

February 27, 2026

11:00 AM



Prof. Ana Catarina Sousa

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BACKGROUND

Vice-President of the Board of Directors of Património Cultural, I.P., since 2014 (Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth). Professor at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Lisbon, since 2008, where she teaches Archaeology.

She has been a researcher at UNIARQ, the Centre for Archaeology of the University of Lisbon, since 1997. A specialist in Neolithic Prehistory and Cultural Heritage, she has directed 81 archaeological excavations, mainly of prehistoric sites, and has led or participated in numerous research and heritage projects in Portugal, in collaboration with the Universities of Granada, Seville, Mainz, and Barcelona. She is the author of seven books, editor of ten collective volumes, and has published over 140 articles in national and international journals.

She coordinated the publications of the Centre for Archaeology of the University of Lisbon (2016–2024), including Ophiussa (indexed in Scopus).

‘ANSOR - Anthropisation of Sorraia Valley’: An approach to peasant societies from the 6th to 2nd millennium



Abstract

Rivers have always attracted human settlements to their banks. The way in which this occupation occurs over time — type of settlement, modes of subsistence, exchange networks, funerary and symbolic practices—is also a reinvention of the landscape, which also changes with climatic fluctuations. The ‘ANSOR - Anthropisation of Sorraia Valley’ project, now in its 43rd year, is an ongoing investigation and permanent reinvention, where archaeology intersects with many disciplines such as geography, geomorphology, paleobotany, and archaeometry. From the 6th to 2nd millennium, the banks of the Sorraia witnessed decisive phases in the early peasant societies: the appearance of the first agricultural activities in the early Neolithic, the emergence of Copper Age ditch sites, and the collapse of settlement at the dawn of the Bronze Age.

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