

The Centre for the History of Society and Culture of the University of Coimbra (CHSC), as the organizing scientific institution, and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences of the Government of São Tomé and Príncipe, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the publication of the decree abolishing human slavery in São Tomé and Príncipe, will promote the International Congress **The Meanings of Abolition: Histories of Slavery and Forced Labor in São Tomé and Príncipe (16th–20th Centuries)**.

This scientific event will take place in São Tomé, on **January 5th to 6th, 2026**, and also counts on the collaboration of the University of São Tomé and Príncipe, the University of Coimbra, the Camões Institute, and the Embassy of Portugal in São Tomé.

The objectives of the Congress are:

- To foster research and scientific knowledge on the practice and abolition of slavery in the Santomean context (15th–19th centuries), its motivations, dynamics, and consequences, offering different cases and perspectives;
- To disseminate knowledge about the process of abolishing slavery and its historical consequences, both in academia and in Santomean society;
- To analyze the role that São Tomé and Príncipe played within the context of the Third Portuguese Colonial Empire, before and after the abolition of slavery;
- To promote a rich dialogue among guest speakers, Santomean researchers, and the wider community.

Organizing Committee

Professor José Pedro Paiva, Professor at the University of Coimbra and Scientific Coordinator of the Centre for the History of Society and Culture

Professor Miguel Bandeira Jerónimo, Professor at the University of Coimbra

Emir Franklim de Lima Boa Morte, PhD candidate in History at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Coimbra