

Welcome Letter

Dear Colleagues,

1 January 2021 marks the start of a new year, which we do hope will be auspicious, as well as of the fourth Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

In this context, I would like to welcome you to the Portuguese Presidency. During this semester, we are looking forward to have an effective and fruitful cooperation with all EUPAN members.

The Portuguese Presidency will continue the work developed by previous presidencies, partircularly the Croatian and German ones, to whom we would like to express our great appreciation for their efforts in such special circumstances arising from the pandemic crisis and whose effects will continue to be felt during the first half of 2021, conditioning the meetings format.

Taking into account the EUPAN Strategy Paper 2019-2022, the Portuguese Presidency will address the following topics:

- Innovation in the delivery of digital services (with the focus on the digital transformation accelerators; the challenges and barriers of digital transformation and the networks of collaboration and communities of practice);
- Ethical leadership related to trust during the Covid-19 pandemic;
- Employees' motivation (factors that boost and hinder it, including in the context of the pandemic crisis, the digitalization and artificial intelligence perception effects on motivation);
- CAF assessment implementation in EU.

Following the guidelines set out in the network Handbook, a EUPAN ministerial conference will be held in Lisbon, in June, under the Portuguese Presidency.

The Portuguese EUPAN team will be available for any additional information deemed necessary by the e-mail: eupan@dgaep.gov.pt.

On behalf of the Portuguese team and myself, we would like to wish you a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Vasco Hilário

Director-General of Administration and Public Employment Ministry of State Modernization and Public Administration