

**Celebrating the 650th Anniversary
Of the Anglo-Portuguese Alliance:
On the specificity of Maritime Political Cultures**

Estoril Political Forum, 26-28 June 2023
Panel on June 28, 15:45-17:00

(Host: João Carlos Espada; Chair: Filipe Lowndes Marques;
Speakers: Carlos Marques de Almeida; José Tomaz Castello Branco;
João Pereira Coutinho; Ivone Moreira; Orlando Samões)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to our panel devoted to the celebration of the 650th anniversary of the Anglo-Portuguese Alliance and to the specificity of maritime political cultures.

It is indeed my great pleasure and privilege to host this panel. For the obvious reason that I am indeed a great admirer of the Anglo-Portuguese Alliance. And also for the less obvious reason that the theme of maritime political cultures has been at the core of our academic research at IEP since our very beginning in 1996 – and, even before that, since the Arrabida Conferences which started in 1993 and later evolved into our Estoril Political Forum.

Since that very beginning we have been curious about something that has unfortunately been almost ignored in our Portuguese political culture: the critical comparison between the three founding revolutions of the modern era: the English Revolution of 1688, also called the “Glorious Revolution”, the American Revolution of 1766, and the French Revolution of 1789.

As I said, we have been studying this topic since the very beginning of our academic activities. In 2002 we actually received a generous grant from the American John Templeton and Atlas Foundations,

within their International Freedom Project Prize, that allowed us to invite two major scholars to introduce us to this magnum topic: Paul Langford, who was Principal of Lincoln College and Professor of Modern History at Oxford, who lectured mainly on the English Revolution; Seymour Martin Lipset, the world famous sociologist and political scientist who was professor at Harvard and at Stanford Universities, who lectured mainly on the American Revolution and on American exceptionalism.

This unforgettable experience confirmed our intuition that the topic was indeed crucial and has led us to develop and maintain over the years a research and teaching project under the general title “Three Revolutions of the Modern Era: The English, the American and the French”. More recently, we have involved our friends from Brasil, Professors Luis Felipe Pondé and Bruno Garschagen, and the title of the course has been enlarged to include also the Portuguese Revolution of 1820, the Brazilian Revolution of 1899, and the Russian Revolution of 1917. We have just received a very kind invitation from our great friend and distinguished publisher of *Tribuna da História*, Dr. Pedro Avillez, to publish a book on this subject of the Six Revolutions as soon as possible.

Our panel today is mainly on the three, not the six revolutions, though. And we are delighted to have as our speakers five of my colleagues at IEP who have been working on this topic with great persistence and indeed devotion: Professors Carlos Marques de Almeida, José Tomaz Castello Branco, João Pereira Coutinho, Ivone Moreira, and Orlando Samões.

Last but certainly not least, we have the pleasure and the privilege of having as Chair of this panel our good friend Dr. Filipe Lowndes Marques. Having graduated at the Católica Lisbon School of Law in 1994, he completed the Magister Juris in European and Comparative Law at Oxford in 1995. He is a member of the board of the distinguished Portuguese Law Firm “Morais Leitão, Galvão Teles, Soares da Silva & Associados”, as well as Chairman of the AGM of the British-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce. Last but certainly not

least, his late father, our very good friend Paulo Lowndes Marques, was for 25 years Chairman of the British Historical Society of Portugal and, together with his wife Isabel, they have hosted for decades a very Anglo-Portuguese annual reception at their manor house in Belém, where live music was offered by The Lisbon Swingers – who, incidentally, will give us the privilege of playing for us after the closing dinner on Wednesday.

Thank you. It is now my pleasure and privilege to give the floor to our Chairman, Paulo Lowndes Marques.