

## Call for Participation

### **BEYOND RESTORATION Workshop: the Role of Restorers and Conservators in Supporting Law Enforcement against the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Goods. Challenges & Solutions**

Restorers are uniquely positioned to support efforts against the illicit trafficking of cultural property, yet their essential role in this mission is often overlooked.

The EU-funded RITHMS project invites restorers and conservators to participate in a dedicated workshop as part of the event *Beyond Restoration*, taking place in Brussels on December 4, 2024. This event will bring the critical issue of heritage professionals' involvement to the forefront, exploring how restorers can sometimes unintentionally become entangled in illegal activities but, more importantly, how they can actively contribute to combatting these crimes.

The workshop is a unique opportunity for professionals in the field to come together and share their experience, especially in relation to the engagement with potentially looted or stolen artworks, the approach to existing best practices in the sector, and the interaction with police authorities.

We invite you to join us in analysing the challenges you face in your day-to-day work. From navigating ethical obligations to dealing with privacy concerns and balancing the demands of clients, your insights are invaluable to shaping pertinent recommendations concerning this topic.

Participants will have the opportunity to:

- Share their practical experiences and strategies for addressing issues related to licit provenance verification.
- Discuss the tension between ethical standards and market pressures in restoring potentially illicit cultural heritage.
- Explore protocols to strengthen the collaboration with police forces, improve transparency, and safeguard the integrity of the restoration process and the legitimacy of the art market.

We look forward to welcoming you to Brussels and hearing your valuable perspectives on these critical issues.

#### **Event Details:**

- **Date:** December 4, 2024
- **Location:** Brussels
- **Organizer:** RITHMS Project
- **Registration:** mandatory (seats' availability is limited, when the limit is reached a waiting list will be set up)

For more information or to register, please visit the **following link:** <https://rithms.eu/communication/events/beyond-restoration-rithms-policies-and-best-practices>