

Proposals for hosting the 2020 ICAZ Taphonomy Working Group Meeting



Proposal to host the 2020 ICAZ Taphonomy Working Group Meeting

- 1) University of Haifa (Haifa, Israel)
- 2) Polish Academy of Sciences (Kraków, Poland)
- 3) National Museum of Natural History. Madrid, Spain

Proposal points:

- Venue
- Transport links
- Accommodation
- Approximate dates
- Plans for funding
- Approximate registration cost per delegate
- Associated social schedule (e.g. conference dinner, trips/tours)
- Any other pertinent information

Proposal to host the 2020 ICAZ Taphonomy Working Group Meeting

University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel

Organizing Committee:

Dr. Reuven Yeshurun

Zinman Institute of Archaeology, University of Haifa. [Website](#)

Dr. Nimrod Marom

Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies, University of Haifa. [Website](#)

Prof. Guy Bar-Oz

Zinman Institute of Archaeology, University of Haifa. [Website](#)

We are happy to propose hosting the next Taphonomy Working Group (TWG) Meeting at the University of Haifa. Our institution has a long tradition of research involving taphonomic and other perspectives in zooarchaeology. Two other ICAZ Working Groups were successfully hosted by our institution: the 2011 Fish Remains Working Group meeting (in conjunction with the Hebrew University) and the 2013 Archaeozoology of South-West Asia meeting. We are therefore excited at the possibility of hosting the TWG in Haifa.

In addition to numerous international zooarchaeologists working on faunal assemblages from Israel, a vibrant community of PhD-level scholars and graduate students in zooarchaeology has developed in the country, and especially at Haifa. All three organizers now have ongoing research projects involving taphonomy: an Israel Science Foundation grant to Yeshurun on a Middle Paleolithic large-scale hunting site, a European Research Council grant to Marom on Holocene tropic cascades in the Judean Desert ([DEADSEA-ECO](#)) and a European Research Council grant to Bar-Oz on the collapse of the Byzantine towns of the Negev Desert ([NEGEVBYZ](#)).

The Laboratory of Archaeozoology and the Haifa Zooarchaeology Network ([UHZOO-NET](#)) is a hub for all these activities.



The proposed venue, the city of Haifa, is Israel's third largest city and a busy Mediterranean port in the northern part of the country.

Nestled between Mount Carmel and the Sea, Haifa is known for its scenic city-scape, great food and culturally diverse Jewish, Arab, Druze and Bahai population. It is also an ideal base to explore the archaeological and natural sites of Mount Carmel and the Galilee, including five World Heritage Sites within half an hour drive: [Nahal Mearot](#), [Bet Shearim Necropolis](#), [Tel Megiddo](#), the [Old City of Acre](#), and the [Bahai Holy Places](#).

Venue, accessibility and accommodation

The new University of Haifa Port Campus, located in a renovated historical quarter in downtown Haifa, will host the meeting (see location in an old [meeting website](#)). The main Port Campus building features a lecture hall that can accommodate up to 80 people, as well as space for coffee and socializing time, immediately adjacent to a large balcony with a view of the harbour.

The location of the Port Campus in the middle of the city makes it very accessible for public transport; it is within five minute walk of [Haifa- Center Hashmona](#) train station (featuring direct trains to and from Tel Aviv's Ben-Gurion airport) as well as numerous intra- and inter-city bus services. It is also close to the [Carmelit](#), Haifa's unique underground cable-car which goes up to the Mount Carmel ridge. There are numerous hotels and hostels scattered within 5–15 minutes' walk from the Port Campus and we will check with them the possibility of deals for the conference participants. Many pubs and restaurants are also found in the Port Campus area and just adjacent to it, in the restored [German Colony quarter](#).

The main University of Haifa Campus is located high on Mount Carmel, ca. 20-minutes' drive from the Port Campus. We will arrange a bus for the registered participants to visit the main campus, including panoramic view of northern Israel, the Hecht Archaeology Museum and the Laboratory of Archaeozoology. We will hire a bus for the excursions and for the social events that will take place away from the Port Campus.

