

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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Rob Pickard is Professor in Built Environment and Heritage Conservation at Northumbria University and an international consultant. He has worked extensively for the Council of Europe over the last 20 years on legal-policy reform issues, the Faro Convention, institutional reform/capacity building, integrated conservation, heritage-led urban rehabilitation and built heritage funding mechanisms, particularly in the Balkans, Black Sea and South Caucasus regions of Europe. He is author/editor of several books including: Policy and Law in Heritage Conservation (2001), Management of Historic Centres (2001), European Cultural Heritage: Volume II: A Review of Policy and Practice (2002), Analysis and Reform of Cultural Heritage Policies in South-East Europe (2008), Integrated Management Tools in the Heritage of South-East Europe (2008), Sustainable Development Strategies (2008), Funding the Architectural Heritage: A Guide to Policies and Examples (2009), Guidance on the development of legislation and administration systems in the field of cultural heritage (2011) and author/co-author of many journal papers, including Reconstruction: The Need for Guidelines (2013).