CREATING
KNOWLEDGE
WITH THE
PEOPLE

CRIA

CREATING KNOWLEDGE WITH THE PEOPLE

CRIA

Who we are

CRIA is the main portuguese research centre in Anthropology, occupying a significant position in the institutional field of Portuguese social sciences. It is an interuniversity R&D unit based on four universities – ISCTE-IUL, NOVA FCSH, UCoimbra and UMinho – with shared management, fundraising, research dissemination, teaching and knowledge transfer capabilities.

CRIA is a mature and stimulating multi-dimensional space of anthropological research. It is a unique and innovative project at the European level, internationally recognized and valued. CRIA develops this leverage by promoting international collaborations in research and dissemination, attuned to debates in Anthropology and relevant interventions in the public sphere.

Bringing together scholars from multiple and intersecting anthropological traditions, CRIA intervenes in the geopolitical restructuration of anthropological discourse and analysis, launching creative dialogues between bodies of knowledge frequently kept apart.

CRIA makes a solid contribution to the knowledge of contemporary cultural and social dynamics. Research in Portugal along with various geographical contexts – Portuguese speaking countries (Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Timor-Leste), other European countries, and India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Sierra Leone, Morocco, Mauritania, Madagascar, Israel/Palestine, Canada, USA, Cuba – promotes comparative, articulated and transversal analyses on different spatial and historical scales. This unique approach is the landmark of CRIA´s scientific strategy, supported and complemented by interdisciplinarity and sub disciplinary articulations.

CRIA

Committed both to fundamental science and the production of social and cultural knowledge, our strategic approaches for anthropological research are:

a) Collaborative and inclusive approach to heritage;

b) Commitment to inclusive societies, social policies and governance;

c) Addressing new agendas for family, gender and sexuality;

d) Facing environmental urgency and ecological disasters;

e) Overcoming austerity: precariousness and grassroots economics;

f) Critical approach to health and care;

g) Embracing new trends on visuality and digitization.

Research Team 2019:

141 full researchers (106 national, 35 foreign)

49 faculty members

16 hired researchers

14 Post-doctoral researchers

62 PhD Students

From 16 participating institutions

Universities, Polytechnic Institutes, High Schools

CRIA promotes means for collaboration between scientific subfields and elaboration of criss-crossing research projects, methodological experimentation, citizen science and communication with non-academic audiences, with a strong commitment to Open Science. CRIA's research articulates research groups, laboratories and thematic lines, therefore setting the grounds for collaborative work.

RESEARCH GROUPS

CIRCULATION AND PLACE-MAKING (CPM)

Mobilities – Migrations – Religion – Citizenship

The Research Group studies the relations between circulation, (im)mobilities and the production of spaces and places, in relation to:

1) international migrations, the reconfiguration of sociabilities and the production of collectives;

2) the connections between mobilities of people and religious phenomena;

3) tourism and its imaginaries, studied in relation to heritagization processes and new transnational flows.

Overall, the Research Group tackles the dialectic between mobilities and immobilities, flows and closures, and processes of social-cultural transformation in multi-sited ethnographies in various countries.

CPM is now introducing a new focus on the relation between mobilities and the (re)making of borders, boundaries and frontiers, studying:

- the contemporary reinforcement and the multiplication of political and religious borders;

- the relation between forms of circulation and the notion of frontier;

Flexible Research

- the processes involved in the production of boundaries through racial, religious, class, mobility and citizenship categories, associated with local and global dynamics and historical/colonial legacies.

ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND ETHNOGRAPHY (ESE)
Conservation – Climate Change – Political Ecology – Primatology

The Research Group was built upon two key assumptions:
a) in the era of the Anthropocene, when human impact on the shared Biosphere is unprecedented, there is an urgency to reintegrate nature and society as indivisible ontological elements; b) ethnography provides a reliable and useful method to explore people's daily lives and critically assess sustainability and environmental problems.

ESE's objectives are embodied in research, training and dissemination activities relating to three major themes: Conservation, Sustainability, and Climate Change.

