

INFORMACJE

Alicja Jagielska-Burduk

ajagielska@uni.opole.pl
orcid.org/0000-0001-6696-8004
Uniwersytet Opolski
Centrum Prawa Ochrony Dóbr Kultury UNESCO
ul. Katowicka 87a
45-060 Opole

Cultural heritage law in the UNESCO Chairs' activities. The 30th anniversary of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme

Prawo dziedzictwa kultury w działalności Katedr UNESCO. 30. rocznica programu UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs

The UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks are recognized as UNESCO's "extended family" (Doc. 207 EX/11) and their membership brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to UNESCO Programmes, while serving as an important dimension of UNESCO's comparative advantage for other potential partners¹. The UNESCO Chairs Programme celebrates its 30th anniversary this year². The main celebrations for this achievement will be held in Paris in November 2022. The international conference is organized by UNESCO with the support of the French national commission for UNESCO. At the national level, more events will be held online and in person.

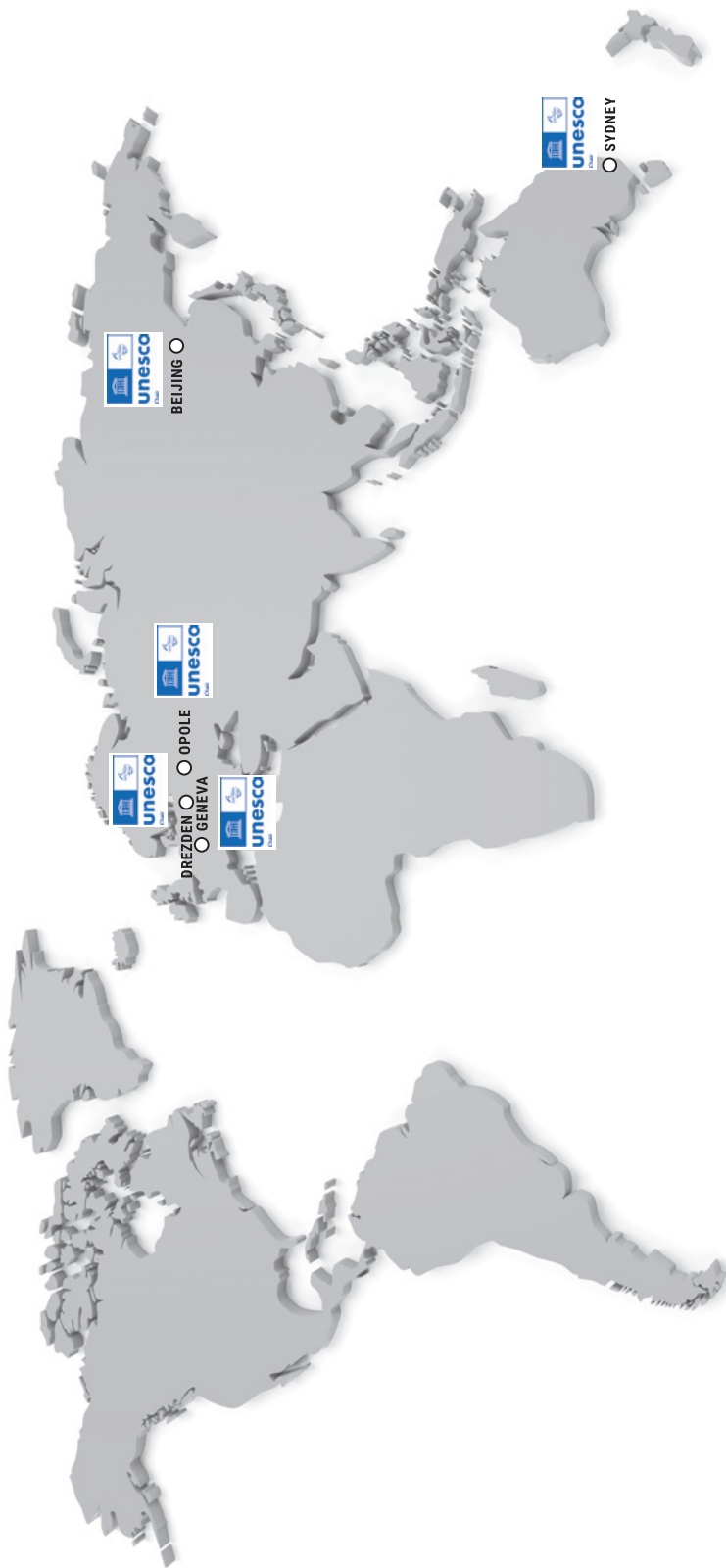
The UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN networks are unique projects addressed to academia members. The necessary link

