

**VIII**  
**INTERNATIONAL MAX PLANCK RESEARCH**  
**SCHOOL FOR THE ANTHROPOLOGY,**  
**ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF EURASIA**  
**(ANARCHIE)**



*Principal Faculty and students (4th cohort) during the Summer School held at Potsdam in July 2018.  
(Photo: Sascha Roth)*

## 7+ Years of ANARCHIE

*Chris Hann (Sprecher) and Sascha Roth (Coordinator),  
with François Bertemes and Andreas Pečar (Vize-Sprecher)*

### **Background**

International Max Planck Research Schools (IMPRS) come in many shapes and sizes. All the participating institutions of ANARCHIE are located in close proximity of each other in Halle. This has facilitated frequent contact and high levels of collegiality, both within the successive cohorts of doctoral students and within the Principal Faculty, nearly all of whom are affiliated to the Faculty of Philosophy (1) at the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. The great majority of ANARCHIE students obtain their degrees here. Students hail from all over the world. They have been recruited through open advertisement.

During its first decade, the department headed by Chris Hann needed to focus on its research agenda. Openings for doctoral students were advertised from time to time, but they were confined to specific focus groups, in which the students worked on projects closely aligned with those of their supervisor and associated postdoctoral researchers. During this initial period the department had no permanent staff eligible to supervise students apart from the Director. Even after the appointment of Lale Yalçın-Heckmann to a Minerva W2 position in 2003, it was hardly possible for us to expand our range and student numbers significantly.

The situation changed towards the end of the 2000s with a number of senior appointments. Christoph Brumann and Dittmar Schorkowitz were followed by Kirsten Endres (who joined us as a Senior Research Fellow but was quickly elevated to a Minerva position similar to that held earlier by Yalçın-Heckmann). By this time the instrument of the IMPRS was well established within the Max Planck Society. We seized the opportunity by inviting our university colleagues in history, archaeology and anthropology to join forces in an application. Thanks in particular to the commitment of François Bertemes (archaeology) and Michael G. Müller (history), a strong team was assembled. Given the difficult financial situation of the university in the relatively deprived *Bundesland* of Saxony-Anhalt, it was not at all straightforward to meet the IMPRS partner criteria stipulated by the Max Planck Society. Thanks to the tenacity of my colleagues and the support and good will shown by successive Deans and (Pro-)Rectors, plus of course the enthusiastic approval of the referees commissioned by the Max Planck Society, we were able to admit our first cohort of a dozen students in 2012 (four in each of the three disciplines).

### ***Structure and Organization***

Little has changed structurally since the beginnings described above. In terms of personnel, François Bertemes has remained a pillar of this graduate school throughout. Michael Müller retired from his chair in East European history in 2016, when he was replaced as *Sprecher* for the historians by Andreas Pečar (Michael has nonetheless remained one of the school's most active members to the present day). The Principal Faculty has replenished itself at various points by welcoming newcomers. In the present reporting period we have been delighted to recruit Felix Blocher (Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology, Halle), Dietlind Hüchtker (Professor of Eastern European History, Halle, and Senior Researcher Fellow, Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig), Yvonne Kleinmann (Professor of Eastern European History, Halle) and Burkhard Schnepel (Professor of Social Anthropology, Halle). The obligations of the Principal Faculty are highly flexible. All senior members contribute to the teaching programme in a cohort's first year, irrespective of whether or not they are acting as main supervisor for one of the student members. Students have at least one additional supervisor in another discipline; their committee may also include an external adviser; if this is the case, that person is not eligible to serve as external examiner of the final dissertation (in accordance with German custom, the first *Gutachten* is written by the student's main supervisor).

Organizational tasks are undertaken by the coordinator, who works closely with the three *Sprecher*. This post was initially held by Daria Sambuk (2012–2016). When Dasha went on maternity leave in 2014, she was replaced temporarily by archaeologist Konstanze Eckert; in 2016 Dasha took up a position at the chair of Eastern European history (Yvonne Kleinmann) at the Institute of History; she was replaced as coordinator in September 2016 by anthropologist Sascha Roth, one of ANARCHIE's first graduates.

