

CALL FOR PAPERS

International Conference “PORTS AND WAR”

Dates: 11th - 12th of December 2014 |

Venue: Oporto (city of Porto-Portugal)

Organization: Ports and Port City Group. Institute of Contemporary History (IHC-FCSH/UNL) and Institute of Space Dynamics (IDE-FCSH/UNL).

Organizing Committee: Maria Fernanda Rollo, João Figueira de Sousa, Margarida Schiappa, Tânia Vicente, Yvette Santos

Interfaces between land and sea, it is wide the network of relationships that in the ports and from them is established with politics, society, economy, the internal market, circuits, communications and international trade routes.

Port evolution can and must be understood within its context and in all its dimensions. Considering ports, since their inception, as a part of social and economic change, we are faced with both a product and a producer of that same change, with an increasing importance that develops itself alongside the complexity of relations between societies.

Ports are a key element in a war context. They are essential in military strategy, fundamental in terms of defense, essential for entry and exit of passengers, combatants and refugees, key elements in the process of importing and exporting materials and products, therefore, absolutely crucial in a context of a World war. Of their equipping, of their conditions of berthing, of the depth of its waters, organization and organic, of the existence of warehouses and depots, and of the preparation of its infrastructures, depends the effectiveness and efficiency of its functioning and operability.

The aim of this conference is to promote the share of knowledge and of ongoing investigations and promote a multidisciplinary debate on the problematic of "Ports and War", considering the diversity and complexity of emerging international and domestic contexts in war situations, taking in consideration the multiple relationships and interdependencies between spaces and the key role played by port activity and the way in which it influenced the profile of ongoing conflicts.

But it also aims to understand the impact caused by wars in the ports sector, and understand how, in its aftermath, the weaknesses and strengths of ports were assessed and answers to problems and constraints identified in the sector were programmed. Port activities are otherwise closely related to economic and social actors both from private and public spheres, that boost these areas, and it is therefore essential to understand the transformations that war perpetrate upon on these actors.

The historical evolution of ports in a context of war, is a particularly rich subject, to the extent that closes in itself facts, curiosities and fundamental reflections for a true understanding of the port sector. In this context, it is essential to understand the relationships, dynamics, changes, disruptions and problems arising between ports, the war, the logical management of the war effort, and the postwar. And the way these realities of conflict (World Wars, Colonial Wars - neutral countries / belligerent countries) act upon ports, analysis that includes dimensions as its own representativity.

Adopting a multi-disciplinary analysis, which summons several scientific approaches that do not exhaust themselves in the historical analysis, proposal selection will be oriented by the purpose of ensuring the highest quality, diversity and originality of the works.

Proposals will be accepted framed by the following topics (without disadvantage of acceptance of proposals devoted to other topics):

- Port-Policies
- War / Post-war effort (logistics, infrastructure, etc.)
- Merchant Navy / War Navy
- Port-city relations in a war context
- Actors / Stakeholders
- Trade and foreign relations
- Refugees and passengers
- Technology / Innovation
- Heritage
- Underwater-archeology,
- Representation (arts, cinema, press, media)

Communications will be no more than 20 minutes and might be delivered either in Portuguese, English and Spanish.

Paper proposals should be submitted in 500 words abstract, three keywords and title of the papers. Interest researchers should attach also a brief biographical note (200 words), together with details of institutional affiliation and contact details of the author (email and phone).

Proposals should be sent by email to: conferenciaportoseguerras@gmail.com

For further information see: <http://portosecidadesportuarias.wordpress.com/>

Submission of proposals: 15th of September 2014.

Notification of accepted proposals: 30th of September 2014.

Disclosure of the Program: 30th of October 2014.