

# Session Proposal

European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Krakow, Poland  
19<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September 2006

**Organizers:** P. Urbanczyk & O. Vésteinsson  
**Chair:** Przemysław Urbanczyk

**Theme:**

*Archaeology in the Modern World: Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives*

**Session Title:**

## **The North Atlantic as an archaeological region**

**Abstract:**

While archaeological research in the North Atlantic has a very long history, stretching back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the region has seen a significant intensification of archaeological work in the last quarter century. The vitality of the archaeology of this region is evidenced not only by the volume of research but also by a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary and international collaboration. Archaeologists have been attracted to this region from the outside because it offers unusually good opportunities to examine questions of human-environment interaction, marginality and marine adaptations but increasingly the region is also being viewed as a "rear" window through which to examine the course of European and N-American history, particularly in the middle ages and post-medieval times.

Although archaeological debate has tended to be confined to each country within the region, comparative approaches are increasingly leading to the view that the North Atlantic is in many important aspects best considered as a single archaeological region, encompassing Atlantic Norway, the Northern isles of Scotland, the Faroes, Iceland and Greenland. The session aims to present the archaeology of the North Atlantic as a region and to showcase how the view from the North Atlantic can offer new perspectives on old problems of general American and European history.

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