

# CALL FOR PAPERS



INTERTWINED  
PASTS 3-6 SEPTEMBER  
EAA 2025  
BELGRADE

## Session #109

### VOICES OF THE PAST, HANDS OF THE PRESENT. COLLABORATIVE PATHWAYS IN ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE INTERPRETATION

31<sup>ST</sup> EAA ANNUAL MEETING  
BELGRADE (RS), 3-6 SEPTEMBER 2025

#### ORGANISERS

- Fábíán, Szilvia (Hungary)  
*Hungarian National Museum, National Institute of Archaeology*
- Mele, Marko (Austria) *Universalmuseum Joanneum*
- Pace, Giuseppe (Italy)  
*National Research Council - Institute for Research on Innovation and Services for Development*

#### INFORMATION

- The call for contribution is open until **February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 23:59 CET.**
- **Contribution Format:** Papers with 15-minute oral presentations
- **Submissions:** Abstracts must be 150–300 words, and titles are limited to 20 words.
- **Authorship:** Each member may submit one paper and one poster as the main author, with no limits on co-authoring contributions

In recent years, archaeology and heritage interpretation have increasingly emphasized the role of community engagement in exploring and narrating the past. Drawing on insights from the Erasmus+ project “EMpowering landscapes with Participatory Approaches to Heritage interpretation Skills (EMPATHS),” this session invites participants to reflect on how archaeological practice can become more inclusive, embracing diverse community perspectives. By actively involving local voices in archaeological and interpretative processes, we can co-create narratives that are more dynamic, representative, and impactful for broader audiences. This session aims to explore innovative methodologies and frameworks for participatory archaeology, focusing on case studies where community involvement has enriched both archaeological practice and heritage interpretation. Key topics include the creation of shared narratives, collaborative decision-making, and approaches to bridge gaps between

academic researchers and community knowledge holders. Participants are also encouraged to discuss the complexities of balancing differing perspectives on heritage value, managing expectations, and addressing ethical considerations in collaborative work. Through examining community-led excavations, interpretive planning, and digital storytelling, this session will explore how engaging communities as active partners can support sustainable heritage management, foster local stewardship, and enrich archaeological narratives with lived community values. Contributions are invited from archaeologists, heritage professionals, community leaders, and scholars interested in promoting inclusive practices and redefining heritage interpretation as a tool for dialogue, cultural identity, and community empowerment. By gathering insights and experiences from diverse projects, this session seeks to inspire new directions in collaborative heritage work that honour the complexities of the past while empowering communities to shape their own stories.

Please check more details on the submission portal:  
<https://submissions.e-a-a.org/ea2025>

#community engagement #participatory archaeology #heritage interpretation #co-created narratives #sustainable heritage #heritage management #Faro convention #cultural tourism