

Date: 15 and 16 July 2026

Venue: Lisbon Congress Centre

1st National Science and Innovation Conference 2026

The 2026 Conference is dedicated to an enlarged consultation of the science-innovation ecosystem, where the scientific community, private companies, sector organizations, and the public administration interact. We expect a rich discussion based on collaborative proposals for future research and knowledge-based innovation including its connections to society, economy, the territory, and the regional development, as well as better alignment with European strategies and the capacity for internationalization.

All actors of the ecosystem have been invited to submit shared proposal for themes and questions they consider strategic for the future of research and innovation in Portugal. According to the proposals received, thematic sessions will be organized, including all types of actors and moderated by a professional. Reports from the sessions will be incorporated in the contributions to the strategic design of the future of research and innovation in Portugal.

15th July 2026

10h15 Opening session

João Barros, President of the Board of Directors of Agency for Research and Innovation (AI²)
Luís Montenegro, Prime Minister of Portugal*

10h45 Plenary session 1: Science and Innovation Priorities

[Update on the Strategic Assessment and Participatory Process](#)
Maria do Rosário Partidário, Scientific Coordinator

12h00 Plenary session 2: From Science to Innovation and Impact – How to Accelerate Value Creation?

António Cunha, Professor at University of Minho
Pedro Bizarro, Co-founder and Chief Science Officer at Feedzai
Organized by the National Advisory Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (CNCTI)
Carlos Oliveira, President of CNCTI

12h45 Networking lunch

13h45 Parallel Sessions: Thematic participatory discussions

15h10 Plenary session 3

16h00 Coffee break and networking

16h30 Parallel Sessions: Thematic participatory discussions

*to be confirmed (TBC)

16th July 2026

- 9h00 **Parallel Sessions: Thematic participatory discussions**
- 10h30 **Coffee break and networking**
- 11h00 **Plenary session 4: Portuguese R&I Ecosystem for the Future**
[The new National Science and Innovation Act](#)
Helena Canhão, Secretary of State for Science and Innovation
João Ferreira, Secretary of State for Economy
- 11h30 **Plenary session 5: The Alignment of National and EU Strategic Priorities for Research and Innovation**
[The Reform of the Portuguese Scientific and Innovation System and the new European Framework Programme](#)
Fernando Alexandre, Minister of Education, Science and Innovation
[Priorities for the new European Framework: FP10 and the European Competitiveness Fund](#)
Ekaterina Zaharieva, European Commissioner
- 12h30 **Networking lunch**
- 13h30 **Parallel Sessions: Thematic participatory discussions**
- 15h00 **Coffee break and networking**
- 15h30 **Plenary session 6: From Science to the Ecosystem – Building Territorial Advantages in the Innovation Economy**
Organized by the Business Association for Innovation in Portugal (COTEC Portugal)
Jorge Portugal, General Manager, COTEC Portugal
- 16h30 **Closing session**
Highlights from the parallel sessions
- Closing ceremony**
Fernando Alexandre, Minister of Education, Science and Innovation