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## CA19141 – Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present

### Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021

Zagreb, CROATIA

Online meeting (via ZOOM)

#### Overview of the key details:

Action Chair: Ivor Janković (Croatia)

Action Vice-Chair: Stefano Benazzi (Italy)

WG1 Leader: Katerina Harvati (Germany)

WG1 Substitute Leader: Sorin Hermon (Cyprus)

WG2 Leader: Francesca Romagnoli (Spain)

WG2 Substitute Leader: Trine Kellberg Nielsen (Denmark)

WG3 Leader: Ron Pinhasi (Austria)

WG3 Substitute Leader: Daniel Fernandes (Austria)

WG4 Leader: Sanjin Mihelić (Croatia)

WG4 Substitute Leader: Matija Črešnar (Slovenia)

Science Communication Manager: Tamara Leskovar (Slovenia)

STSM Coordinator: Florent Rivals (Spain)

Grant Holder: Institute for Anthropological Research (Croatia)

Start of the Action: October 15<sup>th</sup> 2020

First Grant Period: November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 – October 31<sup>st</sup> 2021



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## **Management Committee Meeting, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021**

### 1. Welcome to the participants (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

The Management Committee Meeting of COST19141 *Integrating Neandertal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) started at 10:00.

Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, welcomed the participants of the CA19141 MC meeting which was scheduled as virtual meeting via ZOOM platform, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### 2. Adoption of the agenda (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, confirmed the quorum, the presence of two-thirds of the participating COST countries. The following 24 of 27 countries having accepted the MoU of the Action were represented at the meeting:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Republic of Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

For the detailed attendance list, please see annex.

2.1. The agenda of the meeting (Annex 1) was approved without changes or additions by the members of the Management Committee of CA19141.

2.2. The minutes of the previous Management Committee meeting, held from October 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 and organized virtually via ZOOM platform and by the COST Association were approved without changes or additions by the members of the Management Committee of CA19141.

### 3. Update from Action Chair, status of COST Action, Grant Period goals, follow up of MoU objectives (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, informed the participants that the Grant Period 1 was extended from April 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 to October 31<sup>st</sup> 2021. Plans for the Grant Period 1 are following:

- establishing fully operational WGs;
- inclusion of more members;



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- defining „missing data” and „missing expertises” (individual WGs);
- creation of templates/platforms for data sharing (WG’s individual/combined);
- website up and running;
- first training school (all WGs).

The Action Chair informed participants on the status of the Action:

- WG1, 2 and 4 had regular meetings;
- new members joined the Action and WGs;
- WG1 and 2 are working on creating a data sharing platform/template that can be cross-referenced and used by all WGs;
- WG leaders and members are defining the „missing expertises”;
- WG4: website created and active, newsletter editorial board established, 1<sup>st</sup> issue done;
- iNEAL session at the next European Archaeological Association meeting;
- STSM call announced.

#### 4. Work and budget plan (Morana Jarec, GRANT MANAGER)

Morana Jarec, the Grant Manager, informed the participants of the Work and Budget Plan for the Grant Period 1. Initially, the allocated budget for the Grant Period 1 was 30.498,00 EUR. As the Grant Period 1 was extended to October 31<sup>st</sup> 2021, the CA19141 received an extra budget of 70.644,50 EUR, so the total budget for the CA19141 Grant period 1 is 101.142,50 EUR.

WBP:

MC and WGs 1st joint meeting:	0 EUR
Dissemination Meeting (27th EAA - registration fee):	200 EUR
MC and WGs 2nd joint meeting:	41.000 EUR
Training School WG2 TS	6.600 EUR
Training School WG4 TS	14.400 EUR
Training School WG1 TS	15.450,00 EUR
STSMs	8.100,00 EUR
Dissemination (logo design, website, promo materials)	1.800,00 EUR



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OERSA (ZOOM licence, bank transfer fees)	400 EUR
FSAC (15%)	13.192,50 EUR
TOTAL	101.142,50 EUR

Up to the MC meeting, only 1.625,00 EUR were spent.

5. Update from the Science Communication Manager (Website, Social media, Newsletter) (Tamara Leskovar, SCIENCE COMMUNICATION MANAGER)

Tamara Leskovar, the Action Science Communication Manager, reported on the activities of the Action related to the communication – creation of social media accounts (Facebook and Instagram), web site (<https://inealcost.inantro.hr>), and first issue of the Action’s newsletter that will be published right after the meeting.

