

SCATTER: The Scaling Territories Project

HOW BRONZE AGE INHABITANTS IN ANATOLIA REDEFINED THEIR TERRITORIES
WITHIN EXPANDING CENTRALISED POWER? ON THE TRACES OF HUMAN
OCCUPATION AND TERRITORIAL EXPANSION (CLAIMS)

Abstract

SCATTER investigates the multivocal notion of territory in Protohistory through the study of settlement patterns in ecological settings. Specifically, SCATTER will focus on the Central Anatolian region during the Middle and Late Bronze Age, i.e. the second millennium B.C. The goal is to acquire better understanding of changes in rural landscape practices within a growing centralised state's power. To achieve this, SCATTER employs a range of state-of-the-art spatial analysis methodologies while reflecting on the influence of mapping on our perception of the ancient state as an idealised continuous territorial entity. The multidisciplinary research results will contribute significantly to the definition and perception of territories in Protohistory while interrogating the modern idealised vision of territory. It will generate cognitive maps showing how topographic features may have been perceived in order to rethink the notion of territory. SCATTER will embed archaeological data into wider discourses on landscape change and resilience in rural landscapes.

Keywords: Landscape archaeology, Spatial analysis, Human-environment Interactions, Territorialisation, Prehistoric Anatolia.