

Social Work in Portugal

Trieste,

April, 2024

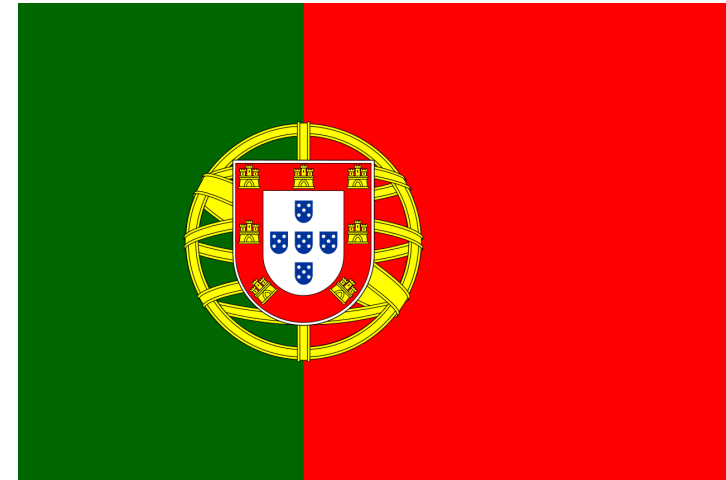
Sónia Guadalupe

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Curricular note

- Social Worker.
- Ph.D in Social Work (2017, ISCTE-IUL, Lisbon), Ph.D in Mental Health (2009, University of Oporto), Master in Family and Social Systems (2000, ISMT), Graduated in Social Work (1995, ISSSC).
- Assistant Professor at University of Coimbra • Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences
- Researcher at the CEISUC - Centre for Health Studies and Research of the University of Coimbra.
- Member of the Installation Commission of the Order of Social Workers (2020-2021). Vice-president of the Association of Social Work Professionals in Portugal (2008/2015).

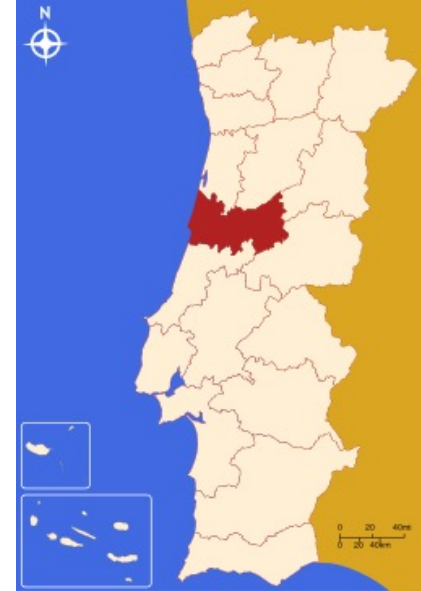
Portugal



- Since 1143
- Capital: Lisboa (Lisbon)
- Population: 10 million
- Republic since 1910
- Democracy since 1974 April 25th
Carnation Revolution
- Member of EU since 1986



COIMBRA, PORTUGAL





University of Coimbra

Since 1290

One of the oldest of Europe





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FACULDADE
DE PSICOLOGIA E DE
CIÊNCIAS DA EDUCAÇÃO
UNIVERSIDADE D
COIMBRA

Student's Traditions

- Praxe (rituals)
- Latada (public party in October)
- Queima das Fitas (public party in May)
- Fado de Coimbra (Serenata: music)

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Our students and their traditions



UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA
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E DE
CIÊNCIAS DA EDUCAÇÃO



