



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Portugal's National Day

Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
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On behalf of President Obama and the people of the United States, I congratulate the people of Portugal as you celebrate your National Day on June 10. The United States and Portugal have long enjoyed a vibrant partnership rooted in shared values, mutual interests, and common history. On this occasion, we celebrate the enduring friendship between our two countries.

From the age of exploration and discovery, to Portugal's early recognition of a young United States, to the continued cultural contributions of Americans of Portuguese ancestry, Portugal has helped shaped the United States. Today, our nations continue to bridge the Atlantic as partners and allies. As a valued member of NATO and the Community of Democracies, Portugal provides leadership on a range of vital global challenges and common concerns. The United States appreciates Portugal's support of the ISAF mission in Afghanistan, assistance in the resettlement of Guantanamo detainees, and efforts to combat climate change, among its many other contributions.

On this Portugal Day, I wish Portuguese people everywhere the very best, and look forward to our continued collaboration to advance the cause of peace, security, and prosperity in the 21st century.

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