



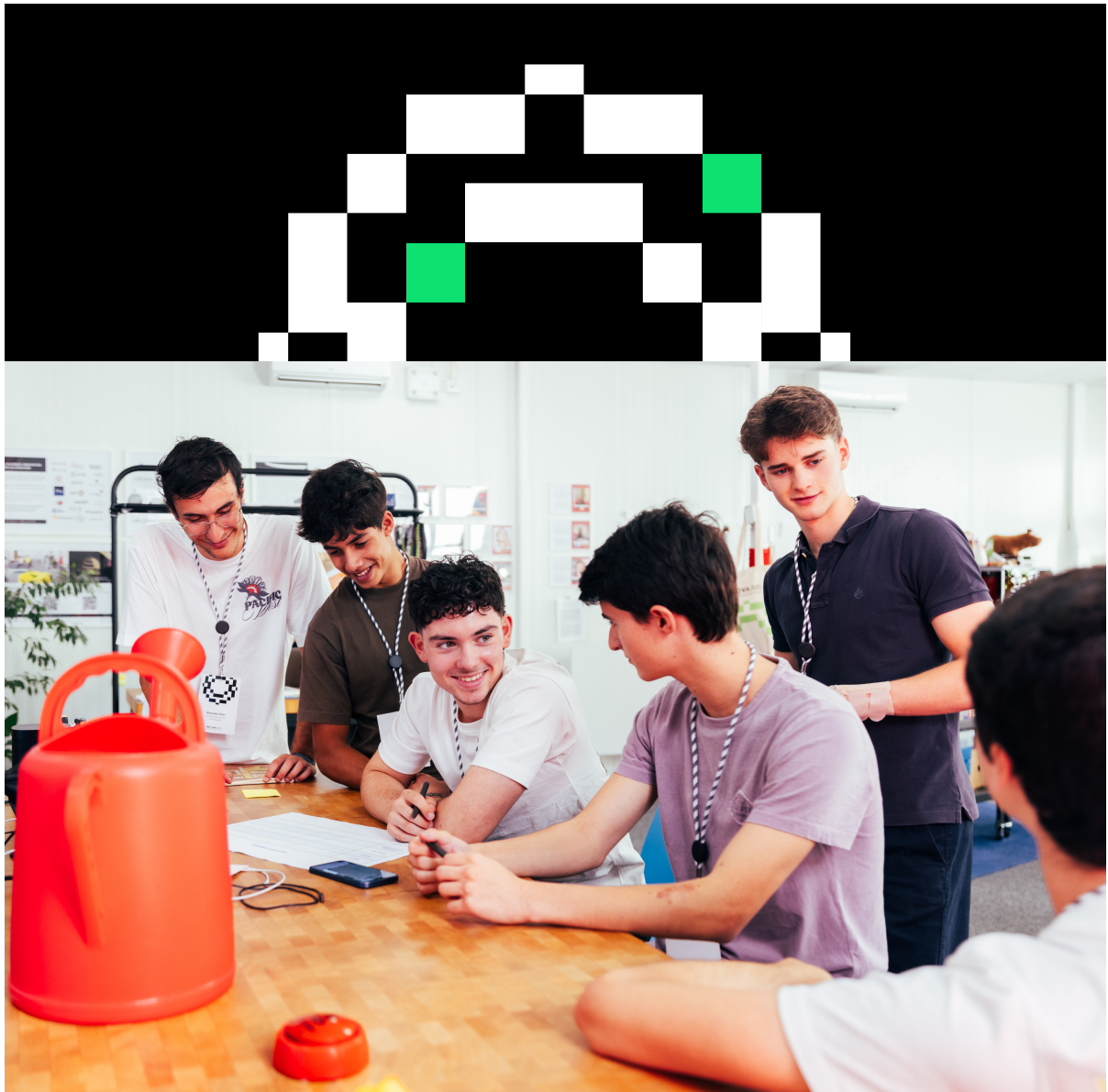
Data Research Meetup by MagIC

AI researchers tackle the transparency challenge

More than 80 researchers, students and faculty gathered at NOVA IMS for the 4th edition of the Data Research Meetup by MagIC, dedicated to the challenges of

understanding, interpreting and explaining AI systems. The program featured a keynote by Professor Luca Longo, from University College Cork, a roundtable with experts and a PhD Poster Session, in which Diogo Costa received the Best PhD Poster Award.

