

19th HERITAGE MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM  
Development-led archaeology in Europe. Meeting  
the needs of archaeologists, developers and the public  
22nd March 2018  
SOFIA, Bulgaria

# Archaeology and archeologists: the beauty and the beast

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# Archaeology and archeologists: the beauty and the beast

## The joy of discovery



André de Resende (1500-1573)



Francisco de Holanda (1517-1585)



D. Frei Manuel do Cenáculo (1724-1814)



- ❖ Collections of antiquity, records and studies were carried out by literate elites
- ❖ Archaeology considered as a scholar and relevant scientific discipline, and as a pioneering work for the knowledge of human societies



# Archaeology and archeologists: the beauty and the beast

## The beginning of safeguarding

- ◆ King's John V permit in the form of Law of 1721, prohibits the destruction of buildings and objects of value, archeological as we would say today, from before 1557, and establishes a way to compensate those who find goods of this nature and gives them to the Royal Academy of Portuguese History or the Municipalities
- ◆ The Academy was the first official service entrusted to the safeguarding of Portuguese cultural heritage
- ◆ This law has been in force for about 150 years



King D. João V (1689-1750)





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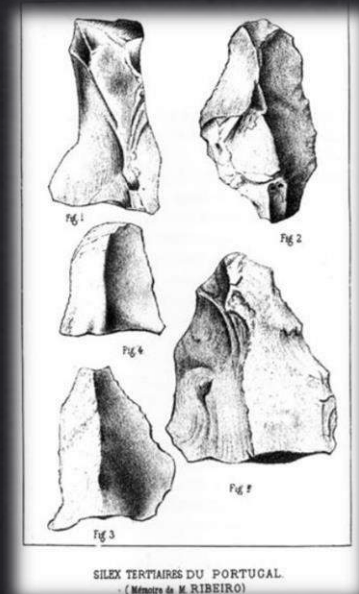
## Archaeology as a scientific discipline

**Carlos Ribeiro** (1813-1882) founder of the geology in Portugal. He was the first Portuguese geologist to recognize, in a wider sense, the stratigraphic succession across the lands of the continental territory of Portugal



In one of his field works, he identified at tertiary levels fragments of flint retouched by natural forces "eoliths", which resembled to lithic industry .

It was speculated the possible existence of a tertiary humanity, "*Anthropopithecus ribeiroi*" which was the reason why in 1880 the IX International Congress of Prehistoric Anthropology and Archeology was organized in Lisbon



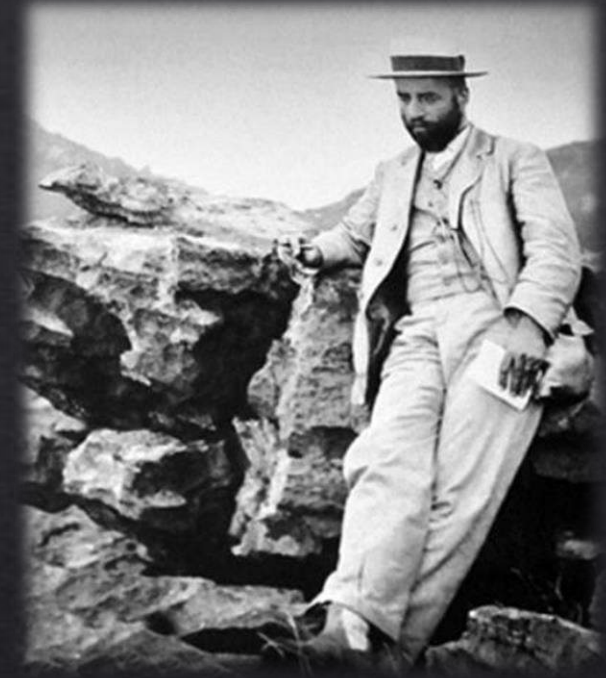
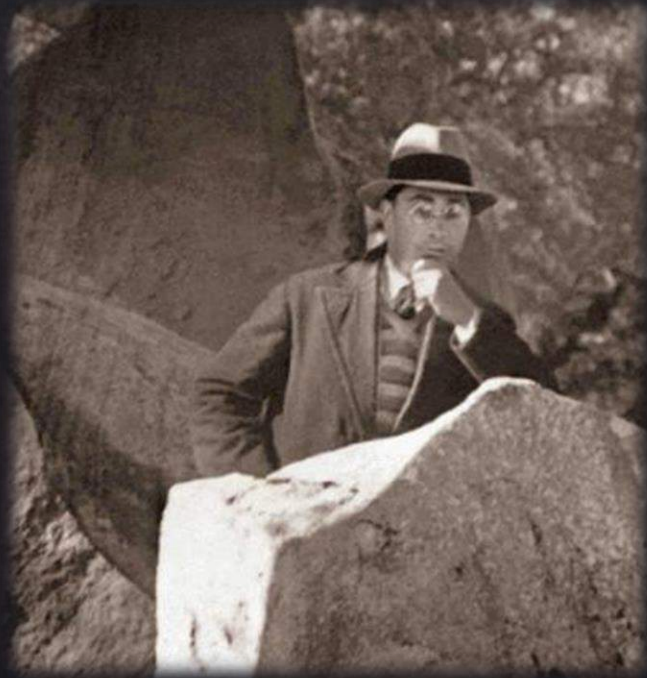


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## Archaeology as a scientific discipline

