

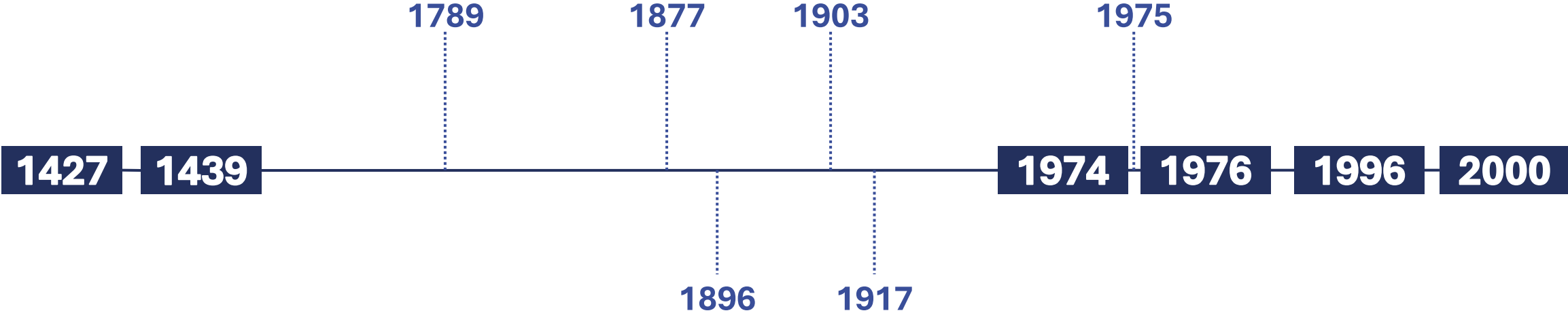


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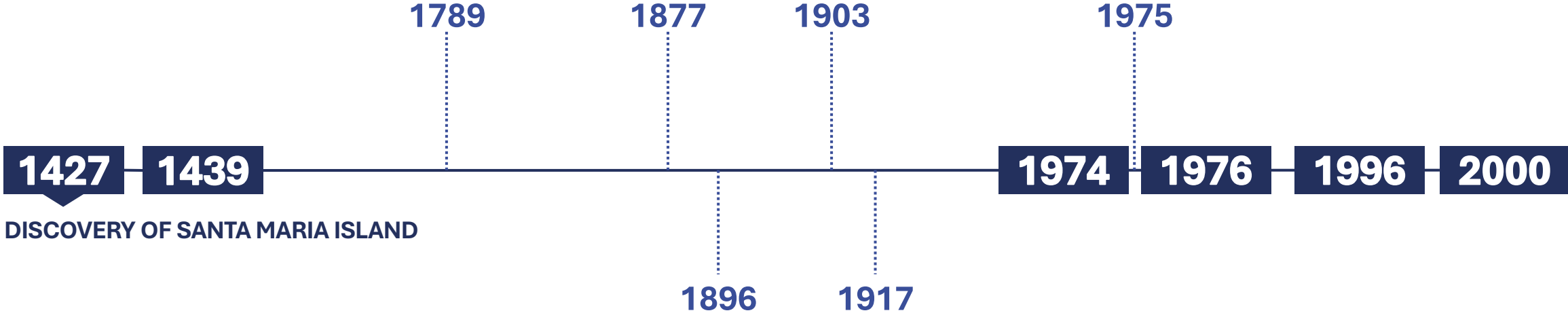
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INNOVATION IN AN OUTMOST REGION – A TALE OF FIVE CENTURIES

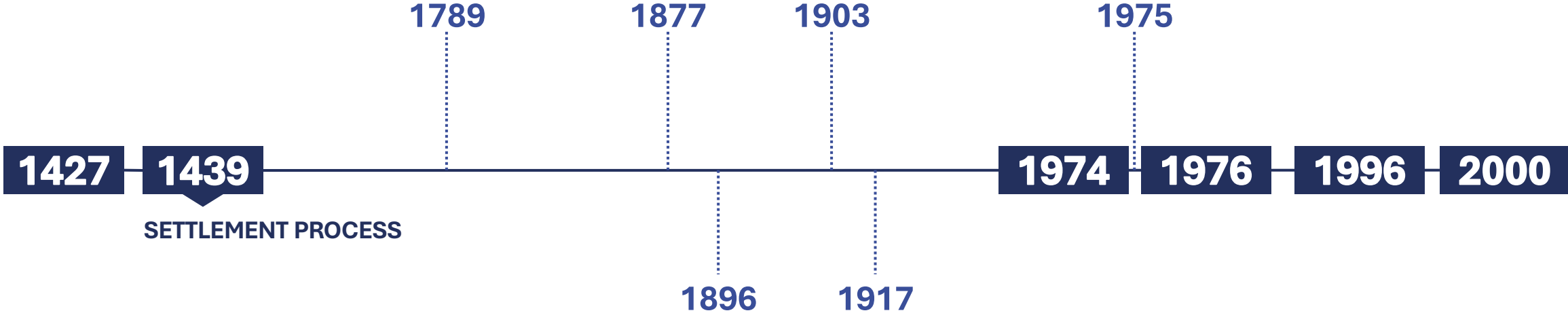
INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES



