

Symposium Submission Form

Symposium title:

Strategies for cultural diplomacy in the countries on the southern periphery of the Western bloc during the Cold War: Greece Portugal, and Spain

Requested time slot: 120 minutes

Symposium organiser(s):

If more than one organiser, the symposium organisers should be affiliated in laboratories or departments from different countries to ensure the transnational character of the ESHS conference. Also, indicate the corresponding organiser with the symbol *.

The organiser will chair the symposium or may propose a chair.

Organiser 1:

Name: Marició Janué i Miret; Albert Presas i Puig

Affiliation: Universitat Pompeu Fabra

E-mail: maria.janue@upf.edu; albert.presas@upf.edu

Organiser 2:

Name:

Affiliation:

E-mail:

Chair:

Name: José M. Pacheco

Affiliation: Universidad Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

E-mail: josemiguel.pacheco@ulpgc.es

Short abstract (max 300 words) describing the symposium:

The symposium will focus on the strategies for cultural diplomacy in the countries on the southern periphery of the Western bloc during the Cold War stage based on exemplary cases from Spain, Greece and Portugal. The theoretical approach is framed in studies on cultural diplomacy and soft power, which analyse the use by States of culture and science as a political resource in their international relations. An understanding of cultural diplomacy that integrates science, technology, and academic culture in an exemplary manner is adopted.

The original contribution of the proposal is to study the key role of cultural diplomacy for countries other than the major powers, which have received little attention in a historiography focused primarily on the agency of the world's major forces. By discussing the cultural and scientific diplomacy strategies that these peripheral countries developed during the geopolitical transformations that took place during the period under consideration, the Symposium aims to achieve three main objectives. First, to clarify the relevance that these countries gave respectively to cultural and scientific diplomacy in the search for a place in the emerging world of the Cold War. In the same way, the Symposium aims to clarify the evolution of the place that these peripheral countries occupied, both in the Western context and in the international order. At a broader level, the Symposium aims to help clarify the importance of cultural diplomacy and the projection of soft power in international relations during the Cold War period by incorporating the perspective of the

4-5 keywords describing the symposium: Cultural and scientific diplomacy, Southern periphery of Western Europe, Cold war, Soft power, Role of culture and science in international relations.

Symposium participants:

In case of multiple contributors, the first name should be the presenting and corresponding contributor.

Please list the commentator as a presenter, leaving the abstract blank.

Participant 1:

Name: Marició Janué I Miret; Albert Presas i Puig

Affiliation: Universitat Pompeu Fabra

E-mail: maria.janue@upf.edu;albert.presas@upf.edu

Title of presentation: **Rebuilding continuity with the West: Spain's cultural and scientific diplomacy in the Post-war (1945-1959)**

Short bio (max 50 words):

Marició Janué I Miret. Associate Professor in the Department of Humanities at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona. She has published widely on Spanish-German cultural diplomacy in the period 1870-1959. Co-author of *Science, Culture and National Identity in Francoist Spain, 1939-1959* (2021). Co-IP of the project *Strategies of Spanish cultural diplomacy in the sphere of academic culture and science (1918-1975)* (2021-2024)

Albert Presas i Puig. Ph.D. Technische Universität Berlin. Associate professor for the History of Science at Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona. With an extensive publishing curriculum his last publication is *Science, Culture and National Identity in Francoist Spain, 1939-1959: Janué i Miret, Marició, Presas i Puig, Albert (Ed.). Palgrave Macmillan*. Co-IP of the project *Strategies of Spanish cultural diplomacy in the sphere of academic culture and science (1918-1975)* (2021-2024)

Participant 2:

Name: Maria Fernanda Rollo

Affiliation: NOVA University of Lisbon

E-mail: mffr@fcsh.unl.pt

Title of presentation: **Tensions and resistance in the scientific diplomacy of the Estado Novo after the Second World War (1945-1974)**

Short bio (max 50 words):

Historian. PhD and Aggregate in Contemporary History. Full Professor at the History Department of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities NOVA University of Lisbon. Coordinator of the Ph.D. program in History. Coordinator of the post-graduation course Management and Policy in Science and Technology. Member of Research Council of European University Institut. Researcher at History, Territories and Communities - CFE.

