

News in Portugal

7 November 2018

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

Web Summit in Lisbon

The annual Web Summit has started this week in Lisbon and will run through to Thursday. The world's largest tech and start-up event has seen mobile operators rally to boost signals in the capital, while police have deployed substantial reinforcements. Hotel prices have also jumped, with reports of some venues charging as much as 900 euros a night. This year's edition is expecting more than 70,000 participants from 170 countries.

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

Portugal announces measures to avoid further forest fire tragedies

Portugal's internal affairs minister said on Tuesday that the National Republican Guard (GNR) is to be provided with a further 300 officers for its prevention and rescue intervention squad, in an effort to combat deadly wildfires. Eduardo Cabrita also said the country was creating 40 permanent intervention teams in the country's fire service next year.

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

Uber sends request to Institute of Mobility and Transport to operate in Portugal

Uber delivered a request to the Institute of Mobility and Transport (IMT) to operate in Portugal, where it has more than 6,500 drivers, last week, on the day in which the law for these electronic platforms came into force. "Uber today officially submitted to the IMT the application for an operator license of individual and remunerated passenger transport platform in deprived vehicles (TVDE)," the company said.

The company's official source notes that Uber is "committed to fully complying with the law within the deadlines so that Portuguese cities, drivers and users can continue to benefit from the potential of new technologies in this new regulatory framework. Uber has been in Portugal since 2014, operating in 18 cities in the metropolitan areas of Lisbon and Oporto and in the Algarve, Braga and Guimarões regions with more than 6,500 drivers, according to company data.

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

Unemployment rate of 6.7% in the third quarter

The unemployment rate remained at 6.7% in the third quarter, equal to the previous quarter, maintaining the lowest rate since the first quarter of 2011. This figure is 1.8 percentage points lower than the corresponding quarter of 2017, the National Statistics Institute (INE) said today.

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