

ROOTS – Cluster of Excellence presents:

# Public Lecture Series by JMA-Chairs\*

*Kunsthalle Kiel / Düsternbrooker Weg 1 / 24105 Kiel*

\* Leading international experts joining the Cluster of Excellence as guest chairs (Johanna-Mestorf-Academy-Chairs) give insight into their research, enhancing ROOTS large interdisciplinary initiative on past social, environmental, and cultural phenomena. This sheds light on the 'roots' of current socio-environmental challenges and crises.

Arslantepe seal impression (*cretula*) with a leader on an ox-drawn sledge car followed by a procession of individuals with pitchforks (Photo: Roberto Ceccacci).



**23 JUNE 2023**  
starting **04:00 p.m.**

## » State emergence and urbanization in the Near East during the 4th millennium BCE. Different models and evolutionary paths «

The lecture focuses on the origins and development of the first centralised government institutions, characterised by strong political and economic power, within the wide Mesopotamian world including the peripheral mountain regions of south-eastern Anatolia, drawing comparisons between their features, origins and development paths with those observed in Pre-Dynastic Egypt. The nature of these early forms of political and economic power will be analysed by considering the archaeological evidence of centralisation of resources, mainly essential resources, production means (land and flocks), and labour, as well as the rise of bureaucracy. The needs for administering an increasing amount of transactions led to the development of sophisticated administrative

and book-keeping tools and the first appearance of writing and numerical system. Variations in the existence and scale of urbanization and its relationship with the State development will be also considered. Both environmental and social factors will be analysed to highlight the foundation of these crucial changes in the history of human societies and their variability in time and space, reflecting on the possible reasons for their stability or collapse.



**Marcella Frangipane,**  
Sapienza University of  
Rome and Accademia dei  
Lincei, Italy

INFO: [www.cluster-roots.uni-kiel.de/en/calendar-events](http://www.cluster-roots.uni-kiel.de/en/calendar-events)

**ROOTS – Cluster of Excellence präsentiert:**

# Public Lecture Series by JMA-Chairs\*

*In der Kunsthalle zu Kiel / Düsternbrooker Weg 1 / 24105 Kiel*

\*Führende internationale Expert\*innen, die aktuell Gastprofessuren im Exzellenzcluster ROOTS innehaben (Johanna-Mestorf-Academy-Chairs), geben Einblick in ihre Forschung und bereichern die umfassende, interdisziplinäre Initiative von ROOTS zu vergangenen sozialen, ökologischen und kulturellen Phänomenen. So werfen sie ein Licht auf die Ursprünge aktueller sozio-ökologischer Herausforderungen und Krisen.

Arslantepe seal impression (*cretula*) with a leader on an ox-drawn sledge car followed by a procession of individuals with pitchforks (Photo: Roberto Ceccacci).



**23. JUNI 2023**  
**Beginn: 16:00 Uhr**

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