

**Technology, land use and social organisation:
connecting patterns in Neolithic and Bronze Age Europe**

International workshop 20-21 November 2019

Johanna Mestorf Kolleg, Schloss Gottorf

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 20th of November

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| 9.30-10.00 | Coffee/tea and hello |
| 10.00-10.10 | Berit V. Eriksen: <i>Welcome to Schloss Gottorf and the ZBSA</i> |
| 10.10-10.45 | Niels N. Johannsen: <i>Introduction: Connecting patterns – what and why?</i> |
| 10.45-11.30 | Kristin A. Oma: <i>Landuse, architecture and animal husbandry in Rogaland 1500-1300 BCE: Introducing the sheep people</i> |
| 11.30-11.45 | Coffee/tea |
| 11.45-12.30 | Paul Duffy: <i>Population size, social inequality, and the plough: the relationship between agro-production and social complexity in the Carpathian Basin</i> |
| 12.30-13.30 | Lunch |
| 13.30-14.15 | Martin Mikkelsen: <i>Were there any major transformations in the social organization in the Bronze Age and if so, were such transformations related to transformations in technology and land use? A case study from NW-Jutland, Denmark</i> |
| 14.15-15.00 | Lasse Sørensen: <i>Continuity and changes during the Mesolithic and Neolithic transition in South Scandinavia</i> |
| 15.00-15.30 | Coffee/tea |
| 15.30-16.15 | Niels N. Johannsen: <i>Distributing fragments to connect wholes: Creating cohesion in the Middle TRB world of southern Scandinavia</i> |
| 16.15-17.00 | Lutz Klassen: <i>The Pitted Ware Culture on Middle Neolithic Djursland: same-same but different?</i> |
| 17.00-17.30 | Discussion |
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| 19.00 – | Speakers' dinner |

Thursday, 21st of November

- 9.30-10.15 Berit V. Eriksen: *Journeymen in Early Bronze Age Denmark. Addressing the socio-economic background of Bronze Age settlement and land use in the Thy region through the analysis of flint inventories*
- 10.15-11.00 Valentina Matta: *Bronze Age stone tools in Nuragic Sardinia: The case of the ground-stone tools from Nuraghe Cuccurada-Mogoro (Sardinia, Italy)*
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee/tea
- 11.30-12.15 Mads L. Bendtsen: *From Distant Lands: Tracing the spread of a martial and social technology by provenance analyses*
- 12.15-13.00 Niels N. Johannsen & Simon K. Nielsen: *Into the great wide open: The emergence of pastoralist organisation by the end of the 4th millennium BCE*
- 13.00-14.00 Lunch
- 14.00-14.45 Lukasz Pospieszny: *Isotopic insights into the Neolithic and Bronze Age economies of northern Poland*
- 14.45-15.30 Jos Kleijne: *During life and/or during death? Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age elites northwest of the Únětice*
- 15.30-16.00 Walkabout at Schloss Gottorf
- 16.00-16.15 Coffee/tea
- 16.15-17.30 Workshop synthesis: *Problems and solutions in connecting patterns*
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- 19.00 – Speakers' dinner

Technology, land use and social organisation: connecting patterns in Neolithic and Bronze Age Europe

Economic activities and social organisation are commonly assumed to be closely and causally connected. Most humans, not least in traditional societies, spend most of their time *in* economic activities – activities that take place in specific parts of the landscape or settlement, together with certain other individuals, and during specific parts of the day or year. At the same time, the character and organisation of economic activities are to a large extent defined or modified by the technological solutions and practices available and by the technological choices made in that society. In other words, specific technologies may have considerable impact on patterns of land use, which in turn – we propose – are intimately linked to patterns of social organisation.

With this workshop we would like to explore, through well-developed case studies, how developments in technology and land use in Neolithic and Bronze Age societies of Europe were connected to developments in their social organisation. Invited speakers will discuss cases where it is possible to juxtapose and compare information on specific developments in technology and land use, including both archaeological and palaeoenvironmental evidence, with evidence that reflects aspects of social organisation – such as settlement and mobility patterns, the nature and sizes of individual settlements, developments in particular funerary customs and the organisation of cemeteries, genetic information on biological kinship, isotopic data on dietary variations, or art and iconography communicating social norms and ideals.

How do concrete transformations in technology and land use appear to correlate with core aspects of social organisation in Neolithic and Bronze Age societies, potentially including the size of social groups and networks, the dynamics of their settlement and mobility, the nature of territories, divisions of labour, gender roles and relations between age groups? And to which extent can we move from correlating trends in the different lines of evidence to suggesting the causal relationships at play in specific processes? Are these factors really as tightly interlinked in defining culture as often assumed? Indeed, are there cases where social organisation appears more or less unaffected by changes in technology and land use and, if so, is such a lack of cultural ‘synchronization’ common and viable, or does it lead to crisis and collapse?

These are some of the challenging questions that we aim to address by bringing together, comparing and debating a series of exciting, focused case studies connecting patterns of technology, land use and social organisation in the Neolithic and Bronze Age of Europe.