¹ *Comprehensive partnership strategy*, UNESCO. Executive Board, Paris, 13 September 2019, Doc. 207 EX/11, <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000370506?1=null&queryId=dd7b556c-a3e4-4452-943d-e980eecbd31c> [accessed: 31.08.2022].

² *Transforming knowledge for just and sustainable futures*, <https://events.unesco.org/event?id=3003206114> [accessed: 30.08.2022].

INFORMACJE

Alicja Jagielska-Burduk



with UNESCO's values and priorities should be visible in submitted proposals and the chairs' activities. The UNESCO Chair holder is appointed on the basis of an agreement between the host university and UNESCO. The program has developed successfully over the years, with UNESCO Chairs contributing to the work of UNESCO in their area of expertise. Ongoing consultations on improving the functioning of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, requested by 214 EX/decision 28, will surely bring new developments to further the success of the program and encourage participants to foster cooperation with other UNESCO networks, such as ASP and UNESCO Creative Cities.

In 2017, the second coordination meeting with UNESCO category 2 institutes and centres (C2Cs) and UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs related to the Culture Sector was organized at UNESCO headquarters (23-24 November 2017). This event brought together chairholders and teams from all over the world³. The debates and networking that took place during this meeting enabled participants to launch many projects and avenues of cooperation in the following years.

In order to pay attention to the UNESCO Chairs from the cultural sector in this contribution, we would like to present what has been accomplished by UNESCO Chairs dealing with cultural heritage law in recent years and how we have managed to create a strong and thriving network. Given that it is the programme's 30th anniversary, and acknowledging the recent World Higher Education Conference (WHEC 2022, Barcelona), we aim to present five UNESCO Chairs that are active in the field of cultural heritage law. The already existing cooperation between active UNESCO Chairs and joint projects (i.e. publishing projects, conferences) prove that the UNESCO originating network reinforces academia networking options, along with possible contributions to the international debate on the of future cultural heritage protection in the UNESCO forum.

Following information about UNESCO Chair projects was provided by chairholders: prof. Dr. Dr. Sabine Freifrau von Schorlemer, prof. Marc-André Renold, prof. Ana Filipa Vrdoljak, prof. Yunxia Wang.

The SDG's relevant to the UNESCO Chairs activities:

SDG 4: Quality Education

SDG 5: Gender Equality

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Target 11.4: Strengthen efforts to protecting and safeguarding the world's cultural and natural heritage.

SDG 13: Climate Action

SDG 16: Peace Justice and Strong Institutions

³ *Second Coordination Meeting with UNESCO Category 2 Institutes and Centres under the auspices of UNESCO and UNITWIN Networks/UNESCO Chairs related to the Culture Sector*, <https://en.unesco.org/events/second-coordination-meeting-unesco-category-2-institutes-and-centres-under-auspices-unesco> [accessed: 31.08.2022].

INFORMACJE

Alicja Jagielska-Burduk

Presentation of the UNESCO Chairs and some of their extraordinary and successful projects:

UNESCO Chair in International Relations

Host university: Technische Universität Dresden

Date of establishment: April 21, 2009

Name of the current

Chairholder: Prof. Dr. Dr. Sabine Freifrau von Schorlemer

Most significant projects and success stories:

