Portuguese Immigration and Borders Service

HEAD OFFICE TEL.: +351 214 236 200 / +351 965 903 600
E-MAIL - sef@sef.pt

Contact Centre

FIXED NETWORK- 808 202 653
MOBILE NETWORK - 808 962 690

www.sef.pt

www.facebook.com/servicodeestrangeirosefronteiras

SEF SERVIÇO DE ESTRANGEIROS E FRONTEIRAS

The **Portuguese Immigration and Borders Service** (SEF) is a security service within the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MAI) that, in the context of internal security policy, is responsible for carrying out checks on persons at the borders, monitoring aliens inside national territory, preventing and fighting organized crime involving illegal immigration and trafficking in human beings, decide upon asylum applications, issuing passports and identification documents to foreign nationals, in order to safeguard internal security and individual rights and freedoms within the global context of the migratory phenomenon.

SEF is responsible for promoting, coordinating and implementing the measures and actions related to these activities and to migratory movements. Internationally, it is responsible to ensure, as required by the Government, the representation of the Portuguese State in the working groups of the European Union, as well as at international organizations or events related to its expertise area.

ITS MAIN MISSION

Carrying out checks on persons at the borders, monitoring aliens inside national territory, preventing and fighting organized crime involving illegal immigration and trafficking in human beings, decide upon asylum applications, issuing passports and identification documents to foreign nationals, in order to safeguard internal security and individual rights and freedoms within the global context of the migratory phenomenon.

ITS MAIN VALUES

- Customer Service orientation
- Modernization and effectiveness
- Safeguard of the public interest
- Employee training and qualification

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