

Introduction to the ENCATC Working Group on **Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity**

Coordinated by the Université libre de Bruxelles (BE)

33rd ENCATC
CONGRESS

→ 15–17
SEPT 2025

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PRESENTATION OUTLINES

- Working Group AMCGI's objectives
- Introduction of the *Dialogue with the Art Market* (European Commission)
- Agenda 2025-2026
- Introduction of participants
- Discussion time

CONTEXT - WG Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity

- Part of the *ENCATC Work Plan 2025–2028*
- Merging of two previous advocacy-focused groups
- **On the development of artists' status**
- **On the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural goods**
- The markets for art and cultural goods as an ecosystem → interconnectedness of these themes → **call for a more comprehensive and holistic approach of this ecosystem** (*// European Commission's working group on the dialogue with the art market*)
- Goals = to assess the challenges and opportunities of contemporary art markets across both primary and secondary sectors + better understand the roles and responsibilities of market actors, ensure ethical standards, and promote the sector's sustainable development.



MISSION STATEMENT - *WG Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity*

The **Working Group on Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity (AMCGI)** is committed to advancing a holistic understanding of the art markets as dynamic ecosystems at the intersection of culture, economy, heritage, and society. It will promote interdisciplinary collaboration between researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to address issues ranging from artist status and market structure to the prevention of illicit trafficking and the integrity of cultural goods. Through events, policy inputs, and educational outreach, AMCGI advocates for an art market ecosystem that is ethical, inclusive, and sustainable.

GOALS - *WG Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity*

- i) Proactively and anticipatively fosters critical dialogue on emerging challenges and opportunities;
- ii) Develop actionable insights and foster sustainable, inclusive, and transparent practices in the art market sector through consultation processes, scholarly meetings and public discussions;
- iii) Inform policy decisions, support evidence-based reforms, and advocate for an art market that benefits all stakeholders by disseminating findings through various publication formats, including briefs, articles, and books.

MAIN INTERESTS - *WG Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity*

- **Art market actors** (e.g., professions, statuses, career paths, regulation)
 - **Economic dimensions of art markets** (e.g., transparency, valuation, NACE classifications)
 - **Heritage and ethical issues** (e.g., provenance, trafficking, and preservation)
- + cross-cutting concerns** (e.g., innovation, sustainability, policy)

Dialogue with the Art Market

EU – DG Education and Culture initiative

Dr. Nancy von Breska Ficovic



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DG EAC - Culture

Expert Sub-group on Dialogue with Art market



Mission

- 12/2022 - EU Action Plan on combatting trafficking in cultural goods:
 - Improve **crime prevention** and detection by market participants and institutions
 - Strengthening **law enforcement**
 - Boosting **international cooperation** on combatting illicit trade
 - **Raising awareness** among art market stakeholders to protect cultural goods
- EU aware of **challenges to art market** participants to implement diverse rules