1. Globally, the first UNESCO Chair in International Law.
 2. Publications:
 - *Fighting Terrorist Attacks against World Heritage – An Integrated Approach*, in: M.-T. Albert, R. Bernecker, C. Cave, A. Claudia Prodan (eds.), *50 Years World Heritage Convention: Shared Responsibility – Conflict & Reconciliation*, Springer Nature 2022 (forthcoming).
 - S. von Schorlemer, S. Maus, F. Schmermer (eds.), *UNESCO World Heritage and the SDGs – Interdisciplinary Perspectives. Special Issue 1 of the Papers of the UNESCO Chair in International Relations*, 2020.
 3. Partnerships: Getty Research Institute Los Angeles, German Commission for UNESCO, German Network of UNESCO Chairs, UNU-Flores Dresden, etc.
-

UNESCO Chair in the International Law of Cultural Heritage

Host university: University of Geneva

Date of establishment: January 26, 2012

Name of the current

Chairholder: Prof. Marc-André Renold

Most significant projects and success stories:

1. The ArThemis database (<https://plone.unige.ch/art-adr>), which is a fully searchable database containing case notes about disputes over the return and restitution of cultural property. The case notes focus on the settlement of disputes through alternative dispute resolution methods (ADR) but also examine judicial decisions. The case notes are accompanied by pertinent documents, including judgments, published agreements, pictures, etc.

2. Summer Schools – international annual summer school with the option of scholarship for some participants. Summer schools are organized by the Art-Law Centre and the UNESCO Chair in the International Law of the Protection of Cultural Heritage of the University of Geneva. The program aims to develop the students' awareness and general understanding of the main substantive themes of international cultural heritage law.
-

UNESCO Chair on Cultural Property Law

Host university: University of Opole

Date of establishment: February 20, 2018

Name of the current

Chairholder: Alicja Jagielska-Burduk PhD, MBA

Most significant projects and success stories:

1. The UNESCO Chair's team is involved in several international projects, such as the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention International Project coordinated by Treaty Depositary Marina Schneider.
2. The UNESCO Chair team is also involved in a publishing project coordinated by Prof. Ana Vrdoljak. The project foresees the publication of two commentaries on the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention and the 1970 UNESCO Convention by the Oxford University Press.
3. In 2019, the international journal *Santander Art and Culture Law Review (SACLAR)* published by the UNESCO Chair team was included in Scopus, HeinOnline, and Index to Legal Foreign Periodicals. The journal is published online (Open Access).
4. This year we organized the IX Professor Jan Pruszyński Seminar on the Law on the Protection of Monuments for Young Scientists, PhD Candidates, and Students Lubostroń to involve young scholars in the debate on cultural heritage related topics.
5. We have cooperated with the following UNESCO Chairs active in the area of law and culture: UNESCO Chair in International Law and Cultural Heritage, UTS, Sydney; UNESCO Chair on Cultural Heritage Law Beijing; and UNESCO Chair in the International Law of the Protection of the Cultural Heritage, Geneva.
6. Recent publication: A. Jagielska-Burduk, *Cultural Heritage as a Legal Hybrid. Between Public and Private Law*, Springer 2022.

INFORMACJE

Alicja Jagielska-Burduk

UNESCO Chair in International Law and Cultural Heritage

Host university: University of Technology Sydney

Date of establishment: April 4, 2019

Name of the current

Chairholder: Prof. Ana Filipa Vrdoljak

Most significant projects and success stories:

1. F. Francioni, A.F. Vrdoljak, *Oxford Handbook on International Cultural Heritage Law* Oxford University Press, Oxford 2020.
2. Oxford Commentaries on International Cultural Heritage Law, Series Editors: A.F. Vrdoljak, F. Francioni, including:
 - J. Blake, L. Lixinski (eds.), *The 2003 UNESCO Intangible Heritage Convention: A Commentary* (2020), 2021 American Society of International Law Certificate of Merit for 'high technical craftsmanship and utility to practising lawyers and scholars',
 - F. Francioni, F. Lenzerini (eds.), *The 1972 World Heritage Convention: A Commentary* (2nd ed., forthcoming 2023, first edition 2008),
 - A.F. Vrdoljak, A. Jakubowski, A. Chechi (eds.), *The 1970 UNESCO and 1995 UNIDROIT Conventions: A Commentary* (forthcoming 2023).
3. Cultural Heritage Law and Policy book series (Oxford University Press) (2013 to present).
4. Special issue *Pandemics and the role of culture* of "International Journal of Cultural Property" 2021, vol. 24(1), A.F. Vrdoljak, A. Bauer (eds.).
5. Providing diverse curriculums for undergraduate and postgraduate students majoring in law and cultural heritage at the University of Technology; teaching specialist cultural heritage seminars at Leiden University, LUISS Roma, and Renmin Law Schools; and development of Master in Cultural Heritage Law and Management for UTS.
6. Promoting international and regional capacity building, including providing expert advice to intergovernmental bodies (e.g. UNESCO, and UNIDROIT) and national governments (e.g. Fiji draft Heritage bill 2021).
7. Establishing of official UNESCO Chair website (<https://international-culturalheritagelaw.org/>) to build public awareness of international cultural heritage law and policy, with video recordings of past webinars, open-access publications, and submissions to national and international bodies.

