



JEWISH DIGITAL CULTURAL RECOVERY PROJECT

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Jewish Digital Cultural Recovery Project Foundation | [www.jdcrp.org](http://www.jdcrp.org)

## JDCRP LAUNCHES SECOND EU CO-FUNDED PROJECT ON NAZI-LOOTED CULTURAL PROPERTY

The Jewish Digital Cultural Recovery Project Foundation (JDCRP) has launched its second project aiming to populate its future cross-searchable digital data platform on cultural plunder by the National Socialists, their allies, and collaborators. The European Union co-funds the two-year project together with the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (the Claims Conference), sponsored by the Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future” (EVZ) and supported by the German Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF).

The first European Union co-funded JDCRP project, “[The Fate of the Adolphe Schloss Collection](#),” created a linked data website that details the circumstances, perpetrators, and accomplices in the looting of 333 Old Master paintings owned by a prominent French Jewish family in order to examine the breadth of information needed. Phase II will build on the pilot project by compiling source material with direct digital linkages, including archival documents currently referenced without links in existing databases such as the Database of Art Objects at the Jeu de Paume ([www.errproject.org/jeudepaume/](http://www.errproject.org/jeudepaume/)). It will also continue in-depth research on selected collections to highlight the contributions made by Jewish collectors to European cultural heritage, as well as developing further educational material.

The project team includes Research and Documentation Officer Anne Uhrlandt and IT and Data Officer Jonathan Blok, with support from Senior Academic Advisor Dr. Brigitte Sion, on-site researchers, and additional experts in areas such as provenance, archives, and IT advisors. JDCRP Executive Board Director Deidre Berger commented: “The innovative use of archival material in this project will deepen understanding of the scope, impact, and consequences of the widespread plunder during the Nazi era of Jewish cultural property.”

Dispossession, forced sales, and confiscation of Jewish-owned property began immediately following the Nazi takeover of power in Germany on January 30, 1933. Towards the end of the war, art experts from Allied countries began recapturing plundered property. However, hundreds of thousands of artworks and untold numbers of other objects remain missing.

JDCRP Executive Board Deputy Director Wesley Fisher noted: “Considerable quantities of records exist of the cultural plunder, but they are scattered in numerous archives and challenging to access. This project will demonstrate how the consolidation of data that is within documents in a central digital platform, together with additional research and education, can enable a broader group of users to access directly digitized archival data and help them reconstruct the lives and persecution suffered by the former Jewish owners.”

The JDCRP project will include in-depth research on selected collections to help trace the trajectory of the seized objects and illuminate the context, motivations, and responses to the theft. Exhibitions and a brochure will shed light on provenance work that uncovers stolen property and locates original owners. Research will be undertaken in cooperation with the JDCRP international partner network of archives and cultural institutions.

The Berlin-based Jewish Digital Cultural Recovery Project Foundation was founded in 2019 by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) and the Commission for Art Recovery (CAR). The JDCRP is dedicated to building a cross-searchable digital platform for archival source material, research, and education on the cultural plunder conducted during the National Socialist regime.

Please contact [info@jdcrp.org](mailto:info@jdcrp.org) for additional information and interview requests.



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