



AESOP CONGRESS
LISBON 2015

CESUR
Instituto Superior Técnico



Institute of Geography
and Spatial Planning



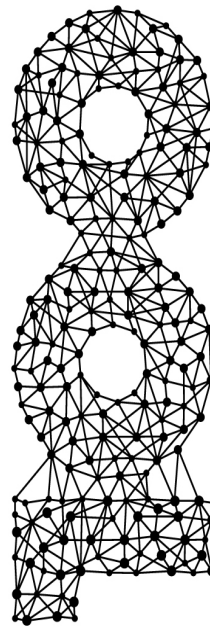
IGOT
Instituto de Geografia e
Ordenamento do Território



Main entrance of IST-Alameda Campus



The University of Lisbon's Faculty of Humanities



INSTITUTO SUPERIOR TÉCNICO 1911-2011



Information about the schools and their capacity to host the AESOP Congress 2015

School Profiles

This candidature to host the AESOP Congress 2015 brings together two of the most important institutes in Portugal in the teaching of, and research in, urban and regional planning: the Instituto Superior Técnico (IST) and the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning (IGOT). The two institutes were originally part of two different universities – the Technical University of Lisbon and the University of Lisbon, respectively – but they were recently part of a merger process that resulted in one university only: the University of Lisbon. This university is now the fourth largest in the Iberian Peninsula and is amongst the largest in Europe, with 48,000 students and a teaching staff of almost 3,000.

The IST and IGOT can look back on many years of very productive collaboration and are currently involved in joint research projects. They are also preparing a joint Doctoral Programme in Planning and Land Use Management.

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Instituto Superior Técnico

Founded more than a century ago

(1911), the Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), which for a long time was part of the Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal, has gained distinction for its national influence and international recognition. IST offers first and second-cycle courses as well as Integrated Master's degrees in almost all areas of engineering, architecture, science and technology. All courses are characterised by a solid basic education and commitment to advanced training, research and innovation. IST also offers a range of doctoral programmes that is exceptional in Portugal.

The IST has two campuses – Alameda (Lisbon) and Tagus Park (Oeiras), with more than 10,000 students and a considerable body of highly qualified teachers and investigators that includes more than 1,000 doctoral degree holders. It also has an administration staff of some 650 workers.

In the context of an increasingly knowledge-based global economy, internationalisation is an indissociable part of the IST outlook. This is reflected in its extensive participation in international research and development programmes and its offer of Master's and Doctoral programmes in partnership with

benchmark international schools.

The Department of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Georesources has, for over three decades, been developing and implementing an approach to teaching, research and practice in urbanism and land management that has led to the creation of a Master's Degree course in Urbanism and Land Management that accepts students with 1st-cycle degrees in related fields (geography, architecture, landscape architecture, economics, urbanism, etc.) and also to collaboration with other Integrated Master's programmes such as civil engineering and architecture. It also has an important third-cycle offer in the form of a doctoral programme in Territorial Engineering.

In addition to pedagogical aspects one can also highlight the vast and diverse scientific output published in high-profile magazines and journals and the direct involvement in local and regional development projects with the respective communities.

These scientific studies are carried out by the Centre for Urban and Regional Systems (CESUR). CESUR (<https://fenix.ist.utl.pt/investigacao/CESUR>) is a University Centre with 36 PhD researchers (more than 65% are also teachers at IST) devoted to

interdisciplinary problem-oriented research on i. Urban and Regional Systems, ii. Systems Engineering and Operational Research, and iii. Transportation Systems.

Accomplishing this mission has entailed the development of an open strategy promoting:

- a wide range of applied projects aimed at solving specific problems of public and private clients;
- advanced research to improve the understanding and modelling of real systems as well as to improve existing methodologies to formulate public policies and to plan, design and manage such systems;
- advanced training to increase the number of young colleagues following this approach and ongoing training offered to leaders, managers and technical staff of public and private organisations to improve their professional practices;
- diversified cooperation with leading national and international institutions.