SOCIAL WORK IN PORTUGAL

Schools of Social Work - historical dates

Nowadays: 17 graduation programmes

1935

1st School of
Social Work
Lisbon



1937

2nd School of
Social Work
Coimbra

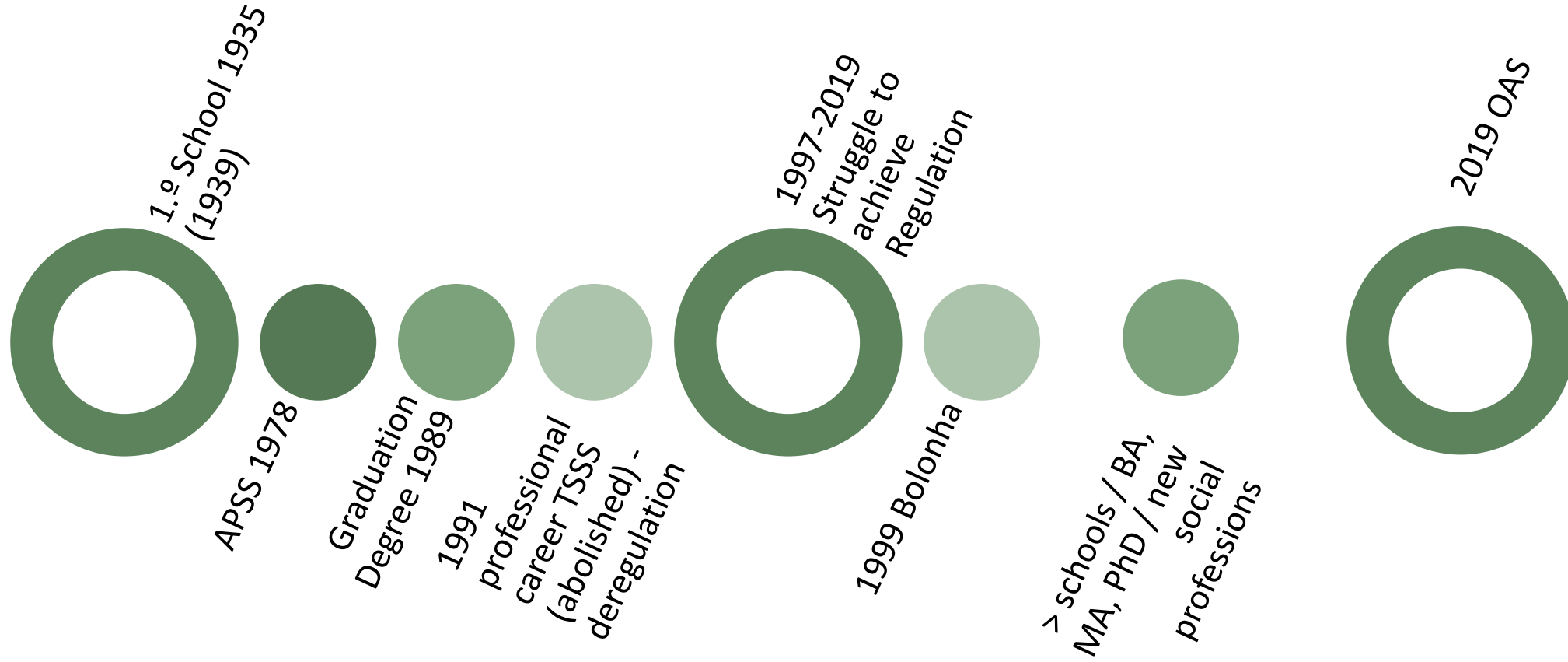


1957

3rd School of
Social Work
Porto



Timeline Notes



SW Education Today

SW "BA" Graduation	SW MA	SW PhD
17 schools (10 public)	10	3

- More than 20.000 graduated social workers
- Only a few Schools are member of IASSW

Social Workers' Main Fields

Public social protection (main social policy measures; social action)	Child / Youth protection	Education (public schools)
Social services (third sector & private sector)	Justice system and reintegration	Corporate Social Responsibility
Healthcare (primary, hospital, continuous care, palliative care)	Municipalities (local administration: housing, community interv., sustainable development)	Work and Employment integration

National Association of Social Workers

1978 [4 years after the “Carnation Revolution”]

