

PEDRO MASSENA

PhD Candidate in Political Science | ISCSP – University of Lisbon | Lisbon, Portugal

massena.pedro@gmail.com | ORCID: 0000-0002-3311-2151

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/pedro-massena/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/pedro-massena/) | CiênciaVitae: [cienciavitae.pt//pt/DE12-D4C9-60AC](https://cienciavitae.pt/pt/DE12-D4C9-60AC)

CURRENT POSITION

PhD Candidate in Political Science | 2025 – Present

ISCSP – University of Lisbon

Provisional thesis title: *The Institutionalisation of Algorithmic Governmentality in the European Union and the Reconfiguration of Political Subjectivity*

- Doctoral research on the institutionalisation of algorithmic governance in the EU and its effects on political subjectivity and democratic agency. The research proposes Algovernance as an original heuristic device to map regimes of infrastructural governance that operate before the conditions of possibility of democratic contestation — examining how EU regulatory frameworks (DSA, AI Act, GDPR, Digital Omnibus) inscribe algorithmic rationalities with durable effects on political contestation and civic visibility. First semester completed with weighted average of 18/20.

Supervisor: Prof. Maria João Militão Ferreira (ISCSP-ULisboa; member, Relink² Steering Committee)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Algorithmic governmentality and the reconfiguration of political subjectivity
 - Institutionalisation of algorithmic governance within EU regulatory frameworks
 - Digital transformation of political organisations and democratic re-linkage
 - Platform architectures, civic visibility, and conditions of political contestation
 - EU digital regulation and enforcement: DSA, AI Act, GDPR, Digital Omnibus
 - Technocracy, risk governance, and democratic accountability in digitally mediated politics
-

EDUCATION

PhD in Political Science (ongoing) | 2025 – 2028 (expected)

ISCSP – University of Lisbon

EU Green Deal Executive Programme — Certificate of Excellence (Highest Merit) | 2023

Florence School of Regulation – European University Institute, Florence

PhD Candidate in Fine Arts — Specialisation in Political Art | 2018 – 2022

University of Lisbon, Faculty of Fine Arts

- Doctoral research on biopolitics, political power, and systems of visual representation — conceptual foundation of the current doctoral research on algorithmic governance and political subjectivity. Average: 17/20. Integrated in two FCT-funded research projects at CIEBA (see Research Projects below).

BA in Fine Arts — Visual Culture & Political Representation | 2009 – 2014

University of Lisbon, Faculty of Fine Arts

RESEARCH PROJECTS

FCT-Funded Research — Centro de Investigação e de Estudos em Belas-Artes (CIEBA), University of Lisbon

Artistic Studies Research Centre | UIDB/04042/2020 | 2020 – 2024

Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT)

- Research on political representation, biopolitics, and systems of power in visual culture. This work constitutes the conceptual bridge between the Fine Arts doctoral research and the current doctoral investigation on algorithmic governance and political subjectivity.

CIEBA Research Grant | UID/EAT/04042/2019 | 2019

Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology

- Inaugural FCT-funded research grant at CIEBA, initiating the research trajectory on political power, representation, and subjectivity.

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH OUTPUTS

Working Papers / Under Review

Massena, P. (submitted). When the Formula Speaks: Score = $\sum w_i \cdot P(e_i)$, *Algovernance* and the Pre-Politics of Visibility in the European Digital Space. Submitted to the IPSA Research Committee on Visual Politics of Protest, Lisbon, June 2026.

Massena, P. (accepted). Governamentalidade Algorítmica e o Deslocamento do *Locus* Político: Inferência e Normalização da Exceção no Espaço Regulatório Europeu. II Jornadas Doutorais da Associação Portuguesa de Ciência Política, Coimbra, May 2026.s

Conference Communications

Massena, P. (forthcoming). Between the Fourth and a Fifth Estate: *Algovernance*, Click-Bait, and the Cognitive Architecture of Extremism. I Lisbon Strategy and Strategic Studies International Conference, ISCSP-ULisboa, April 14, 2026. Panel: Contested Spaces of Security and Emerging Technologies.

Massena, P. (2020). Identity Production and Representation in "The Column" by Adrian Paci. CIEBA International Congress, Lisbon.

Massena, P. (2019). Visibility Hierarchies: Santiago Sierra and the Homo Sacer. 8th Euroacademia International Conference, Ghent.

Massena, P. (2018). Made in Transit: Politics and Representation in Adrian Paci and the Migration Issue. Euroacademia International Conference, Nice.

Peer-Reviewed Article

Massena, P. (2021). Made in Transit: Politics and Representation in Adrian Paci and the Migration Issue. *Journal of Visual Politics*, 16(1). DOI: 10.14393/OUV-v16n1a2020-50995

Policy Reports

Adeyanju, D., Baer, E., & Massena, P. (2023). Enabling Framework for Energy Communities in the Netherlands. Policy analysis, EU Green Deal Executive Programme, Florence School of Regulation, EUI. Presented at the EUI in the presence of European Commission representatives.

National Digital Transformation Strategy 2026–2030: Governance Architecture and Strategic Assessment Framework (2025–2026). Advisory report for the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, Sultanate of Oman (via WasteLocker Global).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Strategic Consultant — Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, Sultanate of Oman (via WasteLocker Global) | 2025 – Present

- Advisory on National Digital Transformation Strategy 2026–2030: institutional governance architecture, digital regulatory frameworks, and state capacity design.

Senior Strategic Consultant — nam.R, Paris | 2022 – 2025

- Regulatory and strategic analysis on EU digital governance frameworks: AI Act, DSA, DMA, GDPR, DORA, SFDR, CSRD. Contributed to compliance strategy and policy alignment for European institutional clients. Participated in AI Act working sessions with European Commission officials at the EUI.

Research Assistant — UN ESCAP Taskforce, Vietnam | 2022 – 2023

- Research on algorithmic governance, digital repression, and civic space regulation. Produced policy briefs with recommendations for international regulators on accountability in digital governance.

Research Essayist — Ai-Da Robot / University of Oxford | 2022 – 2023

- Theoretical research on the ethical and political implications of AI applied to creative production, in partnership with the University of Oxford.

Lead Researcher — Brightwire Inc., New York | 2020 – 2022

- Produced 150+ analytical intelligence reports on political organisations, regulatory risk, and digital governance across 11 countries. Referenced by the Financial Times, Bloomberg, and Reuters.

RESEARCH METHODS

Discourse and conceptual analysis · Foucauldian dispositif analysis · Rhetorical-argumentative analysis · Comparative case analysis · Policy and regulatory analysis · Institutional analysis · OSINT-based research · Qualitative research design

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Professional Certificate in Data Management & Misinformation Analysis — Full Fact, London | 2023
- Digital Tools for Investigation (OSINT) — Centre for Investigative Journalism, London | 2022
- AP Style Editing Certification — Poynter Institute | 2022
- First Certificate in English (FCE) — University of Cambridge | 2006

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

COP28 – UNFCCC, Dubai | 2023

Participated in working group on digital governance and sustainability, integrated in the French delegation.

UN Glasgow Committee – UNFCCC | 2023

Observer member, French delegation. Policy discussions on civic space and digital regulation.

EU AI Act Working Sessions — Florence School of Regulation, EUI | 2023

Participated in policy discussions with European Commission officials on AI Act implementation.

LANGUAGES

Portuguese — Native · English — Full professional proficiency (primary working language) · French — Professional proficiency · Spanish — Professional proficiency · Italian — Professional proficiency