



Dulce Freire has been focusing her research on rural and agricultural issues. Perhaps reading Marc Bloch was inspiring, but the paradox was already there: although agriculture was central to the history of Portugal, it deserved little attention from historiography. Being vital for Humanity, what have been the impacts of changes in agriculture? In one question, this is the problem she has sought to clarify.

After completing (1992) her degree in History at the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences of Universidade Nova de Lisboa, she studied the process of extinction of tithes, in a project (1993-1996) coordinated by Luís Espinha da Silveira. She completed her master's degree in "History of the 19th and 20th Centuries" at the same faculty (1998), analysing how the institutional framework for viticulture created in the 1930s determined the fate of this economic subsector until Portugal's entry into the European Economic Community.

If during these projects, expressions of discontent from different social groups were being referenced, between 1997 and 1999, these were the focus of a project, coordinated by Jorge Crespo and Fernando Rosas. Crossing History and Anthropology, extensive fieldwork and archival research in the various Portuguese regions showed how social movements spanned the rural country from north to south during the Estado Novo.

In her PhD, completed at FCSH-UNL in 2008, she investigated how and when the "green revolution" spread across Portugal. Using archives, intensive fieldwork and oral history, the economic, social and institutional changes that took place in Ribatejo until the 1980s were evaluated.

Between 2008 and 2019, Dulce Freire was a researcher at the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lisbon. Discussions and practices related to the modernization of agriculture in the Iberian Peninsula continued to give rise to various national and international initiatives. They were also underlying the various research paths she explored, such as food, corporatism, local products, cooperatives, agronomists, social movements or public policies.

Some of these topics were addressed within the scope of the project "Agriculture in Portugal: agriculture, food and development (1870-2010)", which she coordinated (2012-2015). Among the results obtained are: the first systematic survey of Portuguese regional agricultural

production since 1850 (available at [www.ruralportugal.ics.ul.pt](http://www.ruralportugal.ics.ul.pt) ); the publication of an agrarian history of Portugal covering the last millennium. This is the collective book that she edited with Pedro Lains, “An agrarian history of Portugal 1000-2000: economic development on the European frontier” (Brill, 2017).

If the preparation of this book showed the relevance of analysing the changes in the long term, the participation in the discussions that led to the formation and activities of “College F3: Food, Farming and Forestry” (gathering all the schools of the University of Lisbon) indicated how the contributions of the different disciplines are crucial to build robust knowledge about the past. The long-term and transdisciplinary challenges are at the core of the project submitted to the European Research Council in 2016: ReSEED\_ “Rescuing seed’s heritage: engaging in a new framework of agriculture and innovation since the 18th century”. Starting from the Iberian Peninsula, it aims to explain the different impacts of cultivated seeds that since the end of the 15th century came from the East and the Americas, transforming European regions. In a way, this project has allowed to return to some of the first questions. Several emerged even before her degree, when she participated in archaeological work, integrating the teams led by Ana Margarida Arruda or Carlos Fabião and Amílcar Guerra. Others, marking the first years (1990-1993), while she was part of the groups coordinated by António Manuel Hespanha.

The results of the projects carried out are expressed in the publication of more than a hundred articles/chapters and six books. But perhaps most of these results are disseminated through conferences, meetings, classes, team coordination and students’ orientations.

Research development has benefited from grants and support provided by various organizations. The first came from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, but without funding from the Junta Nacional de Investigação Científica/Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, it would have been impossible to continue. She has been a visiting researcher at several universities: University of California, Berkeley; École des hautes études en science sociales; University of Santiago de Compostela; School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

In recent years she has been part of the management bodies of several scientific organizations: Portuguese Society for Rural Studies, Network of Rural History in Portuguese (RuralRePort), Portuguese Association of Economic and Social History, European Rural History Organisation.

Dulce Freire is currently an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Economics and a researcher at the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, both at the University of Coimbra. In this centre, she is one of the coordinators of the Research Group “Changing Landscapes\_Long term analysis LAB”, where she directs the ReSEED project team.