

EMPOWERING CIVIL SOCIETY TO DOCUMENT HERITAGE AND TO FIGHT ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN COUNTRIES IN CONFLICTS AND IN POST CONFLICT

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President Heritage for Peace

Summer School Post Conflict



HERITAGE FOR PEACE –MISSION STATEMENT

WE ARE AN INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF HERITAGE WORKERS WHO BELIEVE THAT CULTURAL HERITAGE IS A COMMON GROUND FOR DIALOGUE AND A TOOL TO BUILD PEACE.

OUR MISSION IS TO SUPPORT HERITAGE WORKERS, INDIFFERENT OF CITIZENSHIP OR RELIGION, AS THEY WORK TOWARDS THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.



Why is a need to create an Arab Network of CSOs to Safeguard Cultural Heritage?

1-This resulted in the emergence of several civil society organizations that have taken the form of NGOs or institutions dedicated to promoting cultural heritage protection and spreading the values it represents.

2-International assistance was channelled through UNESCO and its cooperation with the authorities responsible for heritage management.

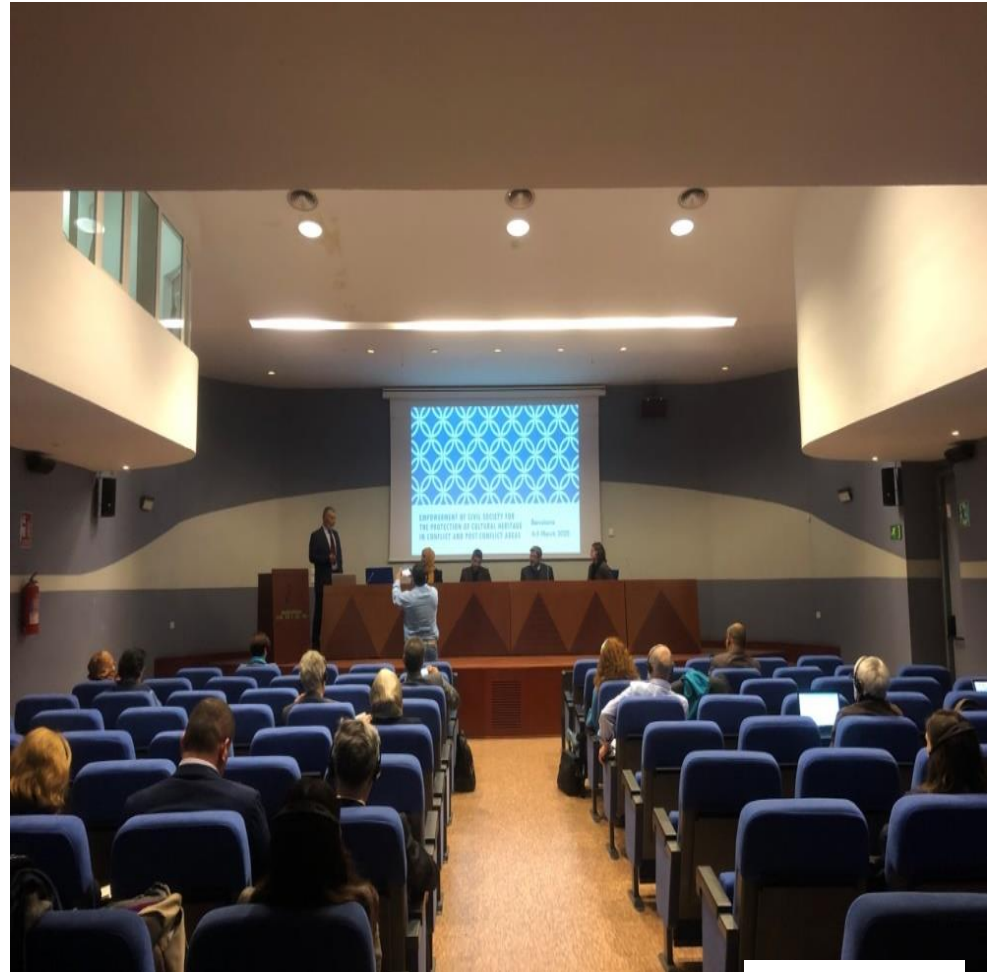
3-civil society and local communities were left out of this process, which could have played an essential role in preserving and rebuilding the damaged cultural heritage.



Heritage for Peace launches ANSCH

1-Looking to improve the opportunities of civil society, H4P launches ANSCH Network, as a collaborative platform to provide more resources and opportunities.

2- The initiative started together with ALIPH and Spanish Council for Scientific Researches (CSIC) launched its civil society network which presentation took place in Barcelona on 4 and 5 March 2020 at an event called : *“Empowerment of civil society for the protection of cultural heritage in conflict areas”*.



ANSCH objectives

1-To create a network of civil society organizations

2- To identify and define heritage protection projects needed in Arab countries.

3-To enhance the visibility of the civil society organizations and their work

4-To empower local communities' participation in the management of cultural heritage.

5-To foster inclusive social development.

6-To foster inclusive economic development.



