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Portugal's information edge:

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FROM THE 1974 REVOLUTION
TO THE PRESENT DAY

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Main objectives

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General

- ▶ to explore the importance of Portuguese Information systems security within the world;
- ▶ to emphasize the importance/resilience and role of the states within the current political *status quo*;
- ▶ to reflect upon the relation between power and interdependence in the Information Age.

Main objectives

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Specific:

- ▶ to analyse the *modus operandi* of the Portuguese Intelligence Services (SIS and SIES);
- ▶ Understand whether it's legitimate or not to subvert some constitutional rights and individual rights on behalf of security;
- ▶ To analyse/understand how far people are aware of the existence of Secret services in Portugal.

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 2. Brief History of Intelligence services in Portugal
 3. *Estado Novo*
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 8. Scandal in the Portuguese Intelligence
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The Power of Information

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‘BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU’

(George Orwell, 1984.)

SURVEILLANCE NEUROSIS

Brief History of Intelligence Services in Portugal

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- **King João II** (reigned 1481-1495)
- Expansionist king; Western African Coast became sailable.
- The founder/patron of the Intelligence Services in Portugal
- **Pêro da Covilhã**: first secret agent (spy) (the king’s squire)
- Secrecy and cover-up strategies / strategic plans to avoid dangers, make allies and be effective when sending maritime resources
- 1498: Vasco da Gama reached India by sea



Brief History of Intelligence Services in Portugal

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- **King Manuel I** (1495-1521)
- The 'espionage machine' revealed to be ineffective as more men were needed to keep secrets that had been revealed.
- 1496-1580: no structured information system.
- This inefficacy remained until 1910 (Proclamation of the Republic).
- 1911 Constitution: states that it is the President's duty to look for the internal as well as external defence of the state.

Brief History of Intelligence Services in Portugal

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- **1918:** Reorganisation of the Public Security Board/Body.
- Reinforcement of the Protective Police Force (up until Salazar's ascension to power)
- The identity of its members is secret and the work in the field is equally classified.
- **1926-1933:** military dictatorship
- Press censorship / repression / authoritarian regime
- **1928:** Information Police Force
- **1931:** Information Police Force extinguished

ESTADO NOVO

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- **1933-1974:** *Estado Novo /Salazarismo*
- António Oliveira de Salazar
- God, country (homeland), family
- Its main allies were large landowners, the commercial elite, industrialists and the Catholic Church.
- They all benefitted greatly from the new authoritarian government which granted them generous privileges.
- Unparliamentary and anti-liberal conception of the State

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<http://carlosjmalmeida.wordpress.com/2012/03/14/santa-combadao-lanca-marca-salazar/>



<http://www.time.com/time/covers/0,16641,19460722,00.html>

ESTADO NOVO

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- 1933: International Police (PVDE: Polícia de Vigilância e Defesa do Estado).
- Main competences:
 - √ **Obtain information;**
 - √ **Documentation control over nationals and foreigners;**
 - √ **Foreigners' control (desmantling of foreign networks in Portugal during the 2nd World War)**
 - √ **Surveillance and repression on anarchists and communists (anticommunism crusade)**

PIDE

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- **1946:** PIDE (*Polícia Internacional e de Defesa do Estado* – International and State Defence Police)
- Salazar's Secret Information Force
- Totalitarian control
- Fascism
- No freedom of speech
- Perpetrators of individual liberties
- torture /prison
- Unsophisticated means of control
- Network of informants all over the country (embryonic; unskilled, inexperienced agents, amateurs)
- PIDE in Portuguese African colonies: more organised; more effective



(desenvolturadesacatos.blogspot.com)

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agualisa6.blogs.sapo.p

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PIDE

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- 1946: 518 employees
- 1974: 3500 employees
- Most powerful Board: Intelligence Board (telecommunications control, counter-Intelligence services)
- Cooperation with CIA and French Intelligence
- The totalitarian and repressive nature of the Portuguese Intelligent Services during the period of 1933-1974 will determine the repulse and mistrust shared nowadays by the Portuguese citizens towards this service.

