

BIWEEKLY COLLOQUIUM

Semester topic "Human and natural resources in prehistory:
qualitative and quantitative analyses"

Monday, November 5th, 4:15 p.m.

The human impact, multiple land-use, and exploitation of the
environment in the 5th millennium BC. Sultana-Malu Rosu, a case
study

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The analysis of the land-use models of the prehistoric communities represents a significant tool that can provide information about allocating and managing the environment by the past people, both regarding socio-economic and landscape constraints.



Benefiting from an ideal archaeological situation in the case of Sultana-Malu Roşu site (Romania) that consist in a flat settlement, a tell settlement, and three cemeteries from 5th millennium BC, the approached case is very well suited for identification of

the social, economic, and environmental elements which may reflect several implications for the nature and spatial configuration of land use. The settlements and cemeteries cover more than 1000 years (ca. 5000-3900 cal. BC) and belong to Boian and Gumelnita communities.

Based on archaeological, micromorphological, topographical, GIS, zooarchaeological, malacological, palynological and carpological data, the current paper will explore the development of local communities from Sultana-Malu Roşu along the 1000 years in terms multiple land-use (e.g. for habitation, burying the dead, other economic activities), exploitation of the environment (natural resources) and human impact.

A particular focus will be paid to the researches of the last five years (2014-2018) in the eastern perimeter of the cemetery where it was discovered a big burnt wattle-and-daub dwelling that overlaps the funerary area, but also several graves cut its area. Furthermore, this dwelling presents some similar features with the buildings investigated on the tell settlement from the proximity, but also some particular elements. This unusual case raises many questions regarding the classical “domestic-funeral” dichotomy previously defined for the Balkan civilisations of the 5th millennium BC.

Venue: Leibnizstraße 1, Seminar Room 204