FULBRIGHT PORTUGAL FORUM

MAY 15, 2020 - 3-5.30 PM
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

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SPEAKERS’ BIOS
Carlos Moura Teixeira

Carlos Teixeira is a Master in Public Policy Candidate at the Harvard Kennedy School. Graduate in Economics by the Nova School of Business and Economics, his professional experience includes roles in the Cabinet of the EU Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, OECD, and the Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During his time as a Fulbrighter, Carlos has been a Teaching Fellow and Research Assistant in both Harvard College and the Harvard Kennedy School, besides having been nominated as a John F. Kennedy Fellow and a Belfer International and Global Affairs Student Fellow.
Bárbara Matias is a Programme Officer at the Operations Division of NATO. She primarily works with education and training in Iraq as a NATO Global Partner country, in regular liaison with NATO Mission Iraq, the International Military Staff and permanent delegations to accomplish the strategic partnership plan. She is currently also part of the NATO COVID taskforce of the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Crisis Center in the context of the pandemic, coordinating requests for international assistance from Allies and Partner Nations.

Bárbara was a Fulbright graduate scholar at Columbia University in New York, USA (2016-17). There she completed her MA in Human Rights Studies and was invited to be an undergraduate lecturer. After her Master's, Bárbara moved to Kosovo, to work at the Group for Legal and Political Studies, a leading think-tank based in Prishtina. Her research focus included international and European integration issues, primarily the Kosovo-Serbia dialogue and the EU enlargement strategy. He has served as keynote speaker for the High Commissioner for Migration in Portugal and for the Portuguese Representation to the EU. Her international background also includes internships at the Political Affairs and Security Policy Division of NATO, the Operations Unit of EUROJUST, and summer internships at the Portuguese diplomatic missions in Austria and Sweden.
Neal Slavin

Neal Slavin is a world-respected photographer and film director. His work encompasses a professional career of over 40 years, during which he has photographed a myriad of subjects including such celebrities as Steven Spielberg, Harrison Ford, Barbra Streisand, and Phil Collins. He is most known for his group portraits, which have been a significant focus throughout his career. He recently created a group portrait for T Magazine of film celebrities that have their roots in NYC. His well-known photographic books include Portugal with an Afterword by Mary McCarthy (Lustrum Press/NY), When Two or More Are Gathered Together (Farrar, Straus & Giroux/NY) and Britons (Andre Deutsch/London & Aperture/NY).

His feature films include Focus, which he directed about the ravages of anti-semitism written by Arthur Miller, which stars William H. Macy and Laura Dern.

You can learn more about Neal's current projects, here: https://www.nealslavin.com/

Neal was a Fulbright US Research Student in Portugal in 1967/1968 and is one of the first Fulbright grantees in Photography.
Elaine Avila

Elaine researched and wrote a play inspired by the Capotes, mysterious capes worn by her ancestors for 400 years. Her plays incorporate music, politics and humor, and explore untold stories about women, workers and the Portuguese community, and have been performed in London, Lisbon, Paris, Australia, Panama, Costa Rica, New York, Los Angeles, throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Her ancestors are from Ribeiras on Pico, and she is the author of Fado: The Saddest Music in the World, which played to sold out houses in Vancouver and Victoria and won Best Musical and made the Sure Fire List, the top unproduced plays in Canada by women.

Academic postings include the University of New Mexico, Pomona College, Quest University Canada, Western Washington University, among others. She has taught in universities from Tasmania to China and has numerous publications and the upcoming publication of her Fado play with Talon Books.

Elaine was a Fulbright Scholar at Universidade dos Açores, 2018/2019.
Bidisha Biswas is Professor of Political Science at Western Washington University. She previously served as a policy advisor to the United States Department of State. In 2019, she was a Fulbright Scholar at Instituto de Ciências Sociais da Universidade de Lisboa. During her time in Portugal, she also gave talks at a number of other institutions, including Universidade de Coimbra and Instituto da Defesa Nacional.

Bidisha’s research areas are international security, terrorism and counter-terrorism, immigration, and refugee governance. In addition to writing two books, she has published her work in a number of academic journals, as well as prominent news outlets, including the Washington Post and Print India. Bidisha obtained her PhD in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2006. She may be contacted at Bidisha.biswas@wwu.edu.
Trent Trombley

My name is Trent Trombley and I am a graduate student in the department of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley. I am a bioarchaeologist, which means that I specialize in the analysis of human skeletal remains recovered from archaeological sites. My research examines how religious identity during the Portuguese Middle Ages impacted the social and biological fabric of everyday life, with a particular focus on the city of Santarém. I was honored to receive the 2019-2020 U.S. Fulbright Student Research fellowship, as it allowed me to foster collaborative ties with the Municipal Museum in Santarém, further my research goals, and develop personal and cultural connections that otherwise would have been impossible.
Elliott Hazen

Dr. Hazen’s research interests span oceanography and fisheries ecology to ecosystem modeling, with a focus on predator-prey dynamics and climate ready management approaches for marine ecosystems. Elliott’s publications address a range of topics from fine-scale foraging ecology of marine mammals to modeling the effects of climate change on top predator habitat and biodiversity. His research has been conducted around the world, from humpback foraging in the Gulf of Maine and the Western Antarctic Peninsula to blue and fin whale habitat and movement in the California Current, and has combined novel technologies including fisheries acoustics to measure prey, bio-logging tags, and oceanographic data with spatial statistics.

Elliott is currently a Research Ecologist with NOAA with an adjunct appointment in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Institute of Marine Sciences at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and an adjunct appointment at Stanford’s Hopkins Marine Station.

Elliott was the Fulbright Scholar in Ocean Issues/AIR Centre at the Universidade dos Açores, in 2028/2019, supporting sustainable biodiversity mapping initiatives.
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