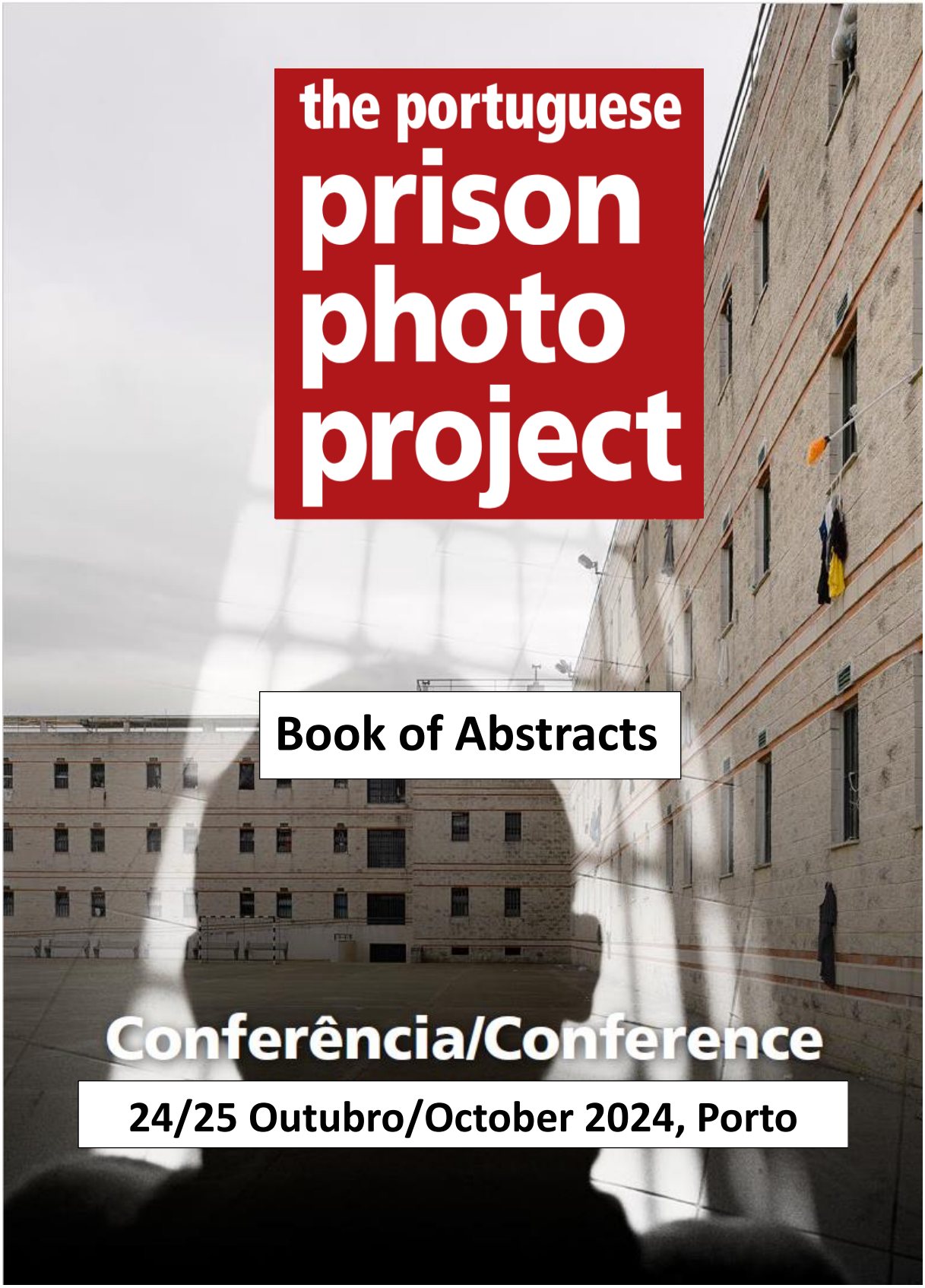
the portuguese prison photo project



the portuguese prison photo project

Book of Abstracts

Conferência/Conference

24/25 Outubro/October 2024, Porto

the portuguese prison photo project

El Pinheiro da Cruz. Fotógrafo: ©Peter Schulthess 2022

Prison systems and prison architecture: how are they related? A European perspective

Since its inception, *the portuguese prison photo project* has sought to shed light on prison buildings and environments. The photographs taken over the last years depict these places where, for long periods, people are required to share their lives in cramped surroundings, unfriendly cells, and environments. These photographs explore the lived architecture, question how prison architecture is conceived, and point toward the importance of researching the design of new prisons.

Based on this background, this international conference entitled "Prison systems and prison architecture: how are they related? A European perspective" aims to explore the relationship between prison architecture, its design and some central elements inherent to the functioning and experience of prison systems, such as adaptation processes, relationships, emotions, prison organization and management or detention regimes. Furthermore, rather than focusing on a specific national context, this conference was conceived to promote a comparative analysis and reflection on the experience of different countries regarding these elements.

Sistemas prisionais e arquitetura prisional: qual a relação? Uma perspectiva Europeia

Desde a sua criação, o projeto fotográfico das prisões portuguesas tem procurado lançar luz sobre os edifícios e ambientes prisionais. As fotografias tiradas nos últimos anos retratam estes lugares onde, durante longos períodos, as pessoas são obrigadas a partilhar as suas vidas em ambientes apertados, celas e ambientes hostis. Estas fotografias exploram a arquitetura vivida, questionam como a arquitetura prisional é concebida e apontam para a importância de pesquisar o projeto de novas prisões.

