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Call for Papers

Session 168

Interdisciplinary Analyses of Mobility Patterns, Land-Use and Subsistence Strategies in the Carpathian Basin: Diachronic and Multivariate Assessment of Archaeological Research

Keywords: stable isotope analyses, aDNA, environmental archaeology, geostatistical modelling, network analyses

At first sight, the Carpathian Basin appears to be a closed, homogeneous space, characterised by a vast plain and framed by the Carpathian Mountains. This is how it is mostly passed on in archaeological science. But on closer inspection, the uniformity dissolves into a complex heterogeneity, which does not simplify a supra-regional understanding of natural interdependencies – and thus also human-environment interactions. The delineation of individual parts of the Carpathian Basin's natural environment and the individual consideration of self-contained cultural systems all too easily leads to subdivision into groups that are separated from one another. The fact that these are fluent transitions and continuous exchanges rather than rigid social entities interrupted only by large-scale migrations is part of the lively discussion about neolithization processes up to the controversial paradigms and narratives related to the so-called Migration Period.

The Carpathian Basin witnessed many significant and decisive events regarding the history of humanity. It is no longer only with the help of traditional archaeology but also thanks to the manifold natural scientific methods and techniques that enables archaeologists to rewrite the history of the Carpathian Basin over the past years.

Environmental archaeology, aDNA, anthropology and stable isotope analyses, dietary reconstructions and geostatistic modelling shed new light on daily life, subsistence strategies, trade, mobility and migration and now tend to reconsider the different scales of these phenomena.

This session aims to highlight interdisciplinary strategies of archaeological research projects considering the Carpathian Basin to overcome natural, cultural and chronological categorization. We want to uncover patterns in human-human and human-environment relationships through a diachronic overview that enables the transparency of changing land-use strategies, communication networks, large-scale exchange relationships and local subsistence systems.

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Please submit your contribution on the EAA official website between the 18th December and the 13th February 2020. For any question related to the session, please send an E-Mail to: margaux.depaermentier[at]gmail.com.