Editor's foreword

The use of the concept of archaeological culture causes tangles and absurdity. Archaeologists often try to ascribe certain ethnic content to archaeological cultures, or simply replace the discourse about ancient ethnic groups with a discourse about archaeological cultures. Also, different archaeological cultures are frequently singled out within the material culture created by the same ethnicity. And among archaeologists there is a prerequisite to explain any change of archaeological cultures by the change of population. It is better not to use the concept of archaeological culture at all, the concept of technocomplex should be used instead. The concept of technocomplex is much more accurate than the concept of archaeological culture, since the concept of technocomplex designates a recurring assemblage of artifacts from a specific region and a specific time as a phenomenon of material culture only, and leaves aside the question of its ethnic content.