



Conference Background

The Faculty of Arts and Humanities and the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Porto are delighted to host the 4th European Rural Geographies Conference, taking place in Porto, Portugal, from 22 to 26 June 2026.

Under the theme “Reinventing Rural Spaces: Resilience, Innovation and Sustainability in a Changing World”, the conference addresses the pressing challenges and opportunities currently faced by rural areas across Europe and beyond.

Rural territories are increasingly shaped by complex and interrelated dynamics, including demographic shifts, socio-economic restructuring, cultural transformations, technological innovation and environmental change. These processes generate both vulnerabilities and opportunities for rural communities, landscapes and livelihoods.

By bringing together researchers from across the world, Rural Geo 2026 aims to create a vibrant and inclusive forum for exchanging knowledge, comparing experiences, and envisioning future pathways for rural geographies in a changing world.