6. Update from the STSM Coordinator (Florent Rivals, STSM COORDINATOR)

Florent Rivals, the Action STSM Coordinator, informed the participants on open STSM call (deadline May 7<sup>th</sup> 2021), requirements and evaluation criteria. After short discussion, it was decided that the deadline needs to be extended for two weeks (May 21<sup>st</sup> 2021).

7. Inclusion of new members, Gender Balance, Early Career Investigators, Inclusiveness Target Countries (Stefano Benazzi, ACTION VICE-CHAIR)

Stefano Benazzi, the Action Vice-Chair, reported on number of Action participants and number of participants per country (1-5).

It was communicated to all participants, that the new members interested in joining Working Groups should contact WG Leaders.

Status of the Action:

Country	Date
Albania	10/10/2020 Confirmed
Austria	17/09/2020 Confirmed
Belgium	19/04/2021 Confirmed
Bulgaria	06/08/2020 Confirmed
Croatia	24/04/2020 Confirmed



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Cyprus	21/09/2020 Confirmed
Czech Republic	20/08/2020 Confirmed
Denmark	11/06/2020 Confirmed
France	21/04/2020 Confirmed
Germany	28/04/2020 Confirmed
Greece	22/05/2020 Confirmed
Hungary	24/04/2020 Confirmed
Italy	23/06/2020 Confirmed
Malta	10/09/2020 Confirmed
Montenegro	05/10/2020 Confirmed
Netherlands	21/09/2020 Confirmed
North Macedonia	07/05/2020 Confirmed
Poland	27/05/2020 Confirmed
Portugal	07/10/2020 Confirmed
Romania	13/10/2020 Confirmed
Serbia	11/06/2020 Confirmed
Slovakia	04/12/2020 Confirmed
Slovenia	02/07/2020 Confirmed
Spain	18/06/2020 Confirmed
Switzerland	01/10/2020 Confirmed
Turkey	08/09/2020 Confirmed
United Kingdom	16/10/2020 Confirmed
Israel	Intention
TOTAL: 28 countries	

	Gender Balance	ECI	ITC
All Action Participants	43% F / 57% M	32%	52%
Management Committee	39% F / 61% M	24%	53%
Core Group	33% F / 67 % M	33%	41%

## 8. Scientific Planning (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, presented the scientific planning:

- most important goals: defining the „missing” expertises and „missing data” based on active discussion on WG meetings; actively contacting colleagues to join the Action;





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- WG1 and 2 work on best format/template for data sharing platform – it will be intensified by WG1-3 during GP 1 and in the next GP;
- by the end of the Action, an updated volume of the Neandertal fossil data is planned (WG1), also in the plans for WG2 on cultural data;
- Google drive sharing with Neandertal sites (fossil and cultural) – members of the WGs can actively add data; separate folders for each site containing all relevant bibliography in PDF and other relevant data if possible (e.g. photos of the site, old notes, media announcements etc.);
- public outreach (newsletter/social media/conference attendances/various talks by Action members);
- encouraging members of the Action to apply for joint research grants (next GPs).

#### 9. Dissemination Planning (publications, outreach activities) (Sanjin Mihelić, WG4 LEADER)

Sanjin Mihelić, The Working Group 4 *From Past to Present* Leader, presented the WG4's collaboration with Science Communication Manager of the Action, presented the work of the WG4 and invited all Action Participants to contact WG4 with ideas and suggestions for the dissemination. Forms of dissemination activities were presented: papers, press releases, public lectures, events and conferences. Furthermore, WG4 Leader presented the iNEAL session that was accepted in the European Archaeological Association Meeting (September 6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> 2021) and plans for a digital booklet of the iNEAL session. Long-term dissemination plans correspond with the MoU objectives: Handbook, Guidelines, Kit etc.

#### 10. Budget Planning (Morana Jarec, GRANT MANAGER)

Morana Jarec, the Grant Manager of the Action, informed the participants on the two new virtual networking tools launched by the COST: Virtual Networking Support Grant and Virtual Mobility Grant. As these are new networking tools introduced few days before the meeting, the MC members will be informed on the details later in May. These tools present an option for reorganization of the budget if pandemics continues and if it will impossible to organize onsite events.



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As it is too early to start planning the GP2, participants were informed that the budget for GP2 will encompass the traditional networking tools (meetings, TS, STSMs), but also ITC Conference Grants that was not included in the GP1, and dissemination activities according to the goals and the needs of the Action.

