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CONFERENCE LOCATION:  
OREA,  
AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCES  
1020 VIENNA  
HOLLANDSTRASSE 11-13  
5<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR



# “SOUTH WIND”

LATE BRONZE AGE CULTURAL PHENOMENA  
AND INFLUENCES FROM THE ADRIATIC  
REGION TO THE NORTH

INTERNATIONAL conference VIENNA,  
April 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Organized within the annual panel **UK-Gespräche**  
of the Urnfield Culture Networks – UCN,  
Institute for Oriental and European Archaeology – OREA,  
Austrian Academy of Sciences – ÖAW

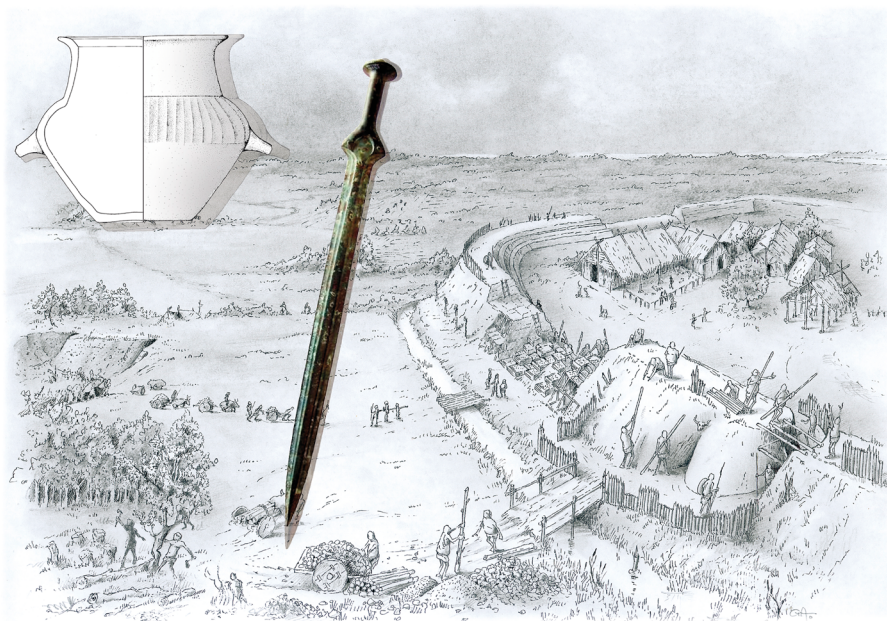


**Key note lecture 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

## **Bronze Age Aquileia and the role of the northern Adriatic in the interaction between Europe and the Mediterranean during the Late Bronze Age**

**ELISABETTA BORGNA, UDINE**

North-eastern Italian regions are supposed to have played an important role in the transmission of cultural components and in communication between peninsular Italy and the Mediterranean world on the one hand and the Alpine districts and central Europe on the other. Recent developments in both field research and the analysis of bronze deposits permit scholars to understand better than in past



years directions and modes of cultural and social contacts and change. The ongoing excavation at the coastal site of prehistoric Aquileia has in particular brought new light on the patterns of contact between two different settlement systems, that of the lowland sites in the coastal area of Friuli, looking at the Adriatic, and that of the hillforts in the highland and river valleys, provided with a crucial function in exchange activities with the North and North-East. Starting from the presentation of the new excavation data, the contribution will take

into particular consideration symptoms of crisis, changes and innovation in population dynamics and settlement patterns of this complex cultural landscape. The aim is to offer a general picture of northern Adriatic from the Middle Bronze Age-Late Bronze Age transition well into the Final Bronze Age (14-13<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>) dealing in particular with three interconnected themes: the role of nucleated lowland and coastal sites in receiving Adriatic cultural components in the MBA-early LBA; the circulation of metal and the role of social mobility in LBA-FBA; the innovative northern components contributing to the emergence of a the new world in the FBA.

**Time: 17.30**

**Location:**

**OREA, Austrian Academy  
of Sciences**

**1020 Vienna,**

**Hollandstraße 11-13**

**5<sup>th</sup> floor**

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**International conference 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

## **“South wind” – Late Bronze Age cultural phenomena and influences from the Adriatic region to the north**

During the Late Bronze Age, the Adriatic Sea region has been culturally shaped within a continental central European and north Italian or Balkan framework, rather than within the complex and extended cultural networks that developed through the Mediterranean contact zones.

