International Conference

Fortifications of the Metal Ages in Europe: Defensive, Symbolic and Territorial Aspects

In large parts of Europe, walls, fences, berms or ditches around settlements or ritual places became increasingly significant from the Chalcolithic to the Iron Age. Examples include fortified Chalcolithic sites such as Los Millares and Zambujal, the Bronze Age Sardinian Nuraghi, and Iron Age hillforts and oppida such as Bibracte, Maiden Castle and Monte Bernorio. Several works have dealt with the nature (symbolic and/or defensive) of these fortifications, their architecture and the impact on the ancient landscape, including the question of hierarchy between different fortified sites and the use of their visual impact to symbolize the power of the communities.

The aim of this international conference is to discuss different interpretive proposals around this kind of structures of large constructive investment, present new case studies, and enable comparative analysis between different regions and chronological periods. The colloquium will be structured in three main themes: 1) warfare and fortifications; 2) symbolic spaces; and 3) landscape impact and territorial distribution.

The meeting will take place in Guimarães (northern Portugal), in close proximity to Citânia de Briteiros, one of the most prominent fortified settlements from the Iron Age Castro Culture.

**Place:** Sociedade Martins Sarmento, Rua Paio Galvão, Guimarães (Portugal).

**Fees:**
- 30 euros (participation to Scientifics Sessions)
- 20 euros (students)
- 100 euros (participation to Scientifics Sessions + UISPP membership + participation in the meeting of UISPP Scientific Commission “Metal Ages in Europe”).
- Field trip fee: 10 euros.

**Deadline for abstract submission:** 30 April 2017.

**Contacts, registrations and submission titles:** fortmetalages2017@gmail.com

IBAN – PT50 0007 0000 0002 0013 9142 3

SWIFT – BESCPTPL

Instituto Terra e Memória

**Website:** available soon

**Preliminary program:**

*Friday 10th November:* keynote lecture by Prof. Gonzalo Ruiz Zapatero (Madrid).

Scientifics Sessions

Meeting of Scientific Commission “Metal Ages in Europe”

Traditional dinner (*magusto*)

*Saturday 11th November:* Scientifics Sessions

Public evening lecture by Prof. Francisco Sande Lemos (Lisbon).

**Organization:** UISPP Scientific Commission “Metal Ages in Europe” and Sociedade Martins Sarmento.

**Organizing committee:**

Davide Delfino (Centro de Geociências da U.C./Instituto Terra e Memória/UISPP Scientific Commission “Metal Ages in Europe”)

Fernando Coimbra (Centro de Geociências da U.C./Instituto Terra e Memória/UISPP Scientific Commission “Metal Ages in Europe”)

Manuel Fernández-Götz (University of Edinburgh/UISPP Scientific Commission “Metal Ages in Europe”)

Daniela Cardoso (Sociedade Martins Sarmento/ Laboratório de Paisagens, Património e Território da Universidade do Minho – Lab2PT)

Gonçalo Cruz (Sociedade Martins Sarmento/Laboratório de Paisagens, Património e Território da Universidade do Minho – Lab2PT).

**Support:** Municipality of Guimarães, University of Edinburgh, Universidade do Minho.