#### 11. Location and dates of future events (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

##### Training schools

- WG 2 Training School (Rome, Italy): *Qualitative and quantitative methods for the study of Middle Palaeolithic material culture*: 8-9/7/2021;
- WG 4 Training School (Zagreb, Croatia): *Valorization of Neanderthal heritage through the creation of cultural routes*: 27-29/9/2021;
- WG 1 Training School (Tübingen, Germany): *Introduction to geometric morphometrics*: 13-15/10/2021.

##### MC/WG Meeting

- MC/WGs 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Meeting (Tübingen, Germany): 11-12/10/2021

##### Dissemination Meeting

- iNEAL session at EAA meeting, 8-11/9/2021

#### 12. Summary, closing (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

MC adopted the agenda of the meeting, minutes of the previous MC meeting and decided to extend the STSM call for two weeks.

The Management Committee Meeting of COST19141 *Integrating Neanderthal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) ended at 11:40.

#### Minutes prepared by:

Morana Jarec, Grant Manager





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**Annexes:**

1. Agenda of the Management Committee Meeting
2. Attendance list (MC, WG and CG meetings)







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## ANNEX 1 - Agenda of the Management Committee Meeting

**Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021**

### Management Committee Meeting

#### 10:00-11:30

1. Welcome to the participants (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR, 5 min)
2. Adoption of the agenda (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR, 5 min)
3. Update from Action Chair, status of COST Action, Grant Period goals, follow up of MoU objectives (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR, 10 min)
4. Work and budget plan (Morana Jarec, GRANT MANAGER, 5 min)
5. Update from the Science Communication Manager (Website, Social media, Newsletter) (Tamara Leskovar, SCIENCE COMMUNICATION MANAGER, 10 min)
6. Update from the STSM Coordinator (Florent Rivals, STSM COORDINATOR, 10 min)
7. Inclusion of new members, Gender Balance, Early Career Investigators, Inclusiveness Target Countries (Stefano Benazzi, ACTION VICE-CHAIR, 10 min)
8. Scientific Planning (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR, 10 min)
9. Dissemination Planning (publications, outreach activities) (Sanjin Mihelić, WG4 LEADER, 10 min)
10. Budget Planning (Morana Jarec, GRANT MANAGER, 5 min)
11. Location and dates of future events (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR, 5 min)
12. Summary, closing (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR, 5 min)



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## CA19141 – Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present

### Minutes of the Working Groups Meeting

May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> 2021

Zagreb, CROATIA

Online meeting (via ZOOM)

#### Working Groups meeting, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

##### 1. Address from Action Chair

Working Groups Meeting of the CA19141 *Integrating Neandertal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) started at 12:00. Please see annex 1 for the agenda.

Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, welcomed the participants of the CA19141 Working Groups meeting which was scheduled as virtual meeting via ZOOM platform, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Action Chair presented the main goals of Grant Period 1 and briefly reported the status of the Action to all Action participants present.

For the detailed attendance list, please see annex.

##### 2. Working Groups 1-4 meetings in parallel sessions

Please see minutes of Working Groups 1-4 meetings in annexes 2-5.

First day of the Working Groups Meeting of the CA19141 *Integrating Neandertal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) ended at 15:00.



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### Working Groups meeting, May 4<sup>th</sup>

Working Groups Meeting of the CA19141 *Integrating Neandertal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) started at 10:30.

1. Brief reports of Working Groups separate meetings from the previous day were presented to all.

Before moving to the separate Working Groups meetings, there was a short discussion.

Sanjin Mihelić, the WG4 Leader, suggested that WG4 members join other Working Groups in joint meetings, as they already meet regularly.

Ron Pinhasi, the WG3 Leader, suggested that it would be more useful to not go into parallel WG meetings, but to stay in the main session and discuss the database creation in more concrete ways. Also, he presented some issues related to the database: slowness, impossible to search the database etc., and stressed the importance of choosing and using the right platform.

Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, suggested the creation of Database Task Force Group, a smaller group that would be more efficient and that would meet regularly and discuss the creation of the database. Participants that volunteered to be included in the Group: Bärbel Auffermann, Paraskevi Elefanti, Ron Pinhasi, Stefano Benazzi, Patrick Semal, Francesca Romagnoli, Jean-Luc Voisin. Katerina Harvati and Sorin Hermon were proposed by other participants, but were not present at the meeting. Database Task Group will meet separately and report to the MC.

Bärbel Auffermann and Katerina Douka presented some examples of databases (e.g. NESPOS) developed by commercial firms (e.g. <https://dreamingspires.dev>).

Patrick Semal informed about the possibility of organizing a Training School on digitization at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences.

