

OBJECTIVES

General:

To promote a fruitful dialogue between the scientific community, operational sectors, and civil society, expanding knowledge about climate change and its impacts on biodiversity, water resources, and land use. The objective is to deepen the debate on the threats and opportunities arising from the “dual energy and geopolitical transition,” with an emphasis on disputes over control of land and sea, and the exploitation of their mineral and biological resources. The intensification of anthropogenic activities—such as the extraction of rare earths and the production of critical minerals—tends to exacerbate environmental risks, directly affecting territories and their communities, in addition to intensifying conflicts and geopolitical tensions on multiple scales.

Specific:

- Analyze the risks associated with climate change, considering different temporal scales — from past to future — and spatial scales — from global to local;
- Assess, within the scope of the energy transition, how the increased demand for strategic minerals and their geographic concentration can reinforce dependence on raw materials, exacerbate geopolitical tensions, and pose environmental and social challenges with negative impacts on sustainable development;
- Discuss the geopolitical risks arising from territorial conflicts motivated by security concerns or competition for natural resources, analyzing their impacts at local and global level;
- Focus the analysis on vulnerable populations facing socio-environmental conflicts, with special attention to environmental justice, social vulnerability and the challenges posed to strengthening community resilience;
- Critically reflect on borderless globalization and the resulting increase in demand for natural resources, promoting the strengthening of socio-environmental resilience through the adaptation of processes for the rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction of territories.

CONTACTS

RISCOS - Associação Portuguesa de Riscos, Prevenção e Segurança

Faculdade de Letras da | Largo da Porta Férrea
Universidade de Coimbra | 3004-530 Coimbra

Email: congressos@riscos.pt ou riscos@riscos.pt

Telephone: + 351 239 992 251 | Webpage: <http://vcir.riscos.pt/en/>

IMPORTANT DATES

- 15/11/2025** - Deadline for the first submission of abstracts of communications (orals and posters);
- 30/11/2025** - Date for communication of acceptance of abstracts from the first call;
- 31/12/2025** - Deadline for registrations with bonus, including the regularization of registrations by the authors of communications;
- 28/02/2026** - Deadline for the second submission of abstracts of communications (orals and posters);
- 15/03/2026** - Date for communication of acceptance of abstracts from the second call;
- 31/03/2026** - Deadline for registrations with bonus, including the regularization of registrations by the authors of communications;
- 01/04/2026** - Date from which registrations suffer a price increase;
- 31/07/2026** - Date for submission of articles to Territorium Journal/SEC.

PANELS

General Thematic Panels:

- P1** - Energy Transition and Sustainability: Environment, Social Vulnerability, and Inequalities
- P2** - Governance, Public Policy, and Resource Geopolitics
- P3** - Socioenvironmental Conflicts and Climate Justice
- P4** - Climate Change, Biodiversity, Water, and Land Use
- P5** - Natural, anthropogenic and mixed risks and civil protection interventions

Thematic Panels of the Working Groups:

- G1** - Network for the study of Forest fires and their effects on Soils (NFS)
- G2** - Disaster Medicine (MedCat)
- G3** - Research Group for Risk Education (RGRE)



RISCOS
ASSOCIAÇÃO PORTUGUESA
DE RISCOS, PREVENÇÃO
E SEGURANÇA

DEPGEOTUR
DEPARTAMENTO
DE GEOGRAFIA
E TURISMO

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
FACULDADE DE LETRAS
UNIVERSIDADE DE
COIMBRA



ENB
NÚCLEO NACIONAL DE
BOMBEIROS



TIVOLI
CENTRO DE INOVAÇÃO
E DESENVOLVIMENTO

NH
DONA INÊS
COIMBRA - PORTUGAL



TP AIR PORTUGAL



VII INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON RISKS

NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY AND SOCIETY.
Global Risks and Pathways
to Sustainability.

26 to 29 of May 2026

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
University of Coimbra
Coimbra, Portugal



RISCOS
ASSOCIAÇÃO PORTUGUESA
DE RISCOS, PREVENÇÃO
E SEGURANÇA

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
UNIVERSIDADE DE
COIMBRA

PRESENTATION

Climate change and the Paris Agreement (EU, 2016), by requiring a profound review of production and consumption patterns and the reduction of carbon emissions, have spurred structural changes and technological innovations, particularly in the energy sector. This movement has paved the way for the so-called “dual energy and geopolitical transition,” based on the progressive replacement of fossil fuels with renewable sources, which are seen as sustainable alternatives.

