

Maria da Graça Carvalho is currently a member of the European Parliament. She integrates the European People's Party (EPP) group. She is full member in the Industry, Research and Energy Committee (ITRE) where she was elected Vice Coordinator for the EPP Group. She is as well substitute member of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO), of the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee (FEMM) and full member of Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in a Digital Age (AIDA). She is also a member of the Delegation for relations with the United States of America, the Delegation for relations with the countries of Central America, the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly and the Delegation for relations with the countries of Central Asia.

Maria da Graça Carvalho is also the chair of the Board of Directors of Instituto Francisco Sá Carneiro (since July 2020).

Maria da Graça Carvalho has served as a member of the European Parliament in the EPP group from 2009 to 2014. As a MEP, she was responsible for the Specific Programme Implementing HORIZON 2020. In 2011, she received the Award best MEP in the area of Research and Innovation.

Maria da Graça Carvalho was beforehand a member of the “Scientific Advice Mechanism” Unit of DG Research and Innovation of the European Commission. Previously, she was also Senior Advisor to the European Commissioner on Research, Science and Innovation and Principal Adviser to the President of the European Commission, responsible for Science, Research, Higher Education, Innovation, Energy, Environment and Climate Change.

She was Minister of Science and Higher Education of the XV Constitutional Government of Portugal and Minister of Science, Innovation and Higher Education of the XVI Constitutional Government, also serving as Director-General of GRICES-Office for International Relations in Science and Higher Education.

Maria da Graça Carvalho is a Full Professor at the Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, and has acquired 30 years of experience in research in the areas of energy, climate change and science, technology and innovation policy. She has also been a member of the Board of Directors and President of the Scientific Board of the Instituto Superior Técnico as well as being a member of the National Council for Education and of the National Council on Environment and Sustainable Development.

She was the founder of a research group of 50 people on Energy and Sustainable Development at the Instituto Superior Técnico. She published over 100 articles in international scientific journals and more than 200 articles in conference proceedings. She wrote as well four books and edited 17 more. She founded and was the first Editor-in-chief of "Clean Air – International Journal on Environmental Combustion Technologies" (Gordon and Breach Publishers / Taylor & Francis). She coordinated more than 20 European consortia and she acted as chair in several international panels, such as the Evaluation Panel of the “Engineering Sciences Panel of the Marie Curie”. She was also National Delegate of several European Programmes and Member of numerous Framework Programme Advisory Groups.

She was the 2016 recipient of the IUMRS International Union of Materials Research Societies Global Leadership and Service Award that honours individuals in materials research, education and policy and recipient of the first Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo prize, a career prize that honours outstanding women scientists and engineers and was named after of the former Portuguese Prime Minister Maria da Lourdes Pintasilgo. In 2008, in the scope of the celebration of the XV Anniversary of the CIRCE Foundation (University of Zaragoza), Maria da Graça Carvalho received the CIRCE Prize.

She is a member of 22 national and international scientific associations and fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), the World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS) and the Academia Europaea.

She was Vice President of the Portuguese Institute of Engineers and remains a fellow of the Portuguese Institute of Engineers, the Portuguese Academy of Science, the Royal Academy of Engineers of Spain and is a founding member of the Portuguese Academy of Engineers.

In 2002, Maria da Graça Carvalho was awarded the title of “Great Official of the Order of Public Instruction” by the President of Republic of Portugal. In 2005, she was awarded with the Great Cross of the Chancellery of the International Order of Merit of the Discoverer of Brazil and, in this context. She is currently a member of the Chancellery of the Orders of Merit of the Portuguese Republic.