CSOs from Syria ,Iraq ,Yemen and Libya

A-Civil Society Organizations from Syria

1-The Syrian Center for Cultural Heritage Protection

2-Rafakatuna

B-Civil Society Organizations from Iraq

1. Archaeological Ziusudra Organization for Protecting Antiquities and Heritage

2. Perfect Justice Foundation for Human Rights

3. Green Spring

4. Dilenaw organization

C-Civil Society Organizations From Yeme

1. Balkis's Throne for the Development, Tourism and Heritage

2. Tahdeeth Development Foundation

3. Ykrb foundation

4. Centre of Art, Culture & Folklore

5. Kahramana Heritage Center

D-Civil Society Organizations From Libya

1- World heritage union of five Libyan municipalities (WHU5LM)

2- Tripolitanian Society

3- Balagrey Association for environment and cultural heritage



ANCH actual project

1-Protection of Heritage at Places in Conflict through Digital Tools: The Role of Civil Society

2-COVID -19 Guidelines Project

3- SHELTr (Syrian Heritage Law Training)

4- Raqqa project

5-Palmyrene voices initiative

6- Documentation and Damage Assessment of the Cairo Castle in Taiz (Yemen)

7- Documentation and damage assessment in Manbij (Syria)



Protection of Heritage at Places in Conflict through Digital Tools: The Role of Civil Society

PACTION Home The project Pacton App About us Publications Activities Contact English

Protection Of Heritage At Places In Conflict Through Digital Tools

The Role Of Civil Society

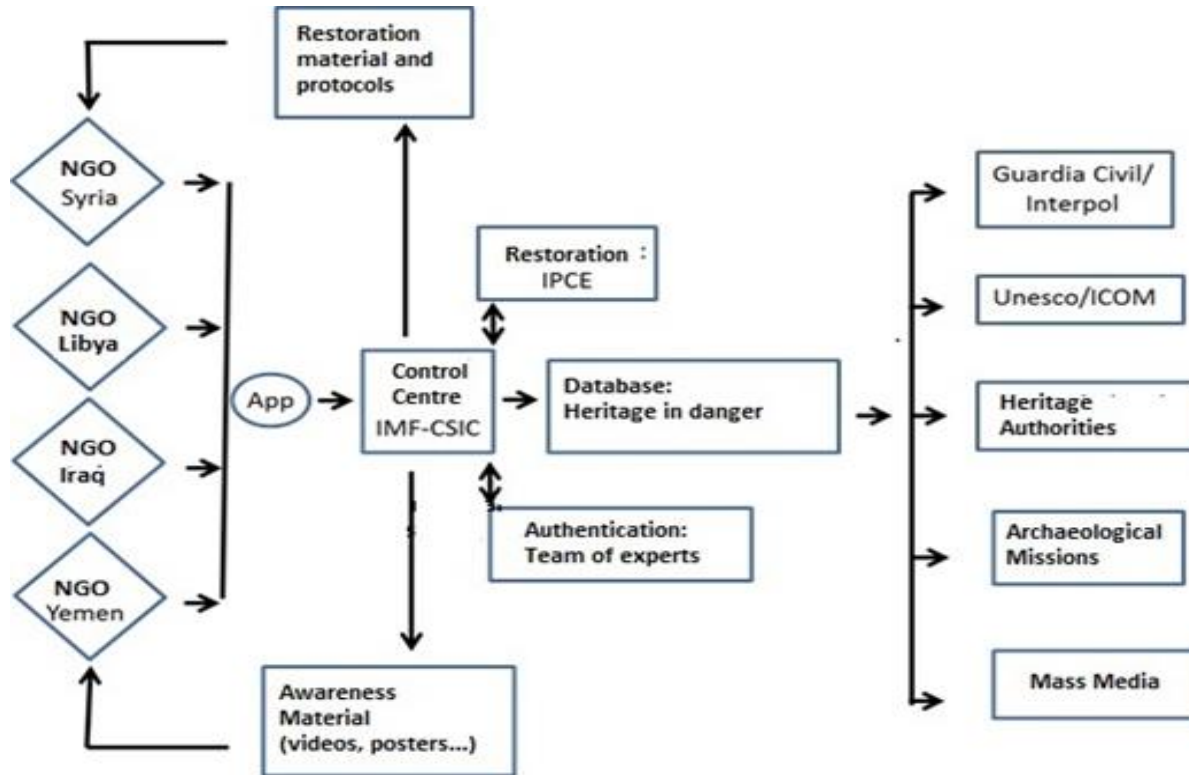
The project aims to use digital tools in the protection of historical and archaeological heritage and to create databases with heritage properties in danger.