Teaching in the first year is oriented towards cross-fertilization between the three disciplines and facilitating understanding on different approaches, methods, and theories. In two weekly seminars students are familiarized gradually with all three disciplines. Although many key concepts – culture, civilization, tradition – crosscut established disciplinary boundaries, their definitions, meanings and usages are heterogeneous. Looking beyond the boundaries of one's own discipline by engaging in conversations with others in a structured framework is a central aspect of the training. Sessions led by Principal Faculty are supplemented by guest lectures, often on topics suggested by the student body and related to their individual projects. The Winter School marks the middle of the first year, at which point students are expected to present their individual projects. These workshops in Wittenberg or Berlin were frequently joined by external scholars and served to facilitate intense academic exchange between junior and senior scholars.



*Winter School (4th cohort), Berlin 2018. (Photo: Daniel Sieber)*

A similar format, but this time primarily organized by the doctoral students themselves, characterizes the Summer School that concludes the first year. The location, the external guests, and the thematic focus and structure of the event are the responsibility of the students (with support from the coordinator and the Principal Faculty). The Summer Schools have been organized in pleasant surroundings in Naumburg, Erfurt, Weimar and most recently Potsdam (2018).

There follows a full year devoted to data collection, during which each student stays in regular communication with his/her supervisor(s) and provides reports, including detail concerning unanticipated challenges and ensuing modifications of



*Principal Faculty and students (4th cohort) visited the Sans Souci palace during the Summer School held at Potsdam in July 2018. (Photo: Sascha Roth)*

the research plan. At the beginning of the third year, in the framework of an Autumn School in Halle, students report on their progress, usually presenting the draft of a chapter together with an indication of where this draft fits into the larger project. In the time that remains, students work primarily with their supervisor(s) on the preparation of the dissertation. A two-day academic writing workshop, especially tailored for PhD students in their writing-up stage, is organized by the coordinator for each cohort.



*Autumn School (4th cohort), Halle, 2019. (Photo: Moritz Bloch)*

ANARCHIE was able initially to guarantee only three years of funding, but we were usually able to offer extensions when necessary; we were pleased to be able to increase the funding commitment to four years (subject to satisfactory progress) in time for the admission of the fourth cohort in Autumn 2017.

In addition to covering all the costs of data collection, financial support is available to support participation at conferences and publication of the final dissertation.

To encourage the inter-disciplinary conversations, each of our four cohorts has had an overarching theme:

1. Collective identifications
2. Religion and ritual
3. Economic and demographic drivers of social change
4. Representing domination



*Wolfgang Reinhard in conversation with the audience following his lecture, 13 November 2019.  
(Photo: Moritz Bloch)*

Like all other openings in the department, the opportunities to join this graduate school are advertised internationally. Students apply with a research proposal, often prepared on the basis of earlier work at masters level. Those whose projects resonate most strongly with the interests of a member of the Principal Faculty enjoy an obvious advantage when it comes to interviews and final selection decisions. Some projects are significantly reworked in creative exchanges with advisers. But we have not hesitated to take on students we consider to be excellent, even when the project proposed by the applicant does not closely match the expertise of the main supervisor. In this way ANARCHIE has always been an adventurous undertaking, in comparison with the more focused projects of the department’s first decade. Recruiting individually excellent students from competitive fields of applicants and then giving them the freedom to realize their potential in their own ways has been the key to our cooperation from the beginning. Without ever descending into unproductive anarchy, each cohort has encouraged its participants to synergize beyond their specialized, localized projects, in order to grasp the bigger picture of social change in human societies.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Our ambition might be compared with the spirit in which Jürgen Renn, a director at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, sets out from the “anthropological gamut” to explore a range of knowledge economies, culminating in the reductionist “academic capitalism” of the Anthropocene: *The evolution of knowledge. Rethinking science for the Anthropocene* (Princeton University Press, 2020).

