



#### University of Groningen

#### Making Strategies in Destination Branding

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN TOURISM

> 3-5 October 2013, Istanbul, Turkey



## Making Strategies in Destination Branding

What is the online tourism promotional material saying about Portugal?





@eduoliveira98
October the 3<sup>rd</sup>
Boğaziçi University
Tourism Administration Dept.
Istanbul, Turkey



faculty of spatial sciences







## Are you sure you want to listen this presentation?!

- ✓ Part I: Setting the context
- ✓ Part II: Theoretical background
  - > The **why** & **how**?
    - > Destination Branding
    - > Digital challenges
- ✓ Part III: Empirical background
  - > In destination branding.
    - > Approach to **Portugal** (case study)
    - > Making strategies
- ✓ Part IV: Step forward



I will take some time...

...with around **200** slides...

...talking about challenges...

in the end you can make questions



## The presentation contents through keywords



#### In the end is all about...















#### **Part I:** Setting the **context** - Is that so complicated?



Source: google images

#### Part I: Setting the context - Is that so complicated?



### **Part I:** Setting the **context** - Me, You, We **SHARE**



















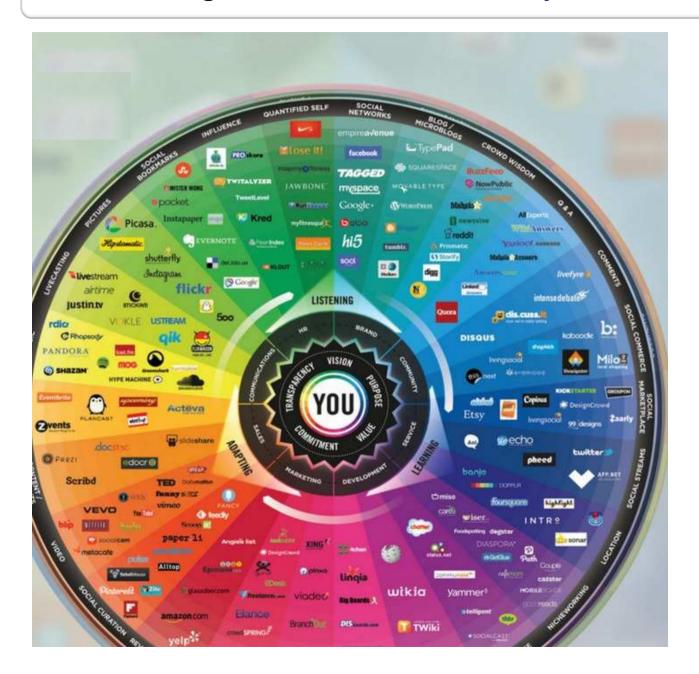






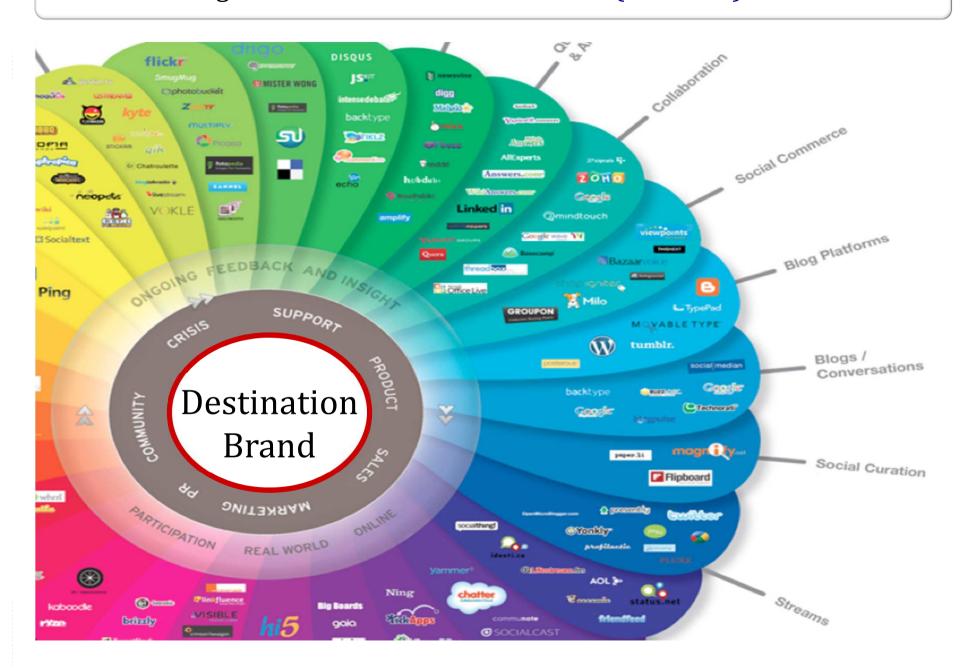


## **Part I:** Setting the **context** - From daily life.....





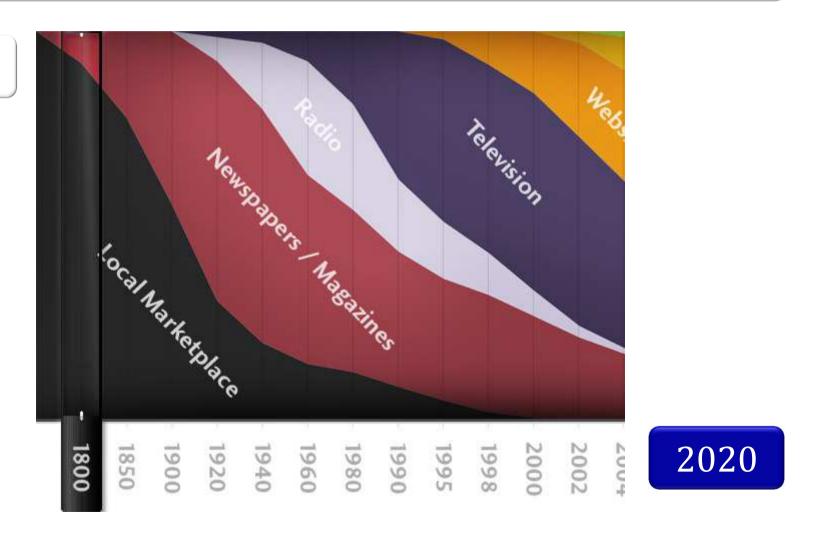
Part I: Setting the context - ...to business (tourism), destinations





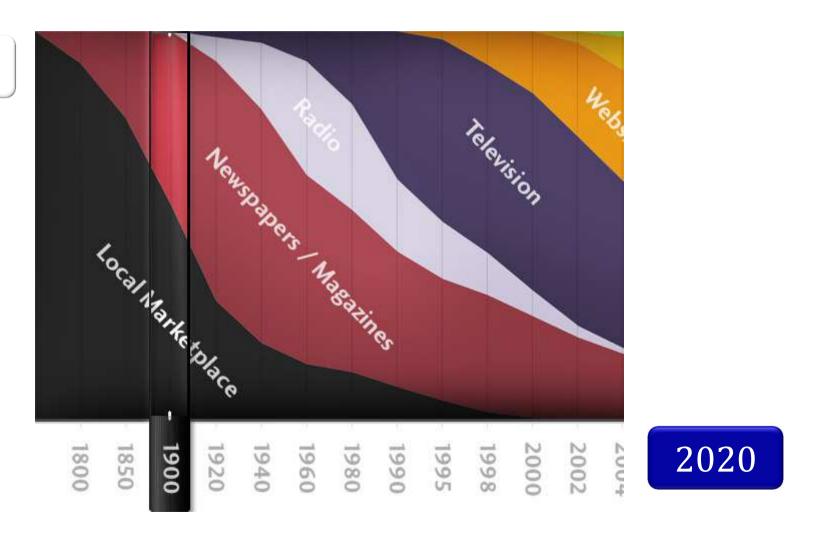
## Everyone is trying to connect with other people all around the world – But, was always that easy?

1800



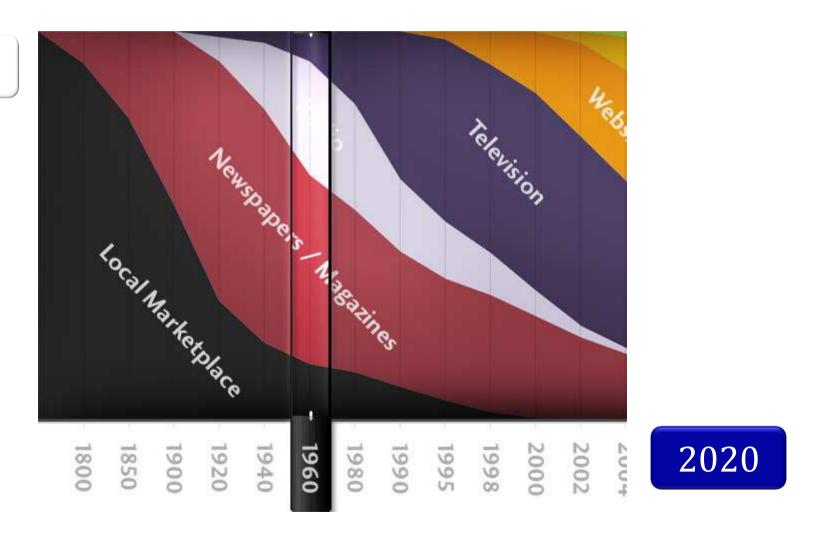
## Reading information - passive.

