

HUMAN RIGHTS TALK "Who owns the world's cultural heritage?" and Anniversary Celebration

When: Thursday, 1 December 2022, from 6:00 p.m.

Where: Volkskundemuseum Vienna, Laudongasse 15-19, 1080 Vienna

"Cultural appropriation" is an emotional buzzword. While some emphasise the universality of the world's cultural heritage, for others the colonial history marked by oppression, violence and dehumanisation cannot be ignored when the West exhibits artefacts from other cultures. Who owns cultural property? Is there a human right to own the works of one's own ethnic group? Can "digital twins" in virtual reality replace the originals? And where do concepts of universal art clash with those of the right to national identity? These and more questions will be discussed by high-ranking experts from art, science and diplomacy. The audience is cordially invited to participate in the discussion.

The event marks the 30th anniversary of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights.

Welcome notes

6:00 p.m.

[Claudia Peschel-Wacha](#), Deputy Director, Volkskundemuseum, Vienna

[Christoph Wiederkehr](#), Deputy Mayor and Executive City Councilor for Education, Youth, Integration and Transparency, City of Vienna

[Michael Lysander Fremuth](#), Scientific Director, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights

Keynote speech

6:15 p.m.

[Sabine Irene Freifrau von Schorlemer](#), Professor and Chair of International Law, European Union Law and International Relations, Dresden University of Technology; UNESCO Chair in International Relations; former Minister of State for Science and the Arts, Free State of Saxony

Panel discussion

6:30 p.m.

[Daniel Romuald Bitouh](#), Literature and Cultural Studies Researcher; Director of the project "3RRR: Restitution, Rehabilitation and Reconciliation"; Founder and Chairman of AFRIEUROTEXT

[Luis Javier Campuzano Piña](#), Ambassador of the United Mexican States in Vienna (video message)

[simon INOU](#), Journalist and Media Critic; Co-Initiator of the project "3RRR: Restitution, Rehabilitation and Reconciliation"; Publisher of freshzine, Black Austrian Lifestyle Magazine; Radio co-producer of freshvibes-Radio FRO

[Florian Meixner](#), World Heritage and Cultural Property Protection Officer, Austrian UNESCO Commission

[Sabine Irene Freifrau von Schorlemer](#), Professor and Chair of International Law, European Union Law and International Relations, Dresden University of Technology; UNESCO Chair in International Relations; former Minister of State for Science and the Arts, Free State of Saxony

[Petra Weschenfelder](#), University Assistant, Institute for African Studies, University of Vienna

Audience discussion

from 7:30 p.m.

Closing statement

7:55 p.m.

[Elvira Welzig](#), Managing Director, Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft

Chairperson

[Clarissa Stadler](#), Presenter "Kulturmontag", Austrian Broadcasting Corporation

Followed by cocktail reception



The Human Rights Talks see themselves as a platform for social discourse on current topics with human rights relevance. The events present top-class speakers to the interested public and analyse human rights challenges and socio-political trends in a differentiated manner and with professional expertise, but at the same time in an accessible way and with practical relevance. An important component of the format is the interactive audience discussion in addition to contentual contributions.