



# 4th Palaeontological Virtual Congress

**Book of Abstracts**

May 8–22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023



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## 4<sup>th</sup> Palaeontological Virtual Congress

Book of Abstracts

Palaeontology in the virtual era

From an original idea of Vicente D. Crespo

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**Layout** Evangelos Vlachos

**Conference logo** Hugo Salais

**Contact** [palaeovc@gmail.com](mailto:palaeovc@gmail.com)

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Following the three previous and successful editions of the Palaeontological Virtual Congress (PVC), organized in December 2018, May 2020, and in 2021 during the COVID19 pandemic, the 4<sup>th</sup> Palaeontological Virtual Congress continues to demonstrate the necessity for virtual meetings in palaeontology.

PVC shows a steady growth compared to previous years, in both participants and contributions. In the 4<sup>th</sup> PVC, more than **400 scientists** from **72 different countries** gathered virtually to watch more than **365 contributions**, an absolute record in terms of different countries (56 last time) and number of contributions.

Following the sharp increase in the number of contributions, the 4<sup>th</sup> PVC hosts an even greater diversity of topics. Besides the traditional Sessions of the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, Cenozoic and General Palaeontology, the 4<sup>th</sup> PVC also hosts 8 Keynote presentations, 12 Thematic Sessions, and 3 Virtual Field Trips.

The mission of this Palaeontological Virtual Congress was communitied by 7 Ambassadors and Ambassadors who helped attracting interest and spread our news. Thanks to them, we have been able to enjoy thre greatest national diversity reaching nearly half of the countries on Earth!

We continued to add virtual activities, including a Photography and Palaeoart contest. You can find the wonderful prized photographs and artwork herein.

Also, selected papers coming from this year's communication will feature on a Special Volume of the high-quality peer-reviewed journal Geobios, that publishes bimonthly in English original peer-reviewed articles of international interest in any area of palaeontology, palaeobiology, palaeoecology, palaeobiogeography, biostratigraphy, stratigraphy and biogeochemistry.

We would like to thank all our colleagues for organising and coordinating the different workshops. We also want to thank all the authors for submitting their contributions and the numerous reviewers that have made this volume and congress possible. We would also like to give special thanks to all Palaeontological and Geological Societies, Editorials, Museums, and Universities that have supported this initiative.





## NEW DINOSAUR TRACKS FROM THE MIDDLE ALBIAN OF CASCAIS, PORTUGAL (LUSITANIAN BASIN)

S. D. Figueiredo<sup>1\*</sup>, P. P. Cunha<sup>2</sup>, A. M. Palma<sup>3</sup>, and I. S. Carvalho<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Instituto Politécnico de Tomar, Tomar, Portugal; Centro Português de Geo-História e Pré-História, Lisboa, Portugal; Centro de Geociências da Universidade de Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

<sup>2</sup>Universidade de Coimbra, MARE / ARNET, Departamento de Ciências da Terra, Coimbra, Portugal

<sup>3</sup>Centro de Interpretação Ambiental da Pedra do Sal. DGE | Unidade Turismo de Natureza, Cascais, Portugal

<sup>4</sup>Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Instituto de Geociências, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil; Centro de Geociências da Universidade de Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

\*silverio.figueiredo@ipt.pt

### Keywords

Ornithopoda, Sauropoda, Theropoda, prints, carbonate coastal palaeoenvironment

We describe new dinosaur tracks from the Ponta da Pedra do Sal (São Pedro do Estoril, municipality of Cascais) in the Lusitanian Basin, Portugal. The Ponta da Pedra do Sal tracksite is part of a 11 m thick succession (middle Albian), mainly composed of compact fossiliferous limestone beds, which correspond to the basal interval of the Água Doce Member (Galé Formation). In Cascais, another tracksite (Praia da Parede) was previously described in this same lithostratigraphic unit, but in layers ascribed to the upper Albian. The tracksite is located on the surface of a marly limestone bed, at the upper portion of this exposed succession at the Pedra do Sal promontory. In conjunction with the tracks, the upper bed also contains fragmentary remains of *Nerinea*, a gastropod common in lagoon environments. Each track shows displacement rim, resulting from the expansion of the plastic marly mud due to the pressure exerted by dinosaur weight. Three sets of isolated tracks, without forming any trackway, have been identified: 1 - three ornithopod tracks (one pes and two manus); 2 - four sauropod tracks (two pes and two manus); 3 - two theropod tracks, one of them is a cast that is within a sauropod track of set 2. Altogether, those tracks are assigned to Ornithopoda isp. indet., Sauropoda isp. indet. and Theropoda isp. indet., respectively. In comparison to the Praia da Parede tracksite bearing only sauropod tracks, Ponta da Pedra do Sal reveals a higher dinosaur ichnodiversity in the area, during the Albian.

