



Globalization Leadership Team

Portuguese Spelling Reform

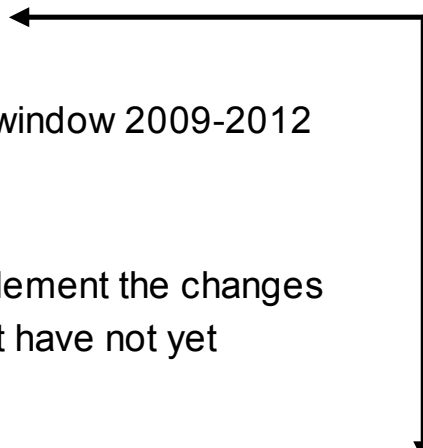
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Agenda

- What this the Portuguese Orthographic Reform of 1990?
- Backup
 - Summary of the specific reforms
 - Some examples

What is the Portuguese Orthographic Reform of 1990?

- Portuguese-speaking countries will be changing their spelling systems to be more consistent with each other and to spell things as they are pronounced
 - This change will not completely remove the differences in the languages
 - IBM will still need two different translations for Brazil and Portugal
 - e.g. Grammar rules and some terminology will still be different
- Brazil
 - On 29 September 2008, established a 4-year implementation window 2009-2012
 - Required to be fully implemented by 1 January 2013
- Portugal
 - The President of Portugal signed a decree in July 2008 to implement the changes
 - Portugal has a maximum of 6 years to implement (by 2014) but have not yet established an implementation window or deadline
 - The change is extremely controversial in Portugal
 - About 3x more words are affected in Portugal as in Brazil
- Other Portuguese countries
 - will likely follow Portugal when Portugal decides to proceed



English	Brazilian Port.	European Port.
software	software	logicial
file	arquivo	ficheiro
screen	tela	écran, ecrã
mouse	mouse	rato

Some Facts about Portuguese

Territory	Population
Brazil	196 million
Portugal	11 million
Mozambique	21 million
Angola	12 million
Guinea-Bissau	2 million
East Timor	1 million
Cape Verde	427 thousand
São Tomé and Príncipe	206 thousand
Macau	500 thousand

Counting 1 st Language Speakers Only		
#	Top World Languages	Top European Languages
1	Chinese	English
2	Hindi	Spanish
3	English	Portuguese
4	Spanish	Russian
5	Arabic	German
6	Bengali	French
7	Portuguese	
8	Russian	
9	German	

Portuguese Orthographic Agreement of 1990

- The letters k, w, and y are added to the alphabet
 - Affects words such as: km, watt, Byron, New York
- Eliminate any **silent letters** “c” and “p” from European and African spellings
- Eliminate the **diaeresis** mark from the Brazilian spelling
 - A diaeresis indicates that two adjacent vowels are to be pronounced separately
 - In Brazil, an **umlaut** is use to indicate this
- Eliminate the **acute accent** from diphthongs *éi* and *ói* in paroxytone words (i.e. words where stress is placed on the second to last syllable)
- Changes for hyphens and capitalization
- IT DOES NOT require harmonization of divergent spellings or vocabulary

- Reference:
 - **Official agreement document** – written in Portuguese
 - **w**□

Example number 1

Acute a

Example number 2

Silent c is dropped	
Brazil	Portugal
Não é preciso ser gênio para saber que o aspecto econômico pesa muito na projeção internacional de qualquer língua.	Não é preciso ser génio para saber que o aspecto económico pesa muito na projecção internacional de qualquer língua.
New spelling	
Não é preciso ser gênio/génio para saber que o aspecto econômico/económico pesa muito na projeção internacional de qualquer língua.	
Two spellings for the same word will remain i.e. gênio/génio and econômico/económico	

Source: Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spelling_reforms_of_Portuguese

Example number 3

Brazil	Portugal
Não há nada melhor do que sair sem direção, rumando para norte ou para sul, para passar um fim de semana tranq <u>ü</u> ilo em pleno agosto.	Não há nada melhor do que sair sem direc <u>c</u> ção, rumando para N orte ou para S ul, para passar um fim-de-semana tranquilo em pleno A gosto.
New spelling	
Não há nada melhor do que sair sem direção, rumando para n orte ou para s ul, para passar um fim de semana tranquilo em pleno a gosto.	

