

News in Portugal

16 January 2019

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

Government presents measures for post-Brexit if there is no agreement with EU

Deputy Economy Minister Siza Vieira announced three measures, which will be submitted for approval on Thursday, aimed at helping Portuguese companies if there is no agreement for Brexit. Speaking to reporters, Siza Vieira said that the first step will be the launch of a 50 million euro financing line that will be available to Portuguese companies. In parallel, the Government will launch incentives to analyse the impacts of Brexit on Portuguese exports. The third measure concerns dissemination actions on the formalities that will be applied to the future relationship between Portugal and the United Kingdom.

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

Parliament debates municipal electricity networks

The Parliamentary Committee on Economy, Innovation and Public Works (CEIOP) will hold a conference on the distribution of low-voltage electricity (BTN) in Portuguese municipalities tomorrow, with the aim of "clarification to citizens on a subject that is part of their daily lives". "It is Parliament's contribution to the debate on an issue on which there is still a great lack of knowledge about the municipalities themselves," said CEIOP President, CDS-PP Hélder Amaral.

With the end of the concession contracts between the majority of the Portuguese municipalities and EDP Distribuição, the issue of municipal networks continues to be a source of controversy among municipalities, the Energy Services Regulatory Entity (ERSE) - to which the proposals for division of the new concessions - and the regulated company of the EDP group, which serves the overwhelming majority of the six million consumers.

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

Jerónimo Martins, EDP and Galp distinguished as Europe's most sustainable companies

The list of Euronext Vigeo-Eiris Europe 120 2018 was announced, a ranking that recognizes the 120 companies in Europe that best promote sustainability practices. Representing Portugal in this index are the

energy companies EDP - Energias de Portugal and Galp Energia and, for the first time, the Jerónimo Martins group, the only organization in the retail sector. In the Euronext Vigeo World 120 index, the list that distinguishes 120 companies worldwide, only the one led by António Mexia is represented.

These distinctions are made based on the analysis of corporate performance in 2017 and it covers more than 300 indicators on such diverse topics as Human Rights, Human Resources, Community Involvement, Corporate Governance, Environment and Business Conduct.

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

Lisbon begins waste war: plastic cups banned until 2020 and Sunday collections

The measures will be part of an update to the Regulation of Waste Management, Cleaning and Urban Hygiene of Lisbon, and were presented this Thursday at a press conference, held in the Paços do Concelho.

"We will hire 300 corner workers during the year 2019, we already have the hiring process open," said the vice president of the municipality, who is also responsible for the Urban Services portfolio. In the presentation, Duarte Cordeiro pointed out that "between 2015 and 2018", "waste production increased by 10%", which is largely due to the increase in tourism in the capital. This issue led the chamber to rethink the current regulation, and to update it, in order to "adapt the system to a reality that has changed".

In addition to hiring more workers, the new measures include the extension of rubbish collection to Sunday in 10 parishes: Santa Maria Maior, Estrela, Misericórdia, Santo António, São Vicente, Avenidas Novas, Alcântara, Arroios, Penha de França and Campo de Ourique.

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