



Session 43

Methodology issues in Archaeoseismology

Conveners:

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The role of multidisciplinary research centers and the importance of an interdisciplinary approach for addressing gaps in knowledge about hazards and disasters is one of the current hot topics because they are fundamental to methodological issues when examining catastrophic events. In this framework, archaeoseismological studies can reveal the natural causes of a site's destruction and contribute to the broader field of environmental archaeology.

These studies improve the evaluation of seismic hazards in the region by updating information and integrating seismic catalogs, thus contributing to the historical seismology of the place. Archaeoseismic research provides data and information on past earthquakes, but the methodology needs ongoing discussions. The most reliable results of the investigation are obtained by applying modern geoarchaeological practice (as archaeological stratigraphy and geological–geomorphological data), with the addition of a geophysical engineering quantitative approach and historical seismic information, providing a fundamental dataset and becoming a tool to confirm the archaeoseismic hypothesis, but interpreting written sources to identify seismic effects remains in constant need of debate.

In recent years, scientists from various fields have shown that recording and interpreting ancient disasters require collaboration across disciplines. The session can provide an overview of Archaeoseismology with various case studies to illustrate approaches and methodologies for investigating seismic effects considering the daily major disasters affecting our cultural heritage.

The topic can show and collect several exemplars of interdisciplinary research in this field and draw insights. In the final round table, key findings will be summarized and could offer recommendations for supporting multidisciplinary research.

