It mission is to create and disseminate scientific knowledge in the field of telecommunications. It is actively involved in fundamental and applied research in telecommunications both at national and international levels. It also fosters higher education and training, by hosting and tutoring graduate and postgraduate students.

About Instituto de Telecomunicações

Instituto de Telecomunicações It (www.it.pt) is a private, non-profit organization of public interest established in 1992, and State Associate Laboratory since 2001. It is a partnership of six universities, a polytechnic and two companies involved in research and development in the field of Telecommunications:

- University of Aveiro (UA);
- University of Coimbra (FCTUC);
- Instituto Superior Técnico (IST);
- University of Beira Interior (UBI);
- University of Porto (UP);
- University Institute of Lisbon (ISCTE-IUL);
- Instituto Politécnico de Leiria (IPL)
- Portugal Telecom Inovação, S.A. (PTIn);
- Nokia Solutions and Networks (NSN)

It sites are located at IST in Lisbon, UA in Aveiro and UC in Coimbra. It has branches at ISCTE-IUL in Lisbon, at UBI in Covilhã, at UP in Porto and at the Polytechnic of Leiria. It also has partnership agreements with other Portuguese universities namely U Évora, U Algarve, and with the Polytechnics of Setúbal, Tomar, Coimbra, and Lisbon.

With about 300 researchers holding a PhD, about 300 PhD students and 200 MSc students, It expertise spans all areas of telecommunications and supporting sciences, including wireless communications, optical communications, networks and multimedia. Researchers and students are organized in research groups (about 43) covering different topics in telecommunications and cross-fertilization areas. With cutting-edge laboratories and highly qualified teams, It has been an active
player in some of the greatest endeavors in telecommunications, participating for instance in the birth of 4G in the early nineties, in the MPEG standardization, in the global Square Kilometer Array project or in the race for all-optical communications. In almost all cases the research is carried out in the framework of national and international projects, or other cooperation initiatives. Currently it researchers are carrying cooperative research with more than 120 international peer institutions and labs worldwide.

Among it researchers, 6 are IEEE fellows, about 30 are IEEE senior members, and about 70 are Associate Editors of international journals and members of numerous international scientific boards. Currently with an annual scientific output of nearly 15 books, 60 book chapters, and 300 journal papers (of which 78% in Thomson Reuters ISI referenced journals), it has an accumulated total of 2200+ journal papers gathering 23000+ citations in the Thomson Reuters ISI Web of Knowledge, with an h-index of 62.

It also plays its role towards public society by producing and disseminating public awareness information, transferring knowledge to national and international industry and providing telecommunications consulting services on a non-competitive basis.

It activities are regularly overseen by an advisory board formed by three recognized international experts. It is regularly evaluated by international panels appointed by the Portuguese Science Foundation (FCT). In recognition of it achievements, it was awarded the status of Associate Laboratory of the Portuguese Ministry for Science and Technology in 2001.