Roman Propyleaum in libya. Credit: Ali AlSaadi

<http://pacton.es/>

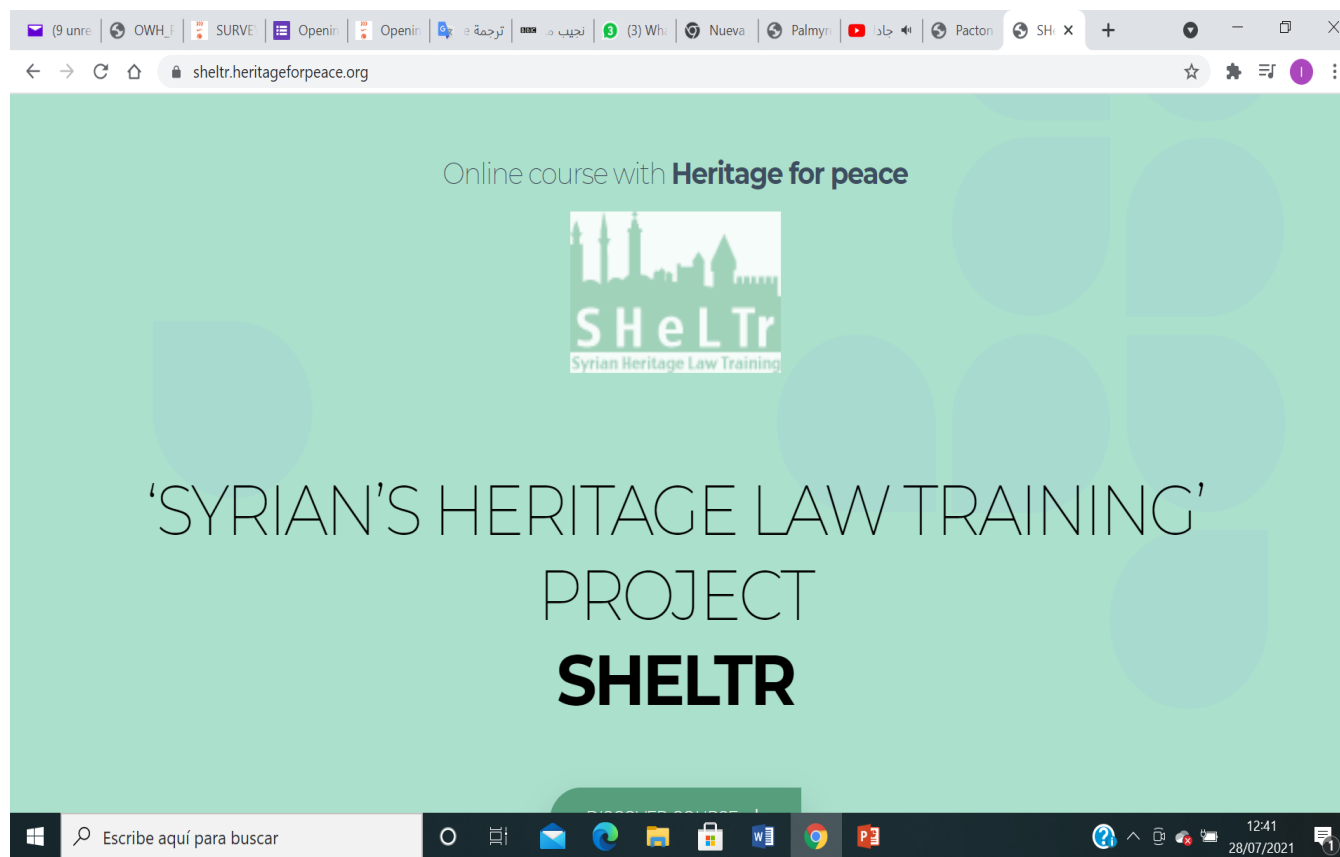


HOW THE PACTON APP WORKS ?

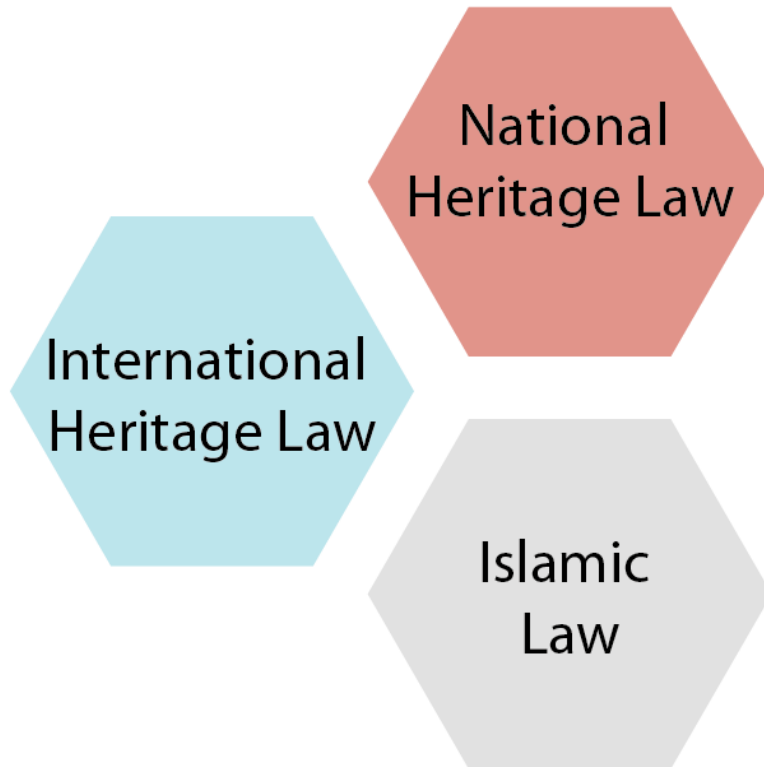


4- SHELTr (Syrian Heritage Law Training Project)

<https://sheltr.heritageforpeace.org>



3 - CHLT PROGRAM - WHAT IS THE NEED?



