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## António Costa



António Costa was born in Lisbon on July 17th 1961. He is married and has two children.

He holds a degree in Law from the Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon and a post-graduate degree in European Studies from Lisbon Catholic University. Lawyer.

António Costa was first elected Member of Parliament in 1991 and made his debut in Government as Secretary of State for Parliamentary Affairs in 1995.

He was appointed Minister for Parliamentary Affairs in 1997, holding direct responsibilities for the organization of the 1998 Lisbon World Exposition (Expo 98).

From 1999 to 2002 he served as Minister of Justice.

From 2002 to 2004 he chaired the Socialist Party's Parliamentary Group.

He became a Member of the European Parliament in June 2004. He was elected Vice-President of the European Parliament.

He became Minister for Home Affairs in March 2005, until May 2007.

He left the government to run for Mayor of Lisbon and was elected in the mid-term election of 2007, then re-elected in 2009 and 2013. In that quality, he was a Member of the European Committee of the Regions, from 2010 to 2015, adding to his already large European experience in the Council of Ministers and in the European Parliament.

Ahead of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in 2007, he proposed to introduce the system that became known as "SISone4All", which brought freedom of movement to all the Member States from the 2005 enlargement before the SIS II system could become operational.

Over his years in political and public service, António Costa modernized policies and simplified administrative procedures, in particular in immigration policy, and justice and internal security systems.

His terms as Mayor of Lisbon confirmed him as reformist leader, turning the country's capital city into a top tourism destination worldwide.

He became Secretary-General of the Socialist Party in November 2014. He was appointed Prime Minister in November 2015 and reappointed in October 2019.

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