

## Editor's Note

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Under the auspices of IMACSS – International Martial Arts and Combat Sports Scientific Society ([www.imacsss.com](http://www.imacsss.com)), the 2019 edition of the Scientific Congress on Martial Arts and Combat Sports took place from October 10-12, 2019 in the Polytechnic Institute of Viseu, Portugal. It was the third time a scientific congress on martial arts and combat sports (MA&CS) took place in Viseu – previous conferences were held in 2007 and 2011 (for the later, see Figueiredo & Gutiérrez-García, 2011; Rosa, 2011).

The central issue of the Congress was the scientific interpretation of actions in broader contexts and cultures such as Martial Arts, Combat Sports or Self-Defense, in relation to objectives usually associated with human development (e.g., health, well-being, education and culture). The stated aims of the congress were (1) To gather researchers and scholars to promote debate around the study object of the contexts of 'martial arts', 'combat sports' or 'self-defense': human fight motricity; (2) To reflect on ongoing international research work on these areas; (3) To promote the dissemination of projects in the fields concerned, and; (4) To call the attention to the need of developing different scientific approaches.

The congress provided a valuable opportunity to promote, enlarge and strengthen the scientific community gathered around MA&CS. It was organized in six main topics:

- 1) Research on MA&CS
- 2) Pedagogy and Didactics in MA&CS
- 3) Physical, Technical and Tactical dimensions in MA&CS
- 4) Psychological dimensions in MA&CS
- 5) Socio-cultural dimensions in MA&CS

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## 6) Philosophical dimension in MA&CS

As in previous congresses, the IMACSSS General Assembly took place and members received information on the current state of the society and some past, ongoing and future activities. It is worth mentioning that a new edition of the IMACSSS Young Researchers Awards was held, in which Brazilian sport/social scientist Thabata Castelo Branco Telles was awarded thanks to her presentation entitled "The role of pre-reflexive processes in learning how to fight: contributions from phenomenology".

This IMACSSS Congress Abstracts is composed of 26 abstracts from authors of eleven different countries (Brazil, China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, UK and USA). As we did for the 5th IMACSSS World Scientific Congress, which was held in Rio Maior (Portugal) in 2016, the *Revista de Artes Marciales Asiáticas* publish them as a special issue, which undoubtedly benefit the visibility of the contributions presented at the congress.

Finally, we want to thank all people and institutions involved in the congress for their support in organizing and managing the event. And specially to all participants, many of them coming from distant countries. We hope to see you again soon in Malaysia, where the next IMACSSS congress will be held in 2020. Thank you all.

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