

1st Circular

## **CITIES THROUGH HISTORY: POPULATION**

1st International Congress

The role of cities and towns is central for societies past and present, regardless of the aspect of urban areas being examined or the period of history. It is difficult to doubt their importance for human populations, the economy, society, political development, cultural density or artistic expression. With this announcement we would like to invite our colleagues in Europe to embark on a prolonged multidisciplinary challenge to deepen our understanding of cities and towns over the long run, to participate in a common dialogue about the urban roots of historic Europe that may lead us well beyond the specific scientific objectives existing at the outset.

The town of Guimarães is an ideal host for events of this nature, not only because of its cultural infrastructures and its magical setting and uncanny beauty, but also because in 2012 it will be the European Capital of Culture. We believe that the First International History Meeting dedicated to “Cities through History” will be the starting point for a series of encounters and meetings about towns and cities in Europe that will become the starting point for renewed work on the importance of the urban world.

The first international meeting on this subject will be dedicated URBAN POPULATIONS, one of the original defining traits of urban life.

This International Congress will be divided into the thematic areas corresponding to five different historical periods: the Ancient World, the Middle Ages, the Early Modern period, towns of the industrial revolution and the demographic transition, and urban areas in the contemporary world. Each one of these areas will have a plenary session with two guest speakers, one from Portugal and one from another country. Each thematic area will also have a number of parallel sessions in which the results of empirical research on different periods can be presented and discussed. The Congress will end with a round table discussion about the role of urban areas in the future.

This Congress does not have an official language. The fact that the majority of contributions will be made in either Portuguese or Spanish should not discourage contributions in other languages (especially English or French).

secretariado:  
largo Cónego José Maria Gomes  
4800-419 Guimarães

**Honorary Chairman of the Congress:** Prof. Freitas do Amaral

**Chairman of the Congress:** Prof. Luís de Oliveira Ramos

### **Scientific Committee**

#### **General Coordinators:**

David Reher, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Maria Norberta Amorim, GHP|CITCEM|Universidade do Minho

#### **Thematic Area Coordinators**

Manuela Martins, Universidade do Minho

Maria Helena Cruz Coelho, Universidade de Coimbra

Carlota Santos, Universidade do Minho

Teresa Rodrigues, Universidade Nova de Lisboa

Maria Luís Rocha Pinto, Universidade de Aveiro

#### **Representatives from Specialty Associations**

Diego Ramiro (ADEH - Asociación de Demografía Histórica)

Lucia Pozzi (SIDES – Società Italiana di Demografia Italiana)

Michel Oris (SDH Société de Démographie Historique |IUSSP - International Union for the Scientific Study of Population)

Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux (Commission Internationale de Démographie Historique)

Maria Filomena Mendes (APD -Associação Portuguesa de Demografia)

Carlota Santos (GHP- Grupo de História das Populações - CITCEM- Centro de Investigação Transdisciplinar Cultura Espaço e Memória - Universidade do Minho)

### **Organizing Committee**

António Magalhães, President of Câmara Municipal Guimarães

Norberta Amorim, Congress Secretary-General

Carlota Santos

Amaro das Neves

Antero Ferreira

João Abreu

Gonçalo Cruz

Isabel Pinho

### **Secretariat**

Isabel Pinho

João Costa

### **Submission Guidelines**

Authors should contact the coordinators of the Thematic Area(s) of their interest, to whom they should send a brief abstract (max. 500 words) with CV (max. 200 words). The proposal should also be sent to the organizing committee by email (Isabel.Pinho@cm-guimaraes.pt). The thematic area coordinators are responsible for accepting the proposals, and are required to inform the authors and the organizing committee of their decision.

### **Important Dates**

September 2011 – Notification of the First Congress Circular.

30<sup>th</sup> November 2011 – Deadline to submit abstract and registration form to the thematic area coordinators.

January 2012 - Notification of the Second Congress Circular, including the titles of the papers selected under each thematic area.