1900



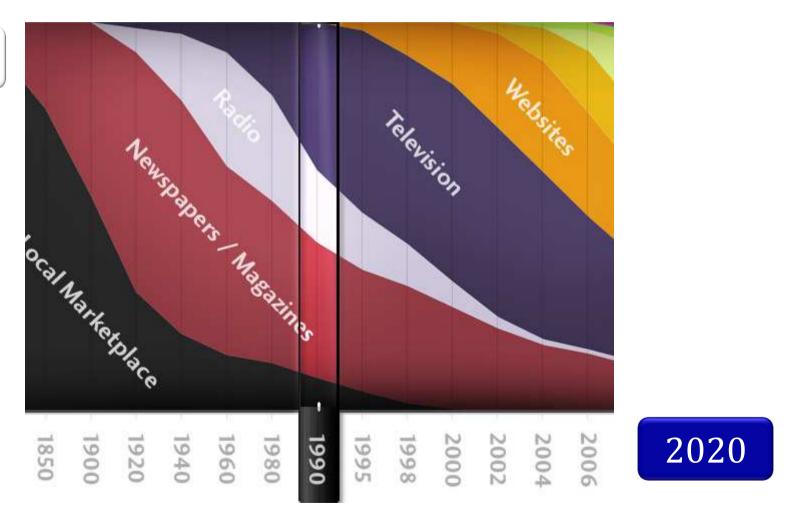
## Getting the latest news - passive.

1960



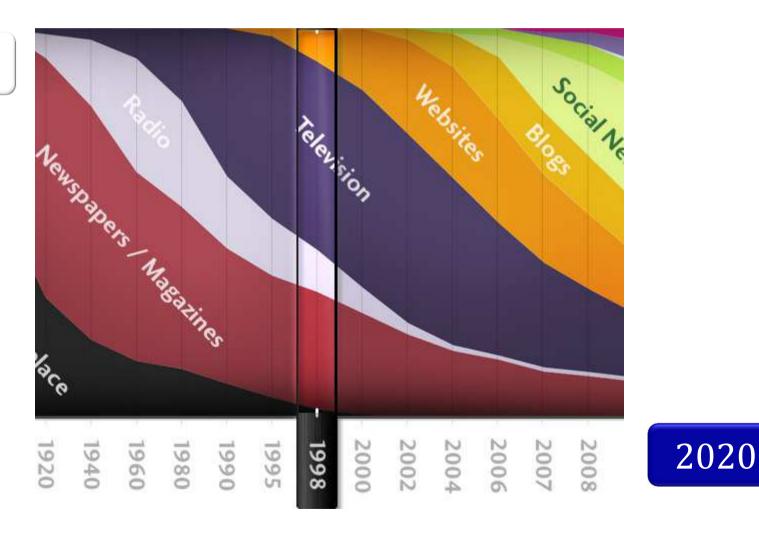
## Tune in tomorrow - less passive.

