

# Future Plans and Development Prospects

## (Work Plan 4<sup>th</sup> period, 2021–2025)

### **UNESCO Chair in International Relations (Dresden)**

Prof. Dr. Dr. Sabine von Schorlemer

For the period of 2021–2025, the Chair is going to specifically concentrate on the activities and projects as outlined as follows.

## **I. Core activities at the heart of the Chair's mandate**

Research will continue to take place in the fields of cultural heritage, cultural diversity and the nexus between cultural heritage/diversity with peace, with a continued focus on the topical issues of destruction of cultural heritage, sustainability as well as national and international implementation efforts of international law on the protection of cultural property:

### **1. Protection of Cultural Heritage**

#### **1.1 Protection of Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Heritage**

Continuation of the participation in the project of the National Academy Leopoldina concerning the elaboration of a National **“Report on the Future of Archaeological Heritage”** in collaboration with the German Archaeological Institute (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut (DAI)) and the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin.

In 2019, a first discussion paper with the title “Traces under Water: Exploring and protecting the cultural heritage in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea” was published as part of the project. In the further course of the project, the Chairholder will continue to focus on international law instruments and their implementation, e.g. conventions, resolutions, recommendations and decisions of UNESCO, UNIDROIT, UN Security Council, Council of Europe, EU and the International Criminal Court (ICC). Problems of destruction, risk management and illegal trade of the archaeological heritage in Germany and on a worldwide scale will be addressed.

#### **1.2 Protection of Cultural Heritage during Conflict and Emergencies**

Continued focus on the **protection of cultural heritage during armed conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies**. The Chairholder will continue to conduct substantial research and offer scientific policy advice in this field. In particular, the Chairholder will continue to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee for the funding initiative “Patrimonies” of the Gerda Henkel Stiftung. Teaching activities, e.g. the lecture “International Humanitarian Law” and a seminar on the protection of cultural property in times of crises and armed conflict will further contribute to this core field of activity.

### 1.3. Heritage in Conflict – Shared Responsibility

Under the leadership of and in cooperation with the Institute Heritage Studies (Prof. em. Marie-Theres Albert), the Chair is planning an international conference and book publication on the topic **“Heritage in Conflict – Shared Responsibility”**. The concept of the conference builds on the recognition of heritage as a foundation of the identity of peoples and communities, which not only serves as a motive for destruction of heritage but also leads to a shared responsibility for its protection. The Chair will contribute to the conference especially in the fields of heritage in **conflict and terrorism**. Especially, the Chair **will contribute to** the Think Tank “Armed Conflict and Terrorism” which will bring together distinguished experts to discuss, inter alia, the loss of tangible and intangible heritage caused by destruction and the resulting loss of cultural identity; the plundering of cultural goods as a means of financing terrorism; and the violation of norms of international law. The Chair will further support the project as a whole by assisting in the planning and implementation of the conference as well as the subsequent publication of an edited volume (tbp 2022).

## 2. Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development

Building on the results of two interdisciplinary workshops on **culture / cultural diversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, hosted by the Chair in 2018 and 2019, and an online publication with the title **“UNESCO World Heritage and the SDGs” (2020)**, the Chair will continue to bring attention to the vital role of culture, in particular cultural diversity, for the achievement of the United Nations Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. This research focus is of particular policy relevance against the background of the current revision process of Germany’s National Sustainable Development Strategy and in line with the commitment of the UNESCO Chairs in Germany to support the achievement of the SDGs with their work (Heidelberg Commitment 2017, Wuppertal Declaration 2019).

## 3. Networking Activities

### 3.1 UNESCO Chairs

Expansion of cooperation and networking activities, most notably with German and international **UNESCO Chairs**. In 2011, the UNESCO Chair initiated the first networking meeting of Chairs in Dresden, together with chairs from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, and largely supported by the German Commission for UNESCO (DUK). Since then, the networking continued on a regular basis (e.g. Heidelberg 2017, Wuppertal 2019, Weimar/Jena scheduled for 2021). For the next four years, intensified networking activities with the UNESCO Chair Cultural Policy for the Arts in Development (Hildesheim, Germany) are currently being discussed.

### 3.2 North-South Cooperation

A special focus will be put on increasing the cooperation with partners and UNESCO Chairs from the Global South. As a member and Vice-President of the Curatorium of the **African Institute of International Law (AILL)**, the Chairholder sees strong potential in strengthening

participatory research and education on UNESCO topics such as World Heritage and Sustainability in Africa. Therefore, cooperation with partners and UNESCO Chairs in Tanzania and other countries in the region will be sought. A member of the Chair is currently mapping the UNESCO Chairs working in the field of cultural heritage in order to establish contacts with a view to future collaboration.

### 3.3 UNESCO Headquarters

Continuation of established **cooperation with UNESCO headquarters** that was established from the beginning of the Chair's existence and which has been intensified during the research stay of the Chairholder at headquarters in Paris (September 2015 until July 2016) and the active participation of the Chairholder in the meetings of the Network of UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs and C2Cs related to Culture. In addition, the members of the network of UNESCO Chairs in Germany have committed themselves to focus more on their role as a think tank and hub for ideas for UNESCO as a whole. They will contribute to a closer and more regular exchange with UNESCO headquarters.

