

stone hammer-axes from the Corded Ware culture and Roman coins. The microregion of Kotouč near Štramberk and its vicinity, in addition to the above-mentioned, has traces of the presence of people in the Globular Amphora culture, in the Late Bronze Age, in the Late and Middle La Tène culture and Early Middle Ages. These settlement principles can be used, *mutatis mutandis*, for a range of other peripheral areas in Central Europe.

Salt and Prehistoric (From the Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age) Population Movements in the Eastern Carpathians of Romania. A Diachronic Gis-Based Analysis

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The presence of some archaeological materials that testify that as early as the Neolithic the human communities exploited the salt and saline water resources in order to satisfy various requirements, constituted the starting point for a series of interdisciplinary ethnoarchaeological investigations conducted in the Eastern Carpathian area of Romania. Directly connected to the exploitation of this indispensable mineral are the population movements and variable density of the prehistoric communities occupying this area during the Neolithic, Eneolithic and Early Bronze Age, periods which witnessed the development in this area of some of the most representative prehistoric civilizations for European prehistory (e.g. the Cucuteni culture). By means of an integrated analysis, in a GIS environment, of the archaeological, geographical and ethnographical data, we were able to capture the spatial distribution of the settlements, alongside the dynamic of the human occupation during the aforementioned timespan, for the mountainous areas of Eastern Romania.

People and Mountains in the North of Romania: Maramureș Mountains Archaeological Project

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Mountains are between the less investigated areas in the Romanian archaeology in terms of systematic research, a situation very different than the one from Poland and Slovakia, where intensive research already took place in some point in the Carpathians. To fill this void, a team of archaeologists from the Institute of Archaeology from Bucharest, and the museums of Baia Mare and Satu Mare, started in 2012 the Maramures Mountains Archaeological Project, with the aim to investigate intensively a microregion from the east of the Maramures Depression, linked to the Prislop Pass and high altitude peaks like Geamanul. Mountains and passes are seen not only as ‘source’ for food and raw materials or simply the natural environment in which people live but also as symbolic spaces. For a better understanding of the landscape, the recording of sites and artifacts is completed by a phenomenological analysis. In this paper we present the results of the first fieldwork season (2012) with finds from the Palaeolithic to the contemporary period. We present also the stage of research for the high mountain area of North Transylvania and the proposals for future research in the framework of our project.

Carpathians: Barrier or Border? Cultures Tiszapolgár and Cucuteni-Tripolie

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Cultures Cucuteni-Tripolie and Tiszapolgar separated the Carpathian Mountains. What role do they played in prehistory : barrier or natural boundary through which there were contacts between the two cultures? Finds of copper products (ax – hammers Yaszlady type, Szakalhat type axes, one of which was found in the Ukrainian Carpathians (Kropyvysche, Kolomya District), gold jewelry (Brad : Monah D. 2003) Trajan : Dumitrescu VI. 1979) in the Cucuteni- Tripolye show the exchange between them. Interesting is the fact that the receiving side was a culture Cucuteni- Tripolye. It is possible that the person who brought with them to exchange copper and gold products enjoy a high status in the eyes cucuteni - trypillian population. It is possible that other semi things they enjoyed also granted special status. This indicates, in my view, copy them tyszapolgars dishes (“ high “ pithos” and deep bowls with rows of handles located outside in chess order, tall bowl with bosses outside, etc.). Perhaps in exchange for copper and gold products tyszapolgar population received Volyn quality flint, as evidenced by the deposit in the graves Veliko Rashkovtsy (Slovakia) (Vizdal J. 1977).

Bükk Culture Cave Sites in North Eastern Hungary

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The community of the Middle Neolithic Bükk Culture regularly utilized cave sites, which previously were only occupied in the Paleolithic Era. The people of the famous well burned, incised and incrustrated fine pottery inhabited both caves and open-air settlements as well. Based on the unearthed prehistoric cave finds, recent studies try to investigate the intensive usage of the caves can be connected to the Bükk Culture: former archaeologists excavated pottery fragments, burials, fire-