**José Leite de Vasconcelos** (1858–1941) - Founder and the first director of the Portuguese National Museum of Archaeology

He completed a degree in natural sciences in 1881 and a second degree in medicine in 1886



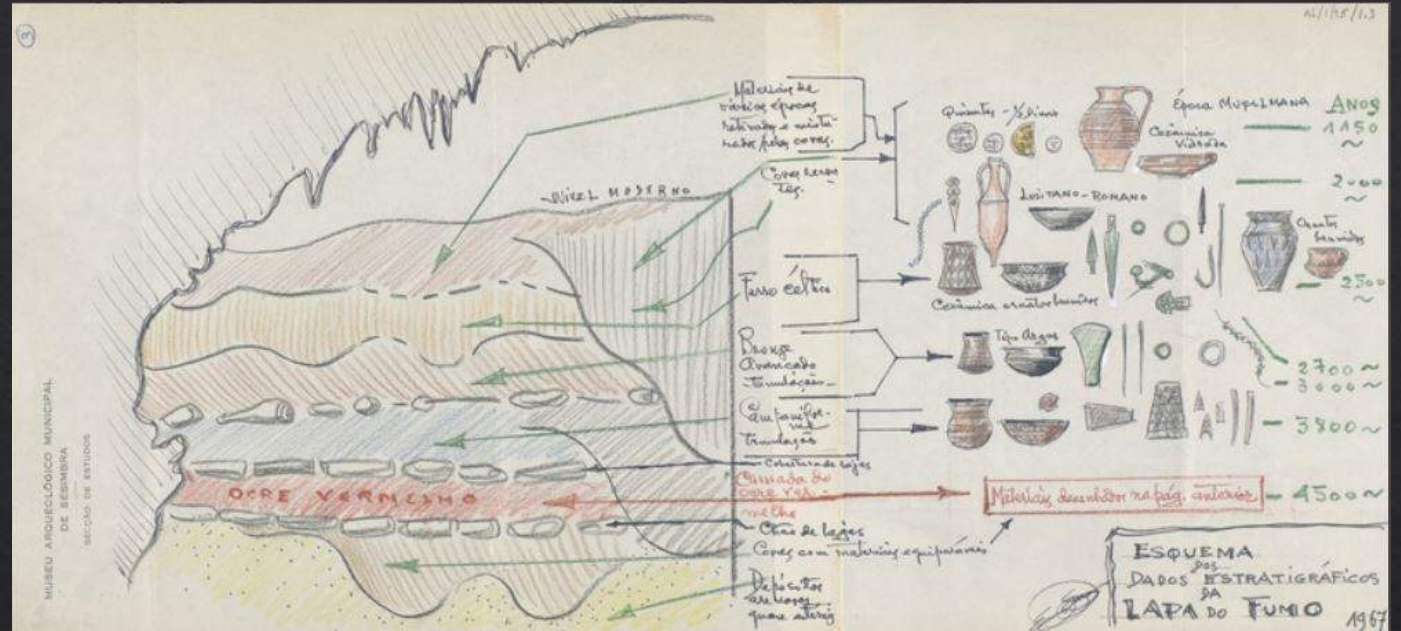
**Manuel Heleno** (1894–1970) – Second Director of Portuguese National Museum of Archaeology

He was a High School teacher and later a University professor of archeology and pre-history



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## An European archaeology



- ◆ **Georg** (1870-1957) and **Vera Leisner** (1885-1972), German archaeologists, became known for their studies on Megalithism and research on the History of Prehistoric Archaeology on the Iberian Peninsula, mainly in Portugal
- ◆ They arrived in Portugal after fleeing from the Second World War, and Vera, after Georg deceased, stayed until 1972
- ◆ The « Leisner Archive» includes around 49.500 documents – nearly 19.000 written documents and 30.500 graphic and photographic documents – that were gathered by Georg and Vera Leisner , during the course of their research work on the Iberian Peninsula. This collection is kept and managed by DGPC.



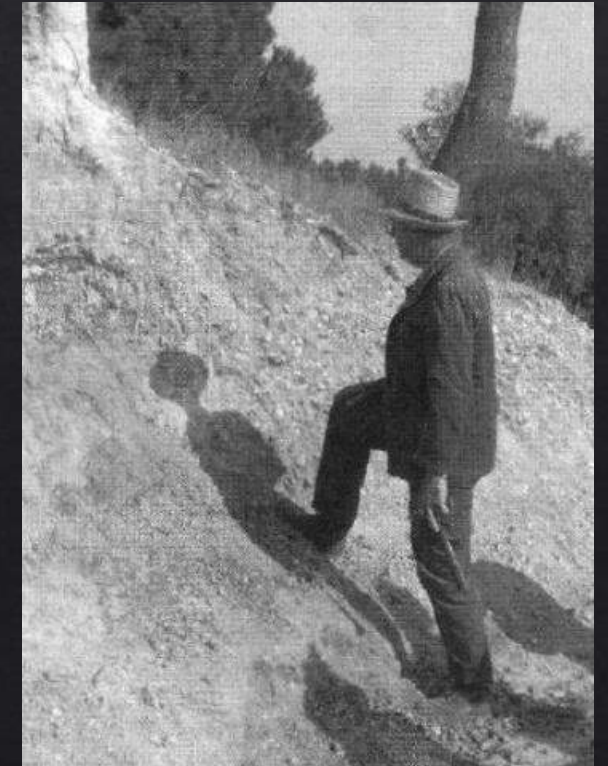
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## An European archaeology