## 4. Continued activities / further projects

The Chairholder will continue her activities in the International Law Association (ILA) research project "Participation in Global Cultural Heritage Governance". The Interim Report of the Committee has been adopted unanimously (ILA, Kyoto Conference 2020, Participation in Global Heritage Governance, 30 pages). Now a new work plan for 2020–2022 is being elaborated. The "Memorandum on the Second Phase of the Committee's Work" (as of November 2020 to be discussed on 10 December 2020 in an online meeting) suggests to examine "national responses to community participation in the governance of community resources, particular (but not confined) to cultural heritage". Thus, the next phase of the project will map participation specifically in the domain of heritage.

In addition, the Chair is ready to start working in the UNESCO project "Combatting Illegal Trade of Cultural Property in the MENA Region (ProCult)" as foreseen by the Agreement of 2017. The Chairholder already received information by the EU Commission on the Initial Expert Group and its report concerning the study "Protection and enhancement of the cultural heritage in the Middle East, focus on Iraq – a component for peacebuilding, mediation and dialogue" (2020).

## II. Future Chair activities within the mandate (new fields)

The Chair intends to broaden its scope of action by attaining third-party research funding. This can go hand in hand with a further expansion of the networking activities, with a special focus of countries in the Global South. In fact, the establishing of North-South cooperation with like-minded UNESCO-Chairs is one of the main long-term goals of the Chair.

The Chair remains committed to its goal of covering the field of international law in its full complexity and will continue to be open for new topics and fields of activity. Given that the Dresden Chair is the only Chair dedicated to international law in Germany, the openness to all sub-fields of international law is of particular importance.

## 1. Digitization and Internet Governance

In recent years, there has been growing awareness of the need to preserve the **digital cultural heritage**, a part of which is at significant risk of being lost. In light of pressing demands to develop informed and targeted strategies, the Chair turns its attention to UNESCO's approach towards the preservation of the digital cultural heritage. Being the lead UN agency in the field of cultural heritage preservation, the organization has responded to the challenge early on, notably by adopting the Charter on the Preservation of Digital Heritage.

Among others, the Chairholder already in 2000 published a monograph on "Globale Telekommunikation und Entwicklungsländer" (Global Telecommunication and Developing Countries) and an article on "Telecommunications, International Regulation" in the Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law (2009). As a member of the former Institute of Telecommunications and Environmental Law (ITUR) at TU Dresden, the Chairholder has continuously followed the relevant developments in international law. Thanks to the integration of the Chair into the new Institute of International Law, Intellectual Property and Technology Law, the institutional ties with other Chairs working in the field of Intellectual Property Law and Technology Law will be strengthened. As a result, complex issues such as property rights and heritage can be approached from an interdisciplinary perspective. In the coming years, the Chair will build on initial research activities on this topic and plans several **publications**; the first manuscript is already under review in a peer reviewed journal (2020/21). In addition, a dissertation on the topic "UNESCO and Internet Governance" is currently finalised and will be published in 2021. Committed to the unity of research and teaching, the Chair is envisioning a research seminar on the topic of UNESCO's role in digitization and internet governance.

## 2. Terrorism and Cultural Heritage

In cooperation with the Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, USA, the Chair is involved in the research project "**Cultural Heritage and Mass Atrocities: Human and Security Costs**". In a wide-ranging international and interdisciplinary endeavour, the edited volume (tbp 2022) goes beyond categories of "armed conflict" or "internal disturbance" and concentrates on the prevention or attenuation of large-scale intentional damage to immovable cultural heritage linked to four mass-atrocity crimes: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing. In the last two decades, cultural heritage has increasingly become an attractive target for terrorist attacks. Considering the wanton, often well-orchestrated and deliberate devastation of monuments and archaeological sites, it is important to examine the extent to which the fight against terrorism in the twenty-first century contributes to the creation of new international legal standards for the protection of cultural heritage that influence cultural heritage protection and develop its legal regime.

Building on earlier teaching (e.g. Course on “Protection of Cultural Heritage During Armed Conflict, Occupation and Terrorism” during the Summer School of the UNESCO Chair in International Law of the Protection of Cultural Heritage (Prof. Marc-André Renold, Geneva, Switzerland) and research on the topic (e.g. Human Rights: The Substantive and Institutional Implications of the War against Terrorism, in: *European Journal of International Law*, Vol. 14, 2003, pp. 265–28; The Usefulness of the “Responsibility to Protect” as Applied to the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflict, in: *Cultural Heritage Law and Ethics: Mapping Recent Developments*, edited by Art-Law Centre 2017, pp. 69–93; Cultural Heritage Protection as a Security Issue in the 21st Century: Recent Developments, *Indonesian Journal of International Law* (2018), Vol. 16 No. 1, pp. 28–60; Military Intervention, the UN Security Council and the Role of UNESCO: The Case of Mali, in: Anne-Marie Carstens, Elizabeth Varner (eds.), *Intersections in International Cultural Heritage Law*, Oxford University Press 2020, pp. 82–103), the Chairholder participates in the project with a chapter on **“Fighting Terrorism as a Catalyst for Norm-creation in Cultural Heritage Law?”** which intends to bridge cultural heritage protection and the responsibility to protect by drawing on the original framework of the R2P doctrine with its three-part responsibility for protection (prevention, reaction and rebuilding). In an intensive peer-review process, the Chairholder has already participated in an online conference with other authors of the volume in June 2020. Another series of meetings is scheduled to take place in February 2021.