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FRENCH REVOLUTION

1789

1877

1903

1975

1427

1439

1974

1976

1996

2000

IN THE AZORES... UNDER STRICT CONTROL
OF THE MONARCHY AND THE CATHOLIC
CHURCH

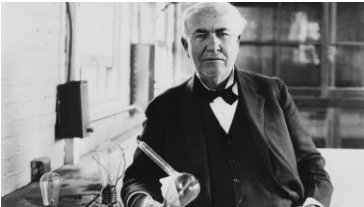


1896

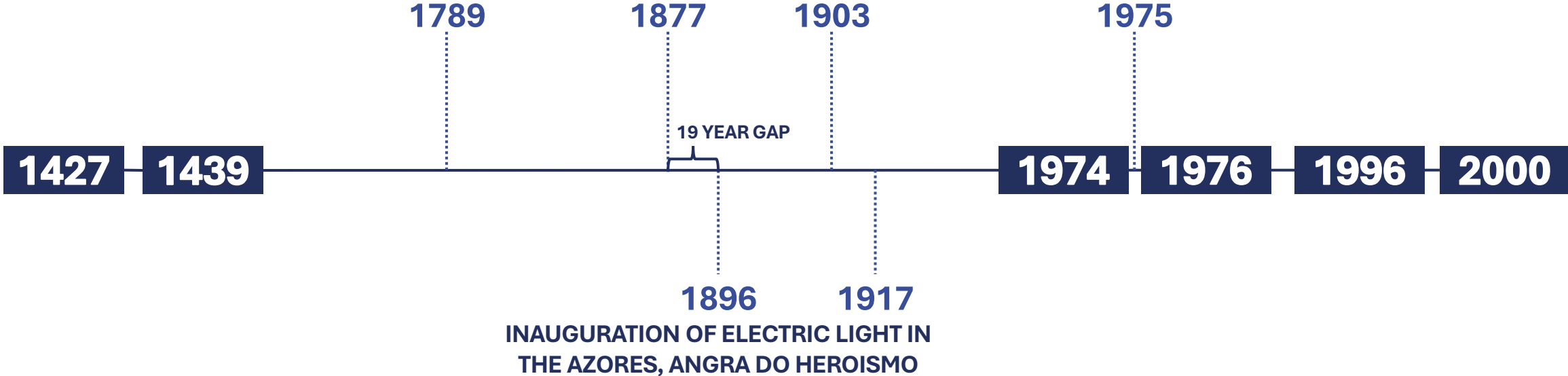
1917



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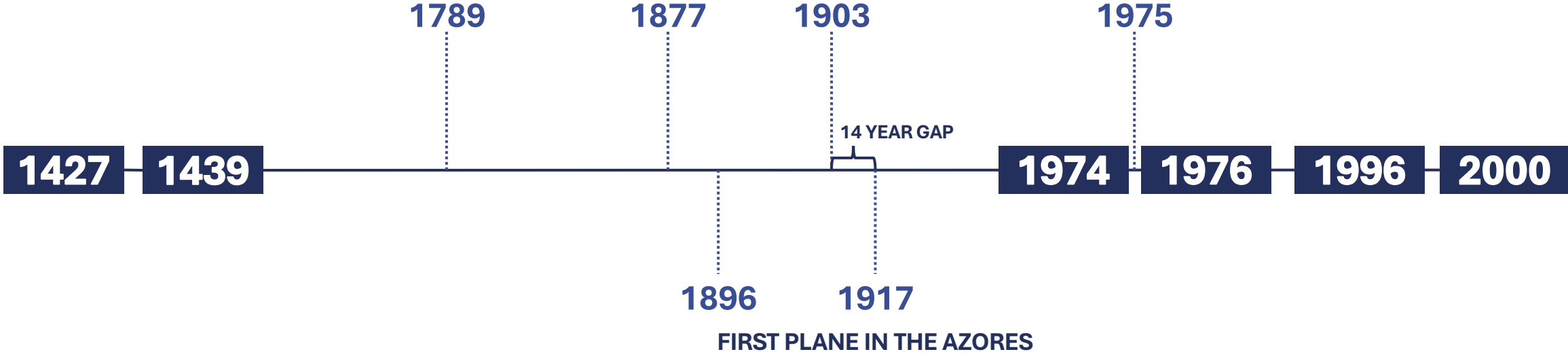
FIRST PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION OF INCANDESCENT LIGHTBULB, USA



