Prehistoric lakeshore settlements in South-East Europe: archaeological, palaeoecological and bioarchaeological investigations within the EXPLO project.

Mid-term Conference

5-6 July 2022, Research Dissemination Center (KEDEA), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

ABSTRACTS

Organization: Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
School of History and Archaeology
Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Research in Archaeology (LIRA)
Funding: The EXPLO project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No. 810586)
Farmers of the Bronze Age – Exploring land use dynamics and agricultural practices using legacy data and land-use modelling

Marco Hostettler

Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

The site of Kastanas, a small tell located at the Axios river near the shore of the ancient thermaic gulf, is used as a case study to assess land use dynamics and agricultural practice through analysis of botanical legacy data and land-use modelling. With a stratigraphy spanning from the Early Bronze to the Iron Age and hundreds of botanical samples from different contexts (first published in 1983), it offers a unique possibility to reconstruct a sequence of probable agricultural practices. This allows insights into the subsistence economy of this specific microregion in the Bronze and Iron Ages, as the tell is one of a group of similar sites located closely to each other. This case study is part of a supra-regional analysis to diachronically evaluate past land-use activities and to connect them to environmental dynamics. The results will contribute to understand the resilience and vulnerabilities of the respective agrarian societies of the Bronze Age in Northern Greece and the Southern Balkans.
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PROGRAMME

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WELCOMING ADDRESS

Chair: Prof. Em. Kostas Kotsakis
School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

09:30-09:50 Prof. Konstantinos Bikos, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

09:50-09:50 Prof. Eleni Manakidou, Chair of the School of History and Archaeology
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

Opening of the Conference: Prof. Eleni Manakidou

SESSION 1. THE EXPLO PROJECT: OVERVIEWS

Chair: Prof. Em. Stelios Andreou
School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

09:50-10:00 Overview of the University of Bern archaeological project
Albert Hafner1,2
1Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
2Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

10:00-10:10 Overview of the University of Bern palaeoecological project
Willy Tinner1,2
1Institute of Plant Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
2Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

10:10-10:20 Overview of the University of Oxford project
Amy Bogaard1
1School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

10:20-10:30 Overview of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki project
Kostas Kotsakis1
1School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

SESSION 2. DENDROCHRONOLOGY: METHODS AND RESULTS

Chair: Assistant Prof. Maria Ntinou
School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

11:00-11:30 Dendrochronology: Turning Prehistory into History? An outline of the methodological basics of building and dating tree-ring chronologies from wood sampled from wetland sites
John Francuz1
1Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
11:30-12:00  **Prehistoric dendrochronology in the southern Balkans: state-of-the-art and prospects**
Andrej Maczkowski\(^1\,\,^2\)
\(^1\)Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
\(^2\)Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

12:00-12:30  **The dendroarchaeology of the prehistoric waterlogged site Ploča - Mičov Grad, Lake Ohrid, North Macedonia**
Matthias Bolliger\(^1\,\,^2\)
\(^1\)Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
\(^2\)Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

12:30-14:00  **Lunch break**

### SESSION 3. MATERIAL CULTURE

**Chair:** Dr Maria Pappa
Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki Region, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Thessaloniki, Greece

14:00-14:30  **Phases and architecture of Dispilio: results and challenges**
Tryfon Giagkoulis\(^1\), Filippou Stefanou\(^1\) and Kostas Kotsakis\(^1\)
\(^1\)School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

14:30-15:00  **Site stratigraphy and key stratigraphic markers at the Neolithic wetland settlement of Dispilio. Our progress to date within the project of EXPLO**
Stella Kyrillidou\(^1\), Ioanna Siamidou\(^1,\,^2\), Ioannis Oikonomou\(^3\), Rena Veropoulidou\(^1,\,^4\) and Kostas Kotsakis\(^1\)
\(^1\)School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece
\(^2\)Ephorate of Antiquities of Drama, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Drama, Greece
\(^3\)Department of Prehistory, Protohistory and Near Eastern Archaeology, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany
\(^4\)School of History and Archaeology, University of Ioannina, Ioannina, Greece

15:00-15:30  **Reassembling continuity and change in Neolithic Dispilio**
Evangelia Voulgari\(^1\), Marina Sofronidou\(^2\), Niki Saridaki\(^1\), Ioanna Siamidou\(^1,\,^3\), Eleni Tsiola\(^1,\,^4\), Nikos Katsikaridis\(^3\) and Kostas Kotsakis\(^1\)
\(^1\)School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece
\(^2\)Ephorate of Antiquities of Drama, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Drama, Greece
\(^3\)Department of Prehistory, Protohistory and Near Eastern Archaeology, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany
\(^4\)School of History and Archaeology, University of Ioannina, Ioannina, Greece
15:30-16:00  Dispilio pottery in its regional context: affinities and potential contacts
Marina Sofronidou¹, Evangelia Voulgari², Anastasia Dimoula², Niki Saridakis² and Kostas Kotsakis²
¹Ephorate of Antiquities of Drama, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Drama, Greece
²School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

16:00-16:30  Coffee break

Chair: Prof. Em. Nikos Efstratiou
School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

16:30-17:00  The stone and bone industries from Neolithic Dispilio: preliminary typological and technological observations
Tasos Bekiaris¹, Angeliki Kita¹, Eleni Koutsopoulou¹,², Bogdana Milić³ and Georgia Stratouli⁴
¹School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece
²Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
³Mila y Fontanals Institute on Humanities research, Spanish National Research Council, Barcelona, Spain
⁴Ephorate of Antiquities of Kilkis, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Kilkis, Greece

