



OCEANICA

We are culturally insensitive to the beautiful and that beauty when we look at the sea, we only see the beauty of a thin necessity that extends to the horizon. But throughout history, the planet's liquid mass has realized objects and people.

On the one hand, the sea level rise in the last 2000 years has submerged countless settlements, from Palaeolithic stone-age ports of people capable of producing great architectural and artistic works. On the other hand, the submersion of the houses being made from corals, had many objects, people and ships that were complete their processes and end up on the bottom of the sea and ocean.

Recently has long been concerned with the process above of the heritage that is under their eyes or that is brought to light by archaeologists in Portugal, the construction of a ship has already been interpreted due to problems, engineering and the plan of a highway has already been altered because of German footprints. Moreover, the university usually made with indifference to interventions on the beach and dunes that can destroy many of the submerged archaeological legacies.

In the last decades, there has been an awareness of the importance of underwater archaeology to improve our knowledge of the Past. More or less ancient ships and their cargoes have helped us to get to know Viking routes, and since 2001, UNESCO has adopted a convention that recognizes the extraordinary cultural importance of all human legacies existing underwater and declares it to be intangible goods.

NOVA FCSH is distinguished for being the only school where underwater archaeology integrates the undergraduate and master's curricula and has developed an intense international activity that led us to coordinate the creation of the UNESCO Club "The Ocean's Cultural Heritage".

José Paulo Oliveira-Costa

Chair holder of the UNESCO Club "The Ocean's Cultural Heritage" and Member of UNESCO - Centre for the Development of the World Heritage

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