



MEDCRAFTS

Crafts regulation in Portugal in the Late Middle Ages: 14th - 15th centuries

PTDC/HAR-HIS/31427/2017

<https://medcrafts2021.wixsite.com/medcrafts>

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ENCONTRO CIÊNCIA 2019

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WHAT?

WHO?

WHAT FOR?

HOW?

MEDCRAFTS

Crafts regulation in Portugal in the Late Middle

Ages: 14th - 15th centuries

PTDC/HAR-HIS/31427/2017

1/10/2018 – 30/09/2021 (3 years horizon)

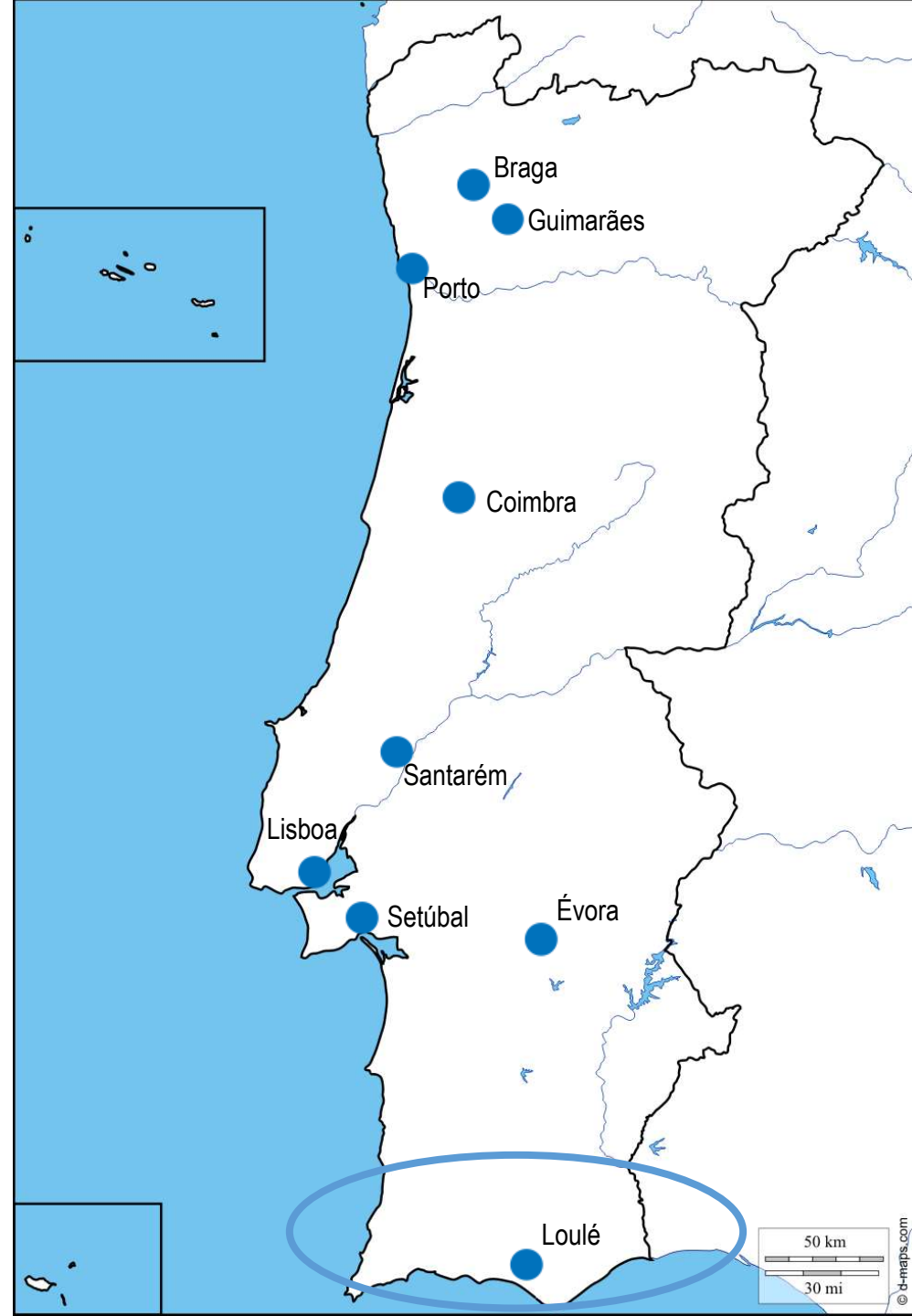
FCT Funding - 238.000 €00

WHAT? → Definition

MEDCRAFTS PTDC/HAR-HIS/31427/2017

Study of the **regulations of crafts activities in late medieval Portugal**, in the 14th and 15th centuries, through the analysis of several **Portuguese towns**, from different regions, in a **comparative perspective**.