1990

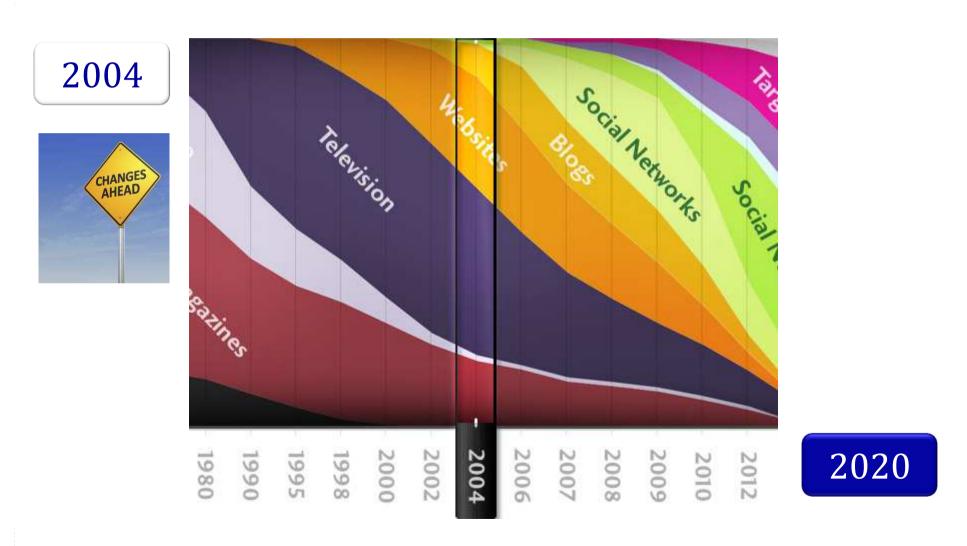


## Internet growing - mix passive-active.

1998

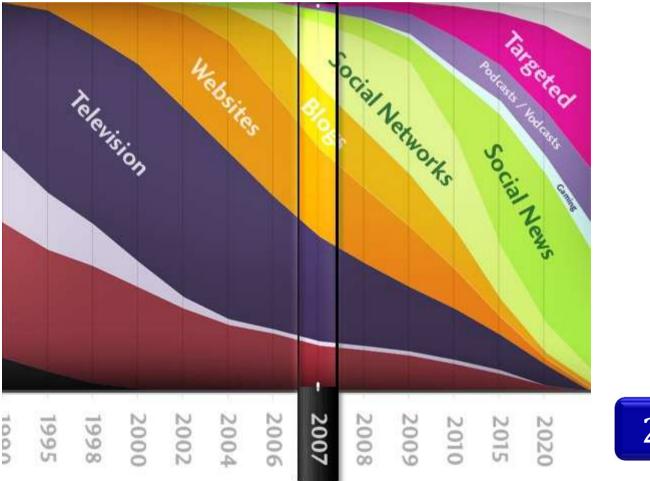


## Creating & Generating content



## Blogging and sharing - more active.

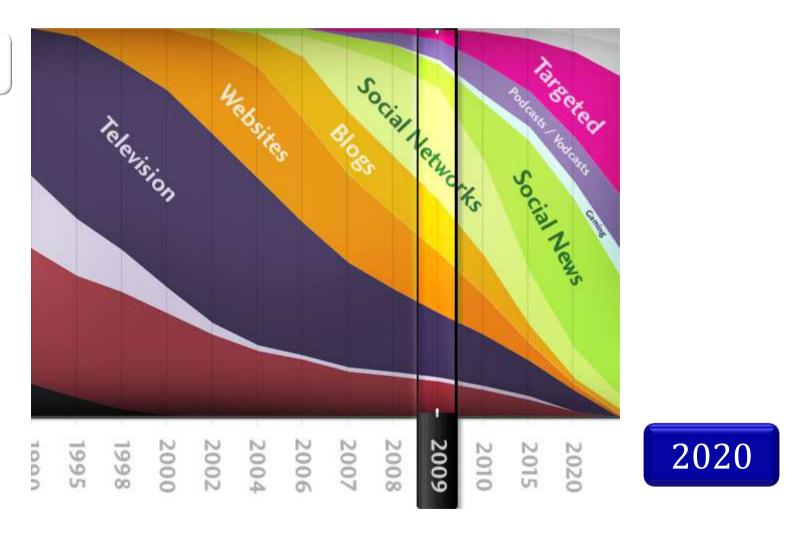
2007



2020

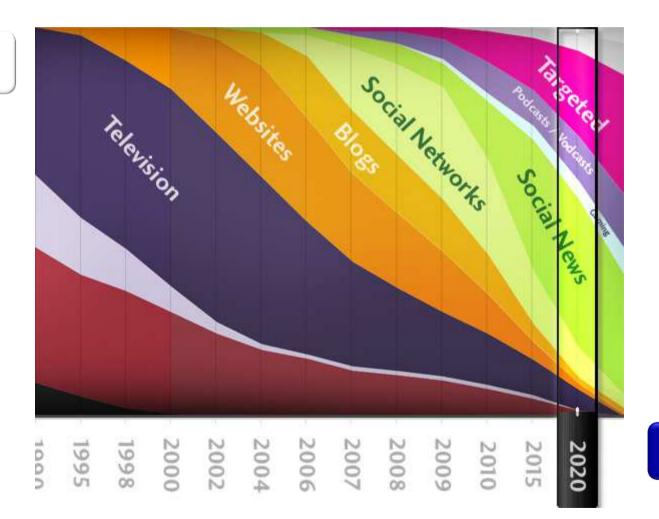
## Social Networks - Creator & Generator.





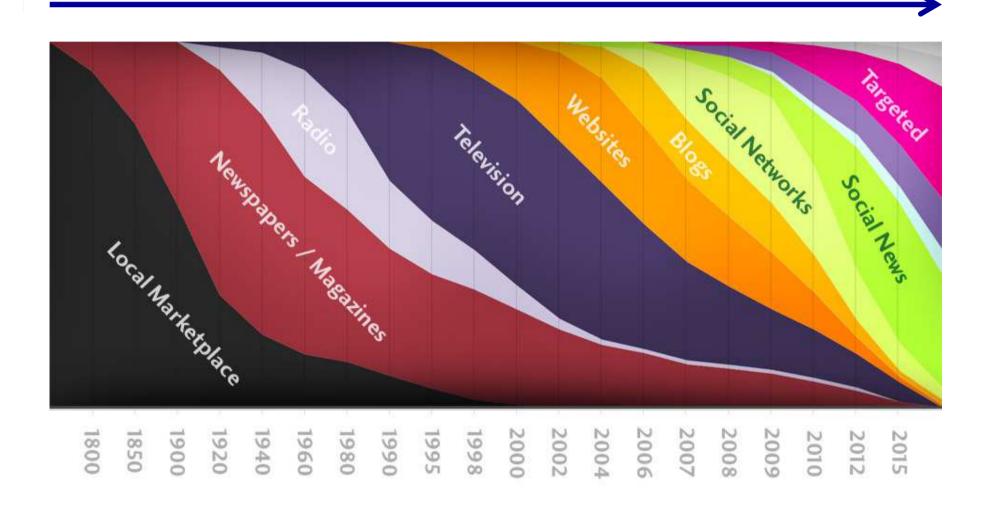
## Everything is social-shared: challenging

