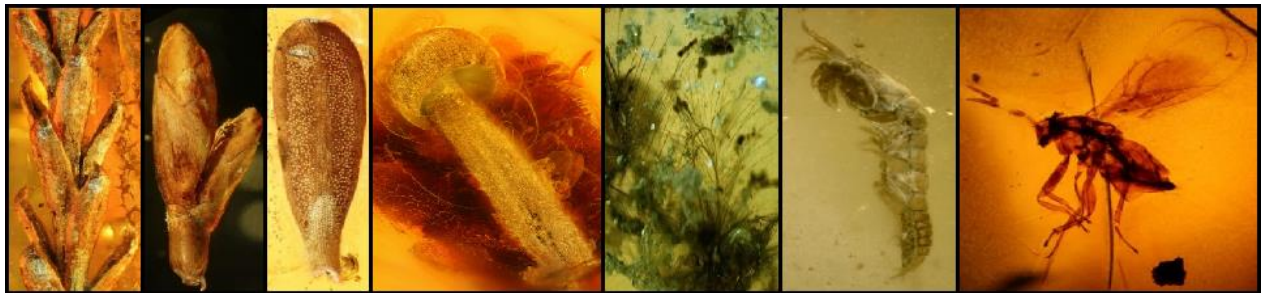

Invitation to the public habilitation colloquium

Dr Leyla Seyfullah

Monday 5 October 2020, 15.00

Now online at: <https://eu.bbcollab.com/guest/48eb8f3464e24c60bad5b4c18f3d1dda>

Resins through time



Resins are complex plant biochemicals that can, under the right conditions, become preserved as amber. Most amber research focuses on the organisms trapped inside the amber as they can be exquisitely preserved. The plant and microbial inclusions have been mostly overlooked, but work on these neglected inclusions has been rewarding and reshapes the interpretation of these ‘amber forest’ ecosystems. Work to understand the resinous environments, both past and present is vital to understand why plants produce resins, especially in significant enough quantities to be able to be preserved in the fossil record. This has led to the interesting question of what else can resins and ambers preserve, besides the biological organisms trapped within, hidden in their chemistries?

Leyla studied Botany and Microbiology at the University of Edinburgh, and received her doctoral degree in Palaeozoic palaeobotany from the University of Birmingham, UK. Through postdoctoral work at the University of Göttingen, Germany she was able to explore the amber and resin world. Since 2018 she has been working as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in Palaeobotany at the University of Vienna.