

9:00 - 9:45



IESBA Conference 2025: Opening Session

SPEAKERS

- JOÃO DUQUE • PAULA FRANCO • VIRGÍLIO MACEDO
- GABRIELA FIGUEIREDO DIAS
- JOAQUIM MIRANDA SARMENTO

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JOÃO DUQUE

ISEG, Professor and Dean

João Duque is a Full Professor and Dean of ISEG – Lisbon School of Economics and Management, where he teaches Derivatives and Case Studies in Financial Engineering and coordinates the Post-Graduation in Financial Analysis. He previously served as Dean (2009–2014), Head of the Management Department, and coordinator of several finance programs. He was Managing Director of the Research Department at CMVM (1993–1995) and advisor to Angola’s CMC (2015–2016).

He has authored over two dozen publications, including books and scientific articles. A well-known voice in Portuguese media, he writes a weekly column for Expresso, provides weekly economic analysis on Rádio Renascença’s “As 3 da Manhã,” and is a regular commentator on SIC-Notícias.

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PAULA FRANCO

OCC, President

Paula Franco is President of the Ordem dos Contabilistas Certificados (OCC), Portugal's professional body for certified accountants. Elected in 2018 and re-elected in 2021 and 2024, she leads initiatives on financial literacy, digital transformation, and the strategic role of accountants in governance and sustainability.

A certified accountant and tax consultant, she advises on tax, labor, and accounting issues, and leads her own consultancy in Lisbon. Internationally, she represents OCC in IFAC, EFAA, and FCM, and serves as Vice President of CILEA. Her leadership has earned global recognition, including by IFAC, for promoting economic empowerment through education.

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VIRGÍLIO MACEDO

OROC, President

Virgílio Macedo is President of the Portuguese Association of Chartered Accountants (OROC). He began his career at Ernst & Young and contributed to auditing regulations. He has been an Adjunct Professor of Financial Auditing at the Porto Polytechnic Institute (ISCAP) since 1990.

He was a Member of the Portuguese Assembly of the Republic (2011–2019) and Deputy Secretary of State to the Minister of Internal Administration in the 20th Constitutional Government. He currently leads the professional body's strategic and regulatory functions, focusing on audit quality, professional independence, financial reporting, and safeguarding the public interest of the profession.

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GABRIELA FIGUEIREDO DIAS

IESBA, Chair | IFEA, Co-CEO

Gabriela Figueiredo Dias is Chair of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA), leading the development of global ethics and independence standards for accountants, and Co-CEO of the International Foundation for Ethics and Audit (IFEA). Appointed in 2022 and reappointed in 2025, she brings decades of experience in financial regulation, governance, and international policy making.

She previously chaired the Portuguese Securities Market Commission (CMVM) and held key roles at ESMA, IOSCO and OECD.. Her background includes legal scholarship and practice, executive leadership, securities and audit supervision, and board-level positions in major European and international regulatory organizations.

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JOAQUIM MIRANDA SARMENTO

Portuguese Government, Minister for State and Finance

Joaquim Miranda Sarmento is the Minister of State and Finance of Portugal, appointed in June 2025. He oversees fiscal policy, budget strategy, and financial management, including the Agenda for Fiscal Simplification aimed at reducing tax burdens and streamlining public administration.

He holds a PhD in Finance from Tilburg University in the Netherlands. He is Assistant Finance Professor (with tenure) at ISEG - Lisbon School of Economics and Management, University of Lisbon. He was economic adviser to the President of the Republic Aníbal Cavaco Silva from 2012 to 2016. He worked for 10 years at the Ministry of Finance and was Consultant for the Budgetary Assistance Technical Unit. He was a Member of Parliament and President of the PSD Parliamentary Group from 2022 to 2024. He was Minister of State and Finance in the previous Government.

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