***Current Projects: Fourth Cohort, “Representing Domination”***

Pablo Ampuero Ruiz – anthropology, supervisor: Chris Hann

*“They Must Be Represented”: (Re)Creating Social Hierarchies Amongst Migrant Workers in Southern China*

Milana Čerčić – anthropology, cotutelle supervisors: Kirsten Endres (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg) and Boris Pétric (École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris)

*Hipermarketi: Understanding Social and Economic Transformations through the Prism of the Retail Sector in Post-Socialist Bosnia and Herzegovina*

Ruben Davtyan – archaeology, supervisor: Felix Blocher

*Impacts of the Near East and the Eurasian Nomads in the South Caucasus and the Representation of Local Elites during the Middle Iron Age*

Anu Krishna – anthropology, supervisor: Burkhard Schnepel

*“Alleppey Green”: Maritime Cardamom Trade and Conjectures in the Cardamom Hills of India*

Lisa Kröger – history, supervisor: Stefan Pfeiffer

*Antigonid Domination over Greek City-States*

Shilla Lee – anthropology, supervisor: Christoph Brumann

*Local Revitalization Projects in Rural Japan: The Case of Tamba Sasayama and its Traditional Tamba Pottery*

Sofia Lopatina – history, supervisor: Dietlind Hüchtker

*Practices of Everyday Life and Youth Cultures in Soviet Leningrad (1960–1972)*

Adrià Moreno Gil – archaeology, supervisor: François Bertemes

*The Borders of Power and the Power of Borders: Towards a Definition of Political Border in Prehistoric Societies*

Julius Roch – archaeology, supervisor: Helga Bumke

*Untersuchungen zur Entwicklung der Repräsentation, Perzeption und Integration der römischen Autorität im kollektiven Selbstverständnis der Städte Kleinasiens. Fallstudie Milet – eine numismatische Perspektive*

Frank Rochow – history, supervisor: Yvonne Kleinmann

*Architecture and Rule: Conceptions of the State and Military Presence in the Habsburg Province Galicia-Lodomeria, 1849–1859*

Nikola Stefanovski – archaeology, supervisor: François Bertemes

*Warrior Equipment: A Tool for Acquiring, Maintaining and Displaying Status and Domination*

Adrian Wesołowski – history, cotutelle supervisors: Andreas Pečar (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg) and Maciej Ptaszyński (University of Warsaw)

*The Origins of Philanthropic Celebrity, 1750–1850*



“Alleppey Green” in the Cardamom Hills of India.  
(Photo: Anu Krishna)

### ***Defences, 2017–2019***

Daniela Ana – anthropology, supervisor: Chris Hann

*“Produced and Bottled in Moldova”*: Winemaking in Flexible Capitalism  
(defended in July 2019)

Simon Bellmann – history, supervisor: Stefan Pfeiffer

*Politische Theologie im frühen Judentum am Beispiel der Estherbücher*  
(defended in February 2019)

Miriam Franchina – history, supervisor: Andreas Pečar

*Writing an Impartial History in the Republic of Letters: Paul Rapin Thoyras and his Histoire d’Angleterre (1724-27)* (defended in January 2017)

Tim Felix Grünwald – archaeology, supervisor: François Bertemes

*Rituale im Kontext jung- und spätneolithischer Grabenwerke im westlichen Mitteleuropa und Südkandinavien* (defended in May 2019)

Jan-Henrik Hartung – archaeology, supervisor: Helga Bumke  
*Innenräume griechischer Tempel in archaischer und klassischer Zeit (700–325 v. Chr.)* (defended in May 2019)

Elisa Kohl-Garrity – anthropology, supervisor: Dittmar Schorkowitz  
*The Weight of Respect: Khündlekh Yos – Frames of Reference, Governmental Agendas and Ethical Formations in Modern Mongolia* (defended in November 2019)

Annabell Körner – anthropology, supervisor: Lale Yalçın-Heckmann  
*“Child in Every Family!” – Family Planning, Infertility and Assisted Reproduction in Tbilisi, Georgia* (defended in December 2019)

Anja Lochner-Rechta – archaeology, supervisor: François Bertemes  
*Symbolmacht - Symbolkraft. Der keltische Early Style und seine kultisch-rituelle und identitätsstiftende Bedeutung am Beispiel des `Zweiblatt-Motivs`* (defended in May 2019)

Juana Maria Olives Pons – archaeology, supervisor: François Bertemes  
*Social Norms as a Strategy of Regulation of Reproduction among Hunter-Fisher-Gatherer Societies* (defended in October 2019)

