CENTRE FOR QUANTUM POLICY
PORTUGUESE QUANTUM INSTITUTE

Lisbon, 25 June 2026

CENTRE FOR QUANTUM POLICY | PQI – PORTUGUESE QUANTUM INSTITUTE

Security, Sovereignty, and Competitiveness in Quantum Technologies

Launch event of the Centre for Quantum Policy of PQI – Portuguese Quantum Institute

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 25 June 2026, PQI – Portuguese Quantum Institute launched its Centre for Quantum Policy, at the event **Security, Sovereignty, and Competitiveness in Quantum Technologies**, organised in collaboration with the Quantum Policy Lab of TU Delft. The event took place at the Permanent Representation of Portugal to the European Union (EU), in Brussels, Belgium, and overall had more than 50 participants, from different Directorates-General and Agencies of the European Commission, from representatives from EU Member States, from industry, from academia, from law enforcement, from defence, from the European Parliament, from law firms, and from policy.

This event aimed to promote the discussion about the potential applications of Quantum Technologies to security (including civilian), and the corresponding implications at societal and regulatory levels, including for European sovereignty and competitiveness. This discussion is particularly timely in the context of the preparation of the European Union's Quantum Act.

The event included public presentations and discussions, preceded by private brainstorming under the Chatham House rule.

The key insights drawn at the event were:

- **Europe needs a distinctly European quantum strategy**, grounded on its own values and priorities, and leveraging its collective strengths through closer coordination, dedicated governance, shared infrastructures, and stronger pooling of EU-wide excellence and capabilities.
- The strategic implications of quantum technologies for **defence capabilities, military innovation cycles, and future security architectures** deserve closer attention within the broader European policy debate.
- **Criminal and hostile actors may seek to exploit emerging technologies early**; Europe should anticipate malicious uses, identify potential legal and operational gaps, and strengthen law-enforcement capacity in the domain of quantum technologies.
- Quantum technologies and quantum policy should contribute to the **protection of democracy, freedom, and human rights**, in Europe and in the World.

- **The Quantum Act should serve as an enabling instrument for growth, cohesion, and competitiveness** rather than replicating predominantly risk-based regulatory approaches developed for other technologies.
- It should **promote stronger coordination between research organisations, industry, public authorities, and end-users to support the emergence of competitive European quantum markets**, namely through dedicated governance and instruments, including the promotion of sustained public investment and significantly greater private-sector participation.



Launch event of the Centre for Quantum Policy of PQI – Portuguese Quantum Institute, 25 June 2026, Permanent Representation of Portugal, Brussels

About the Centre for Quantum Policy

PQI – Portuguese Quantum Institute develops research, innovation, policy, education, and outreach in Quantum Technologies, in the context of European and international collaborations, supporting to the development and responsible adoption of quantum technologies. The Centre for Quantum Policy investigates the security, sovereignty, economic, diplomatic, educational, and societal dimensions of quantum technologies, as well as solutions to address the quantum divide.

Contact: https://pqi.pt/contact/

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