



# Predicting macroeconomic indicators from online activity data: a case study

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and online via Zoom (Link)  
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Policymakers usually tackle the issue of evaluating the present or the recent past state of an economy by relying on incomplete statistical information since official statistics are generally published with delays, and the available nowcasts and forecasts do not consider the present or most recent past. Several authors have proposed resorting to data sourced from online activities and particularly from Google Trends (GT) to overcome this issue. This work presents a nowcasting procedure for the monthly Portuguese unemployment rate under the perspective of Mixed Data Sampling (MIDAS) regressions, assuming as predictors the daily information provided by the Google Trends.

## **Biography:**

Maria Eduarda Silva is an Associate Professor with Habilitation at the Faculty of Economics at the University of Porto (FEP.UP). She is Director of the Master in Data Analytics. Her research interests are in time series analysis and forecasting: non-stationary and non-linear time series models, time series of counts, economics and financial time series, time series classification/clustering, time series methods for analysis of environmental, geophysics and biomedical variables and spatio-temporal models.