Foreign Minister of Portugal Joao de Deus Pinheiro

Born in Lisbon in 1945, Joao de Deus Pinheiro obtained his doctorate in chemical-industrial engineering from the University of Birmingham, England, in 1976. He was a professor at Portugal's University of Minho, where he became rector in 1984, and in Mozambique at the University of Lourenço Marques. He is the author of several articles and essays published in scientific journals.

Mr. Pinheiro was first elected to parliament in 1985 as the Social Democratic Party (PSD) member for the district of Viana do Castelo. He was appointed minister of education and culture in 1985 and then minister for foreign affairs, a position he has held since 1987.

On Oct. 6, 1991, Mr. Pinheiro was elected by the district of Porto, and recently reconfirmed as foreign minister by Prime Minister Cavaco Silva.

Foreign Minister Pinheiro is married and has four children.

