The symposium *Indo-European Ecologies* deals with various aspects of the Indo-Europeans’ relationship to cattle and milk, including a number of threats to this cattle economy. The relationship to cattle is expressed in words, myths and rituals, occurring in numerous variants in different Indo-European contexts. This may be assumed to have its essential basis in the original pastoral lifestyle and the ecological conditions for large-scale cattle herds on the Eurasian steppe. Both archaeological and environmental historical findings about the conditions on the Eurasian steppe are therefore of great value to highlight as a background to why notions of cattle and milk have gained such a significant and long-lasting position in various Indo-European cultural traditions.

Programme
Thursday, 21 October

10.15 - 10.30   Welcome
CHRISTINA GARSTEN, SCAS, & JENNY HELENA LARSSON, Stockholm University

Session 1
Chair: BIRGIT ANETTE OLSEN, University of Copenhagen

10.30 - 11.00   Celtic Cow-sucklers and Other Chthonic Creatures
ANDERS RICHARDT JØRGENSEN, Uppsala University

11.00 - 11.30   The Baltic “Snake Cult” and the Milk-drinking, Cow-suckling Snakes
JENNY HELENA LARSSON, Stockholm University

11.30 - 12.30   Coffee/tea

Session 2
Chair: ANDERS RICHARDT JØRGENSEN, Uppsala University

12.30 - 13.00   Churning the Ocean of Milk
BIRGIT ANETTE OLSEN, University of Copenhagen

13.00 - 13.30   The Monstrous Animal Sibling and Some Mythological Irish ‘Worm’-stories
DAVIDE ERMACORA, Università degli Studi di Torino

13.30 - 14.30   Lunch break
Session 3
Chair: LISA BUKHAVE, Uppsala University

14.30 - 15.00  
**Tamed and Untamed: Snakes in the Slavic Mind**  
LESZEK GARDELA, National Museum of Denmark

15.00 - 15.30  
**From Guest to Stranger to Monster (and back again) – A Topos and its Transmutations in Indo-European Mythology**  
PETER JACKSON, Stockholm University

15.30 - 16.00  
**There Be Dragons, and Other Dangerous Ones: Serpents, Water, Otherness, and Space in Indo-European**  
RICCARDO GINEVRA, Catholic University of Milan

16.00 - 16.30  
Coffee/tea

Session 4
Chair: PETER JACKSON, Stockholm University

16.30 - 17.00  
**Farming, Fertility and Foaming Water: Indo-European Ritualisations of Life-giving Forces in Scandinavian Agriculture**  
TERJE ØSTIGAARD, Uppsala University

17.00 - 17.30  
**Cattle, Cosmology and Sacrifice: An Indo-European Interpretation of Burnt Mounds**  
ANDERS KALIFF, Uppsala University

Discussants:  
LISA BUKHAVE, Uppsala University  
TOMMY KUUSELA, Swedish Institute for Language and Folklore  
ANDREAS NORDBERG, Stockholm University

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The number of seats is limited. Pre-registration is required by 15 October 2021 at the latest. Please contact Jenny Larsson (jenny.larsson@balt.su.se) for details.

This is an event of the research programme LAMP – Languages and Myths of Prehistory and the Centre for Studies in Indo-European Language and Culture (Stockholm University).