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Radiocarbon dating: From early settlements to illegal ivory

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Radiocarbon dating is a key tool in archaeology and Quaternary Earth sciences, as it is one of the few methods that allows for absolute age determination. The Czech Radiocarbon Laboratory (CRL) at the Nuclear Physics Institute of the CAS operates state-of-the-art infrastructure for its research, including Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS), the only facility of its kind in the Czech Republic. The MILEA AMS system enables precise and robust measurements of radiocarbon and other difficult-to-measure radionuclides. CRL's research spans a broad chronological spectrum, providing new insights into various periods of human history—from early human settlement in Central Europe, through Neolithic subsistence strategies and the Iron Age, to the Middle Ages. In addition, CRL also addresses contemporary challenges, such as dating ivory to support efforts in combating illegal wildlife trade.

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