A mixed type of nominalization of the infinitive in European Portuguese

1. The main goal of the presentation is to argue in favour of a mixed type of nominalization of the infinitive in European Portuguese, with nominal and verbal properties, as in (1) *Esse teu gritar supreendeu-nos* (that your shout-INF surprised us/your shouting surprises us):

2. In Portuguese, like in Spanish and in Italian, there are at least two distinct forms of nominalization of an infinitive, the nominal infinitive and the verbal infinitive, that is, in fact, the nominalization of an infinitival clause. Plann (1981), Bosque (1990), de Miguel (1996), Hernanz (1999), Vásquez (2002) and Ramirez (2003) for Spanish, Salvi (1983) and Zucchi (1993) for Italian proposed several criteria to distinguish the nominal infinitive and the so called verbal infinitive. The nominal infinitive has more nominal than verbal properties, it denotes an event and not a proposition, meaning preferentially a process or an activity and it is why culmination and accomplishment verbs are here, most of the times, forbidden. Its main properties favour an analysis where a verbal root is dominated, at least by a DP. In the framework of Distributed Morphology (cf. in particular Alexiadou 2001, Alexiadou *et al.* 2009) the verbal root with its inner aspect information moves to a functional category n, that dominates the affix –r, what corresponds to say that it is “derivational morpheme”, not an inflectional one (de Miguel 1996). As a way to explain the genitive case, the DP moves to Spec of nP. In the nominalization of an infinitival clause, there is a subject (null or expressed), with inflection in the verbal form and there is the possibility of containing auxiliaries and negation; denoting a proposition, it is much more aspectually diversified than the nominal infinitive; the morpheme –r is projected in ASP and moves to T (what corresponds to its “inflectional” nature (de Miguel 1996). I propose that the nominalization of an infinitival clause is the nominalization of CP, being C the position in the left periphery to where the verb / auxiliary moves, explaining the order V S and, above all, the inflected infinitive (cf. also Raposo (1987) on inflected infinitive and Plann (1981), Vásquez (2002), Ramirez (2003) for equivalent construction in Spanish and Italian). In this respect, this analysis differs then from Alexiadou *et al.* (2009), who propose that Spanish correspondent construction is the nominalization of TP.

3. The mixed nominalization exemplified in (1) accepts DP objects, specially (incorporated) bare nouns, contains a possessive that controls the empty subject position of the infinitival form, expresses a process and may contain an adjective, behaving like the nominal infinitive. But it accepts negation, can easily accept a passive auxiliary, is normally selected by evaluative / factive predicates (*iritante, óptimo, aborrecido, um perigo*), can be modified by an adverb, including manner or aspectual adverbs. It has then nominal, verbal and clausal properties; as in the nominal infinitive a DP dominates nominal categories (here, POSSP, np); as in the nominalization of an infinitive clause, there is ASPP and TP. Also as in the nominalization of an infinitival clause the morpheme –r is projected at the head of ASPP and moves to Tense.