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Supplementary 1. Contexts of the sites studied and reported in the text.

- 1. Casa da Moura (Óbidos, Leiria) natural cave was used for a long-term occupation from the Ancient Neolithic to historical times. Its funerary sequence, with a MNI of 90 (Silva, 2003: 57), ranges from the 4th to 3rd millennia BCE (Carvalho and Cardoso, 2011: 395-396). This cave accounts for a large material assemblage, that includes Neolithic and Chalcolithic pottery, polished axes and adzes, flint blades and some flint halberds and daggers, bone hairpins, beads of different raw materials, cylindrical and schist-plaque idols, etc. (Cardoso et al., 2002).
- 2. Poço Velho (Cascais, Lisbon) natural caves were excavated in the last decades of the 19th century (Gonçalves, 2009). Although their funerary sequence ranges from the second half of the 4th to the end of the 3rd millennia BCE, Bronze Age, Iron Age and historical phases were also recorded (Gonçalves, 2009). Most of the recovered materials lack stratigraphic and contextual information. Cardoso et al. (2012) express reservations regarding a fluorite bead, citing Paço et al. (1959: 157).
- 3. Leceia (Oeiras, Lisbon) fortified site possesses a domestic and productive sequence from the Late Neolithic until its abandonment at the end of the 3rd millennium BCE (Cardoso, 1994; 1998) and a large assemblage of exotic objects acquired via long distance exchange, such as ivory (Schuhmacher and Cardoso, 2012). The green fluorite bead published by Cardoso et al. (2012: 37) was recovered in layer C3 with other greenstones, mostly variscite (Odriozola et al., 2013b), dated in the second half of the 3rd millennium BCE.
- 4. Vila Nova de São Pedro (Azambuja, Lisbon) 3rd millennium BCE fortified site was excavated between the 1930s and the 1960s (Arnaud, 2005). No contextual information is available for the bead assemblage, artificially composed into several necklaces by Paço (1939; 1942; 1943).
- 5. Lapa do Bugio (Sesimbra, Setúbal) natural cave shows a long-term occupation from the Ancient Neolithic to the Iron Age, including important sequences of funerary use during the 4th-3rd millennia BCE (Cardoso et al., 1992). Unfortunately, scarce contextual information is available for the recovered materials, which include the two green fluorite beads presented by Cardoso et al. (2012: 38).
- 6. São Paulo 2 (Almada, Setúbal) artificial cave consists of a 7.5 m diameter chamber and a short corridor 2.5 m in length (Barros and Espírito Santo, 1997: 218). The funerary sequence ranges from the Late Neolithic to Late Copper Age, accounting for a MNI of 254 (Gonçalves et al., 2004: 77). A 1^{st} millennium BCE habitational phase altered the $4^{th} 3^{rd}$ millennia BCE sequence.

The findings are typical of Iberian Late Prehistory. They include geometric lithics and polished axes and adzes, engraved schist plaques, plates, spherical and carinated bowls, a zoomorphic vase, and abundant beads in earlier phases, and arrowheads, calcite cylindric idols, "Palmela-type cup" and other Chalcolithic pottery typologies, perforated V buttons, beads in different raw materials (including 2 beads in amber and greenstones), some copper objects and a gold-leaf bead for the second phase (Barros, 1998; Barros and Espírito-Santo, 1997: 218-219; Gonçalves et al., 2004). The authors state that in the second phase they recovered a 'hyaline quartz' bead and a 'translucent greenish' bead decorated with zigzags (Barros and Espírito-Santo, 1997: 219)

7. Olival da Pega 1 (Reguengos de Monsaraz, Évora) is a megalithic monument with polygonal chamber formed by 7 orthostasts, one of them reaching 4.4 m high (Leisner and Leisner, 1985). Half of the numerous human remains documented were reported as partially burnt or affected by fire at different levels and

temperatures, as well as some of the material assemblage of the funerary deposit (Leisner and Leisner, 1985: 165-166). The referred items evidence a diverse and rich funerary deposit from the 4th to 3rd millennia BCE transition, including decorated and symbolic pottery, globular and hemispheric bowls, plates, carinated bowls, a diverse flint assemblage of arrowheads and blades, polished axes, large quantity of plaque idols, bone hairpins, two lagomorphic pendants and c. 1000 beads. Additionally, a spherical bead and a small pendant, described as quartz, were recorded (Leisner and Leisner, 1985: 148 and est. XXIII: 91 and 92).

