

# NEWSLETTER

UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA INSTITUTE FOR LEGAL RESEARCH

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The practices of research centres are subject to different balance requirements that, in their convergences and divergences, generate inevitable asymmetries and perplexities. Allow me in this editorial to recall two of these demands-challenges, while asking a question and making two strong appeals (one implicit, the other explicit).

The first of these demands-challenges concerns internal “scientific meetings”: since their role is to stimulate a true dialogue (which may be reflected in the “outcomes” of the research), their composition should favour external voices (or at least prevent the predominance of internal investigators)... while opening up large “spaces” for discussion (for a live and full discussion) and while stimulating the calls for communications (with the novum and the unpredictable that these calls invariably promise).

The second balance requirement concerns the journal. If the centre has a journal, this will only be seriously taken as a genuine “face” of its strategic project if it reserves a truly expressive tranche for in-house researchers (from whom, moreover, an accomplished example of participation and care is expected).

And now the promised question: are we, as responsible researchers, successfully responding to these demands-challenges?

I leave this question ... without wanting to give an answer! But also without forgetting to remind you that the “call” for the fourth issue of Undecidabilities and Law is open until January 2024 (see below) and that it explores a truly transversal theme (“Legality and Proportionality in the Performance of Law”), about which all researchers and all areas of research at UCILeR certainly have a lot to say (see *infra* a list of plausible thematic specifications) ...

*J M Aroso Linhares*



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# I. Latest UCILeR events



## Third Luso-Polish Conference on Legal Theory and Legal Methodology - Constitutional Consciousness and the Autonomy of Law

The "III Luso-Polish Conference on Legal Theory and Legal Methodology - Constitutional Consciousness and the Autonomy of Law" was held on 2 & 3 May, at the Colégio da Trindade. Under the theme "Constitutional Consciousness and the Autonomy of Law", this conference was attended by three special guests from the University of Vilnius and brought together academics from various institutions: University of Łódź, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Jagiellonian University (Kraków), Marie Curie Skłodowska University of Lublin, Portuguese Catholic University, University of Évora, Lusófona University, New University of Lisbon, and the University of Coimbra.



## Meeting with... Prof. Ilan Pappé

On 5 May, the UCILeR hosted Ilan Pappé, a specialist in the study of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, for a lecture that took place at the Faculty of Law of the University of Coimbra. The lecture, under the theme "International Law and Settler Colonialism in Historical Palestine", was moderated by UCILeR integrated researcher Joana Ricarte.





## Digitalization of the World and its Impact on Private Law

On 26 May the Digitalization of the World and its Impact on Private Law was held in the Chapel of the Colégio da Trindade.

In this event several issues were discussed such as consumer rights in the purchase and sale of goods, content and digital services, the responsibility of digital platforms, legal and labour repercussions of the digitalization of the world, freedom of expression and disinformation, among others. The event was broadcast live on the YouTube channel, and is available [here](#).



## The Collective Construction of Sustainability

On 2 June the seminar "The Collective Construction of Sustainability" was held. This international event debated the role of the State, companies, and environmental associations with and without profit for sustainable development, and it was attended by over 40 participants.



In the Shark Tank Academy, each participant had 10 minutes to present a paper related to 2 or 3 sustainable development goals. It was a moment of reflection and sharing on the relevance of research in law for the achievement of the SDG.



## I Doctoral Students Network

On 6 June, the Doctoral Students Network (DocS-Net) was held at Colégio da Trindade under the theme "Social Challenges, Uncertainty and the Law". This first edition, the programme, featured speakers and discussants from national and international institutions, including researchers from the University of Lucerne, University of La Rioja, University of Salamanca and University of São Paulo. Learn more about this initiative organized by doctoral students and see the testimony of the participants [here](#).





## II Cycle of Webinars: Energy Communities and Local Government

During June, the II Cycle of Webinars: Energy Communities and Local Government was held with the participation of several speakers, who sought to reflect on issues such as the creation and future of energy communities, and the energy crisis.



## Sustainable Energy Day - Citizenship and Energy

This event was held on 15 June 2023, at Colégio da Trindade, and presented papers on energy communities, energy citizenship, energy poverty, energy transition, energy and global warming, self-consumption, and related topics.

