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## Estudo Prévio 9 - Editorial

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**To cite this article:** RAMALHETE, Filipa; LOPES, João Caria – Estudo Prévio 9 - Editorial. **Estudo Prévio** 9. Lisboa: CEACTIONAL - Centro de Estudos de Arquitectura, Cidade e Território da Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa, 2016. ISSN: 2182-4339 [Available at: [www.estudoprévio.net](http://www.estudoprévio.net)].

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In issue 9, Estudo Prévio pursues its original editorial project – rooted in academia while fostering critical thinking and sharing of knowledge, mixing knowledge and research from different parts of the world and professional backgrounds - but also intends to increase the scope of the contributors to the journal.

At a time when debate on scientific research has taken a new turn - namely due to the demands regarding indexation and a normalization of knowledge dissemination - and the role of the researcher in architecture requires redefinition, we consider crucial that different and innovative perspectives and approaches contribute to thought and reflection on the city and on architecture. The fact that Estudo Prévio is a journal developed in project-oriented school of architecture encourages publication of practical experiences that may contribute to a wider theoretical framework. Nevertheless, more conventional approaches deriving from ongoing research should still be welcome.

In this context, we invited the architect and professor Paulo Tormenta Pinto and challenged him to coordinate and organize a thematic dossier - "Building in the South – Laboratory for the foundations of contemporary Portuguese architecture" -, addressing different approaches to this theme / problem. The theme is itself a new approach to the architecture made in the South, and brings together a group of authors and studies involved in the dissemination of the research related to this topic, revealing innovative and relevant research, still little explored and published. This issue also includes three articles resulting from our direct invitation to the speakers of a series of conferences held at Da/UAL dedicated to architectural production in the southern hemisphere by key authors on these topics such as Ana Tostões and Ana Magalhães.