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Her area of research is the Social and Cultural History of Portugal from the 16th century to the first decades of the 20th, focusing mainly on the 18th and 19th centuries. She explores literary, doctrinal, legislative, administrative and private sources to investigate the poor people, social policies, religious doctrine on charity, *misericórdias*, hospitals and other assistance and health institutions, images and daily lives of women, biographical history and aspects of familiar life.

He has published numerous articles and chapters of collective books in Portugal, Brazil, Spain, Italy, United Kingdom and Argentina. She is the author and editor of 15 books, one of them translated in Italy. She has also coordinated scientific journals in Portugal and Brazil and is a researcher in national and international projects.

Books (authorship):

- *Mulheres, espaço e sociabilidade (2ª metade do século XVIII)*, 1989.
- *Pobreza, assistência e controlo social em Coimbra, 1750-1850*, 2000 (2 vols.).
- *História Breve das Misericórdias Portuguesas, 1498-2000*, 2008 (coautoria).
- *António Ferrer Correia (1912-2003)*, 2008 (coautoria).
- *Protecção Social em Portugal na Idade Moderna*, 2010.
- *Na rota da 3ª invasão francesa: o concelho de Mangualde e as suas vítimas*, 2011.
- *Rainhas que o Povo Amou: Estefânia de Hohenzollern e Maria Pia de Saboia*, 2011 e 2013.
- *D. Fernando II, um rei avesso à política*, 2013 e 2016.

Editing and authorship:

- *Portugaliae Monumenta Misericordiarum 7 (1750-1834)*, 2008 (cocoord.).
- *Portugaliae Monumenta Misericordiarum 8 (1834-1910)*, 2010 (cocoord.).

- *Portugal e o Piemonte. A Casa Real portuguesa e os Saboias (sécs. XII-XX)*, 2012 e 2013 (cocoord.).
- *Portogallo e Piemonte. Nove secoli (XII-XX) di relazioni dinastiche e politiche*, 2014 (cocoord.).
- *Livro de todallas liberdades da Sancta Confraria da Misericórdia da cidade de Coimbra: estudos, fac-simile e transcrição*, 2016.
- *Primeiros textos [em língua portuguesa] sobre igualdade e dignidade humanas*, 2019 (cocoord.).
- *Primeiros livros [em língua portuguesa] de edificação moral*, 2019 (cocoord.).

Several of her researches are in progress, including: economic activities of women in the 17th and 18th centuries, coordination of the *History of Misericórdia de Coimbra (1500-200)*, 2 vols. by a team of 10 researchers, edition and analysis of unpublished correspondence of royal characters from the 19th century.

Part of her production can be read in <https://coimbra.academia.edu/MariaAntóniaLopes>