

## Session notes

### 'In conversation' Cultural heritage and conflict

'In conversations' focus on a particular theme or current issue in the culture and heritage sector. They work alongside our e-learning modules and will add an extra dimension to your 'core skills' sessions. They are informal discussions with colleagues across the sector and while we can't deliver 'live' sessions the ITP team aim to ask the questions you would be asking if you were in the room with us!



In this 'in conversation' Anna Cottle talks to Jasper Chalcraft, Jean Monnet Fellow at European University Institute about his work around cultural heritage and conflict.

### Introduction

Cultural heritage has the potential to act as a focus for community-building, reconciliation and national cohesion. However, heritage is often implicated in conflict dynamics and has the potential to impact either positively or negatively on a conflict-affected environment. Individuals and institutions who work with cultural heritage resources are well-placed to help unlock the positive potential of heritage and facilitate the development of inclusive and sustainable heritage sectors.

During this conversation Jasper will introduce the concept of conflict sensitivity, a tool widely used in the NGO sector. It will use a workshop format and group work to explore the relevance of a conflict sensitive approach to the specific contexts of the participants in the International Training Programme. Drawing upon on-going work on heritage and peace-building as well as the potential of heritage rights, an objective of the session will be to investigate the possibilities for regional cooperation and support as well as provide some foundational tools for a conflict-sensitive approach to heritage management.

Cultural heritage often plays a crucial role in conflict dynamics – before, during and after a dispute. Jasper will look at why this happens and share some examples of how culture and heritage has been used in conflict-affected environments. He will also consider approaches to the reconstruction process and how you can prepare yourselves to work with conflict.

---

## Course resources

The links below will provide you with more information on the theme of the session. Additional resources are provided with this session which aim to give you reading material that you may find useful – both now and in the future.

European University Institute  
<https://www.eui.eu/en/home>

Staff directory at school of archaeology and ancient history at the University of Leicester  
<http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/archaeology/people>

The Role of Culture in Peace and Reconciliation  
<http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CLT/images/PeaceReconciliationENG.pdf>

CulturalBase is a social platform that aims to identify and analyse some of the main debates and controversies around culture, in particular in relation to Heritage and European Identities.  
[www.culturalbase.eu](http://www.culturalbase.eu)

