



# CATÓLICA

## INSTITUTO DE ESTUDOS POLÍTICOS

LISBOA

### Programme IEP COLLOQUIA 2026

*“There is no conversation more boring than the one where everybody agrees.”* (Michel de Montaigne)

#### *“Restless World, Restless Democracies”*

May 8, 2026 | Catholic University of Portugal | Lisbon Campus

9.00 am	<b>Welcoming and Registration</b>
9.15 am	<b>Opening Session</b>   Exhibitions Room  Professor Isabel Capelo Gil, Rector, Universidade Católica Portuguesa Professor Mónica Dias, <i>Director</i> , IEP-Católica Professor Livia Franco, <i>Colloquia Scientific Coordinator</i>
9.30 am	<b>Keynote Speaker</b>   Exhibitions Room  <b>Bruno Mações</b> , <i>World Builders: A new way to think about World Order</i> Q&A
10.30 am	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10.50 – 12.50 pm	<b>Panel A: Sovereignty Questioned</b>   Room: Exhibitions Room Host: Raquel Duque, IEP-Católica  <b>Francisco Proença Garcia (CIEP-Católica)</b> <i>The Subversive Process and the Erosion of the Pillars of the State</i>  <b>Isabel Valente (CEIS20 da U. Coimbra) &amp; Miguel Rocha (U. Azores)</b> <i>Restless Democracies at the Atlantic Frontier: NATO, Geopolitical Competition, and Governance in the EU's Outermost Regions</i>  <b>José Manuel Marques Dias (GNR, PhD candidate FCSH-UNL)</b> <i>Hybrid Fragmentation and Democratic Restlessness. Functional Sovereignty Dimensions under Russian Penetration in the Central African Republic (2016–2025)</i>  <b>Catarina Abreu de Pinho (PhD candidate IEP)</b> <i>Singapore as a Restless City-State: Infrastructure, Legitimacy, and Order-Making in the Indo-Pacific</i>  <b>Nadia Loureiro (FCSH-UNL)</b> <i>Stability without democracy? Restless Sovereignty in the Mediterranean: Parliamentary Diplomacy and Hybrid Regimes in an Era of Permanent Instability</i>

10.50 – 12.50 pm

**Panel B: Democracies under Pressure** | Room: 423  
Host: Sónia Ribeiro, IEP-Católica

**Adriana Martins & Diana Santos (CIEP-Católica, GNR)**

*The Role of European Agencies and the Challenges of the Rule of Law in Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Migrant Smuggling*

**Nuno Sampaio (CIEP-Católica)**

*And After the Calm, the Storm? Populism in the European Union and the Portuguese Case*

**Daniela Silva (CIEP-Católica)**

*Demographic Pressures and the Strain on European Democracies*

**Vitaliy Venislavskyy (Investigador UL)**

*The Restless Demos: Cognitive Warfare and the Erosion of Democratic Consent*

**Catarina Tello de Castro (CEPS-U. Minho)**

*Democracy as Resilience*

**Vicente Paiva Brandão (U. Cabo Verde)**

*External Threats, Internal Security and the tension between Freedom and Order*

10.50 – 12.50 pm

**Panel C: Geoeconomics and Globalization at risk** | Room: 424  
Host: Miguel Morgado, IEP-Católica

**Alberto Cunha (UL-IDN)**

*Zeitenwende 2.0: Germany as a Case of European Ordering Integrating Economic Governance and Security Strategy*

**André Azevedo Alves (CIEP-Católica) e Gonçalo Nabeiro (Journalist)**

*Measuring geopolitical risk in a restless world: a case study in quantitatively and qualitatively assessing political, economic, social, and international risks*

**Gonçalo Naves (FDUL)**

*Financial Censorship and Decentralized Money: Bitcoin's Role in Authoritarian Contexts*

