

<p>Tytuł – opis webinar</p>	<p>Webinar: Networking as a means of overcoming critical tensions in human development in the past</p> <p>Man's past, seen in the <i>longue durée</i> perspective, covers long periods of linear development preceded by periods of breaking down the existing formulas of existence, rapid reconfigurations of the old order, and the creation of new conditions for development. The decades of the existence of archaeology, as an academically sanctioned form of social practice, have brought a number of proposals for recognizing the nature of such benchmark changes and grasping the direction of future changes. However, the iterations to date relating to these groundbreaking transfigurations are characterized by a certain one-sidedness as a result of adopting the Eurocentric view of the world. The aim of the seminar is to refer to the concept of the network, as a formula that allows for the reconceptualization of these breakthrough moments by taking into account the presence of a wide range of social actors, in addition to those conventionally evoked in archaeologically produced pasts, examining their relationships with things, and scrutinizing the conditions and mechanisms of building up identity and forms of being in the world. In order to achieve these goals, the usefulness of pre-scientific knowledge regimes and modern indigenous knowledge will be investigated. The potential of multispecies archaeology, animal studies, or nature-culture integration will also be put to the fore advocating the symmetry of relations between actors belonging to these different domains.</p> <p>Adopting such a perspective will make it possible to challenge Eurocentrism as particularistic and seemingly more and more incompatible with the confessions of the present day form of grasping the nature of both the past as well as presence and future. It is also a call to reach for forgotten or previously neglected actors that, along with a suite of commonly called ones, can serve as the basis for the creation of such new modalities. When redesigning the past, one should at the same time postulate a more inclusive and different way of thinking about the future, here and now.</p>
<p>Krótki opis</p>	<p>When: March 2nd (Thursday), 5.00-6.30 PM CET online (Register) Organized by: Transdisciplinarity: Independent Academic Initiative Speaker: Carl Knappett (University of Toronto, Canada), Informal institutions as resilient networks: lessons from archaeology</p> <p>Moderator: Arkadiusz Marciniak (Adam Mickiewicz University)</p> <p>Abstract: The use of network methods and concepts has flourished in archaeology over the past decade. In particular, the regional interactions that are so prevalent in almost all past societies are very usefully conceived and modelled as networks. But did such networks emerge bottom-up as a crucial mechanism for the survival of ancient communities, or were they imposed top-down by elites eager to benefit from trade? Or did elites take advantage of existing structures? We might expect these various scenarios to display different levels of resilience. And as archaeologists increasingly question the rigid typologies through which we have categorised ancient societies, and the hierarchical institutions typically assumed to have been central to the emergence of complex societies, the opportunity arises to imagine institutional creativity in terms of informal networks. I will explore these issues through a case study from Mediterranean prehistory, in which network methods are instrumental in allowing us to see more or less resilience in the ways ancient societies connect.</p> <p>Click to register to participate: https://forms.gle/zUVvAf7Z9hZJ9Y7q9</p>

