

EINLADUNG ZUM ONLINE - VORTRAG  
am **DIENSTAG, 19. OKTOBER 2021, 16:45 UHR**

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## **THE EARLY ANTHROPOCENE OF EUROPEAN RIVER SYSTEMS**

In Europe, remodelling of river channels for navigation, flood protection or hydropower purposes is commonplace. Engineering measures dominate the flux of water and sediment from the uplands to the oceans since more than a century. The functioning of river systems however, has shifted from natural to human dominated already much earlier: land use has release large amounts of sediment, much more than the river systems can carry. This surplus has transformed the functioning of rivers, initiating for example the meandering patterns of many river channels. Today, where meandering patterns have survived the engineering measures, such meanders are often considered 'natural' and used as management targets for river restoration. Using examples, the talk will highlight such caveats and use the discussions around the term Anthropocene to rethink the man-environment relationship. In large parts of Europe humans have been the dominant force since centuries and the natural, unaltered state of the Earth' surface has long been lost - beyond retrieval.

Andreas Lang holds the Chair for Physical Geography at the University of Salzburg. He studied in Heidelberg and after stations in Germany and Belgium spent many years in the UK before starting his current position in 2015. His research focusses on Geomorphology and Geochronology, especially the quantification of human impact on Earth surface systems. He has published widely in the field's leading journals. Recently published work on the Mississippi river shows that river engineering has transformed the carbon flux to the ocean and is of global climatic significance. Andreas is also engaged with learned societies, co-founded two scientific journals (Earth Surface Dynamics and Geochronology) and has been party to discussions about the Anthropocene from early on.

Organisiert von  
Arbeitsgruppe *Geomorphologische Systeme und Risikoforschung*  
Institut für Geographie und Regionalforschung  
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Zoom-Meeting beitreten

<https://univienne.zoom.us/j/95407051560?pwd=WHV3NzVqM1QxakFFak5QL0JVZzJ5dz09>

Meeting-ID: 954 0705 1560

Passwort: 988067