The aim of our workshop is to shed light on cultural developments in the Adriatic Sea region during the Late Bronze Age and the intra- and supra-regional contacts within the Adriatic and its continental hinterland, exploring their impact on regions further north as far as beyond the Alps and the Carpathian Basin.

Regional material culture, settlement patterns, consumption habits and burial customs form the bases of our discussion on the agents of cultural interaction and the exchange of goods. We wish to scrutinize the processes of appropriation of both material artifacts and ideas by investigating objects traditionally regarded as evidence for cultural contact, as they help to understand the transformations of meanings and values in their areas of influence.

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# PROGRAMM

## 1. Panel – Chair Mario Gavranović

**9.00–9.30** **Anja Hellmuth Kramberger**, Ljubljana  
*Istrien und der Donau-Karpatenraum – Vorspiel der Beziehungen während der frühen und mittleren Bronzezeit, betrachtet am Beispiel der Keramik aus der Gradina von Monkodonja*

**9.30–10.00** **Alberta Arena**, Berlin  
*Central and Northern Adriatic interactions between MBA and LBA. Dealing with the fluctuations of the informative potential of different archaeological sources through time*

COFFEE BREAK

**10.30–11.00** **Annalisa Rumolo**, Napoli  
*Trezzano di Monsampolo: A key-site for the Recent Bronze Age in the Middle Adriatic Area*

**11.00–11.30** **Martina Blečić Kavur**, Koper  
*Northern Adriatic in the “rose of winds”: The example of Late Bronze Age hoards*

LUNCH BREAK

## 2. Panel – Chair Katharina Rebay-Salisbury

**13.00–13.30** **Reinhard Jung, Mathias Mehofer**, Wien  
*Kupfer- und Bronzezirkulation im Adriaraum am Ende des zweiten Jahrtausends v.u.Z.*

**13.30–14.00** **Claudio Cavazzuti**, Rome  
*From Casinalbo to Frattesina: developments of urnfields and societies in Northern Italy from a bioarchaeological perspective*

**14.00–14.30** **Elisa Perego**, London  
*Social complexity and marginality in Final Bronze Age Europe: Problems and perspectives*

COFFEE BREAK

**15.00–15.30** **Christoph Baur**, Innsbruck  
*Waffengräber der Villanova-Zeit Mittelitaliens*

**15.30–16.00** **Francesco Iacono**, Cambridge  
*At the gates of Europe: Late Bronze Age connections between Europe and the Mediterranean and the role of South-eastern Italy at the threshold of the EIA?*

*Closing remarks discussion and get-together*

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## ABSTRACTS

### Istrien und der Donau-Karpatenraum – Vorspiel der Beziehungen während der frühen und mittleren Bronzezeit, betrachtet am Beispiel der Keramik aus der Gradina von Monkodonja

Anja HELLMUTH KRAMBERGER, Ljubljana

Bereits seit dem 19. Jh. richtet sich das Interesse von Wissenschaftlern und Altertumsliebhabern auf die Spuren prähistorischer und frühgeschichtlicher Besiedlung auf der Halbinsel Istriens. Die markant ringförmig angelegten, in Trockenmauertechnik errichteten Mauern kann man noch heute vielerorts zwischen dem Bewuchs erkennen. Den derzeit am besten untersuchten Fundplatz stellt die Gradina von Monkodonja nahe Rovinj dar. In den letzten Jahren konnte das umfangreiche keramische Fundmaterial aus 12 Ausgrabungskampagnen im Detail untersucht werden. Jahrzehntlang gelangten überwiegend Fragmente von Gefäßen aus den prähistorischen Gradinen Istriens zur Veröffentlichung, die ein Typenspektrum der Keramik der Bergsiedlungen nur erahnen ließen. Nunmehr liegt erstmalig ein detailliertes Bild vom Formenspektrum und Formenreichtum der Keramik der Frühen und der beginnenden Mittelbronzezeit vor. Dieses ermöglicht eine Herausstellung der Bedeutung Istriens im bronzezeitlichen Kulturgefüge, da erstmalig charakteristische lokale Gefäßformen und Verzierungen von atypischen abgrenzbar sind und somit Hinweise auf mögliche Kontakte zu benachbarten und weiter entfernten Regionen gewonnen werden können.

