

News in Portugal

10 April 2019

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

Portugal pays the lowest interest in its history to place 10-year bonds

The Treasury of Portugal has managed to place this Wednesday € 862 million in bonds with ten-year maturity in an auction in which the interest offered has been placed at 1.298%, the lowest paid by the Portuguese country since records began. This is according to the data of the Agency of Management of the Treasury and the Public Debt of Portugal.

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

British residents in Portugal up 36.7% since referendum

The latest figures are not yet consolidated, but it is estimated that the number of UK citizens living in Portugal exceeds 25,000. The number of UK residents in Portugal has increased by 36.7% since the referendum that left the European Union (EU) on 23 June 2016, a process that is currently in a stalemate in the British parliament. Prior to the popular referendum on Brexit, the 2016 register of the Foreigners and Borders Service (SEF) indicated that 19,384 Britons were resident in Portugal. The numbers for 2018 are not consolidated, but the Foreigners and Borders Service (SEF) estimates that 26,500 Britons are holders of a residence permit in Portugal.

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

IMF returns to low growth estimate for Portugal

In a scenario of European economic braking, the Fund puts Portugal's estimated GDP growth for 2019 up by 1.7% this year and 1.5% in the next. Unemployment, however, may continue to fall. With the eurozone economy even stronger than expected, Portugal was unable to escape a further downward revision of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) growth forecast. The Washington-based entity - which on Tuesday presented its spring projections for the global economy - now estimates that Portugal will grow 1.7% this year, down 0.1 percentage points from the previous forecast.

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

Housing lending is at its highest since 2010

Banks lent € 1,481 million until February. The average interest rate on contracts fell to 1.37%. The credit market continues to heat up. In the first two months of 2019, the Portuguese asked for € 1,481 million for credit to buy housing. It is the highest level since 2010, for the first two months of the year, and exceeds the € 1,310 million recorded a year ago. The data released on Tuesday by the Bank of Portugal show that, although in monthly terms, since January there has been a drop in total new housing loans, credit granted in the first two months of this year is at a high.

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