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Summer Bootcamp

A first look at university life

NOVA IMS welcomed high school students for an immersive experience designed to introduce them to university life and the role of data and technology in today's world. Through workshops, hands-on sessions and practical challenges, participants explored areas such as programming, data science, design thinking,

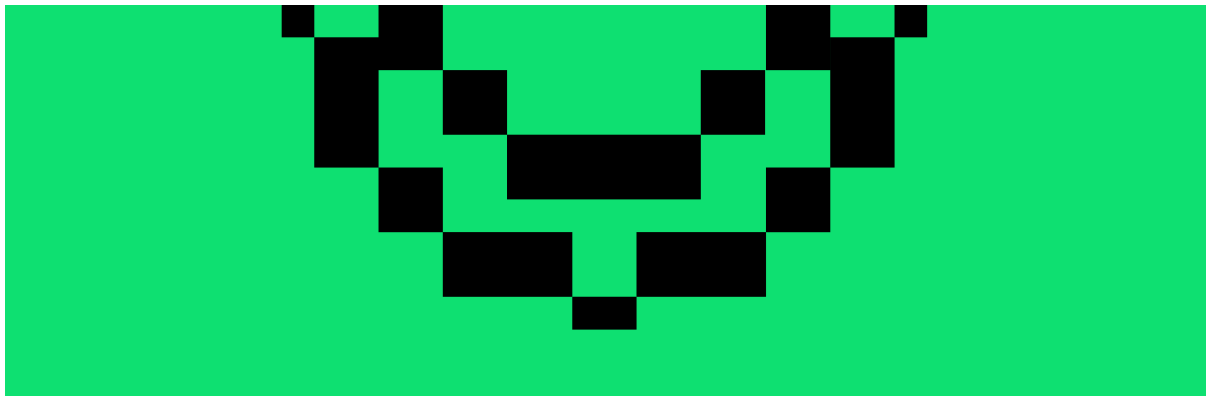
prompt engineering and marketing analytics, while learning more about NOVA IMS's Bachelor's degrees.

NOVA IMS at Portugal's Science and Innovation Summit

Organised by the Agency for Research and Innovation (AI²), the first Portuguese Science and Innovation Summit brought together researchers, companies, public institutions and European partners to discuss the future of science and innovation in Portugal. Pedro Simões Coelho, Professor at NOVA IMS, joined the debate to examine why territories with similar resources achieve different innovation outcomes and how lasting cooperation, supported by data-driven public policies, can make the difference.

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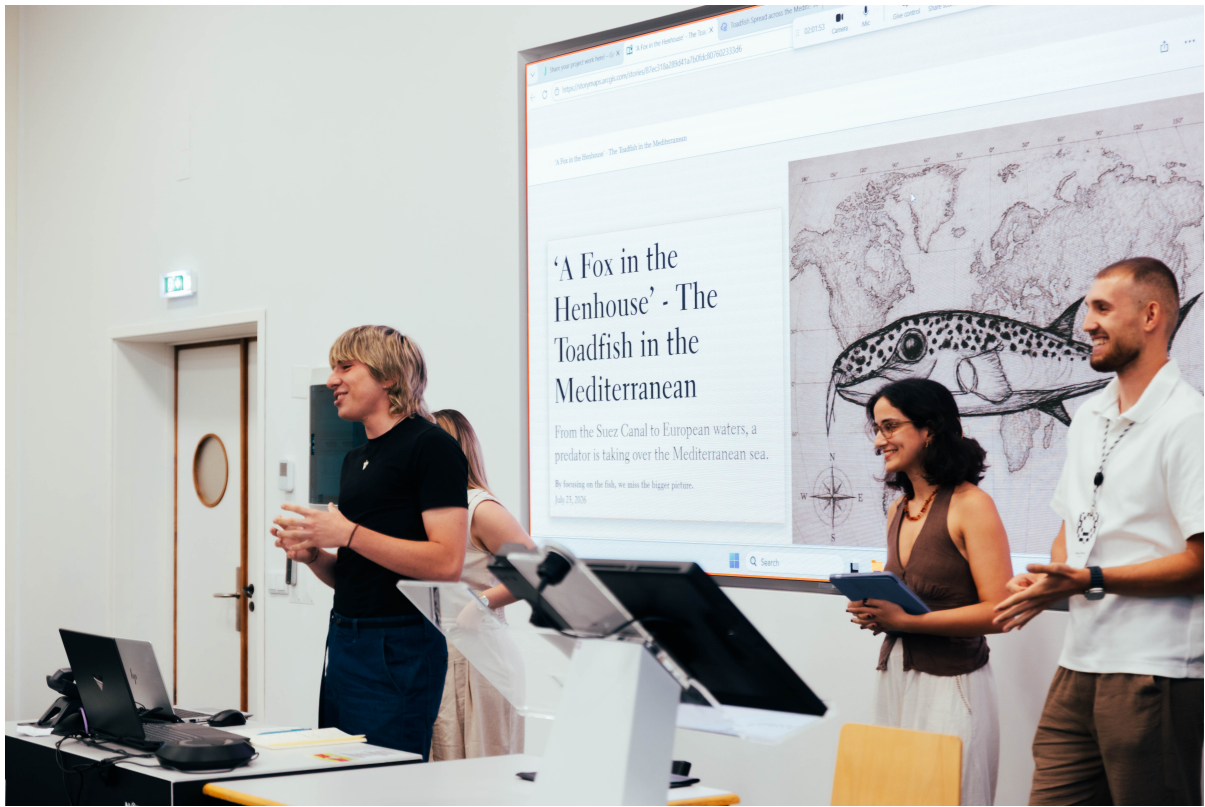




NOVA IMS discusses the future of public services

Miguel de Castro Neto, Dean of NOVA IMS, joined Manuel Dias, from ARTE, and Fernando Alfaiate, from Recuperar Portugal, for a discussion on Portugal's digital transformation and the use of data and AI in public services. Held as part of the "Região de Coimbra + Inteligente" project, the session highlighted how technology can support better services and more informed decisions without replacing human judgment.