Als eine wichtige Kontaktzone ist der Donau-Karpatenraum zu benennen, womit die Stellung Istriens als Mittler zwischen dem adriatischen Kulturraum und dem Donau-Karpatenraum sowie Zentraleuropa hervor tritt. Einerseits finden sich in Monkodonja einzelne Keramikfunde, bei denen es sich um Importe handeln mag. Andererseits lassen sich bestimmte Elemente der Gefäße mit Formen aus den früh- bis mittelbronzezeitlichen Kulturen des westlichen Donau-Karpatenraumes, insbesondere der Aunjetitz-Kultur in Niederösterreich mit der Unterwölbing-Gruppe sowie der Böheimkirchner Gruppe der Věteřov-Kultur vergleichen. Es liegen somit gemeinsame Charakteristika vor und im Falle spezieller Gefäßformen ist womöglich auch an einen ähnlichen Gebrauch dieser zu denken. Besonders im Falle der Feinkeramik mit regelhaft vorkommenden kleinen Trinkgefäßen, kleine Krüge und Kantharoi, wäre beispielsweise an ähnliche Trinksitten zu denken.

Mit dem vorliegenden Beitrag soll, am Beispiel Monkodonja, auf die Beziehungen zwischen Istrien zum Donau-Karpatenraum eingegangen werden, die sich mit Beginn der entwickelten Frühbronzezeit deutlich abzeichnen.

### Central and Northern Adriatic interactions between MBA and LBA. Dealing with the fluctuations of the informative potential of different archaeological sources through time

Alberta ARENA, Berlin

The spatial analysis of MBA (BA B and C) ceramic and metal types provides an overall picture of the interactions across the Adriatic Sea, both in the north-south and east-west directions. Transmarine contacts appear to be remarkably intense (between Istria and Dalmatia, as well as between Dalmatia and Italian Adriatic coast), whereas the presence of Aegean-type pottery is limited to the southern basin. These distributions seem to indicate the existence of some sort of border that divided the Adriatic basin into two main influence zones.

At the beginning of the LBA (BA D–Ha A1), the situation drastically changes, with an apparent reduction of transmarine connections and the influx of Aegean-type pottery in the Northern basin of the Adriatic Sea. Even if we are able to recognize the desegregation of the former networks, it is extremely challenging to detect the emergence of new trajectories, since from this period, especially in some key areas for the Adriatic mobility (i.e. Dalmatia), the archaeological evidence appears to be more problematic and sketchy.

Nevertheless, through the analysis of updated archaeological record, it seems possible to advance some hypothesis on the change of relationships across the Adriatic and between coastal regions and the internal Urnfield world.

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## Trezzano di Monsampolo: A key-site for the Recent Bronze Age in the Middle Adriatic Area

Annalisa RUMOLO, Napoli

This work aims to briefly present the archaeological discoveries carried out at Trezzano di Monsampolo (Ascoli Piceno, Italy). The site is located in the basin of the Tronto river, in the lowest hinterland of Marche region. The most part of the ceramic finds are associated with characteristic Italian shapes of the Recent Bronze Age, such as plastic handles, carinated bowls, jars with plastic coils and vases with internal protrusion. Moreover, several bones and horn artefacts have been found: two deer horns, two awl handles, three grips with circular section and a wheel with six spokes.

The excavation was conducted in 1979 and took place after the discovery of the first Mycenaean fragment of the region. It is a small piece of depurated pottery dating back to the Myc. IIIB. Chemical and petrographic analyses have confirmed its Aegean provenance. Its presence confirms the incidence of lines of commercial traffic developed at the end of the Middle Bronze age near the basins of the principal rivers of the Marche region (Esino and Tronto) as documented by researches conducted to both Jesi and Cisterna di Tolentino.

## Northern Adriatic in the “rose of winds”: The example of Late Bronze Age hoards

Martina BLEČIĆ KAVUR, Koper

The cultural territory of Caput Adriae featured numerous hoards structured in to four chronological horizons in the Late Bronze Age. But on the narrow coastal zone of the eastern part of the Northern Adriatic, they are a relatively rare phenomenon. Until recently, we had only three hoards from Istria at our disposal, all of which were lost at the moment of speaking. Recently they were joined by hoards from Prem (Kvarner) and Moravička sela (Gorski kotar), altering the picture of hoards on this area.

