



INTERTWINED
PASTS 2-6 SEPTEMBER
EAA 2025
BELGRADE



**E
A
A** | European Association
of Archaeologists

31st EAA Annual Meeting **2-6 September 2025** **Belgrade Virtual**

Wednesday, 3 September

	8:30-10:00	10:30-13:00	14:00-16:00	16:30-18:30
Room 1	273. Ceramic Technology and Knowledge Transmission: Analytical Approaches to Understanding Cultural Practices and Social Transformations			251. Kinship systems and their impact on past human communities
Room 2	191. Climate Change and Archeological sites: From Knowledge to Planned Conservation			102. Legal protection of archaeological heritage in times of crisis and social transformation
Room 3	21. The social life of crafts(people): exploring the interplay between crafts and social structures and norms in 1st millennium BCE Europe			163. Magisteria Minervae: Crafts and Craftworking in the Roman Military
Room 4	107. Social transformations along the Danube and adjacent Balkan regions during the 2nd millennium BCE			74. Antiquarian Societies, Quo Vadis?
Room 5	111. Let's Address the Other-Than-Human Animal in the Room: Moving Forward with Multispecies Archaeologies of Prehistory			71. Beyond Conquest: Environmental and Cultural Impacts of Roman Expansionism
Room 6	35. Grave reopening in the first millennium CE - connecting European regions			69. Wayfaring and place-making in the Mediterranean Sea
Room 7	235. The archaeology of food processing: Innovative approaches from case studies around the world			9. It is what you make of it: imperial and private images at the borders of the Empire
Room 8	224. Leave it! Creating ruins. Comparing Abandonment Processes in Europe (500 BCE-500 AD)			55. Networks of Care and Neglect in the Archaeological Record

71 BEYOND CONQUEST: ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL IMPACTS OF ROMAN EXPANSIONISM

Session theme:	5. Finding the way! Archaeological sciences and opening new research perspectives
Session format:	Regular session
Session keywords:	Roman conquest, Bioarchaeology, Environmental Archaeology, Roman Archaeology, Landscape Archaeology
Session organisers:	Antonio Merola (University of Bari) – Valentina Colagrossi (University of Bari / ISPC-CNR) – Francesco Solinas (University of Lecce) – Roberto Ragno (University of Bari) – Frijda Schmidt (University of Cambridge)
Session discussant:	Nicola Terrenato (University of Michigan)

This session aims to create a methodological space that brings together scientific disciplines analyzing environmental changes with scholars of Romanization around the Mediterranean. The objective is to identify, through case studies, the biochemical and faunal traces of ecosystems during the Roman conquest. The session seeks to examine whether Romanization led not only to intensive environmental exploitation but also to assess possible correlations between conquest and ecological footprints on landscapes. For the first time, this session brings together researchers engaged in the complex issue of Romanization with the findings of environmental sciences, which have significantly advanced research in other fields of archaeology. It is time to analyze environmental changes during the Roman conquest, considering the effects of water, mining, agricultural, faunal, and floral exploitation introduced by Roman technologies and production methods. The central theme is the environmental impact of Roman conquest, particularly in relation to the exploitation of natural resources and the economic transformations of conquered areas. This analysis goes beyond resource extraction, exploring how these practices reshaped production systems essential for integrating newly Romanized regions into the pan-Mediterranean context. The session welcomes contributions on archaeobotany, zooarchaeology, and bioarchaeology in Romanization contexts, as well as studies on productive, agricultural, and mining sectors in relation to the environmental dynamics of the Roman conquest.

1951. THE MACEDONIAN WARS IN PELAGONIA PALEOENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE EARLY ROMAN CONQUEST OF THE MACEDONIAN KINGDOM

Contribution format:	Oral
Contribution authors:	Nick Angeloff (Cal Poly Humboldt Chronicle Heritage) – Ljuben Tevdovsky (Goce Delchev University Shtip) – Byron Smith (76907) – Rebekka Kniernan (Swca) – Jessica Bedell (Cal Poly Humboldt)

The archaeological site of Crnobuki in the Pelagonian Valley was traditionally associated with the historically famous battles of the Macedonian phalanxes with Rome. Yet, our archaeological research and known necropolis in the vicinity of the site suggested that it was not just a military outpost of the last Macedonian kings, but an important urban center of the archaic, classical and Hellenistic periods. The abundance of ancient written sources and archaeological material related to this region contributed towards ignoring the important dynamics of development of this pre-Roman and Roman settlement in relation to the exploitation of its landscape and surrounding natural resources. This paper presents important new findings, hypotheses and interpretations of the symptoms of change related to the Roman conquest, which are results of the two seasons of field surveys, excavations and laboratory analyses of the international American-Macedonian team, focused on computational and paleoenvironmental approaches. The LIDAR data produced in the last two years, led towards a more precise modeling of topographic and geographical features of the site, which combined with archaeobotanical analyses, alphanumeric and geo-referenced cartographical reports and flood analysis with a focus on the flood zone between 570–600 m above sea level, revealed the complexity of the dynamics of the settlement in the pre-Roman and Roman times. Analyzing the environmental changes caused by the modern landscape cultivation (huge drainage system), led towards an entirely new orientation of the site towards the mountain slopes to the north, instead of the ancient flood zone to the south-east. More importantly, the significant reduction of agricultural and export activities of this urban center in Roman times, can no longer be associated exclusively with the early Roman suppressive policies, but also with new patterns of developing settlements within the critical zone predisposed to floods and Roman mining of minerals.