Com base neste contexto, esta conferência internacional intitulada "Sistemas prisionais e arquitetura prisional: como estão relacionados? Uma perspectiva europeia" pretende explorar a relação entre a arquitectura prisional, a sua concepção e alguns elementos centrais inerentes ao funcionamento e à experiência dos sistemas prisionais, como os processos de adaptação, as relações, as emoções, a organização e gestão prisional ou os regimes de detenção. Além disso, em vez de se centrar num contexto nacional específico, esta conferência foi concebida para promover uma análise comparativa e uma reflexão sobre a experiência de diferentes países relativamente a estes elementos.

EP Leiria. Fotógrafo : ©Luis Barbosa 2016

Prison systems and prison architecture: how are they related? A European perspective

Conferência Internacional

24 e 25 de outubro de 2024

Escola de Criminologia, Faculdade de Direito, Universidade do Porto, Rua dos Bragas 223

Programa

24 de outubro

09h30 - 10h00: Sessão de Abertura

Room: Salão Nobre

Paulo de Tarso Domingues (Diretor da Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto) (aguarda confirmação)

Fátima Vieira (Vice-Reitora para a Cultura, Museus e Edições da Universidade do Porto)

Pedro Sousa (Diretor da Escola de Criminologia da Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto)

Gilda Santos (Professora Auxiliar da Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto, Membro da Comissão Organizadora)

10h00 - 12h30: Sessão Plenária 1

Room: Salão Nobre

Moderação: Pedro Sousa (Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto)

Paulo Adriano (Divisão de Documentação e Arquivo Histórico da Direção-Geral de Reinserção e Serviços Prisionais)

Título: Penitenciárias, Cadeias e Estabelecimentos Prisionais: Materializações do parque prisional português

O atual parque penitenciário português integra quarenta e nove estabelecimentos prisionais, constituindo um importante património que foi sendo edificado, agregado e adaptado, ao longo de cerca de 150 anos, consoante o contexto político-social e penitenciário, em vigor em cada época. Se a segunda metade do XIX foi o período de ouro das grandes penitenciárias radiais, projetadas no seguimento da reforma prisional de 1867, o século XX trouxe consigo a moderna arquitetura penitenciária pavilhonar. Neste sentido, o ano de 1936, constitui um marco importante na história prisional portuguesa, graças à promulgação do Decreto-Lei n.º 26643, o qual reformou os serviços prisionais portugueses, definindo várias tipologias de estabelecimentos prisionais, com especificidades e características próprias, destinados à detenção, ao cumprimento de penas e à execução de medidas privativas da liberdade. Esta reforma, assente em princípios arquitetónicos penitenciários de influência internacional, concretizou a materialização de várias dezenas de novos estabelecimentos prisionais, de maior ou menor complexidade e dimensão, edificados ao longo das décadas de 40 a 60, dotando o país de uma ampla infraestrutura prisional. As linhas da grande reforma de 1936, seriam posteriormente repensadas e redefinidas em 1969, com a promulgação do Decreto-lei n.º 49040, o qual reorganiza o parque prisional no âmbito das cadeias comarcãs e dos julgados municipais. Assim, entre 1971 e 1977, através de diversas portarias, foram extintas cerca de cento e noventa e três destas cadeias, passando, no entanto, algumas a funcionar com a denominação de Estabelecimentos Prisionais Regionais e a dispor de pessoal necessário para assegurar a direção, educação, vigilância, assistência médica, religiosa e social dos reclusos, à semelhança do que já acontecia nos grandes estabelecimentos prisionais. A reestruturação implementada a partir de 1969, foi consolidada pelo Decreto-Lei n.º 265/79, que definiu uma organização prisional assente em Estabelecimentos Prisionais Centrais, Especiais e Regionais, criando novas designações, que refletiam uma nova mudança de paradigma penitenciário. Neste sentido, as décadas seguintes constituíram um novo desafio no que diz respeito a infraestruturas penitenciárias, levando à procura de novas soluções, para dar respostas aos emergentes problemas prisionais.

Jorge Mealha (Faculdade de Arquitetura da Universidade de Lisboa)

Título: Espaços de privação da liberdade. Novos paradigmas urbanos, morfológicos e espaciais

Daniel Fink (École des Sciences Criminelles da Université de Lausanne e Sociedade Gefo.ch - Gefängnisforschung.Schweiz)

Título: The Swiss prison landscape and architecture

The conference will shed light on some concepts useful for the study of prison landscapes and architecture and apply them for the historical study of the Swiss prison system. Due to the fact that Switzerland is a federal state, the conditions for the historical study of the prison system and of prison architecture are especially complex. As the cantons are autonomous states in the Swiss Confederation, the local conditions and local architectural competitions have been important in the evolution of the prison establishments and in the architectural solutions found in building them. In response to the critic of its pre-trial detention facilities by the European Committee for the Prevention of torture, the Federal State has tried to influence since the 1990s the construction of prisons by offering the cantons funding, but only if they followed a large number of construction standards. To this end, they issued construction principles for different types of establishments: prisons for pre-trial detention and short-term sanctions, open and closed facilities, prisons for female detainees, for therapeutic institutions, for persons in transition or for surveilled housing. As the Swiss criminal code demands that living conditions inside and outside of places of deprivation of liberty shall be as equal as possible, detainees are obliged to work once sentenced and shall enjoy possibilities for cultural, social, educational and sports activities. Together with the principle of individual confinement, with a minimum space of $10m^2$ for a single cell, with $2m^2$ for the sanitary part, the requirements heavily impact the construction of prisons, but also the regime of detention.
The conference will show how the system has been restructured in the last 30 years, based on such principles.