UNESCO Chair on Cultural Heritage Law

Host university: Renmin University of China

Establishment date: May 25, 2020

Name of the current

Chairholder: Prof. Yunxia Wang

Most significant projects and success stories:

1. Editing a book titled *Cultural Heritage Law: China and the World*. Co-authored by cooperative experts from China and overseas, the book focuses on the development of the UNESCO cultural heritage conventions as well as their implementation mechanisms in China and other countries such as Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, the UK and the US.
2. Providing diverse curriculums for undergraduate and postgraduate students majoring in law and cultural heritage, such as *Cultural Heritage Law*, *Intangible Cultural Heritage Law*, *Protection and Management of Cultural Heritage*, *International Order and Domestic Responses to Cultural Heritage Protection*.
3. Providing consultations on the revision of *The Law of the People's Republic of China on Protection of Cultural Relics as well as the draft of local cultural heritage regulations* by holding seminars and research projects.
4. Promoting international communication by holding international symposia and conferences, such as "4 University Cultural Heritage Law Forum" with University of Technology Sydney, University of Kent, Toulouse 1 Capitole University, and "China-France Cultural Heritage Law Symposium" with Toulouse 1 Capitole University.
5. Holding public training programs on cultural heritage laws and policies for cultural heritage practitioners, locals and amateurs in cooperation with China Cultural Relics News, the Beijing Cultural Heritage Protection Center and the Courtyard Institute.
6. Establishing an official webpage (<http://chl.ruc.edu.cn/uc/chair/en/index>) and a WeChat official account for the Chair, so as to spread the knowledge of cultural heritage and raise public awareness on cultural heritage protection.

Challenges for UNESCO Chairs and their teams in the forthcoming years

Sabine Freifrau von Schorlemer: Connecting the different areas of activity in order to increase cross-disciplinary cooperation. Finding solutions to current challenges requires an efficient interdisciplinary approach by UNESCO Chairs. The Chairs will need greater effort to translate their academic work into practical projects that serve the people more directly.

Ana Filipa Vrdoljak: The UNESCO Chair in International Law and Cultural Heritage was established in 2019. As a consequence of the global COVID-19 pandemic (still ongoing), our activities with respect to our mandate concerning research, teaching and advocacy have been significantly impacted, with delivery times and outputs requiring adjustment to meet this new and evolving reality. Nonetheless, it has always led to new opportunities with the participation and engagement of a broader audience due to online delivery of conferences, seminars and research.

Yunxia Wang: The global COVID-19 pandemic changed the means of public access to cultural heritage, requiring the chair to carry out diverse activities on new issues. Moreover, under the strict prevention policy in some countries, international cooperation and exchange of scholars and students have been limited.

Marc-André Renold: Continues to be active in the cultural diplomacy sector.

Alicja Jagielska-Burduk: New challenges will certainly be connected to culture in emergencies and the fight against the illicit traffic of movable objects. The geopolitical situation, ongoing and recent armed conflicts have demonstrated that cultural heritage is still vulnerable to looting, damage and destruction, despite existing international obligations prohibiting such actions. UNESCO Chairs should be active in this area and assist the international community and UNESCO in working towards the development of new models to prevent and remedy these occurrences.