Metal Ages in Europe and the Mediterranean

uispp

Âges des métaux en Europe et en Méditerranée

UNION INTERNATIONALE DES SCIENCES PRÉHISTORIQUES ET PROTOHISTORIQUES
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF THE PREHISTORIC AND PROTOHISTORIC SCIENCES
UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE CIENCIAS PREHISTORICAS Y PROTOHISTORICAS

MetalAges 2025

Graz (Austria) 26–27 September 2025

Call for Papers

Thematic Session: Sanctuaries and Ritual Practices in the Metal Ages

The thematic session of this year's 'Metal Ages' colloquium will focus on sanctuaries and ritual practices of the Chalcolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age in Europe and the Mediterranean, as vital elements for our understanding of the cultural, spiritual, and social dimensions of past societies.

Sanctuaries in prehistory and protohistory served as focal points for communication with the divine, fostering community identity and cohesion through shared practices such as sacrifices, feasts, and votive offerings. Examining these practices allows archaeologists to reconstruct belief systems and societal structures, offering insights into how communities and individuals navigated their relationship with the natural and supernatural worlds. Rituals also reveal universal human concerns —such as fertility, death, and cosmological order—while showcasing the creativity and symbolic complexity of prehistoric cultures.

General Session: Current Research in the Metal Ages

Apart from contributions dealing with this year's main theme, we also invite contributions to the general session of the conference from any interested colleagues working on the Metal Ages. Papers or posters in the general session may deal with any aspect of the archaeology of the Metal Ages in Europe and the Mediterranean.

This year's 'Metal Ages' colloquium is co-organized by the UISPP's Scientific Commission 'Metal Ages in Europe and the Mediterranean' and the Archaeology department at the University of Graz.

Please submit your paper or poster proposal at https://MetalAges2025.sciencesconf.org (in English, French, or German) no later than 15th June 2025.

Please direct any queries to: metal-ages@uispp.org

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