



The Shared Future

Generations building Europe

Portugal and the European Union follow the same path in a global context marked by challenges in areas such as climate, energy, security and technology. The EU's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, through the Recovery and Resilience Facility, marks a new phase of strategic investment, solidarity and cohesion.

Younger generations are growing up with digital skills, greater scientific literacy and participation in European initiatives that shape future competitiveness.

The country's development will continue to be based on European integration, strengthening sustainable growth, innovation and improving quality of life.



Hope, innovation and participation

"Europe is the place where Portugal's future takes shape. It is vital that we look after our democracies; without them, there is no EU."

Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa
President of the Portuguese Republic (2016)



The Euro

Stability and Confidence in the Single Currency

Joining the Euro marked one of the most significant steps in Portugal's European integration. In 1999, the country joined the founding group of the single currency, consolidating the economic credibility that it had built up over the previous decade.

The Euro brought monetary stability, low inflation rates and a predictable macroeconomic environment, strengthening integration into the single market and international confidence in the Portuguese economy.

The single currency has facilitated trade, investment and travel, becoming a symbol of EU membership and economic interdependence. Despite the challenges faced during the financial crisis, the Euro has demonstrated its resilience and has become one of the pillars of European cohesion and solidarity.



Stability, integration and economic confidence.

"The macroeconomic stability Portugal has achieved, as well as its recognised ability to implement reforms in difficult times, have strengthened our country's position as a leading and active Member State in these transformations."

Inês Domingos
Secretary of State for European Affairs (2020)



Schengen

A Europe without borders

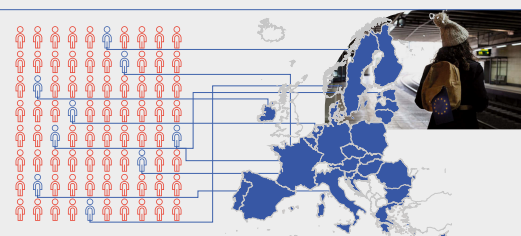


Portugal's entry into the Schengen Area in 1995 transformed European mobility and brought citizens closer together. The free movement of people is one of the most tangible achievements of European integration, allowing people to travel, study, work and live in other Member States, free from internal border controls.

For Portugal, the Schengen Agreement has boosted tourism, trade and a sense of European belonging. Borders have become points of cooperation rather than separation - underpinned by common mechanisms for security, police cooperation and the protection of external borders.

1995
2025

30 Years of Free Movement



400M+ CITIZENS

Mobility Cooperation

27 SCHENGEN COUNTRIES

No Borders Free Travel

Today, the Schengen Area symbolizes an open, secure and united Europe, where freedom of movement is a tangible and shared right.

Freedom, mobility and European cooperation.

"From the pioneering experience of the single currency and Schengen, we have, in my view, reaped far more benefits than drawbacks. It may not be the ideal solution, but as the saying goes, 'perfect is the enemy of good.'"

Jorge Sampaio
Former President of the Republic (2004)



Lisbon Declaration

Renewed Commitment to Europe

As part of the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Accession, the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister of Portugal signed the Lisbon Declaration. The Declaration reaffirmed their commitment to deepening European integration, founded on human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights.



The Lisbon Declaration recognized the European Union's remarkable contribution to the country's political, economic and social development, and highlighted Portugal's contribution to strengthening and enriching the European project.

40 anos
Portugal na União Europeia

Portugal's commitment to the principles guiding European integration was renewed: the promotion of peace and prosperity, the enhancement of cultural and humanist heritage, respect for international law and multilateralism, and the defence of the European Union's values and interests in the world.

The Declaration also reaffirmed the importance of freedom, security and justice, freedom of movement, economic, social, territorial and generational cohesion, environmental protection and the strengthening of the European social model.

It concludes by affirming Portugal's firm and ongoing commitment to a safer, fairer, more innovative and prosperous European Union: one that promotes social progress, convergence and cohesion, for the benefit of all of its citizens.



"Accession represented a strategic move to accelerate economic development and consolidate our democracy, but also the confirmation of Portugal as an integral part of a democratic, developed and united Europe."

Luís Montenegro, Prime Minister (2022)



40 anos



Portugal na União Europeia