

## *Conference on underwater archaeology, Sassnitz*

The German organizations on underwater archaeology in collaboration with international partner organizations are arranging a conference on underwater archaeology to be held in Sassnitz at the island of Rügen 18-21 February 1999 supported by the European Union. The conference focuses on changes in European culture caused by maritime and inland waterborne trade.

The importance of maritime and inland waterborne trade for the cultural development of certain areas should be discussed in the framework of a lecture programme. Additionally, it should be demonstrated which underwater sites can explain important issues in connection with these aspects. The presentation of new finds is not desired but their contribution to archaeological understanding of economy and society. Also contributions are welcome which are not based only on archaeological sources but exclusively on written and pictorial research. As such it brings together the work of scientist and scholars of the different archaeological and all other disciplines involved in the study of underwater cultural heritage. This will allow productive exchange of experience and discussions of problems of common interest.

Furthermore, Roundtables with selected participants are planned to discuss several aspects of the main theme "Legislations and Protection of underwater cultural heritage" such as "Commercial salvage companies and underwater archaeology", "Trade in artefacts", "Protection of cultural heritage in national and international waterways".

A poster session should accompany the lecture and roundtable programme to demonstrate recent developments in underwater archaeological surveying techniques, preservation of underwater finds of organic and inorganic materials, and the scientific examination of archaeological items. Those institutions engaged in underwater archaeology will have the chance to present their work within the framework of the poster session. It should be possible to demonstrate the use of new media for the presentation of underwater archaeological work.

**Contact:**

Dr H. Lübke  
Landesamt für Bodendenkmalpflege Mecklenburg-Vorpommern  
Schloss Wiligrad  
D-19069 Lübstorf.  
Fax: +49 3867 8806  
E-mail: 106411.1414@compuserve.com