

[INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR]

23-24 Abril 2024 | University of Évora

2nd LECTURES ON SOCIAL CONTRACT

Local powers toward central authorities:
Decision-making process in medieval urban societies

Organised by Rogerio Tostes and Hermínia Vilar

23-24 APRIL 2024 | UNIVERSITY OF ÉVORA

About the seminar

This second edition of the international seminar Lectures on Social Contract will be held within the scope of the CIDEHUS group and is planned to take place in April 2024 at the University of Évora. The scientific summit is dedicated to bringing together different specialists who analyze the discursivities of decision-making developed in medieval towns and other local instances of political governance. The goal of this seminar is centered in exploring the dynamics between the local and the central spheres of power, following an understanding on how those dynamics build their communication strategies from communal institutions side to interact with —or, even though, resist to— their so-called sovereign authorities. These communication channels often operated networks of semantic change between the local spheres, where political decisions were performed, and the higher spheres with jurisdictional power over them. Although it is true that these discursive dynamics have been implicitly taken as an object of attention of several historiographical scholarships, it is also true that many of them have served to highlight a wildly interpretation of the *Statebuilding* in the late medieval societies. In our attempt to put different perspectives on this subject, we are readily inviting our speakers to look in continuation of their own specialization approaches to examine the communal space and its political interactions as manufacture of institutional discourses through semantic adaptations. Within these elements anchoring the generical proposal this summit aims to analyze the transformations of meanings in local representativeness and the decision-making processes that covered the institutional metamorphoses of the local spheres of power, as in the municipal or the urban world.

The Organizing Committee

ORGANIZATION



Centro Interdisciplinar
de História, Cultura e Sociologia
da Universidade de Évora
16206/0001/2020

SUPPORT



Grupo de Pesquisa Consolidado em Estudos
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PROGRAMME

April 23rd (Tuesday)

9:00^{am} Accreditation of participants

Amphitheater 131, 1st floor, Colégio do Espírito Santo, UÉ

9:30^{am} Presentation of the Seminar by the organisers:

Hermínia Vilar

Universidade de Évora

Official opening

Rogerio Tostes

Universitat de Lleida

Thinking on local spheres of power as place of citizenship in the medieval political experience

10:00^{am} Coffee-break

10:15^{am} 1st Session: Social contract practices: tying and untying the bonds of the body politic

Hipolito Rafael Oliva

Universidad de Sevilla

El cuerpo de la comunidad política: dinámicas contractuales en las ciudades castellanas a fines de la Edad Media

Jelle Haemers

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Bound by justice? Ideas of political contract in late medieval Flanders and Brabant

Debate

12:00^{pm} Lunch time

2:00^{pm} 2nd Session: Forms of sovereignty envisaged from 14th century urban societies

Flocel Sabaté

Universitat de Lleida

The king of Aragon and his Catalan towns in the 14th century

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Vincent Challet

Université de Montpellier-3

Defensio regni versus defensio patriae: military and financial strategies of the Languedocian elites during the Hundred Years War

Debate

3:20^{pm} 3rd Session: Forms of mediation, decisionism and representation conceived from local(s) to central(s)

Alma Poloni

Università degli Studi di Pisa

Organi di vertice e consigli a Firenze nella seconda metà del Trecento

Gisela Naegle

Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen

Alliances, Mediation, Agreements and Contracts: Towns, Emperors and Nobility in the Wetterau and the Rhine Valley in the Late Middle Ages

4:40^{pm} Coffee-break

5:00^{pm} Guided Tour of the Centre of Art and Culture-Eugénio de Almeida Foundation

5:30^{pm} **SESSION CANCELED**

4th Session: The conflict between local and central as the nerve of political decision

Justine Firnhaber-Baker

University of Saint Andrews

The Role of Towns in the French Jacquerie Revolt of 1358

Hillay Zmora

Ben Gurion University of the Negev

The conflict between princes and the role of local nobles: South Germany in the fifteenth century

8:30^{pm} Seminar Official Dinner

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April 24th (Wednesday)

9:30^{am} 1st Session: Decision-making and financing policies between local and central powers

Andrea Zorzi

Università degli Studi di Firenze

Città italiane ed impero nel XIV secolo

Maria Helena da Cruz Coelho

Universidade de Coimbra

Um longo caminho até à representação do poder local em Cortes — escolher, custear, parlamentar

Debate

10:45^{am} Final remarks

Rogerio Tostes

The civitas as a decision-making environment for the mens populi: ways of reinterpreting medieval local power

11:15^{am} Closing of the event

Hermínia Vilar

General Information

Organizing Committee

Rogerio Tostes (CIDEHUS, Universidade Évora-Universitat de Lleida)

Hermínia Vilar (Universidade de Évora)

Promoted and Organized by CIDEHUS, Universidade de Évora

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Graça Almeida Borges, Coordinator of the Group Societal Changes

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Grup Consolidat de Recerca "Espai Poder i Cultura",
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Seminar website