Approximate dates

Considering the numbers of participants in the last TWG meetings, we propose a week-long conference in June 2020: two days of sessions (Monday-Tuesday) then an excursion day (Wednesday), then a final day of sessions (Thursday) followed by an excursion on Friday (pending funding opportunities). If a large number of interesting abstracts will be

turned in, we will devote the morning of one of the excursion days to talks. The proximity of most destinations to our venue allows such flexibility.

Plans for funding

We plan to apply for the following sources of funding:

1. The Israel Science Foundation Research Workshop Grant: up to 70,000 NIS (~16,500 EU). Relevant deadline is December 2019, reply by March 2020.
2. The University of Haifa normally supports international meetings in sums that amount to several thousand NIS. Additional support can be granted by the Zinman Institute of Archaeology and the Faculty of Humanities.

The funds will be used to also defray the cost of arrival and participation for individuals who do not have access to travel funds, and to invite 1–2 prominent researchers in the field of taphonomy as “keynote speakers”.

Approximate registration cost per delegate

150 US Dollars for faculty members, 75 USD for students or unwaged researchers.

Associated social schedule

Pending on the funding we secure, we plan at least one conference dinner in a beachside restaurant and visits to the main campus on Mount Carmel, the Hai-Bar wildlife centre near the university and the Bahai Shrine Gardens in the city. Additionally, we plan to organize two excursion days. One day will be devoted to the Mount Carmel Caves (Tabun, el-Wad and Skhul), followed by a visit to the Tel Dor Phoenician/Roman site on the Mediterranean coast.

The other excursion day will be to the Western Galilee: The Beit She'arim National Park (a 2nd–4th centuries Jewish Necropolis) and the old port city of Acco (Acre), featuring extensive medieval and Ottoman Period architecture. If time and funding allow, additional places to visit include Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee and surrounding sites, and Tel Megiddo (Armageddon) – all located less than an hour drive from Haifa.

Taphonomy Working Group meeting, Kraków May-June 2020

Organizing Committee:

Piotr Wojtal, Sylwia Pospuła-Wędzicha

Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals, Polish Academy of Sciences

Venue

The conference will take place at the Natural History Museum ISEA PAS building (Św. Sebastiana Street; <https://goo.gl/maps/nUKUWGLNvaA2>). The building of the Museum is located in the center of Kraków's old city, a ten-minute walk from the Main Market Square and five from Wawel royal castle.

Capacity of lecture room in the Museum is about 60 persons. There is access to power point and projector. Participants will have free entrance to the Natural History Museum during conference days.

Transport links (e.g. summary of accessibility of the city and the venue)

Arrival to Kraków

By train

The City has a convenient direct railway connection with all large cities in Poland; the journey on the InterCity train from Warsaw takes only 2.5 hours. Apart from local connections, Kraków has direct railway connections with Berlin, Budapest, Bucharest, Hamburg, Kiev, Lviv, Prague, Vienna.

All trains stop at the Kraków Main Train station in the city centre, 15 minutes walk from Natural History Museum ISEA PAS

By airplane

Direct air international connections: Belfast, Bergen, Birmingham, Bristol, Brussels, Chicago, Dortmund, East Midlands, Edinburgh, Frankfurt, Glasgow, Copenhagen, Liverpool, London, Madrid, Milan, Munich, Newcastle, Oslo, Paris, Prague, Shannon, Stavanger, Stockholm, Tel Aviv and others.

Direct domestic connections: Warsaw, Gdańsk,

Access to Kraków Balice airport

Bus to airport

Krakow Airport is served by two regular bus lines: 208 and 252, and one night line: 902. Ticket for any one journey for one person from/to Kraków Balice airport is 4.00 zloty (about 1 Euro).

