Fig. 1. *Stone tools from the LRJ at Ranis. 1) partial bifacial blade point characteristic of the LRJ; 2) at Ranis the LRJ also contains finely made bifacial leaf points. © Josephine Schubert, Museum Burg Ranis, License: CC-BY-ND 4.0*

Fig. 2. *The cave site Ilsenhöhle beneath the castle of Ranis. © Tim Schüler TLDA, License: CC-BY-ND 4.0.*

Fig. 3. *Excavating the LRJ layers 8 metres deep at Ranis was a logistical challenge and required elaborate scaffolding to support the trench. © Marcel Weiss, License: CC-BY-ND 4.0.*

Fig. 4. *Human bone fragment from the new excavations at Ranis. © Tim Schüler TLDA, License: CC-BY-ND.*

Fig. 5. *After chemical preparation and purification, very small samples from animal teeth are loaded into the magazine of an isotope ratio mass spectrometer to obtain oxygen stable isotope ratios, which yield information about past climates that animals lived in. © Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, License: CC-BY-ND.*

Fig. 6. *Proteomic extraction from archaeological bone fragments is performed in a sterilised environment to avoid modern contamination. © Dorothea Mylopotamitaki, License: CC-BY-ND 4.0.*

Fig. 7. *Analysis of over 1000 animal bones from Ranis showed that early Homo sapiens processed the carcasses of deer but also of carnivores, including wolf. © Geoff M. Smith, License: CC-BY-ND 4.0.*