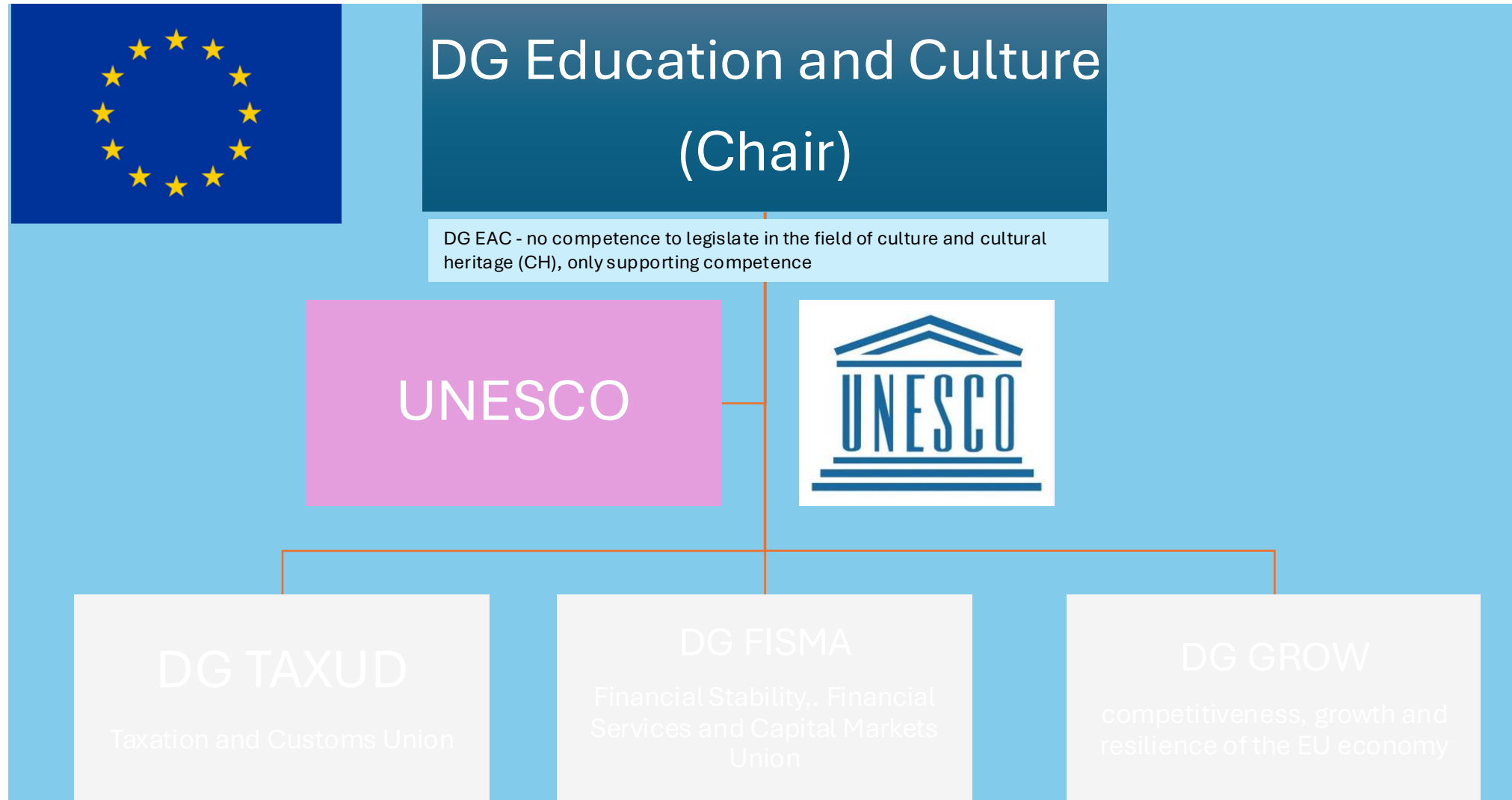


Role

- 12/2023 launch of Dialogue on Art market
 - **Exchange** on policies, actions, and legislation related to the protection and commercial transactions in cultural goods in the EU single market
 - Providing **transparent framework** for dialogue
 - **Recommendations** regarding the implementation of the European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage
 - **Reporting** to the expert group “Cultural Heritage Forum”

Expert Group Composition

- International Members are from EU and non-EU countries
- Representatives from UNESCO, ICOM, Unidroit, Academia, art market professionals (art galleries, professional art



EU Commission Directorates General (DGs) that have the competence to propose legislation that has a direct impact on the art market

Challenges so far

- **Art market** – many sub-markets (fine art, antiquities, digital art, luxury items etc.)
- **Definitions** - within the legislative framework for better understanding and application, especially when these differ across Member States (e.g. antiquities, antiques, “National treasures”)
- **Data transparency** - absence of reliable data hinders development of evidence-based legislation (art market’s role in data sharing)
- **Administrative burden** - associated with increased regulation, transparency through the Anti-Money Laundering (AML) directive (2020 under AML regulation)
- **Code of Ethics** - ethical aspects of handling cultural goods and digital trading, necessity for compliance to code of ethics



Challenges ahead

- 5th AML directive and impact on future **cross border trading** (EU-nonEU)
- **Challenge of preventing illicit trading**-requires strong cooperation btw institutional and market players (USA?)
- Persisting difficulties in **authenticating and tracking** items (e.g. excavation sites)
- Vulnerabilities of the **digital art market** (i.e. volatility, intransparency)
- **Global Political** (Ukraine, Gaza) and **economical** situation
- **Role of culture** in next EU budget (MFF 2028-34)



ANNUAL MILESTONES (2025-2028) - *WG Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity*