8. Anta Grande da Comenda da Igreja (Montemor-o-Novo, Évora) is a megalithic monumental passage grave, with collective burials, in use from the late 4th millennium BCE to the first half of the 3rd millennium BCE (Whittle and Arnaud 1975: 7). Its architecture consists of a polygonal chamber (4.5 m in diameter and 6 m in height) formed by eight orthostats and a long passage c. 10 m in length in two sections. The mound is preserved up to c. 3.5 m in height.

First excavated in the late 19th century, it has been the object of several excavations in the course of the twentieth century (Leisner and Leisner, 1959). The recovered pottery assemblage is typical of the Iberian 3rd millennium BCE, with small carinated bowls, cups and plates. The excavations also recovered polished axes and adzes, some bladelet cores in flint and hyaline quartz, several flint blades, microliths, a set of c. 200 arrowheads shaped from different raw materials and in very diversified typologies, flint halberds and daggers, several dozen engraved schist plaques, sandstone plaques, engraved schist crosses, bone "hairpins", and a set of beads of different shapes made from various raw materials, including a zoomorphic schist pendant, two glass beads (possibly Iron Age), green beads (talc, muscovite and variscite), lignite beads, several amber beads of different typologies (Odriozola et al., 2017) and the translucent and fluorite beads reported here.

9. Anta Grande do Zambujeiro (Nossa Senhora da Tourega, Évora) is a monumental megalith with a long corridor (8.8m x 2.8m), and a seven-orthostat polygonal chamber (5.7m x 5.5m) with slab roofing. At the end of the corridor, just before the chamber, a pillar supports the roofing (Soares and SIlva 2010: 97-99). The entrance to the monument was preceded by an atrium and an enormous granite stele / standing stone. The mound possesses a perimeter ring c. 50m in diameter and 9m high.

The first excavation was performed in Anta Grande do Zambujeiro by Henrique Leonor Pina in 1964-1968 but unfortunately it remains unpublished and no contextual information is available for the finds. Further excavations have recently been made in the tumulus (Santos 2009: 74; Soares and SIlva 2010).

Inside the chamber, the presence of microliths, variscite beads (Odriozola et al. 2012) and polished stone tools seems to date the first burials in the late 4th millennium BCE (Santos 2009: 62). These older levels were sealed by a fallen chamber slab overlain by a long 3rd millennium BCE occupational sequence. The most significant burial goods on top of this fallen slab are small decorated pottery vessels (Rocha 2015), arrowheads, engraved schist plaques, a gold foil, amber beads, and the fluorite bead.

Chronologically, a radiocarbon date obtained from charcoal recovered in the tumulus excavations has given a calibrated date for the megalith that roughly spans the second half of the 3rd millennium BC (Soares and SIlva 2010: 101). However, no further information about the beads' archaeological context or stratigraphic associations are known other than the data given above.

10. Tituaria (Mafra, Lisbon) tholos was excavated in 1978. Under a poorly preserved mound, its architecture consisted of a circular chamber with a maximum diameter of 4.6 m, a corridor c. 4 m long and a simple atrium. The only radiocarbon date available (OxA-5446: 3995±65 BP) was taken from individual H27 in the 'foundational' deposit of the chamber (Cardoso et al., 1996: 172). In this level, several beads were found among other human remains packaged close to the chamber's eastern wall. In association with individual H20 in the same layer of H27, were described a pottery fragment and a "calcite" bead (Cardoso et al., 1996: 148).

