Centro de Estudos Avançados em Direito Francisco Suárez

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Research Unit Identification

Full Name	Center of Advanced Studies in Law Francisco Suárez
Acronym	CEAD Francisco Suárez
Director	José Francisco de Faria Costa
Funding Body	COFAC - Cooperativa de Formação e Animação Cultural, C.R.L.
Funding Period	01/09/2026-31/08/2027
Unit URL	https://cead.ulusofona.pt/en/centre

Mission & Objectives

Abstract:

The Centre of Advanced Studies in Law Francisco Suárez, abbreviated as CEAD Francisco Suárez or CEAD-FS, was created on 8 June 2020, under the terms of Decree-Law No. 62/2007, of 10 September and Decree-Law No. 63/2019, of 16 May, under the terms of Service Order No. 47/2020, which approved its Statutes.

The CEAD Francisco Suárez is an organic research unit in Law, common to the Faculty of Law of the Universidade Lusófona - University Center of Lisbon, the Faculty of Law and Political Science of the Universidade Lusófona - University Center of Porto and the Department of Law and Social Sciences of the Instituto Superior Manuel Teixeira Gomes. CEAD has its headquarters on the campus of the Universidade Lusófona - University Center of Lisbon and two nuclei, one at the Universidade Lusófona - University Center of Porto and the other at the Instituto Superior Manuel Teixeira Gomes (ISMAT).

Based on the unifying idea of Law as a Multiversum, the ultimate objectives are the organization, promotion, and coordination of scientific research in the field of legal sciences and related disciplines. The center aims to disseminate knowledge in the field of legal sciences and related disciplines through publications, scientific meetings, and other appropriate means, ensuring independence and critical thinking, while never compromising on scientific rigor or the credibility of its work.

Through partnerships and scientific exchange with other institutions and researchers, both national and foreign, it is intended to create a scientific and cultural extension network in order to provide services to the community. In this way, responsibility is taken for the construction of science as a heritage, contributing to the progress of this knowledge in the service of the community.

Scientific Areas & Research Lines

Principal Scientific Areas

Law	Political Science	Criminology	[Scientific Area 4]

Research Lines/Areas

[Research Area 1 — **Justice, Freedom and Law** - The research line focuses on Justice, Freedom and the protection of the most vulnerable, drawing on Ulpian's conception of Justice as the constant and perpetual will to give each person their due.

It adopts a multidisciplinary approach, seeking to understand legal phenomena through dialogue with other fields of knowledge, including Sociology, Philosophy, Anthropology, Psychology and Political Science. It encompasses several branches of Law, particularly Criminal Law, Family Law, Procedural Law, Constitutional Law, Labour Law and Succession Law.

It also explores the legitimacy and effectiveness of legislative intervention, the interaction between different levels of regulation, and contemporary challenges to freedom, democracy and the protection of fundamental rights.]

[Research Area 2 — **Law, Life and Technology** - This line of research aims to contribute to the creation and development of scientific knowledge in the areas mentioned: Law, Life and Technology. It embraces such broad concepts of these three topics that, within its scope, technological applications such as artificial intelligence, social networks and cryptography are included; it also seeks research from various legal disciplines that include both contributions from contract law and doubts regarding the assumptions of

criminal investigation in the digital environment; finally, changes in collective life and intrusions in intimate life are also included.

The discussion to be triggered will necessarily have a legal dimension, but it is also intended to be multidisciplinary, involving, among others, engineering, bioethics, philosophy, sociology, economics and management. On the other hand, the breadth of the themes and concepts that are to be studied is also reflected in the openness of this line of research to collaborations with the other research lines at CEAD.]

[Research Area 3 — **State, International Society, Human Action** - Law, Political Science, International Relations, and Political Economy belong to the same branch of science, which aims to study humans as beings socially framed by norms, rules, procedures, and standards of behavior. Historically, Political Philosophy and Law have coexisted intimately and for a long time. However, Economics, as classical Political Economy that studies human action, and International Relations, seen as the analysis of International Society and the behavior of its subjects, have only recently become autonomous from these other fields of knowledge. Today, many of the subjects they are dedicated to remain common or related, making thematic overlaps frequent, necessary, and useful, despite the unmistakable multidisciplinary nature and ontological and methodological specificity of each of these sciences.

The research line in State, International Society, Human Action falls within these domains of knowledge, viewing them from a humanistic perspective. It considers Law, Political Science, International Relations, and Economics as results of cooperative human action, which they inherently presuppose. Consequently, the work of researchers in this line at CEAD will be conducted within the domains of the city, the international order, and the market in its broadest sense (local, regional, or global). From this perspective, the topics to be explored may traverse, develop, and interconnect the Theory of the State, the History of Political Ideas, Society and International Law, Political Theory and History, Political and Constitutional Law, Political Economy, International Organizations, the European Union, Transnational Constitutionalism, Diplomacy, new concepts of State and Sovereignty, Globalization, European Citizenship and its associated new fundamental rights, changes in the International Order, among other themes that researchers at CEAD may be interested in pursuing at any given moment.]

Research Hubs: Research will unfold around 5 aggregating research hubs that are particularly relevant to future Law and the future of Law: Digital Transformation; Social Justice; New Frontiers; Health Rights; and International Society acting as research cornerstones.

[Research Line 4 — add further lines as needed]

Identifiers & Citation Information

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Mandatory Acknowledgement Statement

Required in all scientific and institutional outputs (written in the appropriate language):

This work was funded by the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), under project UID/6331/2025 and by COFAC – Cooperativa de Formação eAnimação Cultural, C.R.L., under the project "COFAC/CEAD/2026-27"

Mandatory Application Scope

The acknowledgement statement above must appear in all of the following outputs:

- Scientific articles, posters, books, and journal papers;
- Monographs, brochures, and informational leaflets;
- Newsletters, announcements, and advertising materials;
- Cover pages (where applicable) and all printed applications;
- Digital typographic and other reproduction formats;
  PowerPoint presentations and other digital presentations.