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Mohács500 Conference

The Mohács500 Conference presented the latest scientific research results, the Regional Committee of Pécs of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences hosted the meeting, where Dr. András Rácz, State Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. János Hargitai, Member of Parliament, Ministerial Commissioner, Prof. Dr. Márta Font, Vice President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and Prof. Dr. Attila Miseta, Rector of the University of Pécs gave the welcome speeches. We spoke to Gábor Bertók, Director of the Janus Pannonius Museum, who gave an exciting presentation on battlefield research.

We know roughly where the Battle of Mohács took place, how big is the area?

The site we have identified is one and a half square kilometres. Within that, there are clusters of finds and thickets, so it's not a uniform distribution, it shows the intensity of the battle.

Do you take a different approach to research today than in the 1950s and 1960s of the last century? They have more sophisticated technical equipment, aerial photography has improved a lot, as has remote sensing.

Well, if you look specifically at battlefield identification, the mass use of metal detectors has taken us forward. And also the fact that we are using much more precise methods to map these finds, we can practically locate the site to centimetre accuracy. This is going beyond the scope of the objective, because we are talking about arable fields, so here we are using a metal detector to search the layer that has been disturbed by the plough, the soil may have been ploughed several times over the decades, centuries, but the finds are not significantly displaced.