The main research subjects are:

1) the connections between humans and their environment(s); the current ideological and political constructs of nature and biodiversity (mainly the effects of conservation policies and the commodification of nature);

2) the consequences of climate change and processes of adaptation and resilience, along with the accomplishment of an 'Anthropology of urgency', i.e. studying the ecological disasters' effects, namely those caused by wild fires, droughts and floods.

GOVERNANCE, POLICIES AND LIVELIHOODS (GPL)

Inclusive Societies – Care – Human Rights – Minorities and Discrimination

GPL aims to achieve theoretical innovation based on original research, deepening our understanding of the complex, multi-layered relations between state and civil society. This entails producing empirically grounded critical analyses of interconnections between policies, institutions, livelihoods, social norms and subjectivities, challenging conventional 'rhetoric' versus 'reality' approaches to the study of policy. Rather than viewing policies and practices, state discourses and individual sensibilities as juxtaposed, this Research Group examines their entanglements within an analytical framework focused on the workings of governance, the relations of power and inequality within society.

Common topics include the impacts of the financial crisis, new forms of precarity, moral foundations of debt and gift relationships, surveillance and security, class and gender inequalities, penal confinement, migration and asylum seeking.

PRACTICES AND POLITICS OF CULTURE (PPC)

Heritage – Tourism – Ethnographic Archives – Performance

PPC aims to explore the relationships between cultural practices, institutional and non-institutional processes and the politics of culture. This involves a close ethnographic analysis of processes of production and reproduction of cultural forms; musealisation and heritagization; the construction of the

touristic; artistic practices and the visibility of culture; the analysis of contemporary re-appropriations of collections and archives. Research combines detailed ethnographic case studies, mainly carried out in Portugal, with theoretical innovation. PPC articulates new lines of research and theoretical approaches. By bringing together the particular research interests of its members, it enables thematic cross-fertilization and paves the way for solid and original collective projects.

THEMATIC LINES

AZIMUT - Studies in Arab and Islamic Contexts focuses on different Islamic contexts as ethnographic fields, and fosters debates on dominant categories and the risks of essencialisation.

Health is devoted to anthropological studies on health, illness and suffering, paying special attention to social transformations in current European social contexts.

Informal Resources and Social Capital studies the specific features, present logics, and workings of informal social networks in Portugal, as they continually constitute themselves in a dialectic relation with the State, the market, and their institutions.

Religion fosters anthropological research on religion in Portugal, focusing on topics such as beliefs, spirituality, post-secularisation, the sacred, and its articulation with broader issues like governance of migrations, the religious and the secular fields.

NAVA - Visual Anthropology and Arts gathers researchers who work in the fields of anthropology of art, anthropology of performance and visual cultures, articulating academic interests with ethnographic film and artistic production.

LABSCALE

The 4 laboratories are central infrastructures for research, storage and data processing, training and dissemination activities. The laboratorial dimension contributes to the development of new areas of research, attracting students and researchers, and stimulating engagement with public institutions that increasingly rely on CRIA as an external consultant.

Audiovisual Laboratory (LAV)

The Audiovisual Laboratory supports the study of visual aspects related to cultural practices and display by offering technical equipment and expertise to researchers and post-graduate students. CRIA's audiovisual laboratory promotes collaborative research and is at the forefront of new forms of production of scientific knowledge, reconfiguring ethnographic film, installations, photograph exhibitions, and developing web-doc and digital platforms.

Laboratory of Biological Anthropology and Osteological Human Remains (LABOH)

LABOH serves as an introductory platform to methods and techniques used in the analysis of human osteology, and its subsequent application in the reconstruction of past disease and behavioural patterns, as well as in Forensic Anthropology. LABOH is an experimental and innovative laboratory in the study of humans combining methods and techniques used in distinct fields of research (e.g. Digital Sciences, Art Sciences, Technological Sciences, among others).

### Environmental Anthropology and Behavioural Ecology Laboratory (LAE)

LAE supports two main research activities: the treatment, preservation and study of biological specimens collected during research projects that constitute referential collections for future researches; behavioural analysis of non-humans with special focus on non-human primates through the treatment and preservation of images registered in wild environments.