Jean-Sébastien Blanc (University of Geneva)

Título: Prison Landscapes: Exploring the Nexus of Architecture, Ideology, and Territory with Google Earth

This contribution proposes to reflect on prison architecture, detention regimes and territories through a critical reappropriation of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). By leveraging Google Earth's spatio-temporal functionalities, I intend to show how mainstream software programmes can be used as tools to map prison expansion (or reduction) and the evolution of its design and architecture in the contemporary era. I will propose a few case studies related to prison complexes in Switzerland and show how this method can be applied to other contexts to challenges existing narratives about prisons. In the Swiss context, resorting to GIS as a way of "counter-mapping" territories, I will highlight how the punitive turn takes idiosyncratic forms, by creating carceral circuits of exclusion, which are embedded in the territory and materialized in landscape and architecture. I propose to reflect on the trend towards the creation of "carceral hubs" concentrating different prison regimes into a single site, thereby enabling optimization and rationalization of the prison system at the local level. This contribution draws on research and a seminar on carceral geography conducted at the University of Geneva with fellow researcher Julie de Dardel in 2022 and 2023, culminating in the publication of an article in the Canadian-based review Criminologie in 2023 (de Dardel, Blanc, 2023).

COFFEE-BREAK Room: 2.03

14h00: Inauguração da Exposição (prisão experimental)

Room: 0.17

Cândido da Agra (Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto)

15h00 – 16h15: Sessão Paralela 1 (Call for papers)

Room: 1.26

Ana R. Ribeiro (University of Porto) & **Rita Faria** (CIJ-Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice, School of Criminology - Faculty of Law, University of Porto)

Título: The Influence of Prison Architecture and Prison Design on Inmates' Behavior

Throughout times and geographies, prison architecture and prison design have been diverse, adapting to the goals attributed to prison sentences which, as believed, had an impact on inmates' behaviors and experiences. Prison architecture and design may affect future crime commissions as well as the number of infractions committed by inmates during their sentence, originating broader social and economic harms and costs. However, evidence on the effect that prison architecture and prison design have on the inmates' success in adapting to prison is still scarce (e.g. Beijersbergen, Dirkzwager, Van der Laan and Nieuwbeerta, 2016; Moran, Jewkes and Turner, 2016; Nadel and Mears, 2018). The current investigation explored the relationship between prison architecture and prison design and inmates' behavior, more specifically, how prison architecture and prison design elements, such as cells, sound, size and location, influence the inmates' adaptation to prison. For that purpose, a qualitative study with interviews to 11 inmates from five Portuguese prisons was conducted. The prisons where respondents were found were selected using a convenience sampling process considering specific architectural/design characteristics of cells, facility age, size and location. Using content analysis, results revealed detailed and in-depth experiences and perceptions of inmates about prison architecture and design, as well as their reasoning about its influence on their behavior. This presentation will evidence the specific prison architecture and prison design characteristics that inmates classified as positive or negative, describing their respective effects on their behavior, relationships and emotions, thus contributing to the development of the field by providing empirical results.

Francesca Giofrè (Sapienza University of Rome, Faculty of Architecture, Department Architecture and Design)

Título: 'Architecture' for young offender in Italy

In Italy, the phenomenon of juvenile delinquency is widespread and is treated in such a way that imprisonment is considered the last resort. Therefore, those placed in different types of institutions such as first reception centres (CPA), juvenile detention centres (IPM) and ministerial and private communities (CM) represent only 10% of the total (12/2023), a number that is increasing over time. This paper presents the types of juvenile detention centres in Italy and their spatial configuration features; it reports the results of a study conducted at the Casal del Marmo detention centre in Rome, the largest facility in central Italy. The study was carried out in collaboration with staff and inmates, with the aim of understanding the spatial needs of the young prisoners and their perception of the premises. The methodology applied consist by interviews, survey and direct observation. In this framework, a small project to redesign an open area is presented, which was carried out in collaboration with the inmates, collecting their needs with sketches and the realization of a machete. The project was approved by the prison management. The discrepancies between the Italian laws and the real situation of the 'architecture' of the youth detention centre will also be discussed.

Filippo Marconi (DICAM, University of Trento) & **Claudia Battaino** (DICAM, University of Trento)

Título: Prison and Architecture: An Overview of Post-War Italy

The study explores the intrinsic link between architectural space and prisons, particularly emphasizing the historical implications underlying the design of prison structures. It highlights the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to design, highlighting architecture's indispensable role in the context of detention. At the end of the Second World War, Italy was confronted with the complex issue of ensuring security on the one hand and respect for fundamental human rights on the other. During this time, many prisons were either damaged or inadequate and did not comply with the articles of the newly created Italian Constitution. Despite numerous prison uprisings in the post-war period, reconstruction predominantly followed traditional typological schemes with few significant innovations. Among the 65 new prisons built between 1945 and 1975, the year of the Italian prison reform, the designs of architects Mario Ridolfi and Sergio Lenci stand out, characterized by the decomposition of volumes and the relations of form and figure with the context. This period was fundamental for architectural research on prisons, proposing innovative typological schemes, less rigid forms, and greater attention to the livability of spaces. In the same years, in 1966-1967, the prison theme was at the center of academic debate. In Milan, Ernesto Nathan Rogers and Guido Canella, questioning the existing legislative framework, devoted much attention to the prison, involving academics in the idea that the prison should necessarily be integrated into the city and designed for different types of detention.

