

Conference

# **Trafficking in Cultural Property**

A criminological perspective

A Coruña, Spain  
30 April 2024



# About the conference

The illicit trafficking of cultural property deprives populations and countries of their history, destroying their collective memory. It is said to fuel money laundering, tax evasion, and the financing of terrorist activities. Combating this crime requires strong mobilisation of responsible actors, through regional and international cooperation.

By holding this international Conference, the RITHMS Consortium aims at providing participants with an in-depth understanding of this criminal phenomenon, assessing the state of the art, but also the gaps in the common understanding of the problem, in order to develop adequate measures to improve EU policy and law enforcement practices on the protection of cultural heritage.

A joint day will bring together scholars and police officers, allowing them to exchange views and strengthen their capacity to preserve human history and tackle trafficking networks.

On the agenda for debate are the relations of trafficking in cultural goods with other forms of organised crime and the measures adopted to counteract them.

The Conference program will also focus on the identification of best practices for Law Enforcement Agencies. The discussion will result in a better criminological foundation for both policies and practices at EU and national levels.



## RITHMS Second Public Conference

**Trafficking in Cultural Property: a criminological perspective**

A Coruña, Spain  
30 April 2024

 *Faculty of Law,  
University of A Coruña*

The Conference will take place at the Salón de Grados (ground floor; there will be signs at the entrance hall indicating the direction).

# Logistics Information

## for the Conference in A Coruña, Spain

**Location:** A Coruña is a vibrant city situated in the North-West of Spain, within the autonomous community of Galicia. For more information about the city and its surroundings, visit [this link](#).

### Transportation:

**Airports:** Participants can fly into A Coruña Airport (8 km from the city center, connected by bus) or Santiago de Compostela Airport (65 km away, connected by bus and train). Detailed information can be found [here](#).

**Bus Services:** A Coruña is well-connected by bus services from both airports. Check the links for [train services](#) and [bus services](#) for Santiago de Compostela Airport.

### University Access:

For information on reaching the Faculty of Law, visit [this link](#).

**City Buses:** Bus numbers 20, 22, 24, and UDC connect to the campus for €1.30 (ticket purchase on the bus).

**Taxi Services:** Taxis are readily available in the city center, or you can call one at +34 981 24 33 33 or through [this website](#). Note: UBER, Lyft, etc. are not operational in A Coruña.

**Accommodation:** A Coruña offers a range of hotels. Early bookings often secure reasonable prices. Below are recommendations, all accessible by public transport within 30 minutes to the Faculty of Law:

AC Hotel A Coruña by Marriott \*\*\*\*  
A Coruña Centro \*\*\*\*  
Attica 21 Coruña \*\*\*\*  
Eurostars Atlántico \*\*\*\*  
Eurostars Blue Coruña \*\*\*\*  
Exe Coruña \*\*\*\*  
Hesperia\*\*\*\*  
Hotel Avenida \*\*\*  
Hotel Lois \*\*  
Hotel Moon \*\*  
Hotel Plaza \*\*\*\*  
Hotel Riazor \*\*\*\*

Plan your travel and accommodation  
according to your preferences.  
We look forward to welcoming you to the  
conference in A Coruña!

# Conference Program

## 9.00 Welcome and presentation

### 9.15 Session 1: Assessing the phenomenon of trafficking in cultural property

**What do we really know about trafficking in  
cultural property?**

Marc Balcells

*Open University of Catalonia, Spain*

## 10.00 Round Table

**Overview and needs assessment of the fight  
against the illicit trade of cultural property**

Cristina Guisasola

*University of Valencia, Spain*

**Time and space frontiers in the legal  
protection of cultural property**

Francesca Fiorentini

*University of Trieste, Italy*

**Fighting trafficking in cultural goods: LEAs'  
perspective**

José Ángel Brandariz

*University of A Coruña, Spain*

## 11.15 Coffee Break

# Conference Program

**11.45**      **Session 2: Identification of best practices in  
the fight against trafficking in cultural  
property**

**Best practices of heritage and cultural  
property policing**

**John Kerr**

*University of Law, UK*

**12.30**      **Round Table**

**Richard Bronswijk – Peter Veltman**  
*Politie, The Netherlands*

**Silvia Valencia Juez**  
*Policía Nacional, Spain*

**Luca Migliaccio**  
*Carabinieri TPC, Italy*

**Paula Mita**  
*Romanian Police, Romania*

**14.00**      **Lunch Break**

# Conference Program

## 15.30 Session 3: Intersections between trafficking in cultural property and organised crime

**Trafficking networks and the rise of art and antiquities e-commerce: how organised is cultural property crime today?**

[Arianna Visconti](#)

*Catholic University of Sacred Heart, Italy*

## 16.15 Round Table

**Online social organisation of cultural property crime**

[Samuel Hardy](#)

*University of Oslo, Norway*

**Organised trafficking in the Mediterranean Sea**

[Riccardo Ercole Omodei](#)

*University of Palermo, Italy*

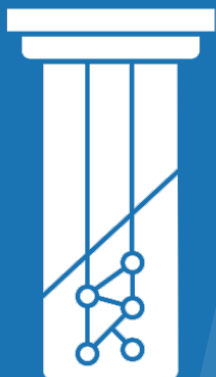
**Money laundering and illicit trafficking in cultural goods**

[Antonio Roma](#)

*Public Prosecutor, Spain*

## 17.30 Conclusions

**Get in touch:**  
info@rithms.eu



**Register here for attending:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trafficking-in-cultural-property-a-criminological-perspective-tickets-851844609157>

**Learn more about the conference:**

<https://rithms.eu/communication/events/trafficking-in-cultural-property-a-criminological-perspective>