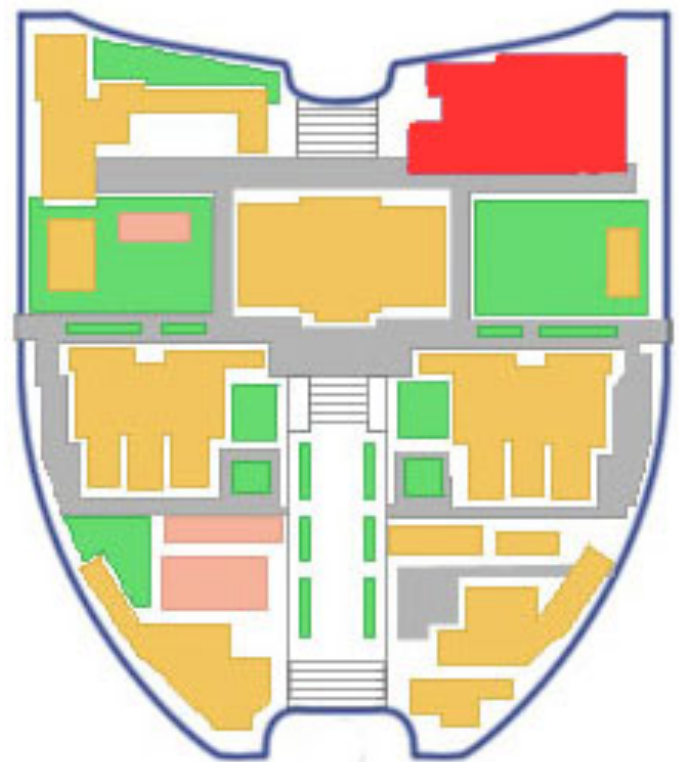
These four types of activities are, therefore, not different or even conflicting programmes within CESUR but key and essential stages of the same integrated and interdisciplinary methodology adopted by CESUR in pursuing its mission since 1975, promoting a new culture of innovation and change management shared by multiple networks of knowledge and skills.

During these three decades, innumerable results were obtained with a view to understanding and solving key problems of modern society, developing new scientific knowledge and improving professional methodologies and practices adopted in Portugal, in the EU or in other regions. Thousands of colleagues benefited from structured, tutorial or informal training offered by CESUR or based on CESUR methods.

CESURE currently has in course a number of scientific projects funded by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology. It is also collaborating actively with the territorial communities in the context of regional planning and development.

Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning

The Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning (IGOT-UL) is an organic unit of education and research in the fields of Geography and Spatial Planning at the University of Lisbon. It was established in 2009, following an institutional reform of the Portuguese higher education system, as a new autonomous body within the University of Lisbon, incorporating a teaching and training unit - the Geography Department (created in the 1950s) and a research unit - the Centre for Geographical Studies (created in 1943), also integrated in the same university.



IST-Alameda Campus Map

The IGOT-UL's mission is to provide higher education, conduct research, disseminate knowledge and provide technical and specialised scientific consultancy to the community in the fields of geography, spatial planning and management, development and territorial cohesion policies, urban planning, the environment, resources and risks and socio-spatial dynamics and organisation. Thus, the mission of IGOT-UL articulates the three functions of a university - Education, Research and Connection to society - in order to stimulate innovation, disseminate knowledge and contribute to development. IGOT-UL has approximately 750 students from all levels of study, a full-time teaching staff of 43 (80% of which have a PhD) and 180 researchers (40% having a PhD).

The IGOT-UL is today the leading Portuguese institution in geographical research and teaching. It carries out diverse projects, either coordinated solely by its professors and researchers or in partnership with others, which include in their teams many PhD and Master's students as well as young undergraduates who benefit from the applied research, very often working closely with policy makers both at the municipal and central level. The international reputation of IGOT-UL's professors and researchers is furthermore highlighted by a number of invitations to be visiting professors at other institutions, to present lectures at leading institutions, as keynote speakers at international conferences and for membership of editorial boards and boards of directors.



