

EDITORIAL

This is the last year of *Archeologické Rozhledy*!

Now that I have shocked you and seized your attention, let me explain. This is the last year the journal will be published under its current title. After extensive discussion, the editorial board has decided, in cooperation with the publisher, to begin a new chapter in the journal's history. Starting in 2027, the journal will be published as *Archeologické rozhledy – Archaeology of Central Europe*. You may also come across the acronym *AR-ACE*.

As you can see, the title is not changing completely. We decided to retain the original name and complement it with an English subtitle. This decision reflects our deep respect for the journal's long tradition. Published continuously since 1949, *Archeologické Rozhledy* has been one of the pillars of Czechoslovak (later Czech) archaeology. Over the decades, it has built a strong reputation both at home and abroad. On the other hand, the journal has often been perceived as a primarily (if not only) Czech platform, partly because of its title.

Why move beyond this focus? I broadly addressed this question in my first editorial (issue 2023/1) when I took over as editor-in-chief, so I will only briefly repeat the main argument here. Archaeological phenomena cannot be studied sufficiently solely on a national basis, simply because the past world was not limited by strict borders, nor is our current world. No scholarly community can thrive in isolation without risking intellectual stagnation and self-replication. We want to avoid that risk and broaden our scope to a wider Central European perspective. In many ways, the title change just follows reality: over the past years, *AR* (or shall I say *AR-ACE*?) has published numerous studies on non-Czech material written by researchers from across Europe.

Change is never easy. Welcomed by many, it elicits apprehension in others. I must admit that the new title also brings many challenges for the editorial team, from designing a new logo to updating the website, journal layout, and many other things. Yet archaeologists know better than most that changes and transformations are inevitable and always present in human history. Nothing remains the same forever.

I believe this step is necessary if the journal is to navigate the changing landscape of contemporary archaeology. For the past two decades, academic publishing has transformed in many aspects: the ways authors decide where to publish, how readers consume the research, how research is released, and how scholarly communication has become increasingly international, especially in countries of the former Eastern Bloc. These are very different now from what they were in the 2000s. If our journal is to maintain and, most importantly, strengthen its relevance and impact, broadening its scope and updating its identity are essential. In this vein, the title change continues the course we set in 2023 toward building a Central European platform for archaeological research.

Despite the new title, the journal's core values remain unchanged. *AR-ACE* will remain an institution-based journal, ensuring that research dissemination remains in the hands of researchers themselves. In the current publishing environment, this is more important than ever. Even under the new title, *AR-ACE* will be committed to principles of open science and will continue to be published as a Diamond Open Access journal.

The announcement of the title change should not overshadow the interesting papers published in this issue.

It opens with a study by Tomasz Boroń and colleagues on the spatial organisation of Mesolithic campsites. They combine lithic refitting and use-wear analysis to reconstruct the processes behind the formation of the Rydno and Wieliszew sites in Poland. Their findings go well beyond these two case studies and are likely to inspire further research. They show that campsites with similar functions could differ considerably in their use of natural resources. By this, Boroń and colleagues demonstrated that even archival lithic collections still hold significant research potential.

The next papers take readers to the Middle Ages. András Dobai and colleagues contribute to a better understanding of the Battle of Mohi. Despite being one of the most consequential battles in Hungarian history, this clash is still shrouded in certain mysteries, including the location of the Hungarian camp before the battle. By integrating archaeological, military-historical, and environmental evidence within advanced GIS-based modelling, the authors identify the most likely locations. Beyond refining the understanding of the battle itself, the study provides a valuable methodological template for future investigations of historical battlefields and complex archaeological landscapes.

Josef Hložek and Petr Kočár also explore the theme of medieval conflict, albeit from a different perspective. Re-examining a remarkable assemblage of burnt grain and other crops from Křivoklát Castle dating to the beginning of the Hussite Wars, they arrive at a new interpretation by demonstrating that the grain was an emergency food store created in response to a period of instability. This finding challenges the earlier interpretation that linked the crops to brewery storage and highlights the risks of preliminary assessments becoming entrenched in the literature. The paper thus offers rare insight into the composition and organisation of emergency provisions in a medieval castle and helps us understand survival strategies in times of conflict.

Since war consumes wealth, abundance had to be created first; in the medieval Kingdom of Bohemia, wealth was born at the tip of a miner's chisel. Yet how much do we really know about these ordinary but essential tools? Filip Vološin and his colleagues addressed this question through metallographic analysis of mining chisels and a mallet from several 13th- and 14th-century silver-mining districts in the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands. Their study sheds new light on the technological expertise of smiths serving mining communities. The results reveal considerable variation in tool manufacture and show that individual chisels were adapted to specific tasks and geological conditions.

Readers should also not miss the report by Luboš Chroustovský on the 2025 conference of the International Study Group on Music Archaeology (ISGMA), held in Vienna. Finally, the book review section introduces *První Evropané (First Europeans)*, a new book by Jan Turek, reviewed by Petr Pokorný.

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