**Martim Santos (LSE Graduate Student, IEP alumnus)**

*The US-China rivalry and Democratic Restlessness in the United States*

1.00 – 1.45 pm

**Finger Food Lunch**

Lobby Floor 1, Library Building

2.00 – 4.00 pm

**Panel D: Restless Societies** | Room: 423  
Host: André Azevedo Alves, CIEP-Católica

**Miguel Morgado (CIEP-Católica)**

*Joseph de Maistre's longing for order in a restless world*

**Pedro Franco (CADOS, CIEP-Católica)**

*Tackling polarization: Higher education, Character, and Civic friendship*

**Sebastião Dâmaso de Andrade (PhD Candidate IEP)**

*Restless Mind, Restless World: How our Psychological Predispositions Affect Politics*

**Lívia Franco (CIEP-Católica)**

*Tocqueville, democratic condition and human restlessness*

2.00 – 4.00 pm

**Panel E: Restlessness in the Greater Middle East** | Room: 424  
Host: Nuno Sampaio, IEP-Católica

**Corina Lozovan (PhD Candidate, CIEP-Católica)**

*Geopolitics of Polycrisis: Reconfiguring Order in the Middle East*

**Genwa Hassan, (IEP-Católica Alumna)**

*From Comprehensive Agreements to Incrementalism: Understanding the Shifting World Order through Contemporary Peace Processes*

**José Tomaz Castello Branco (CIEP-Católica)**

*Liberal Values or Individual Wealth – Assessing the Azimuth of the Arab Youth*

**Victor Madeira dos Santos (Diplomat)**

*The Institutional Failure of the Afghan Republic: Electoral System SNTV and the Erosion of Democratic Consolidation.*

4.00 pm

**Coffee Break**

4.30 – 6.30 pm

**Panel F: Collective Activism, Restless Politics** | Room: 423  
Host: Inês Gregório, CIEP-Católica

**Eduardo Gonçalves (PhD Candidate, Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence)**

*Powered by Distance: Collective mobilisation in the peripheries and the case of anti-mining activism in Barroso (Portugal)*

**Lucie Calleja (CIEP-Católica)**

*Empowering women as peace educators in fragile communities: a case study of Portugal*

**Henrique Patrício (PhD Candidate IEP-Católica)**

*Preachers, Democracy, and the Coup that wasn't: Narratives of the Evangelical Right after the 8 January attacks*

**Maria Vazão Clemente (IEP Alumna)**

*Anti-Gender Policy as a Symptom of Backsliding in a Restless Democracy: Analysis of Discursive Delegitimisation in Elite Speeches*

4.30 – 6.30 pm

**Panel G: World Disorder** | Room: 424  
Host: Francisco Proença Garcia, CIEP-Católica

**Mónica Dias (CIEP-Católica)**

*Restlessness and Rupture: The crisis of the UN in a stormy world*

**Ana Martinho (CIEP-Católica)**

*Perspectives on the Crisis of the Liberal International Order*

**Tomé Ribeiro Gomes (CIEP-Católica)**

*The Athens' Trap: Thymos and the dilemma of American strategy in a restless world*

**Jorge Botelho Moniz (Univ. Lusófona)**

*Blocpolitik: Religion and the Return of Civilizational Spheres of Influence*

**Michael Sanfey (CIEP-Católica)**

*Yes, restlessness is a problem, but the bigger problem is reckless state behaviour*

6.30 pm

Closing Session

**About the conference:**

- The working language of the conference is English.
- The conference will feature thematic panels composed of individual paper presentations followed by discussions.
- Individual paper presentations will be allocated 15 minutes for presentation. Each panel will have around 35 to 45 minutes for discussion.
- In addition to paper presentations, it will also have one keynote speaker and opportunities for networking. We look forward to fostering meaningful discussions on the critical topic *Restless World, Restless Democracies*.

**Contact Information:**

To attend the panels and for any inquiries, please contact the conference organizing committee at [ci.iep@ucp.pt](mailto:ci.iep@ucp.pt)