

**Motivações e constrangimentos dos condutores de carros elétricos em Portugal: uma
análise de usabilidade**

Motivations and constrains of electric cars drivers in Portugal: a usability analysis

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ABSTRACT

The rapid growth of large urban agglomerations and the use of internal combustion engine cars as the main transport mode ended up hampering the maintenance of air quality and, consequently, the quality of life of the people who lived there. Since then, electric cars have played a fundamental role in the search for sustainable mobility. In this sense, are electric cars a symbol of Ecological Modernization? What would be the main motivators for electric car users in Portugal? And what would be the main constraints? With these questions in mind, the present study will analyze the role of electric cars in society and their usability in the perspective of users regarding main constraints and motivations of their use in Portugal. The work has a quantitative orientation and obtained its results through the application of a questionnaire on websites, forums and groups focused on electric mobility. Because the sample obtained is not representative, the present study observed some trends and was able to make suggestions regarding the usability of electric cars in Portugal. The figures suggest that the autonomy of electric cars still affects their usability, especially on non-urban routes. It is also possible to observe the tendency of the residence as the main place for charging electric cars, as well as the tendency that only a small number of users charge electric cars through solar panels or through other sources of exclusively renewable energy. The numbers still suggest that such users tend to have a vision of sustainability more aligned with the thinking of Ecological Modernization. Carrying out a pioneering sociological study on the use

of electric cars in Portugal, this work contributed to a reflection on the role of electric cars in society, as well as a better understanding of the main constraints and motivations encountered by Portuguese users.

Keywords: Electric Cars, Usability, Sustainability, Motivators, Constraints, Ecologic Modernization