

**Desalination for the Environment: Clean Water and Energy
Alfândega Congress Centre, Porto, Portugal
27–30 April 2025**

PREFACE

This special edition includes a series of papers presented during the conference organised by the European Desalination Society on “Desalination for the Environment, Clean Water and Energy”, which took place in the historic city of Porto, Portugal, from 27 to 30 April 2025. The scientific and social programmes were outstanding.

Unexpectedly, this conference became a unique event because on 28 April a total blackout left Portugal and Spain without electricity from 11:00 am until late afternoon. This meant that all the speakers scheduled for that period presented their work without the aid of any other means (laptop, datashow, etc.) other than their own knowledge, creativity and... body language. The sessions turned into memorable moments of communication between the speakers and the audience, like a return to the (very) old days when scientists gathered to discuss their experiences, ideas and projects.

I am sure that this special edition captures that atmosphere and that readers will enjoy the work shared here as much as we enjoyed the conference.

*João G. Crespo
Member of the Organising Committee
Professor, Universidade Nova de Lisboa
Lisbon, Portugal*