

Executive Summary: Professional relationship between Gabriela Rocha and Boaventura de Sousa Santos

This paper analyses the role of **Gabriela Rocha (GR)** in the context of the public accusations directed against **Boaventura de Sousa Santos (BSS)**, highlighting inconsistencies in her public interventions and her apparent lack of real contact with the accused.

Relationship between GR and BSS.

GR was never a supervisee or researcher under the direction of BSS.

There was no **significant direct contact** between the two, beyond an **invitation to a colloquium in 2014** and the exchange of a **report following the event**. (*Exhibit 1: 2014 email exchange between GR and BSS*).

Cara Gabriela,

Como sabes, de 10 a 12 de Julho próximos, o Colóquio *Epistemologias do Sul* decorrerá no CES. Serão mais de 600 participantes de todo o mundo que estarão connosco durante esses três dias.

Neste sentido, gostaria de te convidar especificamente para estares no colóquio connosco na qualidade de coordenadora das mesas das sessões paralelas de apresentação de comunicações. Estas sessões decorrerão no dia 11 de Julho, das 9 às 18h.

A Comissão Organizadora do colóquio fará todo o esforço para assegurar a tua participação como coordenadora nas sessões cuja temática seja relevante em face do teu interesse e temas de investigação.

Ao aceitar este convite, logo serás informada da sessão que irás coordenar, horário e local das apresentações. Também serão disponibilizados com antecedência os papers e abstracts submetidos para cada sessão. Muito gostaria que aceitasses este convite.

Peço-te, por favor, que confirmes o teu interesse até próxima segunda-feira, dia 30 de Junho.

Um abraço,
Boaventura

Caro professor,

Ã© com muito prazer que aceito o convite.

Um abraÃ§o

Gabriela

Interventions

GR's public interventions

Since the beginning of the complaints, GR has had a notable public presence, writing **two articles in the newspaper "P blico"** and participating in a talk by the association **MUTIM**, published in the newspaper *Observador*.

(Exhibit 2: MUTIM's article in the newspaper Observador, June 2025)

In the talk, Leonor Caldeira considers it fundamental to transmit the importance for the victim of documenting everything that happened in writing. *"Never erase messages, collect testimonial evidence from people who witnessed the events. This exercise and effort of documentation is fundamental"*, says the lawyer.

Statements on the collectivisation of complaints.

GR has publicly defended the **strategy of collectivising complaints** to strengthen testimonies, although she **has never claimed to have been a direct victim** of BSS.

She stressed that "an isolated story has less force than several stories that fit together".

Contradictions and omissions.

In court, under oath, GR did mention the alleged harassment of Isabella Miranda, which raises questions about the **consistency and credibility** of GR's statements.

Availability of documentary evidence.

BSS possesses **all documented communications** with GR and other alleged victims, which contradict his current accounts and support his defence.

Gabriela Rocha's public testimony appears to lack direct factual support for Boaventura de Sousa Santos. Despite her active participation in spaces of visibility and collective denunciation, there is no evidence that Gabriela Rocha has been a victim of harassment by Boaventura de Sousa Santos, nor that she has maintained a close relationship with him.

Her statements, moreover, show significant variations between what she said under oath and in subsequent public interventions. This calls into question the legitimacy of her voice within the collective of denouncers and suggests the need for a more rigorous assessment of the veracity and motivation of the testimonies used in public campaigns.