However, these sources, considered clean, imply increased extraction of rare earths and other strategic minerals. This process carries risks of environmental contamination, landscape changes, and pressure on raw materials classified as critical due to their scarcity and geographic dependence. Increased exploration promotes the depletion of natural resources and the destruction of ecosystems essential to the balance between humankind and nature, intensifying disputes and geopolitical conflicts over access to these resources.

At the same time, other territories are more susceptible to natural hazards associated with their geographic location and specific environmental conditions. Among the most significant processes are earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, storms, droughts, and forest fires. Persistent water deficits, combined with erosion and soil degradation, fuel desertification. Rainfall episodes, when they occur, tend to be concentrated and intense, causing flash floods, inundations, and landslides, factors that increase the exposure and vulnerability of populations and infrastructure.

Given this context, it is essential to reflect on the risks and opportunities associated with the “Natural Resources and Energy” binomial in the development of strategic sectors and the future of societies. The challenge lies in understanding the impacts on territories, focusing on interpreting global risks and implementing local strategies that promote sustainability. This reflection guides the VII International Risk Congress, dedicated to the theme: “*Natural Resources, Energy, and Society: Global Risks and Pathways to Sustainability*”.

GENERAL PROGRAMME

Day 26th of May will be dedicated to the welcome and opening conference.

The days 27th and 28th of May will be devoted to scientific activities at the University of Coimbra, which will include the presentation of communications (oral and poster) and the holding of conferences.

The day 29th of May will be occupied with field work (study visits), which will make it possible to observe the consequences of the full manifestations of risks.

ABSTRACTS

The official languages of the congress are Portuguese, Spanish, French and English. There will be no simultaneous translation.

To submit a communication, the authors should send an abstract by email, to congressos@riscos.pt or to riscos@riscos.pt, referring to the Panel to which it belongs and the type of presentation (oral or poster).

The rules for the abstract and article are available at: <https://viicir.riscos.pt/en/submission/abstracts/>

TARGET PUBLIC

- All those interested in the theme of risks in context of conflicts are invited to participate in this event, for their prevention and construction of resilient societies, with a view to exercising an active citizenship in the reduction of risks and conflicts:
1. Researchers and Faculty of Higher Education Institutions;
 2. Executives and Technicians of Central, Regional and Municipal Organisms in the public and private sector;
 2. Civil Protection Agents (Firefighters, Security Forces, Armed Forces, Health Care Providers and Disaster Medicine, ...), Technicians and professionals from the various public and private organisms, related to risk assessment, disaster management, planning territory, education and communication;
 3. Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's students whose work is the result of academic-scientific research in the context of risks and catastrophes;
 4. Members of the civil community and associations and/or non-governmental organizations interested in or working on the issue of disaster risk reduction;
 5. Teachers of Portugal National Education System, Pre-School, 1st Cycle, 2nd Cycle, 3rd Cycle, Secondary Education and Special Education.

Registration fee (euros) (Exempt from VAT under Article 9)	Untill 31/12/2025				From 01/01/2026 untill 31/03/2026				After 01/04/2026			
	Congress	Field Trip	Social Dinner	Full Registration	Congress	Field Trip	Social Dinner	Full Registration	Congress	Field Trip	Social Dinner	Full Registration
RISCOS Student Associates	40€	35€	30€	95€	65€	40€	35€	120€	90€	45€	40€	145€
Undergraduate and Master's Students	50€	35€	30€	105€	75€	40€	35€	130€	100€	45€	40€	155€
RISCOS Individual Associates (membership till 31/12/2025) Doctoral and post-doctoral students Civil Protection Agents* and Security Forces Basic and Secondary School Teachers of Portugal	150€	35€	30€	205€	200€	40€	35€	255€	250€	45€	40€	305€
Professionals/Researchers	200€	35€	30€	255€	250€	40€	35€	305€	300€	45€	40€	355€
RISCOS Collective Associates	250€	35€	30€	305€	300€	40€	35€	355€	350€	45€	40€	405€
Institutional; New RISCOS Associates (after 01/01/2026): Others	345€	35€	30€	400€	395€	40€	35€	450€	445€	45€	40€	500€

*Invoices in the name of the Entity/Company, regardless of the participant's profile. The registration type will be Institutional, with the exception of Firefighters.
Bank: Caixa Geral de Depósitos | Account name: RISCOS | IBAN: PT50 003502550023519283079 | BIC/SWIFT: CGDIPTPL | NIF: 506 731 391