- Integrated vision of regulation systems and social practices in their historical context
- Comparative approach to determine similarities and specificities between different regions and towns
- Focus on the relations between craftsmen and public authorities
- Holistic analysis including all forms of craft's regulations (statutes, ordinances, judicial sentences, etc.)



WHAT? → Definition

MEDCRAFTS

Crafts / craftsmen (trades) in English
Artisans

Portuguese (Medieval):
Mesteres / mesterais
Ofício / oficiais

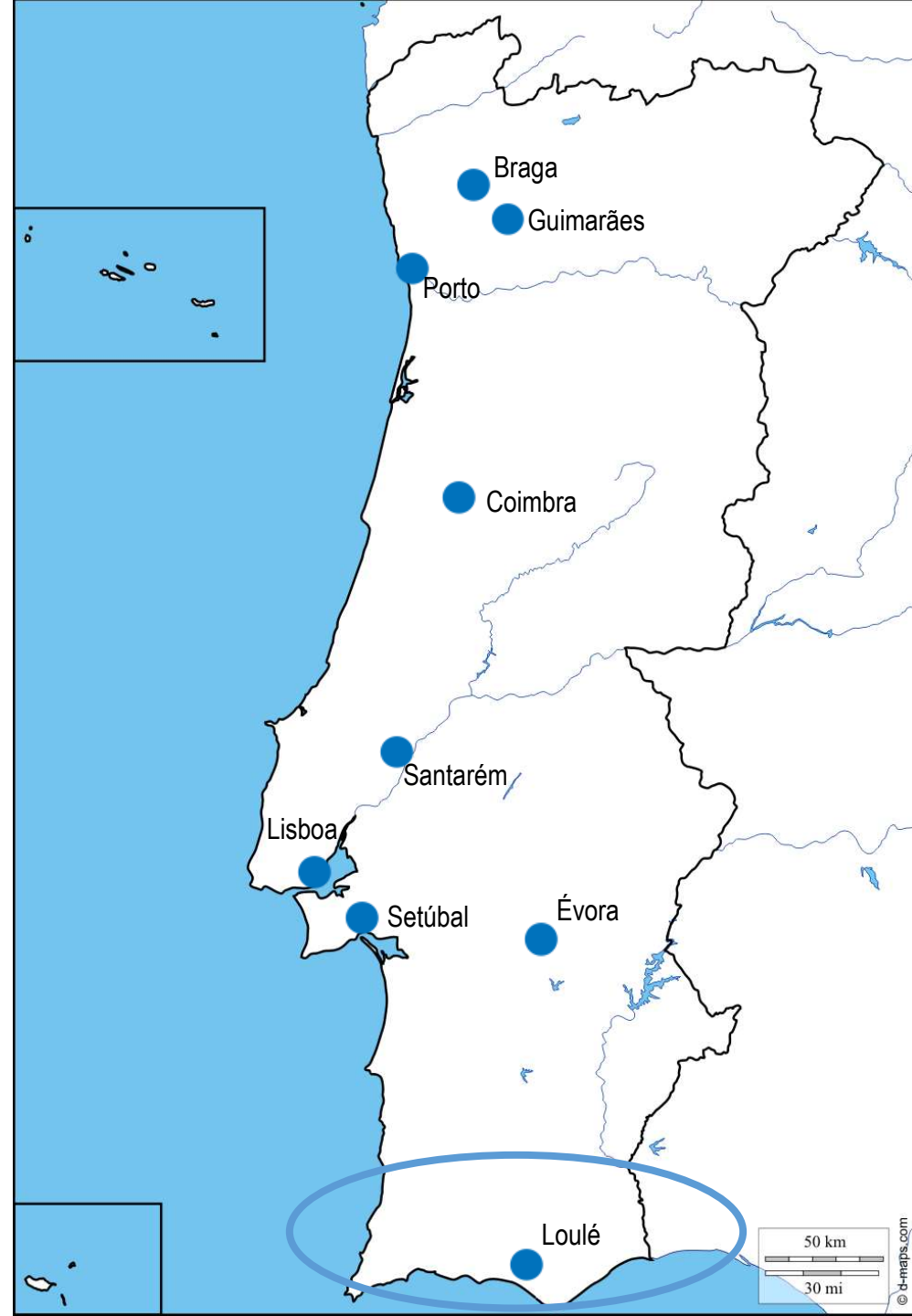
Artes mecânicas (oposto a artes liberais)

