ESCOLA SUPERIOR
DE ENFERMAGEM
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INSTALLATION AND CONFIGURATION OF VPN ACCESS ON MacOS

OPENVPN APPLICATION INSTALLATION AND ESEUC CERTIFICATE CONFIGURATION

IT SERVICE

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1. Introduction

1.1. Background

As part of technological modernization and to support remote work and study, the institution provides a Virtual Private Network (VPN) that enables secure, encrypted access to internal digital resources from any external location. This service is essential to ensure that students and staff can access tools, documentation, and other services restricted to the school network, ensuring continuity of academic and administrative activities with the same reliability and security as on-campus access.

1.2. Objectives

The main purpose of this manual is to guide users through the installation, configuration, and use of the OpenVPN software on their personal or work devices. By following the steps described in the next sections, users should be able to independently configure the institutional certificate and establish a secure connection to the internal network.

2. OpenVPN Installation

2.1. Application download

Access the link below to download the application: Access link

2.2. Installation

Run the downloaded file by double-clicking the file corresponding to Figure 1.

Figure 1

When starting the installation, choose which version of the software to install (Figure 2), according to your device's hardware.

To confirm the installed hardware, you can:

- Click the (Apple) menu in the top-left corner
- Click About This Mac
- In the window that opens, look for the Processor or Chip line:
  - If it shows Chip: Apple M1 / M2 / M3… → Apple Silicon
  - If it shows Processor: Intel Core i5 / i7… → Intel

Figure 2

After selecting the version to install, the "Introduction" and "License" windows will follow, click "Continue" in each.

When you click "Continue" in the license window, a confirmation window will be displayed (Figure 3); click "Agree" (Aceitar).
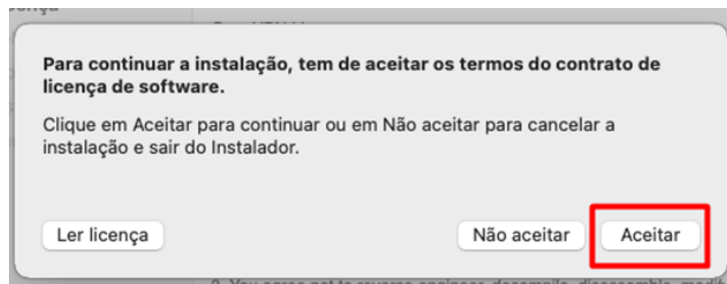

Figure 3

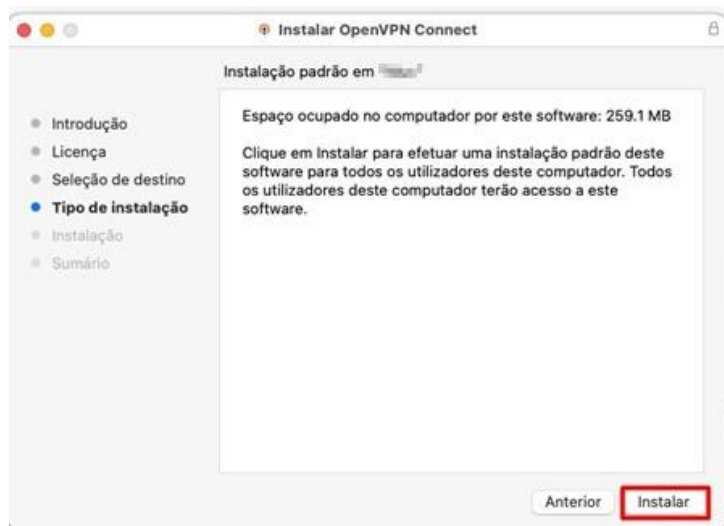Next, in the "Installation Type" window, click "Install" as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4

After these steps, the OpenVPN application installation will be complete, and you will then need to configure the certificate.