LAE is a place for researching on these different collections and databases, but also a structure that offers advanced training for graduate and post-graduate students who initiate their research careers, and PhD students hosted by the laboratory.

Laboratory Jill Rosemary Dias (JRD)

In tribute to Jill Rosemary Dias' academic path, the laboratory JRD encourages research on the intersections between Anthropology, History and Photography, particularly but not exclusively in African contexts. The laboratory JRD encourages the cooperation with African R&D units, especially in the fields of colonial and postcolonial studies.

JRD is furthermore directed towards the museography and other cultural display activities that concern archives – particularly non official archives of different types – and photography.
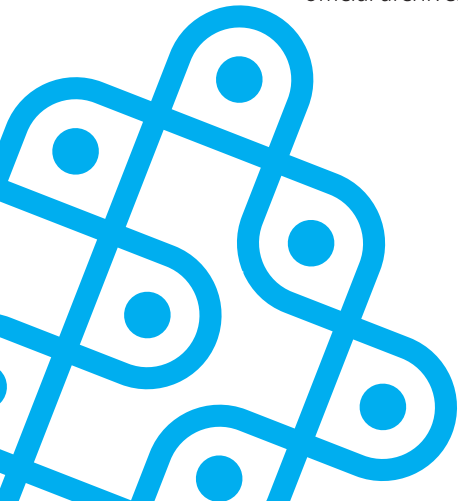
CRIA´s activities reinforced anthropological research and the discipline´s public image in Portugal and abroad. The team´s expertise is recognised in areas such as gender equality, racism, religion and islamophobia, migration, justice, surveillance, health, environment, tangible and intangible heritage, audio visual production.

Keeping up with the international standards of scientific research, CRIA embraces the importance of reinforcing collaborative partnerships with national and international governmental and non-governmental bodies, and local and regional authorities.

From traditional lines of Anthropological survey

CRIA has several heritage related projects with diverse focus and frameworks, ranging from PhD research to EU funded projects.

Acknowledged as an heritage expert by public and private stakeholders – NGO's, municipalities, state agencies – CRIA is often invited to participate as consultant or in commissioned projects.

Those different configurations not only increase relations with multiple stakeholders on culture and heritage, as set up new and assorted paths to explore diverse sources of funding.

Festa da Nossa Senhora dos Navegantes is a project chosen by civil society in the framework of the 2017 Participatory Budget of Portugal (OPP) aiming at the inclusion of the Feast in the ICH Inventory. As part of the research project achievements and in order to boost public engagement a photo exhibition, a short documentary, a book and a Local Interpretation Centre will be displayed.

What we do&how we do it
heritage

Grants:

HERILIGION – "The heritagization of religion and the sacralization of heritage in contemporary Europe", funded by EC-HERA-JRP, 2016-2020

TRANSRELEX – "Spiritual transmission and fabrication of religious heritage around the Mediterranean. Individual experiences", funded by LAbexMed, 2018-20109

MERAP-MED – "Religious memories and heritage practices in the Mediterranean: confessional coexistence and heritage assertion", funded by FCT, 2013-2015

"Ritual, ethnicity and transnationalism: Holy Ghost Festivals in North America", funded by FCT, 2010-2014

Tenders:

"An anthropological study of the Nicolinas Festivities in Guimarães", contracted by the municipality, ongoing since 2011

"Waking up traditions", contracted by local association Associação Socio Cultural de Valdosende, 2017

Intangible Cultural Heritage National Inventory: Elaboration of the registry of the "Senhora do Alívio", 2017-2019; Elaboration of the registry of the "Bom Despacho pilgrimage", 2017-2019; Registry of "Caretos – Carnival Masks", 2015-2017

CRIA focus on heritage produced an array of training activities, ranging from summer courses on tourism and food to the Merap-Med Phd training school.

Heritage related activities usually includes young students (undergraduate&graduate) and researchers, be it in research projects, LABS or specific outreach formats (e.g. exhibitions).