One of the auditoriums on Campus

Benefiting from a relationship of close cooperation with the Geography Department, IGOT-UL currently offers 2 Bachelor degree programmes: Geography; and Spatial Planning. In addition to this, it is actively involved in the degree European, African and Asian Studies programmes offered by the Faculty of Humanities, University of Lisbon.

As far as post-graduate education is concerned, IGOT-UL has 5 Master's degree programmes (Physical Geography and Spatial Planning; Urban Management and Urbanism; Population, Society and Territory; European Policies; Geographical Information Systems Applied to Spatial Planning and Management) and is institutionally involved in the joint Master's degree in Demography, History and Geography Teaching, and Tourism and Communication. In addition to this, it also conducts a PhD programme in Geography, which is open to the various disciplinary fields, and a PhD programme in Tourism (with the collaboration of the Estoril Higher Institute of Hospitality and Tourism). It is also a partner in 2 other PhD programmes: Migrations; and Territory, Risk and Public Policies.

The Centre for Geographical Studies, University of Lisbon (Centro de Estudos Geográficos - CEG-UL) (<http://www.ceg.ul.pt/>) was founded by Professor Orlando Ribeiro. For over seven years the CEG-UL has been the main Portuguese institution carrying out research on



One of the meeting rooms

Geography and promoting the advancement of Geography as a science in Portugal, achieving a notable position in the international geographical context. GEG-UL received the highest classification ("Excellent") in the last 3 assessments by the official panels of international experts nominated by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology.

The scientific activity of CEG-UL is today being carried out by 180 researchers (40% of which are PhD graduates) and is focused on the development of geography as a science and on the application of geographical knowledge in Portugal, Europe and other territories.

CEG-UL is now organised into 10 Research Clusters: Climate and Environmental Changes; Coastal and Fluvial Systems: Dynamics, Environmental Changes and



Rectory of University of Lisbon

Management; Environmental Hazard and Risk Assessment and Management; History and Teaching of Geography and Cartography; Migration, Spaces and Societies; Modelling, Urban and Regional Planning; Research Group on Antarctic Environments and Climate Change; Territorial Strategies and Policies; Tourism, Culture and Space; Urban Studies.

The reasons why the schools wish to organise the event

The desire to be involved in international projects and relations as a way of being part of the international community and benefiting from the synergies produced by the different experiences, perspectives and cultures is inscribed in the genetic code of both IST and IGOT. At IST and IGOT we firmly believe that



The University of Lisbon's Aula Magna or main lecture theatre

the “melting pot” will always produce added value that can be used in dealing with the challenges facing the development of communities and improvement of territories the world over.

Considering, on the one hand, the fact that IST/IGOT have for a long time recognised the importance of AESOP in implementing the above principles and the success and quality of the events it organises, and, on the other, the prominence given to the decisive role of land management policies in economic and social success, IST/IGOT could simply not forego this challenge. Finally, it is also true that these two planning schools recognise the prestige that can be gained from organising a conference of this importance. For these reasons they are applying to host the AESOP Conference 2015.

The organisational capacity of the school for hosting the event

The organisational and logistic capacity of IST and IGOT for hosting events of this kind has been well demonstrated by the wide range of similar initiatives they have been involved in throughout their history, of which we will highlight only the major recent conferences: 15th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, 800 participants (24-28 September 2012); 12th World Conference on Transport Research, 2000 participants (11-15 July 2010); 11th International Metropolis Conference, 900 participants (2-6 October 2006).

From a logistical point of view we can highlight the exceptional conditions offered by the conference and meeting spaces which have a considerable capacity and are equipped with all the modern technological resources to cover all needs that may arise in the planned events.