43 years

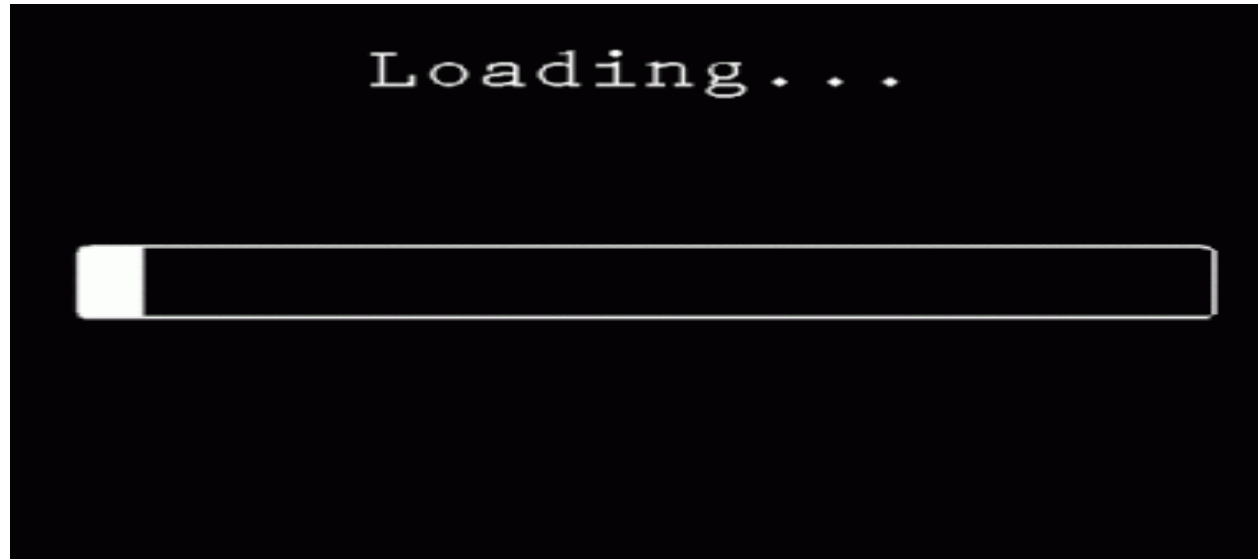


Member of IFSW

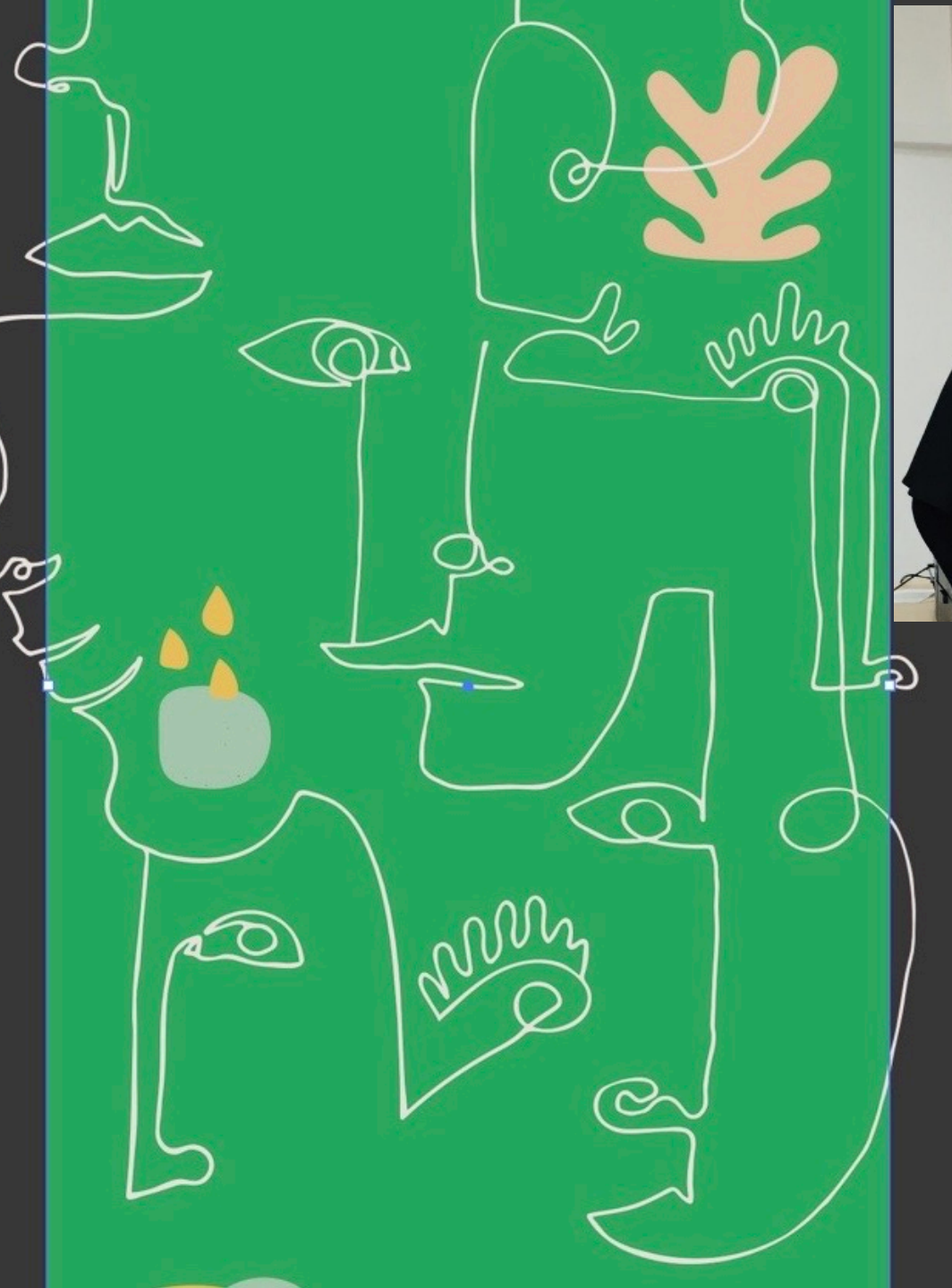
Struggles for the profession regulation – for 20 years

Ordem dos Assistentes Sociais

Profession Public Association



OAS Law 121/2019, September 25th
Instalation: Since january 2020



CHALLENGES OF SOCIAL WORK IN PORTUGAL

3R for Social Work in Portugal

R

Regulation
of SW
profession

R

Regulation
of SW
Education
and Training

R

Reinforcement
of SW
associative
organization(s)

