Portugal Section

Section Vitality
Elections: The last Section elections were in December 2021. The new ExCom started its mandate in Jan 2022. The Vice-Chair became Chair. The date of the next election is planned for October-November 2023.

ExCom Meetings: ExCom meets at least once per month, but usually we meet bi-monthly; Each member of ExCom has a specific set of subjects to follow up, e.g. communication and students committees; chapters; affinity groups; financial issues (treasurer); industry; education and professional activities. We hold two extended meetings (with chapters and affinity group chairs) per year, normally one in Jan/Feb and another one in Jun/Jul.

List of ExCom meetings (between September 2022 and March 2023):
  - meeting #25  
    - Date: 16.03.2023
  - meeting #26  
    - Date: 13.04.2023
  - meeting #27  
    - Date: 27.04.2023
  - meeting #28  
    - Date: 11.05.2023
  - meeting #29  
    - Date: 25.05.2023
  - meeting #30  
    - Date: 15.06.2023
  - meeting #31  
    - Date: 29.06.2023
  - meeting #32  
    - Date: 13.07.2023

Activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained (between September 2022 and March 2023):

- Extended Excom Meeting (July 15 - morning, 2023) held at the University of Aveiro
• Chapters Meeting (July 15 - afternoon, 2023) held at the University of Aveiro

Students
Current status of the Student Branches:
- Active: IPVC, IPCA, UMinho, UPorto, ISEP, UAveiro, UCoimbra, IPL, ISEL, IST, ISCTE, FCT-UNova
- Non-active: UAlg, UBI, IPCB, IPVC, UTAD, IPBragança
- Newly formed: none
- Dissolved: none

List of the student meetings and Section Activities:
- Student meetings held: every month SB online meeting
- Extended ExCom, July 15, 2023
List of SBs:

- Universidade do Porto
- Instituto Superior Técnico
- Universidade de Coimbra
- Universidade de Aveiro
- Universidade do Minho
- University of Lisbon
- Instituto Superior de Engenharia de Lisboa
- ISCTE University Inst of Lisbon
- Universidade Nova de Lisboa
- Instituto Politécnico de Viana do Castelo
- Instituto Superior de Engenharia do Porto
- Instituto Politécnico de Leiria
- Bragança Polytechnic Inst of
- Instituto Politécnico de Castelo Branco
- Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alf. Douro
- Universidade do Aitance


Affinity Groups

List of Affinity Groups

- YPs, LMAG, and WiE
- SB AGs: WiE-IST, WiE-UC, WiE-UP, WiE-UM, WIE-ISCTE, WiE-UA, WiE-ISEP

Newly formed AGs/SB AGs: LMAG

IEEE-PT ExCom needs to support in a different way Young Professionals since this OU was very inactive and lacks activities in the past two years. The IEEE-PT ExCom held at least two meetings with all section OUs and requested the YP community in Portugal to send us ideas on how to improve or create new activities to empower this particular group in our section. In December 2022, we started to create a group of YP members to actively participate in the reorganization of the YP AG. We organized elections this year and the YP AG officers were elected and already reported in Vtools.

In January 2023, we submitted a petition to create an LMAG in Portugal, which was already approved. In September we will open elections in the LMAG to start the officer positions in January 2024.

Chapters

The activities supported by the chapters included the organization of international conferences, the organization of lectures and keynote presentations in several Portuguese educational and non-educational institutions, and technical-scientific workshops dedicated to specific topics. The chapters are actively involved in joint activities with the societies, including the organization of talks involving Distinguished Lecturers.

Currently, all 15 Section’s Chapters are active. We already plan an elections calendar for all chapters, which was communicated to all chapters in the extended ExCom meeting held on 15 July.

The SB Chapters are listed as follows.
Newly formed SB Chapters (from March 2023):

- none

**Industry**

Regarding the relations with the Industry, in the last year we celebrated several MoUs with companies and new MoUs are being currently negotiated. The MoUs include several types of cooperation, including technical activities with students, YPs, and members, and the participation in several activities organized by the Section (e.g. Engineering Day, MSc/PhD Awards, LBM, Leadership Camp, etc.).

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

Currently, approximately 20% of the Portugal Section members are female. The Section is now working closely with WIE to leverage its’ activities and attract more female members.

**Activities since the last report**

The Section is organizing several activities as described in the “Section Vitality” section. Some of the activities of special interest include:

- Outstanding MSc Thesis Award 2023 (call launched)
- Best PhD Theses Award (call launched)
- Extended ExCom meeting (July 15, 2023)
- Excom meetings every month
- Student Branches meetings every month
- Involvement of Students, YPs, and WIE in the organization of the 9th IEEE World Forum on Internet of Things (IEEE WFIoT2023)
- Management of the MELECON 2024 Conference organization, to be held in Porto, June 2024.
- Organization of multiple seminars under the initiative “Engenharia em Discussão”
Besides the listed activities, the Section has improved the new website (https://ieee-pt.org/), where our activities are promoted apart from other helpful information for our OUs and additional information to our members (e.g. past Executive Committers and a list of the Section Awards over years). The IEEE Portugal Section Communications Team has been very active in disseminating and promoting IEEE Portugal Section activities in various forums and social networks.

**Planned activities**

At this moment several activities are in progress, several to be fulfilled before the end of 2023, notably:

- IEEE Portugal Engineering Day - a full-day hybrid event planned for November 2023
- Leadership camp 2023 - 2-day hybrid student event planned for the second semester of 2023
- Outstanding MSc Thesis Award and Best Ph.D. Thesis Awards (evaluation of the submitted theses and notification of the awardees by the mid of November 2023)
- Organization of multiple seminars under the initiative “Engenharia em Discussão”
- Organization of MELECON 2024, to be held in Porto

**How Region 8 can be of help to your Section, members, and activities**

R8 could promote remote regional hackathons with industrial mentors. This could also be an add-value initiative for IEEE students and young professionals members.

**Any other issues of interest**

Please visit our website for more information: https://ieee-pt.org/