- Lack of knowledge inside Syria about International Heritage Law and sometimes National and Islamic law as well
- Need for reflection on the interactions of those three legal contexts
- Misunderstanding of relationship between Islam and Heritage in the West
- Need to depoliticize cultural heritage



3 - CHLT PROGRAM - EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- ➔ **Raise awareness** on the importance of **protection of heritage** in local **communities**
- ➔ **Improve legal understanding** of **heritage protection** with heritage workers and community leaders
- ➔ **Mitigate illegal excavations and illicit traffic** in areas under jurisdictions of Islamic courts
- ➔ **Produce booklet on legal protection** of heritage in present Syria
- ➔ **Raise awareness** about relationship between **heritage and Islam** outside the country

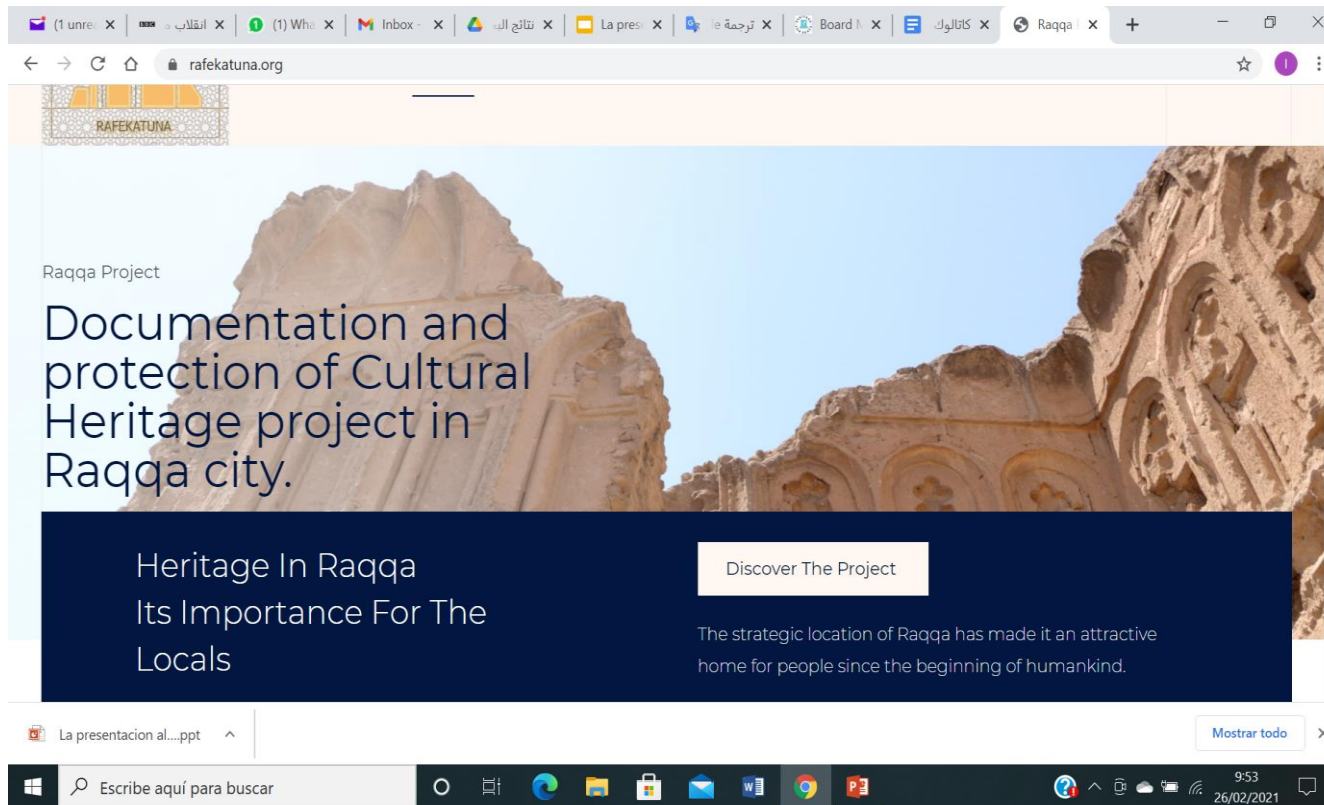


ISIS IN RAQQA



RAFAKATUNA PROJECT

- WHY RQQA ?
- [HTTPS://WWW.RAFEKATUNA.ORG/ACTIVITIES/PHOTO-GALLERY/](https://www.rafekatuna.org/activities/photo-gallery/)



HERAQLA STORAGE HOUSE



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SOME NEW EVIDENCE DOCUMENTING THE INVOLVEMENT OF DA'ESH IN SYRIA WITH THE ILLICIT TRADE IN ANTIQUITIES



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Neil Brodie

ABSTRACT

We present here some new evidence documenting the involvement of Da'esh with the looting and illicit trade of antiquities in northeastern Syria. We have interviewed four people who have first-hand knowledge of its activities and acquired some images of looted objects and Da'esh administrative documents. We examine this new evidence in the context of previously reported accounts of Da'esh involvement with the antiquities trade. We also report looting at some previously unknown archaeological sites, describe extensive looting when northeastern Syria was controlled by the Free Syrian Army, and critically examine the reliability of prices reported inside Syria.

KEYWORDS: Syria, antiquities, Da'esh, Free Syrian Army, looting, illicit trade

The involvement of Da'esh with the illegal excavation and sale of antiquities inside Syria is well known, in outline form at least. Yet although there is clear

evidence that Da'esh was profiting from antiquities trafficking, there remain unanswered questions about the nature and extent of its involvement—questions relating to the organisation and governance of excavating and marketing inside Syria and to the pricing structure of the trade and its profitability. Most of the reporting on these issues appeared between 2014 and 2017 while Da'esh was in control of large areas of Syria, and access was difficult if not impossible. The reporting was of necessity usually secondhand, often speculative, and cannot always be relied upon to provide an objective account of what the situation was “on the ground.” Now that Da'esh has been largely ejected from formerly occupied territories, the opportunity arises for more reliable data gathering to illuminate further its involvement with the illicit trade in antiquities. In this article, we make a start by publishing some new evidence collected during 2020. First, we present information derived from interviews conducted with four people inside Syria who lived and worked under Da'esh occupation and who have firsthand experience of Da'esh actions as regards the excavation and sale of antiquities. Second, two of the interviewees provided some prices and images of antiquities said to have been sold inside Syria, which we reproduce. Finally, we make public two previously unseen Da'esh documents relating to its governance of the internal antiquities market that were discovered in Raqqa in 2020. This exercise in

