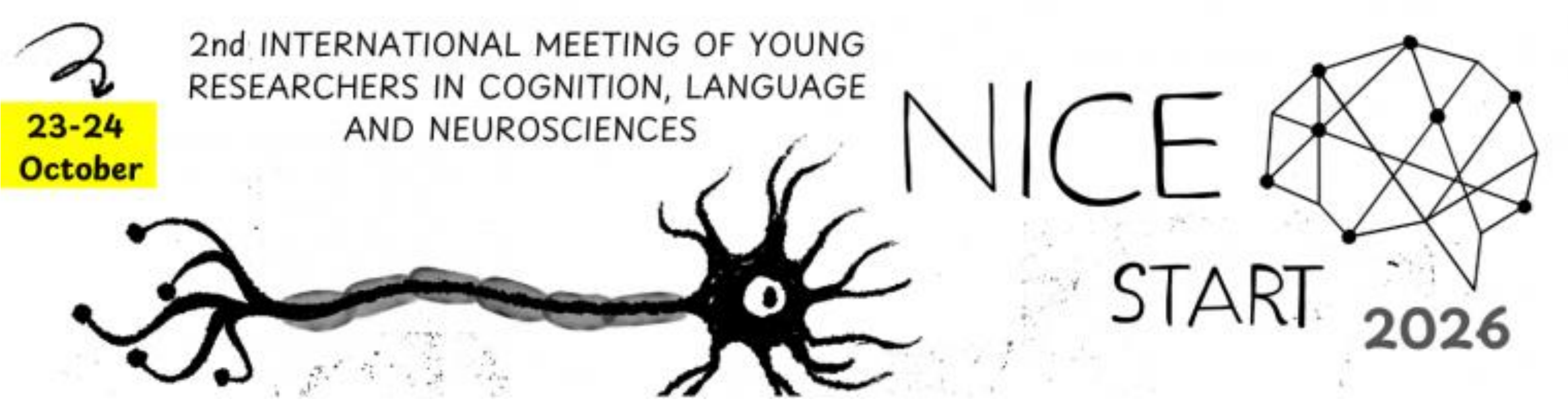




October 23th

PORTUGUESE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, LISBON

9h Attendees Registration

9h30-10h Opening Conference

10h-11h Oral presentations

1. *To be announced*
2. *To be announced*

11h-11h30 Coffee Break and Poster Exhibition

11h30-12h30 Oral presentations

3. *To be announced*
4. *To be announced*

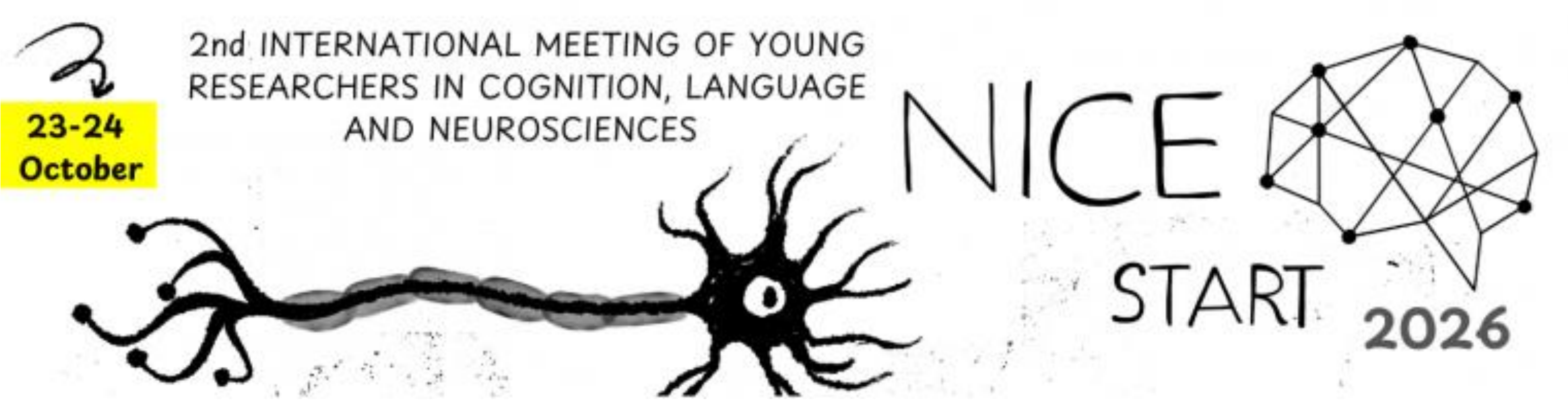
12h30-13h PhDTank

Escape Room “The Brain Unlocked”

(ask for a spot at attendee registration)

Lunch





October 23th

PORTUGUESE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, LISBON

14h30-15h30 Keynote Speaker

Developing a reading assessment tool for primary school learners of Portuguese as a second language

Ana Madeira, Ph.D., School of Social and Human Sciences of NOVA University

and Joana Batalha, Ph.D., School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Lisbon

