

News in Portugal

12 September 2018

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

Reparation work to begin this year on 25 of April Bridge

The Minister of Planning said on Wednesday that the works at the 25 of Abril Bridge in Lisbon were "safe" since the tender procedures are in progress, and estimates that the contract will start "later this year", as planned. "The processes are under way and we have already received proposals from contractors. We have already made a proposal for the selection of the company to deliver this work," said Pedro Marques, Minister of Planning and Infrastructures, of Economy, Innovation and Public Works. The bridge communicates Lisbon with the south bank of the Tagus River.

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

Consumers forced to pay additional €23bn for electricity

Electricity consumers in Portugal have already shelled out more than €23 billion extra as a result of payments legally due to generating companies under agreements signed by past governments, a former president of the country's competition authority estimated on Tuesday, as he made a ringing appeal to parliament to reduce "this burden". Abel Mateus was testifying to a parliamentary committee of inquiry on "excessive rents" in the energy sector. At the end of his initial statement, he argued for the need to reduce the degree to which the public subsidises generators. "In the electricity sector consumers already bear a surcharge of around twenty three billion euros," he said.

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

President supports Guterres against climate change

Speaking on Monday at the UN headquarters in New York on the eve of a global climate summit meeting, António Guterres warned that the world faces "a direct existential threat" and has to react within the next two years. "If the world doesn't change course by 2020, we run the risk of runaway climate change", the UN Secretary General and former Portuguese prime minister said. Portugal's president, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, on Tuesday added his voice to that of the UN Secretary General, António Guterres, to the urgency in fighting climate change and how committed Portugal was to this matter.

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

Minor Earthquake in the Algarve

A tremor measuring 3.0 on the Richter scale was registered just outside the Algarve mountain city of Monchique this morning. The low-intensity quake's epicentre was pinpointed to 10 kilometres east of Monchique, at 8.15am, according to Portugal's IPMA Met Office. The IPMA said the tremor did not cause personal or material damage. Last Tuesday a larger 4.6 magnitude scale earthquake was felt in the northern and central parts of Portugal.

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