**The evolution of the historical transport networks of the Iberian Peninsula.**

Pau de Soto (Institut d’Estudis Catalans)

The configuration of a territory is a long-term evolution in which many factors influenced its shape and morphology. One of the most visible elements that help historians to analyse its configuration is the location of the urban settlements and all the transport infrastructures (by land, river and sea) that connected them. In this paper, the Iberian Peninsula transport networks have been analysed in four different timeframes (Roman Times, Medieval Era, Modern Era and the XIXth Century). By comparing the historical transport networks, it is possible to discover the continuities and differences between each period. Those changes let us relate each network with the political and economic situation of the Iberian Peninsula. This information is extremely useful to define the role of the political decisions in the design and organization of this territory and their impact in its economic situation.

After almost 2 years of an intense digitization process, we have obtained high detailed historical transport networks from each time period studied. Methodologically, Networks Science analyses have been applied to the historical intermodal transport systems. The results of these mathematical processes let us visualize and understand the morphological configuration of the transport networks and determine distribution and mobility patterns and their connectivity degree, and the changes and continuities between periods. In this paper, the methodology of the project will also be presented, from the creation of a transport model of time and cost expenses using historical information to the application of weighted SNA to analyse the connectivity of each historical networks.