

**PORTO** 

# Specialization offered by the Portuguese Catholic University (Porto):

Sustainable Management of Mediterranean Forests: an Institutional Economics Approach

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## Why this specialization?

- 1) Course contents
  - A particular focus...
  - Key concepts
  - Key issues
  - Courses offered
- 2) Thesis topics favoured
- 3) Other reasons to come to Porto...







## Why this specialization? A particular focus...

## Fundamental mistake of forest management

- To manage forests IS NOT, first of all, to manage trees, forest stands, or forest landscapes
- To manage forests IS, first of all, to manage people, who own, value and use those trees, forest stands, or forest landscapes, to sustain their livelihoods





## Types of THINGS people value

- Typology of goods/services on appropriateness (combined exclusion and rivalry):
- Private, free access, club, and public goods





## Types of VALUES people give to things:

- Use and Exchange Value, but also
- Option
- Existence
- Bequest
- Moral
- Etc.





 VALUE people attach to actions, intentions and personality traits (MORAL VALUES) as the internal regulators of human BEHAVIOURS













## Why this specialization? Mediterranean forests profile

## Awareness of institutions needed to approach Mediterranean forests because:

- Several <u>externalities</u> likely to be present
- Land use conflicts (agricultural/forest, urban/forest uses)
- Multifunctional systems
- Other stakeholders <u>values</u> besides use and exchange values often the most relevant
- Diversity of institutional settings







#### **HUMAN SOCIETIES and GOVERNANCE:**

- Concept of human society
- Concepts of governance (weak vs. good governance)
- Agency theory approach to policy formulation and implementation (resources availability, individual and group rationality, incentive compatibility)





#### Courses offered

- i. Foundations of Social Economics
- ii. Economics and Management of Social Economy

**Organizations** 

- iii. Sustainable Development
- iv. Governance of Mediterranean Forests
- v. Research Methods (quantitative, qualitative)





### Why this specialization? Key issues/thesis topics

#### Why forest land expand or decrease in the long run?

- Long run trends in forest and other land uses depend very much on the values people give to forests and on the dynamics of human societies
- Do public policies (national forest policies, EU polices, etc.) play a major role in these trends?

#### Forest land uses and market dynamics

- Some forest use values also have an exchange value, but others don't (carbon sequestration, biodiversity, landscape quality, etc.)
- In Mediterranean forest non market use values are very important
- How to find a "monetary valuation" and an institutional setting for "internalization" of those non market use values?

#### Conflicting or "multifunctional" uses of forest resources?

- Ecosystem services view and modelling
- Agro-pastoral uses vs. "productive forest" uses
- "Productive forest" uses vs. "urban" or "conservation" uses
- What institutions for conflict resolution?







### Why this specialization? Key issues/thesis topics

#### Forest property rights

- Very wide diversity of forest property rights regimes
- Are these regimes changing? In what direction?
- Forest landownership fragmentation: Is it possible to cope with small scale forest ownership in order to improve forest management? What role of forest owners' and local development organizations?

#### **Forest risks**

- The high risks of forest fires in Mediterranean forests
- Do these risks have mainly a "natural" origin or not?
- Institutional and organizational arrangements for forest fire prevention and extinction

#### **Public policies**

- Forest policy failures and the fundamental mistake of forest management
- Agency based approach to forest policy formulation and implementation (resouce availability, individual and group rationality and incentive compatibility)







## Suggestions for general dissertation topics

Long run trends in forest and non forest land uses across Mediterranean countries

Non market use values of Mediterranean forests

Conflicting or "multifunctional" uses of forest resources

**Economics of forest ecosystem services supply** 





## Suggestions for dissertation topics

**Forest property rights** 

Modes of forest owners' and users' collective organization

**Forest fires** 

**Public policies** 

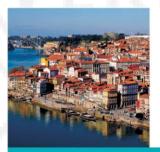




### School of Economics and Management

## Why study Economics and Management at Católica Porto?

The School of Economics and Management is recognized as a leading Management and Economics School in Portugal. Come and discover what we have to offer. We look forward to seeing you soon!









"Everywhere I go, the people are always so friendly, especially at the University. I'm really happy and proud to have chosen Porto as the city where I would spend 4 months. If I were to suggest a place to follow the Erasmus Programme ...it would always be in Porto."

Aloisia Lalli - ITALY (Incoming Student)







## Porto



#### Porto

#### Why Porto?

Porto - The best place to travel to in Europe!

Porto was elected, by the European citizens, the Best European Cities. Destination 2014, winning the title ahead of 19 big European cities. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHJaSZjJI-E

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**EUROPEAN** 

## Catholic University of Portugal



Hope to see you soon!

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