

Curriculum Vitae

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Zeljko Rezek

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Academic Qualifications

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| 2015 | Ph.D. in Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA |
| 2004 | B.A. in Archaeology, Department of Archaeology, University of Zagreb, Croatia |

Academic Appointments

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| 2022–present | Senior Researcher, Paléoanthropologie, CIRB, Collège de France, Paris, France |
| 2016–2021 | Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Human Evolution, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany |
| 2013–2015 | Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA |

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (selection)

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| 2026 | Abbas, M., Lai, Z., Tu, H., Ou, X., Carling, P.A., Lin, P., Alqudah, M., Al-Saqarat, B., Qiu, T., Petraglia, M.D., Rezek, Z. , Jansen, J.D. “A stable environmental niche for humans in the southern Levant 70-40 ka”. <i>Quaternary Science Reviews</i> 337, 109855. |
| 2025 | Premo, L. and Rezek, Z. , “Modeling cultural evolution in structured populations raises important questions for archaeologists”. <i>Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory</i> 32,10. |
| 2024 | Tsanova, T., Delvigne, V., Sirakova, S., Anastasova, E., Horta, P., Krumov, I., Marreiros, J., Nacheva, E., Rezek, Z. , Hublin, J.-J., Sirakov, N. “Curated character of the Initial Upper Palaeolithic lithic artefact assemblages in Bacho Kiro Cave (Bulgaria)”. <i>PLoS ONE</i> 19, e0307435. |
| 2023 | Sinet-Mathiot, V., Rendu, W., Steele, T., Spasov, R., Madelaine, S., Renou, S., Soulier, M.-C., Martisius, N., Aldeias, V., Enderova, E., Goldberg, P., McPherron, S., Rezek, Z. , Sandgathe, D., Sirakov, N., Sirakova, S., Soressi, M., Tsanova, T., Turq, A., Hublin, J.-J., Welker, F., Smith, G. “Identifying the unidentified fauna enhances insights into hominin subsistence strategies during the Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition”. <i>Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences</i> 15, 139. |
| 2023 | Li, L., Lin, S., McPherron, S. P., Abdolazadeh, A., Chan, A., Dogandzic, T., Leader, G., Iovita, R., Magnani, M., Rezek, Z. , Dibble, H. L. “A synthesis of the Dibble et al. controlled experiments into the mechanics of lithic production”. <i>Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory</i> 30, 1284–1325. |
| 2022 | McCormack, J., Bourgon, N., Sinet-Mathiot, V., Rezek, Z. , Smith, G., M., Hublin, J.-J., Dabain, M., Fewlass, H. “Combining collagen extraction with mineral Zn isotope analyses from a single sample for robust palaeoecological investigations”. <i>Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences</i> 14, 137. |
| 2022 | Martisius, N., L., Spasov, R., Smith, G. M., Enderova, E., Sinet-Mathiot, V., Welker, F., Aldeias, V., Horta, P., Marreiros, J., Rezek, Z. , McPherron, S., Sirakov, N., Sirakova, S., Tsanova, T., Hublin, J.-J. “Initial Upper Paleolithic bone technology and personal ornaments at Bacho Kiro Cave (Bulgaria)”. <i>Journal of Human Evolution</i> 167, 103198. |

