph, numerous articles, edited volumes of scholarship, and review articles in journals such as MLN, Dante Studies, Studi Sul Boccaccio, Renaissance Quarterly, and Speculum. He is currently completing a translation into English of Boccaccio’s minor Latin works.

Lauren Gowler

Lauren Gowler is a Canadian legal scholar with interests in cultural heritage, museum ethics, international law, and human rights. Currently situated in London (UK), Lauren is pursuing a specialized Masters in Law (LL.M.) in Art, Business and Law with Queen Mary University of London and the Institute of Art & Law. Her scholarly writing and research looks at Alternative Dispute Resolution processes, colonial-era restitution claims, and cultural partnerships between museums and Indigenous communities.

Previously, Lauren completed both her Juris Doctor and her Bachelor of Arts in English Literature at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. In her leisure time, Lauren finds solace and inspiration in sketching, painting and visiting art galleries. As the current Vice President of Wasagaming Community Arts – a non-profit arts centre nestled in Riding Mountain National Park – Lauren works with local artists and the community to foster creativity and promote appreciation for the arts.
Katie Klass serves as General Counsel for the United South and Eastern Tribes and the USET Sovereignty Protection Fund. Katie is also an enrolled citizen of and represents the Wyandotte Nation.

Katie fights to protect the inherent sovereign rights and authorities of Tribal Nations and hold the United States accountable for its trust, treaty, and statutory obligations. Before joining USET, Katie was a partner at Hobbs, Straus, Dean, and Walker, LLP and participated in the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor’s Honors Attorney Program. Katie received her Juris Doctor from the University of Arizona, where she participated in the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program.

Katie has specialized in protection of Tribal cultural heritage and sacred landscapes. She helped Tribal Nations stop international and domestic auctions and bring items back home. Her work led to enactment of the Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act, aimed at preventing the export and facilitating the international repartition of cultural heritage. Her work also helped secure an administrative withdrawal of federal lands from new oil and gas development in the sacred landscape in Chaco Canyon. She also secured congressional funding for prosecution of trafficking and for tribally-led cultural resource studies.

Alesia Koush is a researcher and educator in Illicit antiquities trafficking, Cultural human rights and Cultural values education. She teaches at the Gonzaga University in Florence and Institute of Art and Restoration Palazzo Spinelli, Italy. Active as a Researcher with RASHID Research, Assessment and Safeguarding of the Heritage of Iraq in Danger and CAMNES Centre for Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies, she also collaborates with UNESCO Office of the Municipality of Florence, Commission for the Protection of Italian and Foreign Cultural Heritage of the Academy of Arts and Drawings in Florence, Association MUS.E and Rondine Cittadella della Pace. Alesia is currently pursuing her PhD in Archaeology at the University of Reading, UK, focusing on illicit antiquities trafficking, its human rights implications, crime deterrence strategies and forensic traceable liquid technology, within the case study of Iraq. She coordinates a media coverage project with Brigada de Patrimonio Histórico de Spanish National Police and Journal of Cultural Heritage Crime, and has conceived an educational project “Inside Out. The Journey into the Country of Values”. Member of Art Crime Project, ICOM, ICOMOS, Italian National Association of Carabinieri TPC, and UNESCO Centre of Florence Onlus.

Maria Katharina Rauchenberger

Ms. Rauchenberger is Ruffino & EMEA Legal and Compliance Director. She is known for Mitteleuropean strategic business leader with significant career experience and expertise in Legal & Compliance Strategy, Risk Management and Sustainability with a focus on regulatory, contracts, trademarks management, global enterprise risk management, corporate compliance, shared services and legal analysis. Over 15 years of legal experience, also participating on several boards as a Company Secretary.

Her experience includes: Director of the Ruffino Group Executive Committee, Internal Member of the Supervisory Committee (Italian Legislative Decree, 231/2001), Enterprise Risk Management through leadership implementing innovative and critical risk practices locally, Experienced strategic leader completing two major M&A transactions, Executive Member of the Ruffino Group CSR Committee. Executive Member of the Ruffino Group DEI Committee. She has earned several degrees, including law from universities in UK, USA, Italy, and Switzerland. She is fluent in English, French, German, and Italian.
Dr. Dominika Kuźnicka-Błaszkowska

Dr Dominika Kuźnicka-Błaszkowska – postdoc and practitioner, specializing in personal data protection and guarantees for human rights and freedoms in the technological world. Author of numerous publications on personal data protection, access to information and fundamental rights and freedoms. Frequent speaker and national and international conferences. Conducted research stays and visits in Atlanta, New York, Frankfurt and Brussels. As practitioner she worked with international banks, telecom providers, service centers, local NGOs and start-ups. Currently acting as Researcher at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta and Principal Investigator at University of Wroclaw.

Victoria Maatta

Victoria Maatta is a recent graduate from the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where she studied law as a part-time, evening student while maintaining full-time employment. Prior to her legal education, she earned her undergraduate degree in Archaeology and Art History from the University of Pittsburgh. During her undergraduate studies, she participated in archaeological field work at the site of Mendes in Tel El-Ruba, Egypt. She later participated in archaeological excavations as a field student in both Orkney, Scotland at the Ness of Brodgar and in Petra, Jordan. These experiences have inspired her to explore the various intersections of art, cultural heritage, and law. Currently, she is pursuing her Master of Laws (LLM) in Art, Business, and Law at Queen Mary University in London, with an anticipated graduation date in December 2024.

