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is a sociologist of culture, holding a degree in journalism and social communication. She is an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Intercultural Studies, Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Her research interests focus on the cultural diversity of Italy and the Iberian Peninsula, the artistic expression of migrants, music in intercultural relations and postcolonial relations from the cultural perspective (in the context of Italy and Portugal). She is an author, among other publications, of two monographs: *The image of Poland and Poles in Italy*, 2010; *Italy. The Mosaic of Cultures*, 2019 (together with Agnieszka Małek); recently she co-edited and co-authored two books: *Remaking Culture and Music Spaces. Affects, Infrastructures, Futures*, 2022 and *Spaces of Diversity? Polish Music Festivals in a Changing Society*, 2022. A list of her other publications is available at <https://jagiellonian.academia.edu/KarolinaGolemo>.

Currently she is conducting a research on African cultural heritage in Portugal. In 2019-2022 she was one of the Principal Investigators in the international HERA-funded project European Music Festivals, Public Spaces, and Cultural Diversity (www.festiversities.org).

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DECOLONIZING MEMORY AND SPACES. VOICES OF AFRO-DESCENDANTS IN CONTEMPORARY PORTUGAL

ABSTRACT:

The lecture aims to show some of the contemporary (artistic) interpretations of colonialism created by representatives of the broad category of Afro-descendants, which includes people of African descent from the former Portuguese colonies. The functioning of Afro-descendants in Portuguese society can be analyzed today from a postcolonial perspective, but also in the broader context of complex intercultural relations. Afro-descendants' activities go beyond issues directly related to racism and colonialism, as evidenced by the wide range of socio-cultural or artistic activities undertaken by African organizations and associations. However, references to colonial history and contemporary forms of racial discrimination are recurring themes in the social debate they initiate. Their narratives are in line with what Boaventura de Sousa Santos, among others, has pointed out: colonialism as a form of social relations has survived longer than colonialism as a political system. The reflections to be presented during the lecture are part of an ongoing broader research project on contemporary interpretations of African cultural heritage in Portugal.