The event’s opening will be held in the Aula Magna (main lecture theatre) at the University of Lisbon, which has a capacity for 1,460, thus exceeding the most optimistic expectations for the AESOP 2015 Congress. All other sessions will be held on the Instituto Superior Técnico’s Alameda campus.

Financial capability of the schools to host the event

The Instituto Superior Técnico had a turnover of 85,500,000 euros in 2012, 60% of which was derived from own income and the remaining 40% coming from State Budget funding. Accordingly, the financial capacity of the institutions involved, in particular the IST, guarantees the financial feasibility of the Congress. As far as IGOT is concerned, we consider it important to underline that this institute generates 50% of its funding



Access routes and accommodation near the IST Alameda Campus

through own income. For example, in the last five years, CEG has participated in technical teams working on DG Regio studies, ESPON Programme and the INTERREG B projects network.

Information about the location: general accessibility and accommodation opportunities for the participants

The IST’s Alameda Campus is located in the centre of Lisbon, which facilitates travel within the city, allowing in many cases for visitors to walk to the campus from their accommodation through the agreeable public spaces in its immediate surroundings. It also benefits from nearby bike paths and a public transport network – underground and buses – that connect regularly to a large number of destinations.

The city of Lisbon’s commitment in recent years to the development of tourism has resulted in an excellent offer in visitor accommodation of diverse levels of quality and types – hotels, apartments, guesthouses, etc. Lisbon has once again been named Best European Destination and Best Destination for City Breaks by the World Travel Awards (WTA).

In the vicinity of the campus (within a 400 metre radius) one can find a varied offer in terms of guest accommodation (more than 12 hotels and 1500 rooms), restaurants, culture, entertainment and shopping.

One can also highlight the location of Lisbon International Airport within the city limits. In 2012 the airport received an underground station linking it directly to the city centre in less than 15 minutes. It is also served by several bus lines, rent-a-car agencies and taxi services. Lisbon Airport serves almost 15 million passengers a year, providing direct flights to some 100 international destinations.



Empire Square

Attractiveness of the location from the perspective of planners

Lisbon boasts a unique heritage in the context of the western city. The city has well-preserved areas from all periods that marked its history. From areas of medieval origin, such as Castelo, Alfama and Mouraria, to Bairro Alto, the first Lisbon neighbourhood to be built on an orthogonal grid; from the extraordinary Baixa Pombalina, which, together with St. Petersburg, perhaps, was the greatest 'urban' achievement in 18th century Europe, to the areas of expansion in the 1800s; and from the modernist based town planning to the Athens Charter's principles application in Olivais neighbourhood, the city exhibits a complete catalogue of the main periods in western urban design.

Up until the 19th century Lisbon was a city that developed along the River Tagus. Indeed, its image is still indelibly marked by this relationship with the river. The hills over which it stretches incorporate the image of the river into the composition of its streets, squares and belvederes. The belvederes themselves have become leisure spaces of particular beauty. It is difficult to describe the beauty of the streets of old Lisbon on the basis of the criteria we use today to analyse the public space. The old city presents a dramatic and picturesque beauty: the precipice-like steep streets that run down to the river in an extraordinary explosion of space and light; the narrow alleys that still afford sudden glimpses of the Tagus; the churches and former palaces in the old streets that remind us of a dream world to which only the great urban spaces have access.

The first settlers of the site occupied today by Lisbon were the Phoenicians. Then came the Greeks and Carthaginians. In around 195 BC the Romans provided the first more structured and urban version of occupation of the territory. It is from them that we have the name of Olisipo and Olisipone. They were followed by the Alani and Visigoths. In 719 the Moors captured Olisipone and changed its name to Lixbuna. Fragments of the first city wall, today known as the *Cerca Moura*, can still be seen in a number of sites. The wall enclosed the southern slope of the Castle hill. In 1147 the first king of Portugal, Afonso Henriques conquered Lisbon from the Moors with the help of