By train

The Kraków Airport train station is located near the passenger terminal, at the rear of the multistorey car park. All trains are operating 7 days a week. Full timetable available here (<https://malopolskiekoleje.pl/index.php/routes/wieliczka-marketplace-salt-mine-krakow-airport>)

Tickets and fares: Kraków Airport - Kraków Main Train Station: PLN 9,00 (about 2 Euro)

By taxi:

Krakow Airport Taxi is the only official taxi service at the airport = 22,00 Euro

Online booking : <http://mplservices.pl/en/taxi/>

Phone booking: +48 12 258 0 258, + 48 668 307 307

Call center is open daily from 6:00 to 22:00

Methods of payment - accept all types of payment card.

Transport around the city:

Very good public transport around the city (buses and trams).

Venue is in the city center so can walk on foot.

Accommodation

Accommodation can be chosen in many various hotels, hostels and B&B located downtown within walking distance from the conference venue. Participants should contact the hotels of their choice directly. Price per night starts from 30 Euro.

Approximate dates

We propose 3 days in May or June 2020. Tuesday for arriving and registration of participants. Wednesday and Thursday for lectures and poster presentation. Friday for excursions and banquet.

Plans for funding

(n.b. it is likely that a small amount of funds will be available from ICAZ,

principally to support ECR attendance, but more are desirable to support the event)
Costs of conference rooms will be covered by Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals, Polish Academy of Sciences.

Approximate registration cost per delegate

We are planning that Conference Fee will be 50 Euro.

It covers:

- Admission to all sessions
- Coffee break refreshments between sessions
- Admission to Banquet (last day of conference)
- One copy of the abstracts volume

Accommodation and meals are not included in the Conference Fee.

Associated social schedule (e.g. conference dinner, trips/tours)

On the end of conference will be organized a banquet/conference diner in Natural History Museum. During last day of meeting we are planning two trips:

1. First to Kraków Spadzista site.

The Kraków Spadzista is one of the most important and recognisable sites of Gravettian (UpperPalaeolithic) in Europe. Site is dated to about 25 ka BP. It is a mammoth killing site of minimum 113 individuals. There were discovered huge accumulation of mammoth remains. It is located about 3 km walk from conference place (Natural History Museum). It is easy accessible (<https://goo.gl/maps/hYdEb4kbiYK2>).

2. Second trip to Rynek Underground permanent exhibition

(<https://www.mhk.pl/branches/rynek-underground>;
<http://www.podziemiarynku.com/index.php>).

The exhibition is about the result archaeological works that started in summer 2005. In the end excavation of the area under the eastern part of Cracow's Main Square was completed after 5 years.

The result of this research is presented in the underground exhibition, whose main aim is to present very close connections between Middle Age Cracow and other Middle Age European cities.

**Proposal to host the 2020 ICAZ Taphonomy Working Group Meeting. CSIC-
National Museum of Natural History. Madrid, Spain**

Organizing Committee: **Yolanda Fernández-Jalvo**

National Museum of Natural Sciences /Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas

We propose to hold the next Taphonomy Working Group-ICAZ Meeting in Madrid, at the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) and the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (MNCN). We also propose to join this event with TAPHOS'2020 meeting to count with a large participation of specialists in vertebrate and invertebrate taphonomy, especially zooarchaeologists, who have not been assiduously attending TAPHOS in the last years. TAPHOS celebrates the 30th anniversary of *Taphonomy and Fossilization*, the first edition hosted in the CSIC (Madrid) in 1990. On the occasion of this special anniversary, we want pay a special tribute to **Sixto Fernández López**, founder of these congresses and invaluable contribution to the theory of Taphonomy, and **Peter Andrews** for his invaluable contribution to the taphonomy of small mammals (paleoenvironment interpretations) and taphonomy in palaeoanthropology.

ICAZ as well as TAPHOS bring together palaeontologists, archaeologists, biologists and sedimentologists as well as other researchers interested in all aspects of taphonomy, i.e. forensic scholars, taxonomists and geologists. The contribution of the Working Group of Taphonomy of the ICAZ will have special significance in this join event. As previous *Taphonomy and Fossilization* meetings have been held in Madrid 1990, Zaragoza 1995, Valencia 2002, Barcelona 2005, Granada 2008, Tübingen 2011, Ferrara 2014 and Viena 2017, the return of TAPHOS to Madrid is especially relevant event to the Spanish Taphonomists.