Active Break

FisioDance - PhysioT. Paula Pinto PhD Student at UCP

15h45-16h15 Oral presentations

5. To be announced

16h15-16h30 Coffee Break and Poster Exhibition

16h30-17h30 Round Table Arts and Science

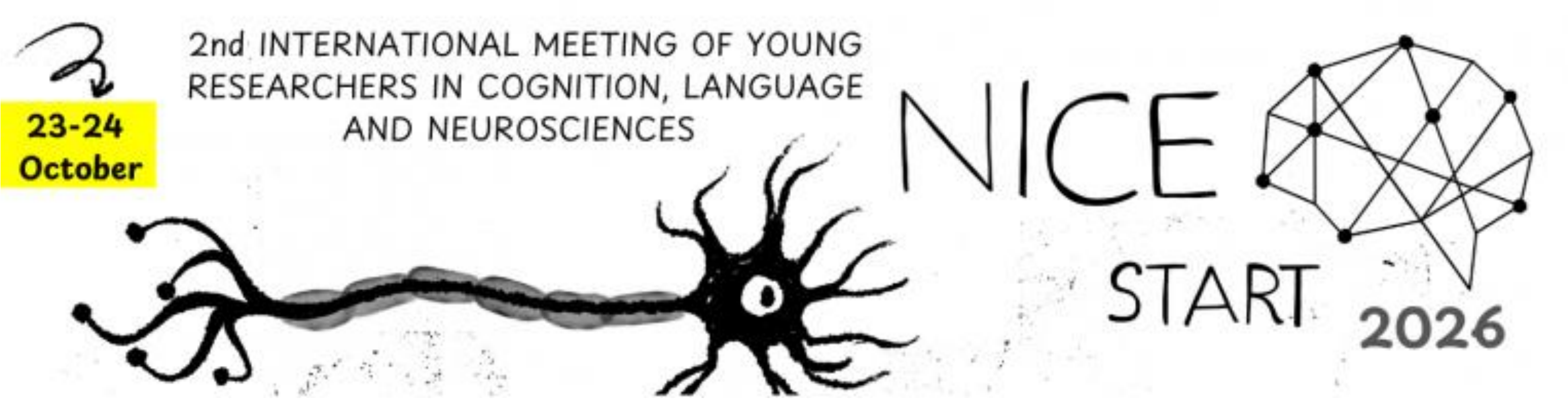
Indie Founder: Arts and Sciences

Host: Tiago Ferreira - <https://www.wannabe-entrepreneur.com/>

Guests: Tiago Ribeiro/Tiago Polignac (pintor) - <https://www.instagram.com/tiagopolignac/>

Rudolfo Quintas (artista visual) - <https://www.rudolfoquintas.com/Bio-CV>





October 24th

PORTUGUESE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, LISBON

9h30-10h Attendees Registration

10h-11h Keynote Speaker

Social perception and decision-making in neurological disease: neural correlates and clinical insights
Marta Granadeiro, Ph.D. student, School of Medicine, University of Lisbon

