

The Role of Heritage in Shaping Ontological Security in the Contemporary World

Schedule

Day 1

Friday 8th May 2026

09:00 Registration opens

09:30 Welcome Address, Dr Liliana Janik

09:45 **Session 1**

Recovery & Time

Rosa Kavak - Beyond Yet Bound: The Tigris River and the Politics of Heritage in Diyarbakır

Dr Dora Merai - When Peace Is Not in Sight: Producing Ontological Security Through Heritage in Wartime Recovery Planning

Mehmet Tayfur - Heritage, Reconstruction and Ontological (In)Security in a Post-Conflict Historic City: The Case of Diyarbakır

11:00 *Refreshment Break*

11:15 **Session 2**

Creative Ontologies

Dr Dacia Viejo Rose - Heritage and identity in precarious times: An exploration of the struggle for ontological security as seen through the work of Marc Chagall

Isavella Voulgareli - (In)Secure in Marble Artscape: The Ontological Diversity of Greek Marble Craft Tradition

Akeem Adagaba - Materialising Móremí: Tillichian Theology, Narrative Authority, and Ontological Security

12:30 *Lunch*

13:30 **Session 3**

Everyday Heritage & Communal Security

Dr Deepa K V - Rituals of Resilience: Theyyam as Living Heritage, Ontological Security, and Community Well-being in North Malabar

Josh Bland - Alright Marra: Football support as a vehicle for cultural resilience and ontological security in Horden, County Durham

Fabian Lüke - Moravian Mission Heritage in Post-Apartheid Cape Town: The Religious Practice of Moravian House Blessings and the Politics of Return in District Six

14:45 *Refreshment Break*

15:00

Session 4

(In)security in Past Colonialisms

Jocelyn Wang - From Victims to Activists: A Connective Heritage in the Global Fight Against Gender-Based Violence

Yiyang Xiao - Difficult Heritage as a Spectral Anchor: Colonial Remains and Ontological Security in Northeastern China

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dovilė Sagatienė - Contested Heritage and Mental Decolonisation: Soviet Monuments, Memory, and Belonging in the Baltic States

16:15

Break

16:30

Keynote Lecture

Dr Claire Nolan - University College Dublin

'Going on in day-to-day life': Negotiating the complex and fluid nature of heritage-based ontological security

17:30

Reception

20:00

Close of day 1