In the broader perspective, linked to modest contexts of Northern Adriatic necropoles, individual finds and discoveries of moulds, they retrieve new, trustworthy possibilities of evaluation. They may be interpreted as a permanent “act” of a specifically defined cultural knowledge from a broader, but contemporary network of meaning stretching from Padania, across South-Eastern Alps, all the way to Pannonia. Apparently their recognizable collective value is interpreted meanwhile also as an individual, extremely eminent valuable embedded in to the attribution of the male principle. In a synthesis, evaluating previously unpublished, but including also the already evaluated items of material culture, we can obtain an additional, consistent interpretation of the Late Bronze Age in the transition of the last millennia BC on the Northern Adriatic in a period of “strong winds”.

## Kupfer- und Bronzezirkulation im Adria-raum am Ende des zweiten Jahrtausends v.u.Z. Copper and Bronze Circulation in the Adriatic at the End of the Second Millennium BCE

Reinhard JUNG, Mathias MEHOFER, Wien

Die ausreichende Bereitstellung der Metalle Kupfer und Zinn war für die Herstellung der wichtigsten Produktionsmittel der Bronzezeit sowie ebenso von Bronzewaffen unabdingbar. Die Notwendigkeit der kontinuierlichen Versorgung mit diesen Metallen zog damit das Bemühen um die Schaffung von stabilen Netzwerken zum Austausch von Produkten – besonders von Rohmetall in Barrenform – nach sich. Chemische und massenspektrometrische Analysen trugen in den letzten Jahren entscheidend dazu bei, derartige Netzwerke im adriatischen Raum für die Zeit zwischen dem 14. und 11. Jahrhundert v.u.Z. rekonstruieren zu können. Wir werden in unserem Vortrag neue Analysedaten vorstellen und auf dieser Basis Transportwege des Kupfers und die damit verbundenen Austauschprozesse zwischen dem Alpenraum und dem Salento diskutieren.

Sufficient supply with the two metals copper and tin was crucial for the manufacture of the most important Bronze Age instruments of production as well as of weapons made of bronze. The necessity of a constant procurement of those metals induced the endeavor to create stable networks for the exchange of products – especially of raw metal in the shape of ingots. During the past few years, chemical analyses as well as mass spectrometry contributed decisively to the reconstruction of such networks in the Adriatic for the time between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries BCE. In our paper, we will present new analytical evidence that forms the basis for a discussing the ways of transport and the connected exchange processes between the Alpine region and the Salento.

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## From Casinalbo to Frattesina: developments of urnfields and societies in Northern Italy from a bioarchaeological perspective

Claudio CAVAZZUTI, Rome

The Late Bronze Age in Italy was a period of deep social, political and cultural changes, which had a major outcome in the transition from village communities to proto-urban centres. The abundance of funerary contexts provides a privileged perspective on this large-scale phenomenon, at least where the archaeological record integrates osteological analysis and biogeochemistry, more recently.

Furthermore, Northern Italy offers a good point of view, thanks to the large amount of data produced by the study of several Terramare cremation cemeteries (16<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> century BC). Current research is unveiling intriguing similarities with the Danubian cultures, as well as a complex variability of the rituals, demography and, above all, social articulations, challenging the old egalitarian paradigm that affected the interpretations of Terramare society.

This presentation will also focus on the development and spread of the urnfield model in the Po Plain and peninsular Italy after the 12th century BC and the fall of the Terramare system. The new data on Narde 1 and Narde 2 necropolises at Frattesina (12<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> century BC) may contribute to the debate about the continuity or discontinuity between the village communities of the Terramare and new socio-political structures, rising at the end of the Bronze Age.

