



# PhD-position in climate-societal relationships in the Mediterranean during the first millennium CE

100% / starting date 1st November 2023

The Quaternary Geology Research Group at the Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Basel (<https://duw.unibas.ch/de/quartaergeologie/>) invites applications for a PhD-position in the field of climate-societal relationships in the central and eastern Mediterranean during the first millennium CE.

## Your position

The establishment of firm causal links between societies and climatic fluctuations requires detailed and accurate archaeological/historical and climatic/environmental datasets. As team member of the recently funded ERC Consolidator Grant SSE1K "Science, society and environmental change in the first millennium CE" (to Prof. Helen Foxhall Forbes), the advertised PhD position will examine both environmental and archaeological data from the eastern Mediterranean region. He/She will gather existing and new paleoclimate reconstructions from the region and evaluate their chronological uncertainties. In addition, he/she will be also given the opportunity to develop new climatic reconstructions from stalagmites in order to obtain the most suitable records for investigating human-climate relationships during the first millennium CE. The PhD-student will focus on both long-term climatic changes and extreme events, such as multi-year droughts. Supported by SSE1K project members (Prof. Helen Foxhall Forbes, Prof. Theresa Jäckh, Prof. Dan Lawrence and several postdoctoral researchers), he/she will compare the climate reconstructions with land-use data, archaeological and textual evidence to better understand the impact of climate on past population trends and food production systems at a variety of spatial and temporal scales

## Your profile

We are looking for a highly-motivated and proactive candidate with a master degree in geosciences, environmental sciences, geoarchaeology or a closely related discipline. Suitable candidates should have a background and profound interest in paleoclimatology, meteorology, history and archaeology. Expertise in paleoclimate reconstructions will be an advantage. The ability to work both independently and within our team, as well as good communication skills including fluency in English are essential.

## We offer you

The PhD project (100%) will be funded for 4 years. We offer an international, multidisciplinary and vibrant work environment and superb infrastructure. The PhD-student will be based at the University of Basel. The project has an envisioned start date of 1st November 2023.

## Application / Contact

Please submit your complete application documents, including (i) letter of your research interests and motivation for applying for the position, your experience and skills, (ii) CV, (iii) contact details of two references (one of them should include the main advisor of your master thesis), and (iv) transcripts and diplomas of your bachelor and master degrees (if available) via our online recruiting platform. We accept only online applications.

For further information and enquiries, please contact Prof. Dr. Dominik Fleitmann ([dominik.fleitmann@unibas.ch](mailto:dominik.fleitmann@unibas.ch)). Reviews of applications will begin in the 15th of August and will continue until the position is filled.

APPLY