11h-11h30 Coffee Break and Poster Exhibition

11h30-12h30 Keynote Speaker

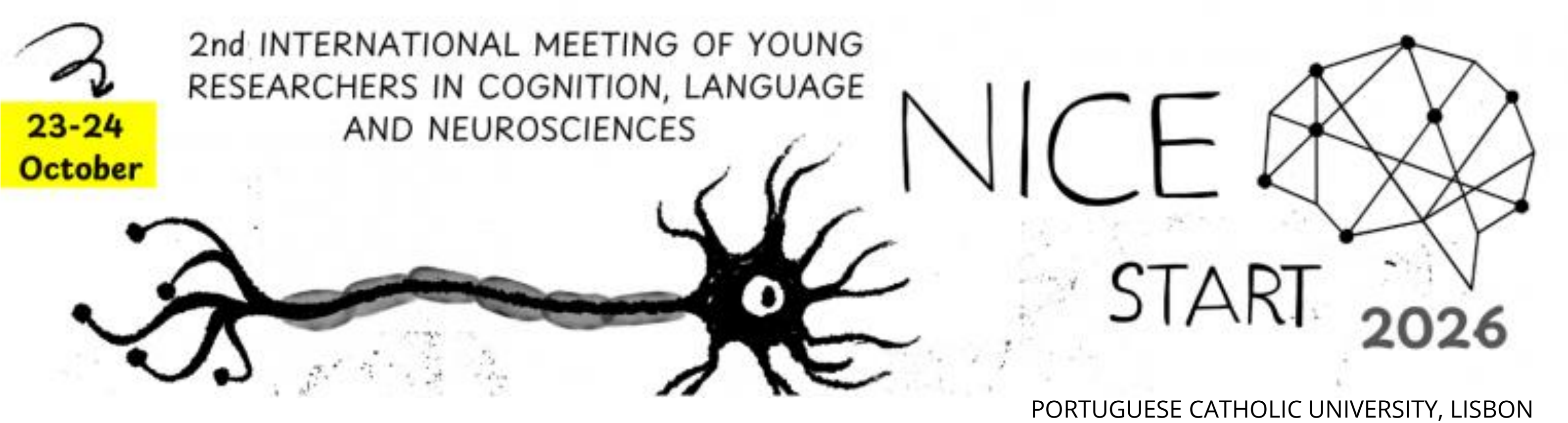
The Importance of Neuropsychology in Mild Cognitive Impairment in the Era of Biomarkers
Luísa Alves, Ph.D., NOVA Medical School

12h30-13h Closing Address and Awards for best Oral Presentation and Best Poster

Poster Exhibition

To be announced





After a successful first edition that brought together early career researchers from the fields of Cognitive Sciences, Language and Neurosciences, the second edition will take place this October with the same aim: providing a dynamic space for the exchange of ideas and the sharing of original work, with special emphasis on doctoral students.

Organized by doctoral students from the School of Health Sciences and Nursing, the event's main objective is to foster interdisciplinarity, promoting in-depth discussions on the latest challenges and advances in these fields. More than just an academic meeting, NICE START aims to be a catalyst for new collaborations and scientific networks, bringing together diverse perspectives and stimulating the construction of a more connected and innovative research community.