Sílvia Bernardo (University of Beira Interior; IPS_Innovative Prison Systems), **Amélia Augusto** (University of Beira Interior) & **Pedro das Neves** (IPS_Innovative Prison Systems)

Título: "No Prison for 'Old' (Wo)Men": Exploring Gaps in Prison Architecture and Environment Concerning the Needs of Older Individuals

As the demographic of older individuals in custody increases, the inadequacies of current prison architectures and environments become more apparent. This study aims to conduct an exploratory literature review to identify gaps between existing prison conditions and the specific needs of older individuals in the European context. The objectives are to: a) Identify and analyse deficiencies in prison architecture and environment for older individuals; b) Explore the consequences of these gaps on the health and well-being of older persons in custody; and c) Suggest potential improvements based on critical analysis and findings. This review encompasses scholarly papers, books, government reports, and documents from multilateral organisations (e.g., UN and WHO) relevant to European jurisdictions. It examines the specific needs of older individuals in custodial settings, including institutional architecture, environmental factors affecting daily life, and the impact of custodial conditions on health and well-being. Key findings reveal that current custodial designs often lack accessibility features for individuals with mobility issues and modifications for sensory impairments. Environmental shortcomings, such as poor lighting, inadequate temperature control, and high noise levels, negatively affect older individuals' health and comfort. These issues underscore the need for age-appropriate custodial environments and policy changes to support the aging prison population. The review highlights significant gaps in existing custodial architecture and environment, emphasizing the need for improvements to enhance the health, quality of life, and successful re-entry prospects of older individuals in custody. Addressing these deficiencies is crucial for adapting custodial institutions to the needs of this growing minority population.

15h00 – 16h15: Sessão Paralela 2 (Call for papers)

Room: 1.27

Gabriela Gomes Costa (Faculty of Law, University of Porto)

Título: Democratic rule of law, social reintegration, and new technologies: The possible transformations in the execution of custodial sentences

This paper provides a critical analysis of the changes brought about by new technologies in the social reintegration of inmates within the framework of a democratic Rule of Law. It aims to situate social reintegration within the scope of Penal Law, aligning it with relative and eclectic theories regarding the purposes of punishment and advocating for a humanistic purpose of punishment in a democratic Rule of Law. Additionally, it explores the prospects for social reintegration with the advent of new technologies within the prison system. A bibliographic and documentary study on the subject was conducted, highlighting the experience of the smart prison Hämeenlinna in Finland and offering a contribution to the construction of this new prison concept. Furthermore, it examines the use of virtual reality tools for prisoner rehabilitation in Catalan prisons. The conclusion emphasizes the potential positivity of new technologies in combating the desocialization brought about by incarceration, and highlights the ongoing transformation in the execution of sentences, necessitating a review of surveillance and regulation strategies to ensure the protection of the rights of individuals deprived of liberty and the effectiveness of the social reintegration process.

Rafaela Granja (Communication and Society Research Centre (CECS), University of Minho)

Título: The (In)visibility Paradox: The case of electronic monitoring in Portugal

The literature on the carceral sphere has predominantly focused on empirical and theoretical analyses of prison settings, including their architectural regimes, organizational dynamics, and the lived experiences of those directly and indirectly affected by imprisonment. This focus tends to overshadow the expanding scope of alternative detention regimes, such as electronic monitoring. In this paper, I aim to counter this prison-centered intellectual tradition by critically exploring the specificities of electronic monitoring, engaging deeply with its realities and nuances on the ground. Drawing from fieldwork conducted in Portugal—a country that has recently tripled the number of people under electronic monitoring, placing individuals in 24/7 home detention without the possibility of leaving, and often prohibiting them from working—I analyze the paradox of visibility inherent in electronic monitoring. On one hand, electronic monitoring operates under a deep form of invisibility, not only in political, media, and academic discourses but also because individuals under monitoring remain "unseen," placed "away" from society in home settings, in stark contrast to the hyper-visible prison complexes. On the other hand, this invisibility contrasts with their lived experiences, where they feel hyper-visible, constantly monitored, and controlled. This paradox of (in)visibility raises critical questions about the nature and impacts of electronic monitoring, highlighting its complexities and the need for a nuanced understanding of its role in the contemporary punishment-justice nexus.

Aline Costa Minervino (Brazilian National DNA Database, University of Porto)

Título: Brazil's Convict Genetic Profile Identification Project: Insights After 5 Years

This comprehensive study analyzed the implementation and impacts of the Convict Genetic Profile Identification Project in Brazil. By examining semiannual reports from the Integrated Network of DNA Databases (RIBPG) alongside a literature review covering the period from January 2018 to February 2024, the study evaluated the project's relevance. The project's primary aim was to enhance DNA databases, thereby fortifying crime prevention and resolution efforts. Notably, the results revealed a substantial increase in genetic profiles of convicted offenders integrated into the Brazilian National DNA Database (from 2,008 in 2017 to 54,657 in 2019) - a development that aligns with legislative goals. Despite legal and ethical debates, the project demonstrated a positive impact on criminal investigations, with a notable rise in database matches (from 376 in 2017 to 1,418 in 2019). Scientific literature had highlighted the project's effectiveness in resolving crimes. The project has matured into a well-established process, characterized by continuous insertions and advancements, emphasizing a comprehensive operational framework. Beyond quantitative milestones, it has made qualitative contributions to justice. This collaborative model serves as an example for impactful public policies under Brazil's Ministry of Justice and Public Security.