## Social complexity and marginality in Final Bronze Age Europe: Problems and perspectives

Elisa PEREGO, London

Between the late Bronze Age and the Iron Age, many human societies in the central Mediterranean and continental Europe underwent crucial socio-political changes that scholars have subsumed under the headings of increased social stratification, the centralization of political power, and in some cases urbanization and statehood. This pivotal turning point in European history was a non-linear process of development that displayed marked regional diversity and phases of accelerated evolution followed by collapse or crisis at the micro-scale. Notably, transformation in socioeconomic and political structuring was accompanied by dramatic changes in ritual, religious ideology and funerary practice (e.g. spread of cremation), which seem to testify to evolving social ideas about gender, personhood, identity and the body.

In many contexts, such as Italy, research on rising social stratification has often focused on large-scale narratives of resource exploitation, settlement re-organization and evolving trade routes – or on the elite social segments that supposedly spearheaded these processes. By contrast, this paper will draw attention to the individuals that were marginalized, abused and exploited in connection with the power dynamics that developed as part of these transformations.

Within the framework of an archaeology of marginality (see Perego and Scopacasa 2016), I will address and debate some key theoretical and methodological issues (e.g. role of bioarchaeology) that may contribute to new perspectives in Urnfield and Final Bronze Age research.

Bibliography: E. Perego and R. Scopacasa (2016) *Burial and social Change in First-millennium BC Italy: Approaching Social Agents. Gender, personhood and marginality*. Oxford: Oxbow.

## Waffengräber der Villanova-Zeit Mittelitaliens

Christoph BAUR, Innsbruck

Am Übergang von der Endbronzezeit zur frühen Eisenzeit Italiens (10.–8. Jh. v. Chr.) entstehen in Etrurien jene Großsiedlungen, die sich in den folgenden Jahrhunderten zu den etruskischen Stadtstaaten entwickeln. Träger dieser „Protourbanen Wende“ sind die Eliten der Protovillanova-Facies Mittelitaliens, die zunächst durch symbolische Waffenbeigaben in den Gräbern fassbar werden. Mit der Ausbildung der Villanova-Kultur am Beginn der Früheisenzeit gelangen echte Waffen in die Gräber wodurch sich ein sozio-ökonomisches Erstarken der Eliten feststellen lässt. Die Intensivierung der Kulturbeziehungen zum östlichen Mittelmeerraum prägten ab dem Ende des 8. Jh. v. Chr. die Orientalisierende Periode, deren Eliten ihre kriegerische, wirtschaftliche, politische und kultische Allmacht in opulenten Grabsausstattungen zur Schau stellen.

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Im Rahmen des hier präsentierten Forschungsprojektes werden die Ausstattungsmuster von Gräbern mit Waffenbeigaben der Villanova-Gruppen Mittelitaliens auf statistischer Basis miteinander verglichen, um Rückschlüsse auf die Entwicklung der sozialen Organisation und hierarchischen Gliederung „frühetruskischer“ Gesellschaften während der frühen Eisenzeit und der Orientalisierenden Periode zu ziehen.

Im Focus des Vortrages steht vor allem Verucchio. Die früheisenzeitliche Siedlung an der mittleren Adriaküste entwickelt sich ab dem frühen 9. Jh. v. Chr. zu einer der wichtigsten Handelsdrehscheiben der frühen Etrusker mit dem östlichen Mittelmeer- sowie Südostalpenraum und ist bedeutendes Zentrum der Verarbeitung baltischen Bernsteins.

## **At the gates of Europe: Late Bronze Age connections between Europe and the Mediterranean and the role of South-eastern Italy**

Francesco IACONO, Cambridge

The traditional narrative of Bronze Age civilisation dynamics as something uni-directionally shaped by the influence of the ‘civilised’ core has dramatically changed over the course of the last decades, when alternative narratives have gradually emerged and acquired momentum. These have highlighted the importance of the ‘west’ broadly intended as encompassing the central Mediterranean and Europe in shaping social dynamics around the basin during the second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC. Within this larger set of connections, Adriatic Southern Italy played a pivotal role as represented a critical junction with the north of the peninsula and beyond central Europe on the one side, and Minoan/Mycenaean Greece on the other. Through the vantage point of this area, I will try to briefly synthesise the history of these connections. Using a theoretical lens that merges Marxist social theory and network ‘thinking’, I will try to illustrate how the role of this region as a main hub evolved through time, continuing to play a pivotal role through the end of the second millennium BC.

**For visitors:  
REGISTRATION UNTIL 20.3.2017**

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