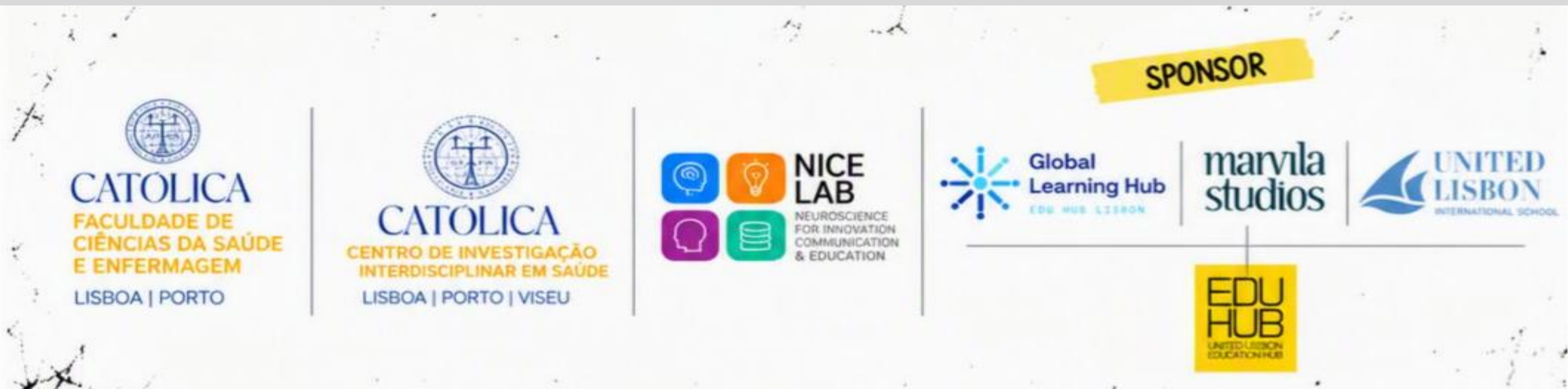
In this context, participants will have the opportunity to present their work, explore new approaches and reflect on the future of neuroscience and cognitive sciences, in an environment of learning, sharing and cooperation. This edition also offers a new format of scientific pitch - PhD Tank - for students interested in enrolling in a PhD program.

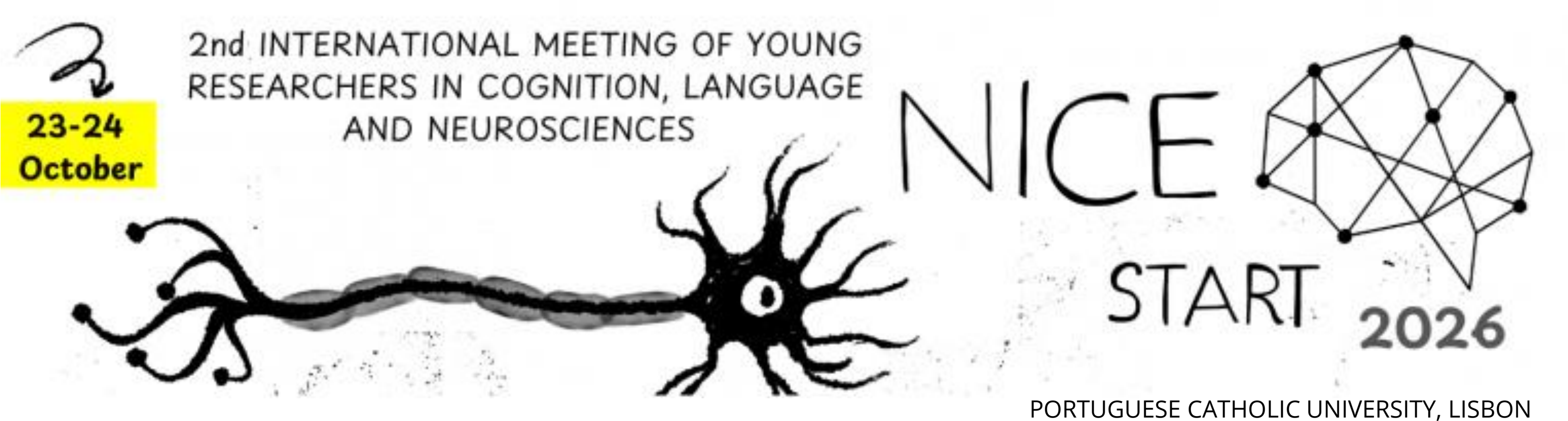
NICE START reinforces the importance of interdisciplinarity in scientific research and stands out as an essential platform for the academic and professional growth of young researchers, encouraging the development of long-term collaborative network.

This pioneering event offers a unique opportunity for doctoral students to share and discuss their work, fostering the exchange of innovative ideas and building collaborative networks.