- ◆ **Henri Breuil** (1877 –1961) often referred to as Abbé Breuil, was a French Catholic priest and member of the Society of Jesus, archaeologist, anthropologist, ethnologist and geologist
- ◆ Worked and taught in Portugal during the II World War and had a major impact in the Paleolithic studies

- ◆ **Georges Zbyszewski** (1909 -1999) was a geologist, paleontologist and archaeologist born in the Russia Empire, a naturalized Frenchman, he graduated from the Sorbonne University in Paris.
- ◆ In 1935 he began studies on geology and paleontology in Portugal. Lived and worked in Lisbon as an employee of the Geological and Mining Institute. He published several geological charts and important studies about prehistoric sites





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## The first Archaeological Association



- ◆ **Possidónio da Silva** (1806-1896) was an architect, archaeologist and photographer and founder in 1863, of the Royal Association of Civil Architects and Portuguese Archeologists. In 1911 adopted the current name of Portuguese Archaeological Association (AAP)



- ◆ AAP is the oldest association for the safeguarding of heritage in Portugal
- ◆ Is responsible for the Archaeological Museum of Carmo, the first Museum of Art and Archeology in the country
- ◆ It began as an association of a professional nature



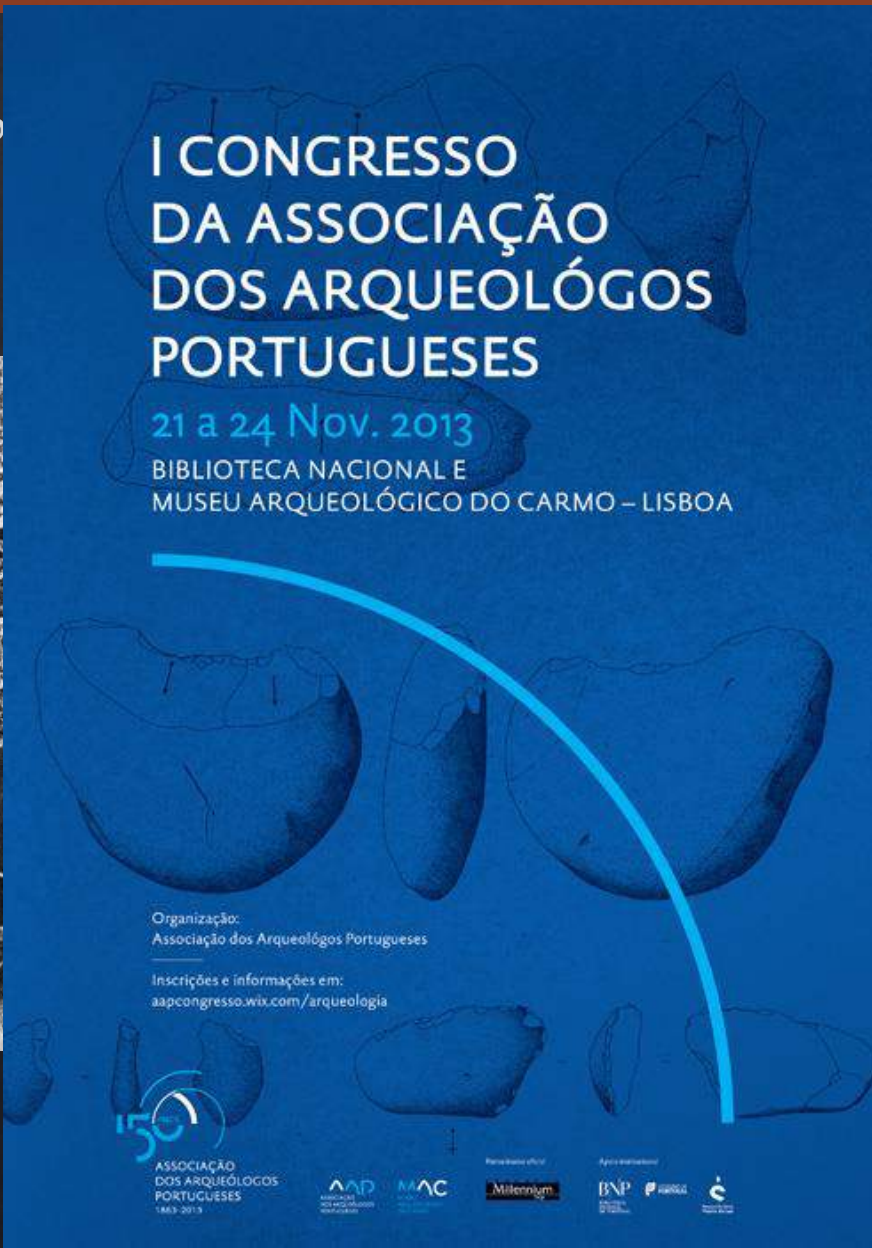
# Archaeology and archeologists: the beauty and the beast

## Portuguese Archaeological Association

- ◊ The memb
- ◊ Nowadays
- ◊ Continues



Commemorative



society

urpose is not professional

tific dissemination of archaeological knowledge



I Congress of AAP, commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> Aniversary - 2013



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## The Professional Association

