



## **Jaime Reis**

Jaime Reis (1944) received both his B.A. in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (first class) (1967) and his D. Phil. in History (1975) from the University of Oxford, as well as an M.A. in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (1968). He holds the degree of “agregação” from the Faculdade de Economia of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa (1984). During the 1970s, he was a research fellow at the University of Glasgow, and held lectureships at Vanderbilt University and at the Universities of Glasgow and Leicester. After his return to Portugal (1977), he was successively assistant, associate and full professor at the Faculdade de Economia of the Universidade Nova, between 1978 and 1993. He was also dean there in the period 1986-90. He joined the Gabinete de Investigações Sociais (GIS) in 1978 and became, in 1982, an associate research fellow and later a senior research fellow at the Instituto de Ciências Sociais (ICS) of the Universidade de Lisboa, where he has been until his retirement in 2014. He was a full professor of Economic History at the European University Institute (1996-2001), a visiting professor at Umea University (2001) and at the Universidad Carlos III of Madrid (2005), and a visiting fellow at the Economic Research Department of the Bank of Portugal (2002).

He is a founder and former president of the European Historical Economics Society (1998-9) and a former member of the Committee of the International Association for Economic History (1994-2002). He has been on the editorial boards of several national and international journals. In 2000, he became one of the editors of the European Review of Economic History and occupied the same post some years later at the Economic History Review. He is a member of the Academia das Ciências de Lisboa. In 2007, he gave the “Eli Hecksher Lecture at the Stockholm School of Economics.

His initial research interests focused on Brazilian Economic History, especially the field of slave labour. His D.Phil. was on the subject of the abolition of slavery in the Brazilian Northeast and its

aftermath. Upon his return to Portugal in 1977 his attention turned to Portuguese Economic History during the 19th and 20th centuries. He has worked on topics relating to industry, agriculture, money and banking, labour and human capital, and institutions and anthropometrics. Most of this has been in the framework of the question of Portuguese long term economic backwardness. Lately he has extended this perspective to include the Early Modern period. As part of this and thanks to FCT funding, he has helped to promote, a major research project, under the title of PWR-Portugal. A vast data base of Portuguese prices, wages and rents is now freely available from the early 14th to the end of the 19th centuries.

His long list of publications reflects the variety of his historical interests. The following two, bridge a research career lasting forty-four years and illustrate its diversity: “The impact of abolitionism in Northeast Brazil: a quantitative approach”, Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences (1977), 107-122. “Can autocracy promote literacy? Evidence from a cultural alignment success story”, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization (2021), 412-43.