Participant 3:

Name: Luis Manuel Ribeiro Saraiva

Affiliation: University of Lisbon (DM of FCUL and CIUHCT)

E-mail: lmsaraiva@fc.ul.pt

Title of presentation: **Portugal's scientific policies in the period 1945-1960: the effect of the end of World War II and the beginning of the Cold War**

Short bio (max 50 words):

Associate Professor of Lisbon University, CIUHCT research member. Editor or co-editor of the 5 Proceedings of History of Mathematical Sciences: Portugal and East Asia (2000-2018); editor of Mathematical Sciences and 20th Century Dictatorships (2018). He has published papers on Portuguese mathematicians and institutions of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Participant 4: (if applicable)

Name: Yannis Fotopoulos; Stathis Arapostathis

Affiliation: National & Kapodistrian University of Athens

E-mail: arapost@phs.uoa.gr

Title of presentation: **Techno-diplomacy and the making of the Telecom State in Greece from the 1930s to the 1970s.**

Short bio (max 50 words):

Yannis Fotopoulos: PhD Candidate in the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. He specialises in the history and sociology of infrastructures.

Stathis Arapostathis: Associate Professor at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. He specializes in the study of technoscientific expertise and politics of knowledge and infrastructures. He co-edited (with Graham Dutfield) the volume *Knowledge Management and Intellectual Property: Concepts, Actors and Practices from the Past to the Present* (Edward Elgar, 2013). A recent joint work is Yannis Fotopoulos, Stathis Arapostathis, Peter J.G. Pearson, "Branching points and transition pathways in the Greek Natural Gas Regime, 1966-2016", *Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions*, 2019.

Presentation 1:

Presentation title: **Rebuilding continuity with the West: Spain's cultural and scientific diplomacy in the Post-war (1945-1959)**

Abstract presentation (max 250 words):

The presentation will focus on the use that Franco's Spain made of cultural and scientific diplomacy as a strategic instrument for achieving integration into the Western bloc during the consolidation phase of the Cold War. At the end of World War II, the Franco dictatorship was isolated internationally. Any aspiration of the regime to overcome international ostracism meant diluting the fascist content of its image from the previous stage. Taking advantage of the Cold War installation context, to turn this situation around and cement the relationship with the "civilised" nations of the West, the regime fostered international recognition of the contribution of the traditional Catholic essences of the "Hispanidad" in the common European cultural and intellectual heritage. Cultural and scientific diplomacy acquired priority as an instrument for this, mobilising the resources at its disposal on three levels: human (intellectuals and related scientists), institutional -official or para-official- (CSIC, Institute of Hispanic Culture, CEDI ...), and ideological-discursive. Tensions between the communist and Western blocs led to Spain becoming a key strategic ally of the West in the Mediterranean.

Our aim is to shed light on the contribution of cultural diplomacy to this achievement on the basis of the analysis of three relevant cases: that of the mathematical community, that of the development of physiological optics and nuclear technology, and the development of relations with the Federal Republic of Germany in the humanities and social sciences. In dialogue with the other contributions of the symposium, the presentation aims to incorporate the role of the countries of the southern periphery of Europe in the study of the socio-political, cultural and scientific continuities between the Europe of fascism and the post-war period of the Cold War.

