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Civitates Hispaniae : urbanisation on the Iberian peninsula during the High Empire

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Propositions belonging to P.H.A. Houten,
*Civitates Hispaniae: Urbanisation on the Iberian
Peninsula during the High Empire*

1. The Plinian *oppida* mentioned in the *conventus* lists for the Iberian Peninsula must be considered urban settlements.
2. Not all the *civitates* of Roman Spain and Portugal conformed to the classical *urbs et territorium* model: several of these communities were 'dispersed' *civitates*.
3. Secondary agglomerations played a large role in the urban network of the *Hispaniae* and should be more thoroughly investigated.
4. Size as a definiens for urbanism is of limited use in the case of the Iberian Peninsula.
5. *Coloniae* and *municipia civium Romanorum* benefitted from their juridical status.
6. Roman generals during the Middle Republic stirred up wars in areas which had already been conquered to gain *gloria* and be rewarded with a triumph.
7. The credibility of ancient geographers has to be assessed per region: whilst one geographical area might have been unknown to a geographer, he may have been well acquainted with other regions.

8. When dealing with the inhabitants of pre-Roman North Italy, Gaul, Central Europe and Central Spain the term 'Iron Age people' is preferable to the designation 'Celtic'.

9. The familiarity of modern researchers with the religions which are based on sacred texts makes it difficult for them to understand the fluid polytheistic religions of the ancient world.

10. Hannibal's transportation of elephants across the lower Rhône posed greater difficulties than taking these animals across the Alps.

11. After more than a century of research the archaeological site of Hisarlık remains the strongest candidate for the Homeric city of Troy.

12. Archaeological research should (also) be published in languages which can be read by the inhabitants of those areas which have been investigated.

13. Horse riding is mindfulness.

14. The Limburgian word *vlaoj* cannot be translated without losing the reference to the original pastry and therefore should always be referred to as *vlaoj*.