

# **FORTY YEARS OF INDEPENDENCES**

## **CONFERENCE**

**18-20 November 2015**

**ISCTE-IUL and Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal, Lisbon**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

Democracy, development and decolonization: these were the guiding aspirations behind the revolution of 25 April 1974 in Portugal. In the following months, all African possessions under Portuguese colonization became independent, finally able to follow their own designs after centuries of foreign rule.

In 2015 we commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the independence of Lusophone African countries. To celebrate this date, the Instituto de História Contemporânea (IHC-FCSH/NOVA), the Centro de Estudos Internacionais (CEI-IUL), the Centro de Estudos Sociais (CES-Coimbra) and the Fundação Mário Soares are organizing an international conference, to be held in Lisbon, between the 18<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> November. This interdisciplinary conference aims to understand the trajectories of Portuguese decolonization and the political transformations in the African and regional context, exploring the relations between the newly independent states and Portugal and the configuration of new political and economic alliances such as the Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa (CPLP).

The conference intends to study the struggles for national independence, paying special attention to the liberation wars and their impacts, the alliances established at the continental and international level, as well as the decolonization processes. Additionally, it aims to look at the effects of the transitions to independence not only in the African and European context but also in other geopolitical areas. The process of construction of African states and the strategic alliances established will be addressed, aiming at the reinterpretation of conventional knowledge regarding these subjects. Finally, the conference is designed to be an invitation to question and defy, in all its complex manifestations, the legacies of empire, the developmentalist paradigm, the patrimonial state, architecture, education, arts, etc. These topics will be addressed both through the first-hand knowledge of the actors involved in these political process and the interpretation of academic researchers. The conference will have two distinct stages. The first one will take place at ISCTE-IUL's premises, on the 18<sup>th</sup> November, more academically focused as the result of a call for papers. In the second phase, between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of November, the colloquium will assemble political actors and scholars in the Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

The proposed papers should follow the main topics of the conference:

- Colonialism, neocolonialism and new strategic alliances (regionally and globally);
- Political transitions, revolutions and new states;
- Homecomings and diasporas;
- Liberation and artistic manifestations: literature, film, visual arts and music;
- Democratic experiences, cooperation and development politics;
- Urbanism, the (re)invention of the cities and the social transformations;
- Education and teaching of history(ies): legacies, encounters and discrepancies.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Proposals (in Portuguese or English) should include:

- Title;
- Abstract (1400 characters with spaces);
- Name, institutional affiliation and a short biographical note (550 characters with spaces).

The proposals should be submitted in the application form available in:

<http://cei.iscte-iul.pt/40anosindependencias/index.php/submeter-resumo/>

Deadline: **18 September 2015.**

Notification of acceptance will be communicated on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2015.

The organization foresees the publication of the communications in an edited volume or in a thematic journal issue.

Additional information can be found in

<http://cei.iscte-iul.pt/40anosindependencias/>

All inquiries should be sent to

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