### 3. Cultural Heritage in Postcolonial Discourses: Participation and Restitution

The adequate handling of cultural heritage that has been relocated from formerly colonized countries to the so-called metropolises of the colonial rulers has developed into a contested topic of international relations in recent years. Contemporary discourses that revolve around the appropriate handling of cultural testimonies, which have their roots in the colonial history of the European powers and can therefore be regarded as “colonial heritage”, are complex. They include numerous aspects, including the extent to which the formerly colonized and their descendants (individuals, groups, communities, peoples, tribes) are entitled to cultural participation in the colonial heritage and to what extent the return of cultural assets, e.g. from ethnological museums and collections in Europe and North America, is a duty of the former metropolises or “mother countries”.

While taking advantage of earlier research of the Chair on cultural diversity, participation and cultural heritage (e.g. ILA Committee on Participation in Global Heritage Governance of the International Law Association) and the nexus between cultural heritage and cultural rights, the Chairholder sets out to holistically discuss questions of participation and restitution from an international law perspective. The outcome of the project will be a monograph with the title **Cultural Heritage in Postcolonial Discourses: Participation and Restitution** to be published in 2021. This book will close an existing gap in the field since the issue of colonialism and colonial implications of heritage and international law has so far only been treated marginally in German scholarship.

#### 4. Heritage at Risk: New Avenues in Risk Management

Cultural Heritage is at risk – this, in itself, is not a new phenomenon. Heritage has always been at risk due to natural hazards and disasters but in current times, the risk for cultural heritage has increased immensely by human-made hazards, anthropogenic effects, and the increasing impacts of climate change (see already Sabine von Schorlemer, Sylvia Maus (eds.), *Climate Change as a Threat to Peace. Impact on Cultural Heritage and Cultural Diversity*, Frankfurt a.M. 2014.) Successful risk management for heritage requires a broader perspective, taking into account insights from risk research. Therefore, the Chair will take a fresh look at the classification of those risks and evaluate existing international efforts and obligations to counteract them. It will look in more depth at the interdependencies within risk and take a holistic approach to risk by analyzing the hazard, vulnerability, risk, exposure, susceptibility, resilience and vulnerability interventions as well as hazard interventions. This overview of the conception of risk will place different types of cultural heritage within the risk framework, be it as an object at risk or be it as an integral part for risk management and risk reduction as well as coping.

To conclude, the Chair will continue its activities in its core fields of cultural heritage and cultural diversity, while exploring new scientific grounds and cooperate with new national and international partners.

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*Attached: Budget Plan 2021–2025*

## Budget Plan 2021–2025: UNESCO Chair in International Relations (Dresden)

*Please note: this budget does not include the costs for salaries of the Chair's personnel (chair holder, scientific coordinator, researchers, secretary) as well as general costs for office operation (hardware, supplies, etc) since it is directly covered by the TU Dresden.*

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Earmarked funds</b>					
Annual contribution ProCult	€3000	€3000	€3000	€3000	€3000
<b>Conferences and events</b>					
Contribution to Conference/publication Heritage in Conflict – Shared Responsibility	€8000				
Guest lectures at TUD (travel and accommodation of speakers)	(300€/semester) 600€/year	(300€/semester) 600€/year	(300€/semester) 600€/year	(300€/semester) 600€/year	(300€/semester) 600€/year
Movies Meet SDGs Film Series (license fees, venue, guests)	400€	400€	400€	400€	400€
<b>Joint research activities</b>					
Getty (project meetings)	€300	€300			
ILA (Committee meetings)	€500	€500	€500	€500	€500
<b>Cooperation activities (e.g. UNESCO Chairs, Headquarters)</b>	€800	€800	€800	€800	€800
Travel expenses (and other costs)					
<b>Publication projects</b>					
Kulturerbe in postkolonialen Diskursen (monograph)	€2000				
Heritage in Conflict – Shared Responsibility (edited volume)		€5000			
<b>Additional personnel costs (short-term contracts)</b>					
Proofreading 2021 monograph	€2000				
AiIL cooperation (research assistant, hourly basis)	€400	€400	€400	€400	€400
Other projects		€400	€400	€400	€400
<b>Procurement other than office equipment (books, journals, other materials)</b>	€500	€500	€500	€500	€500
<b>Budget per year</b>	16.500	11.900	6.600	6.600	6.600
<b>TOTAL (2021–2025): 48.200</b>					