The world of the European Bronze Age – warriors, traders, and emerging elites



Einladung zum Gastvortrag von

Prof. Dr. Anthony Harding (University of Exeter / LMU München)

Donnerstag, 12.05.2016, 18.00 Uhr Zentrum für Alte Kulturen, Langer Weg 11, SR 1

Recent years have seen a huge amount of work on the Bronze Age archaeology of Europe, in part through new discoveries and new fieldwork, in part through new interpretations and new models. The evidence for war and warriorhood has greatly increased with the discoveries at Velim (CZ) and the Tollensetal (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern), while cross-continent trade is more than ever evident through new discoveries relating to the movement of both raw materials and finished goods. Both these factors contribute to an understanding of the increase in inequality across the Bronze Age world. How that inequality led to the rise of elite individuals and groups has long been a matter for discussion. In this, models relating to the nature of a Bronze Age "World System" have played an important role. Yet there are other ways of describing that "world", which was deeply interconnected but not necessarily in a systemic way. As an alternative, Network Theory looks set to make a major contribution to our understanding of how the world of the European Bronze Age operated.

