

**Studies on the cultural and settlement changes on the territory of Pomerania from the 2nd half of the 2nd century AD to the beginning of the 6th century AD.  
Between the Wielbark Culture and the so-called Dębczyno Group.**

The purpose of my project is to track the cultural and settlement changes that took place in Pomerania in the Late Roman Period at the moment of the ongoing decline of the Wielbark Culture, which developed in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, and the formation of a new cultural unit – the so-called Dębczyno Group that appeared on the territory stretching from the basin of the Rega and Parsęta rivers to the basin of the Łupawa river. Despite the alleged disruption of cultural continuity, many similarities between features of the so-called Dębczyno Group and the Wielbark Culture can be noticed, not only in the artifactual material but also in the funeral rite. Moreover, both of them show connections with Western Pomerania and Mecklenburg which manifest themselves in the influences from the Elbe cultural circle visible in the cultural material. The relations with Scandinavia, noticeable in the inflow of some category of artifacts and specific funeral rite traditions, are also of significance.

The main criteria for distinguishing the so-called Dębczyno Group are: in the first phases of its existence, the stylistic similarities visible in the material – for example: elements of dress accessories or pottery – with those which existed on the territory of the Elbe cultural circle; and the connections with Scandinavia in later phases. The latter are represented by the horizon of hoards type Świelino that consisted of brooches ornamented in Sösdala/Sjörp style, and hoards type Karlino composed of golden Scandinavian bracteates and metal dress accessories, as well as cult deposits type Piotrowice with golden necklaces related to Scandinavian traditions. At the same time, it needs to be emphasized that relations between people of the so-called Dębczyno Group and Scandinavia were present since the first phases of its existence in the material found in richly furnished graves associated with the elites of Western and Middle Pomerania. It seems that this phenomenon can be connected with a migration of small groups of people from the territory of Bornholm, who brought over specific models that influenced the formation of the so-called Dębczyno Group, but the way and pattern of their adaptation still remain unknown and need further research.

Despite connections with the Elbe cultural circle or Scandinavia, the so-called Dębczyno Group shares resemblances with the Wielbark Culture, not only in the metal dress accessories or pottery, but first of all in its funeral rite. It is invariably characterized by birituality, the absence of weapons and dominance of non-ferrous metals used for production

of dress accessories. However, it needs to be highlighted that, similarly to the so-called Dębczyno Group, the Wielbark Culture itself showed connections with the Elbe cultural circle as well as Scandinavia, bringing into consideration the migration of Goths. Therefore, the relation between the above-mentioned cultural units needs to be analyzed once more.

Currently, I am a PhD student at the Department of Iron Age Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology of the Jagiellonian University under the supervision of dr hab. Judyta Rodzińska-Nowak. An important part of my research will focus on studies on adaptation of foreign cultural features in terms of metal dress accessories, pottery, construction or funeral rites. I will attempt to determine the reasons for and mechanisms of the diffusion of these traditions to Pomerania. Taking into consideration various connections between the territory of the Elbe river or Scandinavia and the Wielbark Culture as well as the so-called Dębczyno Group, I think that the possibility of viewing the archives and the library of ALM and the Centre for Baltic and Scandinavian Archaeology and the contact with its researchers would let me broaden my knowledge on the subject I am interested in.