

## **PREFACE BY THE SERIES EDITORS**

---

This publication is the first volume in the new monographic series “Archaeology of Egypt, Sudan and the Levant” (AESL), published by the Institute for Oriental and European Archaeology (OREA). This new Austrian Academy of Sciences publication series is dedicated to current archaeological research throughout the Levant, Egypt and Sudan, with a particular emphasis on the multifaceted interconnections between these cultural spheres. This series is implemented in the publication canon of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. The scientific quality is ensured by international peer review organised by the Austrian Academy of Sciences Press under the auspices of the Academy’s Publication Committee and its integration into an active scientific environment.

It seems timely to offer a new general platform for books on archaeological research in the Levant, Egypt and Sudan since these regions have always been in contact with each other. Modern fieldwork in these parts of the ancient world is becoming increasingly comparable, with teams and projects applying similar methodological approaches, the same or analogous techniques, and facing similar challenges in terms of endangered heritage and restrictions regarding preservation. The AESL series editors are active field archaeologists in the areas and cover not only a very long time span from the early Holocene onwards (Barbara Horejs), but epitomise particularly the connectivity of the Levant and Egypt (Felix Höflmayer) and of Egypt and the Sudan (Julia Budka). As a joint team and with this new publication format, we hope to illustrate recent advances in the understanding of the intertwined histories of these regions throughout the ages by publishing archaeological studies that focus especially on new results from fieldwork, material, cultural and theoretical studies, as well as interdisciplinary analyses related to the focus region, which are of interest to a wide audience.

The series is planned to represent the OREA institutes’ and associated research in that area, including cooperation partners and collaborative science conducted in the field. The coordination of the editing and publication procedure lies in the experienced hands of Ernst Czerny.

We hope that both the present volume on the results of the ERC project AcrossBorders and the new monographic series “Archaeology of Egypt, Sudan and the Levant” (AESL) will be of interest to experts and a broad readership, extending beyond classical borders of academic fields such as Egyptology and Levantine archaeology.

Julia Budka, Felix Höflmayer, Barbara Horejs  
Vienna, October 2019