Past events

- TEFAF 2023 – First informal meeting at TEFAF Maastricht (round table discussion)
 - BRAFA 2024 Art Talk - Public/Private Partnerships
 - Mai 2024 – first meeting of the European Commissions' Sub-Group on the Dialogue with the Art Market
 - BRAFA 2025 Art Talk – Digital Renaissance: Blockchain, NFTs and the Evolving Art Market + BRAFA/ENCATC Magazine on Values
 - TEFAF 2025 meeting – rethinking the group
 - April 2025 – Invited Professor Nathalie Moureau on the contemporary ecosystem of art galleries and gallerists (ULB)
- + Newsletter on illicit trafficking
+ ENCATC cultural happy hours

ANNUAL MILESTONES (2025-2028) - *WG Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity*

PER YEAR → 3 major public events, research coordination meetings + targeted educational activities + dissemination of information through the ENCATC distribution mailing list

2025-2026

September 17, 2025	ENCATC Congress – Kick off meeting & Art Talk on Barcelona's Art Market by Isabel Causadias (University of Barcelona)
October 13-17, 2025	Invited professor Pascale Bédard (Université Laval, CA) on artist's labour market at the Université libre de Bruxelles (https://gresac.phisoc.ulb.be/nouvelles/sejour-academique-avec-pascale-bedard)
November 4, 2025	Art Market Talk Series #1 on Expertise by GRESAC, ENCATC & Virginie Devillez Fine Arts (Brussels)
December 13, 2025	Art Talk at Art Antwerp (BE)

ANNUAL MILESTONES (2025-2028) - WG Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity

PER YEAR → 3 major public events, research coordination meetings + targeted educational activities + dissemination of information through the ENCATC distribution mailing list
2025-2026

January 15, 2026 (14:30-16:00 CET)	Online meeting (Part I. presentation of an on-going art market related project; Part II. Updates on the WG activities; Part III. BRAFA preparatory meeting)
January 30, 2026	BRAFA Art Talk: <i>Art and Antiques Dealing as a Profession – Contemporary Challenges</i>
March 05, 2026	Online meeting (Part I. presentation of an on-going art market related project; Part II. Updates on the WG activities; Part III. TEFAF preparatory meeting)
March 16, 2026	TEFAF Meeting: <i>Fostering Dialogue Between Art Market Practitioners and Decision-Makers</i>
April 24, 2026	Art Brussels Art Talk: <i>Artist's Status</i>
July 05, 2026	Online meeting (Part I. presentation of an on-going art market related project; Part II. Updates on the WG activities; Part III. ENCATC Congress preparatory meeting)
September 2026	ENCATC Congress (Nice, FR)

DELIVERABLES (2028) - *WG Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity*

- BRAFA/ENCATC conference magazine (short wide audience articles on any art market related topic)
- ENCATC journal ([*European Journal of Cultural Management and Policy*](#) (EJCMP) (ISSN 2663-5771)) / Policy trackers with:
 - Paper on challenges related to the economic dimension of the art markets at the EU level
 - Paper on challenges related to the heritage of the art markets at the EU level
 - Paper on artists status and careers at the EU level art markets at the EU level
 - Papers resulting from art-markets related projects funded by the European Research Council/Horizon Europe
- Regular newsletter with call for papers, forthcoming events, etc.

DELIVERABLES (2028) - *WG Art Markets and Cultural Goods Integrity*

ENCATC Routledge book series

- Book project on the art markets within the EU
- In the continuity of the EC's Expert Sub-Group on the dialogue with the art market + KEA survey
- Book's purpose: compile chapters examining the situation of the art markets within the 27 member states (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden) + critical introduction
- Targeted contributors + open call for papers
- Schedule:
 - y1 (2025-2026) – identification of authors and call for chapters + authors guideline drafting + submission of the book proposal to Routledge
 - y2 (2026-2027) - chapter compilation + peer review + submission
 - y3 (2027-2028) – production process



Introduction of current participants

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PARTICIPANTS

- Annick SCHRAMME (University of Antwerp, BE)
- Donna YATES (University of Maastricht, NETH) + Diana Berzina, Anna de Jong
- Adriano PICINATI DI TORCELLO (Deloitte – Art Finance Report, LU)
- Beatrix BOURDON (BRAFA Art Fair, BE)
- Levent TÖKÜN (University of Luigi Vanvitelli)
- Marta RUIZ-JIMENEZ (UNED-ARPACEC)
- Mika NOH (AI Art Forum)
- Eline ZERELIK (DCJM)
- **Nancy VON BRESKA FICOVIC (LapisLazul)**
- **Nathalie MOUREAU**
- **Alessia CROTTA (Free University of Brussels, BE)**
- ...