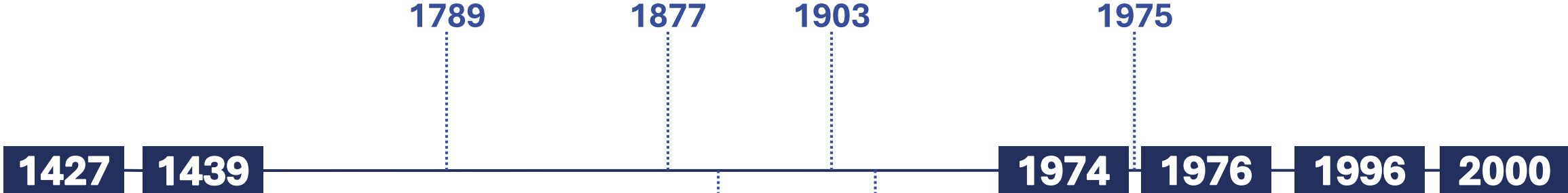
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FIRST PLANE, USA



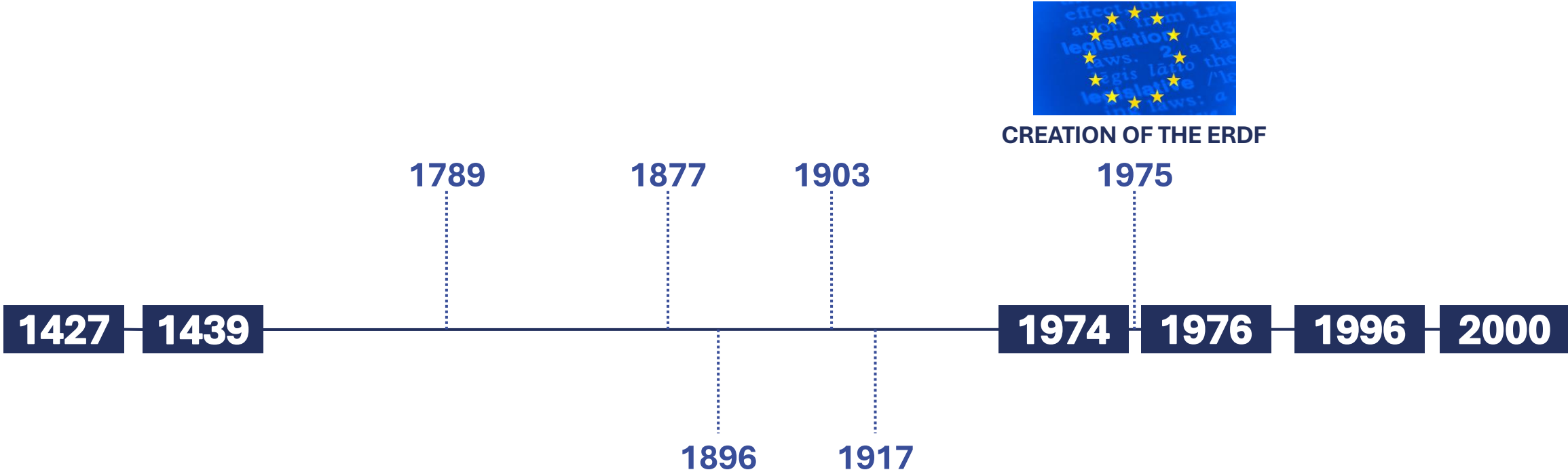
INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES



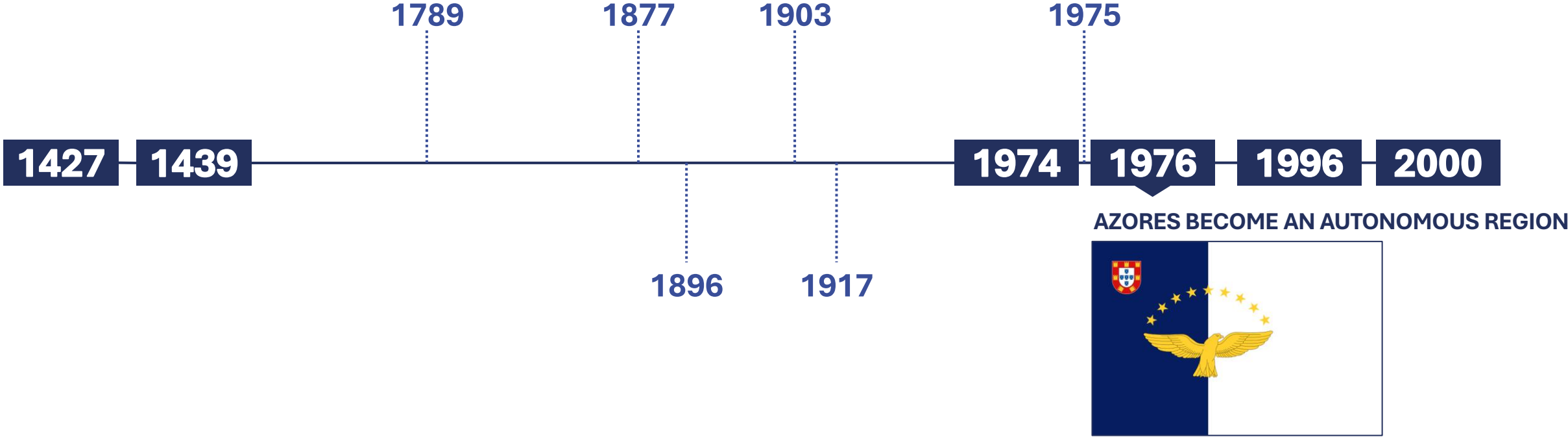
DEMOCRACY IN PORTUGAL



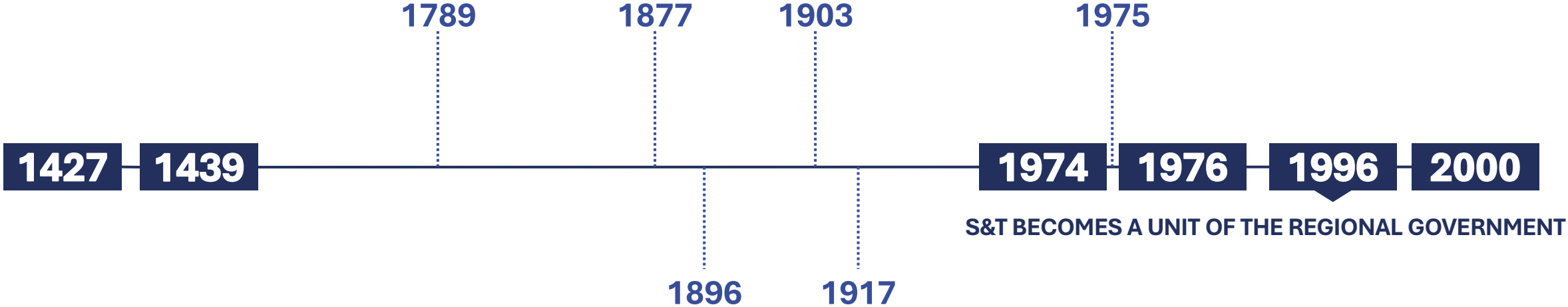
INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES



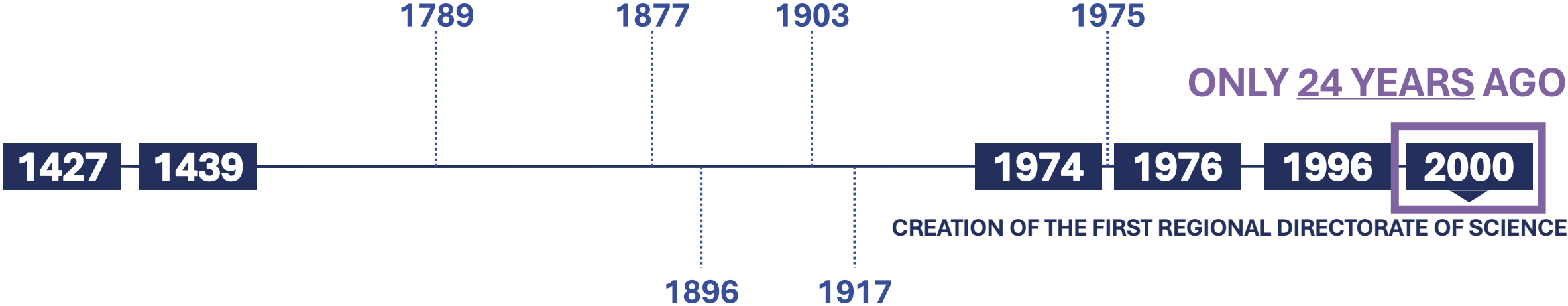
INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES



INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES

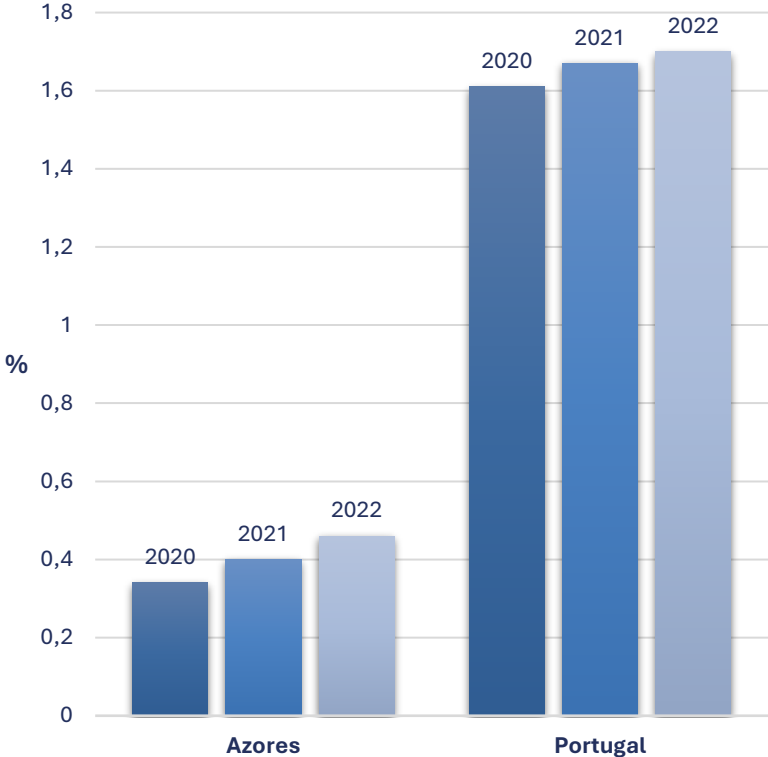


INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES

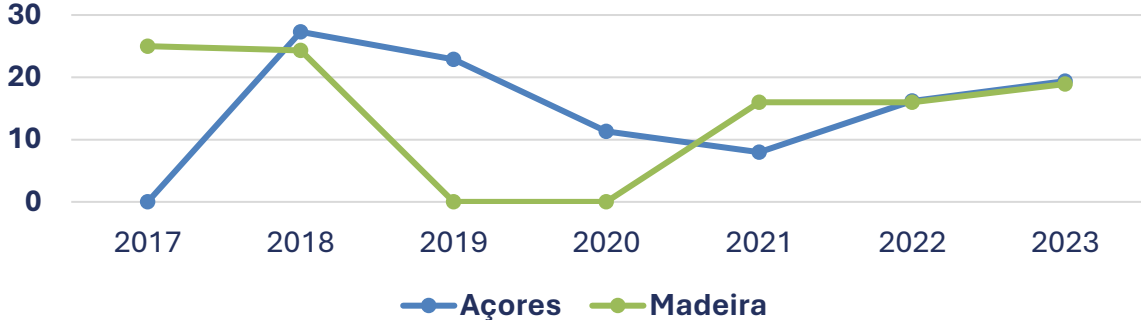


INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES

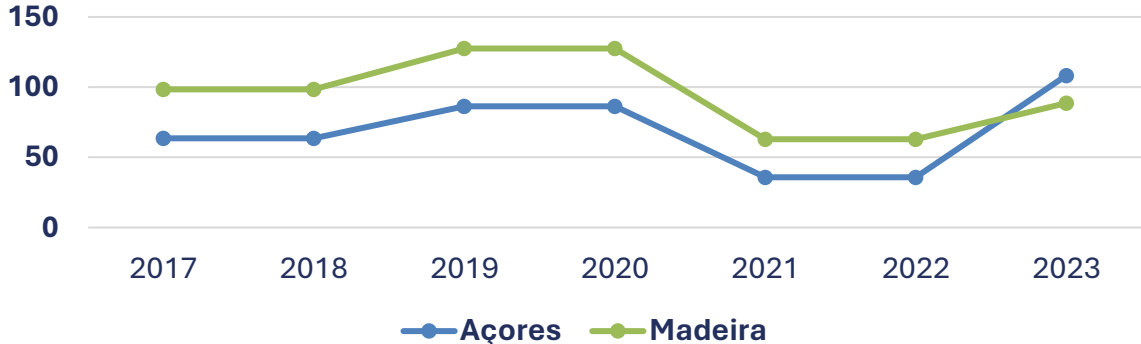
**EXPENSES ON R&D
ACTIVITIES AS A % OF GDP**



PCT PATENT APPLICATIONS



EMPLOYMENT IN INNOVATIVE ENTERPRISES

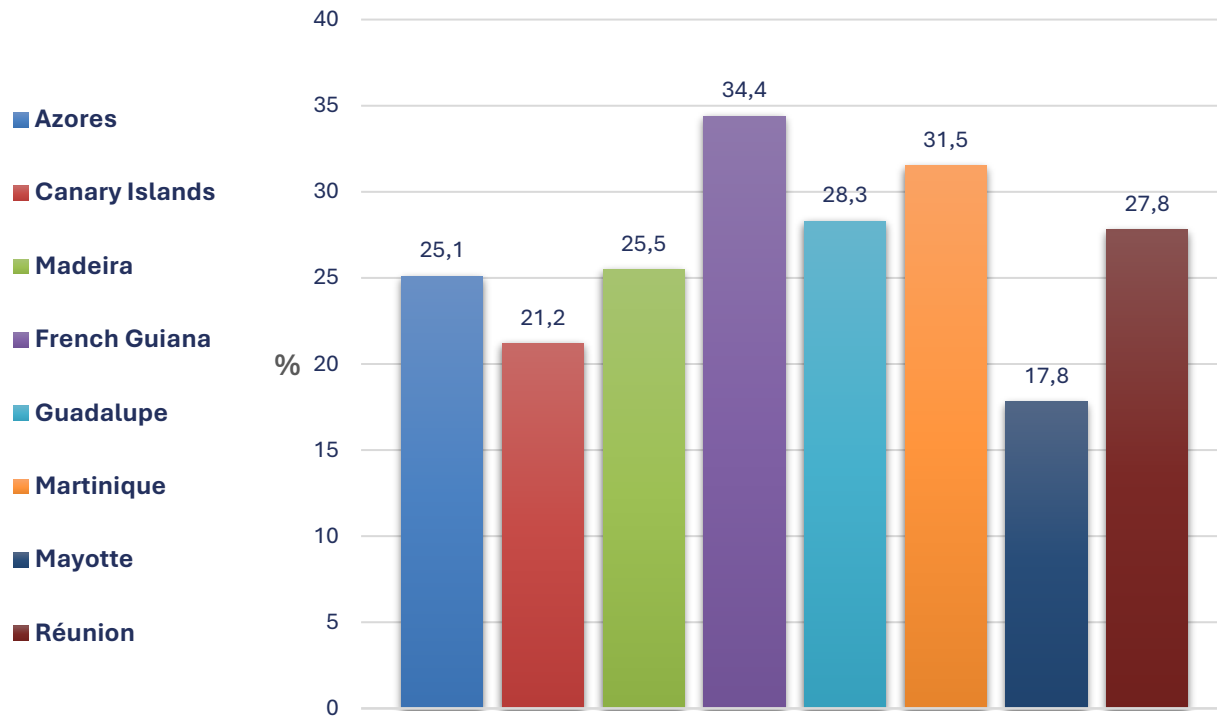


