



**MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS 2018**  
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR HOSTING MARIE CURIE FELLOWS**

### HOST INSTITUTION

School of Sciences and Humanities | CHAM Research Unit

### RESEARCH GROUP AND URL

Early Modern and Modern Thought  
[http://www.cham.fcsh.unl.pt/li\\_apresenta.aspx?linha=15](http://www.cham.fcsh.unl.pt/li_apresenta.aspx?linha=15)

### SUPERVISOR (NAME AND E-MAIL)

Cristina Brito  
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### SHORT CV OF THE SUPERVISOR

Cristina Brito is an environmental historian and a researcher at CHAM (Centre for the Humanities) at NOVA FCSH, Lisbon. She is the coordinator of CHAM's research line in Environmental History and the Sea, the EC H2020-MCSA-RISE project CONCHA (2018-2021) and of the UNESCO Chair on the Oceans' Cultural Heritage. Her research is centred in the early modern marine environmental history of the Atlantic, mainly focusing on the Atlantic Islands, West Coast of Africa, and Central and South America. She addresses the past of marine ecosystems and animal populations, as well as past human practices and perceptions about the environment. She is also interested in the relationship between humans and non-humans in a cross-cultural and trans-chronological approach to also address current day issues of environmental sustainability.

### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Brito C (2018) Connected margins and disconnected knowledge: Exotic marine mammals in the making of early modern European natural history. In Amélia Polónia; Fabiano Bracht; Gisele C. Conceição; Monique Palma (Eds). *Cross-cultural Exchange and the Circulation of Knowledge in the First Global Age*. Porto: CITCEM/Edições Afrontamento, v.1: 106-132.
- Vieira N & Brito C (2017) Brazilian manatees (re)discovered: Early modern accounts reflecting the overexploitation of aquatic resources and the emergence of conservation concerns. *International Journal of Maritime History*, 29(3): 513-528. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0843871417713683>
- Brito C, Vieira N, Jordão V & Teixeira A (2016) Digging into our whaling past: Addressing the Portuguese influence in the early modern exploitation of whales in the Atlantic. In *Environmental History in the Making*. Volume 7 of the series *Environmental History*. Springer International Publishing Switzerland: 33-47 pp. Doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-41139-2\_3
- Brito C & Vieira N (2016) A sea-change in the sea? Perceptions and practices towards sea turtles and manatees in Portugal's Atlantic Ocean legacy. In Schwerdtner Máñez, Kathleen & Poulsen, Bo (Eds.)



Perspectives on Oceans Past. A Handbook of Marine Environmental History. Springer Science+Business Media, Dordrecht: 175-191. <http://www.springer.com/us/book/9789401774956#>

- Brito C (2016) New Science From Old News: Sea monsters in the early modern Portuguese production and transfer of knowledge about the natural world. *Scientia et Historia, Escola de Mar*, nº 1.
- Brito C, Jordão V & Pierce G (2015) The environmental history and economy of ambergris: Portuguese sources contributing to study the trade of a global commodity. *The Journal of Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom*, 96 (3): 585-596. doi: 10.1017/S0025315415000910.

## PROJECT TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

### *Humanities for the ocean*

Emerging research in the humanities is showcasing the value of the ocean, its animals and environments, to understand interactions between humans and the non-human world across time and cultures. We aim to bring together scholarship integrating the history of the oceans with different fields of research - environmental, ethno- and cross-cultural history; arts, literature and ecocriticism, eco-philosophy; conservation, literacy and policy - allowing for the establishment of this ground-breaking discipline in Portugal.

The Environmental Humanities is a new field of research that will allow discovering new ways to conceptualize and address these urgent challenges of the environmental crises now confronting the planet. We are also now witnessing a transition that might be called the "Oceanic Turn" that considers how marine life forms, climate change and submersion can reorient traditional historical knowledge. This will allow a re-thinking of oceans' imaginaries and ecologies but also of concepts about the Ocean, Indigeneity and Empire across chronologies and geographies. Cross-cultural interactions among different maritime and coastal societies; local and global perceptions about and practices on Nature; concepts of appropriation, exploitation, responsibility and respect regarding the non-human marine world, are expected to be addressed through a highly interdisciplinary approach.

## SCIENTIFIC AREA WHERE THE PROJECT FITS BEST

Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)

## OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

[http://www.cham.fcsh.unl.pt/invdet.aspx?inv=CB\\_0050](http://www.cham.fcsh.unl.pt/invdet.aspx?inv=CB_0050)

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