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Rita Calvário

Integrated Researcher

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[Governance, Economy and Citizenry]

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Curriculum

Rita Calvário is an integrated researcher at DINÂMIA'CET-Iscte, the Centre for Socioeconomic and Territorial Studies at the University of Lisbon. With extensive experience in multidisciplinary research, she specializes in rural sociology, peasant studies, and political ecology. Her work primarily focuses on rural social movements, agrarian change, food transitions and alternatives, and the power dynamics within agrifood systems, particularly in Southern Europe. Currently, she is leading a project on gender inequalities and the role of rural women in agriculture in Portugal, funded by FCT (CEEC - 5th edition). In addition, she coordinates, as consortium member, the HORIZON SWIFT project, which supports women-led innovations in farming and rural territories and is led by CSIC (Valencia). This project includes research on migrant women in agriculture in both Portugal and Spain. She also heads the FEED project, funded by ISRF, which examines the struggles of rural women in family agriculture in Portugal, Galicia, and the Basque Country. Rita collaborates with the Centre for Social Studies (CES) at the University of Coimbra and has led and published research in prominent journals over the past five years, including the Journal of Peasant Studies, Sociologia Ruralis, and Antipode.

Academic Qualifications

University/Institution	Type	Degree	Period
Universidade de Lisboa - Instituto de Ciências Sociais	Training Session	Summer School "Plantation Europe"	2022
Universidade de Coimbra Centro de Estudos Sociais	Post-Doc	Food Studies	2021
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)	PhD	Doctor in Environmental Sciences	2016

Bogaziçi Üniversitesi	Training Session	Summer School "Institutions, Justice & Democracy"	2015
ENT Innovació ambiental al servei de la societat	Training Session	Specialised Intensive Course "Project Management and Contribution to Policy"	2015
CDCA Centro Documentazione Conflitti Ambientali	Training Session	Specialised Intensive Course "Research for Civil Society"	2014
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	Training Session	Specialised Intensive Course "Effective Communication Skills"	2014
Lund University	Training Session	Summer School "Social Movements"	2014
Charokopeio Panepistemio University	Training Session	Summer School "Commons, Conflicts and Disasters"	2013
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	Training Session	Specialised Intensive Course "Research Design and Methods"	2013
Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt Institut für Soziale Ökologie	Training Session	Specialised Intensive Course "Social Metabolism and Social Ecology"	2013
Universidade de Lisboa	Advanced Studies	Alterações Climáticas e Políticas de Desenvolvimento Sustentável	2012
Universidade Nova de Lisboa - Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia	M.Sc.	Ordenamento do Território e Planeamento Ambiental	2010
Universidade de Lisboa - Instituto Superior de Agronomia	Licenciate	Engenharia Agronómica - Ramo de Economia Agrária e Sociologia Rural	2004

Supervisions

• Ph.D. Thesis

- Ongoing

	Student Name	Title/Topic	Language	Status	Institution
1	Felipe Ramirez Soto Leon	Defending the countryside: popular education and agroecology for socioterritorial transformation in Mexico	Spanish/Castilian	Developing	Centro de Investigaciones en Geografía Ambiental (CIGA) Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)

• M.Sc. Dissertations

- Ongoing

	Student Name	Title/Topic	Language	Status	Institution
1	Rima Rabeya	Immigrant Women in Odemira: Pathways to Integration, Challenges and Empowerment	English	Developing	Universidade Aberta

- Concluded

	Student Name	Title/Topic	Language	Institution	Concluding Year
1	Raúl Almendro Díaz	Analysing social capacity in the struggle for degrowth: a reflection through rural squatting in the face of state repression	English	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Institut de Ciència i Tecnologia Ambientals	2019

