14th Annual Meeting of the
European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists (EAVP)
Haarlem, The Netherlands
6–10 July 2016

Proposal for symposium

Toward a Biogeographic Synthesis for the European Early Pleistocene based on the Mammal Record

Early Pleistocene climatic changes generated important reconstructions of the terrestrial ecosystems including faunal turnovers and dispersal events that strongly influenced the dynamics of the European mammal palaeocommunities. The rather rich fossil record of Southern and Central/Northern Europe documents the arrival of new immigrants of African and Asian origin along with the regional extinction of several, previously well-adapted, lineages. In this changing world, early *Homo* also invaded Europe. Although local records are well explored and defined, pan-European biogeographic correlations and schemes are still limited, prohibiting illumination of the palaeoecological conditions and barriers that enabled/delayed the first settlement of hominins in Europe. The aim of this thematic session will be, therefore, to present new discoveries and data on the European Early Pleistocene mammal diversity, bioevents, and biogeography that would help synthesize and interpret the background mechanisms. Emphasis is expected to be given on biogeographic analysis of particular mammal taxa crucial for the reconstruction of regional landscapes and provinces, as well as on the critical synthesis/correlation of trans-European data records.

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