

The Construction of Freedom(s)

International Conference Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the 1820 Liberal Revolution/9th CITCEM Meeting

Venue: Porto, Almeida Garrett Municipal Library/ Romantic Museum/ Casa Tait

Dates: 14-16 May 2020

Organisation: CITCEM – Transdisciplinary Research Centre “Culture, Space and Memory” /FLUP

Collaboration: Porto City Council

*that the notion of freedom was more complex than it seemed
and that not everyone agreed: we are still learning the
difference*

(MOURA, Vasco Graça — *Nó cego, o regresso*, 1982)

Call for papers

The history of freedom transcends all eras as an idea and as a fight against the deprivation of freedom and against tyranny, slavery, servitude and other forms of oppression. Although the concepts of individual and collective freedom have taken on different meanings throughout history in their relation with the structure of societies, economic systems, the cultural environment and relations of power, there have always been individual or collective acts of resistance to the various forms of deprivation of freedom.

While the Contemporary Era enshrined freedom as a principle and fundamental and universal right of citizenship, in the various aspects of human life, from freedom of thought, expression and press, gathering and manifestation, religion, production and trade, it also established limits to the entitlement of freedoms, either in the name of other rights, such as equality between citizens, or for social and political-related reasons. The construction of freedoms and social and political practices to ensure such right are not unidirectional and linear. Hence the importance of reflecting on the conditions

that provide for or threaten them, given the complexity and plurality of the meanings and dimensions of freedom.

Porto has always played an active role in the struggles for freedom, probably due to it being the second city of the country and to the weight of a merchant bourgeoisie who, during the Middle Ages, was often against the constraints imposed by the centralised powers of the Church or Crown. While the establishment of the liberal regime in the country against the absolute monarchy model can not be exclusively attributed to the city of Porto or to the Porto liberals, nor can the contribution and active participation of liberals across the country, mainland and islands, be forgotten, the first liberal revolution was in fact triggered in Porto and it was also here that liberalism triumphed, in the context of the civil war, when the city resisted against a tough siege for more than one year, between 1832 and 1833. This is why Porto, a “liberal and unbeaten” city, was chosen as the venue of this international meeting as part of the Celebrations of the 200th Anniversary of the Liberal Revolution of 24 August 1820.

Organised by CITCEM – Transdisciplinary Research Centre “Culture, Space and Memory”, of the Faculty of Arts, University of Porto, and in collaboration with the Porto City Council, this International Congress seeks to promote an open, cross-cutting and multidisciplinary scientific debate on the different focus areas related to the construction, regulation and practice(s) of freedom(s), from a historical, literary, philosophical, sociological and legal-political perspective.

Thematic panels:

- Rights, Freedoms and Guarantees
- Revolutions for Freedom(s)
- Porto and Freedom(s)
- Literature on Freedom and Resistance
- The Social Practice of Freedom(s)
- Thoughts about Freedom: ideologies, utopias and dystopias
- Aesthetics of Freedom
- Education and Citizenship
- Freedom of press, communication and public opinion

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Conditions for registration:

Registration for speakers (by 31 December 2019)

Mandatory registration for non-speakers (by 15 March 2020)

Registration deadlines and submission of papers:

Provisional registration /submission of abstract: 15 September 2019

Acceptance of papers by scientific reviewers: 15 November 2019

Feedback on the result of the scientific review: 30 November 2019

Final registration: 31 December 2019

Languages:

Portuguese, Spanish, English, French.

Contacts:

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