2. Working Groups 1-4 meetings in parallel

Please see minutes of Working Groups 1-4 meetings in annexes 2-5.

3. Discussion and next steps

WG1-3 briefly reported on their separate Working Groups meetings. After the reports, there was a short discussion about future events, planned for 2022: Training Schools in Austria (WG3) and Italy (WG2).



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#### 4. Summary and Closing

Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, closed the Meeting with an invitation to all participants to contribute to the newsletters and share the news about the STSMs and Training Schools calls.

Working Groups Meeting of the CA19141 *Integrating Neandertal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) ended at 15:00.

#### Minutes prepared by:

Morana Jarec, Grant Manager

#### Annexes:

1. Agenda of the Working Groups meeting
2. Minutes of Working Group 1: FOSSIL DATA
3. Minutes of Working Group 2: CULTURAL DATA
4. Minutes of Working Group 3: MOLECULAR DATA
5. Minutes of Working Group 4: FROM PAST TO PRESENT
6. Attendance list (MC, WG and CG meetings)



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## ANNEX 1 - Agenda of the Working Groups meeting

**Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021**

**12:00-12:30** MAIN SESSION: Address from Action Chair (**Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR**)

**12:30-15:00** BREAKOUT ROOMS: Working Groups meetings – parallel sessions

	<b>Working Group 1 FOSSIL DATA</b>	<b>Working Group 2 CULTURAL DATA</b>	<b>Working Group 3 MOLECULAR DATA</b>	<b>Working Group 4 FROM PAST TO PRESENT</b>
<b>12:30-12:45</b>	Welcome address ( <b>Katerina Harvati, WG1 LEADER</b> )	Welcome address ( <b>Francesca Romagnoli, WG2 LEADER</b> )	<i>Open time for members to temporarily join other WG meetings, if interested</i>	Introduction ( <b>Sanjin Mihelić, WG4 LEADER</b> )
<b>12:45-13:30</b>	Status of database	Database and dataset template Problems and perspectives		An overview of WG4 tasks and objectives
<b>13:30-13:45</b>	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>		<i>break</i>
<b>13:45-15:00</b>	Status / update of future activities (workshops, STSMs)	Dataset regional scope Review of specific WG2 aims Missing expertise Specific problems	Working group introduction and aims Current member introductions Member expansion plan What data currently exists? How to integrate it in a common database, even without knowledge of how it will be organized? Which information to add? Can we add any information that helps non-geneticists understand what can kind of information can be achieved with specific published genomes (e.g. only a few high-coverage genomes will work for methylation studies)? Can this information help in organizing future research, even if that would involve further sequencing from existing samples?	WG4 activities: Progress reports from WG members

## Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 2021

**MAIN SESSION:**

**9.30-10.30** Brief reports from WG leaders from previous day (10 minutes each) (**WG LEADERS**)  
Short discussion (**MODERATOR: Stefano Benazzi, Action Vice-Chair**)

**10.30-13.00** BREAKOUT ROOMS: Working Groups meetings – parallel sessions in breakout rooms

**13.00-13.15** *break*

**MAIN SESSION:**

**13.15-14.15** Reports from WG leaders (15 minutes each) (**WG LEADERS**)

**14.15-14.45** Discussion and next steps (**MODERATOR: Stefano Benazzi, ACTION VICE-CHAIR**)

**14.45-15.00** Summary and Closing (**Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR**)

	<b>Working Group 1 FOSSIL DATA</b>	<b>Working Group 2 CULTURAL DATA</b>	<b>Working Group 3 MOLECULAR DATA</b>	<b>Working Group 4 FROM PAST TO PRESENT</b>
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	Missing expertises	Discussion time based on the report from WGs sessions: Specific problems and perspectives	<i>Open time for members to temporarily join other WG meetings, if interested</i>	Planning the work of WG 4
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>
<b>11:30-13:00</b>	Long and short term goals of the WG1	Next steps: proposals Implementation strategy 'Desiderata' from other WGs and possible way of inter-WG coordination (for database and dataset and other possible issues)	Discussion and brainstorming on how to incorporate our data with what was presented by the other working groups in the morning Next steps, next WG meeting, and discussing how to start putting together a draft of the molecular data available, through the contribution of all interested members (e.g. a shared online spreadsheet as the starting point) How can we be involved in a closer working network with the other researchers?	General discussion & brainstorming session



## ANNEX 2 - Minutes of Working Group 1: FOSSIL DATA

May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 2021

10 participants were present

Agenda:

- Status of database
- Status / update of future activities (workshops, STSM, etc)
- missing expertises
- long and short term goals of the WG1

Add Johann Galdies (johann.galdies@um.edu.mt), Bärbel Auffermann (auffermann@neanderthal.de) and Patrick Semal (patrick.sem@naturalsciences.be) to the mailing list of WG1.