The event "Sustainable Energy Day - Energy Citizenship" has been accepted as a supported event by the European Commission and is listed in the Commission's [Sustainable Energy Week](#) event catalogue.



## Wild Fires, Cinema and Law

The Wild Fires, Cinema and Law was held at the Chapel of Colégio da Trindade on 19 June 2023. The debate was based on the documentary From Devil's Breath, which recounts the 2017 Pedrogão Grande fires. This event is organized in the framework of the House Refuge Project and broadcasted on UCILeR's YouTube, and can be watched [here](#).



## International Public Goods Network Meeting: Public Goods and Sustainability

On 22 & 23 June, the annual meeting of the Red Internacional de Bienes Públicos (RIBP) was held at the Colégio da Trindade.

In this event, several topics related to sustainability and public goods, and the relationship of the latter with environmental, energy, financial, and cultural sustainability were discussed.





**EU Adapt- Adaptation of rights in rem in cross-border succession within EU**

This event was held on 23 June, in Sala 9 dos Gerais, and focused on the presentation of results of the project EU Adapt- Adaptation of rights in rem in cross-border succession within EU. The project, approved under the call "action grants to promote judicial cooperation in civil and criminal justice" of the H2020 program, aimed to simplify the process of cross-border succession where the law applicable to the whole of the succession confers an in rem right on immovable property unknown by the law of the Member State in which that right is invoked. You can access the app designed to facilitate adaptation in cross-border successions [here](#).



**XVIII International Constitutional Environmental Dialogue Seminar - Administrative Simplification and Environmental Protection**

The XVIII International Constitutional Environmental Dialogue Seminar - Administrative Simplification and Environmental Protection was held on 26 June at the Colégio da Trindade. In this event, throughout the three panels - environmental, constitutional and international - several themes were discussed such as simplification in environmental matters, sustainable tourism, and international environmental law, among others. Scientific papers were also presented on the following themes: creative conflict management; state, human rights and citizenship; law, fashion and sustainability; artificial intelligence, law and dignity; social rights, public budget and the realization of rights; legal analysis of the economy for a green revolution; participatory democracy, transparency and the right to environmental information; electoral law and democracy; the influence of philosophy in network movements; and educational law, human rights and consensuality.



## Meeting with... Jonathan Herring

The Meeting with Jonathan Herring was held on 28 June. Jonathan Herring is the author of important works dealing with this topic, namely "Caring and the Law" (2013), "Vulnerable Adults and the Law" (2016), "Vulnerability, Childhood and the Law" (2018), as well as several journal articles on the topic of vulnerability.



## Luso-Hispano Conference on Fair Energy and Digital Transition in the Transports Sector

On 30 June, the Luso-Hispano Conference on Fair Energy and Digital Transition in Transport was held in room 1.01 of the Colégio da Trindade. This event was organized in partnership with the Faculty of Law of the University of Malaga.





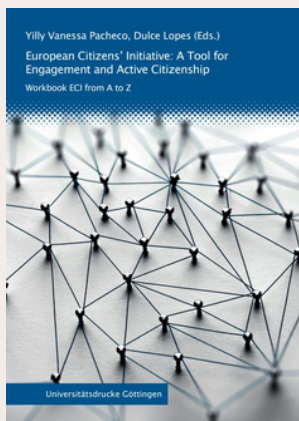
## MediMARE Final Symposium

This event was held in-person, with online streaming, on 30 June & 1 July 2023, and included a call for papers. This event marked the completion of the MediMARE project, reported on its results and opened new avenues for reflection on the importance and contours of maritime mediation.



