

## OnliNe Talks

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### Reconsidering the Neolithization of Wetlands: the case of Pelagonia

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Wetlands had a crucial role in establishing the settlements of the first farmers in the Balkans. This particularly regards the tells and pile-dwellings that were disposed along the flooded areas, riverbanks and lakeshores in order to have constant access to the fertile fields and a variety of resources. Although such process is evident in the Balkans and few waves of settling these areas around 6000 BC are recorded, still the recent research in Pelagonia provides a new perspective of Neolithization in the valleys. Namely, the inhabitation of these areas was initially performed in the mountain slopes while the later migrational waves considered the flatlands. Few hundred years before establishing tells and pile-dwellings around wetlands the first farmers explored the entire landscape and incorporated intensive symbolic practices, so they introduced agriculture, farming, pottery, new tools and figurative representations as a novel mode of existence.

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