- ❖ The Portuguese Professional Association of Archeologists (APA ) founded in 1992, is an entity with an associative structure representative of archaeological profession which intends to control access and the professional exercise, the elaboration of specific technical and deontological norms and an autonomous disciplinary regime for the public interest
- ❖ In 1997 created a “Deontological Code ” for compliance by its members. APA is currently idle



Public meeting to discuss the creation of a professional College of Archaeologist in March 2010



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## The Trade Union

- ❖ The Union of the Archaeological Workers was formed in 2013
- ❖ Aims to defend the rights of members, individually or as a professional group, in compliance with the statutes and with the ethical and deontological principles of the archaeological heritage sector
- ❖ Develop initiatives of professional, social, sport, cultural and union formation of its associates
- ❖ Participate in the definition of the options of cultural, scientific and educational policy



Poster on the rights of women archaeologists on International Women's Day



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## State Regulation

State regulation of archeology and archaeological activity dates back to the first decades of the 20th century

1978

The first regulation of archaeological works, based on the Recommendation on International Principles Applicable to Archaeological Excavations of the General Conference of UNESCO, meeting at New Delhi in 1956

1999

The second regulation of archaeological works was based on the 1992 La Valletta Convention

2014

The Decree-Law 164/2014, of 4<sup>th</sup> November, establishes minimum academic qualifications to license an archaeologist, according to the Bologna process, and the categories of archaeological works





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## Rescue and development-led archaeology

First development-led archaeology works and the beginning of commercial archaeology



90s second half

Commercial archeology replaced state intervention in projects and construction works

1997

Creation of the Portuguese Institute of Archeology (until 2007)

1960

Museum of the City of Lisbon intervenes archaeologically in the construction works of the Lisbon Metro

