

24.-29.03.2025

Scales of Social, Environmental & Cultural Change in Past Societies

Call for Papers Submission Deadline 15.10.24

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Session 6

The contact between Danes and Slavs in the 7th-12th centuries CE

The contact between Danes and Slavs in the 7th-12th centuries is characterized by a dynamic system of political connections, conflicts, migration processes and trade. For example the influence of Scandinavian traders via the maritime trading centers in the Slavic areas of the southern Baltic coast is just as recognizable as dynastic connections across the Baltic Sea. Nevertheless, Scandinavian and Baltic Slavic societies developed differently in terms of the form of early state structures. A focus on these contacts offer both, the opportunity to analyse inter- and trans-regional interactions on several levels as well as multiple case studies and overarching conclusions. These case studies are particularly highlighted by the fact that various sources, including archaeological observations, historical sources, scientific studies, linguistic analysis and pictorial sources are available and point to a multifaceted picture. Nevertheless, we are far from a definitive judgement on this relationship. The range of interesting aspects includes early contacts and the first maritime trading centers as points of contact, the intensification of contacts and possible migrations, political confrontation and cooperation, the Baltic Sea as a boundary and communication space, the role of networks, territoriality and central locations as complementary organization structures. The unifying character of the Baltic Sea is expressed in the development and importance of shipbuilding in both Scandinavian and Slavonic societies. Of particular importance are questions of the development of Baltic Slavic societies under Danish/Scandinavian influence and the comparative study of the effects of pan-European political and economic processes on the north-western (Danes) and southern (Slavs) Baltic coastal regions.

The aims of this conference session are:

- to summarise the state of research
- to present the complexity, characterisation and dynamics of contacts and
- to develop specific questions for future research in the sense of the "Adjacent Possible" (S. Kauffman) of research.

Conveners:

Ralf Bleile (Museum für Archäologie Schloss Gottorf), Dirk Rieger (Hansestadt Lübeck), Oliver Nakoinz (Kiel University), Ulrich Müller (Kiel University), Dieter Quast (Leibniz-Zentrum für Archäologie, LEIZA-ZBSA), Jens Schneeweiß (Leibniz-Zentrum für Archäologie, LEIZA-ZBSA, Cluster of Excellence ROOTS)

The presentations are scheduled for 15 minutes plus 5 minutes of discussion. Poster presentations are also possible. Abstracts are limited to 2,500 characters (incl. spaces) and may include up to 5 references.

Abstracts can only be submitted via the conference website:
www.kielconference.uni-kiel.de from 1st August to 15th October 2024.
The review-period is until 15th November 2024. Registration for the conference will be possible from November onwards.

We are looking forward to your contributions!
On behalf of the speakers of ROOTS and the CRC1266

Johannes Müller

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