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Law and Cultural Heritage

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Message from the Guest Editors

Cultural heritage law is one of the emerging fields of academic legal research. What makes it unique is that it both challenges established legal concepts, such as the one of property and ownership, and is strongly connected with other disciplines. The holistic approach to cultural heritage, involving tangible and intangible elements with visible natural components, affects the methodology of research, not only in cultural heritage studies but also in legal studies.

In recent years, we have witnessed a discussion on heritage as the fourth estate, art frauds, the return of cultural assets to former colonies, and the restitution of the spoils of war. New problems emerge within the development of the art market and new technologies.

The purpose of this Special Issue is to bring together academic lawyers and scholars representing non-classical approaches to law who share a common interest in cultural property. We are open to authors representing various methodological approaches, from conventional black-letter analysis to critical legal studies and computational jurisprudence. We would also welcome authors presenting different national and regional perspectives.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Laws is an international, open access journal featuring rigorous scholarship on critical developments in governance, courts, agencies, and social order. Analysis and synthesis, theory and practice, and empirical and doctrinal work have appeared in the journal; contributions that bridge these traditional boundaries are particularly welcome. The social sciences and humanities generate insights both from and for the legal system. While theory grounds *Laws* in a timeless dialogue shaped by traditions of inquiry, legal practice ensures that scholars are addressing pressing problems. Both normative and positive scholarship can aid policymakers, judges, and agency officials. *Laws* brings together the work of theorists and practitioners, and a diverse range of empirical researchers, to promote the progress of foundational legal norms.

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