

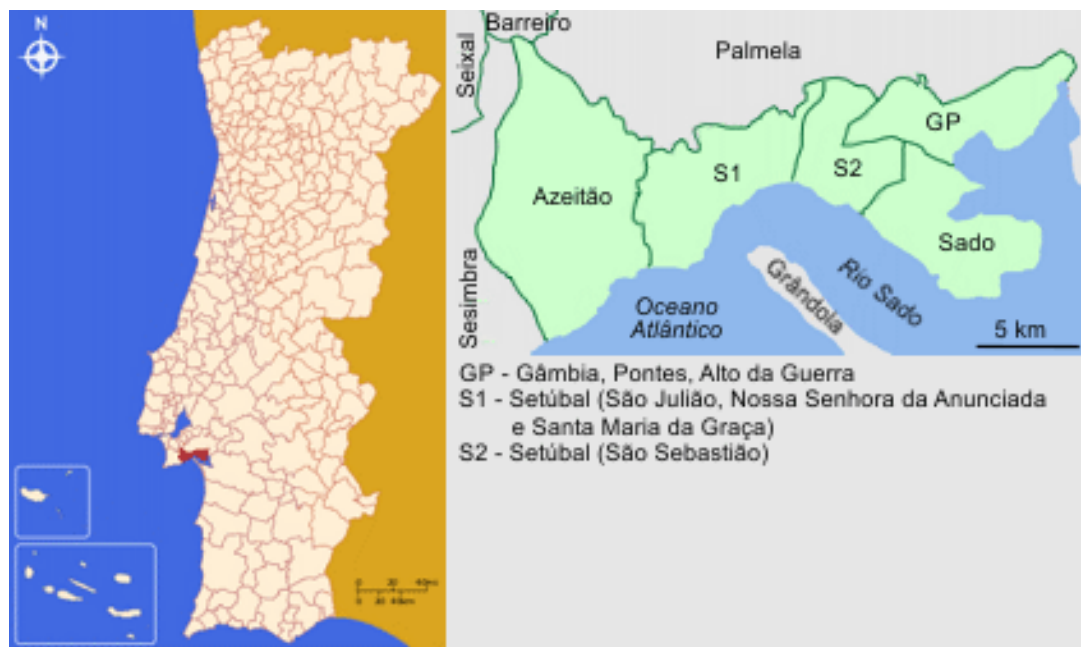


Our Europe

Future of Europe - Reload

What we received and what we lost with
the EU membership

Geographical placement



What we lost through EU membership

1. Loss of sovereignty



The European Union makes rules that override the rules and laws of member states.

The European Union consists of countries with very different legal systems and the adaptation to the regulations and directives of the EU can lead to divergencies between member states.

The adoption of EU norms and standards implies high costs.

What we lost through EU membership

2. Negative impacts on important traditional economic sectors

Common fisheries policy and common agricultural policy

- Cuts in total allowable catches and fishing quotas
- Producer price-drop led to a disappearance of ¼ of agricultural holdings)



What we lost through EU membership



3. Imposition of economic policies (Troika)

Adjustment programme negotiated in 2011 with the troika of International Monetary Fund, European Commission and European Central Bank had serious effects on the Portuguese economy and on the Portuguese social fabric and people:

- Job destruction – between 2008 and 2012 550.000 private sector jobs were lost
- High unemployment rate, particularly among youth (up to 35%)
- Massive increase in emigration. More than 200.000 highly qualified Portuguese emigrated
- Austerity measures led to significant income drops of families

What we lost through EU membership

4. Reduced access to funds due to classification of regions (NUTS)



Cities that are integrated in specific regions which are considered developed areas in the frame of the European criteria receive smaller percentages of co-funding and in some cases don't have access at all to specific funds.

In the case of Setúbal, since we are close to the capital Lisbon and are integrated in the Lisbon Metropolitan area, considered a “rich” region, we cannot apply to certain funds such as social programmes.

What we lost through EU membership

5. Principle of social and territorial coesion are jeopardized



The Municipalities cannot decide about their priorities, thus becoming mere extensions of the State instead of decision-makers and implementing bodies of a decentralized administration on a regional and local level

What we gained through EU membership



1. General benefits

- It creates a **more influential economic block**. Larger economic blocks create better import and export opportunities, better pricing on needs goods, and free trade opportunities all help to benefit the greater good of Europe. Enhancement of market opportunities
- **Free movement of labour and capital**
- EU has enabled people to **travel freely** across national boundaries making trade and tourism easier and cheaper
- A **Common Currency**. This makes doing business, traveling or moving to other countries, and buying things much simpler. It also creates a sense of unity among the countries.
- **No Conflict Between Nations**. There are strict guidelines followed for any issues which promotes peace throughout the continent.
- Social cohesion fund. This has invested in poorer areas of the EU to help **reduce regional disparities**

Projects funded with the support of the EU

1. Rehabilitation of cultural and historical heritage



Requalification and preservation of the Convent of Jesus (national monument)

Stabilization of the slope of the Fortress of S. Filipe



Projects funded with the support of the EU

2. Mobility



**Intermunicipal network of bicycle paths
- Project CICLOP7**

Setúbal Interface

Construction of an interface to ensure road and rail intermodality



Projects funded with the support of the EU

3. Education



Requalification of Schools Estate

Construction/maintenance do parque of schools estate and aquisition of basic material

Project “SETÚBAL, A WORLD OF CHALLENGES”

Implementation of several activities to prevent school drop-out and foster educational success for pupils.

Projects funded with the support of the EU

4. Environment



Flood-prevention works

Structural assistance for clearance and flood control in flood risk areas



Communication and awareness raising in risk scenarios associated to climate change

Immaterial actions – Creation of information and knowledge (cartography) and development of communication tools related to climate change

Projects funded with the support of the EU

5. Exchange programmes

Opportunity for exchange

Programmes such as ERASMUS + offer young people the opportunity to travel and get to know different cultures, habits, realities, perspectives and visions that broaden their horizons and makes them global citizens



