

# PORTUGAL

## Autoridade para as Condições do Trabalho (ACT) / Authority for Working Conditions

Address of the seat:

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#### Organizational structrure

The Authority for Working Conditions was established in 2006 by virtue of the Decree-Law no. 211/2006 of 27 October. The Authority assumed the responsibilities of two previously existing bodies: Institute for Safety, Higiene and Health at Work and General Labour Inspectorate, which were eventually liquidated.

ACT is subordinated directly to the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security. Having administrative autonomy in the entire continental territory of Portugal, apart from the headquarters located in Lisbon, the ACT operates through 32 decentralized services: local centres (centro locais) and local units (unidades locais).

#### Fields of activity

The key mission of the Authority for Working Conditions is:

- prevention of occupational risks;
- development of labour relations;
- prevention of labour disputes;
- prevention of socio-economic deregulation;
- promotion of socio-organizational innovation processes;
- verification and monitoring of working conditions.

Since 2014 the inspection competence of ACT related to OSH has been limited for employers in private sector. The competence for inspection of OSH for employers in the public sector, since 2014, was assigned to several public auditing entities.

### The Agreement

The National Labour Inspectorate cooperates with the Portuguese Authority for Working Conditions in the framework of mutual exchange of information on the posted workers and fulfillment of duties of the liaison office (directive 96/71/EC).

In 2008, Heads of both the Polish and Portuguese authorities concluded an agreement concerning cooperation and mutual exchange of information on law enforcement in the area of occupational health and safety and labour law.