11. Anta dos Penedos de São Miguel (Crato, Portalegre) was excavated from 1981 to 1983 (Claustre et al., 2005). Its architecture consists of a polygonal chamber c. 6 m in diameter and a corridor c. 10 m long, under a circular mound c. 16 m in diameter, which were relatively well preserved. Despite later Roman use and medieval violation of the chamber (Claustre et al., 2005), the materials evidence a funerary use during the late 4th millennium and early 3rd millennium BCE (Claustre et al., 2005). 'Quartz' beads were described among the raw materials used for the ornamental items recovered.

12. Gruta da Marmota (Alcanena, Santarém) cave was explored in the 1970s, yielding an assemblage of materials chronologically ranging from the Middle Neolithic to the Iron Age. It also contained a Bronze Age funerary use (Gonçalves, 1972). An unpublished spherical green translucent bead (MR/S-25) was recovered in the Cut 1 from Sala 2 in the 1974 fieldwork, and another unpublished green translucent bead (MMT-26) was recovered during superficial surveys in the 1990s.

13. Cabeço da Ministra Alta natural cave was excavated during the late 19th century by Manuel Vieira Natividade (Natividade, 1903; Gonçalves, 1978; Silva, 1998). Ministra Alta was in use from the Early Neolithic to Roman times. Despite later evidences of reuse during the Bronze and Iron Ages (Natividade, 1903; Silva, 1998), the assemblage recovered (some engraved schist plaques, decorated bone hairpins, flint and quartz geometrics and arrowheads, flint halberds, etc. [Natividade, 1903; Gonçalves, 1978; Silva, 1998]) point to a Late Neolithic/Early Chalcolithic funerary occupation of the cave. 23 beads worked out of greenstone and lignite were recorded together with the two translucent green beads studied here originally published as ribeirite¹ (Natividade, 1903: 443; est. XVI) and the two perforated natural cylinders of calcite.

14. El Pozuelo megalithic necropolis (Zalamea la Real, Huelva) is formed by 16 monuments of different typologies, distributed in two main groups, Los Llanetes and El Riscal-La Veguilla (Cerdán et al., 1952; Linares, 2011; 2016). Between 1945 and 1947, Pozuelo 1 to 9 were excavated by Carlos Cerdán, to whose excavations the beads studied here belong. Pozuelo 1 in Los Llanetes and Pozuelo 5 and 7 in El Riscal-La Veguilla visually dominate their relative groups. The monuments underwent complex transformations in their architecture and ritual spaces from the Late Neolithic to Late Chalcolithic (Linares, 2011; 2016). A total of three quartz beads were recorded, one in the right chamber of Pozuelo 1, one in Pozuelo 5 and one in the left chamber of Pozuelo 7 (Cerdán et al., 1952). After the Leisners' work, Cabrero reclassifies these beads as made of 'rock crystal' (Cabrero, 1988: 91, 107 and 135).

15. Los Gabrieles 6 (Valverde del Camino, Huelva) was the first of the 7 megalithic tombs that constitute Los Gabrieles necropolis (Linares, 2011; 2016) to be excavated in 1974 (Blanco and Rothenberg, 1981). It is a dolmen with a polygonal chamber and a corridor. Although violated, a large assemblage of grave goods were recovered from this monument (a decorated-plaque idol, polished axes, flint and quartz arrowheads, and globular and hemispheric pottery) A total of 41 pendants and beads were recovered during the excavation, including a big barrel-type bead identified as fluorite by visual inspection (Blanco and Rothenberg, 1981: 287 and fig. 296, nº 4).

16. Cueva del Vaquero (Alcalá de Guadaíra, Sevilla) is double-chambered tholos, located in the megalithic necropolis of 'El Gandul' that was excavated by George Bonsor in 1902 (Leisner and Leisner, 1943: 197-203). Despite the limited number of finds, the materials recovered were representative of the 3rd millennium BCE: flint arrowheads with concave base, almond rim plates, hemispheric bowls and bell beakers together with a *Patella* were recovered. Additionally, a green quartz fragment was published as belonging to this *tholos* (Leisner and Leisner, 1943: 203, tafel 60 and 66).

