



INESC Capable-ID

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Welcome to the second edition of INESC Capable-ID, the official newsletter of INESC-ID.

An exciting outreach activity, a PRR project aimed at addressing inequalities in conversational agents, an award to one of our pioneering scientists are some of the highlights of this edition.

We hope you find it as inescapable as we do!

In Depth



How can I help you, como posso ajudar, koma podi ajudá?

The evolution of conversational agents has been remarkable over the past decade. Even so, there is still significant room for growth, particularly when it comes to niche languages that are often overlooked by big tech companies, such as European Portuguese.

Accelerat.ai, a PRR-funded research project, aims to address these inequalities by developing conversational agents for languages that fall outside the focus of major tech companies. It also focuses on atypical speech, including children, elderly, and speakers with regional accents.

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Awards and Achievements

Isabel Trancoso, a pioneer in speech processing

The founder of the Human Language Technologies research area was honoured at the largest conference on speech and language technologies in the world - Interspeech. “Responsible AI may not be a consensus concept and the list of the so-called pillars may not be uniquely defined either. Nonetheless, their message is clear and urgent”, said the INESC-ID researcher and a Professor at Técnico, summarizing the talk given at the event that took place in Kos, Greece.

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Research Highlights



AI: When created, it should be for everyone

Artificial Intelligence systems are impacting our lives in almost all sectors. And will continue to do so. The Bridge AI project, led by INESC-ID, aims to address ethics, law, and literacy surrounding the European AI Act. With funding from the Science and Technology Foundation (FCT), the initiative seeks to prepare Portugal for upcoming AI regulations by promoting AI literacy across society.

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People of INESC-ID

Natália Costa

Natália, 39, had never lived outside Brazil, her home country, when she decided to move to Portugal four years ago. After discovering her interest in science and technology management and completing a six-month postdoc, the geographer applied for a position in the field - and got it. Her connection with INESC-ID had already begun in 2017, through her participation in congresses, which made the transition smooth and easy. If you have any questions related to PRR-funded projects, Natália is the one to talk to.



Rui Henriques

A combination of traits — an inclination towards abstraction and a fascination with human biophysiology — has led Rui, 37, to work on advancing Artificial Intelligence and its applications in Biomedicine, particularly in therapeutics. After a stint in industry, the INESC-ID researcher and Professor at Técnico, is fully dedicated to the investigation and mentoring path as science is where he feels most at home and at service, offering the freedom to think, solve critical challenges, and inspire others.



Daniel Mateus Gonçalves

Daniel was born in Castelo Branco, but it was in Aveiro, drawn by the city's vibrant life and university, that he found his passion for Computer Engineering and AI. His first research experience at IPO – Porto led him to cancer research, one of today's biggest health challenges, and to deepen his study of this disease while pursuing his PhD in bioinformatics at INESC-ID. A founding member of INESC-ID's PhD Students Volunteer Team, he finds a much-needed balance in activities that keep him “away from the computer and moving”, such as hiking and climbing.



Spotlight



INESC Lisboa Annual Meeting 2024

The biggest event in our community is approaching: the 2nd INESC Lisboa Annual Meeting, which will take place on October 25. We have asked three questions to INESC Lisboa director, Leonel Sousa, about the event and the INESC Lisboa community.

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Reaching Out



European Researcher's Night 2024

On September 27, the European Researchers' Night (NEI) turned Marina de Oeiras into a lively celebration of science and community. We were there to showcase some of our projects.

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We Recommend

OLA (Observatório do Lago Alqueva)

Under the bright lights of a city, it is easy to forget the awe-inspiring spectacle the night sky offer us every evening. The Observatory of Lake Alqueva (OLA), nestled between the hilltop citadel of Monsaraz in Alentejo and the largest artificial lake in Europe, was built with the mission to remind us of the privilege of living on this pale blue dot. It offers visitors guided stargazing tours and other activities in the very heart of the Dark Sky Reserve, the first starlight tourism destination in the world. If you visit, don't forget to book in advance!

[Know more](#)



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