Special Issue

Climate Change versus Cultural Heritage: Past, Present and Future

Message from the Guest Editor

Cultural heritage is one of the pillars of society and forms the identity of people. Since prehistoric times, humankind has created and built objects and structures with a diverse range of organic and inorganic supports. Over time, these have transformed into objects of cultural heritage, telling the stories of a (more or less) distant past and preserving the memory and culture of the people that preceded us. However, the degradation of cultural heritage sites has increased to an unprecedented scale due to climate change. Despite rising concerns regarding cultural heritage degradation, little is known about the impacts of the climate crisis on cultural heritage and how this potentiates the usual factors of deterioration. The scientific literature in this area and studies focused on preventive solutions remain scarce. This Special Issue intends to address some of these gaps, encouraging researchers from different backgrounds to explore, via a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary and transversal approach, climate change's impact on cultural heritage.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

We live in a Quaternary world, that is, a world shaped by the interplay of the different compartments of the earth system—lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere—during the last ~2.6 million years. It is not possible to understand the current world—and, hence, to anticipate its possible future developments—without knowing the Quaternary history of drivers, processes, and mechanisms that have generated it. Our own species is an evolutionary outcome of the Quaternary performance. Therefore, the journal *Quaternary* is born with the aim of being an integrative journal to encompass all aspects of Quaternary science focused on understanding the complex world in which we live and to provide a sound scientific basis to anticipate possible future trends and inform environmental policies.

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