

Call for Papers – International Conference

Encounters, Rights, and Sovereignty in the Iberian empires, (15th-19th centuries)

University of Évora, Portugal, 24-25 May 2018



Ortelius World Map *Typvs Orbis Terrarvm*, 1570

The Iberian colonization processes in Asia, Africa and the Americas involved several types of encounters between colonizers and native peoples, as well as rivalries among these and other European colonial powers. These encounters often took the shape of conflicts and confrontations, but they also often happened amidst dynamics of negotiation and accommodation. The Portuguese and the Castilian crowns both tried to regulate these encounters and relationships. Among the many strategies they used was the development of legal norms, partially aimed at assuring some kind of rights to native populations and to the colonial populations that gradually evolved in many different ways (the rights to live, to physical integrity, to land, gender rights, trading rights, citizenship rights, etc.). The implementation, reception, negotiation and everyday use of these norms shaped the way colonial societies developed and defined their own identities. But they also had an impact on the type and extension of sovereignty that each of the Iberian empires was able to built-up in their colonial territories.

Although these topics have already attracted considerable attention from historical scholarship, both Iberian empires are seldom jointly considered and compared. Hence, this conference privileges an approach that takes into account the comparisons, in time and in space, and interactions between the Portuguese and Spanish colonizing dynamics, in a timeframe spanning from the early stages of the Iberian colonization to the first outbreaks of independence. Some of the questions we aim to address in this conference are: How did the Iberian monarchies conceive, if they did so, the rights of native populations in their decision-making processes

and in their juridical architecture? With what tools and with what objectives did the Iberian crowns regulate the encounters and relations between native and European populations? How did colonial encounters influence the political, theological and cultural discussion on the rights of peoples, on the rights of 'others', and even on human rights? How did these relations influence the gradual definition of borders and frontiers in colonial territories? How did colonial institutions and legal regulations relate with the political and economic objectives of both empire-building processes? How did politics, economy and religion intersect in these processes, and how did it affect the contact with native populations and the development of colonial societies? What contacts, transfers and influences took place between the Portuguese and Castilian imperial agents and institutions? How did information circulate from one empire to the other, and how did this information influence the conception of the 'other' in both imperial environments? What mechanisms of communication were at work between metropolitan and colonial powers regarding the management of these interactions?

Hence, focusing on the interactions between native and European populations, this conference welcomes panel and paper proposals on topics such as:

- Colonization models and empire-building strategies;
- Representations of native populations;
- Race relations and debates on race;
- Juridical regulations of colonial interactions;
- Colonial origins of human rights;
- Integration/ exclusion of native populations within colonial societies;
- Missionaries as political and cultural brokers;
- Active and passive dynamics of resistance;
- Political communication and circulation of information;
- Trade and commercial interactions;
- Portuguese and Spanish written cultures regarding colonial endeavours;
- Scales of power: centres versus peripheries;
- Violence and justice;
- Borders and frontiers.

Keynote Speaker

Professor António Manuel Hespanha
(Universidade Nova de Lisboa)

Timeline:

Deadline for the submission of panel and paper proposals:	10 February 2018
Communication of accepted panels and papers:	20 February 2018
Registration deadline:	31 March 2018
Deadline for pre-circulation of papers (2,000-10,000 words):	10 May 2018

Publication:

A selection of papers will be published in an edited volume.

Deadline for revised manuscript submission: 15 September 2018

Proposals submission – instructions:

1. Register on <https://sge.uevora.pt> – after registering you will receive a confirmation email to activate your registration.
2. Login on <https://sge.uevora.pt> and access the link <https://sge.uevora.pt/eventos/ver/428>.
3. Select the option “**Register**” on the right (this is a pre-registration only to allow you to submit your proposal; you can confirm your registration on a later stage, after the acceptance of your proposal).
4. Select “**Submit abstract**” on the right.

Panel and paper proposals are accepted in Portuguese, Spanish and English.

Paper proposals should include contact details, title, and abstract (c. 300 words).

Panel proposals should include 3 or 4 papers, titles and abstracts (c. 600 words).

For enquiries, please contact us at: iberianempires@uevora.pt

Registration Fees:

Full Registration (includes 2 lunches + 1 dinner): 60,00 €

Simple Registration (with no meals): 20,00 €

Attendee only (with certificate): 10,00 €

Students of the University of Évora: free

Scientific Committee:

Graça Almeida Borges, CIDEHUS, University of Évora

Mafalda Soares da Cunha, CIDEHUS, University of Évora

José Vicente Serrão, CIES, ISCTE-IUL

Pedro Cardim, CHAM, FCSH-UNL

Organizing Committee:

Graça Almeida Borges (Chair), CIDEHUS, University of Évora

Bruno Lopes, CIDEHUS, University of Évora

Leonor Garcia, CIDEHUS, University of Évora

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da Universidade de Évora

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