Giuseppe Tateo – anthropology, supervisor: Christoph Brumann  
*Under the Sign of the Cross: The Politics of Re-Consecration in Postsocialist Bucharest* (defended in July 2018)

Hendrik Tiede – history, supervisor: Georg Fertig  
*Methodenprobleme der Sozialgeschichte: Deutschland 1870–1933 – eine Gesellschaft sozialer Klassen?* (defended in January 2019)

Juliane Tomesch – archaeology, supervisor: Helga Bumke  
*Untersuchungen zu den ägyptischen Elementen in der Sepulkralkultur Roms und Italiens vom 1. Jh. v. Chr. bis zum 3. Jh. n. Chr.* (defended in July 2019)

Hoài Trần – anthropology, supervisor: Kirsten Endres  
*“Doing Culture” for a “Living Cultural Heritage”: Politics, Performances, and Representations of the “Space of Gong Culture” in the Central Highlands of Vietnam* (defended in July 2019)

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## ***Conclusion***

For formal reasons it was not possible for this IMPRS to apply in the usual way for a second six-year period. We were grateful for the allocation of top-up funding that allowed us to admit our fourth cohort and will enable us to organize a final conference in December 2020.

By the time ANARCHIE is formally wound up in 2021 we shall be able to look back on almost a decade of productive cooperation with our university colleagues. To the best of our knowledge, this graduate school is unique in Europe. By the end of 2019, nineteen dissertations had been successfully defended. More will follow in 2020–2021. These are gratifying accomplishments. The fact that we have recruited many students from outside Germany who would not otherwise have come to this country is another significant plus.

Of course, one should not exaggerate. It is all very well to applaud interdisciplinarity but (as we knew from the beginning) almost all doctorates are still awarded in specific disciplines; the same applies to the ensuing careers. But if the exposure to different perspectives and methods in a young scholar’s *Ausbildung* leaves some residual mark on all our alumni, then our efforts will feel worthwhile.

Some of the grander hopes behind this initiative have not been fulfilled. In the context of the general shift from IMPRS of limited scale to larger Max Planck Schools, it might seem obvious that scholars in Halle should join forces with their counterparts in Leipzig and Jena to inaugurate such a School and transgress the boundaries of our disciplines in even more innovative ways. We have always been conscious of the need to look beyond our faculty and seek dialogue with many others, from natural scientists to theologians. In the present scientific conjuncture, the extraordinary progress made in paleo-genetics can only be harnessed for the study of human history if the latest breakthroughs in the laboratory are integrated into the knowledge that has been accumulated in quite different ways in archaeology, history, historical linguistics, and so forth. Social anthropology has its place in this division of scientific labour, e.g. in suggesting alternative interpretations of how earlier human communities organized kinship, managed migration, or coped with a new virus or natural disaster. The Max Planck Institutes in all three locations in *Mitteldeutschland* are currently in phases of transition, and one can only hope that new forms of collaboration will be consolidated in years to come. As the following contributions by François Bertemes and Andreas Pečar confirm, the will on the part of our university colleagues in Halle to continue working together is strong.

*François Bertemes: A Perspective from Archaeology*

*François Bertemes is Professor of Prehistoric Archaeology at the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (Institute for Art History and Archaeology in Europe)*

At the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, members of the archaeological disciplines of the Faculty of Philosophy look back with wistful satisfaction on the last 8 years of joint teaching and interdisciplinary scientific exchange within the framework of the International Max Planck Research School ANARCHIE. For us, this school has been an important symbol of the close cooperation between our four archaeological chairs. Such cooperation is by no means usual within the German archaeological community. The latest outcome is our joint bachelor degree “Archaeologies,” which will be open for enrolment for the first time in the winter term 2020–2021. The interdisciplinary perspective fostered by regular contacts with historians and social anthropologists has been a real benefit for our Faculty members as well as for our student. Here I speak not only for myself, representing Prehistoric Archaeology and functioning throughout as *Sprecher*, but also for Helga Bumke and Aylin Tanriöver from Classical Archaeology, Hans-Georg Stephan from Medieval and Modern Archaeology and Felix Blocher from Oriental Archaeology.