17. 'La Emisora' sector (Valencina de la Concepción, Sevilla) is located in the farm "La Candelera", at the Chalcolithic site of Valencina de la Concepción/Castilleja de Guzmán (see García, 2013 for a review). Numerous structures were documented in this sector in 1988 and 1989 (Murillo, 1991: 559). According to

¹ A variety of Zircon [Zr(SiO₄)] named after J.C. Riveiro.

the 'abundant material and also burials' described by the excavators (Murillo, 1991: 558), this *a priori* 'hut floor' in the Emisora Norte sector (Murillo, 1991: 557, fig. 1) was probably a burial in an artificial cave. Among the unpublished remains from the Emisora Norte sector, we have identified a prismatic fluorite fragment; to date the only object in this raw material found at the site.

18. Los Millares necropolis (Santa Fé de Mondújar, Almería). The excavations carried out by Luis Siret and Pedro Flores in this megalithic necropolis went practically unreported until the Leisners' publications (Leisner and Leisner, 1943). The site was later re-studied and re-excavated by Almagro and Arribas (1963).

Among the grave goods in Tholos 12, 37-V (Almagro and Arribas, 1963: 124) and 63-III (Almagro and Arribas, 1963: 116; Leisner and Leisner, 1943: 52, taf. 24) four translucent "quartz" and "rock crystal" beads were documented. Among the 3,294 beads in Tomb 12, both Siret and the Leisners documented five purple beads in "amethyst quartz" (Leisner and Leisner, 1943: 25, taf. 11). For different reasons we were only able to analyze the translucent beads in Tomb 12.

19. Fuente Álamo tumba 111 (Cuevas de Almanzora, Almería) was excavated on the southern side of the site in 1999 (Schubart et al., 2006; see Schubart et al., 2000 for a review of the site). This unusual burial was formed by a quite large pit (2.20x1.50 m) that contained a large funerary urn (pithos) under a small mound of large stones. This contained the remains of a female 16-18 years of age, buried in a flexed supine decubitus position, with red pigment made from hematite and cinnabar around her skull (Schubart et al., 2006: 107). Both the tomb and the rich grave goods indicated her high social position. The grave goods were formed by three pottery recipients, particularly a small carinated vessel with remains of Papaver somniferum and fatty acids (Schubart et al., 2006: 107); a copper dagger, a large group of copper and silver bracelets and rings, as well as a series of silver and copper earrings and beads and nearly fifty beads in other raw materials, mostly minerals (Schubart et al., 2006: 106).

Some of these beads were analyzed by XRD, identifying one made of fluorite among other mineralogies (Pozo et al., 2002: 136, 140); this fluorite bead, together with the other samples analyzed in that study would have been pulverized as described by Pozo et al. (2002: 133). Another transparent bead among the adornments preserved in Almería Museum (Schubart et al., 2006: 105, fig. 2-e) has been studied here.

20. El Cau de l'Olivar d'en Margall (Torroella del Montgrí, Girona) cave discovered and excavated in 1925 by Luis Pericot (Pericot, 1939). Pericot relates that the place was known by local farmers, prior to its discovery, as the place where several prehistoric 'rosaries' (beads assemblages) had appeared. All the recovered materials lack stratigraphic and contextual information, because the cave's deposit was stirred to remove the land for the neighboring olive grove. Archaeological excavations by Pericot (Pericot, 1939) recovered the following materials: a small assemblage of very fragmented human bones, a small axe, a flint retouched knife, three arrowheads, a copper rod of quadrangular section, and 444 beads, 8 of the beads were inventoried as 'callaite', 3 as calcite (globular beads), 23 (including a small piriformis pendant) as bone, 400 as steatite (standardized small black disc). Aditionally, 5 dentalium beads and 3 fragments of beads were inventoried. Chronologically, the cave is ascribed by the author to the Eneolithic (Late Neolithic – Copper Age). Lately, another bead and some objects were recovered and reviewed (Pericot, 1947). Pericot's findings are deposited in the Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya (Barcelona).

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