Silent c is dropped

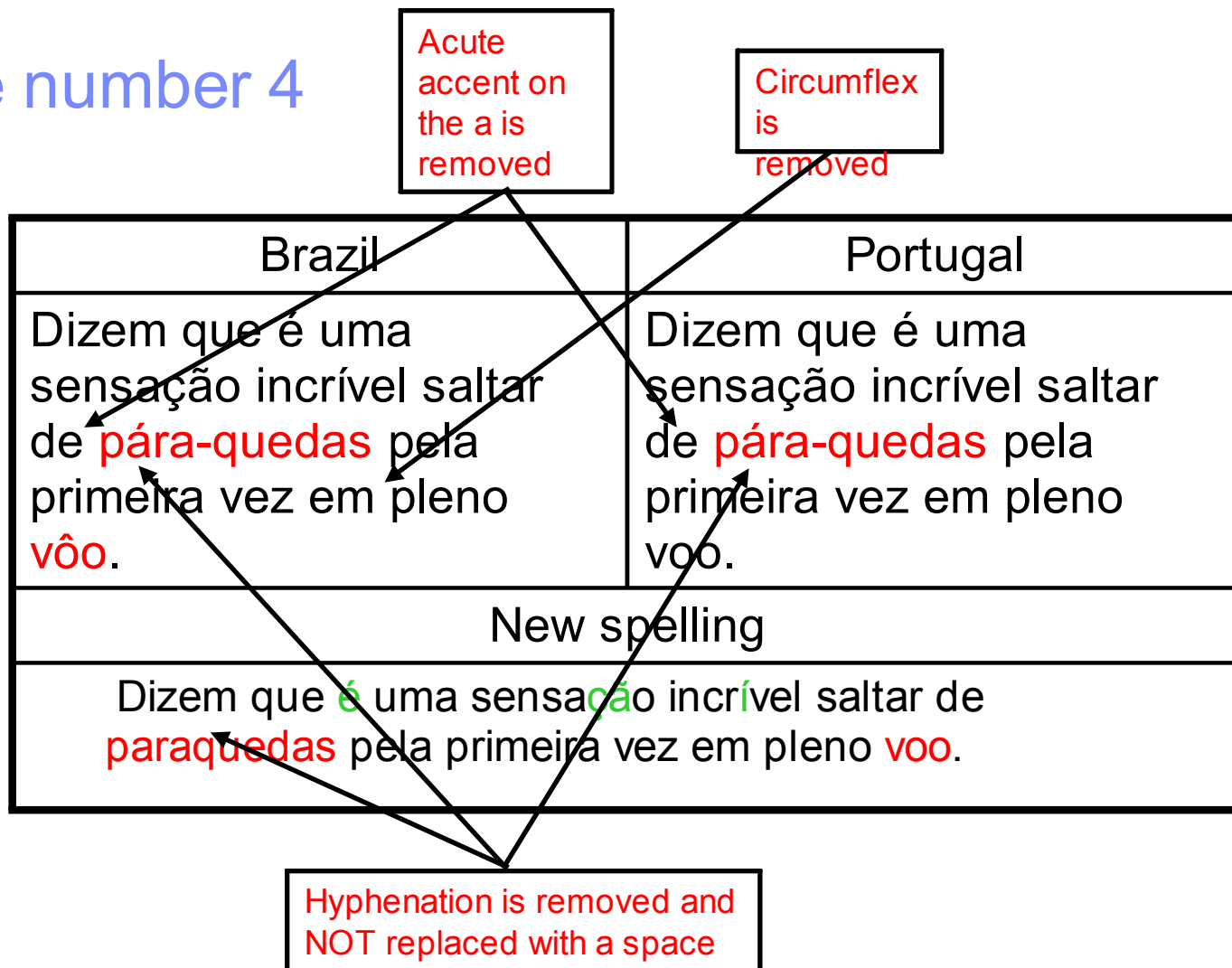
Umlaut is removed

Hyphenation is removed and replaced with a space

Capitalization or certain words is dropped, this will affect CLDR data

Source: Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spelling_reforms_of_Portuguese

Example number 4

Source: Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spelling_reforms_of_Portuguese