



IARPS NEWS

Welcome to the IARPS Newsletter !

4 August 2025

Lord Ed Vaizey: The time for the sculptures is now

Link:

[The time for the sculptures is now | eKathimerini.com](#)

British Museum renovation is a 'perfect opportunity for Greece,' says Parthenon Project co-chair, explaining how London's refusal to return the artifacts could be surmounted.

Source: Kathimerini

Link:

[David Wilkinson: "We've been living a lie for 200 years"](#)

Original Greek version ERT

News:

[David Wilkinson στην ERT: «Ζούμε ένα ψέμα εδώ και 200 χρόνια» - ertnews.gr](#)

7 August 2025

David Wilkinson: "We've been living a lie for 200 years"

British director of the documentary "The Marbles" speaks exclusively to ERT about the Parthenon Sculptures, the battle behind the film's production, and the trailer's world premiere.

Source: ERT News – Linkedin Evdoxia Lymperi

8 August 2025

Άρθρο Στιούαρτ Ο' Χάρα: Τα Γλυπτά του Παρθενώνα και τα αντίγραφα των Cast Courts

Link:

[Άρθρο Στιούαρτ Ο' Χάρα: Τα Γλυπτά του Παρθενώνα και τα αντίγραφα των Cast Courts | Η ΚΑΘΗΜΕΡΙΝΗ](#)

Πρόσφατα επισκέφθηκα τις αίθουσες Cast Courts στο Μουσείο Victoria & Albert (όπου φιλοξενούνται αντίγραφα έργων τέχνης) και είχα μια στιγμή διαύγειας σχετικά με το επιχείρημα της προβολής.

Source: Kathimerini

9 August 2025

'It would not be fair to keep it in my home'

Link:

['It would not be fair to keep it in my home' | eKathimerini.com](#)

Enrico Tosti-Croce from Chile, who returned a marble fragment from the Acropolis Hill to Greece, speaks to Kathimerini about his decision.

Source: Kathimerini

10 August 2025

Opinion: Trajan's Column copy and the Parthenon Marbles

Link:

[Trajan's Column copy and the Parthenon Marbles | eKathimerini.com](#)

In the course of the Parthenon Marbles debate, we've spent a lot of time refuting the claim that the sculptures' being in London gives more people the opportunity to see them. We've got the ripostes in our back pocket: Only a third of British Museum visitors go to Room 18; Athens is hardly a tourist backwater; if they were to have the greatest exposure, they'd be in Shanghai etc, etc. But I've just been to the Cast Courts at the Victoria and Albert Museum and had a moment of clarity about the exposure argument. There's a subtext when it counters our insistence that the marbles shouldn't be in the BM. It's a good thing that so many people can see them in London, despite the iffy nature of their acquisition.

Source: Kathimerini

18 August 2025

Judging History: Lord Elgin & The Parthenon

Link:

[Judging History: Lord Elgin & The Parthenon.](#)

How does every great moral advance begin? When somebody says, "No. That's wrong". Once you adopt this mentality, it is surprising how often you actually *can* judge the past by modern standards.

Source: Wexler's Writings

24 August 2025

Nicholas Cullinan, director of the British Museum: 'We can't give things away, but there is nothing preventing us from sharing the collection'

Link:

[Nicholas Cullinan, director of the British Museum: 'We can't give things away, but there is nothing preventing us from sharing the collection' | Culture | EL PAÍS English](#)

"They're the most famous. I think it's no secret that we would love to find a partnership with Greece where we would be able to lend on a rolling basis sculptures from the Parthenon, and in exchange, Greece would lend incredible things here. I think a partnership with Greece would be a fantastic thing for both parties".

Source: El Pais

Past & Upcoming Events

27 September 2025

General Assembly IARPS

Athens, Acropolis Museum

Source: IARPS

18 October 2025

Trivia Night

Hosted by IOC – Australia – for the Restitution of the Parthenon Marbles INC.

St George Masonic Club, Roberts Rd, Mortdale

Source: IOC – Australia – for the Restitution of the Parthenon Marbles INC.

To listen and to watch

DEBATE: Should The Elgin Marbles Be Repatriated? | Sumption, Torretta, Selwood; Spivey, Titi, Herman

Listen to this insightful debate as to whether the Elgin/Parthenon Marbles should be repatriated. The marbles are ancient Greek sculptures from the Parthenon, now housed in the British Museum. The controversy stems from Greece's claim that they were illegally removed by Lord Elgin in the 19th century, while the UK maintains their legal acquisition and the museum's role in preserving them.

In favour of the motion:

Nigel Spivey: a British classicist and academic, known for his expertise in classical art and archaeology, who serves as a Senior Lecturer in Classics at the University of Cambridge and has appeared as a presenter on various television programs, including the BBC series 'Cunk on Earth'.

Catharine Titi: an international lawyer and research associate professor at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), specializing in public international law, international investment law, and cultural heritage law, notably known for her work on the Parthenon Marbles and international arbitration.

Alexander Herman: the Director of the Institute of Art and Law in the UK, recognized for his expertise in art law, cultural property, and restitution issues. He has written extensively on topics like the Parthenon Marbles dispute and has contributed to discussions on cultural heritage and legal frameworks surrounding art.

In opposition of the motion:

Lord Sumption: a British author, historian, and retired Supreme Court Justice, known for his legal career, his historical works like the multi-volume "Hundred Years War," and his public commentary.

Mario Torretta: a classical archaeologist trained in Sicily and in Athens. His expertise covers classical Greek architecture and sculpture, Ancient Athens and the Elgin Marbles.

Dominic Selwood: an author, historian, journalist, and barrister, known for his works on history including the novel "The Sword of Moses" and non-fiction like "Anatomy of a Nation: A History of British Identity in 50 Documents." He regularly contributes to newspapers like the Daily Telegraph on historical topics and has a background in medieval history.

Source: The Pharos Foundation

Link:

[DEBATE: Should The Elgin Marbles Be Repatriated? | Sumption, Torretta, Selwood; Spivey, Titi, Herman - YouTube](#)

Return or Retain? The Parthenon Marbles Debate, with Noel Malcolm and Ed Vaizey

Link:

[Return or Retain? The Parthenon Marbles Debate, with Noel Malcolm and Ed Vaizey - Intelligence Squared](#)

For almost 40 years, the Parthenon Marbles, or Elgin Marbles as they are also known, have been at the centre of the great restitution debate. Taken from Greece in contested circumstances by Lord Elgin in the 19th century, the marble sculptures that were part of the Parthenon and other structures on the Acropolis are housed in the British Museum. UK law prevents the museum from giving away objects in its collection, but the organisation's chair, former chancellor George Osborne, is said to be in talks to loan the statues to Greece long term in exchange for other ancient artworks.

Source: Intelligence²

7 November 2025

Release: David Wilkinson's "The Marbles"

Link:

[The Marbles \(2025\) - IMDb](#)

World premiere of the movie "The Marbles" on October 30 at the Central Scotland Documentary Festival. The documentary will circulate in the British movie theatres from November 7 on.

The Marbles started filming on the 25th of March 2021, the day Greece celebrated its 200th year of freedom, and outlines the case for the Parthenon Marbles to be returned to Athens. Documenting the ups and downs that have occurred since.

Source: IMDb

Edited by Dr Kris Tytgat, President of IARPS – 01.09.2025.