17:00-17:30  Archaeological Fieldwork at Lake Ohrid
Johannes Reich¹
¹Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

17:30-18:00  Farmers of the Bronze Age – Exploring land use dynamics and agricultural practices using legacy data and land-use modelling
Marco Hostettler¹
¹Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

18:00  Reception

Wednesday, 6 July 2022

SESSION 4. PALAEOECOLOGY AND BIOARCHAEOLOGY

Chair: Dr Rena Veropoulioudou
Museum of Byzantine Culture, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Thessaloniki, Greece
School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

09:00-09:30  Reconstructing Holocene climate dynamics in Northern Greece using biomarker proxies in lake sediments
Antoine Thévenaz¹,², César Morales-Molino¹,², Erika Gobet¹,², Céline Martin³, Cindy De Jonge⁴, Oliver Rach⁵, Dirk Sachse⁵ and Willy Tinner¹,²
¹Institute of Plant Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
²Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
³Surface Waters Research & Management, Eawag, Dübendorf, Switzerland
⁴Swiss Federal Institute for Technology, Zurich, Switzerland
⁵German Research Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam, Germany
09:30-10:00  
**From sea to summit: the impact of climate and land-use change on vegetation at different altitudes and along two Neolithisation routes**  
Kathrin Ganz1,2, César Morales-Molino1,2, Erika Gobet1,2, Luc Hächler2,3, Dmytro Kiosak4, Nadezhda Kotova5, Jacqueline van Leeuwen1,2, Sergey Makhortykh6, Sarah Ogi1,2, Emmanuel Schaad1,2, Christoph Schwörer1,2, Paul Zander2,3, Martin Grosjean2,3 and Willy Tinner1,2

1 Institute of Plant Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
2 Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
3 Institute of Geography, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
4 Department of Asian and North African Studies, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice, Venice, Italy  
5 Department of Archaeology of Eneolithic and Bronze Age, Institute of Archaeology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine  
6 Department of Early Iron Age Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine

10:00-10:30  
**Insights into the impacts of climate and land use on the vegetation of the Four Lakes region in Northern Greece**  
Lieveke van Vugt1,2, César Morales-Molino1,2, Erika Gobet1,2, Martin Grosjean2,3, Antonietta Knetge1, Jaqueline F.N. van Leeuwen1,2, André F. Lotter1,2, Hendrik Vogel2,4, Albert Hafner2,5 and Willy Tinner1,2

1 Institute of Plant Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
2 Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
3 Institute of Geography, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
4 Institute of Geological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
5 Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

10:30-11:00  
**Coffee break**

Chair: Associate Prof. Sevi Triantafyllou  
School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

11:00-11:30  
**First results on 50,000 years of vegetation history at Limni Orestiás Kastorias**  
Lieveke van Vugt1,2, Erika Gobet1,2, Kathrin Ganz1,2, Gian-Luca Grünenfelder1,2, Hendrik Vogel2,3 and Willy Tinner1,2

1 Institute of Plant Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
2 Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
3 Institute of Geological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

11:30-12:00  
**The zooarchaeology of Dispilio, Lake Orestias, Kastorias**  
Valasia Isaakidou1, Paul Halsedt2, Rena Veropoulidou3,4, Roula Chronaki4, Dafni Androulaki4 and Amy Bogaard1

1 School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom  
2 Department of Archaeology, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom  
3 Museum of Byzantine Culture, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Thessaloniki, Greece  
4 School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

12:00-12:30  
**The archaeobotany of Dispilio, Lake Orestias, Kastorias**  
Müge Ergun1, Eugenia Gkatzogia2, Maria Ntinou3, Mike Charles1 and Amy Bogaard1

1 School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom  
2 School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

12:30-14:00  
**Lunch break**
Chair: Prof. Tania Valamoti
School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

14:00-14:30 Vegetation dynamics and land-use change at the Neolithic lakeshore settlement site of Ploća Mičov Grad, Lake Ohrid
Erika Gobet1,2, Sarah Brechbühl1, Lieveke van Vugt1,2, César Morales-Molino1,2, Joseph Volery3, André F. Lotter1,2, Ariane Ballmer2,3, Sandra O. Brugger1,2, Albert Hafner2,3 and Willy Tinner1,2
1Institute of Plant Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
2Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
3Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

14:30-15:00 The archaeobotany of Progradec, Lin 3, Lake Ohrid
Rachel Ballantyne1, Michael Charles1 and Amy Bogaard1
1School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

15:00-15:30 The archaeobotany of Ploća Mičov Grad, Lake Ohrid
Amy Holguin1, Michael Charles1, Müge Ergun1 and Amy Bogaard1
1School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

15:30-16:00 Discussion

Please note:
The 30 minutes slots include 20 minutes for the presentations and 10 minutes for questions.

Poster design: Tasos Bekiaris

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Workshop’s Venue:

Research Dissemination Center (KEDEA)
Tritis Septemvriou Str. - University Campus
546 36 THESSALONIKI – GREECE

The KEDEA building is connected with the following bus lines:
2,7,14,58 (Bus Stop: University of Macedonia)
17,24,37 (Bus Stop: Fititiki Leschi)
10,31 (Bus Stop: Agia Foteini-University of Macedonia)
27,28,83 (Bus Stop: Terma Grammis)

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