15<sup>th</sup> September 2012 – Deadline for full paper submission.

24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012 – Congress dates in Guimarães.

### **REGISTRATION FEES**

Participants presenting papers - mandatory registration (free)

Possibilities of free accommodation for young researchers.

Other participants (without paper presentation) - 50€ | Students - 25€.

## **CITIES THROUGH HISTORY: POPULATION**

### **General Definition:**

In the course of this congress, a series of dimensions related to urban populations and the way they influence society will be addressed for different periods of history, ranging from the ancient world to the present and on to the future. Particular attention will be paid to urban areas in the Mediterranean world, with special emphasis on Spain and Portugal. The themes to be addressed include: the analysis of long-term population trends; the specifics of urban demographic regimes; comparisons of urban and rural demography with special emphasis on nuptiality, fertility, mortality and mobility; rural to urban migration flows as well as urban to rural flows; the spatial make-up of urban populations within towns as well as in terms of the origin of immigrant populations; response in times of economic, social, political and demographic crises; the existence of an “urban penalty” in matters affecting health and reproduction and its effect on national and regional population growth; patterns of urbanization throughout history; the role of towns and their institutions in promoting demographic change both in the urban and the rural worlds; and the role of cities as destination and source of redistribution of international migration flows that have become so important in the contemporary world.

## **THEMATIC AREAS**

### **1. ANCIENT CITIES**

Coordinator: Maria Manuela Martins - Universidade do Minho([mmmartins@uaum.uminho.pt](mailto:mmmartins@uaum.uminho.pt))

#### **Specific Definition**

The thematic area dedicated to the population of cities in the Ancient World will seek to concentrate on two different approaches. One proposes a critical reflection on the sources and methodologies that can provide an analysis of the urban population from a quantitative perspective, taking into account the renewal of concepts and models in demographic studies on the Greco-Roman world in the last 30 years. It is intended to assess both the contribution and limitations of the different data categories and models used to estimate the demographic indicators in the context of the classical city. The other approach involves a qualitative analysis of the urban population, based on historical, epigraphic and archaeological sources. This view may include studies related both to the social composition and the structure of cities, as well as the world of work and the economic activities of the urban centres.



GUIMARÃES 2012

AS CIDADES NA HISTÓRIA  
CONGRESSO INTERNACIONAL

POPULAÇÃO

secretariado:  
largo Cónego José Maria Gomes  
4800-419 Guimarães

## 2. MEDIEVAL CITIES

Coordinator: Maria Helena da Cruz Coelho - Universidade de Coimbra ([coelhohm@gmail.com](mailto:coelhohm@gmail.com))

### Specific Definition

The study of urban populations during the Middle Ages should today be addressed quantitatively and qualitatively, by testing old and new models, concepts and methodologies, and exploring a diversity of primary sources. Such an approach intends to better understand the values and behaviours of the cities' inhabitants, and on that basis, establish comparisons between the urban areas in Portugal and others throughout European Christianity. To accomplish this goal, the thematic area will examine the organization of the urban fabric, explore the impact of demographic expansion or recession on the landscape, analyze migration from the countryside to the city and the city to the countryside, and inquire into the causes and impacts of population and depopulation phenomena. The program will also encompass a socio-demographic analysis, in order to understand the social and professional segments of urban society in correlation with the places of power, residence, work and worship.

## 3. EARLY MODERN CITIES

Coordinator: Carlota Santos - Universidade do Minho ([csantos@ics.uminho.pt](mailto:csantos@ics.uminho.pt))

### General Definition

## 4. INDUSTRIAL CITIES

Coordinator: Teresa Rodrigues - Universidade Nova de Lisboa ([trodrigues@fcsh.unl.pt](mailto:trodrigues@fcsh.unl.pt))

### General Definition

## 5. CITIES TODAY

Coordinator: Maria Luís Rocha Pinto - Universidade de Aveiro ([mluispinto@ua.pt](mailto:mluispinto@ua.pt))

### General Definition