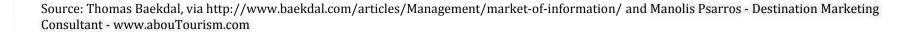
2020



Challenges

## Evolutionary spectrum of the challenge.







## Part I: Content - word of mouth get a megaphone



Travellers are **influenced** by comments...

When making travel purchase decisions.

Methods used for booking		
	2003	2013
Internet	13%	76%
Travel agent	65%	18%

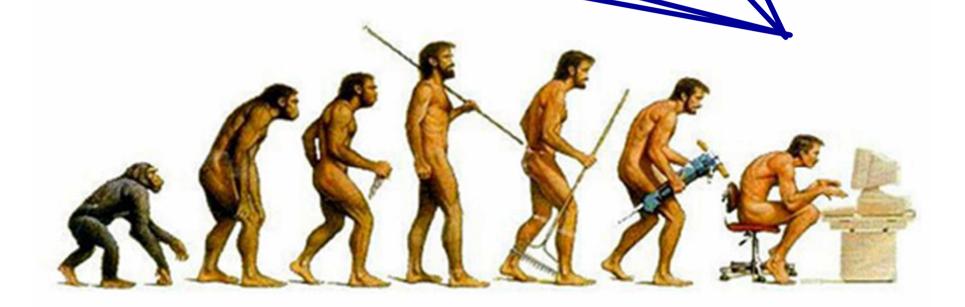
## To #shout or to #hashtag



To Shout or to Hashtag? Digital Challenges in Destination Branding
http://placesbrands.com/to-shout-or-to-hashtag-digital-challenges-in-destination-branding/

Let's find out some 'cool' place to go now...

Logos, colours, taglines, booking, rating hotels cheap flights?!!!



#### **Part I:** Tourism destinations are facing challenges

The demand to provide **quality information** and online contents in an era of information overload.

> How to use the social media and all media channels to communicate and interact with travellers?

(O'Conner et al., 2011)



> Open up the discussion about the role of the institutions in charge of destination branding (e.g. DMO).

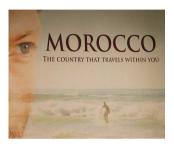
#### Part II

## Place or Destination brand(ing)?

#### > What is destination branding?









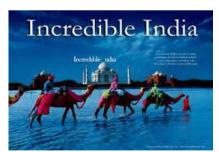


















## Destination branding I

"Tourism has often been seen a key element in the development of places and destinations, which are adopting branding strategies (...)

(...) meant to gain a **competitive position** and assert their identity - in their communication **with potential tourists**"

Morgan, Pritchard & Piggott, (2003)







#### Part II

## Destination branding II

Today's environment of intense competition is affecting destinations as they are striving to develop themselves as attractive places for tourism and differentiate themselves from competing alternatives.

In this 'endeavour' - destinations are facing Opportunities / Key Issues/ Challenges

...it is a challenge for tourism destinations to improve their **own features**, **attributes** and **unique elements** to become more attractive places (Alvarez, 2012)



