
Last Glacial Maximum occupations in the Ceahlău Basin

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Abstract

When compared to other relatively ignored regions of present-day Romania, the Paleolithic record in the eastern part of the country has been systematically investigated over the last seven decades, especially the middle sectors of the Bistrița and Prut rivers. Although it yielded a significant settlement density, the Eastern Carpathian UP record remained for decades underrepresented in regional or continental syntheses, mainly due to the unusual proposed interpretations. Lately, a series of reassessments based on previously recovered data, supplemented by new field researches and chronometric measurements aided to an improved understanding of the regional UP record. In addition, the identification of new settlements, unaffected by previous researches and accessible to excavations based on up to date research methodologies is still possible. Bistricioara-Lutărie III is one of these sites. Although only partially explored, this site located in the middle of the Ceahlău settlement concentration brought a wealth of archaeological, chronometric and paleoenvironmental data, critical to the understanding of the recurrent occupations throughout the entire LGM in the area.

Keywords: Upper Palaeolithic, LGM, Eastern Carpathians, Ceahlău Basin, multilayered sites, recurrent occupations

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