The sessions will cover current taphonomic research from both palaeontological and archaeological contexts.

Taphonomy in palaeontology

Taphonomy in archaeology and anthropology

Taphonomy in the analysis of patterns of evolution and extinction

Taphonomy in biostratigraphy

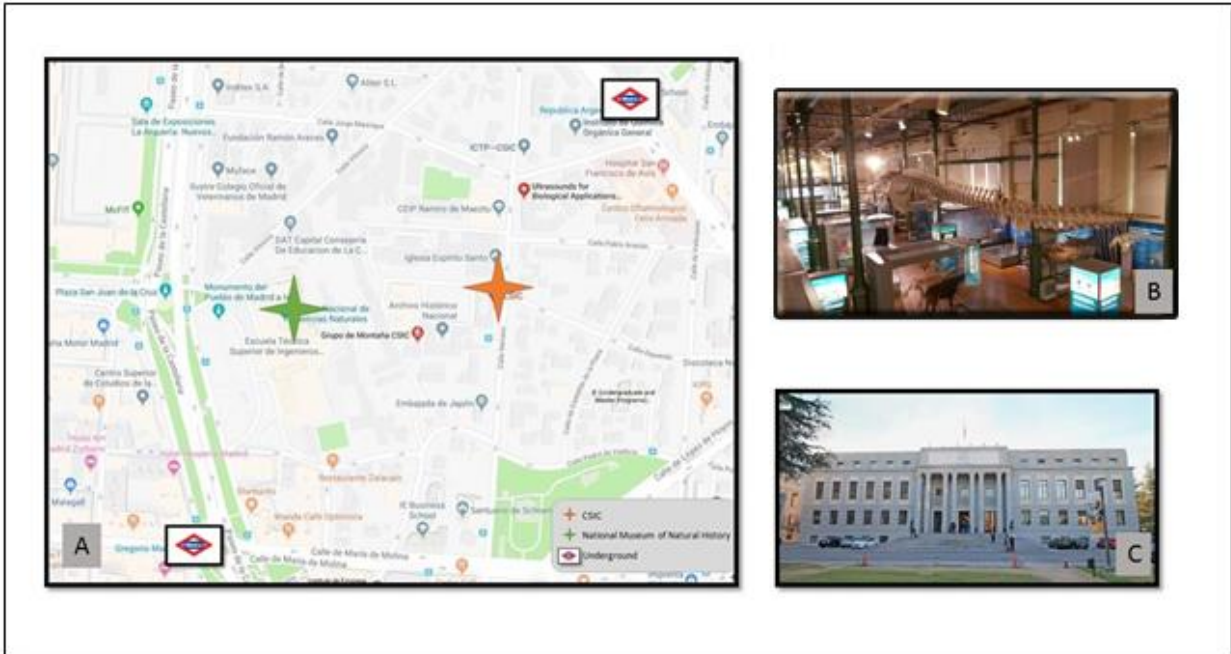
Theory of taphonomy

Taphonomy in palaeoecology and sedimentology

Fossil-Lagerstätten (exceptional preservations)

Venue

TAPHOS meeting will be held at the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) campus (Calle Serrano, 117, 28006-Madrid) and/or the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, close to the Consejo (Jose Gutierrez Abascal, 2. 28006-Madrid). The CSIC may hold more than a hundred participants.



A) Museum and CSIC location in the city center of Madrid. B) National Museum of Natural History, C) CSIC building



Transport links (e.g. summary of accessibility of the city and the venue).

Madrid is connected to many different cities all over the world via the Airport (Adolfo Suarez-Barajas). It has also high speed railway (AVE) in connection with France and different AVE connections with main Spanish towns. Inside the city, public transport is connecting all districts of Madrid via metro, bus or taxi.



Map of the metro of Madrid. [● location of MNCN/CSIC]

Accommodation.