Source: PORDATA, <https://prod2.pordata.pt/tema/portugal/ciencia++tecnologia+e+sociedade+de+informacao-24>

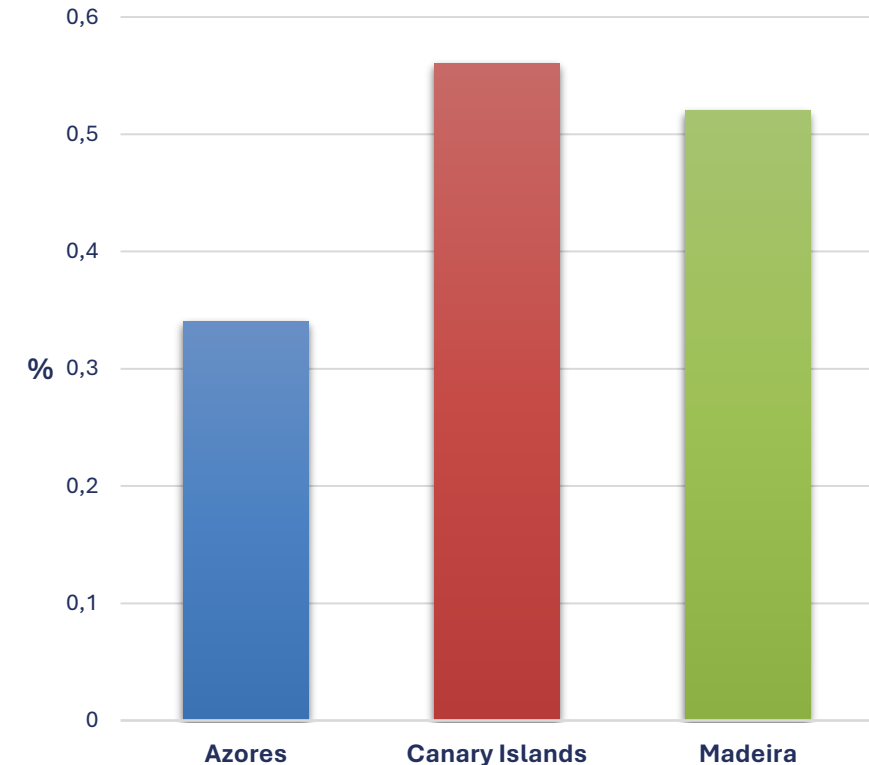
Source: European innovation scoreboard, <https://projects.research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/en/statistics/performance-indicators/european-innovation-scoreboard/eis-2024#/ris>

INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES

% OF HUMAN RESOURCES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (2022)



EXPENSES ON R&D ACTIVITIES AS A % OF GDP - MACARONESIA (2021)

