International Seminar on Paleontology, Evolution, Paleoecosystems and Paleoprimatology
Room 410, build. B35 (3rd floor, northern wing)

Monday 24th November 2025 – 16h15

Unravelling the transition from hunter-gatherers to farmers in Southwest Asia through the morphological and wear study of dental remains

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My study explores how human dentition changed during the Pleistocene–Holocene transition in Southwest Asia, a key period marking the shift from mobile foragers to the first farming communities. Using an integrated approach that combines classical morphology, 3D dental topography, and wear analysis, I examined teeth from Natufian, Pre-Pottery Neolithic, and Pottery Neolithic populations to understand how evolving subsistence strategies shaped tooth form and function.

The analysis reveals notable differences in dental morphology, topography, and wear patterns across the Natufian, Pre-Pottery Neolithic, and Pottery Neolithic periods. These variations suggest shifting functional demands on the dentition as communities underwent major changes in subsistence, mobility, and food-processing practices. Rather than a uniform trajectory, the dental evidence points to regionally and chronologically structured patterns of change throughout the Pleistocene–Holocene transition.