

Resources – Production – Trade: Economic Networks of Late Antique Hilltop Settlements

The workshop is dedicated to a specific group of late antique settlements on hills that characterised the image of large parts of Roman and post-Roman settlement during Late Antiquity. Apart from the previous interpretations of these settlements as new centres of secular and ecclesiastical power, questions about their economic basis and trade relations have so far received little attention. However, it is clear that the (re)development of mineral resources was decisive for the foundation of numerous hilltop settlements. Access to resources combined with control over local mining and handicrafts testifies to the importance of a newly established elite in such places.

The workshop will discuss the economic production processes and networks that emerged in individual parts of Europe and changed Roman structures. Against the backdrop of the distribution of products and raw materials, the focus will also be on the infrastructural integration of settlements and their trade contacts in order to understand and compare their local and global connections.

The International Scientific Network »LAHIS«

(=Late Antique Hilltop Settlements in Europe) was founded in 2022. It provides an interdisciplinary and international platform for the exchange and dissemination of knowledge on hilltop settlements, which had a decisive influence on settlement landscapes in many parts of Europe from the late 3rd to the 7th century AD.

The LAHIS network comprises forty archaeologists and historians from eighteen European countries. By adopting a pan-European perspective on hilltop settlements, it aims to pool research expertise and to compare and discuss theories, methods, and the current state and future prospects of research.

For online participation follow this registration link:

[https://eventsolutions-
mk.zoom.us/meeting/register/ibE5YYhiRnipyikHJOtu2A](https://eventsolutions.mk.zoom.us/meeting/register/ibE5YYhiRnipyikHJOtu2A)

Venue

Complex Macedonian Village:
<https://makedonskoselo.com/>

Concept and Organisation

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Supported by

International Scientific Network »LAHIS«



Institute for Old Slavic Culture, Prilep



with



Leibniz Institute for History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO), Leipzig



Romano-Germanic-Commission of the German Archaeological Institute, Frankfurt/M.



Credit (front page)

The late antique hilltop site of Kostoperska Karpa
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*3rd Workshop of the
International Scientific
Network Late Antique Hilltop
Settlements in Europe »LAHIS«*



**6th/7th October 2026
Skopje**



Tuesday, 6th of October

9:30 Greetings

Chair: Ordanche Petrov (Prilep)

10:00–11:00

Hristijan Talevski (Prilep)

From Valleys to Hilltops and Back: Epistemological Challenges in Mapping the economic landscapes of Late Antique hilltop settlements in the Central-Southern Balkans

Samira Fischer (Erlangen)

Integration or Isolation? Rethinking Trade and Economy at Late Antique Hilltop Sites in the Central Balkans

11:00–11:30 Coffee break

11:30–13:00

Merita Beqiraj (Tübingen), Pleurat Kabashi (Priština), Silvia Amicone (Tübingen), Michael Hochmuth (Berlin), Lukas Werther (Frankfurt/M.), Zana Rama (Priština)
Pottery, Food and Timber. New results on the Hilltop Site of Korisha (Kosovo) in Late Antiquity

Carolyn Snively (Skopje)

Golemo Gradište at Konjuh: A Bishopric, at a Crossroads, and the Administrative Center of a Mining District?

Orsolya Heinrich-Tamáska (Leipzig), Dušan Kojić (Gradiška)

The Site of Bakinci-Gradina and the Pannonian-Dalmatian Borderland during the Late Antiquity

13:00–14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00

Chair: Lukas Werther (Frankfurt/M.)

Vesna Tratnik, Matic Zupan (Ljubljana)

Surviving the Heights: Agricultural Potential of Late Antique Hilltop Settlements

Ordanche Petrov (Prilep), Viktor Lilchik Adams (Skopje)

The Demir Kapija Pass as a Trade and Transportation Corridor in the Late Antique Balkans

Adisa Lepić (Sarajevo)

Lagerinneren (*camp interior*) or Magazine (*stockroom*): Mogorjelo between Herzegovina and the eastern Adriatic coast

16:00–16:30 Coffee break

16:30–18:00

Chair: Orsolya Heinrich-Tamáska (Leipzig), Christoph Rummel (Frankfurt/M.)

Round Table “Shifting of Settlement Patterns and rules during the Late Antiquity: A historical comparative view”

Hrvoje Gračanin (Zagreb), Jan-Marcus Kötter (Köln), Roland Steinacher (Innsbruck)

18:30 Reception of



Wednesday, 7th of October

9:30–11:00

Chair: Mihailo Milinković (Belgrad)

Berat Ademi (Priština)

Befestigung und territoriale Ökonomie in Dardanien im 6. Jahrhundert: Der Fall der Burg Kastërc

Daša Pavlović, Miha Humar, Luka Kopač (Ljubljana)

Wood Surface Treatment as Evidence for Local Production Practices at Late Antique Ajdovski Gradec above Vranje (Slovenia)

Barbara Kainrath, Gerald Grabherr (Innsbruck)

Gradual Globalisation in a Peripheral Alpine Region. Late Antique Hilltop Settlements in the Upper Drava Valley

11:00–11:30 Coffee break

11:30–13:00

Katrin Westner (Bochum), Guntram Gassmann (Tübingen)

Fortifications and Metal Production in the Western Balkans

Elisa Possenti (Trento)

The Early Medieval Hilltop Site of Doss S. Agata (Trento): Archaeometallurgy and Mining Archaeology

Hans-Peter Kuhnen (Mainz)

The Early Christian fundus of the Masters of Sabiona: Buildings, people and metallurgy of the hilltop settlement Säben (Klausen, South Tyrol)

13:00–14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00

Chair: Orsolya Heinrich-Tamáska (Leipzig)

Zvezdana Modrijan (Ljubljana)

Kastel Carnum: Crafts in the Central Settlement

Tina Milavec (Ljubljana)

Glass Consumption at Late Antique Hilltop Sites

Justus Barke (Leipzig)

Spatial Network of Late Antique Hilltop Sites in the Eastern Alps

16:00–16:30 Coffee break

16:30–17:30

Gorden Noble (Aberdeen)

Materializing Kingship: Revealing Resource Networks in Late Antique Scotland

Ljubinka Dzidrova (Skopje)

Is there a continuity in the life of cities in the Slavic Sea on the territory of North Macedonia from the late sixth century?

Fabian Auer (Innsbruck)

The LAHIS-Database: State-of-Entries and Challenges