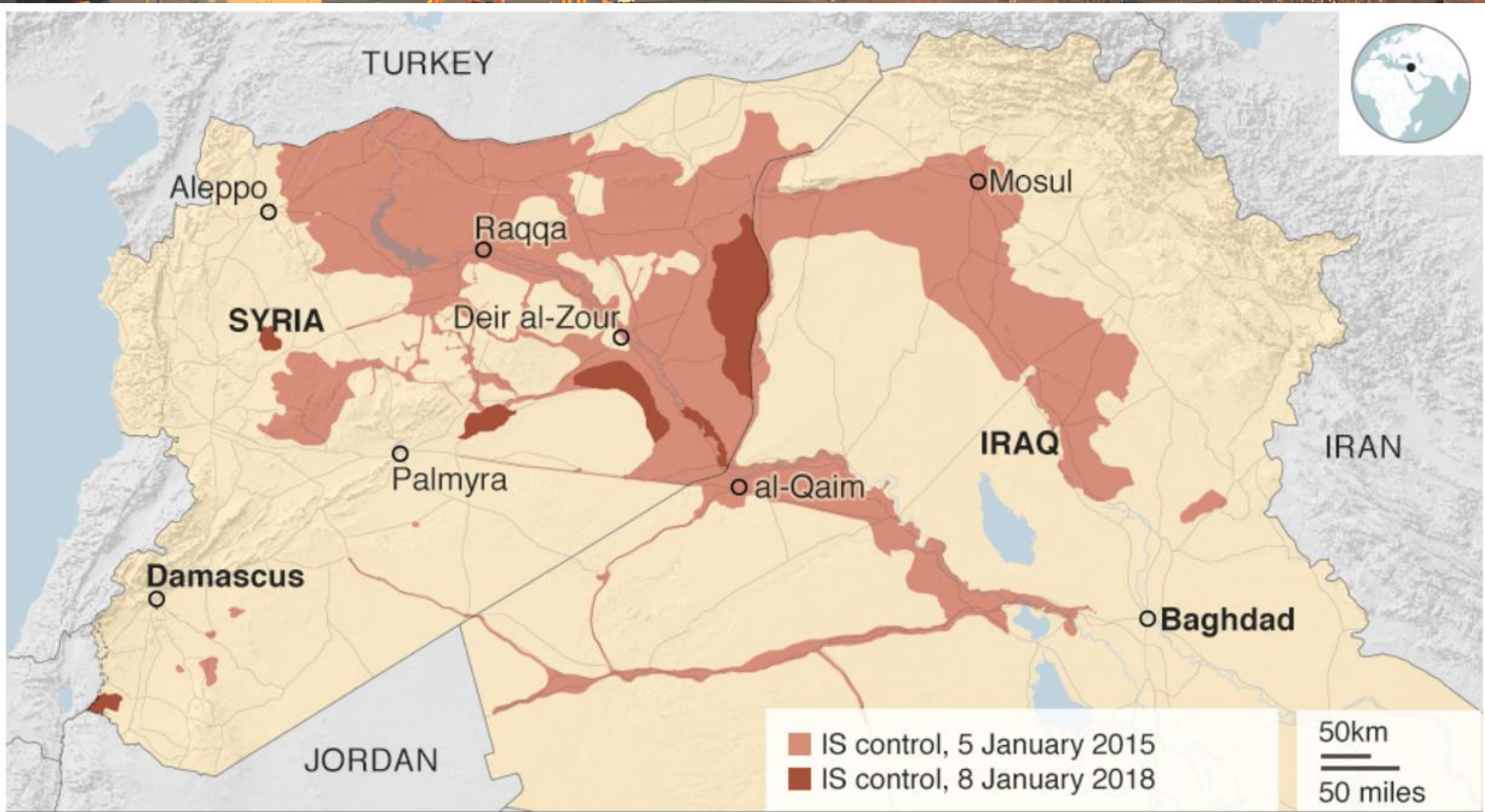
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Isber Sabrine, Ristam Abdo, Neil Brodie

