Historic severe weather events in Europe (414 BC - 1590)

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We present very early data on severe weather events in Europe in the period from 414 BC (a major flood in Rome, Italy) to the late 16th century (alpine mudslides). Landslides include events in the city of Salzburg (Austria).

We also report on severe winds and floods in the territory of today’s Czech Republic.

Although our sources are often sparse and less detailed compared to more recent data, we attempt to give an insight into the perception, causal attribution, and coping strategies of the contemporaries.

Furthermore, we address the question if and if so, to what extent severe events marked a cultural memory.

Moreover, whenever possible, we try to reconstruct the wind magnitude assessment of the historic severe winds.