

Preface to the special issues of the Sixteenth European Wave and Tidal Energy Conference (EWTEC 2025)

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THE¹ 16th European Wave and Tidal Energy Conference (EWTEC 2025) was organised by the IDMEC, Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, from 7th – 11th September 2025. The conference was hosted on Madeira Island, Portugal. The event was held in person, with 3 online presenters from around the world. In total, there were 341 delegates. The event received 371 abstract submissions, of which 121 were either withdrawn or rejected. In total, 250 full papers were submitted, with 232 accepted for oral presentation and 14 for poster presentation.

The scientific papers were presented across 53 sessions from Monday morning until Thursday afternoon. Additionally, there were two poster sessions.

The event attracted three sponsors (WavEC Offshore Renewables, Atcheson Cruz and Kymaner). We thank the sponsors for their support.

There were also eight side events held during the conference (CorPower, CoTide/Supergen, Sea-Stack, Wave Energy/Supergen, OpenFast, OES Task 10, MARINERG-I, OES Environmental) and five exhibitors (CorPower, Teamer/Pacific Ocean Energy Trust, Intertek/Metok, Kymaner, IDMEC/IST Universidade de Lisboa).

The conference's thematic tracks once again covered fundamental hydrodynamics, environmental impact assessment, economics, and the social and policy implications of wave and tidal energy. The tracks also included numerical modelling and engineering studies, all specifically dedicated to the development of wave and tidal energy conversion devices. As the Chair of EWTEC 2025 and a member of the Editorial Board of the International Marine Energy Journal (IMEJ), together with Prof A.S. Bahaj, the Editor-in-Chief, we have decided to dedicate a special section of the forthcoming two issues of the journal to present the best papers selected from EWTEC2025 conference with the criteria: (a) reviewed by at least two peer reviewers; (b) recommended for publication by at least two reviewers. We hope that the quality, depth and range of the papers will demonstrate the continuing commitment of EWTEC to scientific rigour in the field of marine renewable energy. On behalf of the EWTEC Committee, I would once again like to warmly thank all the authors, reviewers, and Track Directors for their work, without which the Conference and the IMEJ special issues would not have been possible.

Prof Luís Gato
Chair, EWTEC 2025