Sponsor

Edu Hub Lisbon is a growing education and innovation campus in Marvila, anchored by United Lisbon International School (ULIS). Bringing together international schooling, higher education, professional learning and spaces for collaboration, the campus is designed to connect learners, educators and organisations across disciplines and generations. ULIS, part of Dukes Education, provides an international education in English for students aged 3-18, with a curriculum culminating in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. Its emphasis on curiosity, critical thinking and learning beyond the classroom sits at the heart of the wider campus vision. This ecosystem also includes the Global Learning Hub (GLH), designed to support universities and educational partners in delivering national and international programmes, study abroad opportunities and executive education in Lisbon. Marvila Studios will complement these activities with flexible accommodation for visiting students, academics and professionals. Together, these interconnected elements create a setting where education, work and international exchange can develop alongside one another.





Keynote Speakers



ANA MADEIRA

Associate Professor in the Department of Linguistics at the School of Social and Human Sciences of NOVA University, Lisbon and researcher at CLUNL—the Linguistics Center of NOVA University, Lisbon. She holds a Ph.D. in Linguistics from University College London, United Kingdom (1995). Her research focuses on the acquisition and teaching of Portuguese as a second language, bilingual acquisition, and syntax, with a focus on Portuguese. She has also participated in projects in the areas of multilingualism and language policy, as well as in the development of materials for teaching and assessing Portuguese as a second language.