- 2022 Lin, S., **Rezek, Z.**, Abdolazadeh, A., Braun, D., Dogandzic, T., Leader, G., Li, L., McPherron, S. P. "The mediating effect of platform width on the size and shape of stone flakes". *PLoS ONE* 17, e0262920.
- 2021 Pederzani, S., Britton, K., Aldeias, V., Bourgon, N., Fewlass, H., Lauer, T., McPherron, S. P., **Rezek, Z.**, Sirakov, N., Smith, G. M., Spasov, R., Tran, N.-H., Tsanova, T., Hublin, J.-J. "Subarctic climate for the earliest *Homo sapiens* in Europe". *Science Advances* 7, eabi4642.
- 2021 Smith, G. M., Spasov, R., Martisius, N., Sinet-Mathiot, V., Aldeias, V., **Rezek, Z.**, Ruebens, K., Pederzani, S., McPherron, S. P., Sirakova, S., Sirakov, N., Tsanova, T., Hublin, J.-J. "Subsistence behaviour during the Initial Upper Palaeolithic in Europe: site use, dietary practice and carnivore exploitation at Bacho Kiro Cave (Bulgaria)". *Journal of Human Evolution* 161, 103074.
- 2021 Hajdinjak, M., Mafessoni, F., Skov, L., Vernot, B., Hübner, A. Fu, Q., Essel, E., Nagel, S., Nickel, B., Richter, J., Moldovan, O. T., Constantin, S., Endarova, E., Zahariev, N., Spasov, R., Welker, F., Smith, G. M., Sinet-Mathiot, V., Paskulin, L., Fewlass, H., Talamo, S., **Rezek, Z.**, Sirakova, S., Sirakov, N., McPherron, S., Tsanova, T., Hublin, J.-J., Peter, B., Meyer, M., Skoglund, P., Kelso, J., Pääbo, S. "Initial Upper Palaeolithic humans in Europe had recent Neanderthal ancestry." *Nature* 592, 253-257.
- 2021 Iovita, R., Braun, D., Douglass, M., Holdaway, S., Lin, S., Olszewski, D., **Rezek, Z.** "Operationalizing niche construction theory with stone tools". *Evolutionary Anthropology* 30, 28-39.
- 2020 **Rezek, Z.**, Holdaway, S. J., Olszewski, D. I., Lin, S. C, Douglass, M., McPherron, S. P., Iovita, R., Braun, D. R., Sandgathe, D. "Aggregates, formational emergence, and the focus on practice in stone artifact archaeology." *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 27, 887-928.
- 2020 McPherron, S. P., Abdolazadeh, A., Archer, W., Chan, A., Djakovic, I., Dogandzic, T., Leader, G., Li, L., Lin, S., Magnani, M., Reeves, J., **Rezek, Z.**, Weiss, M. "Introducing platform surface interior angle (PSIA) and its role in flake formation, size, and shape." *PLoS ONE* 15: e0241714.
- 2020 Hublin, J.-J., Sirakov, N., Aldeias, V., Bailey, S., Bard, E., Delvigne, V., Endarova, E., Fagault, Y., Fewlass, H., Hajdinjak, M., Kromer, B., Krumov, I., Marreiros, J., Martisius, N., Meyer, M., Pääbo, S., Paskulin, L., Popov, V., **Rezek, Z.**, Sinet-Mathiot, V., Sirakova, S., Skinner, M., Smith, G., Spasov, R., Talamo, S., Tuna, T., Wacker, L., Welker, F., Wilcke, A., Zahariev, N., McPherron, S. P., Tsanova, T. "Initial Upper Paleolithic hominin remains from Bacho Kiro Cave (Bulgaria)." *Nature* 581, 299-302.
- 2020 Fewlass, H., Talamo, S., Wacker, L., Kromer, B., Tuna, T., Fagault, Y., Bard, E., McPherron, S., Aldeias, V., Maria, R., Martisius, N., Paskulin, L., **Rezek, Z.**, Sinet-Mathiot, V., Sirakova, S., Smith, G., Spasov, R., Welker, F., Tsanova, T., Sirakov, N., Hublin, J.-J. "New ¹⁴C chronology for Middle-to-Upper Paleolithic transition at Bacho Kiro Cave, Bulgaria." *Nature Ecology and Evolution* 4, 794-801.
- 2020 Faust, D., Trigui, Y., Pachtmann, M., Mettig, G., Bouaziz, M., Recio Espejo, J., M., Diaz Del Olmo, F., Kreutzer, S., Schmidt, C., Hambach, U., Lauer, T., **Rezek, Z.**, Fülling, A., Meszner, S. "New findings of Middle Stone Age lithic artifacts from Matmata loess region in southern Tunisia." *E&G Quaternary Science Journal* 69, 55-58.

Symposia Organized

- 2025 *Coastal adaptation of early modern humans: Comparing the Cape of South Africa and northwest Morocco* Symposium. Co-Chair (with Curtis Marean). Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meetings, Denver, CO, USA, Apr 23-27, 2025.
- 2023 *Variability: A Re-assessment of its Meaning, Afforded Range, and the Relation to Process* Symposium. Chair. Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meetings, Portland, OR, USA, Mar 29-Apr 2, 2023.
- 2021 *Inference in Paleoarchaeology* Symposium. Co-chair (with Sam Lin). Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meetings, Online, Apr 14-18.
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Invited Talks

- 2026 *Biological and Behavioral Evolution of Early Homo sapiens in Northern Africa: New Excavations and Data from Morocco and Egypt*. University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan, Mar 15.
- 2025 *Biological and Cultural Evolution of Earlier Homo Sapiens: From Northwest Africa to Southeastern Europe*. University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, Apr 10.
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Conference Presentations (selection)

