



## Session: #397. **Crisis of ideas in modern archaeology?**

Dear colleagues,

We kindly invite you to submit your abstract for the session at <https://www.e-a-a.org/EAA2018/> before February 15<sup>th</sup>.

The epoch of paradigm wars is over. Current development of archaeological theory is characterized by the range of coexisting paradigms, which is usually (and reasonably) discussed as justification for democratic organization of the discipline. This significant variability, which is seen as "anything goes", can be understood as a bifurcation point identifying the deep crisis of ideas in archaeology. The problem is complemented by regional mosaics of local archaeologies with their different and weakly integrated backgrounds. A crisis is, however, also a starting point on a way to new solutions and a new synthesis.

This session focuses on the following issues characterizing the current state of archaeology within a context of further deep integration of current paradigms. Is there any empirical evidence that cannot be explained from the perspective of any paradigm? Do we lack important approaches or getting lost in multiple meanings? To what extent the crisis of ideas is caused by education in archaeology and the organization of the academic system? Does the specific role of archaeology in-between science and humanities affect the assumed crisis? In particular, the archaeology of states, cultures, and macro-regions is reflecting the crisis and could serve as focal point for this discussion. How can we integrate the different paradigms concerning state formation or cultures? How can we develop a systematic concept for understanding macro-regions which is not an arbitrary combination of different convenient theories? What are the trajectories of further development of our discipline?

Please, do not hesitate to contact us with any questions,

- Oliver Nakoinz ([oliver.nakoinz.i@gmail.com](mailto:oliver.nakoinz.i@gmail.com)),
- Aleksandr Diachenko ([oleksandr.diachenko@gmail.com](mailto:oleksandr.diachenko@gmail.com)),
- Catalin Popa ([pcatalinn@yahoo.com](mailto:pcatalinn@yahoo.com)),
- Sławomir Kadrow ([slawekkadrow@gmail.com](mailto:slawekkadrow@gmail.com))

<https://eaa.klinkhamergroup.com/ea2018/sessions/overview/preview.php?id=397>