**Programming   
for Data Science 2022**

**Portuguese Public Procurement**

This project involves the exploration of the public procurement contracts dataset that is maintained and available from the portal base.gov.pt. Our aim is to study questions related with the public procurement activity of either public institutions or private firms.

The data set includes records of contracts celebrated between a public institution and a private firm, in which the later sells a service to the former. Data includes information about, for instance, the date of the contract, length, value, location, type of service, and type of contract (ajuste directo [[1]](#footnote-1)or concurso público[[2]](#footnote-2))

The dataset, although structured (organized in a tabular format), will require some data pre-processing and will require extensive wrangling to obtain relevant insights. Open data is nice but comes at a cost.

You are free to explore whatever question you find relevant with this dataset. Possible questions include:

* Which municipalities spend more money in public procurement? Are more populated municipalities more efficient?
* Which companies have achieved more contracts? Which types of services do they provide?
* Are there differences in the types of services contracted between Urban and Rural areas?
* Which companies are more competitive in the tender process?
* What services are contracted by different bodies of the public administration? Health versus education?
* (Big Question) Is there evidence of fraud in public procurement activity? Which actors are involved?

You can download the data from the portal [www.dados.gov.pt](http://www.dados.gov.pt). Search for “contratação pública” or “Portal Base”. For instance the link <https://dados.gov.pt/pt/datasets/contratacao-publica-contratos-2016/> allows you to download the contracts issued in the year of 2016. These come in xlsx format.

Additional datasets you might want to look for include the CPV (Common Procurement Vocabulary) or additional data on public administration (e.g., if you work at municipalities level you will find useful to get socio-economic or demographic data on municipalities from pordata.pt).

If you have any question, you can reach out to us.

1. Direct contract [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Tender [↑](#footnote-ref-2)