- 2026 **Rezek, Z.** “Multicentric emergence of the Initial Upper Paleolithic in the Levant” Podium presentation. *Cultural Evolution during the Middle-to-Upper Paleolithic Transition in the Levant and Surrounding Regions* International workshop (Org.: Y. Nishiaki, S. Kadowaki), Tokyo, Japan, Mar 12-14.
- 2025 **Rezek, Z.**, Kodaş, E., Erbil, E., Erdem, C. “New Initial Upper Paleolithic in northern Levant: First results from Elobrahimo Rockshelter in Mardin Province, southeast Türkiye” Podium presentation. *Origins and Development of the Eurasian Initial Upper Paleolithic* International workshop (Org.: T. Tsanova), Dryanovo, Bulgaria, Oct 15-16.
- 2025 Schuh, A., Hajdinjak, M., Fewlass, H., Skinner, M., Imbrasas, M., Bailey, S.E., Freidline, S.E., Alberro, M.L., Kelso, J., Gunz, P., Power, R.C., McPherron, S.P., **Rezek, Z.**, Sinet-Mathiot, V., Rougier, H., Talamo, S., Sirakov, N., Tsanova, T., Hublin, J-J. “New fossil remains from Bacho Kiro Cave (Bulgaria)”. Podium presentation. *Recent Updates on Eurasian Upper Palaeolithic*. Annual meeting of UISPP Commission 8 (Org.: T. Tsanova), Dryanovo, Bulgaria, Oct 13-14.
- 2025 Pederzani, P., Mallol, C., Davara, J., Herrera, A.V., Castellano-Rotger, L., Égüez, N., McPherron, S.P., **Rezek, Z.**, Sirakov, N., Tsanova, T., Hublin, J-J., Aldeias, V. “Tracing cold-climate adaptations in early *Homo sapiens* in Europe: lipid biomarker and micromorphological evidence from Bacho Kiro Cave (Bulgaria)”. Poster presentation. European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE), Paris, France, Sep 25-27.
- 2025 Heikkilä, R., Ruebens, K., Welker, F., Dayedaye, Z., Himchi, I., Beneoutiq, R., Amani, F., Mologni, C., Mylopotamitaki, D., Raymond, P., **Rezek, Z.**, Ben-Ncer, A., Hublin, J-J. “Exploring biomolecular preservation of Middle-Later Stone Age bone assemblages from Dar es-Soltan II (Morocco) using Zooarchaeology by Mass Spectrometry (ZooMS)”. Poster presentation. European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE), Paris, France, Sep 25-27.
- 2025 **Rezek, Z.** and Bouzouggar, A. “Middle and Late Pleistocene human occupation in Morocco and cultural evolution of early *Homo sapiens*”. Podium presentation. *Symposium Coastal adaptation of early modern humans: Comparing the Cape of*

South Africa and northwest Morocco (Chairs: Zeljko Rezek and Curtis Marean). Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meetings, Denver, CO, USA, Apr 23-27.

- 2025 **Rezek, Z.**, Horta, P., Bruxelles, L., Davies, B., Hamdan, M. “Human landscape use during the Middle Stone Age of northeast Africa: New research in Wadi El-Hudi southeast of Aswan, Egypt”. Podium presentation. Paleoanthropology Society, Denver, CO, USA, Apr 22-23.
- 2024 Aldeias, V., Pederzani, S., McPherron, S. P., **Rezek, Z.**, Sirakov, N., Tsanova, T., Hublin, J-J. “The context and nature of Initial Upper Paleolithic occupations in Bacho Kiro, Bulgaria” Poster presentation. European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE), Zagreb, Croatia, Sep 11-15.
- 2024 Fewlass, H., Presslee, S., Mylopotamitaki, D., Tait, F., Williams, M., Berto, C., Kot, M., Alhuraish, A., Arzarello, M., Ashton, N., Barzilai, O., Belmaker, M., Britton, K., Constantin, S., Dalen, L., Dickinson, M., Oteo Garcia, G., Hublin, J-J., Jeffries, M., Kitchener, A., Knight, M. G., Martin, L., Masson-Maclean, E., Matthews, R., Matthews, W., Maurer, G., Mirea, I. C., Nassr, A., Parfitt, S., Petculescu, A., **Rezek, Z.**, Robu, M., Sellers, W., Sirakov, N., Smith, G. M., Tsanova, T., Wilczynski, J., Flynn, H. R., Skehel, J. M., Welker, W., Penkman, K., Skoglund, P. “Preserve and protect: non-destructive screening for protein preservation in ancient skeletal material” Poster presentation. European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE), Zagreb, Croatia, Sep 11-15.
- 2024 Tsanova, T. **Rezek, Z.**, Delvigne, V., Aldeias, V., Allué, E., Anastasova, E., Endarova, E., Fewlass, H., Krumov, I., Lauer, T., Marreiros, J., McPherron, S. P., Pederzani, S., Sinet-Mathiot, V., Smith, G. M., Veres, D., Sirakova, S., Slon, V., Talamo, S., Sirakov, N., Hublin, J-J. “Late Neanderthal occupation(s) of Bacho Kiro Cave (Bulgaria)”. Poster presentation. European Association of Archaeologists (EAA), Rome, Italy, Aug 28-31.
- 2024 **Rezek, Z.**, Amani, F., Ben Arous, E., Mologni, C., Raymond, P., Simon, M., H., Ziani, I., Ben-Ncer, A., Bouzouggar, A., Hublin, J-J. “Depositional and cultural contexts of Late Pleistocene Homo sapiens fossils from Rabat-Temara caves in Morocco.” Podium presentation. Paleoanthropology Society, Los Angeles, CA, USA, Mar 19-20.
- 2024 Nassr, A., Balela, A., Eltoom, M., Albashir, Z., **Rezek, Z.** “Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene cultural landscapes of northern Butana in the Sahel of Sudan.” Poster presentation. Paleoanthropology Society, Los Angeles, CA, USA, Mar 19-20.
- 2023 **Rezek, Z.**, Lauer, T., Jacobs, Z., Stahlschmidt, M., Degering, D., Hublin, J-J., Kasper, T., Pederzani, S., Smith, G., Rawashdeh, A., Dabain, M. “New excavations of the rockshelter of Ain Difla in Jordan and the regional Initial Upper Paleolithic.” Podium presentation. Paleoanthropology Society, Portland, OR, USA, Mar 28-29.
- 2023 **Rezek, Z.** “Is there (and what is?) nubian-levalllois from the etic perspective of fracture and flake formation?”. Podium presentation. Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meetings, Portland, OR, USA, Mar 29-Apr 2.
- 2023 Nassr, A. and **Rezek, Z.** “The relationship between knapping technology and stone use in the MSA landscape of northern Butana in Sudan”. Podium presentation. Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meetings, Portland, OR, USA, Mar 29-Apr 2.
- 2022 Sinet-Mathiot, V., Rendu, W., Steele, T., Spasov, R., Madelaine, S., Renou, S., Soulier, M-C., Martisius, N., Aldeias, V., Endarova, E., Goldberg, P., McPherron, S., **Rezek, Z.**, Sandgathe, D., Sirakov, N., Sirakova, S., Soressi, M., Tsanova, T., Turq, A., Hublin, J-J., Welker, F., Smith, G. “Investigating selective hunting behaviors during the Middle-to-Upper Paleolithic transition using ZooMS” Podium presentation. European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE), Tübingen, Germany, Sep 22-24.