## II. Latest UCILeR publications

### a) UCILeR publications



#### European Citizens' Initiative: A Tool for Engagement and Active Citizenship

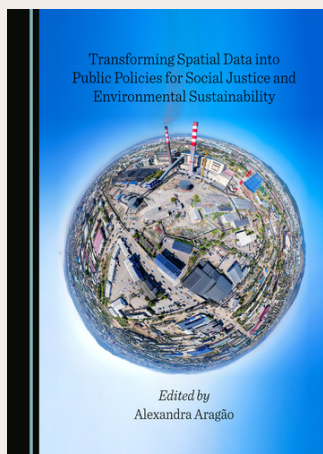
Coordinators: Yilly Vanessa Pacheco e Dulce Lopes

Year: 2023

ISBN: 978-3-86395-585-4

DOI: 10.17875/gup2023-2305

This book, produced under the ECI From A to Z project, coordinated by researcher Dulce Lopes, outlines the main dimensions of relevance of the European Citizens' Initiative and aims to be a useful handbook for all those who want to be more active participants in the policies of the European Union. Available [here](#).



#### Transforming Spatial Data into Public Policies for Social Justice and Environmental Sustainability

Coordinator: Alexandra Aragão

Year: 2023

ISBN: 1-5275-0925-7

This book, a result of the [Just Side network](#) coordinated by the UCILeR, brings approaches from ten Latin American countries to demonstrate how the interdisciplinarity between law and Geographic Information Systems can contribute to the development of fairer public policies, and prevent and mitigate cases of extreme injustice. The case studies presented are relevant to support the development of geolaw, and to inspire pragmatic strategies aimed both at social justice and environmental sustainability. This work is published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing. More information [here](#).



# I. Internal life of the UCILeR



## Research and Science Talks: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions and Create and manage your CV in Ciência Vitae

The May and June sessions of the Research and Science Talks were dedicated to clarifying applications for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions postdoctoral fellowships and how to create and manage a CV in Ciência Vitae - the current national science curriculum management system.



## Women in Fintech Conference

Within the [Cost Action Fintech and Artificial Intelligence in Finance - FinAI](#), the Women in Fintech Conference was held on 1 & 2 June at the Colégio da Trindade. Susana Aires de Sousa presented a paper on AI and financial crimes: "the good, the bad and the ugly".



## Genomic Medicine Day

The event brought together, at the Pole III of the UC, specialists in the field of Genomic Medicine, an emerging area that uses genetic information to personalize the treatment of diseases. Researcher André Pereira is part of the project team and was one of the speakers.



## UCILeR hosted a meeting to apply for Horizon Europe

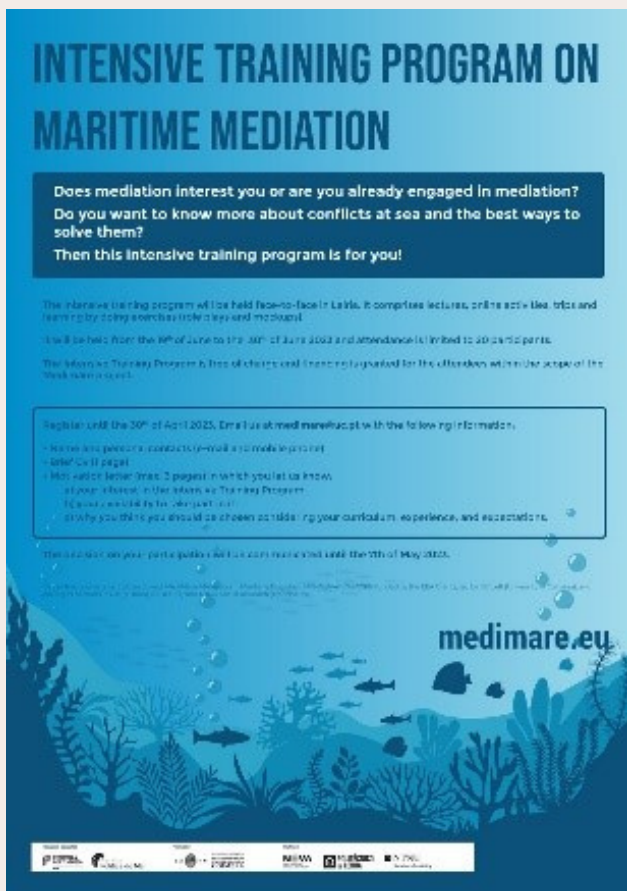
The UCILeR hosted, on 29 & 30 May, a working meeting with the aim of preparing the submission of an application under Horizon Europe. The UCILeR, represented by researcher Fernando Borges, is part of the UC team of the consortium, coordinated by the University of Turku.



