



You are kindly invited to attend the public PhD defence of  
**Tiago Azeredo Dionísio**

**Who we are, what we feel and how we behave in the  
landscape: A study on place-bonds in Belgium and Portugal.**

**Date:** Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> June at 16h00 (Brussels Time) | 15h00 (Lisbon Time).

**Location:** Campus Sterre, S2, 3rd floor, Faculty Council Room.

Alternatively, you can follow the livestream here: <https://tinyurl.com/yrv5dr99>



## About the author

Tiago Azeredo Dionísio holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychological Sciences and a Master's degree in Applied Social Cognition from the Faculty of Psychology, University of Lisbon. His academic path integrates cognitive psychology, social cognition, and environmental psychology, forming a foundation for his interdisciplinary PhD in Geography and Psychology. His doctoral research focuses on place-bonds with the landscape among migrants and natives in Portugal and Belgium. He has contributed to several research projects on topics including consumer trust, social perception, and pro-environmental behaviour. In 2024, he published a study on intergroup dynamics in public space, using systematic observation to explore interactions between migrants and natives.

## Examination Committee

Prof. Dr. Haosheng Huang (Chair) (Ghent University)

Prof. Dr. Marc Antrop (Ghent University)

Prof. Dr. Isabel Loupa-Ramos (Ghent University,  
Instituto Superior Técnico – Lisbon University)

Prof. Dr. Ruth Krebs (Ghent University)

Prof. Dr. Maria Lewicka (Nicolaus Copernicus  
University)

Prof. Dr. Andreas Aagaard Christensen (Roskilde  
University)

## Supervisors

Prof. Veerle Van Eetvelde (Ghent University)

Prof. Dr. Fátima Bernardo (Évora University)

Dr. Kim Dierckx (Ghent University)

## Summary

This research explores how people with different mobility patterns (natives and migrants) form bonds with the landscape by examining their behaviour, place attachment and landscape identity processes. Four case studies with high migrant populations are analysed: a rural and urban case study in Belgium and Portugal. The first part focuses on how to systematically observe and map the behaviour of people in the landscape through the definition of prototype procedures. Then, the presence of migrants and natives in the landscape and their behaviour suggest that they engage differently with urban landscapes. The second part examines how migrants and natives attach to their landscape, revealing four attachment profiles influenced by their mobility pattern, with migrants adapting through active and conditional attachments and natives showing more traditional attachment. The final part explores landscape identity, demonstrating how different groups maintain their identity through in-group and out-group perceptions, and how migrants and natives construct their identity based on the landscape's features, considering both its persistence and change. Overall, the study highlights the dynamic interaction process between people and the landscape in the context of change, while also emphasizing the need for groups to remain unique and coherent over time.

