

# Ariușd: Originated Culture or Culture of Origin\*

Dan-Lucian BUZEA\*\*

**Abstract:** *The project “Ariușd: Originated Culture or Culture of Origin” was aimed at researching and identifying the elements that define the notions of “center and periphery” / “originating culture or culture of origin” regarding Ariușd settlements of south-eastern and eastern Transylvania, on the one hand in relation to the Cucuteni-Ariușd-Tripolje Cultural Complex, and on the other to the neighbouring eneolithic cultures. In an early stage of the researches the specialised literature mentions the “Cucuteni-Ariușd-Tripolie Cultural Complex” or a shorter version of “Cucuteni-Tripolie Culture” that did not affect its essence. For the discoveries in the Western part of the territory covered by this Culture (South-Eastern and Eastern Transylvania) is known term “Cucuteni-Ariușd”, or the shorter version – “Ariușd” finds. This study contributes to finding the answers to these unsolved questions, bringing new information regarding the specificity of the “Ariușd” manifestations in South-Eastern and Eastern Transylvania. Within the Minerva Project new, interdisciplinary researches were conducted, that resulted in useful information for a deeper understanding of the “Ariușd” communities, using practical examples and efficient exploitation methods in both years 2014 and 2015.*

**Keywords:** *eneolithic, Cucuteni-Ariușd Culture, Transylvania, center, periphery*

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\*\* Muzeul Național al Carpaților Răsăriteni, str. Gábor Áron, nr. 16, cod 520008, Sfântu Gheorghe, jud. Covasna (buzealuci@yahoo.com).