

News in Portugal

6 March 2019

A weekly summary of the headline news from Portugal in English, every Wednesday.

Police grant hacker protection, but Rui Pinto does not believe in the Portuguese authorities

Rui Pinto, who is being investigated for computer piracy and extortion against Doyen, accuses the Portuguese Judiciary Police of being partial, of having suspicious connections and of not investigating the information they receive regarding football. And he told the court judge in Budapest, Hungary, where he is under house arrest, that returning to Portugal was a matter of "life or death".

After the session in which the judge decided to extradite the Portuguese and his lawyers announced an appeal, Rui Pinto announced to the journalists that French authorities, to whom he has already handed in useful documents to their investigations into football-related crimes, have pledged to include him in a "witness protection program" because they have realized that he "was at risk". The same view will not be shared by the Portuguese authorities. "I am clearly under the impression that the Portuguese authorities may want something to happen to me. There is already European case law for the protection of whistleblowers. And so it is also regrettable that the Portuguese authorities do not take this into consideration and want to treat me like a criminal", he said.

See the full Portuguese version of the story [here](#).

Portuguese government maintains "golden visa programme" says State Secretary for Internationalization

The Secretary of State for Internationalization, Eurico Brilhante Dias, assured this Saturday that the "golden visa programme" will not end, but expressed the desire to make legislative changes that improve transparency. "Portugal keeps the system running. The degree of demand has increased. This Government has promoted legislative changes in this area", said Eurico Brilhante Dias in response to the conclusion of the European Parliament's special committee on financial crimes and tax evasion, which proposes the end of the "golden visa programmes" in Europe.

The Secretary of State said that the country will continue to grant residence permits for investment, pointing out that, contrary to what happens in other countries, Portugal does not assign nationality in exchange for investment.

See the full Portuguese version of the story [here](#).

Seven districts on orange warning alert due to maritime unrest

The Portuguese Institute of the Sea and Atmosphere (IPMA) issued an orange notice to seven districts of the continent, due to the strong sea waves caused by the Laura depression. Porto, Viana do Castelo, Lisbon, Leiria, Aveiro, Coimbra and Braga will be the districts on orange alert between 18:00 on Wednesday (today) and the 15:00 on Thursday (tomorrow), with predictions of waves between 5 and 5.5 meters. As of late afternoon, a yellow warning was issued for the same districts because of rain, wind and thunderstorm forecasts, as well as for the remaining 11 districts of the country.

See the Portuguese version of the story [here](#).

Forbes: Maria Fernanda Amorim has the greatest fortune in Portugal and the 379th worldwide

Maria Fernanda Amorim – and her family – is the only reference from Portugal in Forbes magazine's list of billionaires in the 2019 edition. Ranked in 379th place worldwide, the fortune of Maria Fernanda Amorim, widow of businessman Américo Amorim, is valued at \$ 4.8 billion. Among the main assets is the 18% stake held in Galp, a company headed by her eldest daughter Paula Amorim.

In the comparison between Portugal and Spain, the disparities in the list of billionaires go far beyond the difference of dimensions in the Gross Domestic Product of the two Iberian countries, because Spain has a list of 29 billionaires, with a total wealth of about \$ 119.3 billion.

In the 2019 edition of Forbes' "Billionaires", there is a decline in the number of billionaires and the value of their wealth – it is the second year that this happens in a decade – which for Forbes shows that the richest are not immune to the oscillations of the economy and the weaknesses of capital.

See the Portuguese version of the story [here](#).