The Revolution in 1974

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- **The Revolution of the Carnations**
- On 25 April 1974, a group of army officers who called themselves the 'Movimento das Forças Armadas', or MFA, led a revolt to overthrow the Caetano government (1968-1974).
- End of the dictatorial Regime; dissolution of PIDE
- Democracy
- Liberty



enciclopedia.com.pt

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enciclopedia.com.pt

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enciclopedia.com.pt

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1974 onwards

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- No Intelligence Service /no effective information system
- 1974-1984: DINFO years (Divisão de Informações ‘Intelligence Division’) – General Pedro Cardoso
- Ambivalence about Portuguese Intelligence’s legitimacy, administration and answerability, and its political role.
- Civilian- military rivalry

1974 onwards

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1978-1981: Pedro Cardoso realised the total absence of an intelligence culture in Portugal

Left-wing parties (Socialist and communist parties) saw the intelligence services as a political police, controlling and confining.

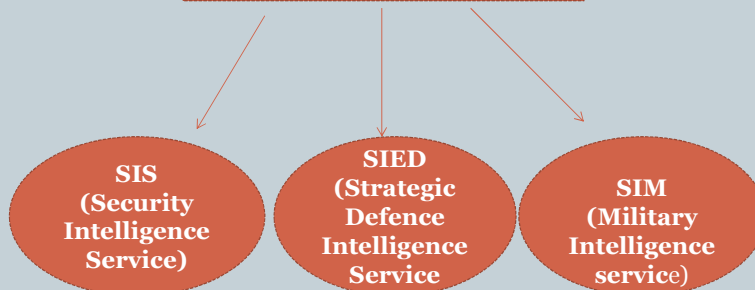
1984- Law for the **System of Information of the Portuguese Republic** passed in Parliament

1974 onwards

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- **1986**

SIRP
The Portuguese Intelligence System

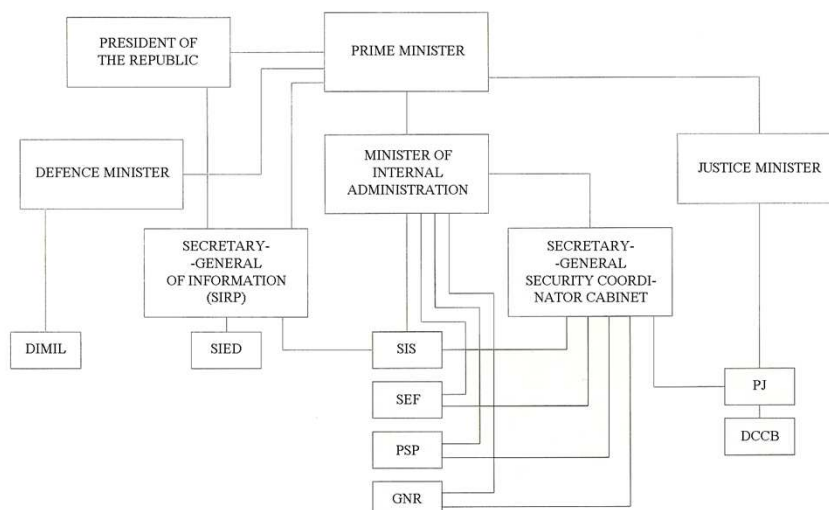


Modus Operandi of SIRP

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- SIRP is based on British Practice
- SIED: intended to collect intelligence assuring national independence and the external security of the state. The eyes and ears of Portugal in the world. Priority areas: EU; USA; Africa and Brazil.
- SIM: a re-baptised DINFO (includes virtually all the experienced specialists in intelligence analysis in Portugal);
- reports to the Ministry of Defence
- SIS *vs* SIM

PORTUGUESE NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM



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SIS

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- **SIS** became operational in late 1987
- Young and inexperienced graduates
- Set up with help from the UK, Israel, the USA, West Germany, Spain and Brazil. Many SIS operatives trained by Western services.
- No police functions (civilian wing of Portuguese Intelligence)
- Collects and organises intelligence on internal security: to prevent sabotage, terrorism, espionage, and actions against the rule of law.
- SIS reports to the Ministry of Internal Administration

SIS

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- Secret/closed organisation / regards all intelligence as fundamental and top secret, without discrimination
- <http://www.sis.pt/en/hinfopt.html>
- Difficulties in recruitment
- Forbidden by law to employ former PIDEs, and from keeping computer data on Portuguese civilians.
- Request hard to keep
- Demand to destroy the PIDE tapping equipment
- Telephoning tapping /opening letters
- The Judiciary Police: the only one allowed to legally tap telephones in Portugal

High-tech technology or operational immaturity?

