

## ABSTRACTS SELECTED

### HERITAGE, ETHICS AND RIGHTS

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***Cultural Rights, Human Rights and the Cultural Heritage: A European Perspective.***

This paper examines the concept of common heritage and its role in achieving greater unity between member states of the Council of Europe through the development of policy concerned with the relationship between culture and human rights, protection of both individual and collective cultural rights of vulnerable groups, avoidance of conflict between majority and minority cultures and the importance of community through recognition of the cultural values of others. It refers to the *European Declaration on Cultural Objectives* (Berlin, 1984) on protection of heritage, universal access to heritage, promotion of diversity using heritage and issues of identity. It builds on these aspects referring to specific Conventions of the Council of Europe (on cultural policies, architecture, archaeology, landscape, and on minorities) and the promotion of cultural cooperation to support and maintain democracy and stability following wilful destruction of heritage in recent conflicts. The standard setting *Faro Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society*, which came into force in 2011 and is currently being promoted, is considered in the context of cultural heritage from a human rights perspective, linking to the report and recommendations of the UN Expert in the field of cultural rights in 2011. Its principles are considered through post conflict and confidence building initiatives in the Balkans, Black Sea and South Caucasus and in countries which have not yet signed, such as raising awareness of heritage built on the slave trade in the UK to bring a better understanding between different groups in British society.

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