Da'esh occupied territories



Source: IHS Conflict Monitor

OR PEAC

© Neil Brodie

BBC

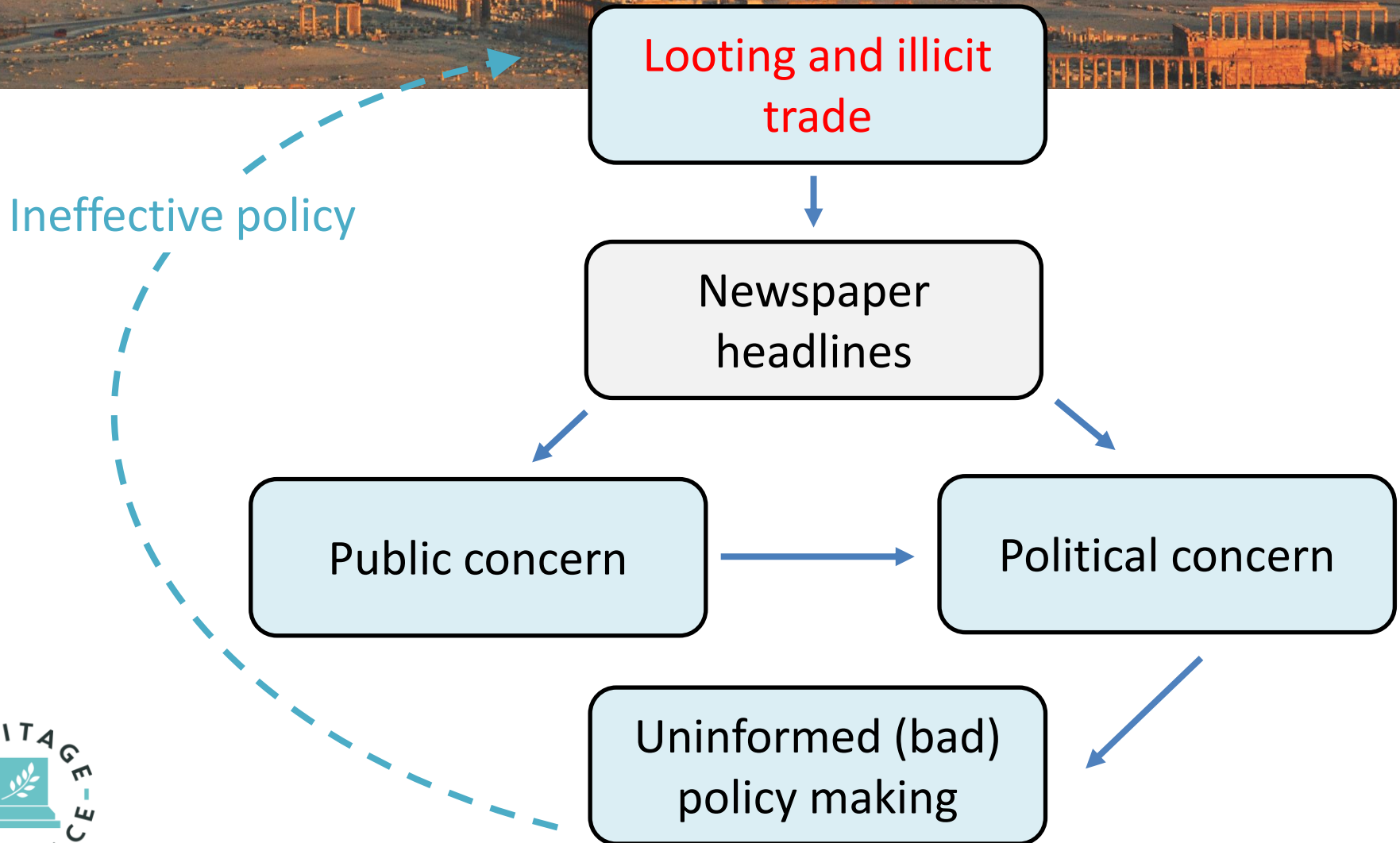
Looting at Apamea



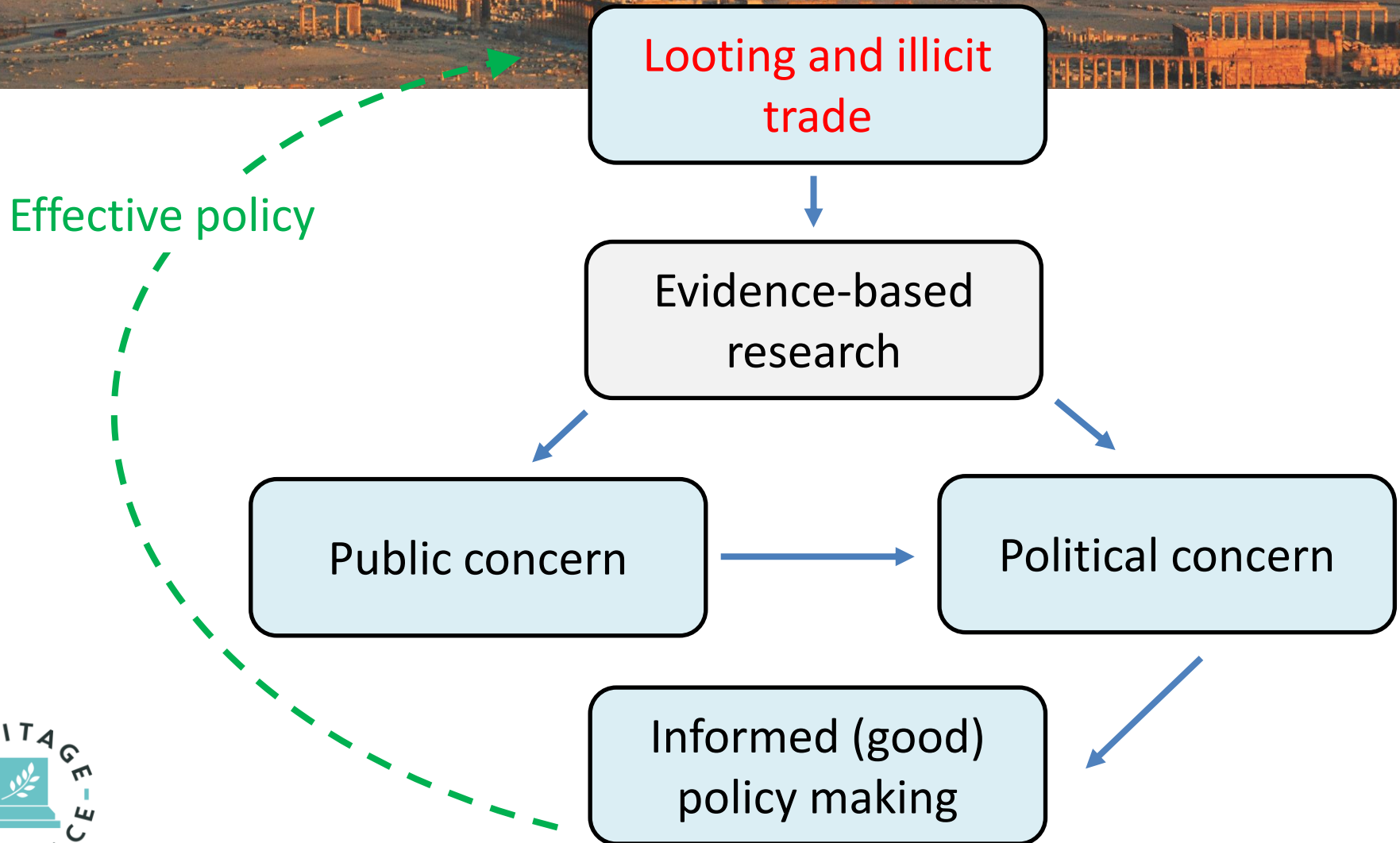
Apamea as seen on Google Earth, 4th April 2012.