Pełna treść	<p>When: March 2nd (Thursday), 5.00-6.30 PM CET online (Register)</p> <p>Organized by: Transdisciplinarity: Independent Academic Initiative</p> <p>Speaker: Carl Knappett (University of Toronto, Canada), Informal institutions as resilient networks: lessons from archaeology</p> <p>Moderator: Arkadiusz Marciniak (Adam Mickiewicz University)</p> <p>Abstract: The use of network methods and concepts has flourished in archaeology over the past decade. In particular, the regional interactions that are so prevalent in almost all past societies are very usefully conceived and modelled as networks. But did such networks emerge bottom-up as a crucial mechanism for the survival of ancient communities, or were they imposed top-down by elites eager to benefit from trade? Or did elites take advantage of existing structures? We might expect these various scenarios to display different levels of resilience. And as archaeologists increasingly question the rigid typologies through which we have categorised ancient societies, and the hierarchical institutions typically assumed to have been central to the emergence of complex societies, the opportunity arises to imagine institutional creativity in terms of informal networks. I will explore these issues through a case study from Mediterranean prehistory, in which network methods are instrumental in allowing us to see more or less resilience in the ways ancient societies connect.</p> <p>Click to register to participate: https:// https://forms.gle/zUVvAf7Z9hZJ9Y7q9</p> <p>Webinar is a part of a series of seminars entitled „Resilience in the context of permanent crisis”</p> <p>Carl Knappett holds the Walter Graham/ Homer Thompson Chair in Aegean Prehistory at the Department of Art History, University of Toronto. He has published widely on the archaeology of Crete and the east Mediterranean, material culture theory, and network analysis. Among over 15 authored and edited books are <i>An Archaeology of Interaction: Network Perspectives on Material Culture and Society</i> (2011, OUP), <i>Network Analysis in Archaeology: New Approaches to Regional Interaction</i> (2013, OUP, editor), and <i>Maritime Networks in the Ancient Mediterranean World</i> (2018, CUP, coedited with Justin Leidwanger). He is the Director of the Mediterranean Archaeology Collaborative Specialization at the University of Toronto, and for the past decade has run a fieldwork project at the site of Palaikastro on Crete.</p> <p>Arkadiusz Marciniak, a Corresponding Member of the Polish Academy of Sciences and a Member of Academia Europaea is a Professor of Archaeology at Adam Mickiewicz University. His expertise is in the development of early farming communities in western Asia and central Europe and their progression to complex societies. He conducted numerous international projects financially supported by such agencies and programs as Horizon2020, Erasmus Plus, DG Education and Culture Program, NWO HEAR JPICH or the Polish National Science Center. He is the author of over 250 publications, many of them published in peer-reviewed journals, such as <i>Nature</i>, <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)</i>, <i>PLoS ONE</i>, <i>Proceedings of the Royal Society B</i>, <i>Antiquity</i>, <i>World Archeology</i>, <i>Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences</i>, <i>Journal of Field Archeology</i> or <i>Environmental Archeology</i>.</p>

Resilience in a world of permanent crisis

The Transdisciplinary Seminar Series in the fields of humanities, social and natural sciences
Winter and summer semesters, 2022-2023

The seminar series was initiated in the summer of 2021 when a group of scholars representing various disciplines from three Polish Universities started informal discussions driven by the need to understand the origins of the crises and how to cope with them. We observe an escalation of tensions around the world. Threats develop into permanent crises. It is becoming evident that the effectiveness of the existing systems of order has been undermined. These circumstances require a reworking of customary remedies. This seminar series relies on a critical examination of our disciplinary understanding of knowledge and science. It aims at constructing new strategies and methods to cope with the challenges.

The current world situation is characterized by an escalation of tensions and violence related to phenomena such as migration, imperialism and neocolonialism, racism, terrorism, war, as well as climate change, declining biodiversity, and ecological disasters. These threats develop into permanent crises and force an accelerated adaptation to life in worsening conditions. It is becoming evident that the effectiveness of the existing systems of an order has been undermined, and questioned, and that the current circumstances require a reworking of the existing solutions. After a period of diagnosing problems, strategies and methods to cope with them are needed. Meeting these challenges may result in an amalgamation of the fields of humanities, social, and natural sciences that help develop a shared understanding of knowledge and science. It should be practical and socially beneficial, and the results of scientific research should offer solutions to the problems. It must be accompanied by a critical reflection referring to previous attempts to develop such solutions, which will reveal their limitations and, as a result, enable a proper and adequate diagnosis of the current situation as well as the development of approaches to manage the crises with which the present-day grapples. To a greater extent than ever before, we are faced with the need to contextualize scientific knowledge in relation to commonsense knowledge, as well as to seek and recognize complementarity between Western and Indigenous knowledge.

In this state of affairs, it is worth considering whether and to what extent the knowledge we create contributes to constructing a "culture of preparedness" understood as the ability to quickly and effectively adapt to frequent and radically changing circumstances. This culture requires anticipatory thinking, mobilizing creative imagination, and thinking in terms of foresight. Forward-thinking requires the commonality of science languages (humanities, social, and natural sciences). This signifies the need to develop an appropriate set of key concepts, methods, theories, and research perspectives that will meet cognitive needs and define effective fields of knowledge needed to deal with problems of the present day. Therefore, one must look for a "cognitive superstructure," and "conceptual deposits of knowledge" as prototypical solutions for knowledge that is yet to be created. The adoption of such a strategy will allow for an adequate definition of the conditions for the development of adaptability to the changing environment and the uncertain realities of life. These competencies and abilities help to build resilience in the condition of permanent crisis and the sense of danger associated with it, whether real or artificially induced. In this context, transdisciplinary security studies and the concept of community resilience combining various disciplines constitute a useful research platform allowing us to recognize the abilities of various life forms to "positive adaptation," i.e. creating a habitat that effectively adjusts to changing conditions.