Tarla Costa Carli (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG) – Brasil)

Título: Brasil: da senzala à prisão

O Brasil conta com 1.388 presídios, uma população prisional 644.316, e capacidade para 488.035 presos, segundo o SISDEPEN - 2/2023. Esse cenário apresenta-se em paredes altas, torres com policiais penais armados demarcando os limites físicos e territoriais que separam os presos do restante da população. Internamente, um contingente de pessoas que superlotam o seu claustrofóbico espaço. As celas em sua maioria, estão em péssimas condições de conservação. Os presos convivem em sujeira, mofo, insetos, infiltrações, água fria, e apenas uma vez ao dia, camas de concreto e mau cheiro insuportável. Mesmo diante de tal situação, não há interesse estatal em investimentos nas prisões, aparentemente, o Estado se orienta pelo princípio da less eligibility, segundo o qual as condições da prisão devem ser sempre piores possíveis para aqueles que erraram. Como resultado, a manutenção das prisões no estágio sucateado que se encontram retro e autoalimenta o sistema degradatório de pessoas. O único investimento que é feito pelo Estado brasileiro é para fins de construção de novos estabelecimentos com intuito de encarcerar cada vez mais e mais. Não uma ação em melhorias aos presos e tampouco em medidas alternativas à prisão, até porque políticas públicas destinadas a diminuir a dor e sofrimento dos presos não são bem vistas pela população. Dessa forma, faz-se necessário divulgação das condições carcerárias brasileira, bem como inclusão da sociedade, para que haja mudanças imediata desse contexto fático e esdrúxulo que viola fortemente os direitos humanos das pessoas privadas de liberdade no país.

Andreia Pimentel (Communication and Society Research Centre (CECS), University of Minho)

Título: Are prisons prepared for the aging population?

In recent years, it has been observed that the phenomenon of ageing populations has extended to the prison system. Portugal has one of the oldest prison populations in Europe. The number of people aged 60 and over in prison has increased over the years and in December 2023 there were 1,041 people in this age group. In addition to the high incarceration rate, the average length of prison sentences in Portugal is three times longer than the European average. The central aim of this paper is to understand the physical, material and environmental vulnerabilities of prison systems, in particular the impact of those on the older prisoner population.

This paper is based upon 45 semi-structured interviews: 11 conducted outside the prison context (six members of associations providing support during and after imprisonment, three spiritual and religious assistants and two individuals who were imprisoned) and 34 inside prison (14 prisoners aged 65 or over and 20 prison officers). Data shows that, in Portugal, prison facilities are neither adequate nor prepared to accommodate and meet the needs of the elderly prison population. The physical structure, environmental, sanitary and material conditions, as well as health and nutrition, pose severe challenges to this population. This research, therefore, encourages reflection on the ageing process and raises awareness of this issue, which, although topical, is often forgotten.

16h30 – 18h00: Sessão Paralela 3 (Call for papers)

Room: 1.26

Sami Abdel-Salam (West Chester University of Pennsylvania), **Ashley Kilmer** (Towson University) & **Mary Brewster** (West Chester University of Pennsylvania)

Título: Incarcerated Perspectives: Evaluating the Therapeutic and Punitive Dimensions of Halden Prison in Norway

Halden prison in Norway was designed to foster a humane environment aimed at enhancing mental wellbeing and rehabilitation. However, there remains limited understanding of how those incarcerated perceive these architectural choices and their impact on their daily lives. This study addresses this gap by exploring the perspectives of incarcerated men at Halden through surveys and semi-structured interviews. The focus is on their views regarding the prison's design, its influence on their overall impressions, perceived therapeutic benefits, and punitive experiences. The findings reveal that, while those incarcerated acknowledge the positive aspects of Halden's design, they do not uniformly perceive it as providing therapeutic or motivational benefits. Importantly, certain hardships associated with imprisonment persist within this progressive environment. By highlighting the voices of those directly affected, this study contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of how architectural choices can shape the carceral experience, with implications for the broader discourse on humane prison design and penal reform in Europe.

Cathrine Grimsgaard (VID Spezialiced University, Oslo, Norway)

Título: When Body and Space do not fit

This presentation will share perspectives from a scientific article. The aim is to delve into the question of what it truly means 1) to create inhabitable spaces for children who have committed serious crimes and are to serve long sentences in carceral institutions, and 2) to make good transitions to adult carceral institutions for the children when they reach the age of majority. The main argument will be that this is not only a matter of practical organization and facilitation, but that it also has an existential dimension. Ultimately, it concerns how we can preserve these children's humanity. In the argumentation, I draw upon perspectives from Martin Heidegger's existential phenomenology and Sara Ahmed's queer phenomenology. Both underscores the inseparable relation between human and the place, challenging the notion of place as merely a physical location or a material backdrop for social interactions. Heidegger describes how places fundamentally shape human existence, forming the very essence of our being in the world. Ahmed argues that the places we inhabit, are not neutral containers but shaped by social practices and power structures that make some individuals feel at home there while excluding others. Her queer phenomenology allows us to see how certain bodies and identities fit into and have easy access to specific spaces, while other bodies do not fit in and are excluded. Ultimately, the presentation argues for a need to transform carceral spaces into queer spaces, meaning spaces that can accommodate diversity and otherness.

