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# The times they are a changin'. A synthesis of the Middle and Lower Tagus Basin Mesolithic to Middle Neolithic records.

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## Résumé

The transition from the last hunter-gatherers to the first productive economies, its chronology and material culture(s), as well as aspects related to paleoenvironment and associated human dynamics have been widely debated in Western Iberia. The last decades saw a rise on available data, still generally unequally dispersed through the coast and valley areas in comparison to other inland regions.

Pluriannual projects comprising extensive field surveys have been (or are being) implemented allowing for a better understanding of the evidences dispersal. Still, sometimes data is not as precise as needed, due to its characteristics, namely the relevance of materials from field surveys. Nonetheless, both coastal and inland evidences indicate a low rise in the number of Mesolithic sites, but mainly in Early and Middle Neolithic sites throughout the region.

This presentation will be a synthesis of the available data for the 8th-6th millennium BP in the Lower and Middle Tagus Valley. We will focus our attention on aspects related to palaeoenvironmental records but taking into account inter-site archaeographic comparisons, rock art evidences, and questions of palaeoeconomy and mobility in an inter-regional comparison. Available information, together with new data from field surveys and excavations, radiometric dating and material culture studies will be presented and discussed regarding adaptation to climatic and environmental constraints, and geographical and chronological dispersal of evidences.

**Mots-Clés:** Neolithisation process, Archaeography, Tagus Valley, Palaeoeconomy, Palaeoenvironment

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