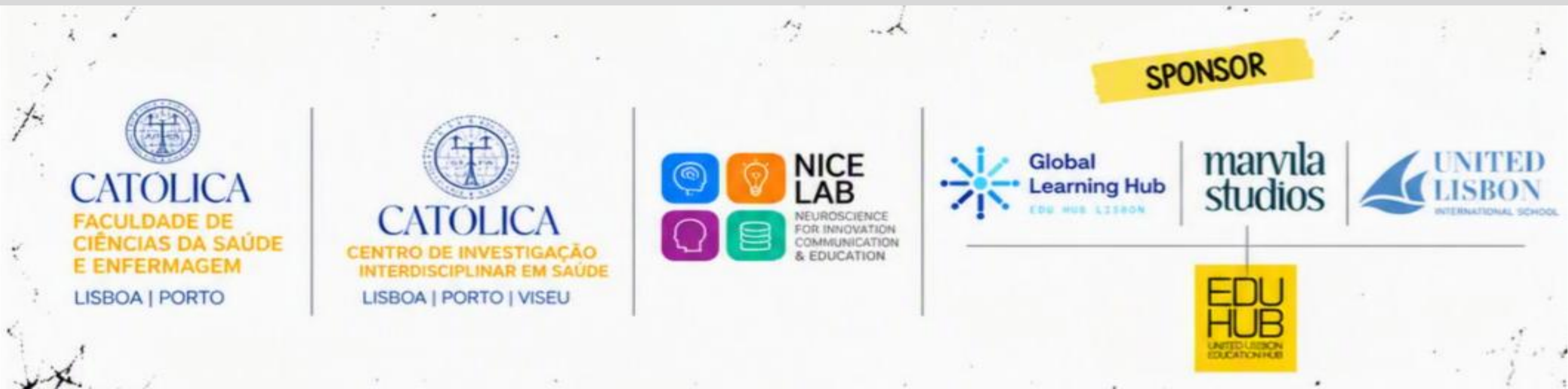
JOANA BATALHA

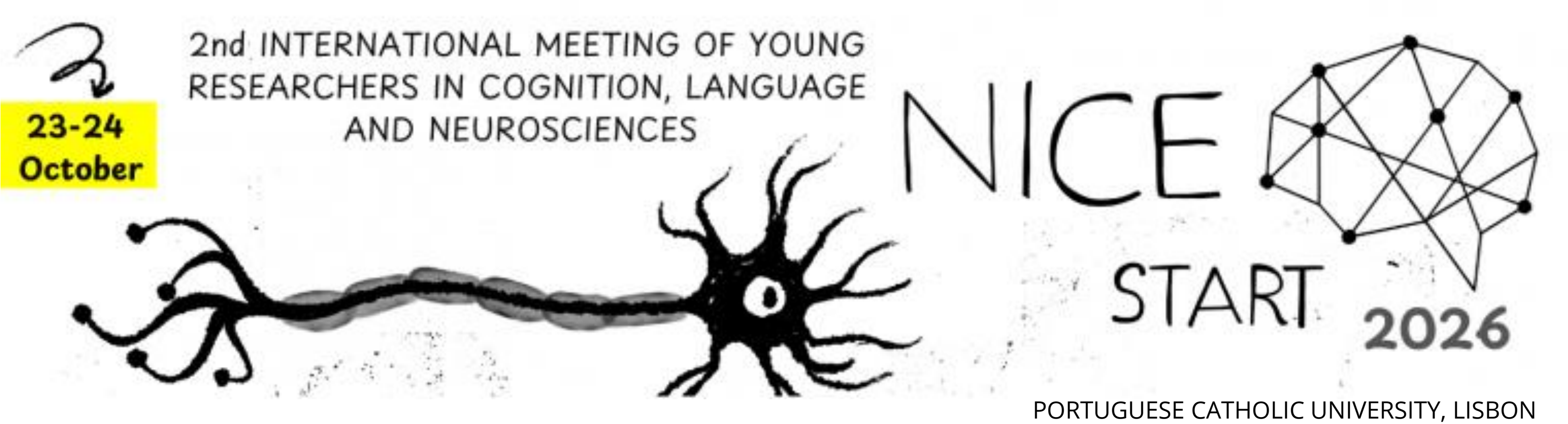
Joana Batalha is an Assistant Professor in the School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Lisbon and a researcher with the Grammar & Resources group at the University of Lisbon’s Center for Linguistics. She holds a Ph.D. in Linguistics, with a specialization in Linguistics and Language Teaching, from NOVA FCSH. Her research focuses on language development and educational linguistics, and she has participated in research projects on first- and second-language acquisition as well as in various areas of Portuguese language teaching. She was a team member of the Read4Succeed project from 2019 to 2022.



MARTA GRANADEIRO

PhD student at the School of Medicine, University of Lisbon, and a Clinical Psychologist at Laboratório de Estudos de Linguagem within the same institution. She completed her Master's degree in Applied Social Cognition at the School of Psychology, University of Lisbon, in 2019. Her research interests include the neural substrates of decision-making in social contexts and of social perception. Her work draws on methods from neuroeconomics, neuroimaging and social psychology to study clinical populations with neurological disease, with a particular focus on how lesions and white matter tract disconnection impair the integration of social cues in decision making. Her clinical work involves the neuropsychological assessment of patients from the Neurology outpatient clinic at ULS Santa Maria hospital, supporting diagnosis, characterization and treatment decisions for these patients.





