
Climate change and human occupation of mountain environments in prehistoric and protohistoric times

Martin Callanan^{*†1}, Francesco Carrer², Hernán De Angelis³, Philippe Della Casa⁴, Federica Fontana^{*‡5}, Stefano Grimaldi⁶, Xavier Mangado^{*§7}, Maria Estela Mansur⁸, and Sabine Reinhold⁹

¹Dept of Historical Studies, NTNU Norwegian University of Science and Technology – Dept of Historical Studies, NTNU Norwegian University of Science and Technology, 7491 Trondheim, Norway., Norvège

²McCord Centre for Landscape, School of History Classics Archaeology, Newcastle University – Royaume-Uni

³Centro Austral de Investigaciones Científicas (CADIC-CONICET) – Argentine

⁴Institut für Archäologie, Universität Zürich – Suisse

⁵Università di Ferrara, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Sezione di Scienze preistoriche e antropologiche (unife) – Corso Ercole I d'Este 32, I-44121, Italie

⁶Università degli Studi di Trento, Dipartimento di Lettere e Filosofia (unitn) – via T.Gar 14, 38122, Trento, Italie

⁷SERP - Universitat de Barcelona – C/ Montalegre 6-8. 08001 Barcelona, Espagne

⁸CONICET-CADIC and Tierra del Fuego Nat. University (CONICET-CADIC and UNTDF) – B. Houssay 200, 9410 Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentine

⁹Eurasia Department, German Archaeological Institute (DAI) – Im Dol 2-6 14195 Berlin, Allemagne

Résumé

Climate change has been one of the central topics of global scientific discussion in recent decades. Reports of extreme weather events and conditions triggered by the environmental impact of global anthropogenic activities are today commonplace. Climatic fluctuations have been a constant phenomenon in the history of the planet and were particularly significant since the beginning of the Pleistocene.

Mountain ranges represent unique contexts for human occupation. Although their topography and elevation usually determine harsher conditions for life, their biodiversity and resource availability have always attracted human populations. Moreover, the effect of climatic fluctuations on human strategies is more pronounced in extreme environments, with mountain landscapes providing a prime example.

Examining past human occupations in mountain landscapes, with a specific focus on periods of past climatic change, offers us the possibility of uncovering issues and examples that are highly relevant for our current situation.

This session aims at discussing the relationships between climatic variations, environmental changes, and human occupation of mountain environments through time and space. It addresses different aspects of the diachronic reconstruction of highlands with respect to natural

*Intervenant

†Auteur correspondant: callanan@ntnu.no

‡Auteur correspondant: federica.fontana@unife.it

§Auteur correspondant: mangado@ub.edu

resource exploitation, settlement, mobility, and connections.

We seek contributions addressing the aforementioned topics in all the different mountain ranges of the planet, from the Pleistocene through the Holocene, including the Anthropocene.

Possible themes might include, but are not limited to: adaptations, responses and resilience during phases of climatic change; examples and interpretation of intensive use of the mountains in phases of climatic degradation or examples and interpretation of decreasing human occupation in phases of climatic amelioration.

Mots-Clés: Climate change, human occupation, mountain environments, prehistoric and protohistoric times