Dayanne Jaques do Mont Serrat Andrade (Faculty of Law, University of Porto) & **Rita Faria** (CIJ-Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice, Faculty of Law, University of Porto)

Título: Into the "Capadócias": LGBT Inmates' Experiences in specific housing in a Brazilian male prison

Prisons worldwide typically segregate inmates based on their assigned sex at birth. As a result, many transgender individuals find themselves housed in facilities that do not align with their gender identity, particularly exposing transgender women in male prisons to verbal, physical, and sexual vulnerabilities. However, some countries implement policies allowing individuals to self-determine their gender for placement, whereas others provide specific spaces for the LGBT community. In this regard, our main aim is to understand the experiences of LGBT inmates living in specific housing in a Brazilian male prison. Data were collected by semi-structured interviews with a purposive sample of 10 inmates from the Provisional Detention Center II in the state of São Paulo. Among the participants, 6 individuals identified as transfeminine, 3 as male homosexuals, and 1 with a fluid identity. Analysis revealed that the designated cells for LGBT inmates, known as "capadócias", accommodate travestis, transgender women, gay men, and their partners, referred to as "envolvidos". The findings also delve into inmates' perceptions of these cells, the hierarchical dynamics, task organization within the cells, and the perceived level of (in)security within these environments. Despite the positive evaluations of these specific cells, the study highlighted that their provision does not inherently guarantee harmonious coexistence among LGBT prisoners solely based on their shared gender identity or sexual orientation. Moreover, it underscores the absence of assurance that correctional officers are adequately trained to prevent discrimination and violence targeting this community.

Elisabeth Fransson (VID Specialized University, Oslo, Norway)

Título: Prison Architecture and Detention Regimes for Children and Youths in Norway

Prison architecture, detention systems and children and young people's becoming's in prisons is a new field of research in Norway (Fransson et. al, 2018), not only academically relevant for disciplines like criminology, sociology and architecture, but also for the studying of child welfare institutions within professions like social work, child welfare and child welfare work. The paper presents synergies of two recent studies that both focus prison architecture and the becoming of children and youths in Norwegian prisons. One is an ethnographic prison study of the two Norwegian youth units (Fransson, 2018; 2023). The other is a study of the new Model 2015 prisons in Norway (Johnsen et al., 2024). Together the two studies give crucial insights of children and youths aged 15 to 25 years within the Correctional Services in Norway. The analysis is inspired by the French philosopher Gilles Deleuze (1925-1995) and his concepts «Body without Organs» and «the process of becoming». A crucial point in the paper is to think comparatively regarding how imprisoned children and youths experience being prisoners in various types of prison designs. By thinking comparatively regarding youth units and the new model 2015 prisons we gain new knowledge about how various prison designs regulates bodies, relationships and movements and how they affect children and young people's bodies. The paper presents new research knowledge of the importance of studying how prison architecture, correctional care and becoming is interwoven, and move the gaze away from who the young prisoner is, towards how prison architecture and detention systems affects relationships and the young body.

Viviane Borges (Universidade do Estado de Santa Catarina)

Título: Between Archives and Walls: Narratives of Incarceration in the Paintings from the Lisbon Prison Archive

The research experience presented here is part of a broader investigation into the authorial productions of common law prisoners and abandoned minors and/or those in conflict with the law in the 20th century, such as texts and works of art. Taking as my starting point a collection of twenty paintings found in the Historical Archive of the Directorate-General for Reintegration and Prison Services in Lisbon, I will analyse the specific characteristics of collections that give access to marginalized histories marked by the experience of imprisonment. How do individuals deprived of their liberty narrate their experiences in prison? I seek to reflect on the paths of research and the sources that emerged throughout the process, as well as to explore the possibilities of archives as a means of accessing information about lives shaped by institutional experience.

16h30 – 18h00: Sessão Paralela 4 (Call for papers)

Room: 1.27

Vilma Silvestre (Research Centre on Child Studies, University of Minho), **Natália Fernandes** (Research Centre on Child Studies, University of Minho) & **Ana Isabel Sani** (University Fernando Pessoa | Research Centre on Child Studies, University of Minho)

Título: Prison Environment for Children Living with Incarcerated Mothers in Portugal - Realities and Challenges Considering Children's Rights

Recognizing the prison as a place where children also live, with mothers or fathers deprived of liberty, is imperative to make them more visible in academic, legal-political and social contexts. The European Prison Rules consider the possibility of children living with one of their parents in a prison setting, provided that their best interests are protected and they are not treated as prisoners. In the Portuguese prison system, they can live with their incarcerated mothers until they reach the age of 3 or, exceptionally, 5 years old. Thus, it's important to understand the influence of the prison environment on how these children experience childhood. In response to this issue, a qualitative research is underway, utilizing a case study approach focusing on children living with their mothers in prisons. This communication aims to present a theoretical framework on the topic and the main findings highlighted by the literature. Within this total institution, children constitute a distinct population, forming strong relationships with inmates and guards, who become their primary role models. Their behaviors, routines, play and language reflect the prevailing prison dynamics and culture. While these prisons have special conditions to accommodate children, such as daycare centers, adapted cells and windows at the children's eye level, these children are invariably subjected to obligations that seem to deprive them of the full exercise of their rights, living in a place characterized by symbolic violence. Therefore, it's crucial to consider the voices of these children to understand the real meanings of their experiences.

