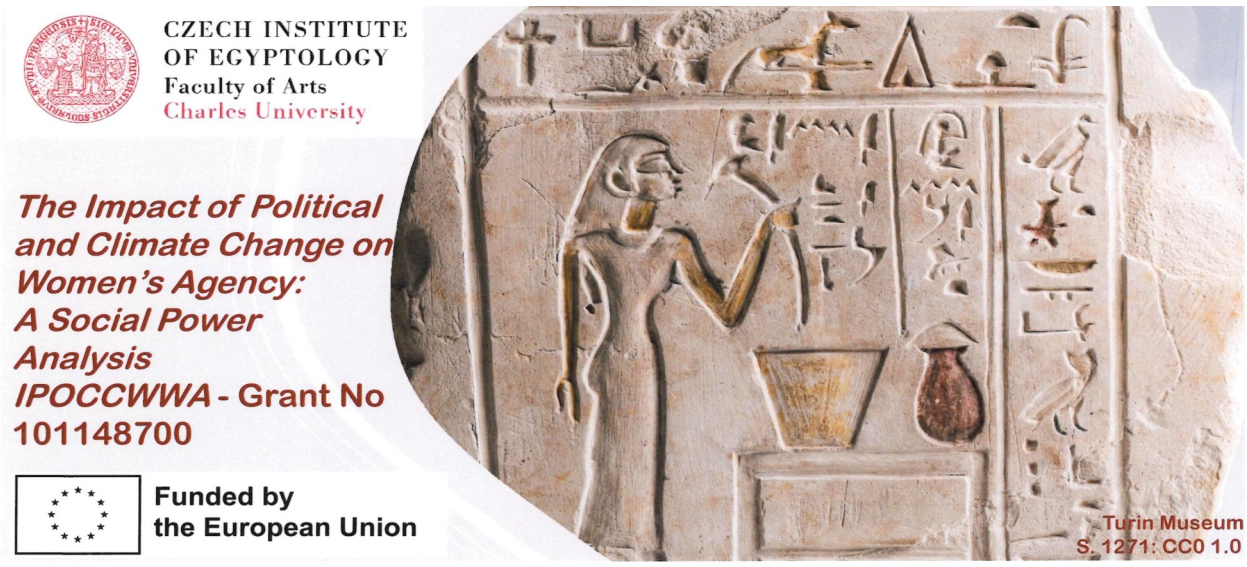
ONLINE LECTURE SERIES—23.04.25 10:00 AM CET



Dana Bělohoubková: : Abstract

On *wr.t-ḫnr* and *ḥm.t-nṯr*. Can We Speak of Parallel Careers for the High Priest and His Wife?

This lecture, based on my doctoral thesis, explores the roles and careers of women bearing the titles *wr.t-ḫnr* (Great of Musical Performers) and *ḥm.t-nṯr* (God's Wife) in New Kingdom Egypt, particularly in the context of elite families closely tied to temple institutions. By examining the interplay between the religious functions of these women and the careers of their husbands, the lecture considers whether we can speak of complementary or even parallel careers within the religious sphere.

Through a combined analysis of textual, prosopographical, and archaeological evidence, this presentation highlights how female agency, family strategies, and gendered access to power were negotiated within the sacred and administrative landscapes of New Kingdom temples. It also demonstrates how female members of priestly families actively participated in the family's religious and economic affairs, contributing to the consolidation and monopolisation of power by their families.

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