I.) The database

1. Google drive columns added for chronology
  - a. Italy finished
  - b. Greece started
  - c. France largely added
  - d. Croatia to be started
  - e. Germany to be started
  - f. What is not covered?
  - g. Add a column with name and email of people to contact
2. Neanderthal Museum, will be able to provide data for the German sites with Neanderthal remains
3. Propose Laura Buck (UK), Mirjana Roksandic (but from Canada?), Leslea Hlusko (Spain). Try to have find some Spanish experts as they are numerous in this COST action but none in WG1.
4. STSM PhD student from Tuebingen, and from Bologna.

II.) Activities of WG1:

MC Meeting in Tübingen in October 11-12

Training school in Tübingen Geo Morph October 13-14

1. Training schools planned for early career. First come for served. Possibly online depending on situation.
2. Vision: to update catalogue of fossil hominins





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Publish it? Tübingen Uni Press (Open access)? Publishing / formatting costs covered by COST? Normally COST covers publishing costs.

Could it be hosted on the iNEAL website?

3. Excel format best for online databases.

But if we go to a print format it's not the best way.

We probably want both? Which means that we will not avoid paying someone to reformat the data.

Sorin will try to think about the metadata structure.

KH will send to everyone a scanned sample of the Catalogue (1971).

KH will send email reminding WG1 members to state which country they want to be responsible for.

SH and BA will think about combining formats/ Databases.

**Minutes prepared by:**

Katerina Harvati, WG1 Leader

Jean-Luc Voisin, WG1&4 member



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## ANNEX 3 - Minutes of Working Group 2: CULTURAL DATA

Agenda:

Database and dataset template problems and perspectives

Dataset regional scope

- a. Review of specific WG2 aims
- b. Missing expertise
- c. Specific problems

**May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021**

Topic	Content
<p>1. Database and dataset template problems and perspectives <b><u>12.30-13.30</u></b></p>	<p>Introduction by WG leader Francesca Romagnoli.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome to a new member from Israel, Omry Barzilai.</li> <li>• Introduction of the Google Drive folder and data sharing. Focusing on Neanderthal sites spanning MIS5-3 to begin with. When we will have completed the dataset on this chronological framework we can further expand the chronology to include sites from approximately 400 ka BP. Each member can modify each document with regional data and contribute to update the list of sites. Currently we will register for each site a simple list of data in the corresponding Word document (see below). It has been highlighted the need to improve the cooperation with the other working groups to avoid unnecessary and redundant work and discuss the categorisation of data and the platform for the database</li> </ul> <p>Data collection/database: We did a little test to see if people have access to the Drive that Francesca created.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First step: We agreed on a <b>collective deadline at the end of June to fill each regional document with at least c. 5-10 sites.</b> This dataset, included in the shared folder, will be used to publish a distribution map online and some thematic maps. Damien Stefanski agreed to create the GIS link so that we can have the browser map of spatial distribution. Damien will create an extra account and send it to us. We will use a physical map because geographic setting and environment are relevant variables to interpret the data.</li> <li>• Then step 2: to join with the other WG, particularly WG 1 and WG 3 on how to complement and categorise the data.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important that we agreed on the data collection and selection criteria. We start with very simple descriptive categories: site name, geographical coordinates, the geographical setting, type of site (open air/rockshelter/cave), excavated or result of survey, years of field investigation, main archaeological categories (presence of stone tools and main cultural definition, presence of faunal remains, presence of human remains (including for Israel <i>H. sapiens</i> evidences MIS 5-3 because this is an exceptional case and also difficult to differentiate the sites unless there is anthropological remains), dating, etc.), accessibility, main scientific literature (monographs &amp; language, papers), who in in charge of the archaeological collections, and who is in charge of the site management (from tourist visit and heritage).</li> <li>• <b>Visualisation of the data.</b> We will do this based on the data that is collected until June. We should each of us collect a representative number of sites displaying the spectre of the opportunities and problems and not limiting to well-dated sites, long stratigraphic sequences, and rich collections.</li> <li>• <b>Conclusion:</b> We upload data from each region by the <b>end of June</b>. Based on this we can start the evaluation and try to visualise the site distribution.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2.</b> Dataset regional scope</p> <p>Review of specific WG2 aims</p> <p>Missing expertise</p> <p>Specific problems</p> <p><b><u>13.45-14.45</u></b></p>	<p>Francesca introduced the message from Jean-Luc Voisin; ‘Neanderthal travel’ in <b>WG4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtual reality lithic experience, open to cultural experts (specifically lithic expert) who wish to contribute/collaborate.</li> <li>• Virtual exhibition on Neanderthal, open to cultural experts who wish to contribute/collaborate.</li> </ul> <p>WG2 members interested in collaborate on these projects are invited to contact with Jean-Luc.</p> <p>Discussion: representative <b>expertise</b>. We can also discuss this continuously, and especially after we have the initial dataset ready in end of June.</p> <p>Discussion of regional Scope:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We should improve the number of researchers working on site selection and dataset in Belgium, France, Turkey, UK, Baltic countries, Ukraine, Russia, Israel (Currently we only have 1 member in WG2 from Israel) and Caucasus (?). <b>Neighbouring counties can be included.</b></li> </ul> <p>Discussion of collection of historical photo/bibliography.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We each of us collect our data in our own Google Drive or similar and share within WG2 members. We will ask to possibly include the licence of End Note in the budget of the next grant period.</li> </ul> <p>We agreed to translate the title and the abstract of non-English literature.</p>



