

# COPING WITH COLONIAL HERITAGE: QUESTIONS ON OWNERSHIP, POWER AND INCLUSION



**M ICETHICS** ICOM  
international  
committee  
on ethical dilemmas

THURSDAY JULY 22ND 17:00–18:30 CEST

The dilemma of how to cope with colonial collections and return is an urgent topic in many European countries. It raises a whole set of questions regarding ethics. What factors are at stake in the return of colonial heritage? How do governments deal with the topic? What is the role of museology in working with source communities? These and other questions are explored in two European examples.

The case of Italy highlights the return process of the Axum Stele to Ethiopia and a project on working with diaspora communities on the re-signification of objects. The case of the Netherlands where the government initiates a long-standing project to return objects linked to their ex-colonies shows how to deal with such large-scale restitutions. By studying the exchange between Surinam and the Dutch territory we will think about institutional hierarchies and how to put the interests of the communities at the core of the decisions.

Moderator: Andrea Kieskamp, board member IC-Ethics

Speakers: Isabella Ducros, Alma Mater Studiorum University in Bologna, Italy  
Lina Lozano, Utrecht University, The Netherlands