1970

Rescue of the prehistoric rock art of the Tagus River

1980

First public regional archeology services



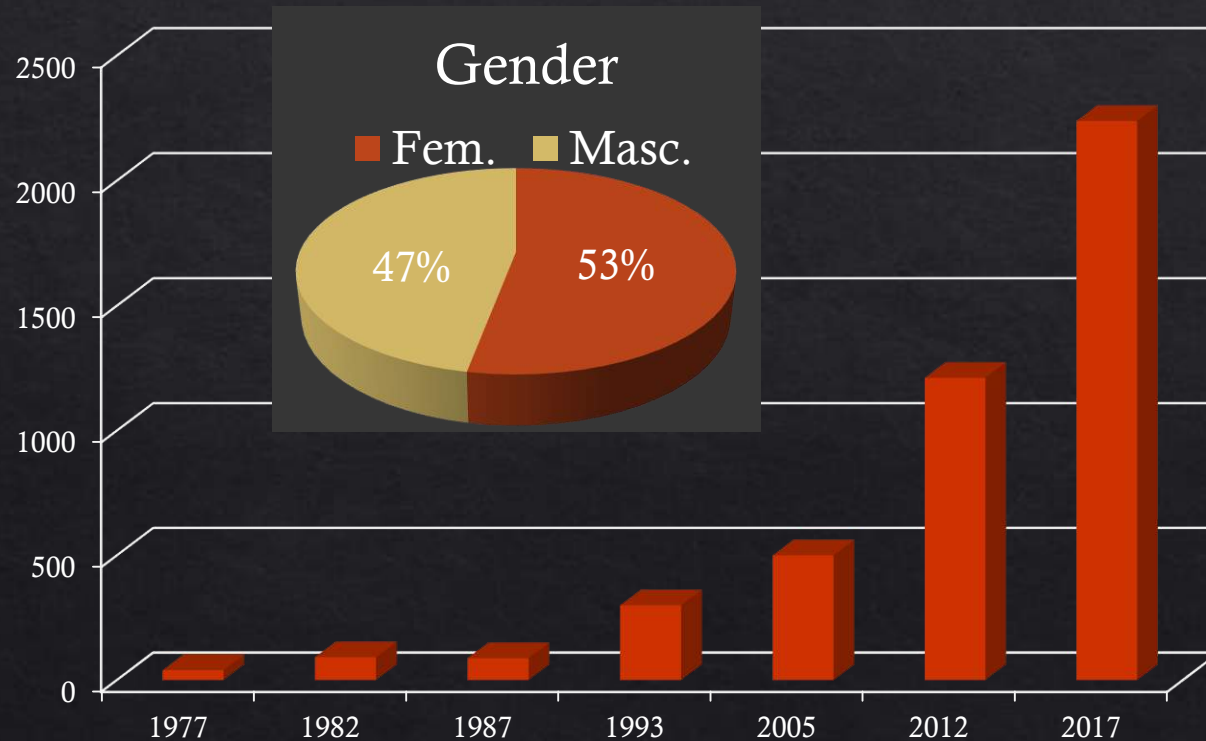


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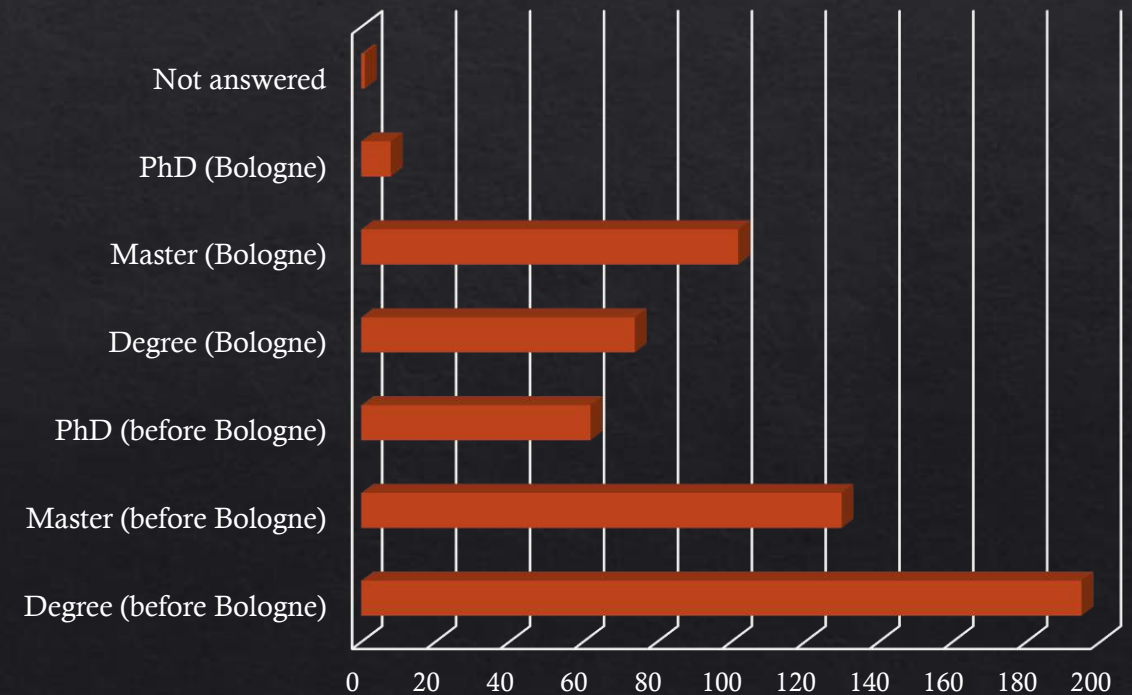
## APA and DISCO

- ◊ APA conducted the Disco Survey between 2013 and 2014, in which participated 572 archaeologists
- ◊ 102 were APA associates

Number archeologists (1977 – 2017)



Academic qualification (2014)

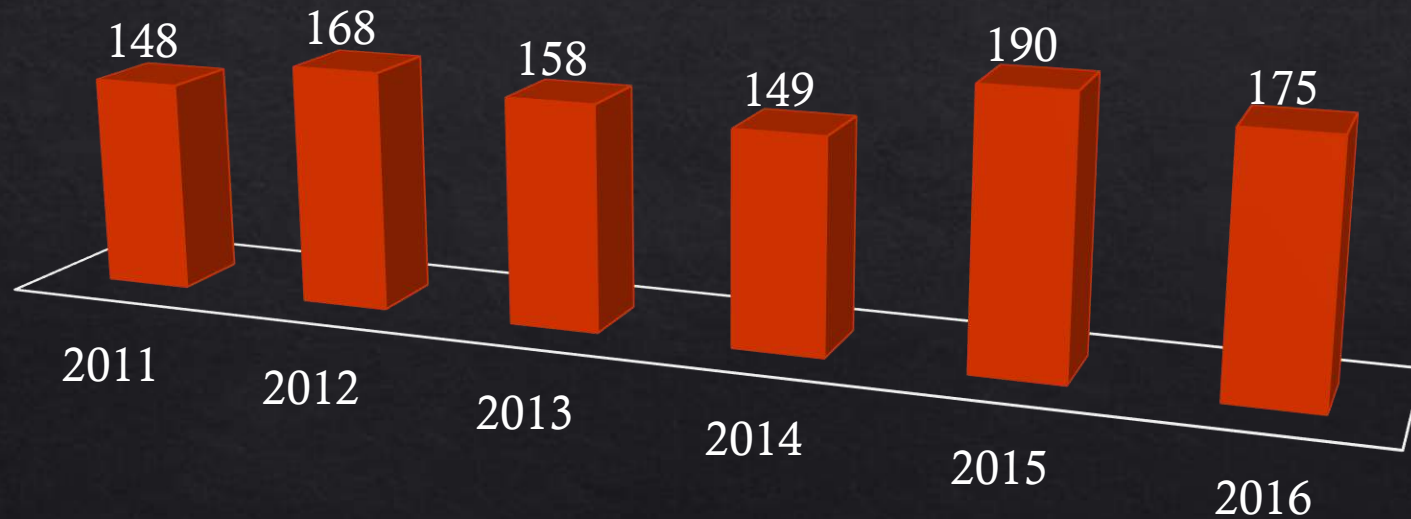




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## Archaeology graduate students

- ◇ Archaeology graduate students (1st Cycle Bologna - 3 years - 180 ECTS) per year
- ◇ The average number of graduate students was 95 (2014 and 2015)