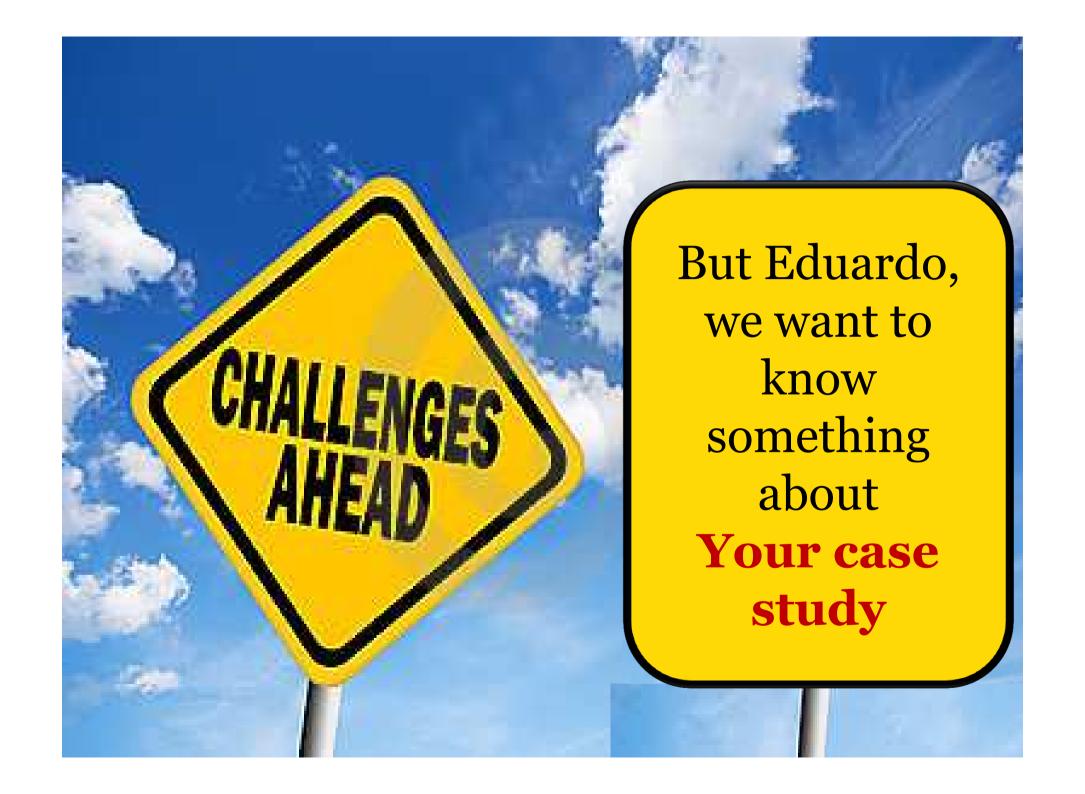
Ritchie & Crouch, (2003)

Hankinson, (2011)

Buhalis, (2000)

## Go and search for the very best...































#### Part III: Empirical background - Portugal (case study)

#### Europe

#### Portugal





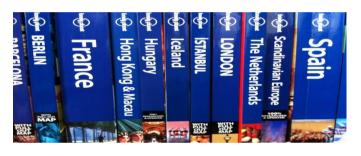
Source: Google Maps

We are here today

Do not mix the location, the place, the destination...

#### Part III: Portugal as a tourism destination - destination Portugal

# The New York Times theguardian













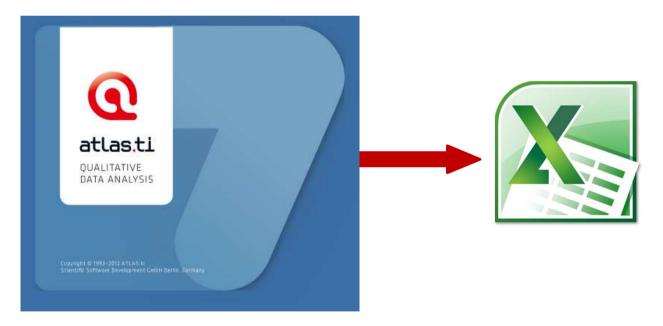




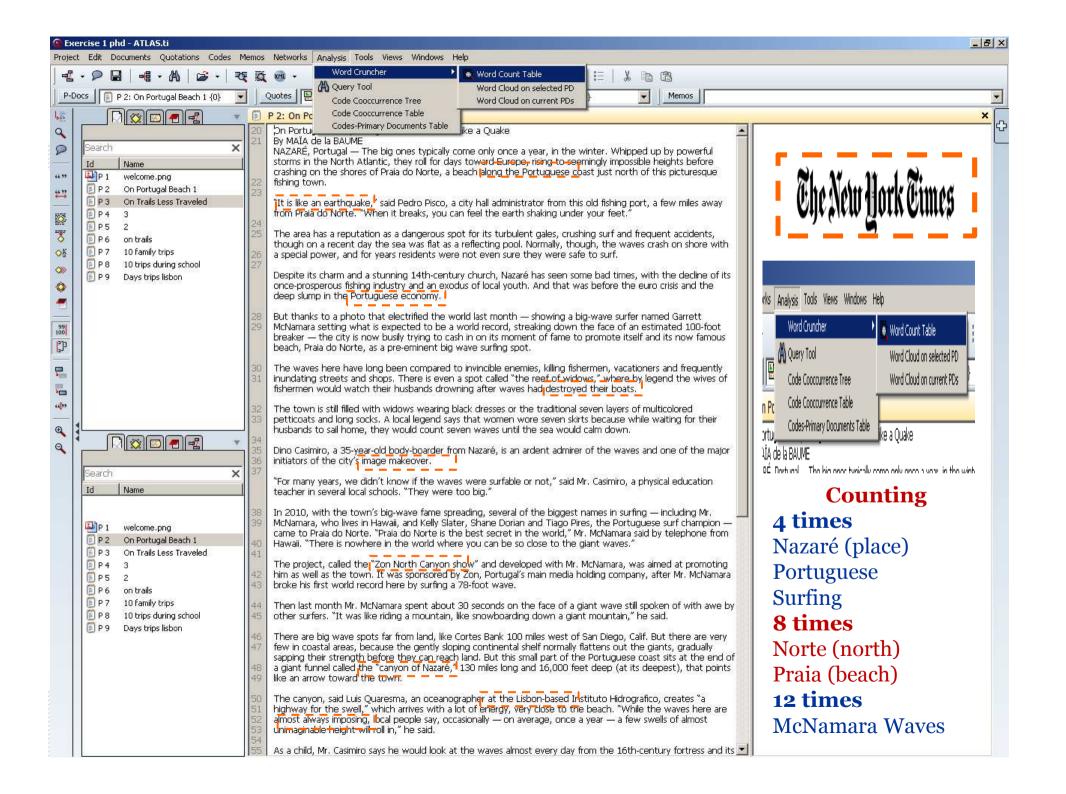
**Part III:** Portugal as a tourism destination – destination Portugal