Policy failure

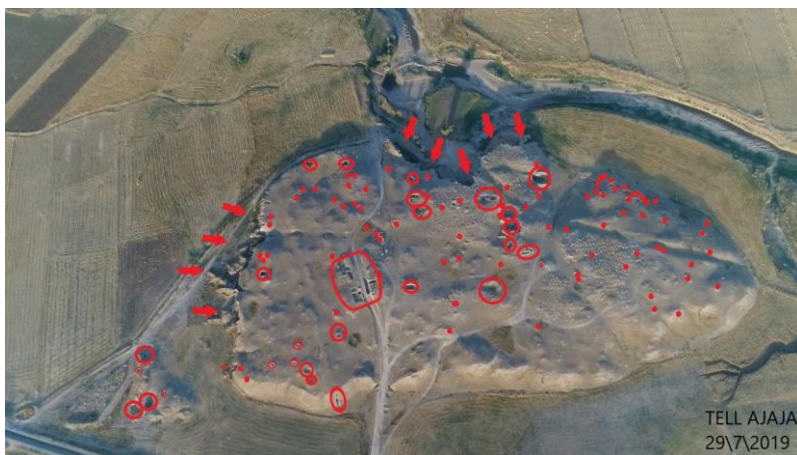


Policy success



Photographs of looted sites

Looting damage at archaeological sites recorded by on-site photographic documentation.



Tell Ajajah

Photographs of looted objects



Bronze age site of Mari



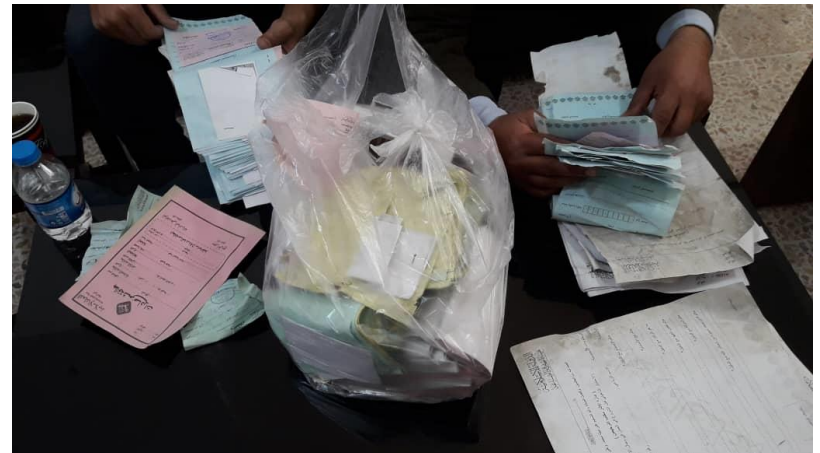
Photographs of looted objects



Neoassyrian site of Tell Ajajah

Da'esh administrative documents

Da'esh administrative documents recovered from destroyed headquarters building in Raqqa.



The impact of February earthquake AND Climate change on cultural heritage in Syria