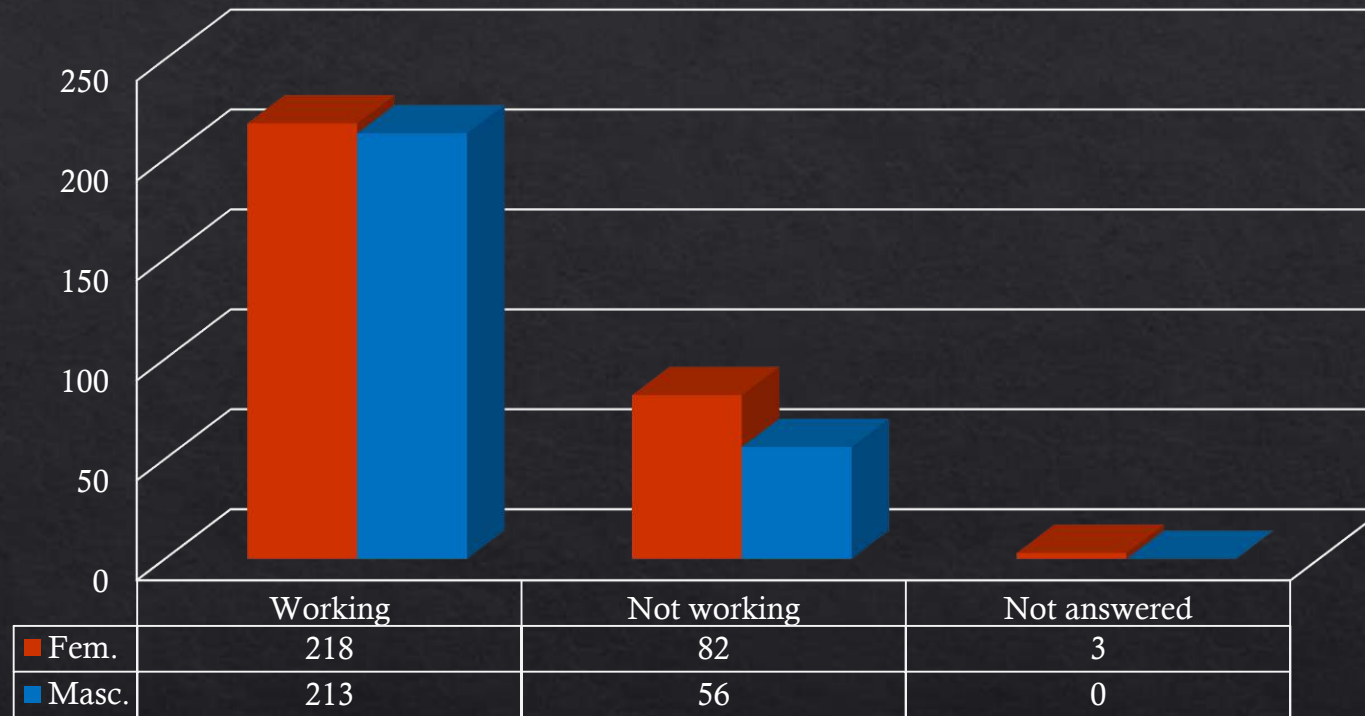




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## APA and DISCO

Profession exercise (2013)