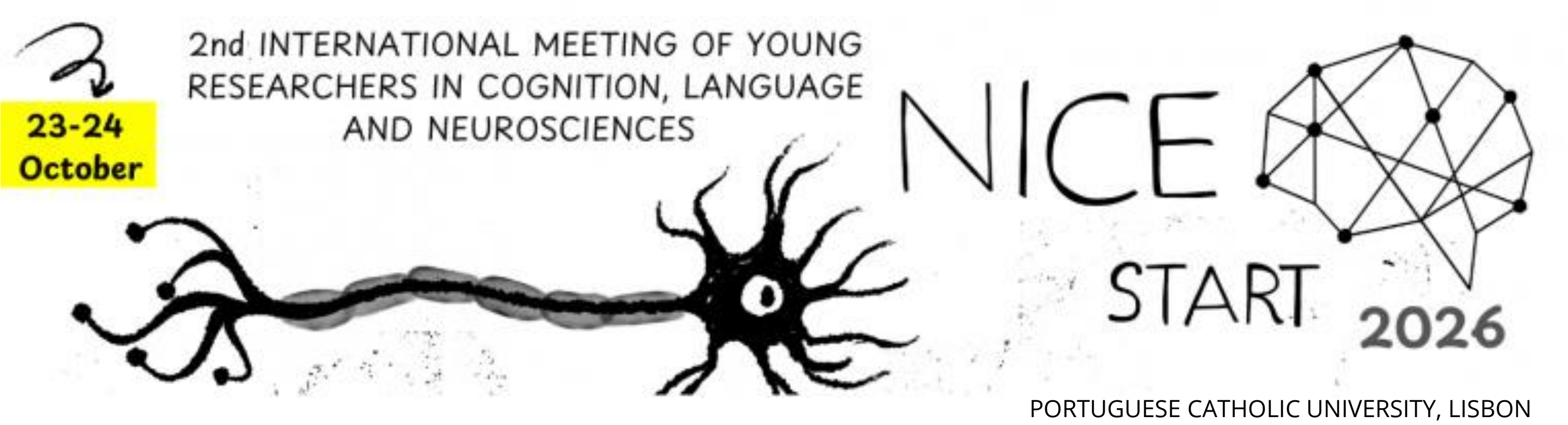
Keynote Speakers



LUÍSA ALVES

Luisa Alves is a neurologist and researcher at NOVA Medical School and a Graduate Assistant in Neurology at Centro Hospitalar de Lisboa Ocidental. She completed her PhD in Medicine at NOVA Medical School in 2021, and her research has focused on cognitive disorders.





Round Table Podcast



TIAGO FERREIRA

Tiago is the host of the Indie Founder Podcast, where he shares insights and actionable advice to empower indie entrepreneurs. With a strong background in software engineering, he co-founded Podsqueeze, a SaaS platform that helps podcasters effortlessly transform audio content into engaging newsletters. Tiago thrives on pursuing new challenges and continuously building innovative products - recently launching Flarecut, a tool for creating impactful social media videos from written content, and Rankchase, designed to help businesses boost their domain authority through backlinks. Passionate about great coffee, travel, and sailing, Tiago embraces a lifestyle fueled by creativity and exploration.

RUDOLFO QUINTAS

Portuguese visual artist working at the intersection of art, data and artificial intelligence. Through computational artworks, data paintings and immersive installations, his practice investigates how emerging technologies shape mental health, democracy, collective memory and human perception. His work has received national and international distinctions, including the Norberto Fernandes Prize for Art and Technology (2024) for Sentiment Data Paintings – World News 2024, the Transmediale Distinction Award (Berlin, 2009) for Burning The Sound, and the Inter.faces First Prize (2005) for SWAP, an early augmented reality performance. Quintas has exhibited and presented his work at institutions including MAAT, KIASMA, Transmediale, Sónar+D, Harvard Medical School, Fundação Champalimaud, MNAC, and ARCO Lisboa. His work is held in collections including FLAD and Fundação MEO. In 2027, he will present three major retrospective exhibitions across Portugal and participate in MAAT's international exhibition on AI.



TIAGO PINTO RIBEIRO

Clinical Psychologist and Neuropsychologist, specialising in Clinical and Health Psychology and Neuropsychology with the Portuguese Psychologists' Association. He holds a Master's degree in Clinical and Health Psychology from the School of Psychology and Educational Sciences of the University of Porto. His clinical practice focuses particularly on neurodevelopment, mental health and behaviour, working with children, adolescents, young adults and families. He is part of PIN – Partners in Neuroscience, in Porto, where he coordinates the regional Autism Spectrum Disorders and Cognitive Disabilities Unit. His academic and research experience also includes the study of movement disorders, and he has contributed to scientific publications and participated in national and international scientific meetings and conferences. Alongside his clinical and scientific work, he has developed a career in the visual arts under the artistic name Tiago Polignac. His artistic practice explores painting and mixed media, with a particular interest in the relationships between matter, colour, memory, perception and human experience. His work has been presented in exhibitions and artistic projects in Portugal and internationally. At the intersection of Psychology, Neuroscience and Art, he is particularly interested in how different forms of knowledge and expression can contribute to our understanding of identity, subjective experience, perception, and the multiple ways in which we experience and make sense of the world.