## Missions Out

During the months of May and June, several researchers participated in several international events, namely: Enio Viterbo Martins (International Congress "Fortifying Democracy for the Digital Age: Interdisciplinary Perspectives (2023)", 17-21 May, Prague; and 7th Interdisciplinary Corruption Research Forum, 15-17 June, Barcelona); Ana Margarida Gaudêncio and JM Aroso Linhares (23rd International Roundtable for the Semiotics of Law, 24-27 May, Rome); Alexandra Aragão, Dulce Lopes and Roberta Donato (Congress "Pubblici Poteri e Imprese per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile", 29-31 May, Rome); David Magalhães ("Journées internationales de la Société d'histoire du droit", 1-4 June, Lausanne); and Susana Aires de Sousa (International Conference "Old and New Criminal Offences: AI Systems as Instruments and Victims", 13-18 June, Bucharest).





## Intensive Training Program in Maritime Mediation

The intensive Training Program in Maritime Mediation happened in-person in Leiria, Portugal, from June 19 until June 30th, 2023, with 24 participants.

The course was structured in the framework of the MediMARE Project and was directed towards interested participants in maritime mediation disputes. They had the opportunity of acquiring knowledge during two weeks on mediation in general, the characteristics of maritime mediation, legislation on maritime law, modes and concepts of maritime mediation, among others. There were role plays and simulations, as well as a field visit to MARE Foz.



## Funding applications

Between May and June, the UCILeR participated in 10 applications for funding for research projects. The greatest concentration is in the capacity of host institution in the Call Stimulus for Individual Scientific Employment - 6th edition, to which the UCILeR received 5 applications: A legal status for climate migrants: From climate fiction literature and Agamben's Homo sacer to a legal proposal by Alexandra Juster; Military Institutional Design during the Portuguese Revolution: Promoting Democracy (MIDPR) by Enio Viterbo; Capabilities as Rights? - "Emotions" and "Practical Reason" as normative instances of Community integrity by Ana Elisabete Ferreira; Corporate Social Responsibility: new challenges in Portugal and in the European Union by César Pires; and DEMOCRISES - From the 'failure of Keynesianism' to the hardship of democracy: the impact of European Union responses to contemporary crises on the fragmentation of national identities by Joana Ricarte. There was also the submission to the second phase of the application for "PERSIT - Positive EneRgy diStrictS driven by ciTizens", led by researcher Fernanda Paula Oliveira.

In addition, the UCILeR coordinated an application to the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme, led by researchers Ana Gaudêncio and Marta Graça, entitled "Collective Revolt Against Discrimination in the EU", and participated as a partner in three other submissions: "Providing migrants with local public services for community integration and cohesion" to the AMIF programme, with the researcher Ana Gaudêncio; "SLAPP-OBS: Strategic lawsuits against public participation Observatory", led by researcher Enio Viterbo to the CERV programme; and "CHEERS4EU - Circular Hubs serving as an Engine for European Regions to foster a Strong Green Economy 4 Europe", with the researchers Alexandra Aragão and Dulce Lopes, to INTERREG.



## II. UCILeR Scheduled Events



**2 & 3 OCTOBER 2023**  
**Congress on "Current Issues in Public Law"**



**23 OCTOBER 2023**  
**Seminar "Democracy: Past Futures and Memories to Come"**



**27 OCTOBER 2023**  
**Corporate Sustainability, Human Rights and Environment**



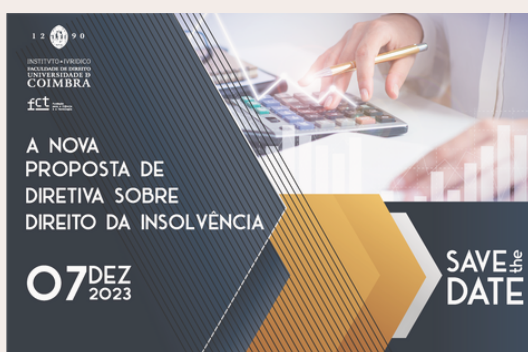
**23 NOVEMBER 2023**  
**Webinar Hague Rules. Anniversary Celebrations**



**30 NOVEMBER 2023**

**Legal SciComm Conference: Conference on legal research communication**

More information [here](#).



