

## Water Supply and Water Management in the Metal Ages





# Water Supply and Water Management in the Metal Ages

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Edited by

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Cover: Aerial view of the motilla of Azuer (Daimiel, Ciudad Real) in 2013 – Luis Benítez de Lugo Enrich and Miguel Mejías Moreno



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## Sponsors Preface

# The Importance of Archaeology in the Search for Scientific Evidence to Understand the Past

As an individual committed to the pursuit of quality scientific knowledge in archaeology, it is an honour to contribute to the edition of the papers presented at the 'Metal Ages 2022' colloquium. This event was co-organized by the UISPP's Scientific Commission 'Metal Ages in Europe and the Mediterranean' and the Department of Archaeology at Bilkent University, and held at Bilkent University in October 2022. This took place while we were still grappling with the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, and I had restricted my international travels to the bare minimum.

E2IN2 S.A. supports archaeology through collaborations with archaeologists in Spain and Spanish archaeological missions abroad. This support typically involves multi-year actions and the signing of agreements with both public and private institutions.

We also collaborate in the publication of books and manuals in the field, to contribute to the dissemination of archaeological knowledge.

We decided to attend the Metal Ages conference given our involvement in the inaugural lecture on the Motilla culture. A unique culture specific to certain areas of the Iberian Peninsula, it has been a focus of our dissemination efforts for several years. We aimed to highlight our interest in promoting awareness of this earliest known European culture to utilize water resources, especially during a time of persistent drought due to a global phenomenon.

This is the first time we have participated in a publication that is not purely Spanish, capturing the multidisciplinary experience and knowledge about a period during which our ancestors were becoming humanized, leading to the different civilizations from which we descended.

My attendance at the conference was very enjoyable, despite the injury I suffered during the visit to the site on the last days of my stay in Turkey. I sincerely appreciate the care and attention given to me in person.

I extend my thanks to the organizers and the individuals from the university whom I had the opportunity to meet, as well as for the support I received after the minor mishap.

We hope that in the future, other opportunities will arise to actively collaborate in initiatives that contribute to the dissemination and enhancement of archaeological heritage, ensuring its understanding and preservation by and for future generations.

Madrid, May 17th, 2024  
Valentín de Torres-Solanot  
Civil Engineer / CEO E2IN2

## Editors' Foreword

Since its foundation in 1931, the inherent philosophy of the International Union of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences (UISPP) was — and today, almost a century after its inception, still is — to foster, promote and publicize the global exchange of archaeological knowledge across modern political borders and language entities. It was therefore not a daring experiment but a logical consequence to hold the annual meetings of the UISPP Metal Ages and Archaeometry commissions for the first time in Ankara, Türkiye, from October 13th to 16th, 2022. The Department of Archaeology at the internationally renowned Bilkent University hosted the joint colloquium, with 'Water Supply and Water Management in the Metal Ages' as the covering topic for the Thematic Session organized by the Metal Ages Commission. The General Session accommodated talks delivered by members of both commissions.

The presented papers and posters, ringed in with the keynote lecture on the Motilla culture by Luis Benitez de Lugo Enrich (Universidad Complutense, Madrid) encompassed a wide range of topics pertaining to diverse issues concerning water supply (or negotiating its shortage) in pre- and protohistoric times. The papers delivered in the General Session likewise displayed the broad variety of current archaeological debates that can be further enriched with methodologies and applications rooted in physics and chemistry.

The two conference days held in the large auditorium of the Humanities and Letters Faculty of Bilkent University allowed for a vivid exchange of ideas, the reviving of old friendships and the establishment of new ones, all further invigorated by field trips to the Hittite fortress of Gavurkalesi and the UNESCO World Heritage site of Gordion, and, last but not least, the multilayered marvels of traditional and contemporary Turkish cuisine.

The present volume contains the early harvest from both the Thematic and the General Session. We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to the Rector of Bilkent University, Prof. Dr Kürşat Aydoğan, the Provost Prof. Dr Orhan Aytür, the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Letters, Prof. Dr Simon Wigley, and the Head of the Department of Archaeology, Prof. Dr Dominique Kassab-Tezgör for providing the conference venue and funding for the evening reception, further honouring our event with their welcoming speeches. Additional funds for the snack supply during session breaks were kindly provided by Valentín de Torres Solanot. We would further thank all contributors for their excellent papers, and, once again, Valentín de Torres Solanot and E2IN2 for their generous contribution towards the publication costs of the present proceedings.

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