

AWARDER AND AWARDING SPEECH BY PROF. RUI MARTINS, VICE-RECTOR (GLOBAL AFFAIRS), UNIVERSITY OF MACAU

Esteemed Consul-General of Portugal in Macao and Hong Kong,
Dr. Alexandre Leitão,

Esteemed Vice-Rector of University of Coimbra, Prof. João Nuno Calvão da Silva,

Esteemed Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Coimbra, Prof. Jónatas Machado,

Esteemed Dean of Faculty of Law of University of Macau, Prof. Tong Io Cheng,

Distinguished Professor Manuel Lopes Porto,

Dear guests, colleagues, students and friends,

Good afternoon,

On behalf of the University of Macau (UM), I welcome you all here today, to the Joint Seminar between our Faculty of Law (FLL) and the Faculty of Law of University of Coimbra:

Contemporary Issues of International and European Union Law and the Recognition Ceremony in Tribute to Professor Manuel Lopes Porto.

The cooperation between our two universities and faculties of law dates to the nineties of the last century and it has been quite fruitful in the preparation and training of the Macao Legal Community. Then, it is a great pleasure to welcome here today the high-level representation from the University of Coimbra and its Faculty of Law, namely, Prof. João Nuno Calvão da Silva, Vice-Rector, Prof. Jónatas Machado, Dean of the Faculty, as well as Prof. Paulo Mota Pinto, all of them distinguished scholars from the University of Coimbra, that join us here today together with Prof. Manuel Lopes Porto.

Since today is going to happen the Joint Seminar between our two Faculties of Law: *Contemporary Issues of International and European Union Law*, organized by our Center for Law Studies, I wish that it can be a successful academic exchange, and I also hope that it can continue as an annual event held every year in either Coimbra or Macao.

Senior colleagues may remember, but it is probably new for younger colleagues and students that Scholars from the Faculty of Law of University of Coimbra, in particular, Professors João Almeida Garrett, Orlando de Carvalho, Rogério Soares, João Antunes Varela, and Jorge de Figueiredo Dias, contributed since the beginning to the foundation and development of our Faculty, with Prof. João Mota Campos and Prof. António Manuel Hespanha, as coordinators of areas of studies in the programs of Law, at all levels, since 1990.

The following generation, as invited visiting professors, gave also their contributions, like Prof. António Pinto Monteiro, the late Prof. João Calvão da Silva, Prof. JJ Gomes Canotilho, and the person we honor today, Professor Manuel Lopes Porto, in his case specially in the areas of Economy and European Law.

As Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Law of University of Coimbra, and in other duties, Dr. Manuel Lopes Porto, was always available to contribute to our Faculty and University. In UM and in

the Institute of European Studies (IEEM) (UM is an associate member of the Institute from its foundation in 1996) he has been a visiting professor teaching since the beginning of the respective programs, namely, the Master in European, International and Comparative Law, and the Master of European Studies.

He supervised some of our leading academic members, Professor Wei Dan, first Chinese Law Student to graduate with a Master and PhD in the University of Coimbra and in Portugal, plus, in Macao, Professor Almeida Machava, from Mozambique, first PhD Student graduating in law, in Portuguese language, in our FLL, that is currently a Professor in University Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo, Mozambique, and Research Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Law of University of Macau.

The IEEM published in English a version of his book, *Theory of the Integration and European Community Policies*, and Professor Wei Dan translated it to the Chinese language, and it was published by the University of Macau.

Besides, also, as a public person, like member of the European Parliament, President of the National Council for Education of Portugal, and President of the Municipal Assembly of Coimbra, he always supported our FLL and UM whenever necessary.

His relationship with Macao lasted for long, since he visited Macao in the end of the decade of 1980 with a delegation of the Alumni of the University of Coimbra, with the renowned writer Miguel Torga, and continued until today, not only within the scope of his academic relationship but also with his family members that are working and living in Macao.

I witnessed during my already long academic life at UM moments of academic significant achievements of our FLL with Professor Manuel Porto and our colleagues, with sincere academic and personal

joy, and it is my honor to be here today celebrating this excellent relationship of academic cooperation and personal dedication and friendship with the University of Coimbra and Professor Manuel Porto.

I congratulate the Faculty of Law of the University of Coimbra and the Faculty of Law of the University of Macau for the organization of this celebration and Professor Manuel Porto for his brilliant academic career and for sharing with us his merits and academic dedication and friendship.

Thank you very much!

Rui Martins

Vice-Rector (Global Affairs) of University of Macau