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## National identity in the presidential addresses of 10 June, between 1977/1978 and 2006 – creation, transformation, and metamorphosis

Ana Lúcia **DA SILVA REIS**

Integrated Researcher of the CHAM, PhD from the Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas, Universidade Nova, Lisboa, Portugal

Grantee of the Fundação de Ciência e Tecnologia

E-mail: [anareis@fch.unl.pt](mailto:anareis@fch.unl.pt)

ORCID: 0000-0003-2186-330X

CIÊNCIA ID: 3017-1370-DD31

### Abstract

This article focuses on 29 (of a total of 45) presidential addresses delivered over the first thirty years of the post 25th of April democratic era, on the National Day of Portugal on June 10th. These speeches were given during the administrations of the following Portuguese presidents, who each served two terms between 1976 and 2006: Antonio Ramalho Eanes, Mário Soares, and Jorge Sampaio. The addresses are analyzed in terms of identity categories (Thiesse, 2000) which the speakers used when they refer to national identity. With this analysis I intend to determine which references to historical moments, illustrious figures, national heroes, and mentalities contribute to the construction of a collective ideology in which the Portuguese people can visualize themselves. On the suggestion of the organizers of this conference this study will be articulated with the concepts of creation, transformation, and metamorphosis of national identity over the course of the first 30 years of democracy in Portugal.

**Keywords:** National identity, presidential addresses, history, colonialism, and discoveries.