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Portada:

De izquierda a derecha y de arriba abajo: *Tachinymphes penalveri*, insecto neuróptero; *Hispanamia newbreyi*, pez amiiforme; coprolito; el Tormo de la Ciudad Encantada; el Museo Paleontológico de Castilla-La Mancha; *Austropotamobius llopsi*, crustáceo decápodo; *Gracilibatrachus avallei*, rana; la Catedral de Cuenca; *Weichselia reticulata*, helecho; *Onychiopsis psilotoides*, helecho; *Celtdens ibericus*, anfibio albanerpetóntido. Fotografías realizadas por el equipo de Las Hoyas; Fotografía del MUPA: fotografía oficial de Castilla-La Mancha.

Contraportada:

La Cata Botánicos durante la campaña de 2021 en el yacimiento de Las Hoyas, Cuenca. Fotografía realizada por Fernando Blanco.

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CULTURALLY DIFFERENTIATED PATHS TOWARDS THE CONSERVATION OF THE PALAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE AT ARARIPE (NE BRAZIL) AND AROUCA (N PORTUGAL) UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

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Fossils are polysemic entities that attract people for very different reasons ranging from scientific to recreative ones. They can therefore display different heritage contents according to the meanings assigned by different social groups. This may endanger the integrity of the fossil record that grounds the development of palaeontology (and related sciences) and may affect the palaeontological heritage of the Earth. Such concern led to the elaboration and implementation of diversified legal instruments assigned to fossils conservation or expressing land-use planning policies assuring the integrity of fossiliferous sites and/or specimens. But this point of view, based on a conservationist perspective emanating above all from the scientific communities, did not result so far to an effective conservation of the palaeontological heritage. The source of the palaeontological heritage is not limited to academic activities that traditionally put in action top-bottom methods of inventorying, assessment, conservation, valuing and monitoring procedures to fossils and fossil sites. But other culturally differentiated initiatives of geoconservation, whose meaning is rooted in inextricably both cultural and scientific dimensions, are also important contributors to enlarge the data on Earth's palaeontological heritage. Even among mining activities, normally seen as the biggest threat to geoconservation, it is possible to recognize examples of good practices of preservation and valuation of the palaeontological heritage based on bottom-up approaches that assign heritage contents to fossils that are quite far from the contents usually assigned by the experts. This is the case of two UNESCO Global Geoparks (Araripe, NE Brazil; and Arouca, N Portugal) where the effective communication between distinct actors (*i.e.*, between totally different codemakers such as quarry owners and workers, as well as scientists), around the same sign (fossils), and despite the different meanings that each of them assign to fossils, has played a decisive role in the geoconservation of the respective palaeontological heritages.

Keywords: Geoconservation, Palaeontological heritage, Mining, Araripe UGGp (N Brazil), Arouca UGGp (N Portugal).

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