



SPP 2361
On the Way to the
Fluvial Anthroposphere

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

International Conference at Tübingen University (21st to 23rd January 2026)

On the Way to the Fluvial Anthroposphere – floodplain transformation processes in the medieval and pre-industrial modern period

Floodplains represent global hotspots of sensitive socio-environmental changes. Their anthropogenic restructuring can be so significant that former floodplains are no longer recognisable as such. Human induced changes in floodplains and the formation of specific fluvial societies began long before the industrial period. The question therefore arises as to whether or when it is justified to understand floodplains as a “Fluvial Anthroposphere” and which socio-ecological processes have been involved in their development. The international conference at Tübingen University in January 2026 fosters international exchange on anthropogenic floodplain transformation processes and fluvial societies, with a focus on the second millennium AD. The conference is hosted by [DFG 2361 Priority Programme “On the Way to the Fluvial Anthroposphere”](#) and calls for abstracts on interdisciplinary contributions, encouraging collaboration across archaeology, history, and geosciences. The conference emphasizes innovative methodologies and conceptual discussions. Our key goals are creating exchange and networking within the international scientific community and providing early career researchers an international and interdisciplinary platform for presenting their work.

We welcome presentations from archaeology, history and the geosciences that draw on innovative and interdisciplinary approaches. In particular, we seek contributions on the following themes:

- Conceptual contributions to the Fluvial Anthroposphere
- Social adaptation to abrupt or long-term changes in flood regimes
- Hydro-engineering, land use and biodiversity impacts
- River crossings, mobility and infrastructures
- Craft, industry, and mining in fluvial contexts
- Rights, conflicts and floodplain governance
- Emerging methods for reconstructing and modelling human-river interactions

The conference will take place from January 21 (12:00) to 23 (14:00), 2026, at Tübingen University. Contributions can be submitted as either oral presentations or posters. There is no conference fee.

The submission process will start on September 15 and end on October 15, 2025, via the following website: <https://www.uni-leipzig.de/en/event-detail/event/international-conference-on-the-way-to-the-fluvial-anthroposphere-2026>

Coordination/Committee

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