PARTICIPANTS Coordinator ULB



Exploring the Bottom of the Markets for
Arts and Cultural Goods



PhDs and postdocs

Fenya Almstadt
Federica Aramu
Alessia Crotta
Marine Lagasse
Anne Malmendier
Federica Raccomandato
Yuqing Song
Jin Wang
Eléa de Winter

art
market
studies.org

PARTICIPANTS

Nathalie Moureau professor in economics :

University Paul Valery, France

Member of the research laboratory : RiRRa21

Research Topic : Contemporary art market

(value, networks, galleries, art collections, auctions, prices, public policy, etc.)

Reports as an expert :

- Research for the French Ministry of Culture : Art collectors (2015) ; Contemporary art galleries (2000); Contemporary art galleries in French Regions (2011) ; Photography and property rights (2007) ; Art curators (2006) ;
- Research for the French Professional Committee of Art Galleries : Economic situation and public aids (2024) ; Economic situation and covid (2021) ; Galleries and art fairs (2018) ; Artists exhibitions (2015)
- Research for different organisms and associations :; Portrait of the French Scene (Arte Generali wonder, 2023); art-libraries (ADRA and French Ministry of Culture, 2022) Corporate collections (AXA Art, 2016) ; resale right (ADAGP, 2016) , Public funding of culture in PACA region (OPC, 2007)



PARTICIPANTS

ALESSIA CROTTA

PhD Candidate, Art Markets Lecturer
& Cultural Economics Researcher

alessia.crotta@ulb.be 

Université Libre de Bruxelles 
Cultural Management

Department of History, Art and Archaeology

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Art Markets from a Cultural Economic Perspective**
- Contemporary Art Market Developments: Digitalisation & Platformisation
- Art Historical vs Economic Values associated to art
- Other Cultural & Creative Industries vs Art markets

CURRENT RESEARCH



On the Platformisation of (Ordinary) Antiques



1. Business Models and Information Asymmetries Management of Art Market Platforms
2. Relationship between legitimised intermediaries and art market platforms
3. How product quality is assessed in the lowest end of the art market
4. Price determinants of low-end antiques in the platform market



Research in support of industries in the cultural sector

e.g. Consonanze Project, MIRA

HOW TO JOIN AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORKING GROUP?

We are still looking for **members with strong expertise in the markets for visual arts, cultural goods, and crafts**, particularly in relation to the following topics:

- Artists' status and career development (suppliers)
- Careers and professional practices of gallerists and art dealers (intermediaries)
- Economic analysis of art markets
- Illicit trafficking in cultural property
- Provenance research
- Technological innovation applied to art markets
- Sustainability and durability in art markets
- ...

HOW TO JOIN AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORKING GROUP?

What the WG can offer

The dissemination and promotion of your events and research via ENCATC

Expected contributions

- ➔ Active participation in online meetings and in-person meetings (whenever possible)
- ➔ Active contributions to the WG's related publications
- ➔ Partnership in disseminating events: in return, we ask organizers or participants to contribute to the discussion by sending a short review of the event or presentation afterward, to feed into our WG.

HOW TO JOIN AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORKING GROUP?

Additionally

- ➔ We seek collaborations with your own art market-related events (in line with the WG's purpose)
- ➔ What we can offer: The dissemination and promotion of your events via ENCATC
- ➔ In turn, we ask the organizers or participants to contribute to the discussion by sending a short review of the event/presentation afterward to feed our WG

Interested? Please contact: g.cogliandro@encatc.org and Anne-Sophie.Radermecker@ulb.be for considering a partnership on your event and dissemination via our newsletter.
Deadline September 30, 2025.

DISCUSSION TIME

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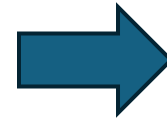
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DISCUSSION TIME

Key points to address

- Art market actors' current challenges
(artists/creative people/craftsmen (supply)
– intermediaries (gallerists, art and antique dealers, auction houses, flea markets, etc.)
– buyers (demand side))
- Economic dimension of the art markets
- Heritage dimension of the art markets



- *Key sub-topics to address ?*
- *Available expertise at your institution ?*
- *On-going / forthcoming research project?*
- *Forthcoming related events?*

Thank you

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