	<p><b>Notes from Chair of iNEAL Action Ivor Janković:</b></p> <p>The goal of the joint meeting is to create communication between the WGs to make sure we collect the data in the same way and can be easily merged. We will look to other available databases (in WG2 we suggested Roceeh and Nespos database)</p> <p>In regards to the expansion of the regional expertise: Ivor suggests starting by asking people from the cost action in the other WGs, or ask them if they can recommend colleagues.</p> <p>When we start to create the database, we will work more closely with WG1 so that we can share the workload and optimise data collection.</p> <p>Ivor also invite members to contact students or young researchers that can apply for the STSM grants for the next grant period.</p> <p><b>Question:</b> can we reimbursed people who are temporarily attached to the Cost action? Yes, if they are trainers for example.</p>
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**May 4<sup>th</sup> 2021**

Topic	Content
1. Dataset template and regional expertise	<p>WG2 members agreed on the list of missing regional expertise and on a list of potential expert to be involved. The list will be send to Ivor at the end of the meeting waiting for his approval so that WG2 members can contact the following foreign researchers to be included in iNEAL COST Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK (Matt Pope)</li> <li>• Belgium (Kevin di Modica)</li> <li>• France (Agnès Lamotte + someone for SW France, e.g.: Vincent Mourre or Laurence Bourguignon or...)</li> <li>• Ukraine (Victor Chabai)</li> <li>• Russia (Alexander Otcherednoy)</li> <li>• Caucasus (Boris Gasparian + Phil Glauberman - both from Armenia - + Andrew Kandel - from Germany)</li> <li>• Furthermore, Paraskevi Elefanti who is in charge of Turkey will start to work on this region and will notify the name of a potential colleague to be involved if needed. Omry Barzilai who is in charge for sites from The Levant will also be contacted to check if he considers opportune to involve another expert in this task (Omry is absent during the second-day meeting).</li> </ul>

	<p>We agreed on the final list of information to be included in the short description for each site, and we discuss some further data about raw material that we previously did not take into account and are relevant to interpret mobility issues, landscape management, and the improvement of geological studies in the different regions. The final list of dataset, which will be shared with all the WG2 members at the end of the MC meeting, is as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ** Name of the site</li> <li>• ** Geographical coordinates</li> <li>• ** Geographical setting</li> <li>• ** Type of site (open air/rockshelter/cave)</li> <li>• ** Excavated / survey spot</li> <li>• ** Years of field investigation</li> <li>• ** Presence of stone tools (rich / poor collection)</li> <li>• ** If possible, main techno-complex (Levallois / Quina / etc.)</li> <li>• ** Main cultural definition (Mousterian / Micoquien/ etc.)</li> <li>• ** Main raw material exploited (chert / radiolarite / quartzite/ etc.)</li> <li>• ** Presence of local and regional raw material (we can use the Binford model for foraging: &lt;10 Km = local / &gt;10 Km = regional). We can also indicate the presence of resources coming from more than 50 Km that have specific implications for mobility and regional networks. (No % at present, just indicate presence of).</li> <li>• ** Presence of faunal remains (rich / poor collection)</li> <li>• ** Presence of human remains (for Israel we will include H. sapiens fossil evidences during MIS 5-3 because this is an exceptional case and is difficult to differentiate the Neanderthal sites unless there are anthropological remains)</li> <li>• ** Dating (time spanning of the whole stratigraphic sequence and presence of absolute dating)</li> <li>• ** Main scientific literature (monographs &amp; language, papers, popular science publications)</li> <li>• ** Who is in charge of the archaeological collections (people &amp;/ institution)</li> <li>• ** Accessibility of the site</li> </ul> <p>** Who is in charge of the site management (for possible tourist visit and heritage projects)</p>
<p>Proposal for a WG2 Summer-Training School about “Petroarchaeology of Chert” at Fumane Cave</p>	<p>Marco Peresani presented to WG2 his project to organise a Summer-Training School at Fumane site (northern Italy) about “Petroarchaeology of Chert”. The school will be organised each year by the University of Ferrara and associated Partners. The school will have the duration of a week and will be organised to train a limited number of students (between 6 and 10). The aims of the school are to identify and classify chert types, to discuss different approaches in the study of raw material economy in archaeology, and investigate the different methods and techniques that are currently applied in raw material studies in Middle Palaeolithic</p>