- 2022 **Rezek, Z.** “Is there (and what is) nubian-levallouis from the etic perspective of fracture and flake formation?”. Workshop *The nature of Nubian: developing current global perspectives on Nubian-Levallois technology and the Nubian Complex* (Org. E. Hallinan). University of Algarve, Faro, Portugal, Feb 23-26.
- 2021 Hajdinjak, M., Mafessoni, F., Skov, L., Vernot, B., Hübner, A. Fu, Q., Essel, E., Nagel, S., Nickel, B., Richter, J., Moldovan, O. T., Constantin, S., Endarova, E., Zahariev, N., Spasov, R., Welker, F., Smith, G. M., Sinet-Mathiot, V., Paskulin, L., Fewlass, H., Talamo, S., **Rezek, Z.**, Sirakova, S., Sirakov, N., McPherron, S., Tsanova, T., Hublin, J.-J., Peter, B., Meyer, M., Skoglund, P., Kelso, J., Pääbo, S. “Initial Upper Palaeolithic humans in Europe had recent Neanderthal ancestry.” Podium presentation. European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE), Online, Sep 22-24.
- 2021 Martisius, N., Spasov, R., Smith, G., M., Sinet-Mathiot, V., Welker, F., Aldeias, V., Horta, P., Marreiros, J., Endarova, E., **Rezek, Z.**, McPherron, S. P., Sirakov, N., Sirakova, S., Tsanova, T., Hublin, J.-J. “Initial Upper Paleolithic bone technology and ornaments at Bacho Kiro Cave (Bulgaria)” Podium presentation. European Society for the Study of Human Evolution (ESHE), Online, Sep 22-24.
- 2021 Nassr, A., **Rezek, Z.**, Salem, N., Jaouen, K. Power, R., Fewlass, H. “Early- and mid-Holocene human adaptations in the Nile Valley of central Sudan: A report from Sabaloka East”. Podium presentation. Symposium *The Early Holocene: Palaeoclimate and Adaptation*. Society of Africanist Archaeologists (SAfA) Biennial Meetings, Online, Aug-Sep, 2021.
- 2021 McPherron, S. P., Abdolazadeh, A., Dogandzic, T., Li, L., Lin, S., Reeves, J., **Rezek, Z.**, Tennie, C. “Fracture mechanics, virtual knapper, and controlled experiments: Towards a better model of flake formation.” Podium presentation. Symposium *Inference in Paleoarchaeology*. Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meetings, Online, Apr 14-18.