



## Challenges and Advancements in the Cleaning, Conservation and Restoration of Archaeological Small Finds

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### Message from the Guest Editors

The importance of cultural heritage as an economic and historical resource puts its long-term preservation in the foreground, since, regardless of their diverse nature and composition, works of art are inevitably exposed to recurrent degradation processes. Inappropriate approaches to restoration practice need to be replaced by the development of innovative cleaning and restoration methods that also account for the latest techniques for the conservation of artefacts. The challenge is to replace arbitrary methods in restoration practice with a methodical search for specialised and useful materials to protect, maintain, and restore art.

This Special Issue aims to address the practice of restoration of small artefacts and their non-invasive cleaning and sustainable conservation to maintain both the physical properties and cultural significance of such objects. Common materials represented include metals, stones, ceramics, glasses, papers, textiles bone and ivory, mortars, concrete, and painted wall plaster. Accordingly, we propose a Special Issue devoted to the research of innovative cleaning, conservation, and restoration methods for different type of artifacts.

