

PRESS RELEASE - September 29

ANCHISE International Symposium

Applying New solutions for Cultural Heritage protection by Innovative, Scientific, social and economic Engagement

What

International Symposium: “The economic and social context of illicit trafficking in archaeological artifacts”

When

8-9 November 2023

How

Hybrid format, Online & University of Poitiers.

Venue: Hôtel Berthelot, 24 rue de la Chaîne, Poitiers

Agenda & Registration: [link](https://www.anchise.eu/) or on the website <https://www.anchise.eu/>

About the Symposium

In the framework of the ANCHISE project, carried out within the European Union’s Horizon Europe Programme - <https://www.anchise.eu/>, the laboratory HERMA of the University of Poitiers and the European University Institute of Florence are organizing a two-day Symposium.

The event has the main objective to **exchange knowledge about the economic and social contexts that allow the illicit trade of cultural heritage, in particular archaeological goods, from the source countries to the market countries.** Europe hosts one of the main markets for ancient arts and antiquities, and it is particularly rich in archaeological remains. As such, it is confronted both with the looting of its sites and with the influx of goods illicitly imported from other regions of the world, starting with its neighbors in the Middle East and North Africa.

The Symposium will try to explain and understand the various forms of illicit trafficking in antiquities, the framework in which they develop and the economic interests that such a market presupposes, essentially targeting mainly the Euro-Mediterranean region, with openings on other regions. **The Symposium will gather experts from Europe and beyond from the diverse related fields.**

About the ANCHISE project

Started in February 2023, and expected to be concluded in January 2025, [ANCHISE](https://www.anchise.eu/) is investigating methods, knowledge and toolkit to enhance the protection of cultural heritage against looting and illicit trafficking.

Based on the four key steps - Understand, Prevent, Act, and Repair - the project aims to build a global and comprehensive answer to meet the challenges of effective protection of cultural heritage in Europe, for both antiquities and modern cultural goods, in order to provide sustainable and replicable solutions. Its assumption is that addressing this topic implies a bottom-up process, which will build a global and comprehensive approach at every stage of the analysis.

Crossing the methodology of trans sectoral approach and with the innovative results of new technologies developments from previous projects such as [NETCHER](#), [PREVISION](#), ANCHISE will create an operational set of tools applicable for European contexts and replicable in several situations all over the world.

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