There are several hotels and hostels of different categories nearby de venue and downtown the city, with easy connections to the Consejo (CSIC) or the Museum (MNCN) by public transport (bus, metro and trains) that comes from different areas down town and nearby or short distance locations. The CSIC and MNCN have several metro stations and bus or train stops (Nuevos Ministerios station for trains).

Approximate dates

We aim to hold the join congress of ICAZ'2020 and TAPHOS'2020 meetings in mid-September 2020 in a single event. The dates respond to a better weather to allow excursions and open air events. The meeting will last about a week. This is the special 30th anniversary of TAPHO's and commemorative edition in tribute to Sixto Fernández-López and Peter Andrews. Contributions are expected to have different formats of oral and poster presentations with plenary sessions and round tables.

Plans for funding

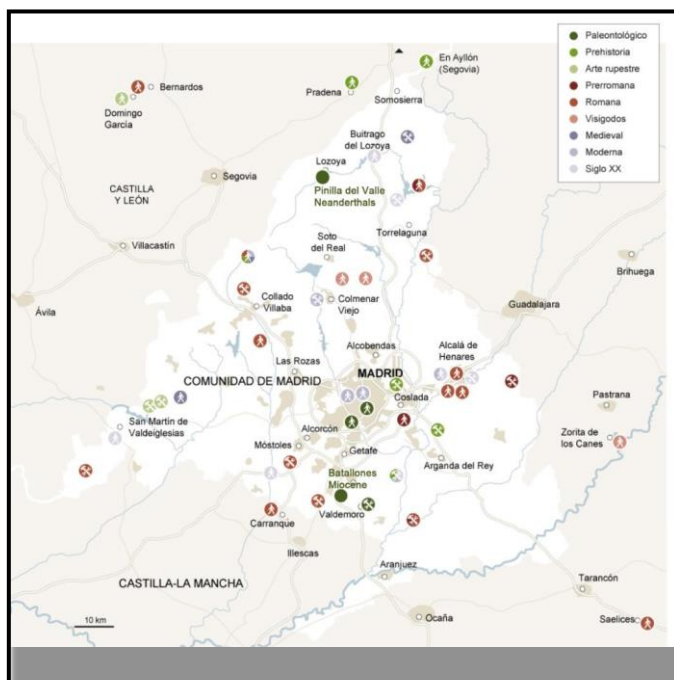
The TAPHOS'2020 will have several funding sources. We are starting negotiations and applying to special calls for funding to support the meeting. It is likely that an amount of funds will be available from ICAZ.

Approximate registration cost per delegate.

We have not fixed yet this aspect, but we will have special care for promoting students participation, so prices will not be high. TAPHOS average Registration fees have been traditionally above 200€. We will do our best to reduce the registration rates, also depending on the number of participants, especially in early bird to 150€ for seniors and 100€ for students. Fees do not cover field trips and closing ceremony dinner. The Registration do cover the participation to the scientific sessions, documentation and conference kit, certificates of attendance, opening ceremony and coffee breaks.

Associated social schedule (e.g. conference dinner, trips/tours)

A conference dinner as closing ceremony will be fixed. The tradition in TAPHOS is to propose several trips before and after the meeting. We aim to propose a visit to the well-known Middle Pleistocene Atapuerca site in Burgos (3hours by bus), the famous Cretaceous Fossil-Lagerstätten sites of Las Hoyas (Cuenca), and other shorter trips near Madrid will also be proposed, like Pinilla del Valle (Neanderthals) or Batallones (Miocene).



Archaeological sites in the surrounding of Madrid area

Any other pertinent information

The location of Madrid right in the center of the Iberian Peninsula makes an easy destiny for other private trips before or after the meeting to historic and especially valuable touristic places. Places like Sevilla is at 2:30 hours, Córdoba 1:30 hours, Valencia 1:30 hours, Barcelona 3:00 hours, or local trains to the town of Cervantes: Alcalá de Henares, Aranjuez, Segovia or Toledo.