Worksheet 3: Identifying Patterns of Obstruction

HashimaXR Learning Resource

Purpose: *Recognize soft gatekeeping mechanisms across cases*

Based on the HashimaXR case, identify the following mechanisms of obstruction. For each mechanism, complete the analysis tasks below.

The Five Mechanisms

1. **Procedural refusal:** Access or support denied through administrative means without substantive engagement with content

2. **Temporal drag:** Delays, slow responses, and scheduling difficulties that exhaust project resources

3. **Scope redefinition:** Shifting the collaboration from interpretive content to technical assets or rights management

4. **Capacity claims:** Assertions that the institution or partner lacks expertise or authority to engage contested content

5. **Balance/risk language:** Invocations of 'sensitivity,' 'appropriateness,' or reputational concerns without specifying what content is problematic

For Each Mechanism, Answer:

• Describe how it operated in the HashimaXR case (cite specific examples if possible)

• Explain why it is effective as a form of gatekeeping

• Suggest how a project team might recognize or respond to it

Extension: Research another contested heritage project (digital or physical) that faced institutional resistance. Can you identify similar patterns? What mechanisms operated, and with what effects?