<p>organised by Marco Persani</p>	<p>Archaeology. The school will include lectures by expert trainers discussing with student relevant case studies, laboratory activities, and surveys in the area around Fumane Cave.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marco Peresani asked for the interest of iNEAL COST Action to be partner of this activity and to be included among the sponsors.</li> <li>• WG2 expressed the interest in this training activity and in the topic and structure of the school</li> <li>• Marco Peresani presented this issue in the collective discussion after the individual WG meeting. Ivor Janković, Chair of iNEAL Action, expressed interest in the school that is in line with the iNEAL aims. He stated that there is the possibility for the COST Action to partially funding some students during a limited number of days, according to the COST rules in Training School. Details will be discussed between Ivor and Marco in the next months.</li> </ul>
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**Minutes prepared by:**

Trine Kellberg Nielsen, WG2 Substitute Leader

**Lists of participants:**

Francesca Romagnoli  
Ivor Janković  
Adrian Dobos  
Trine Kellberg Nielsen  
Adrián Nemergut  
Ana B. Marin-Arroyo  
Barbara Cvitkusic  
Omry Barzilai  
Damien Stefanski  
Dusan Mihailovic  
Florent Rivals  
Ľubomíra Kaminská  
Marco Peresani  
Maria José Iriarte-Chiapusso  
Zsolt Mester  
Nikola Vukosavljevic  
Pawel Vale Nowak  
Paraskevi Elefanti  
Sanjin Mihelić  
Stefan Vasile  
Telmo Pereira





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## **ANNEX 4 - Minutes of Working Group 3: MOLECULAR DATA**

### **May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021**

#### **Pre-meeting: 12:30 - 13:30**

Informal short introduction of members and plans for official meeting at 13:45.

#### **Group meeting: 13:45 - 15:00**

Member presentations for 10 minutes.

Presentation by Jean-Luc Voisin from WG1/4 about Travel in Neanderthal Times: virtual museum and VR presentations. Questions in regards to this, and whether Denisovans have a place as well in these virtual presentations.

Discussion of how to present DNA, in general, and then more specifically about the Neanderthal genome and the process of analysing ancient DNA from bone to computer data.

The possibilities of outsourcing these virtual environments in simpler forms for schools and education facilities: for them to use, and to develop.

Discussion about database. Is there any database currently out there? The Leipzig group already has a “genome browser” and repository for Neanderthal data.

Are two linked databases (WG1+2, WG3) a solution? Or should we try to focus on a single global one?

How many samples are not inventorized globally?

Action Chair Ivor Janković shortly mentioned that WG1 and WG2 have been encountering the same issues in terms of how to prepare the database, where to get the data from, etc.

Thoughts on advantages of the database, having the possibility to know where samples are with more transparency, helping researchers to organize their research, helping networking and empowering collaborations.

Closing discussion on how WGs organize tasks and member participation.

### **May 4<sup>th</sup> 2021**

#### **Group meeting 13:30 -14:00**

How to maintain the database in the long term? Local commercial company servers, university servers, European servers?



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How much information do we want in the database? Just details on what has been done and links to other repositories and publications, or actual detailed results for each sample?

If we want any of the detailed information present, perhaps a solution (using isotope data as an example), is to update external databases such as isoarch.eu, and then link that information to our database.

Would a GIS interface be possible?