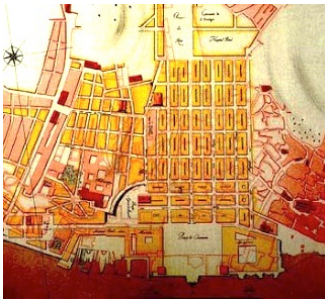
crusaders from all corners of Europe. When the city was taken, the king ordered the Moors who chose to remain in the city to move to the north-west of the castle hill, a particularly steep slope outside the city walls. Thus, the old neighbourhood of Mouraria (the Moorish Quarter) was born. It can still be visited today and is an interesting example of the adaptation of the urban space to extremely inclined terrain. The development of the Alfama neighbourhood followed, also outside the city walls; but Alfama spread out along the southern slope of the Castle hill in an intimate relationship with the Tagus. Today we can still see the steep stairs, the narrow streets, the organically designed squares, the dark tunnels that run down to the waterside.

In the 16th century Lisbon was idealised as the capital of a vast overseas empire. In this context there emerged formal urban design and architectural logics that reflected aesthetic and urban planning contents committed to modernity. The great urban transformations included one of the most important urban planning processes of the modern age: the Bairro Alto district. Here we encounter a universe of metrics and proportionality allied to a modern mentality, which is also reflected in the urban reforms carried out by the monarchy in the city centre.

The latter half of the 18th century in Portugal brought extraordinary change. These changes resulted not only from the application, by an absolutist government, of Enlightenment ideas, but were also due to the greatest earthquake to hit Portugal in recent centuries. Although, at a first glance, these two events may appear to be independent of each other, a closer look reveals deep-lying connections that led to deep changes in Portuguese society, which were reflected in the plan for Baixa Pombalina.

On 1st November 1755 an almighty earthquake destroyed the downtown area of the city, which could claim to being the richest in the world at the time, and also caused considerable damage to all the other neighbourhoods. Palaces and monasteries that had stored up three centuries of the greatest wealth in the history of Portugal succumbed to the earth's quakes and amongst the stones and the dead, gilded wood carvings and paintings by Titian, Ruben and Correggio were to be found.

The rebuilding of Lisbon's centre gave the King's minister, Sebastião José de Carvalho e Melo, later Marques of Pombal, the opportunity to impose his rationalist ideas in the field. Baixa was a political statement; it was rational ideas taking on Baroque aristocratic society, where the power was centred on the



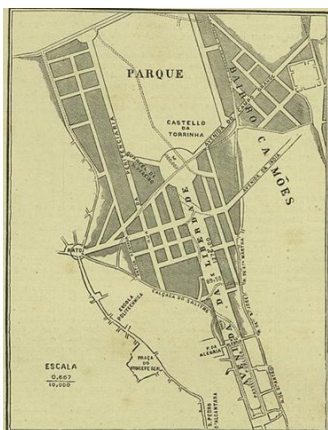
Baixa Plan



Rossio Square



Pombaline building



Ressaio Garcia Plan

hereditary, elitist and classist nobility. Baixa was an affirmation of reason and the power of the king over the nobles and the church, according to the principles of Iluminism of the XVIII century. It was the place where commerce took precedent over religion: only a few of the transversal streets were given the names of saints, while of the three main streets two have names that are illustrative of the emphasis placed on commercial activity: Rua do Ouro (Gold Street) and Rua da Prata (Silver Street). This was the city where nobility no longer had a place, and where their houses could not stand out from those of the bourgeoisie. This was the city where the clergy was humiliated: the churches had frontage only on to the less important transversal streets. In other words, the absolute monarch, José I, granted his minister absolute powers, so that he could lay down rules for the city and usher in European modernity. The Baixa district, in its post-earthquake form, constitutes an example of the geometric thought that guided urban design. Its characteristics suggest that there may have been a high degree of arithmetisation in the urban design process; the Baixa may contain in its design a rationality guided by the creation of the total city, just like the ideal cities of classical treatises.

