Isotopic Traces of Crisis:

Responses to the AD 536 Dust Veil Event through Husbandry, Diet, and Mobility.

Aurore Hars, PhD student

Archaeological Research Laboratory, Department of Archaeology and Classical studies,

Stockholm University

Caused by a series of volcanic eruptions, the AD 536 dust veil event resulted in significant cooling. Existing studies suggest that its impact on Scandinavian societies was not uniform, but varied according to location, local landscape, and networks. On the island of Öland, off the Swedish east coast, this climatic disruption is thought to be reflected in settlement abandonments. The timing of this abandonment, however, remains debated, highlighting the need for better insight into human responses to the climate event. To understand how such climatic events may have affected past societies, it is essential to examine their underlying economic basis, particularly their subsistence strategies. Through the application of multi-isotope analysis, my doctoral research aims to investigate how the Ölanders adapted their husbandry practices, diet, and mobility patterns in response to the AD 536 dust veil event.