

São José Almeida and Leonete Botelho
Between the "despair" and the charisma
of Arnaldo Matos

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Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, Fernando Rosas, Ana Gomes and José Lamego react to the death of the founder of PCTP / MRPP.



Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa: "Arnaldo Matos will be in everyone's memory as an ardent defender of freedom"

Fernando Rosas: "We founded MRPP that he was the charismatic leader"

Ana Gomes: "He was a man as brilliantly intelligent as an iconoclast"

The President of the Republic published a note on the official website of the Presidency of the Republic in which he sends condolences to the family of Arnaldo Matos, founding leader of the Maoist party MRPP, who passed away this Friday, and recalls his role in the contemporary history of Portugal: "Personality of Portuguese public life known for the dismay of his interventions, Arnaldo Matos will remain in everyone's memory as an ardent defender of freedom and as a fighter for the cause of social

justice and the most disadvantaged. Whether or not he agrees with his ideas and In these statements, Arnaldo Matos' voice, due to its uncompromising independence, contributed decisively to enrich the democratic debate and pluralism of opinion within Portuguese society. For all this, Portugal became poorer with its disappearance. "

To the PUBLIC, Fernando Rosas leaves his statement: "I met Arnaldo Matos when I was a student with him at the Lisbon Faculty of Law and where he excelled as the charismatic leader of the student movement in the fight against repression and against the colonial war. MRPP that he was the charismatic leader. In the late 1970s, our paths strayed and we lost touch. I offer my condolences to MRPP. "

For his part, José Lamego, former secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation of the governments of António Guterres, who has been a militant since the founding of the MRPP in the cell headed by Saldanha Sanches, and who left this party in the summer of 1974, told the PUBLIC about Arnaldo de Matos' death: "I feel very sorry."

Also MEP Ana Gomes , a former militant in the MRPP, mourned the death of Arnaldo Matos in statements to the PUBLIC. "I am very sorry. He was as brilliantly intelligent a man as iconoclast," said Ana Gomes, adding: "He was an inspiring leader of the MRPP of which I have been a member for 40 years."

The MEP also underlined: "Since I left the MRPP in 1976, because I disagreed with the political line that he gave to the devaluation party of the democratic framework in which we were able to start operating after April 25, I have continued to hold great regard for he, while deeply disagreeing with him, more and more. " She concluded: "I am sorry that you self-marginalized political intervention because you were such an intelligent voice."