

Geowissenschaftliches Kolloquium

Global change and the last Mediterranean coral reefs

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During the last 15 years recurrent warming-related mass mortalities have been recorded in Mediterranean benthic communities, impacting emblematic species such as *Cladocora caespitosa*, the only reef-building coral in the Mediterranean Sea. While extensive *C. caespitosa* reefs are to be found in the fossil record, its bioconstructions have become rare in current Mediterranean coastal environments and are threatened by climate warming. Dr. Kersting will present the problematic of warming impacts in the Mediterranean Sea through its intriguing last coral reefs and outline future paleo-biological research.



Dr. Kersting joined the Freie Universität Berlin als Gastwissenschaftler in September 2016. He defended his PhD on marine sciences in the University of Barcelona (Spain) and his research has been mainly focused on the impact of global change disturbances in marine ecosystems, combining research and freelance consultancy to governmental agencies and international organizations.



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