



Cultural Heritage Agency
Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

Restitution, conservation and some 'legal' issues in The Netherlands

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International developments:

- 1998 Washington Principles on Nazi Confiscated Art
- 1999 Council of Europe, resolution on Looted Jewish Cultural Property
- 2009 Terezín Declaration

Developments in The Netherlands:

- 1997-2004 research by Origins Unknown Agency (BHG) of NK-collection kept by the State
- Government declines its formal legal position and introduces a *more liberal* policy: claims may again be brought forward
- 2002 Advisory Committee on the Assessment of Restitution Applications for Items of Cultural Value and the Second World War (Restitution Committee)
- 2012 Symposium on International Collaboration on Claims for Nazi-Looted Art, The Hague
- Some 120 claims assessed so far



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NK-collection kept by the State (RCE) in 2002: **4587**

NK-collection kept by the State (RCE) in 2013: **3425**

- Returned to rightful owners appr. **1162** objects (between 2002 and today)



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Huybrecht Beukeleer, Paschameal, 1563



Anonymus, Binnen-Amstel en Blauwpoortbrug, 1825





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The *G-case* in 2002: 239 objects
Paintings, sculptures and objects of applied art





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More liberal restitution policy 2002-2006

Conservation:

- Objects treated as for loan term loan to museum

Compensation for museum:

- Choice of replacement at no charge
- Compensation of costs for conservation/restoration in recent years



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Change of policy: the *Goudstikker*-claim (2004-2006), 267 paintings, restitution of 194 paintings

- Legal opinion: State is not **keeper** on behalf of the rightful owner, but **owner** with full legal title
- Pragmatic and more practical considerations: speeding up the process of restitution and a broader choice regarding the physical condition in which objects are transferred



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