

“Blood, Treasure and Islamic State: War, Extremism and the Looting of Culture”

House of Lords, London

16th of December 2014, 12:30 - 14:30

Reception starts at 12:30

PROGRAMME

- 12:45 – 12:50 **Welcome Remarks from Baroness Berridge, of the Vale of Catmose**, founding Chair of the All Party Group on Freedom of Religion or Belief. She also sits on the Joint Committee for Human Rights and the London Policing Ethics Panel.
- 12:50 – 13:00 **“Looted Art: New kind of Blood money”**
Prof. Dr. Willy Bruggeman, Chairman of the Belgian Federal Police Council, and former Deputy Director of Europol. Prof. Dr. Willy Bruggeman started his career at the Rijkswacht, became a Deputy Director at Europol and is now Chairman of the Belgian Federal Police Council. He is also a Professor at the Benelux University Centre. Throughout his career as a law enforcement professional, Mr. Bruggeman has been actively involved in the fight against art trafficking.
- 13:00 – 13:10 **“Destruction of Cultural Heritage as a Weapon of War”**
Baron Serge Brammertz, Prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Baron Serge Brammertz was Federal Chief Prosecutor of Belgium, worked for the Council of Europe as an expert, was head of the UN International Independent Investigation Commission into the murder of the former Lebanese Prime Minister and deputy prosecutor at the International Criminal Court. On several occasions, he was personally involved in combating art trafficking.
- 13:10 – 13:20 **“What Law can and can’t do”**
Professor Norman Palmer, CBE QC (Hon). Prof. Norman Palmer is a barrister practicing at 3 Stone Buildings, Lincoln’s Inn, London and a visiting professor of Law at both King’s College London and the University of Notre Dame in London. He specializes in transactions and claims related to cultural and other high-value assets, advising on a wide range of matters ranging from fine and decorative art, antiquities, archaeological hoards, national patrimony and ancient manuscripts to gemstones, the luxury arts, motor cars, aircraft and prized animals. On a wider scale, he advises on general questions of commercial law and personal property, including insolvency and commercial dispute resolution. His clients include governments, local authorities, cultural institutions, learned societies, religious bodies, indigenous communities, museum curators, art collectors, art dealers, transporters and insurers. His practice consists of both advocacy and advisory work.

13:20 – 13:30

“From Refugee to Guardian of Cultural Heritage”

Mrs. Tasoula Hadjitofi, Founder of “Walk of Truth,” former Honorary Consul of Cyprus in The Netherlands and former Representative of the Church of Cyprus. Mrs. Hadjitofi, a refugee of the 1974 Turkish Invasion of Cyprus, served as Honorary Consul in The Netherlands where she sought justice for the looting of Cyprus’s cultural heritage through repatriation of its stolen religious artifacts. Her work with Archbishop Chrysostomos I culminated in her orchestrating the Munich Operation, which led to the arrest of art trafficker Aydin Dikmen and the recovery of over \$60 million of stolen antiquities from Cyprus and around the world. Mrs. Hadjitofi’s non-governmental organization “Walk of Truth,” continues to engage citizens and leaders of the world regarding the importance of protecting our shared cultural heritage and the recognition that the responsibility of its survival lies with each of us.

13:30 – 13:35

Closing Remarks by Baroness Berridge

13:35 – 14:30

Reception



WALK OF TRUTH

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