



WORKSHOP

Art Market Integrity:

Balancing Heritage Protection and Financial Crime Prevention

4-5 June 2026 - UNIDROIT Headquarters, Rome, Italy

DRAFT AGENDA

Day 1 (4 June)

09:15 – 09:30 | Opening Remarks

Ignacio Tirado, *Secretary-General, UNIDROIT*

09:30 – 11:00 | Session 1 - The Art-Finance Nexus: Leveraging Preventive Intelligence

Moderator:

- **Tommaso Di Ruzza**, *Senior Director, K2 Integrity, Washington, D.C.*

Kick-off speakers (alphabetical order):

- **Jérôme Beaumont**, *Executive Secretary of the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs)*
- **Alessandra Cuzzocrea**, *Deputy Head of the Inspection Coordination and Analysis of Irregularities Division of the Italian FIU*
- **Michaela Schütz**, *Deputy Head Money Laundering Reporting Office Switzerland (MROS)*

Objective

- Maximise the use of preventive financial intelligence to disrupt illicit trafficking and mitigate financial crime risks within art and antiquities markets.

Sub-Topics

- **Red Flags & AI Trends:** Identifying unusual transaction patterns, high-risk jurisdictions, and digital art/NFT vulnerabilities using advanced analytics.
- **Terrorism Financing Links:** Tracking the exploitation of looted cultural property and antiquity smuggling networks by terrorist organisations to generate revenue.
- **Data Integration:** Linking provenance history, cultural property registries, and financial intelligence to uncover beneficial ownership.
- **Regulatory Balance:** Mitigating financial crime risks while protecting legitimate market privacy and cultural heritage preservation.

11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00 | Session 2 - Follow the Money: Intercepting Trafficking and Market Abuse

Moderator:

- **Tess Davis**, *Executive Director of the Antiquities Coalition*

Kick-off speakers (alphabetical order):

- **Captain Juan José Águila Navarro**, *Head of the Historical Heritage Section – Central Operative Unit (UCO), Guardia Civil, Spain*
- **Colonel Paolo Befera**, *Commander of the Operational Unit, Carabinieri Command for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (TPC), Italy*
- **Lt. Colonel Carlo Della Gatta**, *Head of AML/CFT Section, II Department (Information Coordination and International Relations), General Command of the Guardia di Finanza, Italy*

Objective:

- Disrupt financial networks and illicit flows driven by the trafficking of art and antiquities, cutting off revenue streams for organised crime and terrorist groups.

Sub-Topics

- **Financial Flow Targeting:** Disrupting banking channels, trade-based money laundering, and digital assets used by transnational networks trafficking cultural property.
- **Terrorism Financing Interdiction:** Tracking and dismantling antiquity smuggling pipelines and looting schemes exploited by terrorist organisations to generate operational revenue.
- **Operational Coordination:** Optimising joint investigations, timely data sharing, and task forces between cultural heritage units and financial police.
- **Asset Recovery & Repatriation:** Utilising international asset forfeiture mechanisms and seized criminal proceeds to fund the restitution of stolen heritage.

13:00 – 14:30 | Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:00 | Session 3 - The Role of the Private Sector: New Frontiers in Art Compliance

Moderator:

- **Rena Neville**, *Founder, Corinth Consulting (Former Head of Global Compliance, Sotheby's)*

Kick-off speakers (alphabetical order):

- **Sophie Delepierre**, *Head of Heritage Protection Department, ICOM [online]*
- **Douglas Quintale**, *Specialist Expert in Art Authentication and Valuation*
- **Mariana Tumbiolo**, *Partner at Madruga BTW and co-founder of Zela Consulting*

Objective

- Foster public-private dialogue to enhance the role of intermediaries and art market participants in identifying compliance gaps and mitigating financial crime risks.

Sub-Topics

- **Operationalising Compliance:** Integrating statutory AML/CFT protocols into daily gallery and auction house workflows without disrupting business efficiency.
- **Due Diligence Collaboration:** Verifying provenance history and vetting buyers to unmask beneficial owners hidden behind complex corporate structures.
- **Terrorism Financing Vigilance:** Identifying and disrupting trade-based vulnerabilities where high-value art transactions could intersect with terror financing networks.
- **Digital & Tokenised Frontiers:** Scaling risk-based compliance models to address financial crime vulnerabilities within digital art, NFTs, and fractionalized ownership platforms.

Day 2 (5 June)

09:30 – 11:00 | Session 4 - Global Synergy: Unified Policy & Cross-Border Action

Moderator:

- **Marina Schneider**, *Principal Legal Officer & Treaties Depositary, UNIDROIT*

Kick-off speakers (alphabetical order):

- **Claude Bocqueraz**, *Deputy Head of the Financial Crime Unit, DG FISMA, EU Commission*
- **Krista Pikkat**, *Director of the Culture and Emergencies Entity in the Culture Sector, UNESCO*
- **Murat Yildiz**, *Trafficking in Cultural Property Lead, UNODC*

Objective

- Harmonise global regulatory standards and strengthen strategic cooperation among international organisations to close compliance gaps between cultural property protection and anti-financial crime frameworks.

Sub-Topics

- **Policy Convergence:** Reconciling differences between cultural heritage protection and AML/CFT policies to harmonise the global policy framework.
- **Terrorism Financing Frameworks:** Strengthening international legal mechanisms to block global trade channels that fund terrorist networks through looted antiquities.
- **Operationalising Global Instruments:** Integrating FATF standards, UNESCO conventions, and UNIDROIT principles into national policies, sectoral ethical codes and toolkits.
- **Coherence & Capacity Building:** Deploying cross-border technical assistance and shared datasets to enhance policy implementation across source, transit, and destination markets.

11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:00 | Plenary – Conclusions