



M ICETHICS

ICOM
international
committee
on ethical dilemmas

MEETING ROOM EVENT:
ETHICAL CHALLENGES
WHEN WORKING WITH
PERSONAL NARRATIVES
ON SENSITIVE TOPICS

I-@N

THURSDAY
27 MAY 2021
08:00 PST
10:00 CST
11:00 EST
17:00 CET

Under the surface of our societies, there are thousands and thousands of stories that could add shades and details to a black-and-white picture of historical events. But many of these stories are too private, too personal or too traumatic to share. Feelings of despair, shame, guilt or even trauma might be involved, and one could be afraid of the reactions of others when telling them. Here, museum institutions and museum professionals might function as mediators and connecting links between those who are willing to share and those who need to know. In this process, there are many ethical considerations to take. How to collect personal narratives on sensitive topics from individuals who often want to be anonymous, and how to present them? How to meet the needs of all involved, also the museum professionals themselves?

Moderator: Dr Kathrin Pabst, Chair of IC-Ethics

Panelists: Neringa Latvytė (University of Vilnius, Lithuania), Urška Purg (National Museum of Contemporary History, Slovenia) and Ivalo Olsvig (The House of Knud Rasmussen, Denmark).

Note: All panelists are part of the same international cooperation project, “Identity on the Line”, and will relate in their presentations to this. Please see www.i-on.museum for more information.