Assoz. Prof. Aikaterini (Katerina) Douka, DPhil

Employment

Professor
Department of Evolutionary Anthropology
University of Vienna
Wien, Austria
1 Oct 2022 → present

I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Evolutionary Anthropology and Head of the Palaeoproteomics Lab in the Faculty of Life Sciences at the University of Vienna.
My research focuses on the development and application of biomolecular tools on prehistoric contexts, and since 2016 it has been funded by the European Research Council (Starting and Consolidator projects).

Working at the interface of archaeological science, chronometric analyses and biomolecular research, my team works with both radiocarbon dating and palaeoproteomic approaches, particularly ZooMS (Zooarchaeology by Mass Spectrometry), to investigate the hominin fossil record and explore past human-animal interactions.

I am particularly interested in questions regarding the co-existence and demise of archaic hominins, especially Neanderthals and Denisovans, and the spread of modern humans.

Projects

Tracking the dispersal of humans from the African Rift to the Pacific Rim using biomolecular approaches (RIFT-TO-RIM)
Douka, A. (Project Lead)
1/07/25 → 30/06/30

BONETAG: Bone Proteomics for Neanderthal and Denisovan Genotyping
Douka, A. (Project Lead) & Patramanis, I. (Co-Lead)
1/09/26 → 31/08/29

A bioarchaeological study of 1,800 years of resilience and adaptation to urbanity (CityLife)
Douka, A. (Project Lead)
18/04/26 → 31/05/29

ÖAW Doc-Stipendium für Anastasia Papadogianni zum Thema "Biomolecular investigations into the first farming communites in South-eastern Europe"", 24 Monate
Douka, A. (Project Lead) & Papadogianni, A. (Co-Lead)
1/01/27 → 31/12/28

DENI-CESTOR: DENIsovan anCESTORs in Sahul: deciphering human evolution through molecular techniques
Douka, A. (Project Lead) & Oertle, A. (Co-Lead)
30/09/22 → 29/09/25

FINDER: Fossil Fingerprinting and Identification of New Denisovan remains from Pleistocene Asia
Douka, A. (Project Lead)
1/08/21 → 31/05/24