PhD programme Anthropology: Politics and Displays of Culture and Museology

Supported by FCT (8 biannual grants), the PhD programme is jointly promoted by ISCTE-IUL and NOVA FCSH, under the coordination of CRIA, with the collaboration of INET-md and IELT. It provides a critical approach to the (re)production of cultural forms, with special emphasis on Intangible Cultural Heritage, focusing on Portugal, Brazil, Mediterranean and African Portuguese-speaking countries. It aims towards the development of professional skills in ICH policies and practices, namely within the frame of UNESCO.

The students are mostly supervised by CRIA's senior researchers. While ensuring full observance of PhD scientific projects' autonomy, students are invited to fully take part in CRIA's research groups, transversal thematic lines and laboratories.

This programme highlights CRIA's active role in training, research, dissemination and society-oriented projects, addressing core anthropological topics such as cultural performances, natural and cultural heritage, museums and tourism, circulation and rescaling of cultural forms.

MSCA-ITN – CHEurope

"Critical Heritage Studies and the Future of Europe: Towards an integrated, interdisciplinary and transnational training model in cultural heritage research and management", is a MSCA-ITN funded project under H2020. This innovative and training network of 8 academic and 21 heritage and museum partner organisations focus on developing a new integrated theoretical and methodological framework to enhance academic and

professional training and open future job opportunities in cultural heritage preservation, management and promotion.

Reaching out to society: exhibitions

CRIA's researchers are often invited by public agencies to set up heritage related exhibitions. **Out of the Monument** (2016) was both the end result of a research project and an ongoing dialogue with visitors, gathering private and personal memories of Belém, which tend to be overshadowed by the grandiosity of monuments. Today's visitors were invited to add their own recollections to a new archive "Out of the Monument", debating with the historical and institutional archives.

The forthcoming exhibition **Are you a tourist?** is an invitation to think about tourism practices and the arbitrariness of the bounds of what a tourist 'is'. The main goal is to foster practices of envisaging 'locals' and 'tourists' as inhabitants of the same world, locating them within the broad range of mobilities in leisure practices. The exhibition is designed over local and visitants material and oral testimonies emblematic of wider personalized experiences of the tourism encounters.

Public engagement: UNESCO

CRIA was accredited (2012) as consultant NGO for the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH and integrates the WG for the ICH of the National Commission for UNESCO (2014). CRIA projects and intervention span through a diversified spectrum of research – both geographically and thematically and cover all the ICH domains, namely: a) oral traditions and expressions; b) performing arts; c) social practices, rituals and festive events; d) knowledge and practices concerning nature

and the universe; e) traditional craftsmanship.
CRIA's researchers are deeply engaged in collaborative activities with local communities, enabling the preparation, elaboration, submission and enacting ICH safeguard procedures. CRIA is the leading Portuguese research institution in this field, playing a critical role in the implementation of ICH policies.

To academic and public engagement on Mediterranean crisis

"Critical approaches to politics, social activism, and Islamic militancy in the Western Saharan region" (CAPSAHARA) is an H2020 ERC-StG that proposes an analysis of the reconfigurations established in the socio-political vocabulary of the western Saharan region from the post-empire to the contemporary period. Through an analysis of i) the social and political structures shared in the region, ii) the local variations of those structures, based on case studies, iii) their specific configurations, based on social markers such as gender, age, and class, iv) the use of those structures in different historical periods. The project aims to understand the recent articulation of the social and political structures of the Western Saharan region, with broader and often exogenous political vocabularies.

Other projects:

CRISDINTRANS – "Crisis and local and transnational dynamics in the Western Mediterranean: sociopolitical changes, mobilizations and diaspora", funded by MICIIN, 2018-2021

TRANSRELEX – "Spiritual transmission and fabrication of religious heritage around the Mediterranean. Individual experiences", funded by LAbexMed, 2018-20109

MERAP-MED – "Religious memories and heritage practices in the Mediterranean: confessional coexistence and heritage assertion", funded by FCT, 2013-2015

Reaching out to society

The documentary **Ramadan in Lisbon** connects CRIA's training – most of the researchers did or do their PhD in CRIA – with the laboratorial dimension – the film was made in LAV, tacking advantage of its facilities and equipment. The film gathers researchers' expertise on Islam studies, heritage, foodways, religion, migration and gender to produce a scientific output able to reach wider audiences.

