



# *To be returned or not to be returned* **A Sant'Anna-style Oxford Debate.**

## Debaters:

- Fabio Garofalo McBritton, Giulio Santini, Emmalucia Virardi
- Teresa Andreani, Niccolò Decorato, Kamilla Galicz

Moderator: Rossella Landi

**Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna | Pisa,  
Aula Magna 14:30 – 17.00  
October 23rd 2024**

- ✓ **14.30 – 14.45:** Introduction and audience vote
- ✓ **14.45 – 16.15:** Debate
- ✓ **16.15 – 16.45:** Q&A and audience vote
- ✓ **16.45 – 17.00:** Final remarks and outcome declaration

This Oxford-style debate addresses the contentious issue of art restitution, focusing on whether cultural artifacts should be returned to their countries of origin, irrespective of national law provisions concerning both the statute of limitations and ownership claims. Key questions include whether current ownership structures reinforce colonial legacies, how the return of artifacts might impact national cultural narratives and sovereignty, what role museums and institutions should play, and how the commodification of antiquities endangers cultural heritage and historical knowledge through the loss of site context.