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- Cutting-edge technology (?)
- Laptops
- Satellites
- Internet
- Software programmes and high resolution printers
- *Modus operandi* – unknown/secret to most Portuguese citizens

Scandal in the Portuguese Intelligence

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- Telephone tapping /interception of telecommunications:
- Former Prime-Minister José Sócrates / current President Cavaco Silva
- Ordinary civilians /police officers
- Freemasonry
- Information leaks/ data breaches
- Wikileaks

Foreign Press on SIS's scandals

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- **Portugal's secret services deny spying on president**
- **Portugal's secret services were forced to issue a rare public statement on Friday denying having spied on the country's president, just 10 days before a closely-fought parliamentary election.**
- The SIS secret service agency said in a statement it "categorically denied" its "implication in any eavesdropping activity or interception of communications," or bugging the presidential palace.
- The organisation's comments followed a press report that centre-right President Anibal Cavaco Silva, of the Social Democratic party, feared having been spied on in his official residence by the secret services.
- The president feared the SIS agency, controlled by Prime Minister Jose Socrates of the rival Socialist party, had been behind the espionage, according to a report in newspaper Publico last month.
- On Friday, the Diario de Noticias newspaper said it had evidence the eavesdropping allegation was leaked to the press by a presidential adviser – giving the affair new momentum and forcing the SIS to issue a denial.
- Both the president and the prime minister declined to comment on the affair on Friday. (...)
- Wednesday 28 December 2011
- Telegraph.co.uk (accessed 18-03-2012)

[Secret services: new scandal in Portuguese intelligence](#)

The former head of one of Portugal's intelligence agencies is accused in an investigation led by weekly Expresso of leaking secret information to his future employer in a private company.

25 July 2011 by Vitor Matos

A new **scandle** has broken over the Portuguese **secret services**. Weekly *Expresso* wrote Saturday that the former director of the foreign **intelligence agency (SIED – Strategic and Defence Intelligence Service)** **leaked** secret information to the same private company that would come to hire him. **Jorge Silva Carvalho**, a 45-year-old spy who spent his entire professional life in the intelligence community, resigned as head of the intelligence service in November 2010, when the NATO Summit took place in Lisbon, saying that he had neither the budget nor the means to do his job properly. Shortly after, he was hired by **Ongoing**, a Portuguese company led by **Nuno Vasconcellos** that owns the financial daily **Diário Económico**, and is a major stockholder in important Portuguese companies like Portugal Telecom and Grupo Espírito Santo. Carvalho denied all the accusations.

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Expresso says that, on 2 November 2010, one week before he resigned, Silva Carvalho leaked information from the secret services to Ongoing about two **Russian businessmen** who were not identified in the article. **Ongoing** also hired two other former spies. Jorge Silva Carvalho is a member of the **freemasonry**, and shares the same lodge with Nuno Vasconcellos, Ongoing's CEO. The **Mozart Lodge** is known as one of the most **powerful** in Portugal. The information concerning the links with the freemasonry was revealed by **Sábado** newsmagazine when Jorge Silva Carvalho was still head of the intelligence service, but did not cause any consternation in the government and had no consequences at the time.

<http://www.portugaldailyview.com/01-whats-new/secret-services-new-scandal-in-the-portuguese-intelligence> (accessed 28-03-2012)

Reflection issues

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- 1. Government's legitimacy to control its citizens**
- 2. Border between State security and individual liberty**
- 3. Importance/resilience and role of the states within the current political *status quo* (protection of the individual)**

Concluding Remarks

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- Knowledge is power
- Hacking - Wikileaks (global force; weapon; release of classified information (diplomatic, political, ethical, historical significance))
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9xrO2Ch4Co>
- Portuguese Intelligence Services – still a long way to go
- No coordination among the different intelligence agencies (SIS, SIED, SIM)
- Great rivalry
- Inefficacy /difficulty to recruit agents in important fields (terrorism, illegal immigration and organised crime)
- Fragmented intelligence service

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