The film seeks to portray multiple experiences related to the month of Ramadan, revealing for the diversity of practices, perspectives, actors, ingredients and rituals that can be observed during this festivity by Muslim populations living in Lisbon.

Deeply involved in the **Mediterranean Cultures Festival**, promoted by INATEL and CIOFF, CRIA organized a scientific conference – *Mediterrâneo: território dos 5 sentidos* and produced *O Mediterrâneo somos nós*, a multi-sensorial display build upon meetings and interviews with people from countries bordering the Mediterranean and living in Lisbon.

The main outputs are one film – *Vozes, sons e música da orla do Mediterrâneo* – one sound installation – *Corredor de línguas*– and one photo exhibition.

Olhares do Mediterrâneo is a film festival dedicated to showcase cultural diversity with a particular focus on films made by women and portraying relevant issues to/on the Mediterranean region. It is a well-established annual public event (since 2014) that delivers academic knowledge on subjects like gender, racial or religious discriminations to the wider public, be it in films, photo exhibitions, live music, conferences and workshops. *Olhares do Mediterrâneo* highlights CRIA's far-reaching public presence.

New lines of enquiry

Projects:

LivePolitics – "Negotiating livelihoods under transformative politics: crisis, policies and practices in Portugal 2008-2018", funded by FCT, 2018-2021

InclusiveCourts – "Equality and cultural difference in the practice of Portuguese courts: challenges and opportunities for an inclusive society", funded by FCT, 2018-2021

"Diversities, spaces and migrations in the entrepreneurial city", funded by Fund for Asylum, Migration and Integration, 2017-2019

"Human security in prison: perspectives, subjectivities and experiences - a contribution to the anthropology of security", funded by Gerda-Henkel Foundation, 2015-2017

"Security in context: an anthropological study on contexts, policies and practices of security in 21st century Portugal", funded by FCT (IF), 2013-2018

"Migrations, integration and co-development in Europe", funded by EC-EACEA, 2014-2016

"Care as sustainability in crisis situations", funded by FCT, 2012-2015

"We: wor(l)ds which exclude", funded by EC-DG-JUSTICE, 2013-2014

Community Development:

"Orquestra de Cordas da Ajuda", funded by Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, 2019-2021

"Jobster", funded by Lisbon City Council, 2018-2021

"Common House", funded by Lisbon City Council, 2017-2020

"Literacies in context", funded by Lisbon City Council, 2016-2019

"Education for human rights: a daily practice?", funded by Council of Europe, 2018

"Upholding Human Rights Standards at the UHSA reception centre for irregular migrants in Porto, Portugal", funded by International Organization for Migration, 2018

"Oficina de Histórias", funded by High Commission for Migration, 2018

The guidelines for Lisbon City Council´s first plan for gender equality were designed by CRIA.

The enforcement of national and international norms on Gender Equality led the Lisbon City Council to implement a Municipal Plan for Gender Equality.
This Municipal Plan for Gender Equality will ensure egalitarian and non-discriminatory practices and activities in all the City Council's services, from its internal operations to the relations with its users and partners. The Plan main goal is the reduction of structural asymmetry in social, economic, labor and political status between women and men living in Lisbon.

Training:

Pursuing a diverse training environment, CRIA promoted almost 20 summer/winter schools addressed to academic and non-academic audiences in such areas as: refugees and human rights, religion, criminality and deviance, Islam and migrations.

Public engagement

The training course "Living in a Different Culture" is an introduction to Portuguese society, culture and language, targeting refugees who either finished high-school and would like to apply for university or former college students who interrupted their studies but would like to resume the academic pathway or simply benefit from a new academic experience.

The implementation of the course gathers researchers from CRIA, Anthropology students from Rede dxs Doutorandxs em Antropologia and Núcleo de Estudantes de Antropologia, as well as trainees from the first edition.

"Living in a Different Culture" showcases CRIA´s ability to combine academic and public training.

