

In order to have cultural heritage objects transferred to future generations, they have to be physically preserved and accessible. To this purpose, preventive and remedial conservation are key fields where colloids and materials science are contributing effective solutions and methodologies. Over the last years, two Horizon 2020 European projects (NANORESTART and APACHE) have targeted the formulation of advanced and functionalized materials for the restoration of artifacts and their preventive conservation. The materials developed in the projects range from functionalized particles and gels to nanostructured cleaning fluids, and the most effective solutions were applied to restore masterpieces such as paintings by Pablo Picasso, Jackson Pollock, Roy Lichtenstein, etc. Some of the new materials are already available on the market, while new solutions are being developed.