

## More Britons back return of Parthenon sculptures to Greece, poll shows



A growing number of Britons support returning the Parthenon sculptures to Greece, with nearly one in three saying all looted or disputed artefacts in British collections should be sent back, *The Times* reported, citing a new poll.

The survey, carried out in late August by JL Partners for the Parthenon Project, found majority backing across political lines. About half of Reform and Conservative supporters said the sculptures should leave the British Museum and be returned to Athens.

Three-quarters of respondents said they favored their return when the British Museum begins its £1 billion renovation program, which will include closing the Duveen Gallery where the marbles are displayed.

Asked how they would vote in a referendum, 56% said the sculptures should be returned, compared with 22% who wanted them to remain in London. A similar poll last year showed 53% backed their return.

The survey also found 30% of respondents – including a quarter of Reform supporters – believed British museums should return all historically looted or contested artefacts. Just 11% said they should keep everything.

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