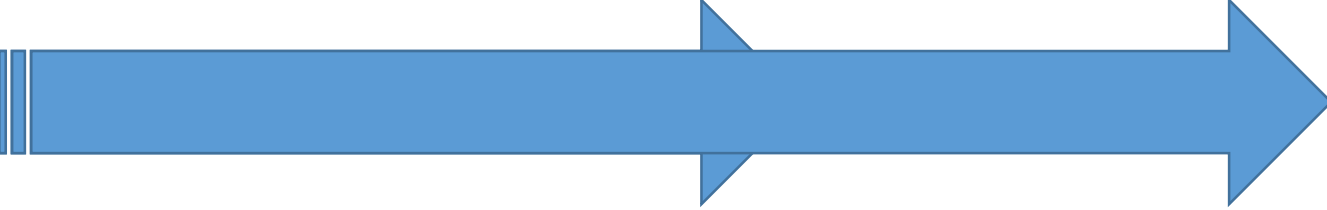
Modern portuguese:

Artesãos; atividades industriais

Definition Criteria

- Those who produce non rural goods, that can, or not, also sell them.
- Technical expertise and long apprenticeship.





MAIN CRAFTS / MESTERES (EXAMPLES):

- **Leather (curtidores (tanners), sapateiros (shoemakers))**
- **Metals (blacksmiths; goldsmiths ...)**
- **Buildings construction (pedreiros (masons); carpinteiros (carpenters))**
- **Naval construction (in shipyards ...)**
- **Tailors and clothing**
- **Têxtil (making tissues): weavers, colouring ...**
- **Food (carniceiro (butcher); padeiras (bakers) ; moleiros (miller))**
- **Ceramics...**
- ...



WHO? → Research team

IR → Arnaldo Melo (Lab2PT – University of Minho)

Co-IR → Joana Sequeira (CITCEM- Faculty of Arts, University of Porto)

6 PORTUGUESE UNIVERSITIES = 30 RESEARCHERS

8 FOREIGN CONSULTANTS

WIDERANGING TEAM OF SPECIALISTS FOR AN INTEGRATED AND COMPARATIVE STUDY

WHO? → Research team



- PI (senior researcher)
- 1 senior researcher
- 3 junior researchers
- **1 post-doc researcher (to be recruited)**
- **1 junior researcher (to be recruited)**



- Co- PI (assistant researcher)
- 1 coordinator in the Unit (senior researcher)
- 2 senior researchers
- **1 junior researcher (to be recruited)**



- 1 coordinator in the Unit (senior researcher)
- 2 junior researchers
- 1 assistant researcher
- **1 junior researcher (to be recruited)**



WHO? → Research team



- 1 coordinator in the Unit (senior researcher)
- **1 junior researcher (to be recruited)**



- 1 coordinator in the Unit (senior researcher)
- 1 junior researcher
- 2 assistant researchers
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- 1 coordinator in the Unit (senior researcher)
- 2 senior researchers
- **1 junior researcher (to be recruited)**

CONSULTANTS

Germán Navarro Espinach, **University of Zaragoza**

Ricardo Córdoba, **University of Cordoba**

Jesus Ángel Solorzano Telechea, **University of Cantabria**

Philippe Bernardi, **LAMOP - University of Paris 1 Panthéon – Sorbonne / CNRS**

Gabriela Piccinni and Franco Franceschi, **University of Sienna**

Sarah Rees Jones, **University of York**

Mathew Davies, **Birkbeck, University of London**

A medieval craftsman in a red tunic and brown hat is shown working with a long wooden staff inside a large wooden tub. A red cloth is draped over the side of the tub. The background is a simple blue wall.

WHAT FOR? → Objectives

- Develop an in-depth study of the reality of craft's activities in Portugal, namely its organization and production structures, its spatial integration and its real estate properties, comparing different towns and regions.
- Reinforce the idea of the existence of multiple models of craft's regulation and organisation in medieval Europe
- Contribute for the knowledge about the economic and social evolution of Portugal during the crucial era of maritime expansion
- Contribute for the development of an hypothetical circulation of ideas and models in Europe
- Determine the influence of Islamic tradition in craft's activities
- Provide data and conclusions for other research projects
- Rediscover historical memory with potential to be applied in cultural and touristic projects



HOW?→ Methodologies

Starting point: published works about the 9 towns included and specific studies on crafts, food trade and provisioning, urban organisation

TASKS

1. The historical sources: description and characterisation of the documents
2. Data collection and analysis
3. Analysis and characterisation of the crafts regulations and control agents and mechanisms
4. Analysis of the aspects object of regulations and control
5. Characterisation of craftsmen forms of organisation and of crafts economic structure
6. Integrated analysis of each town and development of the global comparisons between them

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

1. Participation in national and international scientific events.
2. Publication of articles and chapters in journals and books.
3. Participation of team members in PhD and Master seminars.
4. Master and Ph.D thesis.
5. Organization of conferences, free courses and seminars for the general public, in cooperation with civic societies.
6. Creation of a Website, a Blog and a Facebook page for dissemination of the project's activities.
7. Organization of a **final congress/conference** to present the project's results.
8. Publication of a **collective book** with the project's results.

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