**Minutes prepared by:**

Daniel Fernandes, WG3 Substitute Leader

**Present at the meeting May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Ron Pinhasi  
Daniel Fernandes  
Liran Carmel  
Martin Kuhlwilm  
Kate Britton  
Jean-Luc Voisin  
Johann Galdies  
Elmira Mohandesan  
Ivor Jankovic

**Present at the meeting May 4<sup>th</sup>**

Ron Pinhasi  
Daniel Fernandes  
Martin Kuhlwilm  
Kate Britton  
Katerina Douka



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## ANNEX 5 - Minutes of Working Group 4: FROM PAST TO PRESENT

Due to the fact that most WG 4 members are at the same time affiliated also to working groups 1-3, we decided to hold our WG 4 meeting a few days in advance of the MC meeting, to allow our members to participate at meetings of the other working groups. The agenda of that meeting followed logically to those of the previous meetings (a total of five starting from the beginning of 2021).

Following the introduction and a short reflection and discussion of the previous meeting, the main points on the agenda included discussions on the Action newsletter, website, progress reports on several projects that WG 4 is developing, as well as to planning our future activities.

The month of May marked the launch of the Newsletter of our Action. The work on the Newsletter started in March, when the Editorial Board was established, consisting of Tamara Leskovar (editor-in chief) and Sanjin Mihelić as associate editor, plus Irka Hajdas, Sorin Hermon, Telmo Pereira and Jean-Luc Voisin as the board members. Porin Šćukanec Rezniček was appointed the technical editor. The board's work progressed through a series of online meetings during March and April. At the last WG 4 meeting the discussion centred around adding the finishing touches to the Newsletter, as well as on operational points and organization regarding the future iterations.

The iNEAL website was launched in parallel with the newsletter. The WG 4 meeting was again used as a forum to discuss operational topics on the path to optimizing the website for users.

WG 4 is developing a number of projects pertaining to dissemination of the action's activities, as well as working on its own deliverables. As regards dissemination, iNEAL will be excellently represented at the most important annual archaeological conference in Europe, namely, the 27th annual meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists. The Action has organized a session which will comprise a total of 14 papers and 2 posters on the topic of "Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present", which is expected to attract a large number of participants. There are also plans for participation at other archaeological and related conferences in the future.

Among other projects that are being developed within WG 4, it is important to single out an exhibition project with the working title of "Travel in Neandertal world", led by our member Jean-Luc Voisin, and a Virtual Reality simulation led by Kasper Rodil on Palaeolithic lithic technology, which puts the user in the role of a Neandertal. Both topics were regularly discussed at WG 4's meetings.

WG 4 also discussed the oncoming training school, which will take place in Zagreb between 27-29 September. The school will be dedicated to the topic of cultural routes. The very same topic is also being developed in the framework of another WG 4's project/deliverable, namely, a volume within the iNEAL Guidelines for best practices series, dedicated to the creation of cultural routes.

### Minutes prepared by:

Sanjin Mihelić, WG4 Leader



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**Present at the meeting:**

Bärbel Auffermann  
Nikola Borovinić  
Srđan Delić  
Parisa Göker  
Irka Hajdas  
Ivor Janković  
Tamara Leskovar  
Bojana Mihailović  
Sanjin Mihelić  
Susan Peeters  
Telmo Pereira  
Kasper Rodil  
Damian Stefański  
Porin Šćukanec Rezniček  
Jean-Luc Voisin



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## CA19141 – Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present

### Minutes of the Core Group meeting

May 4<sup>th</sup> 2021

Zagreb, CROATIA

Online meeting (via ZOOM)

Core Group Meeting of the CA19141 *Integrating Neandertal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) started at 15:00.

There was a short discussion about the database platform and next steps. Ivor Janković said that he will ask Bärbel Auffermann about the NESPOS database in order to check the compatibility with the iNEAL's data.

Katerina Harvati suggested that someone from the ROCEEH database should be contacted. Francesca Romagnoli offered to ask Manuel Will, and also informed members about Patrick Semal's suggestion to take into account DISSCO, the new European Infrastructure of the Natural History Collections (ESFRI).

At the end, Sanjin Mihelić, WG4 Leader, asked Leaders of WG1-3 to inform him about their meetings, in order to appoint a delegate or to participate himself. He pointed out, that besides WG4's own agenda, WG4 needs to be more present in other WGs to communicate and disseminate the outputs of the Action.

Core Group Meeting of the CA19141 *Integrating Neandertal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) ended at 15:15.



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**Annex:**

1. List of attendees (MC, WG and CG meetings)



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