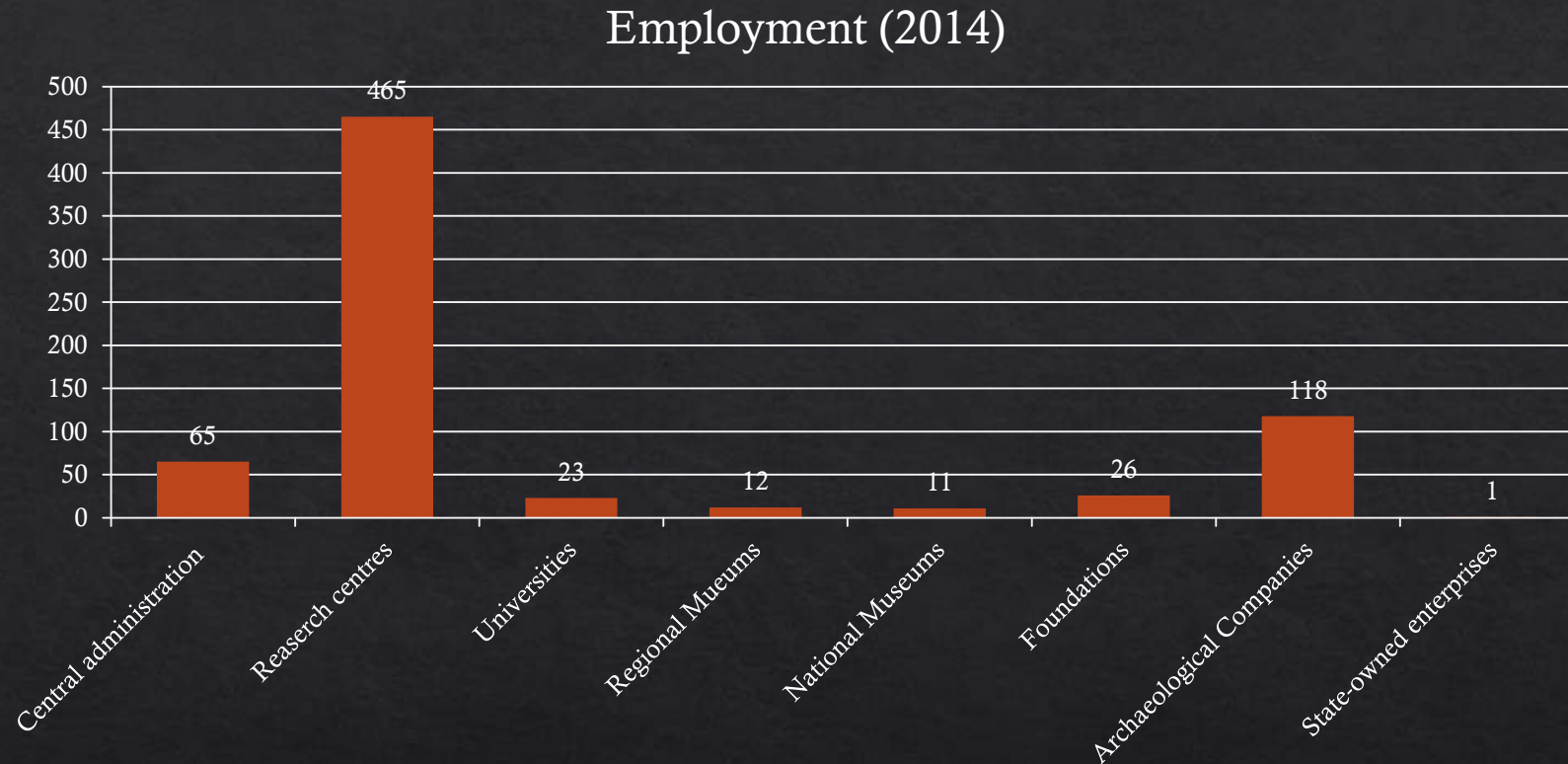


- ◇ Average annual gross income of archaeologists: 12.500 € (2013)
- ◇ 78% of the annual average gross income of the Portuguese worker: 15.900 € (2012)
- ◇ 43% of the average annual income of senior Portuguese technicians working for others: 29.040 € (2012)



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## APA and DISCO

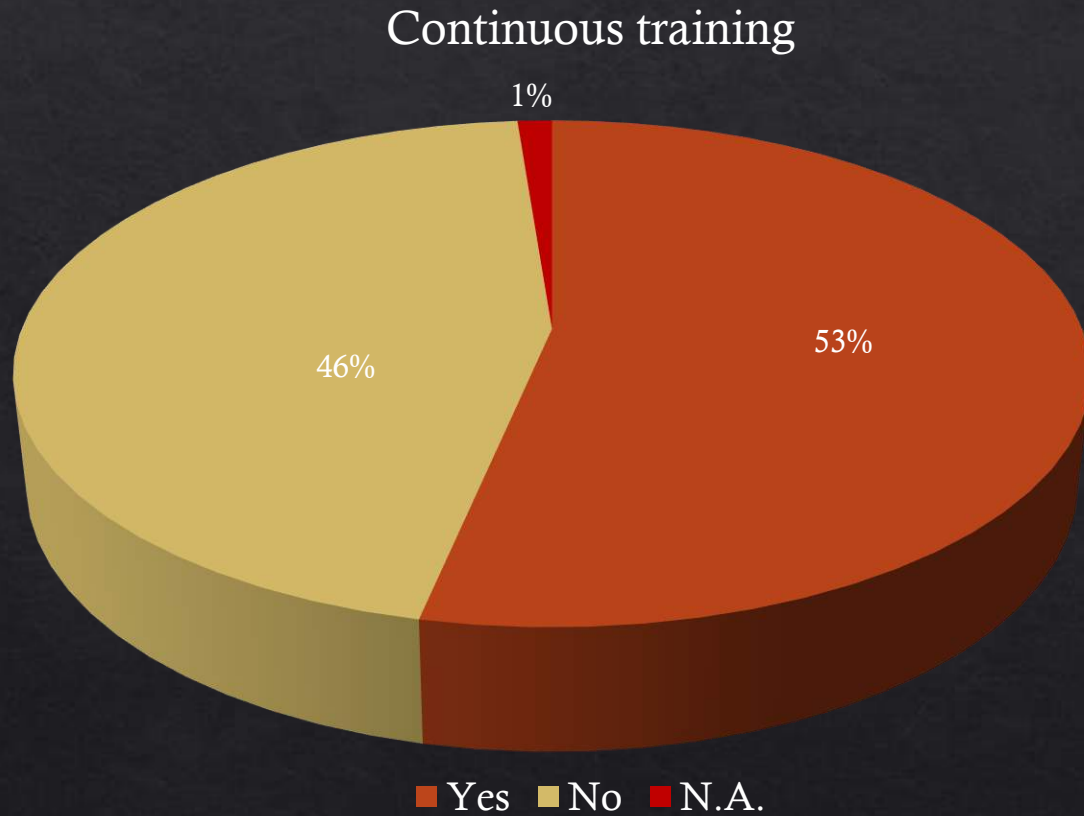


- ◇ Average monthly gross salary is mostly between the 1000 - 1500 € monthly
- ◇ Average salary in archaeological companies 1000 - 1299 €
- ◇ Minimum and maximum salary values vary widely, with many archaeologists with salaries less than 1000 €



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## APA and DISCO





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## The professionals

So the professionals:

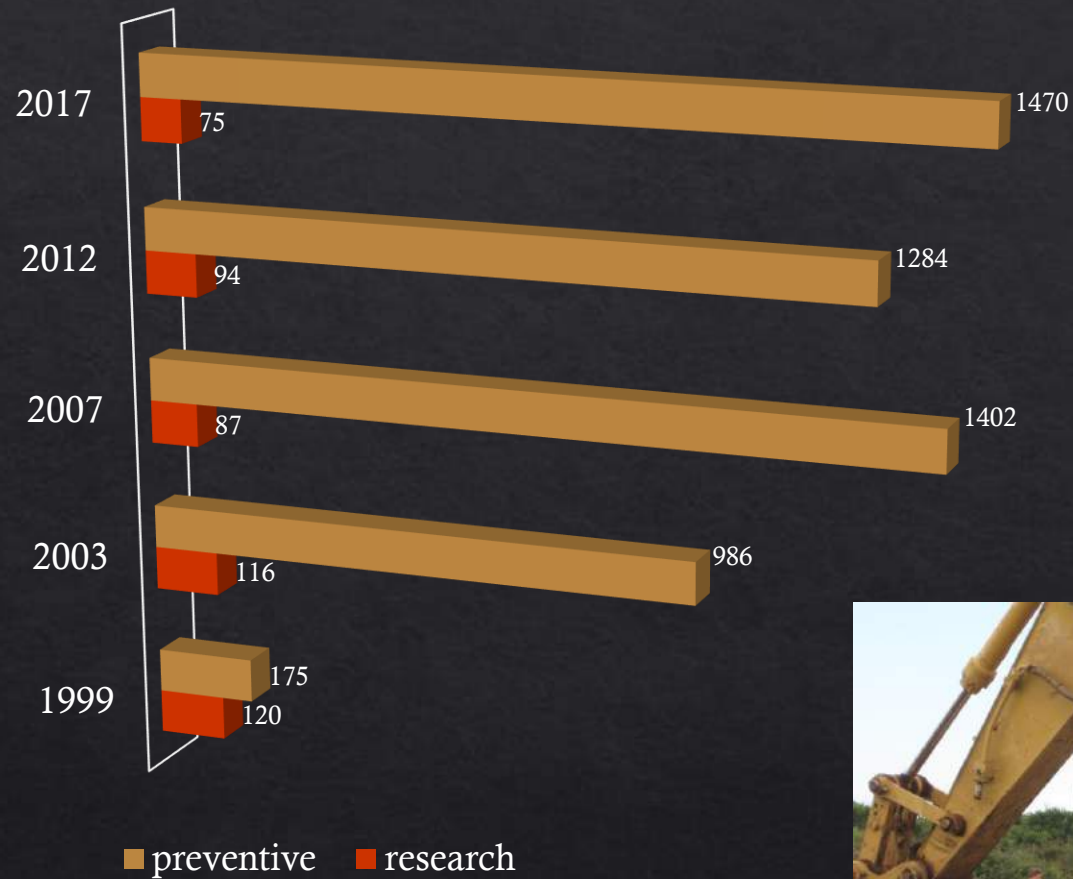
- ◊ Aren't evaluated and certified beyond their academic qualification
- ◊ Aren't bound by a code of ethics
- ◊ Aren't subject to disciplinary control
- ◊ Have lack of training, which should be continuous





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## Project plan permit



	Categories of archaeological works
Category A	programmed research actions
Category B	valorization actions on monuments and heritage sites, for public awareness, enjoyment and heritage education
Category C	preventive actions and minimization of impacts in rural, urban and underwater environment
Category D	emergency actions to be carried out in archaeological sites which are in imminent danger



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## Information quality improvement

- ◇ The new challenges of 21st century should aim to a greater commitment of archaeological professionals and authorities to improve data consistency and disclosure of information in a more consistent, standardized and efficient way

Data consistency	Quality Assurance policies	Information disclosure
Standardize contents of the reports	Create standards and guidelines	Improve acessibility of professionals and researchers to the reports and collections for study
Use commom language (glossary to update national archaeological database Endovélico)	Language and terminology	Encourage publishing (funds)
Create guidelines for the implementatio of field procedures (graphic and photographic)	Audit services in compliance with regulatory frameworks that assure the scientific quality of reports and works	Foster the scientific knowledge transfer from Universities, Research centers into the State services
Standardization of digital objects to include in the reports, Endovélico and SIG		Promote funding for more efficient dissemination of knowledge among the civil society
Create norms for the data georrefence		



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## A survival present?



A dim situation:

- ◆ In most of the works science is transformed in a technical work turning archaeology into a mechanical profession
- ◆ The archaeologists income is dictated by the market lowest price rather than qualification or quality
- ◆ Absence of a table of wages, with differentiation of function and responsibilities
- ◆ More jobs and more archaeologists doesn't mean that it is a profession with future and free of market power over decision making
- ◆ This process has not been framed by a system to accredit professionals by a self-regulation professional entity, fulfilling the needs of the archaeologists to conduct challenging and specific works
- ◆ Both job insecurity and lack of regulation contribute to poorer and non-uniform data collection

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## A bright future?



Yes, there is a bright future:

- ◆ The excitement and wonder have almost disappeared, but there is still hope for better days - and let's face it - some of the archeology and paper work is boring
- ◆ Past experiences says that regional and local archaeological services can provide a closer field approach on what and how to excavate
- ◆ Nowadays the State has already some indirect regulatory action when demands certain type of qualifications or works
- ◆ Archaeological companies should be licensed by the State in order to improve the quality of work
- ◆ In case of conflicts between archaeologists with employers there have been some trade union response
- ◆ Archaeologists should emancipate themselves empowering a self-regulation professional association
- ◆ The culture heritage authority is improving data collection through the implementation of field procedures recommendations, hoping in the near future to create specific guidelines/standards



**Thank you for your attention!**



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