

Centre for Comparative Studies

Statutes

1. Defining the Research Unit

The Centre for Comparative Studies (CEC) is a public research unit that operates under the juridical regime for Research Units (Regime Jurídico das Unidades de Investigação – DL no. 125/99), as an autonomous entity hosted by the School of Arts and Humanities of the University of Lisbon. CEC produces work in the fields of Comparative Studies, Literary and Cultural Studies, and Artistic Studies.

2. Goals

CEC aims to:

- a) guide and develop its activities surrounding three main areas, namely: interculturality, European cultural and literary studies, and intersemiotics, taking into account the specificities of the Portuguese cultural and geopolitical contexts;
- b) encourage the widening of comparatist understandings of literary phenomena, through studies and communication and debating initiatives, concerning the ongoing research;
- c) develop multi and interdisciplinary connections necessary for furthering the output of scientific work, both at a national and international levels;
- d) promote national and international debate and awareness of the knowledge developed through its activities
- e) organize courses, namely in close proximity with schools;
- f) support and develop BA, Master and PhD level programmes;
- g) stimulate advanced and continuous training for both national and international young researchers.

3. Organization

CEC is comprised of the following entities:

- a) a Scientific Board, consisting in graduate PhD members integrated within research teams and registered with the FCT;
- b) a Director;
- c) a Direction Board, composed by the Director, a Vice-Director appointed by the Director, and the Coordinators of groups and autonomously funded research projects;
- d) the Coordinators of the research groups, elected by the members of each group immediately following each external evaluation;
- e) an External Advisory Board composed by four external researchers of recognized expertise in the field.

4. Election and mandate of the Director

- a) The Director is elected with simple majority by the Scientific Committee, from a list of self-nominated candidates that are permanent members of CEC;
- b) The voting is uninominal and non-delegable;
- c) The Director's mandate lasts for two years and may be renewed twice.

5. Competences

- a) The Scientific Board:
 - elects the Director of the Centre;
 - approves the statutes of CEC through a simple-majority vote;
 - annually evaluates the Centre's plan of activities, its budget, as well as the activity and financial reports to be sent to FCT;
 - can meet extraordinarily on the Director's initiative, or that of a third of the Scientific Board's.

- b) The Director:
 - appoints the Vice-Director;
 - ensures the management and administration of the research unit, serving as the connection between it and its hosting institution in all statutory aspects, as well as of what pertains to the financial management of the Centre;
 - ensures the connection with the FCT and exercises other outreach activities;
 - convenes ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the Scientific Board;
 - proposes the admission of researchers as members of CEC, formally appointed by the Director, or by the groups or subgroups;
 - proposes to the Direction Board the structure of the External Advisory Board.

- c) The Direction Board:
 - periodically meets with the Director and Vice-Director;
 - implements and guides CEC's scientific policy;
 - annually creates and approves the Centre's plan of activities, its budget, as well as the activity and financial reports to be sent to FCT;
 - approves the structure of research groups and subgroups;
 - advises on the admission of researchers as members of CEC;
 - advises on the structure of the External Advisory Board;
 - meets with the External Advisory Board and the external evaluation panel.

d) The Group Coordinator:

- is a part of the Centre's Board of Directors Direction Board, ensuring the duties assigned by the Director;
- annually prepares a plan of activities and a budget, as well as yearly activity and financial reports concerning their research group;
- plans and supervises the activities of their respective research group.

e) External Advisory Board:

- meets with the Direction Board and with other entities in charge of research projects;
- regularly assesses the institution's performance and produces reports on its activities under the terms of article 73 of the RJIES and article 24 of the Regime Jurídico das Unidades de Investigação (DL no. 125/99).

6. Assets

CEC's assets comprise the entirety of its equipment and bibliography acquired with the unit's funding, as well as what is donated to it.

7. Unforeseen Cases

Unforeseen cases shall be resolved in conformity with the legislation in force.