Presentation 2:

Presentation title: **Tensions and resistance in the scientific diplomacy of the Estado Novo after the Second World War (1945-1974)** Abstract presentation (max 250 words):

Portugal, despite the explicit resistance of the political authorities of the Estado Novo, through its involvement in the Marshall Plan, its involvement in the OECE/OECD, the European Payments Union and the European Productivity Agency, has ensured its integration into the post-war international system and the active presence in the nascent movements of European economic cooperation, followed by the integration into the EFTA and the rapprochement of the EEC. The same international context determined the integration into NATO and INVOTAN, and, after the initial rejection, Portugal's admission to the UN in 1955 and the constitution of the Portuguese representation with UNESCO in 1961. These were the most significant strands that shaped the scientific diplomacy of the period, in combination with the priority given to the colonies (highlighting the action of the Board of Geographical Missions and Colonial Investigations and the creation of several research institutes in the colonies), in a framework of increasing international opposition in the colonial policy of the Portuguese government.

Internally, political and structural tensions and contradictions would be accentuated, in the promotion of a certain type of modernisation and internationalisation of the national scientific system in coexistence with an authoritarian political framework and strongly conservative matrix and a clearly delayed economic and social structure. Institutionally, the most significant initiatives in scientific and academic diplomacy would be in the sphere of action of the Institute for High Culture and, from 1967, of the National Board of Scientific and Technological Research. This communication will focus on the characterisation and analysis of these initiatives and the tensions they have generated.

Presentation 3:

Presentation title: **Portugal's scientific policies in the period 1945-1960: the effect of the end of World War II and the beginning of the Cold War**

Abstract presentation (max 250 words):

With the end of World War II the political scene changed dramatically, and the Portuguese dictatorship felt menaced. Its sympathies lied with the defeated Germany and Italy, although a link with England was always maintained. Two important facts were influent in Portuguese external policy: the formation of two political opposite blocks, with the USA and the Soviet Union heading each one, soon leading to the Cold War; and the consequences of the discovery of the destruction potential of the atom bomb, and the research for more destructive weapons. For its survival the regime counted on two main items: having the Azores islands, with its strategic value for military bases; and having uranium mines. We will analyse the evolution of Portuguese scientific policy, how the debate with England (and the USA) conditioned foreign support for research. We will analyse the important 1952 reform of the Institute for Higher Culture (IAC), the main institution in Portugal that supported scientific research. Among its changes, it included in its tasks to elaborate a program of exploitation and application of nuclear energy. As a consequence of this new policy, in 1954 the Nuclear Energy Board was founded.

We will also refer the impact that had in Portugal private institutions that supported scientific research that appeared in Portugal in the late 50s, as the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in 1956, and of commissions that were formed in direct relation to the Cold War, as the INVOTAN (1959), a structure that dialogued with NATO's scientific committee.

Presentation 4:

Presentation title: **Techno-diplomacy and the making of the Telecom State in Greece from the 1930s to the 1970s.**

Abstract presentation (max 250 words):

The aim of this presentation is to study how technological infrastructures have reconfigured the Greek techno-scientific state materially, politically, and ideologically. The emphasis is on telecommunication infrastructures during a critical period of Greece's reconstruction following WWII and the civil war, as well as the country's technopolitics during the Cold War era, which was marked by political instability and a military dictatorship. We would like to address the following research questions: What role did foreign technical expertise and managerial advice play in the development of the telecommunications infrastructure, and how did technological transformation shape the Greek State's governance culture? How have technological infrastructures functioned politically and shaped national politics as assemblages of material, technical, knowledge, social, and cultural components? What was the role of technological infrastructures and the imaginary built around them in shaping the transnational politics and the geopolitical place of the country in South Europe. To begin, we examine Greece's reconstruction and the role of foreign corporations, international aid organisations, and campaigns such as the United Nations or the Marshall Plan, as well as the role of foreign experts in the reconstruction and expansion of telecoms infrastructure (mainly for telephony). We argue that local experts in conjunction and collaboration with foreign experts promoted techno political agendas that were deemed critical for the integration of Greece in the group of capitalist European countries. Second, we examine the period of the Greek dictatorship (1967–1974) in order to decipher the role of the country's first satellite communication station and its role in both domestic and international politics. We argue that satellite infrastructures functioned politically in promoting junta's imaginary of the transformation of Greece into a technological hub (telecom, energy and transportation) in East Mediterranean and the Balkans.