



RSA Annual Conference 2025

Navigating Regional Transformation

Tuesday 6th – Friday 9th May 2025, University of Porto
#RSA25

Draft Conference Programme

Tuesday, 6th May 2025

- 10.00-16.00 Board Meeting (invitation only)
- 10:00-12:00 Technical Tour 1: Guided Tour to Porto's Botanical Garden and Hall of Biodiversity (separate registration needed)
- 10.00-13.00 Technical Tour 2: Porto Beyond Tourism (separate registration needed)
- 14.00-17.00 Technical Tour 3a: A 'Worst Tour of Porto' (separate registration needed – donation required to guide on the day)
- 14.30-15.30 Technical Tour 4: In the heart of innovation: An immersive journey through UPTEC (separate registration needed)
- 15:00-17:00 Conference registration
- 18.00-20.00 **Welcome Reception** (separate registration needed)

Wednesday, 7th May 2025

- 08.00-17.30 Conference registration
- 08.45-09.00 Welcome to the conference (Porto representative and RSA representative)
- 09.00-10.30 **Opening Plenary – Navigating Regional Transformation**
- Speakers:** Elisa Ferreira, European Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms (2019-2024), EU
Pedro Conceição, United Nations Development Plan
Michaela Tripl, University of Vienna, Austria
Early Career Speaker: Zhiwu Wei, University of Cambridge, UK
- Chair:** Mário Vale, University of Lisbon, Portugal
- 10.30-11.00 Coffee Break
- 11.00-13.00 Parallel Workshop Sessions 1
- 13.00-14.00 Lunch Break
- 13.00-14.00 Territorial Ambassadors Meeting (invitation only)
- 14.00-16.00 Parallel Workshop Sessions 2
- 16.00-16.30 Coffee Break
- 16.30-18.30 Parallel Workshop Sessions 3

Thursday, 8th May 2025

- 08.30-17.00 Conference registration
- 09.00-10.30 **Plenary 2 – The Future of Regional Policy**
- Speakers:** Duarte Rodrigues, Portuguese Agency for Development and Cohesion, Portugal
Renata Calak, Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy, Poland
Raphael L'Hoest, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany
- Chair:** John Bachtler, European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde, UK
- 10.30-11.00 Coffee Break
- 11.00-13.00 Parallel Workshop Sessions 4
- 13.00-14.00 Lunch Break
- 14.00-15.30 Spotlight Sessions



- 15.30-16.00 Coffee Break
16.00-18.00 Parallel Workshop Sessions 5
19.00-22.30 Conference Dinner (separate registration needed)

Friday, 9th May 2025

- 08.30-17.30 Conference registration
09.00-10.30 Parallel Workshop Sessions 6
10.30-10.50 Coffee Break
10.50-12.20 Parallel Workshop Sessions 7
12.20-13.15 Lunch
13.15-14.15 **Closing Plenary – Knowledge for Regional Transformation**
Speakers: Louise Kempton, Newcastle University, UK
Maribel Guerrero, Arizona State University, USA
Chair: Joana Resende, University of Porto, Portugal
14.15-14.30 Conference Close
14:45-17:00 Technical Tour 5: From a Former Refinery (Petrogal) into a New Future
(separate registration needed)
15.00-18.00 Technical Tours 3b: A ‘Worst Tour of Porto’ (separate registration needed – donation required to guide on the day)
15.00-16.00 Technical Tour 6: Visit to CIMMAR – Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research (separate registration needed)
15.30-17.00 Technical Tour 7: Guided Tour to the University of Porto: Ferreira da Silva Lab, Historical Building, and “Casa Comum” (separate registration needed)

Saturday, 10th May 2025

- 15.00-17.30 Technical Tour 8: Bombarda – A Creative and Cultural District in Porto (separate registration needed)
15.00-18.00 Technical Tour 3c: A ‘Worst Tour of Porto’ (separate registration needed – donation required to guide on the day)