



INESC capable-ID

Issue #9 | November 2025

Welcome to the 9th edition of INESC capable-ID, the last of 2025. Democracy is increasingly influenced by digital technology. Every day, these tools affect how we relate, think and decide. In this issue we highlight research that takes on that responsibility: serious games for social good, data science for inclusive health, and tools that help discern truth. We also build bridges across the Atlantic, celebrate transparency, and exchange ideas within our community. Small contributions to a shared understanding.

In Depth



Serious Games go to Parliament: INESC-ID showcases research-driven play for inclusion, trust and social good

Serious games are serious business. At a special edition of Game Break in Casa do Parlamento, INESC-ID joined policymakers, researchers and industry professionals to show how games like All Sustainable and Geometry Friends can educate, support inclusion and strengthen informed decision-making.

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Research Highlights



More than a gut-feeling: using AI to analyse the gut microbiome and its impact on menopause

The Age-Wise project is exploring how the gut microbiome may influence one of the most significant stages in women's lives: menopause. At INESC-ID, researchers are developing computational tools to analyse microbiome data and support non-invasive diagnostics, helping identify potential health risks associated with this stage of women's lives.

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In the Media



Critical thinking in the age of AI – INESC-ID on RTP's Sociedade Civil

“Do you ever question Waze when driving?” asked the host of RTP's Sociedade Civil. INESC-ID researchers Joana Campos and Helena Moniz joined the recently aired episode on Critical Thinking in the Age of AI to reflect on how generative AI is reshaping cognition, language and culture, and why broad AI literacy is becoming essential.

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Spotlight



INESC ID Annual Meeting 2025: Year in review, showcasing excellence and a Town Hall

After a two year hiatus, INESC-ID returned to hosting its own annual meeting. Nearly 200 members gathered in Sintra to reconnect, reflect on a year of work, and share stories behind the research. The new Town Hall format invited an open exchange of ideas between the community and the board on the institute's future.

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Institutional Partnerships



Strengthening Partnerships across the Atlantic — Brazil's MCTI visits INESC-ID

Brazil's Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation visited INESC-ID to explore new opportunities for cooperation in microchips, AI and cybersecurity. The delegation learned about INESC-ID and initiatives such as POEMS — the Portuguese Competence Centre in Semiconductors, as well as the results achieved by our visiting students at UFRGS.

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Awards and Achievements

Best Portuguese Internet Research Award 2025

Paula Carvalho, Danielle Caled and Mário Silva won "Best Portuguese Internet Research" Award with the paper "The Thin Line Between Conspiracy Theories and Opinion: Why Humans and AI struggle to differentiate them". The study provides insights for developing tools to distinguish a reliable piece of information from a conspiracy theory, a valuable resource in times when fake news are a common sight. The Internet Society 2025 Award is an initiative of the Portugal Chapter of the Internet Society to promote and reward the best results of national research.



Reaching Out



INESC-ID brings secure computing to the first Téc4Defence

At the first Téc4Defence, researchers, industry and the Armed Forces came together to explore how science and technology can support national and European security. INESC-ID's stand showcased an encryption prototype and two European projects in

secure computing, drawing interest from students and defence professionals throughout the day.

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People of INESC-ID

Nuno Neves

The sea and all the remote places it hid have fascinated Nuno since he was a child, a bottomless curiosity that was carried out into adulthood. Eventually it led to taking a diving course and, after 5 years, the hobby was upgraded to cave diving. Engineering had been a constant interest, and at INESC-ID he currently works in computer architectures, contributing to EPI and DARE, two ambitious projects to develop European processors. Much to Nuno's delight there was also the opportunity to combine his research area with diving through the "3D-CAVE Project", which used cameras and 3D algorithms to map caves.



Sérgio André

What started as taking toys apart as a kid and later fixing equipment pieces from neighbours led Sérgio to the path of Electrical Engineering. After a master's degree in the same field he decided to get a different perspective from academia and worked in a company for a few years before, eventually starting his PhD at INESC-ID. His supervisors suggested he brought together skills from different areas resulting in his current research: using AI to try to improve the harnessing of micro-grids to reduce costs. Recently he has become a father, and his free time consists of enjoying as much family time as possible.

We Recommend

Santa Clara Mercado de Natal

For this jolly season we bring you a recommendation for all who leave their gift shopping for the last minute, and for anyone who enjoys a cozy stroll through the market. Avoid the cacophony of shopping centres and postal delays and visit Mercado de Santa Clara for their Christmas market from December 20 to 23. From artisanal jewellery and home décor to clothes and delicious snacks and teas, you're sure to find something even for the most difficult person to gift.



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