Total Citations

Web of Science®	174
Scopus	186

Publications

• Scientific Journals

- Scientific journal paper

1	<p>Maria Kaika, Calvário, R. & Giorgos Velegrakis (2024). Austerity: An environmentally dangerous idea. Journal of Political Ecology. 31 (1)</p> <p>- Times Cited Web of Science®: 2</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 7</p> <p>- Times Cited Google Scholar: 11</p>
2	<p>Calvário, R. & Honório, C. (2024). "Nos campos, nós as mulheres lutámos muito": Mulheres rurais e o 25 de abril. Ex aequo. 50, 57-73</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 1</p>
3	<p>Joan Moranta, David Florido-del-Corral, Lucía López-López, Sílvia Gómez, Julio Agujetas, Marta Albo-Puigserver...Sebastián Villasante (2023). Sowing potential transformative changes in the fishing and agrifood systems – Conference report. Marine Policy. 154, 105673</p> <p>- Times Cited Web of Science®: 3</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 3</p> <p>- Times Cited Google Scholar: 5</p>
4	<p>Calvário, R. & Annette Aurélie Desmarais (2023). The feminist dimensions of food sovereignty: insights from La Via Campesina's politics. Journal of Peasant Studies. 50 (2), 640-664</p> <p>- Times Cited Web of Science®: 21</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 18</p> <p>- Times Cited Google Scholar: 42</p>
5	<p>Calvário, R. (2022). The making of peasant subalternity in Portugal: histories of marginalisation and resistance to agrarian modernisation. Journal of Peasant Studies. 50 (4), 1593-1612</p> <p>- Times Cited Web of Science®: 7</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 3</p> <p>- Times Cited Google Scholar: 7</p>

6	<p>Calvário, R. & Castro, Irina (2022). A questão alimentar em Portugal: (des)encontros entre políticas públicas, alternativas alimentares cidadãs e a agricultura familiar. <i>Análise Social</i>.</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 2</p> <p>- Times Cited Google Scholar: 8</p>
7	<p>Calvário, R., Annette Aurélie Desmarais & Joseba Azkarraga (2019). Solidarities from Below in the Making of Emancipatory Rural Politics: Insights from Food Sovereignty Struggles in the Basque Country. <i>Sociologia Ruralis</i>. 60 (4), 857-879</p> <p>- Times Cited Web of Science®: 28</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 28</p> <p>- Times Cited Google Scholar: 51</p>
8	<p>Calvário, R. (2017). Food sovereignty and new peasantries: on re-peasantization and counter-hegemonic contestations in the Basque territory. <i>Journal of Peasant Studies</i>. 44 (2), 402-420</p> <p>- Times Cited Web of Science®: 47</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 43</p> <p>- Times Cited Google Scholar: 85</p>
9	<p>Calvário, R. & Giorgos Kallis (2016). Alternative Food Economies and Transformative Politics in Times of Crisis: Insights from the Basque Country and Greece. <i>Antipode</i>. 49 (3), 597-616</p> <p>- Times Cited Web of Science®: 45</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 41</p> <p>- Times Cited Google Scholar: 75</p>
10	<p>Calvário, R., Giorgos Velegrakis & Maria Kaika (2016). The Political Ecology of Austerity: An Analysis of Socio-environmental Conflict under Crisis in Greece. <i>Capitalism Nature Socialism</i>. 28 (3), 69-87</p> <p>- Times Cited Web of Science®: 21</p> <p>- Times Cited Scopus: 40</p> <p>- Times Cited Google Scholar: 73</p>

• Books and Book Chapters

- Book editor

1	<p>Undisciplined Environments Collective & Calvário, R. (2024). <i>Insurgent Ecologies Between Environmental Struggles and Postcapitalist Transformations</i>. Fernwood.</p>
2	<p>Calvário, R., Kaika, M. & Velegrakis, V. (2021). <i>The Political Ecology of Austerity: environment, social movements, and economic crisis</i>. Routledge.</p>