Francisco Branco (2013)

(3R+3R)

R

Recursiveness in
SW Triad
Dimension
(theoretical-
methodological,
technical-operative,
ethical-political)

R

Reinforcing the
profession's social
participation in
the public debate
and public policies

R

Relationship
with other
professions in
the field of
social

Regulation of SW profession

- Public professional organization
- Power to interfere in the regulation of training (qualification and access to the profession)
- Power to interfere in labor market (partial)
- Regulate the dispute over professional jurisdiction with other professions
- Law for professional acts
- Ethical self-regulation: code of ethics
- Professional supervision

CÓDIGO DEONTOLÓGICO DOS ASSISTENTES SOCIAIS EM PORTUGAL



code of ethics

guidelines

(not yet published in public law)

[https://www.apss.pt/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/CD AS APSS Final APSS AssembGera125-10-2018 aprovado RevFinal.doc-1-converted-1-C%C3%B3pia.pdf](https://www.apss.pt/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/CD_AS_APSS_Final_APSS_AssembGeral25-10-2018_aprovado_RevFinal.doc-1-converted-1-C%C3%B3pia.pdf)

Regulation of SW profession

- Status of social partner of the State / Government / Public Administration (e.g. participate in policy-making in several areas)
- Social advocacy of collectives
- More participation in the public debate
- More affirmation in the public space

“Ordem” is a professional association of public law and recognized autonomy, created primarily to defend the fundamental rights of citizens and safeguard the public interest, which is achieved through self-regulation of professions whose exercise requires technical and functional autonomy and independence, as well as technical competence.

AUTORREGULATION of the profession as a means and not an end.

**FOCUS: TO ENSURE THE PURSUIT OF A
PROFESSIONAL AND CITIZENSHIP AGENDA**

Regulation of SW education

- graduate courses, postgraduate (A3ES)
- *Standards & quality*
- Research
- Production and dissemination of knowledge

Reinforcement of the SW associative organization(s)

- There is a lack of associativism and corporatism
- Allows the mobilization and participation of the professional category in their organizations
- Allows to combat the lack of protection that social workers find in the labor market

NOW

- Complete the ORDEM Instalation: Since 2020 (first prevision was to be installed in 2024)
 - *Difficulties in social recognition by the Government; Negative Lobbying by other professions of social field*
- “Social Partner” for Social Policies (Public Health National Plan, National Strategie for Disability...)

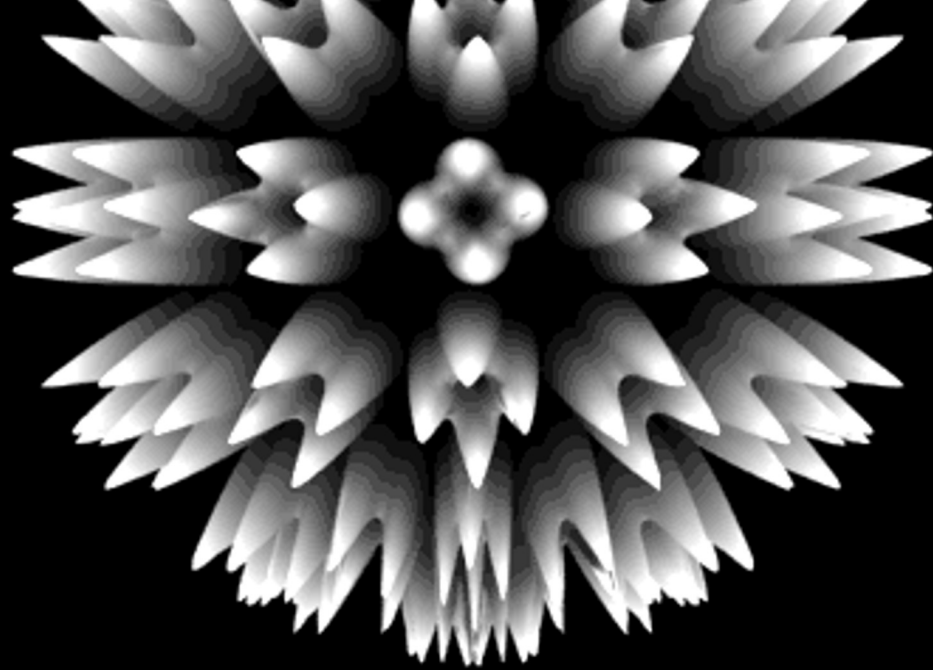
NEXT

- Do the national registry of social workers
- To organize colleges of specialties in social work
- To organize a national system of professional supervision in social work



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I HAVE A DREAM



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Sónia Guadalupe

sonia.guadalupe@fpce.uc.pt