3. Certificate Configuration

3.1. Downloading the certificate

The certificate is available online on the ESEUC page at the link below: Access link
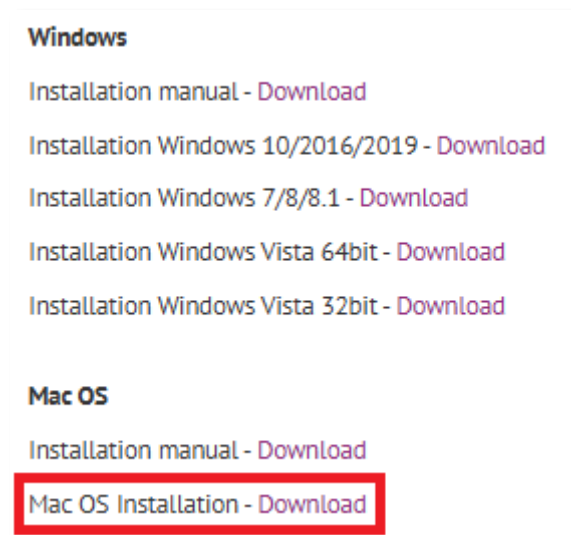
Download the certificate indicated in Figure 5.

Figure 5

3.2. Importing/configuring the certificate

After downloading the certificate, it must be imported. To do so, open the OpenVPN application installed in section 2.

Ao abrir irá ser apresentada a mensagem apresentada na figura 6 na qual deverá clicar na opção "Concordo".
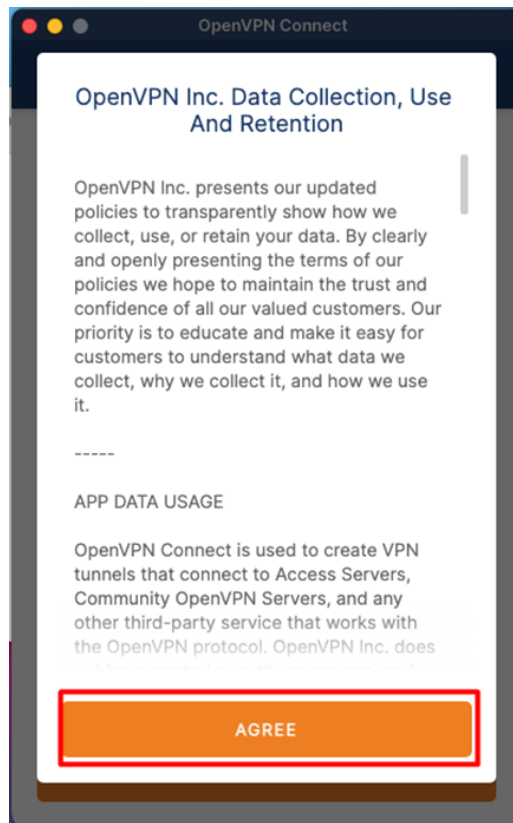
Figure 6

When you open it, the message shown in Figure 6 will appear; click the "I Agree" option.
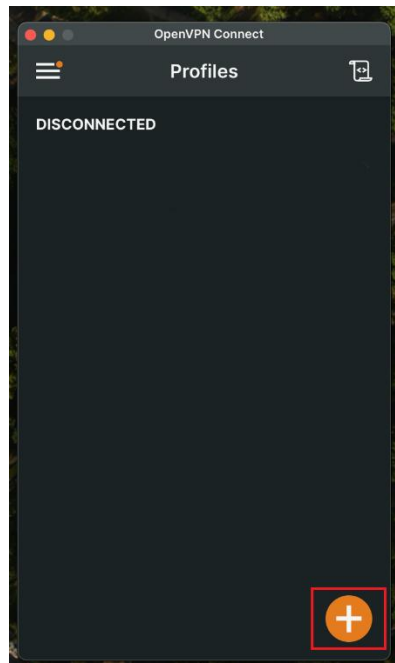

Figure 7

After this step, you will be asked to select the certificate you just downloaded. Once selected, you will be prompted for your credentials: the username and password for your institutional account. (The username is the initial part of your email address without the domain, i.e., without @ese.uc.pt or @student.uc.pt).