- Book chapter

1	<p>Giorgos Velegrakis, Velegrakis, V., Calvário, R., Maria Kaika & Kaika, M. (2025). Austerity and anti-austerity environmentalism: Insights from Greece during and after the crisis. In <i>The New Routledge Handbook of Political Ecology</i>.: Routledge.</p>
2	<p>Calvário, R., Irmak Ertör & Zoe W. Brent (2024). Food sovereignty as Translation: Strengthening Fisherfolk's Struggles and Cultivating Peasant-Fisher Alliances in Brazil. In <i>Insurgent Ecologies Between environmental struggles and postcapitalist transformations</i>.</p>
3	<p>Andreucci, Diego, García-López, Gustavo A. & Calvário, R. (2024). Introduction. In <i>Undisciplined Environments Collective and Andreucci, Diego and García-López, Gustavo A. and Calvário, Rita and et al. (Ed.), Insurgent Ecologies: Between environmental justice struggles and post-capitalist transformations</i>. (pp. 3-18). Halifax and Winnipeg: Fernwood Publications.</p>

4	Giorgos Velegrakis, Velegrakis, V., Calvário, R., Maria Kaika & Kaika, M. (2021). The politicised ecologies of austerity Anti-austerity environmentalism during and after the Greek crisis. In The Political Ecology of Austerity. - Times Cited Google Scholar: 1
5	Maria Kaika, Kaika, M., Calvário, R., Giorgos Velegrakis & Velegrakis, V. (2021). Epilogue Austerity from financial to pandemic crisis. In The Political Ecology of Austerity.
6	Maria Kaika, Kaika, M., Calvário, R., Giorgos Velegrakis & Velegrakis, V. (2021). Introduction Austerity as an environmentally dangerous idea: A political ecology approach. In The Political Ecology of Austerity. - Times Cited Google Scholar: 2
7	Calvário, R. & Otero, Iago (2014). Back-to-the-landers. In Giorgos Kallis and Giacomo D'Alisa and Federico deMaria (Ed.), Degrowth: a Vocabulary for a New Era. (pp. 143-145).: Routledge. - Times Cited Google Scholar: 42

Research Projects

Project Title	Role in Project	Partners	Period
Gendered power relations in agriculture: how rural women are facing gender inequality and struggling for more just and sustainable agri-food systems – the case of Portugal	Global Coordinator	DINAMIA'CET-Iscte (GEC) - Leader	2024 - 2030
Fighting for Gender and Food Justice: Rural Women'S Struggles in Portugal, Galicia, and the Basque Country	Principal Researcher	DINAMIA'CET-Iscte (GEC), CES-UC - Leader (Portugal)	2024 - 2025
Supporting Women-led Innovation in Farming Territories	Researcher	DINAMIA'CET-Iscte (GEC), INGENIO [CSIC-UPV] - (Spain), UPVLC - (Spain), BOKU - (Austria), WU - (Netherlands), URG - (France), ECVC - (Belgium), OXFAM - (Belgium), UVIC - (Spain), CIC - (Italy), IHEID - (Switzerland), FoEE - (Belgium), AGROPERMALAB - (Poland), CSIC - Leader (Spain), CES-UC - (Portugal)	2023 - 2026

Research Networks

Research Network Name	Representative Role	Period
POLLEN - Political Ecology Network	Member	2015 - 2025
Undisciplined Environments Collective	Member	Since 2015
Food, Cities and Sustainability Portuguese Network	Member	2022 - 2025

Political Ecology Network in Portugal	Member	Since 2024
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Organization/Coordination of Events

Type of Organization/Coordination	Event Title	Organizer	Year
Coordination of scientific event (with scientific committee) outside of ISCTE-IUL	30th European Society for Rural Sociology Congress "Navigating rural transitions: Exploring liveable futures"		2025
Coordination of scientific event (with scientific committee) at ISCTE-IUL	IV Encontro de Ecologia Política: Territórios e Resistências		2025
Member of non-scientific event's organizing committee	Organisation of a Round Table 'Women, migration and food sovereignty. Retos desde la agroecología' at the X International Congress of Agroecology.		2024
Member of scientific event's organizing committee	Comuns: III Encontro de Ecologia Política [Commons: III Conference of Political Ecology]		2024

Products

Product Type	Product Title	Detailed Description	Year
Digital Materials or Audiovisual Resources	Women, Land, Revolution	Documentary	2025
Other Products	Women and Migration	Podcast part of the series Soil Sisters	2025