

# BIWEEKLY COLLOQUIA SUMMER TERM 2022

## Life after the Storegga Tsunami? Investigating capacities of Mesolithic societies

**Monday, 25 April 2022 / 16.15 - 17.45 / Leibnizstraße 1, Rm. 105**

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*Both photos: Astrid j. Nyland*

It is difficult to identify an 'epoch-making' moment or specific event in the Mesolithic, but the Storegga tsunami that battered the coast of the Norwegian Sea and North Sea 8200 years ago, was perhaps one. This tsunami has been interpreted, together with the 8.2 climatic cold event, as a cause of a demographic decline, even societal collapse, but was it so significant? Even if there is strong geological evidence of the tsunami itself, the tsunami does not necessarily seem to have caused immediate massive material change. Along the coast, the material demonstrates diverse impacts.

This talk considers whether or how we can utilise knowledge of this tsunami-event to learn more about the Mesolithic societies' capacities, vulnerabilities, and strengths. Instead of searching for collapse and shouldn't we ask how coastal communities could live well with natural hazards?

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