

Recht aktuell



University
of Basel



Continuing Education Event of the Faculty
of Law Basel

Art & Law 2026

Thursday, June 18, 2026

10:15 – 15:00

Congress Center Basel
MCH Messe Basel
Saal Sydney
Messeplatz 21
CH-4058 Basel

Art & Law 2026

We are delighted to welcome you to *Art & Law* for the 15th time. The conference will again take place during Art Basel at the Congress Center Basel, ideally located near the fairgrounds. We are grateful to Art Basel for generously offering all participants a day pass to the fair.

The conference will begin with a welcome note by **Bertold Müller**, Managing Director Europe, Middle East & Africa at Christie's, who will present a timely and insightful overview of *"The Art Markets Today: Navigating Trends, Tensions, and Transitions."* Setting the scene for the day, the morning session will then turn to pressing international and cross-cultural questions.

Alana Kushnir will explore *"Aboriginal Art in a Global Market: Legal and Ethical Issues"*, shedding light on the complexities arising from the increasing internationalisation of the art market. The presentation will be complemented by a Swiss perspective from **Nadja Fischer**, who will address *"Objects of Colonial Origin and the New Swiss Commission on Cultural Heritage with a Problematic Past"*, examining evolving institutional approaches to restitution claims. **Anne Laure Bandle** will then present a highly relevant update on *"Recent Changes to the Swiss Ordinance on the International Transfer of Cultural Property"*, addressing current regulatory developments and their practical implications.

After the lunch break, the afternoon session will focus on structural aspects of estate law and recent developments. **Sebastian Rieger** will open this session with a practice-oriented contribution on *"The Foundation as a Solution for a Collection Estate"*, highlighting legal structuring options for collections. It will be followed by **Quirijn Meijnen's** analytical presentation on *"Copyright as an Asset within an Artist's Estate"*, that will focus on the growing importance of intellectual property within estate planning.

The programme will conclude with a forward-looking and practice-relevant discussion by **Alfred Früh** on *"Is my Artwork Used for Training AI?"*, that will examine the legal and conceptual challenges posed by artificial intelligence from the artist's perspective.

Concluding remarks by the co-chairs **Vanessa Rüegger**, **Nicolas Mosimann**, and **Lionel Schüpbach** will close the conference.

This year's event brings together a carefully curated programme, offering diverse perspectives on the evolving relationship between art and law. We look forward to welcoming participants from across the international community and to fostering engaging discussions and networking.

The visit to Art Basel after the conference is optional.

Program

Thursday, June 18, 2026

From 09.45	Registration and coffee
10.15 – 10.25	Introduction Vanessa Rüegger, Nicolas Mosimann, Lionel Schüpbach
10.25 – 10:50	The Art Markets Today: Navigating Trends, Tensions, and Transitions Welcome Note by Bertold Müller
10.50 – 11.15	Aboriginal Art in a Global Market: Legal and Ethical Issues Alana Kushnir
11.15 – 11.40	Objects of Colonial Origin and the New Swiss Commission on Cultural Heritage with a Problematic Past Nadja Fischer
11.40 – 12:05	Recent Changes to the Swiss Ordinance on the International Transfer of Cultural Property Anne Laure Bandle
12.10 – 13.30	Lunch
13.35 – 14:00	The Foundation as a Solution for a Collection Estate Sebastian Rieger
14:00 – 14:25	Copyright as an Asset within an Artist's Estate Quirijn Meijnen
14.25 – 14.50	Is my Artwork Used for Training AI? Alfred Früh
14:50 – 15.00	Closing Remarks Vanessa Rüegger, Nicolas Mosimann, Lionel Schüpbach

Each presentation will be followed by a 5-minute Q&A session

Speakers

Dr. Anne Laure Bandle

Lawyer and Partner at Borel & Barbey in Geneva; Director of the Art Law Foundation (Fondation pour le droit de l'art); Lecturer on Art and Copyright Law at the Universities of Geneva and Fribourg and at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Dr. Nadja Fischer

Lawyer at Schmidt-Gabain AG specializing in Art Law and Entertainment Law. Lecturer at the post graduate course Law and Art in the University of Zurich's European Institute and at the University of Basel's DAS program on Cultural-Reflective Management.

Prof. Dr. Alfred Früh

Professor of Private Law with a focus on Life Sciences and Intellectual Property Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Basel; Co-head of the Center for Life Sciences Law (ZSLR) at the University of Basel.

Alana Kushnir

Lawyer and Curator; Founder of Aurelian Lawyers & Advisers, a cross-border legal and advisory practice specialising in art, cultural property and luxury assets; Former Principal Investigator of the Serpentine Galleries' Legal Lab.

Quirijn Meijnen

Copyright and intellectual property lawyer working across art, the creative industries, and innovation.

Dr. Nicolas Mosimann, LL.M. (Conference Chair)

Lawyer and Partner at Kellerhals Carrard, specializing in Technology and Life Sciences Law, Intellectual Property and Art Law; Lecturer in the University of Basel's MAS and CAS programs on Cultural Management, Policy and Law; Board Member of the Antikenmuseum Basel.

Dr. Bertold Müller, LL.M.

Lawyer and Managing Director Europe, Middle East & Africa at Christie's; Lecturer at the University of Zurich's Executive Master of Art Market Studies; Delegate and Vice President of the Finance Commission of UNICEF Switzerland & Liechtenstein.

Prof. Dr. Vanessa Rüegger (Conference Chair)

Full Professor of Public Law at the University of Geneva; Attorney and Mediator, specializing in Constitutional Law, Human Rights, Digital Transformation, Artistic Freedom and Cultural Law; Board Member of the Swiss National Museum.

Sebastian Rieger

Lawyer and Partner at DUFOUR Advokatur AG; Deputy Managing Director of proFonds, the umbrella organisation for charitable foundations in Switzerland, and Ombudsman for Art Basel.

Dr. Lionel Schüpbach (Conference Chair)

Lawyer, Copyright Counsel at F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd., Basel; Member of the Committee of the Kunsthalle Basel; President of the Patronage Fund for Young Swiss Artists and the Foundation for Artists in Need.

“Recht aktuell” – the Continuing Education Series of the Faculty of Law Basel

The conference, a continuing education event of the Faculty of Law Basel, is known as part of the “Recht aktuell” event label.

It is designed for lawyers who work in or are interested in art law in legal, judicial or administrative practice, as well as art collectors, gallery owners, art dealers and museum managers.

Interested students are also very welcome.

With this event format, the Faculty of Law Basel aims to address a broader public, especially practitioners. It is thus not only providing continued education in law but also creates an opportunity to network and socialize.

In cooperation with

FDA fondation
pour le droit de l'art
art law foundation



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This event is supported by

Art|Basel
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Fine Art Insurance

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Registration, conditions of participation and information

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Registration

Only online via registration tool:

www.recht-aktuell.ch



Conference contributions

– **CHF 480.-**

– **CHF 150.-** special rates for students and trainees at public authorities, courts and law firms.

The fee includes the link to the electronic conference documents, lunch and refreshments.

A conference folder with the printed PowerPoint presentations can be ordered upon registration.

Registration deadline

June 14, 2026

A certificate of participation will be issued.

Cancellation policy

For cancellations later than May 21, 2026, 50% of the conference fee will be charged; for cancellations after June 4, 2026, the full amount will be charged.

Substitute participants are welcome.

Contact

“Koordinationsstelle Recht aktuell”

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How to get to the venue by public transport

From Basel SBB station take tramline 2 (in direction Eglisee, get off at the tram stop Messeplatz).

University of Basel | Faculty of Law

“Koordinationsstelle Recht aktuell”

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