BIODIVERSITY conservation is one of the areas in which CRIA engages creative interdisciplinarity, intertwining Social and Cultural Anthropology, Primatology, Physical Anthropology, and Paleoanthropology.

Chimpanzees in Guinea-Bissau

Several projects provided important data for a holistic framing of conservation policies in Guinea-Bissau. They carry out an

What we do&how we do it
biodiversity

innovative exploration of the interactions between closely coexisting humans and chimpanzees, linking Social Anthropology, Primatology and Ecology to provide an all-inclusive understanding of habitats as multispecies landscapes.

The outputs were shared with local communities, GOs and NGOs, and Guinea-Bissau´s Institute for Biodiversity and Protected Areas, in order to inform conservation policies able to address both the aspirations and practices of its people as well as the protection of critically endangered species.

Iberian Lynx

Within the framework of LIFE (EU funding scheme), CRIA developed the research project "Evaluation of population attitudes in lynx reintroduction areas and associated key themes in Portuguese territories". On this topic, CRIA promoted and engaged in a wide range of activities reaching academic and non-academic public and the national stakeholders.

Iberian Lynx was developed using LAE facilities and resources, having as team members a senior researcher and a PhD student, whose PhD dissertation "Among predators: relationships with nature during Iberian lynx reintroduction" was one of its main achievements/outputs.

Working closely with other disciplines, such as Biology, Geography, Ecology and Sociology, Iberian Lynx criss-crosses environmental sustainability, climate change, conservation and human-non-human relationship.
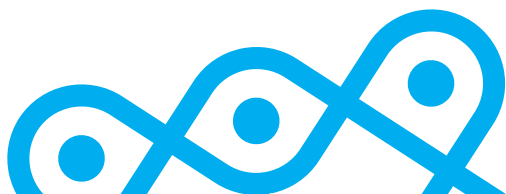
Socially Responsible Research

Etnográfica

More than 20 years after its foundation, *Etnográfica* reflects CRIA's focus on innovation and its active engagement with the scientific community. *Etnográfica* was one of the first Portuguese journals to be available in Open Access online, fully embracing the goal of making scientific research as wide as possible.

Etnográfica Press

Etnográfica Press is an editorial project that aims to make available to a wide public relevant works of the Lusophone social and human sciences. Mainly devoted to Anthropology but open to other disciplines (History, Sociology, Geography or Cultural Studies), its catalogue contains collections of unpublished works and new editions of books from prestigious collections, that were no longer available.

Emphasizing the quality of empirical research, the diversity of analytical perspectives and theoretical innovation, Etnográfica Press publish in 4 languages (Portuguese, English, French, Castilian), whose coexistence represents one of the innovations of the *Etnográfica* journal.

The project is deliberately in line with the development of open access electronic publishing.

OpenEdition/OPERAS

Having a privileged relationship with the academic contexts of Portuguese-speaking countries, CRIA is the promotor of LusOpenEdition, the Lusophone branch of OpenEdition, an

OpenScience

international infrastructure dedicated to electronic resources in the humanities and social sciences.

CRIA is now reinforcing its strategic role in the establishment of a research infrastructure for the development of a more efficient, fair, inclusive and sustainable scientific communication for Portuguese-speaking researchers.

This new phase of the LusOpenEdition project will be framed by the European infrastructure OPERAS, which brings together 34 institutions from 11 European countries.

ROSSIO

CRIA is a partner of ROSSIO, a national digital infrastructure led by NOVA FCSH. ROSSIO provides integrated open access to collections of interoperating digital research resources, and innovative tools in virtual workspaces, thus enabling data intensive science in the humanities.

ROSSIO is the national representative at DARIAH.EU, a pan-European network that ensures humanities research requirements are integrated into the EU open science cloud. CRIA will reinforce its participation in ROSSIO-DARIAH.EU, taking advantage of its institutional framework.

Centro em Rede de Investigação em Antropologia

CRIA
is committed to a view of Anthropology as a privileged tool for addressing the complexities of contemporary social life, namely through multiple engagements with people, differences, and connections.