

Media Announcement  
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### **The LAPADA Association CEO's Reaction to Brexit**

Following the EU referendum, Rebecca Davies, Chief Executive of LAPADA, the Association of Art & Antiques Dealers, gives her perspective on Brexit:

"I have always believed that whatever the result, a period of calm reflection, bridge building and stability must be a priority. It is in all of our interests.

"As has been evident throughout the debate, predicting the consequences of leaving or remaining has been a tricky business and it would be unwise to be overly confident of any detailed forecasting at this stage.

"In many ways leaving the European Union does not mean leaving Europe. We are still friends and neighbours. Working relationships do not depend solely on the law, but on mutual interest and goodwill, which together have the potential for establishing far stronger bonds in the long term.

"I believe that this should be the focus moving forwards, but I also believe that if leaving creates new opportunities further afield, then we should be looking at how we can best develop those in tandem with our interests within Europe itself.

"As a trade association, it is important to represent the interests of our members first and foremost, but I believe these interests and those of the wider market are not mutually exclusive.

"With this in mind, priorities for members are likely to be twofold: reducing barriers to business, such as red tape and its associated costs, and taking full advantage of the global market by removing any existing competitive disadvantage.

"I'm sure that a number of dealers would want the Government to review the Artist's Resale Right. It might also be useful to revisit the Government's Balance of Competences Review, which it undertook in 2012. That looked at how EU legislation affects the UK and could act as a guide to what most urgently needs our attention now, such as competition law and regulations concerning cultural goods.

"Another thing we will do is consult our members to see what their priorities are now.

"What I would not advocate is any hasty reaction that we might live to regret."

Ends



LAPADA

THE ASSOCIATION OF  
ART & ANTIQUES DEALERS

## Notes to Editors

**LAPADA the Association of Art & Antiques Dealers** is the largest society of professional art and antiques dealers in the UK. It is a trusted resource for private collectors and the art & antiques trade in the UK and 16 other countries around the world. Established in 1974 it boasts 550 worldwide members, who are experts in their fields, with specialisms ranging from fine art, jewellery and furniture to contemporary works, sculpture and ceramics. Due to the Association's strict Code of Practice, clients are offered total reassurance when purchasing from a LAPADA member. LAPADA offers a referral service for any member of the public looking for a trusted dealer in a specific area, who is seeking quality and assurance of authenticity. It also offers industry advice and lobbies on issues affecting its members and good practice in the art and antiques trade. In 2015 LAPADA launched a new website, the leading online marketplace for sourcing authentic art and antiques from trusted LAPADA-accredited dealers. [lapada.org](http://lapada.org)

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