

# PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE

## ***Second International Conference on Applications of Optics and Photonics***

**Manuel Filipe P. C. Martins Costa**  
**Rogério Nunes Nogueira**  
*Editors*

**26–30 May 2014**  
**Aveiro, Portugal**

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SPOF—Portuguese Society for Research and Development of Optics and Photonics (Portugal)

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**Volume 9286**

Proceedings of SPIE 0277-786X, V. 9286

SPIE is an international society advancing an interdisciplinary approach to the science and application of light.

Second International Conference on Applications of Optics and Photonics, edited by  
Manuel Filipe P. C. Martins Costa, Rogério Nunes Nogueira, Proc. of SPIE Vol. 9286,  
928601 • © 2014 SPIE • CCC code: 0277-786X/14/\$18 • doi: 10.1117/12.2075361

The papers included in this volume were part of the technical conference cited on the cover and title page. Papers were selected and subject to review by the editors and conference program committee. Some conference presentations may not be available for publication. The papers published in these proceedings reflect the work and thoughts of the authors and are published herein as submitted. The publisher is not responsible for the validity of the information or for any outcomes resulting from reliance thereon.

Please use the following format to cite material from this book:

Author(s), "Title of Paper," in *Second International Conference on Applications of Optics and Photonics*, edited by Manuel Filipe P. C. Martins Costa, Rogério Nunes Nogueira, Proceedings of SPIE Vol. 9286 (SPIE, Bellingham, WA, 2014) Article CID Number.

ISSN: 0277-786X

ISBN: 9781628413618

Published by

**SPIE**

P.O. Box 10, Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010 USA

Telephone +1 360 676 3290 (Pacific Time) · Fax +1 360 647 1445

SPIE.org

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Printed in the United States of America.

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## Introduction

The Second International Conference on Applications of Optics and Photonics ran very successfully in an exciting, friendly, and rewarding way. Nearly two hundred participants openly shared ideas and experiences discussing the remarkable and exciting recent developments in optics and photonics, and about preparing new development paths and cooperation projects.

The conference was organized 26–30 May 2014, at the Meliã Ria Hotel & Spa in Aveiro, Portugal. It was another major international event organized by the Portuguese Society for Research and Development of Optics and Photonics, SPOF—Sociedade Portuguesa para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento em Óptica e Fotónica ([www.optica.pt](http://www.optica.pt), [contact@spidof.pt](mailto:contact@spidof.pt)). The Portuguese Optics and Photonics Society was established in November 2009—reflecting the development of the scientific and technological research in optics and photonics in Portugal over previous decades, and our main goal of promoting the development of optics and photonics in general and particularly in Portugal. Coming from all Portugal's continental and Atlantic autonomous regions, SPOF's membership is increasing in almost all fields of pure and applied research both at the university and research institutions, but also in the industry services and education.

The conference was organized to foster the establishment of the widest range of cooperation projects and relationships with colleagues and institutions from all around the world, while increasing the external visibility of Portugal, optics and photonics research. This year, the conference also hosted the Symposium on Enabling Optical Networks and Sensors (SEONS), which allowed for dedicated sessions in the field of optical networks and sensors.

The success of the conference was only possible with the commitment of the vast majority of Portuguese optics and photonics scientists and the endorsement support and active participation of the leadership of the most important international scientific optics societies and several national societies, committees, and boards.

The 612 authors were from 39 different countries—reflecting the international character of this conference. We are pleased to stress that roughly 50% of the participants were students and young researchers.

The scientific program included seven plenary sessions, three short courses, 24 invited presentations, 83 oral presentations, 86 posters, and a special session dedicated to entrepreneurship in optics and photonics.

We would like to thank the endorsers/sponsors and all participants who have made this conference a success!

**Manuel Filipe P. C. Martins Costa**  
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