How to Navigate Social Security Contributions in Portugal for Individuals

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By **Silvia Santos**, 19th February 2024

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Who Contributes?

Both employed individuals and self-employed individuals contribute to Portugal's social security system. The contribution rates and methods differ slightly based on your employment status.

Employee Contributions

- Rate: Generally, 11% of your gross salary is automatically deducted by your employer (note that your employer contributes 23.75%).

- Coverage: Provides access to healthcare, unemployment benefits, pensions, and other social benefits.

Self-Employed Contributions

- Rate: Typically ranges from 21.4% to 35%, depending on your profession and chosen contribution regime.
- On a quarterly basis a Social Security declaration must be submitted which declares the revenue of the previous quarter. Based on this amount, the Social Security contribution is calculated.
- Method: Contributions are paid monthly through designated channels such as Multibanco, ATMs or online banking.
- Coverage: Similar to employee contributions, offering access to various social benefits.

Special Cases

- Voluntary Social Insurance: Individuals not automatically covered can make voluntary contributions to gain access to social benefits.

Remember and Contact Information

Contribution rates may change annually, based on government regulations.

Work place insurance may be required for occupational accidents, depending on your profession.

Deadlines for self-employed contributions must be adhered to, in order to avoid penalties.

Please reach out to Dixcart Portugal for more information: advice.portugal@dixcart.com
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