**7 DECEMBER 2023**

**Proposal for an Insolvency Law Directive**





# III. UCILeR Challenges



## i.CHANSE: Crisis – Perspectives from the Humanities

Deadline: **21 September 2023**

This opportunity is a joint initiative of the [CHANSE](#) (Collaboration of Humanities and Social Sciences in Europe) and the [HERA](#) network (The Humanities in the European Research Area).

More information [here](#).



## ii.JUST

Call for proposals for action grants to support transnational projects in the fields of e-Justice, victims' rights and procedural rights (JUST-2023-JACC-EJUSTICE)

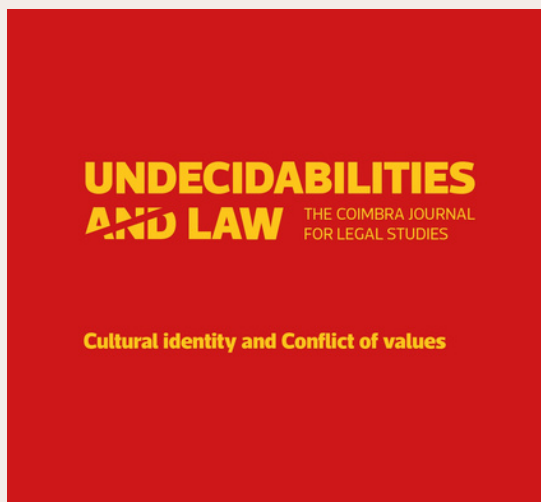
Deadline: **4 October 2023**

This biennial call is a novelty since it merges the previous calls on e-Justice and on access to justice which are now covered by the following two priorities:

1. e-justice
2. Victims' rights and procedural rights

Funding for projects which could facilitate effective and non-discriminatory access to justice for all (including by electronic means) and/or support the rights of people involved in criminal proceedings as victims or suspects/defendants.

More information [here](#).



### iii. Call for Papers: Undecidabilities and Law

The scientific journal Undecidabilities and Law - The Coimbra Journal for Legal Studies is receiving articles for its fourth volume, to be published in 2024. The theme of this issue is Legality and Proportionality in the Performance of Law and the editor is Marek Zirk-Sadowski, from the University of Łódź. Proposals can be submitted until **10 January 2024**.

More information [here](#).



### iv. Call for papers: Legal SciComm Conference: Conference on legal research communication

A call for papers is open to discuss various topics related to the communication of legal research with non-specialized audiences, such as the private sector and policy makers.

Possible topics include: the use of visual law, podcasts, social media, legislative theatre, videos, comics, press releases, and other techniques in communicating legal research.

Abstracts in Portuguese or English with up to 250 words should be submitted by **10 October 2023**.

More information [here](#).



## UCILeR projects

The work plan of the UCILeR is based on reflection on legal solutions to contemporary issues. As a research unit, UCILeR establishes a bridge between the UC's legal academic community and society through its various research projects. Each edition of the UCILeR Newsletter will feature UCILeR projects. Complete and detailed information on all UCILeR projects can be found [here](#).



### I- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND CORPORATE CRIMINALITY

Coordinator at the IJ/FDUC: Susana Aires de Sousa

Purpose: 1) identify business contexts conducive to AI and explore technological mechanisms for ML self-regulation; 2) survey the main national and European legislation on AI and companies; 3) identify possible gaps in the attribution of responsibility in view of the dehumanization of decision-making processes; 4) make proposals for legislative intervention in the context of corporate criminal liability.



### II.II- INDIJEN

Coordinator at the IJ/FDUC: Alexandra Aragão

Purpose: to develop a scientific measurement of the implementation of the rights of future generations using legal indicators of effectiveness. Thanks to legal indicators, public authorities and citizens are given a readable tool for the scientific evaluation of public policies so that they can no longer carry out "blind" reforms.

# Calls UCILeR



See previous issues of the Newsletter [here](#).

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