Beatriz Pereira (School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto), **Margarida Santos** (School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto and Lusíada University of Porto) & **Josefina Castro** (Lusíada University of Porto)

Título: Parenting Challenges in Prison: Insights from Incarcerated Fathers

Background & Aim: Recent research has shifted attention from equating "parenting" exclusively with mothers to recognizing the role of fathers, particularly young fathers [1]. Incarceration limits many traditional parenting practices, such as caring, disciplining, and educating, thus challenging incarcerated parents' ability to maintain an active role in their children's lives [2,3]. This study analyses how serving a custodial sentence affects the prisoners' parenting, identifying the main challenges and concerns they face to raise awareness about the importance of maintaining bonds in a prison context [4]. Methods: A qualitative approach was employed, utilizing semi-structured interviews with incarcerated parents from two prisons in northern Portugal. The sample consisted of 20 male prisoners, each with at least one child, aged between 28 and 60 years. Data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify common themes and variations in their experiences. The interviews explored several key dimensions, including the relationship with their children before and during imprisonment, the relationship with the children's guardians, and their self-perception as fathers, among other topics. Results: The analysis is ongoing, but preliminary findings suggest significant insights into inmates' family dynamics. The study is expected to reveal potential interventions to support parenting.

Isabel Silva (Universidade Fernando Pessoa), **Gloria Jólluskin** (Universidade Fernando Pessoa), **Tomás Nico Pereira** (Universidade Fernando Pessoa) & **Ana Sofia Boticas** (Universidade Fernando Pessoa)

Título: Women's perception of prison treatment conditions

Portuguese researchers have not focused their work on the prison system in particular. There is a lack of studies on the prison environment in Portugal and particularly on inmates' quality of prison life and prison treatment conditions. In this context, women have been particularly overlooked. The aim of this study was to analyse women's perceptions of prison treatment conditions. A total of 73 women, 72.6% of whom have only attended the minimum compulsory school or have a lower educational qualification, serving between 6 and 156 months in prison (M=44.68; SD=36.93) and sentenced to between 6 and 300 months, 20.8% of whom are repeat offenders were assessed. Participants answered to a sociodemographic questionnaire and to a questionnaire of prison treatment conditions perception. Only 11% of the participants consider that prison offers them conditions that they do not have on the outside. Less than half of the women think that prison staff show concern and understanding towards them (42.5%); that prison staff make efforts to prevent self-harm and suicide (29%); that aggression between inmates is not tolerated (37%); that they have good living conditions in prison (28.8%); that their needs are being met (37%); that they think they are treated well in prison (46.6%); that they can do the leisure activities they enjoy (41.1%) and that their rights are respected (39.7%). This could jeopardise the real suitability of women's prisons in Portugal, which must be adapted to meet the specific needs of female inmates.

Tomás Nico Pereira (Universidade Fernando Pessoa), **Gloria Jólluskin** (Universidade Fernando Pessoa) & **Isabel Silva** (Universidade Fernando Pessoa)

Título: Health and Well-Being in Prison Context

This study aims to investigate the effects of solitary confinement on the individual's physical and mental health and quality of life. Twenty-three hours confined in hollow singular cells, limited access to fresh air and natural light, and a close control is the common idea of solitary confinement. Data on the negative effects of prisons on inmates' social life, rehabilitative capacities, well-being and health, combined with the lack of transparent information on solitary confinement and supermax prisons has led to the development of the current study. The literature seems to clearly point towards close-to-none mental and physical healthcare as well as means of assuring a higher standard of quality of life. The small cells contribute to the development and acceleration of somatic symptoms, cardiovascular diseases and psychomotor retardation and hyperactivity. Limited access to health services also diminishes the possibility of adequate treatment, enabling the persistence of the mentioned problematics. Mental symptoms have been increasing among prison population over the years and are greater than the physical ones, such as depression, anxiety, psychological distress, post-traumatic stress disorder, and a multiplicity of personality traits and clinical syndromes. Self-harm and suicide attempt rates are equally alarming and at ridiculous rates. Some quality-of-life aspects include: lower levels of education, an average of 12 months in solitary confinement and higher rates of violence. A higher probability for placement in solitary confinement for those with a previous mental disorder diagnosis. Any time spent in solitary confinement seems to increase the odds for physical or mental conditions.

Gloria Jólluskin (Universidade Fernando Pessoa), **Isabel Silva** (Universidade Fernando Pessoa), **Tomás Nico Pereira** (Universidade Fernando Pessoa) & **Ana Sofia Boticas** (Universidade Fernando Pessoa)

Título: Control and security perception among Portuguese male inmates

When studying prison conditions, researchers often choose to look at them from the inmates' perspective. Several studies offer examples of how inmate's negative perceptions of prison conditions can lead to disorderly situations within the prison walls. The aim of this study was to analyse control and security perception of male inmates. It was studied a total of 182 inmates, aged between 21 and 72 years (M=42.40; SD=11.81), 63.5% of whom have only attended the minimum compulsory school or have a lower educational qualification, serving between .30 and 289 months in prison (M=66.47; SD=68.69), 45.8% of whom are repeat offenders. Participants answered to a sociodemographic questionnaire and to a questionnaire of prison control and security perception. Results reveal that 62.1% of prisoners think they spend too much time locked in their cells; 72% consider being in prison to be like a punishment; 57.4% think that their experience in prison is painful; 51.8% feel permanently confined; and 51.5% feel constantly observed and evaluated. Only 32.5% of inmates consider that prison rules are fair and only 36.5% consider that prison limitations make sense. Although Article 2 of the Code of Enforcement Prison Sentences and Imprisonment Measures states that the aim of prison treatment is reintegration, we found that inmates' perceptions are closer to the idea that the rules are applied with control and security as a priority over the process of preparing for freedom and preventing recidivism.

