Early since the definition of the Neolithic Revolution by Vere Gordon Childe, prehistorians have been aware of the crucial importance of food for the understanding of prehistoric developments. Numerous studies have classified and described cooking ware, hearths and ovens, have studied food residues and more recently also stable isotopes in skeletal material. However, we have not yet succeeded in integrating traditional, functional perspectives on nutrition and semantic approaches (e.g. dietary practices as an identity marker) with current research in the fields of Food Studies and Material Culture Studies.

The conference focuses on practices of food production and consumption and its social dimensions from the Mesolithic to the Early Iron Age in the Eastern Balkans and their neighbouring regions. We understand the Eastern Balkans as the region between Anatolia and the Aegean Sea on one side and Central Europe and the European steppe regions on the other side. The prehistoric inhabitants of the Eastern Balkans were repeatedly confronted with foreign knowledge and practices of food production and consumption which they integrated and thereby transformed into their life. On the basis of a transdisciplinary perspective, we intend to shed new light on the various social dimensions of food in a synchronous as well as diachronic perspective.
Fourth Session Bronze Age & Iron Age
Chair: Philipp W. Stockhammer

9:00 SOLOMIYA MARIA VALAMOTI
Plant Foods in Daily Meal and Feasting in Prehistoric Northern Greece

9:30 RALF GLESER & ELA MARINOVA
Continuity and Innovation of the Plant Based Food during the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age in the Micro-region of Drama, Southeastern Bulgaria

10:00 HEINRICH NIKOV
The Vegetation and the Viability of the Zetasuv. A contribution to the dietary consequences in the botanical remains from the Neolithic site Rodopi (North-Eastern Bulgaria)

10:30 COFFEE BREAK

11:00 STELIOS ANDREOU
The Politics of Food Production and Consumption in the Bronze Age Communities of Northern Greece

11:30 IRENA MIESHOVA
Food, Status, and Power: Animal Production and Consumption Practices in the Carpathian Basin Bronze Age

12:00 KRASSIMIR NIKOV & ELA MARINOVA
The Food Supply and Disposal at Late Bronze and Iron Age Ada Tepe: Archaeobotanical Aspects of Diet, Plant Economy, and Waste Management

12:30 LUNCH BREAK

13:30 KRASSIMIR NIKOV
Diet and Mobility: Were the LBA Inhabitants in the East Balkans Semi-sedentary?

14:00 ELA MARINOVA & MIROPOPOV
Feasibility and Excurs in the Prehistoric Distribution in Western Bulgaria

14:30 JOHN GORCZYK & ROOSAN AMIRASSAD
PHILIP STOCKHAMMER
Food from the Forest: Social Aspects of Hunting at a 12th Century BC Fortified Site in Southwestern Bulgaria

15:00 COFFEE BREAK

15:30 STELIOS ANDREOU
The Politics of Food Production and Consumption in the Bronze Age Communities of Northern Greece

16:00 AMY NICHOLSON
Food, Status, and Power: Animal Production and Consumption Practices in the Carpathian Basin Bronze Age

16:30 KRASSIMIR LESHTAKOV
Diet and Mobility: Were the LBA Inhabitants in the East Balkans Semi-sedentary?

17:00 ELENA MARINOVA & HRISTO POPOV
IVANKA HRISTOVA
Spätbronzezeitliche und Eisenzeitliche pflanzliche Nahrung aus der Höhensiedlung Kuch Kaja, Ostodiskop, Bulgaria

17:30 FINAL DISCUSSION

19:00 DINNER