## Methodological Exercise

> Content analysis: is an empirical technique which involves the counting, identification of issues and interpretation of the content of a text which is assumed to be significant (Hannam and Knox, 2005),



> **Text Mining:** can be used as a tool for **online text analysis** / unstructured or semistructured collection of text documents.



## Example I

# The New Hork Times

NAZARE JOURNAL

On Portugal Beach, Riding a Wave That Hits Like a Quake



> "Praia do Norte is the **best secret** in the world"

> Less Travelled

> Despite **its charm** and a stunning XIV church

#### Lisbon Architecture Triennale - review

A series of sceptical exhibitions in Lisbon questions the purpose of architecture

Garrett McNamara preparing to surf at Praia do Norte beach. "Praia do Norte is the best sed said by telephone from Hawaii.

By MAÏA de la BAUME Published: February 24, 2013

NAZARÉ, Portugal — The big ones typically come only once a year in the winter. Whipped up by powerful storms in the North Atlantithey roll for days toward Europe, rising to seemingly impossible.

"It is like an earthquake"

"Whipped up by powerful storms in the North Atlantic"

"When it breaks, you can feel the earth shaking under your feet."







## Example II

# theguardian



Those in search of lively Lisbon bars are best advised to take a historic funicular tram, like the one above, to Bairro Alto. Photograph: Getty

#### Gorgeous gothic

The modern city of seven hills was shaped in 1755 by an earthquake that all but destroyed the old one. Only one part of town survived relatively intact - the Alfama, which slides down the hill from the ancient castle to the river Tagus. Most of the area's narrow, winding streets date back to the 16th century, but follow Rua Santo António da Sé and you'll soon see the Sé Catedral, built in the 12th century on the foundations of a mosque. While in the area, check out the superb views over the city from the terrace of the Miradouro de Santa Luzia cafe. A short distance away is the Museu do Teatro Romano, which houses the ruined Roman amphitheatre, built by Augustus. Nearby is the Museu do Fado, the spiritual home of the plaintive Portuguese music that resounds through the area's restaurants. Those in search of lively bars are better advised to take a historic funicular tram to Bairro Alto, the 18th-century city centre. The best places to drink of the many on offer include the Old Pharmacy, where wine bottles occupy the space once taken by drugs, Páginas Tantas, where jazz is the soundtrack of choice, and Maria Caxuxa, which is in a former bakery, complete with ovens.

#### Beachside bars

Its unusual situation means Lisbon is blessed with scores of beaches just a short trip out of the centre. Across the water from the city is the **Costa de Caparica**, where the **Delmare Cafe** serves up great seafood and cold drinks on the Praia Cabana do Pescador. On the same side of the

- > Focus in **Lisbon**
- > Gorgeous **gothic**
- > Lisbon is the capital of the style of **Fado music**
- > **Superb views** over the city from the terrace of the *Miradouro de Santa Luzia* cafe.