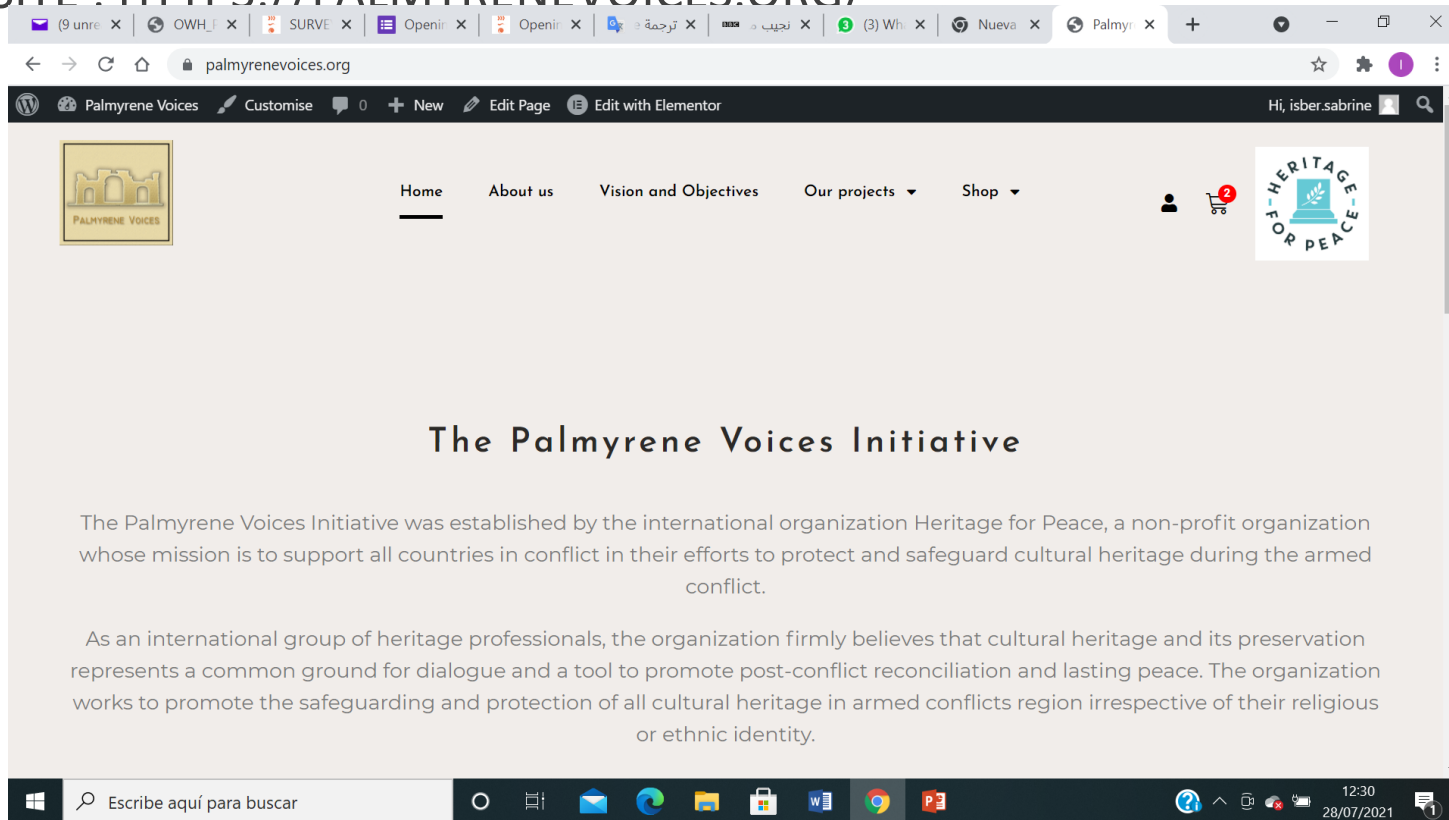


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PALMYRENE VOICES INITIATIVE

(DOCUMENTING THE PALMYRENE WOOL AND LEATHER PRODUCTS OF AWASSI SHEEP IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE DIASPORA)

WEBSITE : [HTTPS://PALMYRENEVOICES.ORG/](https://palmyrenevoices.org/)



Palmyrene Voices initiative

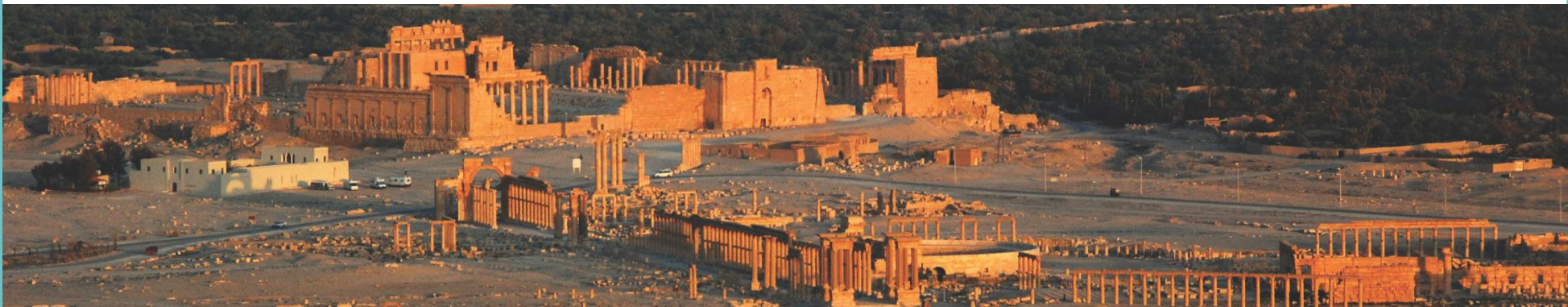
Palmyrene Voices is a civil society initiative whose mission is to provide a platform for the voices of the Palmyrene people to reach the international community; to support all Palmyrene people in the diaspora in their efforts to come back to Palmyra; and to help them to rebuild their city in a way that guarantees their dignity and preserves their identity.



ABUAB INITIATIVE

ABUAB, OR **DOORS**, IS A PROJECT THAT AIMS TO WORK ON THE USE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AS AN INSTRUMENT OF SOCIAL INTEGRATION AND WELLBEING FOR REFUGEES FROM MENA REGION AND UKRAINE





Many thanks

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