The expansion of the city northwards was to take place in the latter half of the 19th century. Completed in 1886, the Avenida da Liberdade paved the way for development of the city to the north, opening up for development areas of flat land that are now occupy a central position in the municipality. These areas were occupied through two plans, usually referred to as the Ressaio Garcia or Avenidas Novas plans. In developing these areas Lisbon was taking the pulse of 19th century European urbanism, with the construction of square-based grids in which the streets were designed on the basis of the French boulevard model.

From 1938 onwards the "De Gröer" plan became the embodiment of the express principles of the *Estado Novo* (Portugal's dictatorial regime established in 1926 and formalized in the Constitution of 1933) for the ordering, expansion and planning of the city. The urbanistic and architectural ideas of the new regime were felt in particular on the eastern edge of the Avenidas Novas plan, in the area known as Areeiro. A further characteristic of the "De Gröer" plan was that it defined the future main axes of expansion of the city that was soon to rapidly expand into its metropolitan area.

In the late 1950s the urban planning concepts adopted in the Olivais plans were indicative of a search for a modern urban model. The influence of the "Athens Charter" and the construction of the "modern city" were very evident.

One of the most important recent developments was Expo '98 (1998 Lisbon World Exposition), which was seen as an opportunity for the regeneration of a huge area of eastern Lisbon. The project constituted an exemplary intervention in the partial

regeneration of the city's waterfront, with the creation of residential, shopping and services zones, transport infrastructures also linked to the new bridge over the Tagus: the Vasco da Gama Bridge.

The layout of the area recalls the traditional blocks, the idea of the street and the mixture of uses, thus recreating a certain atmosphere of the traditional city, but here directly linked with freedom of design of the block and the street and with some of the best in contemporary architecture.



Lisbon seen from the Tagus

CONGRESS THEME | Planning at the crossroads: meeting opportunities and expectations

Crossroads are particular points in a chosen path that always represent a moment of discontinuity or irregularity. They are moments of reflection, of balance, of assessment. But they also are moments of prognostics, construction of a perspective for the future, prospective and scenarization. They are a space/time of decision, where the various course possibilities and the possible direction-changing alternatives can represent future potential, given the multiplicity of choices available, just as much as they can represent a moment of hesitation, change or rupture. There is a confrontation between the development of new opportunities and the management of expectations laboriously built on the past and which must be reconstructed in the future. There is also the confrontation between the real and the imaginary; between the possible and the impossible; between the feasible the unfeasible; and between what is certain and what is uncertain.

Globalisation and the information and knowledge society have led to a different collective conscience and another level in terms of awareness of questions of a global order – climate change, social inequality, halt the loss of biodiversity, quality of life in urban areas and intergenerational and inter-cultural exchange and relations. But the financial crisis and the resulting political and institutional crisis is heightening ruptures in society, values and identities.

The growing ageing of the population in Europe is altering the paradigms of social and family organisation and laying bare potential intergenerational conflicts. The profound employment crisis and the need for re-industrialisation heighten the need to explore new opportunities, innovate in all sectors and rethink the schemes of urban organisation and management. The challenges to planning in the urban and rural landscapes throw up more questions than answers and give rise to other paradigms of spatial organisation and governance.

The Congress theme seeks to rethink the planning models and practices currently in place in response to the emerging problems and conflicts and to stimulate reflection on new planning paradigms, new practices and new solutions. With respect to this, Europe is not particularly homogeneous, as there are significant differences between the North and the South, between the centre and the periphery and between East and West. Given its particular geographic position in Europe, Portugal has historically always been at the crossroads of experiences, discovering and building bridges to other peoples and cultures on all continents. Accordingly, the theme may be of interest not only to European countries but also to other emerging countries and other planning cultures, namely in Africa and Latin America. Growing urbanisation, the needs for urban and rural infrastructuring and equipment and the challenges to planning and governance, can inspire an enriching dialogue that may clear new paths in the near future.





TÉCNICO
LISBOA



Universidade de Lisboa

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