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GEOJO Summer School

How data can improve environmental journalism

The GEOJO Summer School brought together students from universities in Portugal, Greece, Kosovo and Albania to explore how data, maps and journalism can improve the way environmental issues are investigated and communicated. Through expert sessions, mentoring and collaborative projects, participants used geospatial analysis, data journalism and storytelling to transform complex environmental data into clear, evidence-based narratives.

MEDIA GALLERY

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

FCT PhD Grants

NOVA IMS Doubles National Success Rate

Of the 16 PhD grant applications NOVA IMS submitted to the 2026 FCT call, eight were selected for funding – a 50% success rate, nearly double the national average of 28%. The funded projects span mobility, ethical AI, healthcare, education, cultural management, market analysis, viticulture, and public policy.

Below are the successful applicants and their project titles.

Jose Pedro Pinto

Title: Optimize utility and use of cycling route networks through machine learning and mobility data

Sofia Pereira

Title: Ethical AI in Medicine: A Federated Genetic Programming Framework

Catarina Ferraz

Title: Intelligent Management System for Cultural and Creative Organizations

Isabella Russo

Title: Artificial Intelligence, Cognitive Engagement, and Assessment Practices in Secondary Education

Sara Ramalhete

Title: Exploring Socioeconomic, Environmental and Healthcare determinants in Stroke Profiling and Prediction

Elsa Camuamba

Title: Understanding the market through a computational lens

Diogo Costa

Title: From Vineyard Mapping to Early Yield Forecasting: an integrated, evidence-aware and reproducible framework for viticulture analytics

Mafalda Martins

Title: Agentic AI for Public Policy: Designing Intelligent Systems for Decision Support

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Dinis Araújo awarded Ethereum Foundation PhD Fellowship

Among just 10 recipients worldwide, Dinis Araújo was awarded the Ethereum Foundation PhD Fellowship 2026. The NOVA IMS PhD candidate and researcher is developing privacy-preserving systems for municipal energy communities, enabling citizens to exchange locally generated renewable energy securely and transparently. The project is supervised by Professors Ian Scott and Miguel de Castro Neto.

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IN THE NEWS



Following his participation in the Data with Purpose Summit, Sergiy Barbashyn spoke about responsible AI and the importance of making ethics part of organizations' daily decisions, beyond regulatory compliance.

The logo for OBSERVADOR, featuring the word in a bold, black, sans-serif font inside a white circle.

At the Data with Purpose Summit, Miguel Agrochão highlighted the role of data in public policy and NOVA IMS's contribution to strengthening data capabilities in public administration.

The logo for OBSERVADOR, featuring the word in a bold, black, sans-serif font inside a white circle.

Observador reviewed the main discussions from the 4th Data with Purpose Summit, exploring how data and AI are reshaping geopolitics, cities, oceans, organizations and public decision-making, while reinforcing the importance of human responsibility.

The logo for O Jornal Económico, featuring a red square with a white bar chart icon and the text "O Jornal Económico" in white.

Jornal Económico featured the collaboration between NOVA IMS and MainGUILTY on a blockchain-based digital certification system designed to trace each piece's materials, production process and ownership history.

The logo for O Jornal Económico, featuring a red square with a white bar chart icon and the text "O Jornal Económico" in white.

In Jornal de Notícias, Miguel de Castro Neto discussed digital transition and smart territories, arguing that AI should enhance human capabilities rather than replace them.

The logo for negocios, featuring the word in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a red square icon to the left.

Jornal de Negócios interviewed Brian Klaas on the growing power of technology leaders, the risks of AI developing faster than regulation and the role of the European Union in protecting democratic accountability.

The logo for OBSERVADOR, featuring the word in a bold, black, sans-serif font inside a white circle.

Following the Data with Purpose Summit, Ana Miguel dos Santos examines how power is being redefined in the 21st century, arguing that strategic advantage now depends on the ability to integrate complex systems, decide under uncertainty and act with legitimacy.

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In an opinion piece linked to the Data with Purpose Summit, Nuno Saramago, Managing Director of SAP Portugal, explored how AI can support more autonomous, data-driven organizations while maintaining human oversight.



Miguel de Castro Neto, Dean of NOVA IMS, and Firmino Cordeiro, Director-General of AJAP, discussed how circular-economy models, generative AI and precision agriculture can broaden access to digital tools and support the sector's transformation.

SAVE THE DATE

Analytica Fest 2026

5th September

Analytica Fest returns to bring the NOVA IMS community together for one of the first major moments of the new academic year. Stay tuned to our social media channels and website for the full line-up. [Learn more here.](#)

**Enjoy the summer break.
See you in September!**

Join us on social media



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