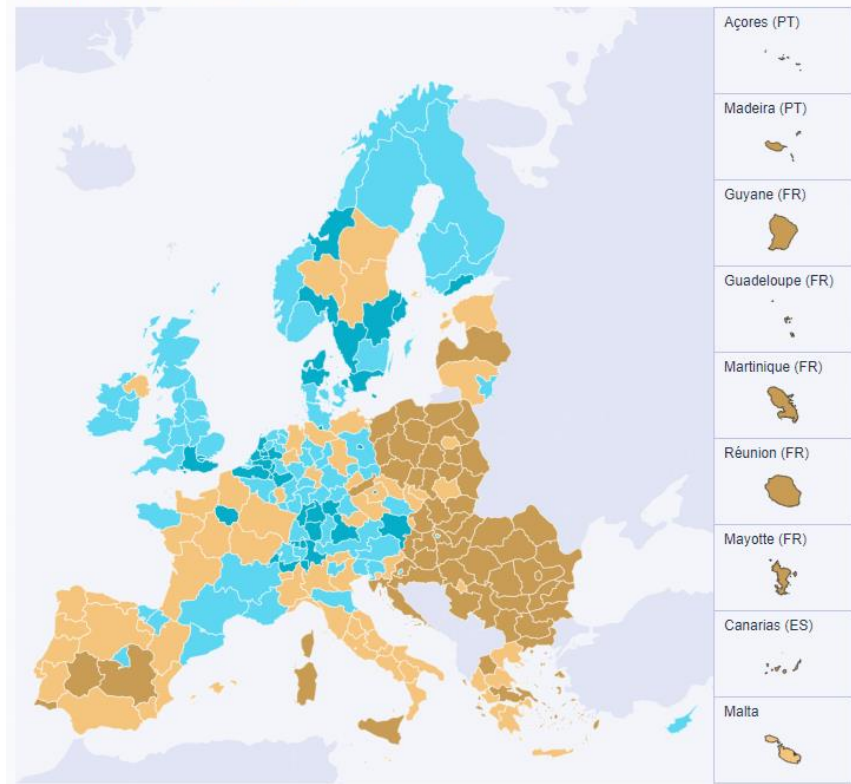


Source: Direção Regional de Estatística da Madeira, <http://estatistica.madeira.gov.pt> | <http://drem.ine.pt>

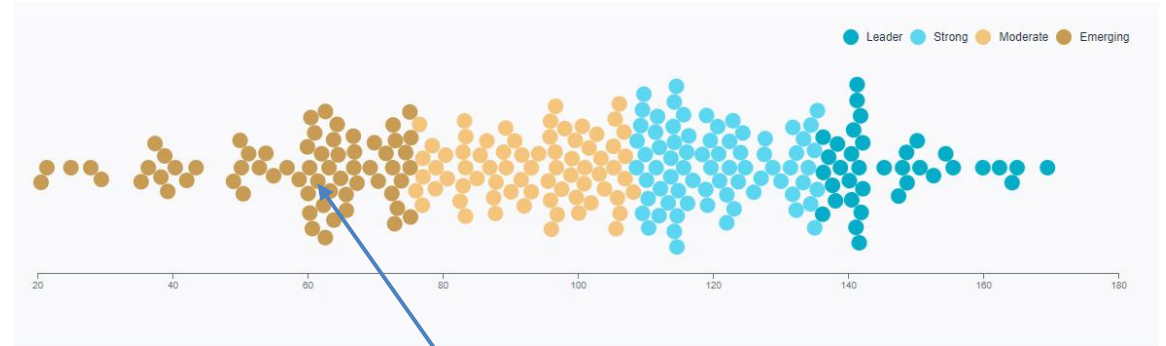


REGIONAL INNOVATION SCOREBOARD

Zoom using the mouse wheel and pan by dragging.



Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union.



**All
Outermost
Regions are
emerging
innovators.**

We are here!



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INNOVATION IN OUTERMOST REGIONS

- **What causes innovation: a possible approach**

(...)competition causes innovation, not institutions or policies, and the most compelling form of competition is that which takes place between states in the international arena. Without international competition in the form of external threats to a society's economic and military security, then national innovation rates tend to slow.

Mark Zachary Taylor

The Politics of Innovation

Why some countries are better than others at Science & Technology



INNOVATION IN OUTERMOST REGIONS

- **Possible explanations for low innovation in islands**

“Geography, for us, values as much as History”

Vitorino Nemésio

Research indicates that European outermost regions face significant barriers to innovation, primarily due to low quality of government and institutional factors

Rodríguez-Pose, A., & Di-Cataldo, M. Papers in Evolutionary Economic Geography # 14 . 06 Quality of government and innovative performance in the regions of Europe.

SMEs in peripheral EU regions have low innovation due to cultural barriers like organizational structure, leadership, and lack of employee empowerment.

McAdam, Rodney et al. “Barriers to innovation within small firms in a peripheral location.” *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behaviour & Research* 10 (2004): 206-221.





INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES

4 main pillars

- Review and optimization of public policy instruments
- Leveraging on multi-fund synergies
- Regional Research and Innovation Ecosystem capacity building
- Attract and retaining talent

REVIEW AND OPTIMIZATION OF PUBLIC POLICY INSTRUMENTS

• REVISION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEM OF THE AZORES (SCTA)

CURRENT VERSION:

- Restricted system

• NEW R&D&I SUPPORT AND INCENTIVE SCHEMES

CURRENT VERSION – PRO-SCIENTIA:

- The main funding mechanism of SCTA

NEW VERSION – CORE:

- Wider community
- Regional scientific and technological community

NEW VERSION – SI3 & SAPIENCIA:

- SI3 – New incentive scheme aimed at enterprises
- SAPIencia – more suited to the region's new reality/current dynamics
- Alignment with the European funding model

LEVERAGING ON MULTI-FUND SYNERGIES

- **EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)**

Intermediate body of the Azores 2030

21,5M€

- **EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND PLUS (ESF+)**

Funding for scientific employment (under development, 1st quarter of 2025)

Funding for payment of PhD scholarships

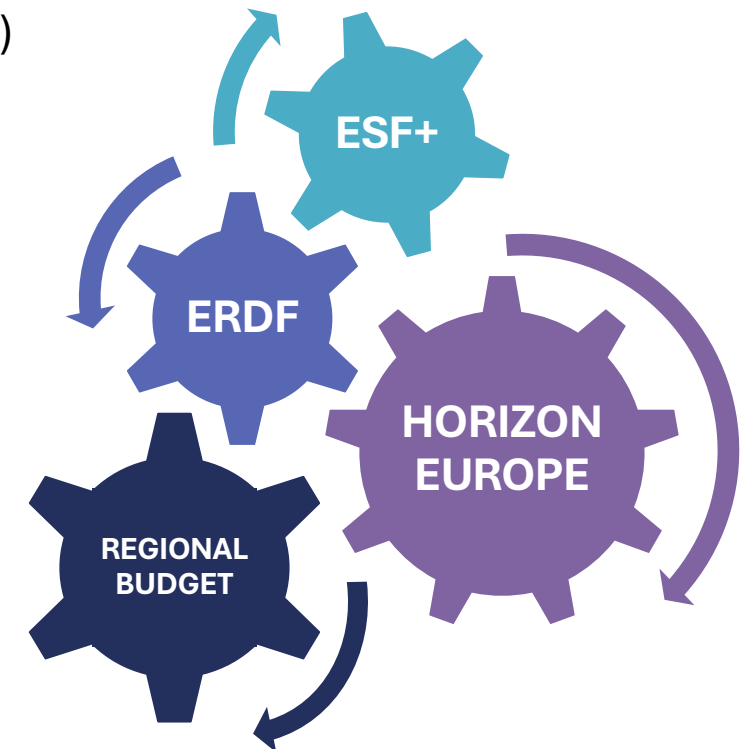
- **REGIONAL BUDGET**

~6M€

Support is given through a co-financing system

- **HORIZON EUROPE**

Cascade funding



REGIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM CAPACITY BUILDING

- **PEER LEARNING REVIEW – INTERREG EUROPE**

January 2024

Promote the relationship between Academia and Industry

Increase knowledge transfer

- **TECHINAL ASSISTANCE DG REGIO**

Set of indicators and an analytical framework to cover the monitoring of the S3 activities and their outcomes

Final report in November 2024



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REGIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM CAPACITY BUILDING

- **PARTNERSHIPS FOR REGIONAL INNOVATION (PRI)**

New European Innovation Agenda

Test policy tools while co-creating operational guidance

- **EUROPEAN PREPARATORY ACTION**

Following the PRI

DRCID is assisting in the formulation of the call

Interest in the being part of the Experimentation team, “Increasing global food security” thematic area

- **REGIONAL INNOVATION VALLEY**

Azores are one of the 149 European regions that became RIV

Thematic areas of food security and circularity



ATTRACT AND RETAINING TALENT

- **THE HARNESSING TALENT PLATAFORM (HTP)**

“Newly formed knowledge-building and experience-exchange platform, which seeks to support regions in addressing the consequences of the demographic change and in mitigating the challenges associated with the decline of tertiary educated populations across the EU.”

→ **Participation in this platform helped DRCID in the creation and formulation of the project to support scientific employment**



INNOVATION STRATEGY IN THE AZORES

• S3 SUMMIT AS A EUROPEAN GOOD PRATICE

Innovation for place-based transformations, ACTIONbook, practices and tools



LESSONS LEARNT

- Challenge-oriented missions demand a high involvement with all relevant stakeholders (4helix);
- Mission definition requires a consensus, which is difficult to achieve;
- There are regions in Europe that are more advanced in this process than the Azores, from which we might benefit from their experience;
- The mission approach might be valuable for the intelligent specialization strategy post-2027.



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THANK YOU!