

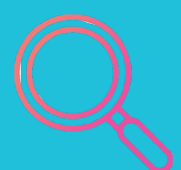


(Tr)african(t)s. Museums and Collections of Catalonia in the Face of Coloniality

This Project seeks to generate an academic and social debate on the so-called 'politics of reparation' and on the right of people belonging to diasporic communities, and communities of origin, to maintain, control, protect, develop and enjoy their cultural heritage, illegitimately held in European public museums.

This is the first project funded in Spain that focuses specifically on provenance research and the decolonisation of museums.

01



FOCUS

All peoples have the right to enjoy their own culture.

(Tr)african(t)s aims to trace the origins and conditions of acquisition of the pieces and collections from the Spanish colonial empire in Morocco, Equatorial Guinea and the Philippines that are now kept in the network of public museums in Catalonia, and to facilitate processes of reformulation, reinterpretation, and reparation within these institutions. The purpose is to encourage collective reflection among Catalan and global citizens on the rights of individuals to enjoy their own culture.

02

PROVENANCE



We have conducted our provenance research in the following Catalan museums: Ethnological Museum and Museum of World Cultures, Natural Science Museum, Igualada Leather Museum, Vic Leather Museum, Victor Balaguer Museum in Vilanova. The provenance records compiled for 150 objects are publicly available on the project website.



03



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The research group and its coordinating body have a fundamental limitation, which is that they are made up of a majority of white male and female researchers with no biographical connections to the territories of origin of the heritage under study.

GOAS

For this reason, it was decided to create an external advisory and participation team, called the Group for Observation, Action, and Monitoring [GOAS, Grup d'Observació, Acció i Seguiment], composed of four specialists in the field of activism, decolonial research, and anti-racist research linked to the diaspora collectives targeted by this project. The purpose of the group is to make epistemic evaluations and recommendations on the different criteria, contents, and results of the programme to construct the research process from diverse epistemologies.

INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE TABLES

One fundamental participation mechanism is the Intercultural Dialogue Tables, whose purpose is to generate a space for reflection and discussion with the diasporic communities about the heritage preserved in the museums and centres that are the object of the intervention. These tables encourage conversation around the collections and objects through the technique of photo-elicitation, using graphic materials and documents from the archives of the respective museums under investigation.



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