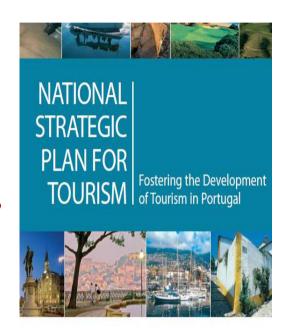
#### > Windsurfers' 'haven'

#### Source:

http://www.theguardian.com/expedia-tyi/a-quick-guide-to-lisbon?CMP=twt\_gu

## Making Strategies I







## Making Strategies II



Visit #portugal the #windsurfers haven via @newyorktimes



#### Part III: Portugal as a tourism destination

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Methodological Exercise

From the **strategy** 



To the online channels



#### Strategic products

#### Contents communicated



Sun & Beach Cultural City Break Meetings Nature

#### **Part III:** Portugal as a tourism destination

#### From the online channels To the strategy

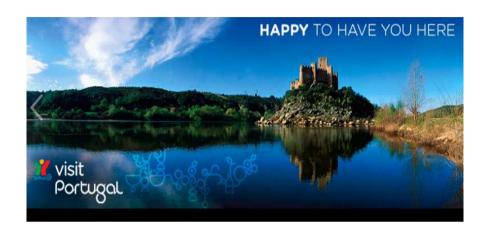




#### From the online channels To the strategy



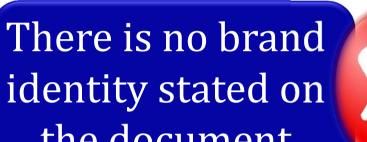
Not mentioned



The facebook cover tag line

"Happy to have you here"

the document





"The beauty of simplicity"- not mentioned





Adventure/Romance/ **Products** 

#### Part IV

# StepForward

# Back to the basics

Community development efforts

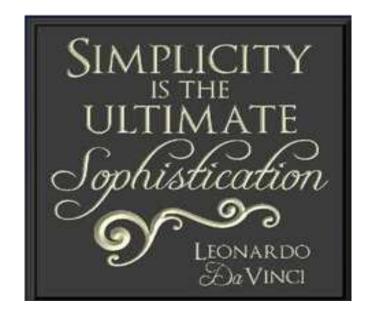
Part of the whole branding effort of the tourism destination



Be clear

Be honest

Be simple



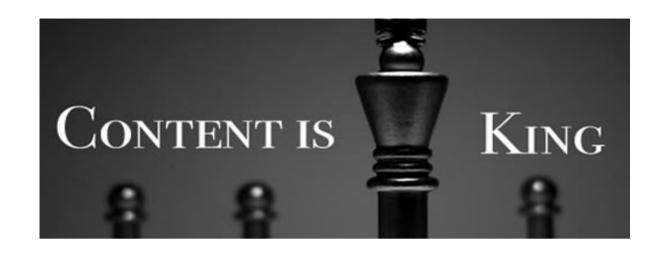
Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.

Albert Einstein

The core objective of destination branding strategy:

#### Production of a:

> Positive, focused and consistent communication strategy for a destination. (Hall & Hubbard, 1998)



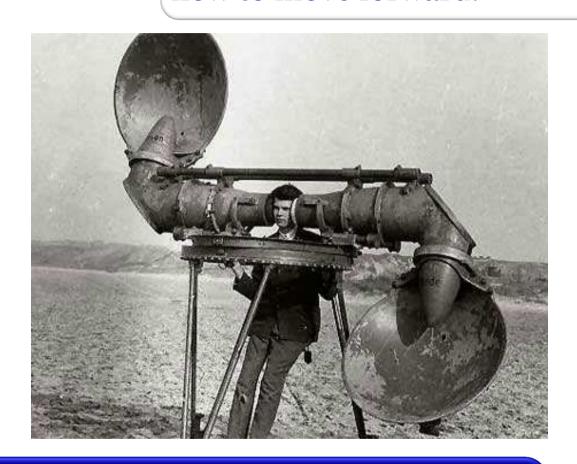
Qualitative & diverse information

Trip planning tools

Attractive visual material

Photo & Video sharing applications

**Identify** visitors activity & determine how to move forward.



**LISTEN** to what your target groups are saying online. Locate where their conversations are taking place (e.g. social media).

#### Make – Create - Design Strategy

#### INTEGRATE SOCIAL MEDIA

#### Build an on-line community





#### **ENGAGE**

'the multiple voices'

**SELECT THE TOOLS** 

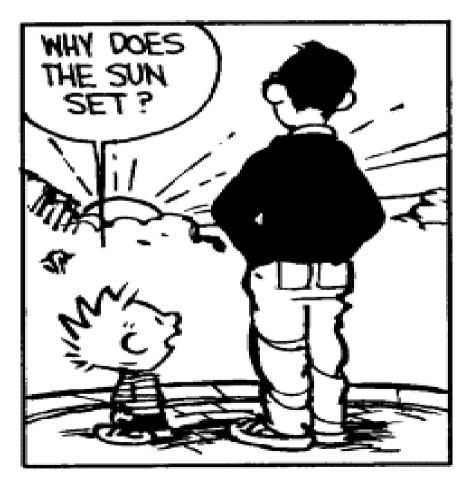
According with the audience



**ENHANCE COMPETITIVENESS** 

**STRENGTHEN POSITIONING** 





# Thank you

References upon request eduardo.hsoliveira@gmail.com