Michaela Millender

Michaela Millender is a Program Officer at The Soufan Center. Her research focuses on far-right extremism and terrorism, the destruction of cultural heritage, and the intersection of global security with migration, humanitarian access, and the role of multilateral institutions, such as the United Nations. Prior to joining The Soufan Center, she served as a research analyst at the Global Disinformation Index, as well as for the United Nations’ UN75 Initiative which produced the report UN75: The Future We Want, the UN We Need. Michaela was awarded a Master of Science in Global Affairs from New York University’s Center for Global Affairs in 2021, with a concentration in international development and humanitarian assistance and specializations in the United Nations and data analytics. She also attended the University of Oklahoma’s College of International Studies and was awarded a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies with a minor in Italian language in 2014.
Murtaza Mohiqi

Murtaza Mohiqi, a law lecturer, legal columnist, and human rights researcher, brings extensive expertise in both human rights and private law across domestic and international spheres. Currently serving as an assistant professor in the Human Rights and Multiculturalism program at the University of South-Eastern Norway, Mohiqi is also an active member of Southeastern Norway University's Human Rights and Diversity Research Group. His specialized interdisciplinary research focuses on critical perspectives within transitional justice, migration, and sustainable development, with a keen emphasis on addressing multifaceted human rights issues affecting diverse demographic groups, including women, children, minorities, immigrants, and individuals with disabilities. Beyond academia, Mohiqi volunteers his expertise as an instructor, offering online lessons in human rights and civil law to students residing in conflict zones such as Afghanistan. Through this initiative, he endeavours to foster access to education and empower individuals to navigate and advocate for their rights as citizens.

Dr. Isber Sabrine

ISBER SABRINE (PhD) is a Syrian- Spanish archaeologist who specializes 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. 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 MENA region and Ukraine. He is the founder and director of the Arab Network of Civil Society Organizations to Safeguard Cultural Heritage (ANSCH).

Professor Sandra Simpson

Sandra Simpson joined the law faculty as an Assistant Professor of Legal Research and Writing in August 2007 and was promoted to Associate Professor in August of 2012. Sandra was appointed to Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in June of 2013, serving in that capacity until 2017 when she returned to full-time teaching. Being dedicated to teaching excellence she has served as the co-director of the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning since 2013. In addition, Sandra was appointed to direct innovation for the Legal Research and Writing Department in 2019. She regularly conducts teaching workshops at various law schools around the country, focusing on rubric creation and institutional assessment. In addition to teaching pedagogy, Simpson has published articles in the area of the death penalty and protecting caregivers in the workplace. Professor Simpson was promoted to Professor of Law in the spring of 2020.

Prior to joining the law faculty at Gonzaga Law School, she spent three years teaching at Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington. Before entering the teaching field, Sandra spent two years in general practice in Iowa City, Iowa, and five years as an employment defense litigator for Workland and Witherspoon, P.L.L.C., in Spokane, Washington.

In her spare time, Sandra loves working out, running, and hiking. She is also an avid skier, enjoying the many great ski resorts in the Pacific Northwest. Additionally, she loves spending time with her husband of 30+ years and her two adult children. Lastly, being raised in Green Bay, Wisconsin, Sandra can often be seen wearing her Packer jersey around the law school.
Professor Drew Simshaw

Before joining the Gonzaga Law faculty, Professor Simshaw taught at the Georgetown University Law Center as a Visiting Associate Professor of Law, Legal Practice. As a supervising attorney with the Institute for Public Representation in Washington, D.C., he specialized in communications and technology law and represented public interest organizations in rulemakings and adjudications before federal agencies and in litigation before federal appellate courts. In 2017, he received the H. Latham Breunig Humanitarian Award from Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc., in recognition of his pro bono advocacy on behalf of people with disabilities. Professor Simshaw previously taught as a fellow in Georgetown Law’s Communications and Technology Law Clinic and at Elon University School of Law. He is a proud AmeriCorps alum.

Professor Simshaw researches and writes about the interplay between emerging legal technologies (including artificial intelligence) and legal ethics, access to justice, and legal education. His article, Access to A.I. Justice: Avoiding an Inequitable Two-Tiered System of Legal Services, was recently published in the Yale Journal of Law & Technology. His recent article, Toward National Regulation of Legal Technology: A Path Forward for Access to Justice, was recently published in the Fordham Law Review.

Professor Simshaw is a member of the Washington Practice of Law Board and the Washington Disciplinary Advisory Round Table.

Dr. Francesco Vossilla

Francesco Vossilla is an Art historian and Museum Studies scholar born and educated in Florence (Italy). He has a Laurea (Vecchio Ordinamento) in Museum Studies (Museologia and Museografia), Lettere e Filosofia, Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Università di Firenze (Italy), and a Ph.D. in History of Architecture, Facoltà di Architettura, Università di Firenze (Italy). He has been a curator of exhibitions and editor of various publications. In 2014 he has been nominated Accademico Onorario of the Accademia delle Arti del Disegno di Firenze. He has been Consulente per la Valorizzazione Culturale (Consultant for Cultural Enhancement) dell’ Opera di Santa Croce di Firenze. He is member of the board and President of the Società di Studi Giuseppe Castiglione SJ-Lang Shining, dedicated to intercultural studies, and named after the great Italian artist in China. He is mostly teaching classes in English on Art History, Museum Studies, Philosophy of Art, Renaissance Architecture and Design for Gonzaga University in Florence. He is Adjunct Professor to Xi’an Jiaotong University in Xi’an, China. He is Distant Professor of Western Philosophy of Art and the Practice of Creative Industries for Shih Chien University. College of Management. Graduate Institute of Creative Industries in Taipei, Taiwan.

Vossilla has published mostly on Renaissance philosophy of Art, Renaissance sculpture, Renaissance ceramics, and the history of Italian museums.