

Scientific Committee

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Organization:



Sponsors:



Iberian Literatures and other (in)utilities

II INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS
OF YOUNG
RESEARCHERS
IN PORTUGUESE
LITERATURE

September
25-26
2025

Complutense University
of Madrid

Free registration



Artwork: Anabela Dias

Our time is one of (hyper)information, social networks, and the constant dominance of the *on* over the *off* — a context that leads individuals into a fragmentation and dispersion previously almost unheard of. From the days when communities gathered around the campfire, a square, or an amphitheater, to this “generalized screen state” (Livovetsky & Serroy, 2010, p. 21), in which the screens of the world hold all the world’s information simultaneously, humanity has witnessed the transition from an age of narratives to an age of *storytelling*.

Never before have we had such access to information, yet never before has knowledge been so questioned and treated as a superfluous accessory.

Since the Second Industrial Revolution and the conquest of the skies and space, we have witnessed an unprecedented technological evolution. Exact sciences increasingly occupy a central role, while, paradoxically, the humanities are facing widespread discredit.

As Nuccio Ordine say, “In the universe of utilitarianism, a hammer is worth more than a symphony, a knife more than a poem, a wrench more than a painting, because it is easy to understand the effectiveness of a tool, but increasingly difficult to comprehend the purpose of music, literature, or art” (2016, pp. 10-11).

The epitome of the “useless utility” literature, in dialogue with knowledge and other arts, modes, and media, creates narratives that connect human beings with the community, constructing meanings and making sense of the world. In this time of anxiety and uncertainty, what role can literature play? How can the humanities contribute to revitalizing narratives that complement the community? What paths have contemporary authors in the Iberian Peninsula taken, and what new thematic and formal trends are emerging in (hyper)contemporary Iberian literature? How does literary criticism perceive the current state of literature in the Iberian Peninsula?

To reflect on these and other related questions, the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, the “Literatura e Cultura Portuguesa” Group of CLEPUL, Universidade de Lisboa, and the “Entregéneros: Literatura e Hibridismo” Group of CLLC, Universidade de Aveiro, have decided to organize the **II International Congress of Young Researchers in Portuguese Literature** with the overarching goal of debating the significance of the humanities, especially literature and literary criticism. This meeting, in a straightforward and clear manner, and without the melancholic tone often found in academia, aims to contribute to the advancement of humanistic thought.

Proposed Thematic Axes

- Contemporary and hyper-contemporary Portuguese literature: challenges, paths taken and yet to be explored
- The hyper-contemporary in the Iberian Peninsula: authors, works, and dialogues
- Portuguese literature in the context of Lusophone countries
- The crisis of narrative in the Iberian Peninsula
- Memory and fiction in Iberian literatures
- Current fictional movements and trends
- Temporalities in Iberian literature
- The future of literature and the role of contemporary literary criticism
- Intermediality and multimodality
- Materialities *of* and *in* Iberian literature
- Iberian literatures and the arts

Please submit abstracts (200-300 words) and a brief bio-bibliography (100-200 words) in Portuguese, Galician, Spanish, or English by **May 1, 2025** to: congressoliteraturaportuguesa@ucm.es