25 de outubro

10h00 - 12h00: Sessão Plenária 2

Room: Salão Nobre

Moderação: Fátima Rodrigues (Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto)

Marcelo Aebi (École des Sciences Criminelles da Université de Lausanne, Suíça)

Título: Challenges in Comparative Research on Prisons: Methodological Issues and Data Comparability

This presentation will explore the complexities of comparative research in the context of prison systems across Europe, with a focus on the methodological issues that impact data comparability. Drawing on the Council of Europe Annual Penal Statistics (SPACE), we will examine the various factors that complicate cross-national comparisons of prison data, including differences in data collection methods, definitions of inmate categories, and ways of estimating prison capacity.

Sílvia Gomes (Departamento de Sociologia da University of Warwick, Reino Unido)

Título: Experiências de Reentrada em Portugal: Das Experiências Vividas na Prisão às Reimaginações Abolicionistas

This presentation focuses on the re-entry experiences in Portugal. First, it examines the lived prison experiences of incarcerated people who are about to be released from prisons, shedding light on practices and strategies adopted in prisons regarding reentry, as well as structural, institutional and personal barriers experienced that influence the reentry outcome. In doing so, the role of incarceration is questioned, as it is central in further criminalising and obstructing an individual's reentry process. Then, reflecting on this empirical data, the presentation moves to an approach to (social) justice in line with abolitionist reimaginations. This entails both providing recommendations to tackle the immediate needs of incarcerated individuals (e.g., alternative sentences in the community, significant investment in dignifying living conditions in prisons, and investments in programs in the communities) and advocating for the indispensable abolition of prisons. To find adequate and suitable ways of achieving justice, we must keep claiming for decarceration and prison abolition, widening its presence across fields of studies, and finding ways of reimagining justice beyond prison walls.

Andrea Seelich (Prison Architect)

Título: Prison Architecture as a Tool

How does prison architecture work? Can one compare the buildings currently in operation that are used for correctional purposes? What is a good prison? Does good prison architecture ensure mutual humane treatment? Can we plan a prison today that will still be in operation 100 years from now and be considered humane? Using examples, it will be clarified how great the differences in Europe at the moment are and what that means, why copying architecture is no guarantee of a successful project and finally, a design of a methodology that promises the best possible result will be introduced.

12h00: Sessão de Encerramento da Conferência

Room: Salão Nobre

Paulo Carvalho (Diretor do Estabelecimento Prisional instalado junto da Polícia Judiciária do Porto - Direção Geral de Reinserção e Serviços Prisionais)

Rita Faria (Vice-diretora do CIJ – Centro de Investigação Interdisciplinar em Justiça da Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto)

Cândido da Agra (Professor Catedrático Emérito da Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto)

12h45: Apresentação do livro do *The Portuguese Prison Photo Project*

Room: Salão Nobre

Fátima Vieira (Vice-Reitora para a Cultura, Museus e Edições da Universidade do Porto)

Luis Barbosa e Peter Schulthess (Fotógrafos do projeto)

Paulo Carvalho (Diretor do Estabelecimento Prisional instalado junto da Polícia Judiciária do Porto - Direção Geral de Reinserção e Serviços Prisionais)

Denis Knobel (Embaixador da Embaixa da Suíça em Portugal)

Moderação: **Daniel Fink** (École des Sciences Criminelles da Université de Lausanne e Sociedade Gefo.ch - Gefängnisforschung.Schweiz)**, Gilda Santos** (Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto) **& Pedro Sousa** (Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto)

13h15: Receção oferecida pela Embaixada da Suíça

Room: 2.03

Publicação 2024

Estamos a conceber uma obra em três volumes sobre o the portuguese prison photo project. Dois volumes contêm centenas de fotografias de Luis Barbosa e Peter Schulthess. O terceiro volume, da autoria de Daniel Fink, Gilda Santos e Cândido da Agra, descreve o projeto, as exposições e as prisões, em português e inglês, e inclui legendas relativas aos volumes de fotografia.

Publicação prevista para outubro de 2024. O preço e a editora serão anunciados posteriormente.

Publication 2024

A publication of the portuguese prison photo project in three volumes is in preparation. Two volumes present hundreds of photographs from Luis Barbosa and Peter Schulthess. A third volume, written by Daniel Fink, Gilda Santos and Cândido da Agra describes the project, the exhibitions, the prisons and contains the legends of the photographs.

Release date planned for October 2024. Price and publisher will be communicated later.

The organizing team of the Conference in Porto:

- Prof. Doutor Cândido da Agra
- Prof.ª Doutora Gilda Santos
- Prof. Doutor Pedro Sousa
- Prof.ª Doutora Mélanie M. Tiago
- Doutor Daniel Fink

Publicações anteriores

Previous publications

Atas de conferências publicadas em livros em 2019 e 2022

Atas da conferência internacional de 2017 no Porto. Editado por M.J. Moutinho Santos (editor principal). A encomendar ao CITCEM-UP.

Proceedings of the international conference of 2017 in Porto. Published by M.J. Moutinho Santos as main editor. To be ordered from CITCEM-UP.

Conference proceedings published as books in 2019 and 2022

Procedimentos da conferência internacional de 2019 em Lisboa com textos adicionais escritos sobre a pandemia de COVID. Publicado em 2022 por D. Fink como editor. A encomendar à U.PortoPress.

Proceedings of the international conference of 2019 in Lisbon with additional texts written about the COVID-pandemic. Published in 2022 by D. Fink as editor. To be ordered from U.PortoPress.