

Death-Ritual-Burial. Diversity of funeral rites in Central Europe during the Bronze and Iron Ages – New research perspectives

The peoples inhabiting Central Europe during the Bronze and Iron Ages, up to the early Middle Ages, i.e. in the period from 2300 BC to 1200 AD, practised a variety of burial customs. They used inhumation, cremation, biritualism, as well as rites that are elusive to archaeological methods. In addition, traces of various sacrificial acts, including human sacrifice and cannibalistic practices, have been found in these areas. The aim of the session is to present the scale of variability of aforementioned funeral practices and to attempt to interpret the observed phenomena based on the results of classical archaeological analysis, as well as the achievements of ethnology and cultural anthropology, using the enormous potential of natural sciences and statistical methods.

We invite contributions from researchers working in archaeology and bioarchaeology, ethnology and cultural anthropology.