**HOST INSTITUTION**

School of Sciences and Humanities | CRIA Research Unit

**RESEARCH GROUP AND URL**

Circulation and Place-Making

**SUPERVISOR (NAME AND E-MAIL)**

Francisco Freire
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**SHORT CV OF THE SUPERVISOR**

Education:

Research:
- PI of the CAPSAHARA research project (ERC-StG-716467, Critical Approaches to Politics, Social Activism and Islamic Militancy in the Western Saharan Region);
- Member of the Research team of the project “Consolidación y declive del orden colonial español en el Sahara, 1956-1976” (N. HAR2012-36414) (2014 / 2016);
- Visiting Research Fellow at the African Studies Center (Leiden University) (January / February 2011);
- Post-Doctoral researcher at CRIA (May 2009/ May 2015), under the supervision of Abdel Wedoud Ould Cheikh (CNRS) and Maria Cardeira da Silva (FNOVA FCSH). Project funded by the FCT;
- Supervisor of the Marie Curie Action Grant HASSANMUSIC (ID 792187, 2017), by the candidate Violeta Ruano Posada. This submission was awarded the “Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Seal of Excellence”.

Areas of Expertise:
Social and cultural history of western Africa; western Sahara, oral history, Islam, race, ethnography.

**5 SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**


PROJECT TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

CAPSAHARA: Critical Approaches to Politics, Social Activism and Islamic Militancy in the Western Saharan Region

This project 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.

The methodology used in this project is based on readings associated with different social sciences, with a particular focus on anthropology, history, and political science. The members of the research team, with experience and linguistic competence in the different geographies involved in this project, are expected to conduct original field enquiries, enabling a significant enhancement of the theoretical and ethnographic knowledge associated with this region. The project’s main goal is to analyse the types of interplay established between pre-modern socio-political traditions and contemporary political expression and activism, in a particularly sensitive and academically disregarded region. Its effort to integrate a context that is usually compartmentalized, as well as to put together a group of researchers generally isolated in their particular areas of expertise, geographies, or nations, should also be valued. The project’s results should enable the different contexts under study to be integrated into the wider maps of current scientific research, providing, at the same time a dissemination of its outputs to an extended audience.

For more information, see: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/208451_en.html

SCIENTIFIC AREA WHERE THE PROJECT FITS BEST

Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)