

João Rui Gaspar de Almeida

Secretary of State for the Portuguese Communities

João Rui Gaspar de Almeida was born on July 12, 1945, in Fornos de Algodres. He has a degree in medicine from the University of Coimbra.

A lung specialist, he was head of services for the University Hospitals of Coimbra and assistant at the university's faculty of medicine.

Mr. de Almeida has been the member of parliament for Coimbra since 1987. He is president of the parliamentary Health Committee and president of parliamentary subcommittees on drug addiction and defence of the quality of life.

The president of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and a member of national committees for the Socialist Party, Mr. de Almeida was named Secretary of State for the Portuguese Communities in 2000.

Mr. de Almeida is married and has four children.