

Foreword

This book includes contributions in the form of new arguments to explain the dynamics of growing complexity in Prehistoric societies. The ways in which Humanity has managed to improve socio-political solutions in different geographical areas, environmental changing contexts and different scales of interaction are matters that interest modern societies.

Coming from several researcher teams of universities and museums, the authors bring new knowledge on the theme in debate; so the Past will not be a strange territory, but a promising laboratory for a better understanding of the Other and for planning an auspicious future.

Since its foundation in 1974, the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography of the District of Setúbal (MAEDS – www.maeds.amrs.pt), integrated after 2014 in the Association of Municipalities of the Region of Setúbal (AMRS), has encompassed the strategic domain of research. This high ranked social function is crucial for a sustained cultural intervention. In this field, MAEDS has been publishing *Setúbal Arqueológica* journal since 1975, and this publication has often been dedicated to proceedings of scientific meetings. We highly value this special issue of the *Setúbal Arqueológica* journal with the papers presented at the B15 session of the Burgos UISPP Congress, which expresses the contemporary trend in archaeological research, intersecting local contexts with worldwide perspectives.

Finally, I would like to thank the authors and the organizers of the XVII World UISPP Congress for its commitment in the promotion of this interesting and decisive field of research for a structural understanding of our species.

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