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Teresa Mendes is a Full Professor at the Faculty of Science and Technology of the University of Coimbra.

She has been Vice-Rector of the University of Coimbra and is currently President of Institute Pedro Nunes (IPN), a non-profit association for Innovation and Technology Transfer and Business Incubation. IPN transfers technology for local, national and international companies and its Incubator hosts innovative technology-based companies, mainly spin-offs from the University of Coimbra.