

## Pedro Nunes Institute establish a future internet incubator



Coimbra City Council (CMC) has signed a protocol with the Pedro Nunes Institute (IPN) - Incubadora, to provide financial support of 22,000 Euros to the activity of the Internet Innovation Hub (IHUB) of Coimbra, which is installed in IPN and aims to promote entrepreneurship and innovation based on Future Internet technologies. The project already has the support of the European Commission (FIWARE technologies) for a total of 110,000 Euros.

*"The Internet Innovation Hub is a European project for which they have been selected prominently and is therefore a matter of general interest recognized by the European Commission. And the selection of the IPN is for the technological quality, but also for the human quality, for the human resources that are concentrated here",* said the president of the CMC, Manuel Machado, before signing the protocol.

Manuel Machado also recalled the importance of strengthening ties of cooperation with the IPN and thanked the help that the institute gave, and continues to give, for the creation of a space of "co-working space" in the Courtyard of the Inquisition, in the heart of the city, an Area that is intended with "social, economic, business and creative life."

*"We are the only Portuguese incubator to be part of the Internet Innovation Hub,"* said Teresa Mendes, president of the IPN, also recalling "the case of ESA-BIC".

*"We have an incubation Centre of the Portuguese Space Agency in Coimbra, which we are coordinating at the national level and we were also selected for this",* reinforced the official, highlighting these two important international projects. Teresa Mendes also recalled that *"in both the incubator and the accelerator, 100% of the space is occupied"*, adding that the IPN estimate is that the 23 companies that are on the accelerator generate a turnover of 50 million Euros (Value for 2016).

*"The celebration of this protocol is therefore very important because it helps us to leverage this work,"* concluded the IPN president.

Some of the companies installed in the IPN incubator and accelerator include Active Aerogels, Space Layer Technologies, DOOC, Medicineone and Stratio Automotive - successful companies that already operate in the European market and even beyond this and that now need to grow even more.

CMC works with two of them: Space Layer, which controls pollutants with solutions for real-time alerts, satellite images and sensors installed in fixed structures and moving vehicles, and Stratio Automotive, which manages and Real-time monitoring of repair needs of 50 vehicles of the Municipal Urban Transport Services of Coimbra (SMTUC).

*"The IPN is not only one of the best incubators in the world, but the product that is produced by the companies that operate here is of high quality and improves the competitive capacity of our country, and of Coimbra, of course,"* Manuel Machado concluded.