From National, and European, Geostrategic Utility to Autonomous Integration. The Case of the Portuguese Outermost Regions of the Azores and Madeira

Carlos E. Pacheco Amaral
Jean Monnet Chair – University of the Azores

THE EUROPEAN UNION’S OUTERMOST REGIONS AND THEIR SOVEREIGN NEIGHBOURS GEOPOLITICAL STRATEGIES

Bologna, December 2nd, 2017
Identification of a country
Identification of a country - II
Identification of a country - III
What of Portugal?
Portugal as an independent Kingdom

TRATADO DE ZAMORA

1143

A través da assinatura do Tratado de Zamora, D. Afonso VII reconheceu a independência do Condado Portucalense e o seu rei - D. Afonso Henriques.
Portugal – conquest of last mourish enclaves in Algarve - 1248
Portugal – Iberain enclosure and Western and Southern Expansion.

Blocked to the East, the country turns South, to North Africa, and West, to the Atlantic.
Portugal – Conquest and Discovery

(less than a century after the final continental establishment)
Portugal and the discoveries
1492 – Discovery of America
Portugal and the Discoveries
1497 – Maritime route to India
Portugal and the Discoveries
1831 – Darwin’s Voyage
Ultimate Stage_ Portugal half of the known world
Imperial Portugal and the Project of a Strategic Triangle
Paiva Couceiro - 1906
Imperial Portugal up to the second half of the XX century
Imperial Portugal in Africa
When Interests collide – and power erodes (1890, British Ultimatum)
Geostrategy of the Azores and Madeira

From direct service to the Portuguese State to:
- Alignment and
- Rental to the dominant Maritime power: Britain, and the United States
The Azores – Steam Navigation
Paiva Couceiro – Portugal and the Atlantic
The Azores in WWII.
The Battle of the Atlantic and the recuperation of Timor
The Azores and American Access to Europe, North Africa and the Middle East
1974: Revolution and Redefinition of Portugal

Final Decolonization and prospects for the Country:

1. The Azores and Madeira
2. The specter Spain and of the loss of independence;
3. The appeal of Africa, the Empire and the non-aligned;
4. The option for Europe and Atlantic alignment
1974: Regional insular autonomy and the redefinition of the country.
The new Strategic Triangle
The New Map of Portugal
The New Map of Portugal
The Extension of the country’s
Continental Platform – 43 times bigger

- Portugal: a country on its way to 4 million square km;
- Portugal will be become one of the largest countries of the world;
- From a Country with 1 neighbour, Spain, to a country with 8 neighbours;
- Portugal is of the size of Continental India.

– Published on 06.06.2014
The New Map of Portugal

• After decades of Hiding, as if behind a screen, in Europe, Portugal RedisCOVERS the Atlantic
• Portugal as an Archipelago
• The Azores and the Portuguese Atlantic Project: From Outermost Region to Quintessence of Portugal. Nemésio and Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa
• The Heart of Portugal: the Atlantic, and the country’s universal, oecominical vocation
The New Map of Portugal

Um país a caminho dos
4.000.000 km²

North Atlantic Ocean

Imagem Google Earth
The New Map of Portugal

- The Azores and Madeira as Autonomous Regions;
  - Autonomy, Political Power and International Relations;

- Periphery, Outermost Region and Centrality. The Azores and Hawaii: intuition of F.D. Roosevelt;
A Portuguese Renewal

- The renewed Atlantic *Creed* of Portugal
- Portugal as an *exemplary ally* of the Atlantic Alliance
- Importance of the Transatlantic Relationship
- From Periphery to centrality: The Autonomous Regions of the Azores and Madeira and the reconfiguration of Portugal