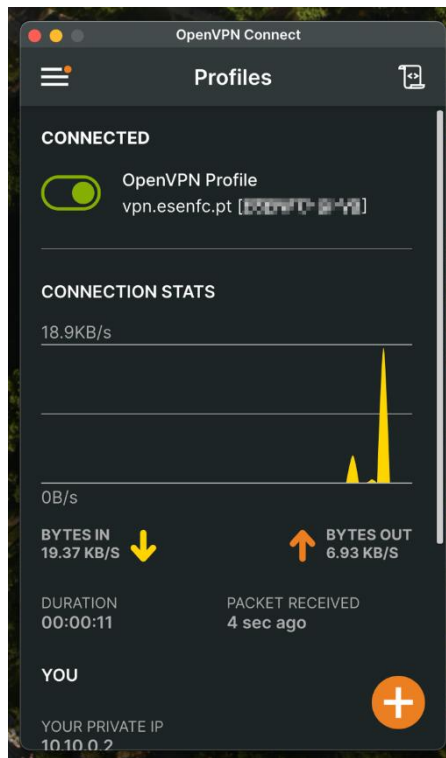Then click "Connect" and the connection will be established, as shown in Figure 8.

Figure 8

4. Using the VPN

4.1. Connecting to the VPN

To connect to the VPN, you must first complete the steps indicated in the previous sections. Once those steps are completed, simply open the OpenVPN application and click the option indicated in Figure 9.
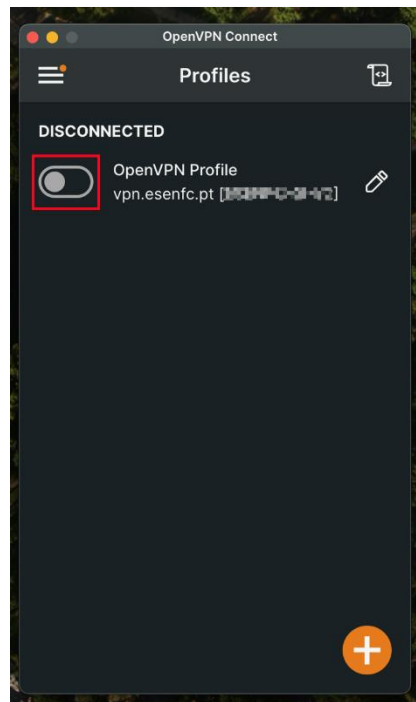

Figure 9

4.2. Disconnecting from the VPN

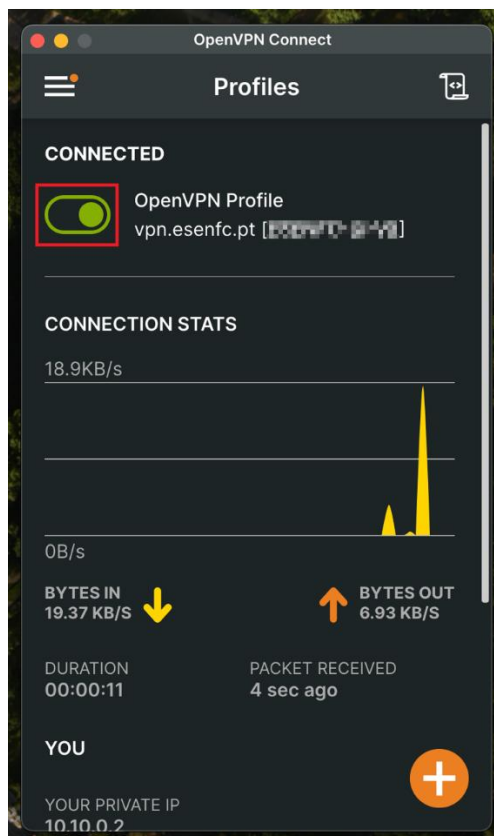To disconnect from the VPN, open the OpenVPN application and click the option indicated in Figure 10.

Figure 10