ANARCHIE offered all participants the opportunity to look beyond their own theoretical and methodological horizons, which have often been too narrow. Interaction between archaeologists and anthropologists has been unusual in the German academic landscape. We have supported the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology since its establishment two decades ago, and continue to regard it as a unique “selling point” for the various archaeologies that exist in Halle. Even if the present cooperation must regrettably be drawn to a close, we would like to imagine new possibilities opening up in future years. One possibility would be a Max Planck Research School that would also draw in suitable partners from other Max Planck Institutes in Jena and Leipzig, perhaps under a title such as “Bioarchaeology and Societies.”

Thanks to numerous research projects abroad, our archaeological chairs are internationally well positioned and networked. But ANARCHIE has helped significantly in our efforts to accelerate this internationalization, through conferences and in our teaching. Our students in ANARCHIE have included citizens of Spain, the Republic of Northern Macedonia, Armenia and Bulgaria. The topics addressed

have been multifaceted, covering a wide range even within the particular thematic cohorts. Chronologically, they have ranged from hunter and gatherer societies of the Middle and Late Palaeolithic to modern times. The regional focuses have extended from the Iberian Peninsula through the Mediterranean to the Levant and Asia Minor in the south, to southern Scandinavia in the north and to Armenia in the east. The doctoral theses successfully defended to date have all been imbued with the spirit of this graduate school: they demonstrate interdisciplinary thinking, strong theoretical components and innovative methodologies. Above all, however, they show that although the three disciplines assembled in the IMPRS have each gone their own way for a long time, in the end they belong together, since they pose the same fundamental questions about human societies.

Let me close by mentioning that ANARCHIE has also promoted the exchange of scientific collaborators: when historian Daria Sambuk went on maternity leave in 2014, her position as coordinator was initially taken over by Konstanze Eckert, an archaeology graduate of the Martin Luther University; later, Konstanze became a doctoral student of mine in prehistory, and after Daria took up her new appointment at the Institute of History, the coordinator’s baton was passed on to anthropologist Sascha Roth.



*Bronze helmet, 5th century BC (type: Illyrian IIIA1b).  
Archaeological site: Gorna Porta, Ohrid – Republic  
of N. Macedonia. Stefanovski, Tutkovski ©*

Nikola Stefanovski is a doctoral student in archaeology, supervised by François Bertemes. His thesis is provisionally titled: *Warrior Equipment: A Tool for Acquiring, Maintaining, and Displaying Status and Domination*. He writes: “Apart from being tools of war, ancient weapons were also heraldic devices. During burial rituals they were manipulated and representations of warriors were created, imagining an identity in death which did not always correspond to a biographical reality of the deceased. One of the aims of this research is to understand the way in which warriorhood was constructed, communicated, and how the status of this social group was (re)negotiated and legitimized.”

*Andreas Pečar: A Perspective from History*

*Andreas Pečar holds the Chair in Early Modern History at the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (Institute for History)*

Since its launch in 2012 the International Max Planck Research School ANARCHIE has had a great impact on the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, and particularly on the Faculty of Philosophy. This graduate school has widened our horizons, across both national and disciplinary boundaries. For the historians within the faculty, collaboration with the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology has been extremely fruitful. Altogether eight historians have been involved in the teaching and supervising of the doctoral students: Christian Mileta, Angela Pabst and Stefan Pfeiffer as ancient historians, Andreas Pečar as an historian of the Early Modern era, Georg Fertig as specialist for economic history, Dietlind Hüchtker, Yvonne Kleinmann and Michael Müller as specialists in Eastern European history, and Patrick Wagner as contemporary historian have each participated in at least one of the four cohorts. (Only the medieval centuries have been missing, but of course they have been represented in archaeology.)

The background and expertise of ANARCHIE students in history have varied greatly. Dissertations have spanned a range from ancient times to the present day, drawing on theories and methods from a number of adjacent fields as well as canonical approaches within history. Topics have included demography, religion, the representation of monarchy, the class structure of small towns, youth culture, architecture, philanthropy, and the persona of an historian. For all of these projects this graduate school has provided exceptional opportunities for comparison. Eurasia (although it does not represent a cultural entity) has proved useful as an overall geographical framework for interdisciplinary analysis.