

# Portugal



## Facts

Population of 10,33 Mio.  
EU-membership since 11986  
Government of socialdemocrats

## Portugal's strategy regarding AI regulation

*"We attach great importance to the legal framework for artificial intelligence. It is now clear that artificial intelligence is the basis for enhanced productivity and has great potential for growth (...) the standards of society and individuals should be respected in the area of artificial intelligence and the algorithms involved (...) It is important for citizens to have confidence in the digital economy (...) transparent framework, taking into account the risks involved and protecting the EU's values, on issues such as human rights and privacy, among others..."*

**Pedro Siza Vieira,**  
Portuguese Economy Minister.

## Goal regarding the AI Act

- Prevent an overburdening of small and medium enterprises by legal frameworks that create many administrative obligations.
- Avoiding innovation-inhibiting regulation.
- Allow the use of facial recognition technology in criminal persecution and law enforcement.
- Limit and specify the definition of AI.



# Portugal's stance to the European AI Act

## Article 3 - Definitions



*"Precise, but not noxious."*

- Portugal advocates that the European Union must avoid regulations with an innovation-inhibiting effect.
- Regulation shouldn't become an administrative burden, thus hindering innovation and development of AI, especially by small and medium enterprises who couldn't afford complying with a legal framework that is too complex.
- To ensure legal security, the definitions must be so clear and concise that public authorities, citizens and companies know when they are confronted with AI. Furthermore, the scope of application should be limited to AI, ruling out other systems that may share certain traits with AI, but aren't real AI (for example simple statistical systems).
- .....

## Article 5 - Prohibited artificial intelligences practices



*"When AI is being used, we must reconcile basic rights with the public benefit."*

- At least in the field of criminal persecution, facial recognition technology shouldn't be prohibited.
- .....

## Article 6 - Classification rules for high-risk AI-systems



*"We must create a multi-level risk-based approach on AI."*

- It's important to find a coordinated approach at a European Level. That's why Portugal participated already in early stages of the development of the AI Act that was based on a risk approach.
- In order to be able to use AI for criminal persecution, requirements depending on the risk-level shouldn't be too high.
- .....



\* EC-funded projects are not considered as such in this world wide overview.

Total number of AI players: 121

Number of AI firms: 111

AI Patent applications: 9

AI Frontier-Research publicat...: 19

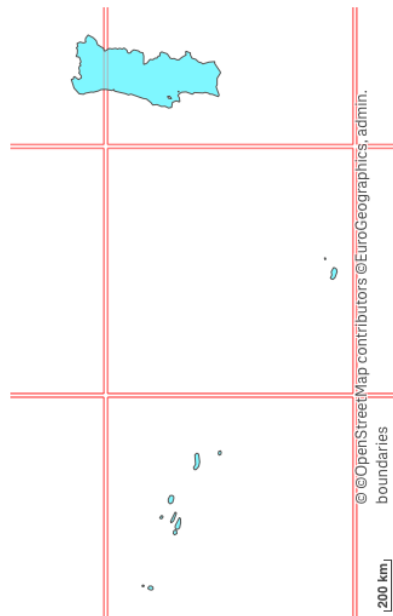
Country

Geographical Area

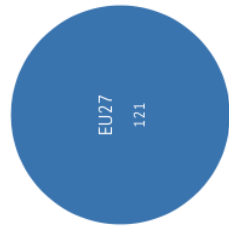
Organisation Type

### AI Players in the AI landscape by Country

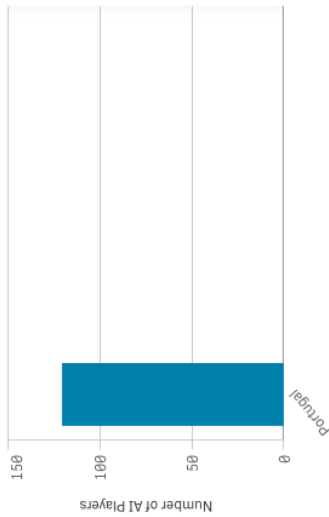
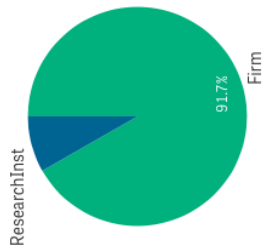
Colors proportional to total number of players



### AI Players by Geographical Area

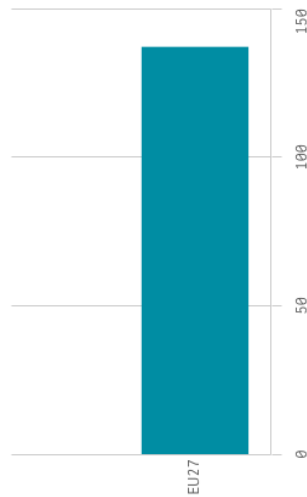


### AI Players by Organisation Type

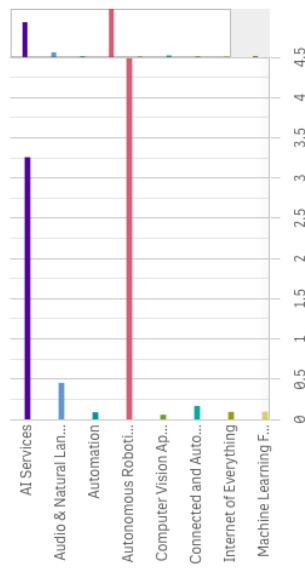


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### Activities by Geographical Area

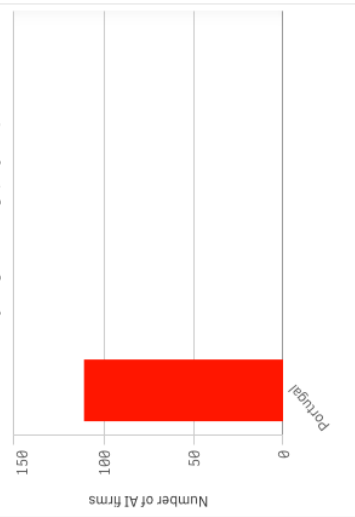


### Revealed Comparative Advantage (\*) by Thematic Area



(\*) Revealed Comparative Advantage (RCA) compares, for each AI thematic area, the proportion of a country's activity in an AI thematic area (computed over all country's AI activities) with the worldwide proportion of AI activities in that thematic area. Countries with  $RCA > 1$  in a thematic area are relatively specialised in that area and reveal a comparative advantage.

### Firms in the AI landscape by Country (top 20)



source: AI Watch, [https://web.irc.ec.europa.eu/dashboard/AI\\_WATCH\\_LANDSCAPE/index.html?bookmark=overview&sel-Country=Portugal](https://web.irc.ec.europa.eu/dashboard/AI_WATCH_LANDSCAPE/index.html?bookmark=overview&sel-Country=Portugal)

