

CONFERENCE

LUSO-TROPICAL, ORIENTAL AND POST-LUSO-TROPICAL MEDIEVALISMS

CROSSROADS IN THE DEFINITION OF THE PORTUGUESE MIDDLE AGES AS BRAZILIAN PAST.

C. 1850-C. 1980

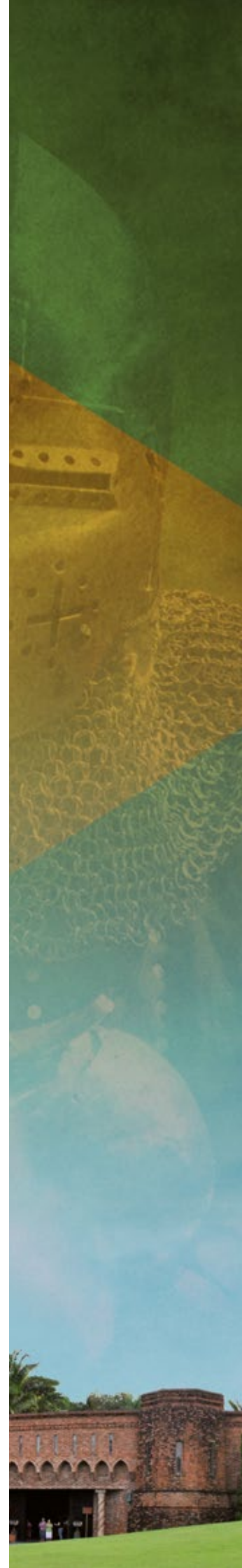
9-10 MAY, 2019
LISBOA, NOVA FCSH

CALL FOR PAPERS
DEADLINE 10 MARCH, 2019

Brazil as a product of Portuguese colonization and the political processes of the modern and contemporary period is a nation whose identity, similarly to the rest of American nations, has been mostly built recurring to a post-medieval past. This characteristic, however, did not preclude Brazilian historical culture from incorporating elements of the European and especially Portuguese Middle Ages, which in turn influenced the image that Brazilians created about themselves. Particularly relevant to this process was the work of Gilberto Freyre (1900-1987), an intellectual whose writings were politically appropriated by the Estado Novo in Portugal but who also left a profound mark in narratives about Brazilian national identity. The idea of medieval Portugal as a melting pot of diverse cultures (Christians, Muslims and Jews) had been advanced by several authors since the 19th century, and it also served as a basis of Freyre's theories regarding an alleged Portuguese ability to create uniquely successful relations with people in the tropics – theories which, at the time of their publication, were controversial in Brazil and would be later described as “Luso-tropicalism”.

After 30 years of Gilberto Freyre's death, the Institute for Medieval Studies (IEM), the Institute of Contemporary History (IHC) and the journal *Práticas da História* opened a scholarly discussion on the nineteenth- and twentieth-century uses of the Middle Ages in constructions of Luso-Brazilian national identities in April 2018. Following that first exploratory seminar and with the aim of summing up its conclusions and opening new perspectives, a conference will be held the **9th and 10th of May** at the NOVA School of Social Sciences and Humanities of Universidade Nova de Lisboa. Among the suggested topics are included:

- The cultural and political contexts of the production of “Luso-tropicalism” and their relations with the various representations of the Portuguese Middle Ages;
- The authors that influenced Gilberto Freyre's theories on medieval Portugal;
- The relation between Gilberto Freyre's theories and orientalist discourses or representations of Portugal and Brazil;
- The ways in which Portuguese and Brazilian contemporary historiographies have interpreted the “influence of medieval Portugal” in the development of Brazilian society until present times, considering the different views (either more “traditionalist” or progressive”) on the Portuguese Middle Ages produced during the 20th century.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PAPER PROPOSALS

Deadline for the submission of proposals: 10th of March 2019

Proposals, consisting of an abstract with maximum 300 words and a small biographical note (max. 60 words), should be sent until the **10th of March 2019**, to **medievalismos@fcsb.unl.pt**, in one of the following languages: Portuguese, English, French or Spanish.

Acceptance of proposals will be communicated by e-mail on the **25th of March**.

ESSAYS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN 2020 IN A SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL *PRÁTICAS DA HISTÓRIA*

Deadline for submission to the Special Issue: 30th of November 2019

A 6.000 to 10.000-word version of the conference paper should be sent to the aforementioned email until the **30th of November 2019** following the submission guidelines of *Práticas da História*.¹

After a positive assessment by the anonymous peer-reviewers, the final version of the submitted texts will be published in a thematic issue of the journal during the second half of 2020.

¹ Available at: <http://www.praticasdahistoria.pt/en/submissions/submission-guidelines>

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