



## Provisional programme

# Cultural Heritage Protection, Development and Diplomacy: International Approaches

Tuesday 23 - Wednesday 24 March 2021 | WP1877V1

This Wilton Park virtual dialogue seeks to support global consensus building in recognising the intersectoral role that protecting and promoting cultural heritage has to play in supporting development and diplomacy. It will convene a range of experts to discuss the importance of cultural heritage for development, growth and diplomacy and encourage practical ways in which to catalyse partnerships, generate innovation and stimulate intersectoral global approaches.

With economies and geographies being rapidly reshaped by the Covid-19 crisis, it is important to integrate a better understanding of how culture is fundamental to recovery, response and in mitigating wider socio-economic and geo-political impacts. This is an opportune time to build a global consensus to progress international cultural heritage protection strategies, particularly in light of the G7, G20, CHOGM and COP26. The dialogue will engage with complementary approaches in conflict and crisis, champion innovation and act as a catalyst for better, more effective bilateral and multilateral action in the face of new challenges.

As the UK takes the next steps to develop its International Cultural Heritage Protection Programme, expanding and diversifying the well-established Cultural Protection Fund model, this is a valuable opportunity for the UK to convene key stakeholders to share best practice, look to the future, and align priorities and partnerships across government and globally on cultural heritage protection.

**Overall Aims:** To convene and facilitate iterative discussions between international stakeholders from across different sectors and across thematic areas to:

- Stimulate new questions, generate creative approaches and identify learning, programming opportunities and new funding models for the future in line with the SDGs and new priorities;
- Generate an evidence base for what works and what doesn't;
- Stimulate discussions on how best to mobilise cultural heritage for development and diplomacy, learning from a cultural relations approach;
- Emphasise the necessity for networks and collaborations - between States and across sectors, using this dialogue as a starting point to build fresh co-operation;

- Cultural diplomacy - exploration of the role of culture and heritage and channels by which state and non-state actors can enhance protection efforts locally, regionally and nationally.

**Outcomes:**

- Discuss how the international community can best leverage cultural heritage as a vital, intersectoral tool through which to address key challenges;
- Increase understanding of the importance of cultural heritage protection across a range of thematic and geographical settings, identify successes and challenges in programme and policy delivery
- Explore ways in which States are funding and developing cultural heritage protection programmes, with open exchange of ideas and identification of mutual areas for cooperation and learning;
- Share lessons learned and identify mutual areas of cooperation with States and multilateral organisations.

**In partnership with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)**  
 (Speakers invited and themes proposed \* denotes not yet confirmed)

**Tuesday 23 March**

1145-1200

**Orientation session**

Technical check ahead of the official start of the meeting

1200-1215

**Welcome and introduction**

**Alison Hilliard**

Programme Director, Wilton Park

Chat to your neighbour exercise

**John Whittingdale**

Minister of State for Media and Data, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, London

1215-1300

**1. Cultural Heritage Protection: development and diplomacy**

This session will define what cultural heritage protection is and its importance to both the COVID-19 response and recovery and in mitigating wider social-economic and geo-political impacts. What is its importance and its impact for development, growth and diplomacy? How can cultural heritage protection be part of the bigger developmental picture? And, how, for example, is cultural protection used by different states as part of their foreign policy objectives and as a soft power tool?

1300-1325

**2. Plenary: Sharing and learning from best practice**

This session will explore two-three case studies of where and how cultural heritage protection has been successfully integrated into foreign policy and development objectives and draw on participants experiences to share best practice

1325-1355

### **3. Break out session: Sharing and learning from best practice**

Participants will break into smaller groups to share and learn from case studies around the world, to learn what works and what doesn't in order to mobilise cultural heritage protection for development and diplomacy including best practice for intersectoral approaches.

1355-1400

### **4. Summary of day 1**

**Alison Hilliard**

Programme Director, Wilton Park

1400-1415

### **Optional informal networking**

## **Wednesday 24 March**

1145-1200

### **Orientation session**

Technical check ahead of the official start of the meeting

1200-1215

### **Introduction to day two and feedback**

**Alison Hilliard**

Programme Director, Wilton Park

1215-1255

### **5. Challenges, opportunities and partnerships**

What are the key challenges today for cultural protection? What are the new opportunities and areas of co-operation? How can cultural protection boost co-operation and partnership between states and multilateral organisations? And, how can cultural heritage protection be situated as an integral part of intersectoral global action

1255-1325

### **6. Break out session: Challenges, opportunities and partnerships**

Participants will break into smaller groups to explore further how cultural protection can boost co-operation and partnership between states and multilateral organisations.

1325-1340

### **7. Feedback from break out session**

1340-1400

### **8. Conclusion, recommendations and next steps**

Brief concluding session

**Alison Hilliard**

Programme Director, Wilton Park

**Harriet Hoffler**

Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), London

1400-1415

### **Optional informal networking**

**This is a preview programme and as such may be subject to change.**

**This is an invitation only conference.**

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