

An invitation: learn how to use this site

Get the most out of the features built for you – in five minutes, with a short video for every step.



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This site has a few features built with you in mind – and they go unnoticed unless somebody points them out.

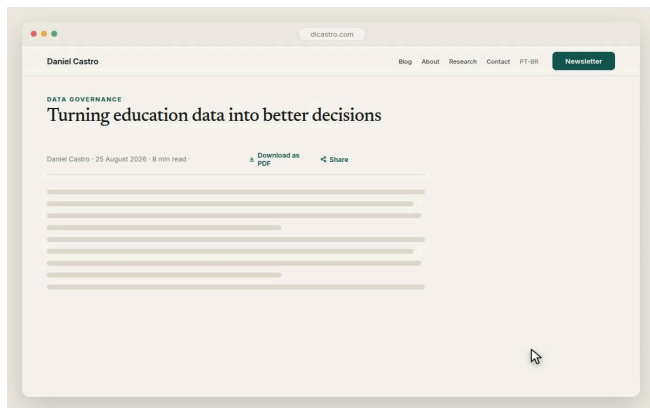
None of them asks for a sign-up, a payment or any patience. There are seven, each takes less than a minute, and under every explanation there is a video showing exactly where to click.

1. Follow new writing

The simplest way not to miss anything is to get the essays by email. It is quick and there is no catch.

On a computer, the **Newsletter** button sits at the top right of any page. On a phone, tap **Menu** and then **Newsletter**.

A dialog opens. Enter your email and confirm. You will then get a message asking you to confirm the subscription – one click on the link, and new pieces start arriving in your inbox.



The Newsletter button sits at the top of every page. On a phone it lives inside Menu.

Delivery runs through Substack, which handles sending and unsubscribing. Simple, quick and no spam – and you can leave whenever you like, with one click at the foot of any email.

2. A text you can take anywhere

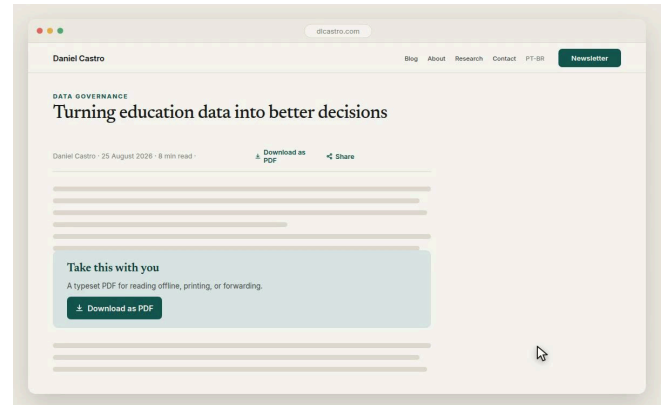
Instead of fighting with printing a web page – which always comes out with the menu, the footer and the wrong margins – every text already comes with a file made for reading.

It is a properly designed PDF: considered typography, figures in place, notes where they belong. It is good for:

- **Reading offline** – on a flight, on the underground, on a trip, phone in airplane mode.
- **Reading without distraction** – on your computer, your phone or a Kindle, with no open tabs competing for your attention.
- **Keeping and forwarding** – the file is yours, it fits in a message, and it does not depend on the site staying up.

You will find the **Download as PDF** button right at the start of the text, on the line with the date and the reading time, and

again in the middle and at the end of the article – near where the urge to keep it usually shows up.

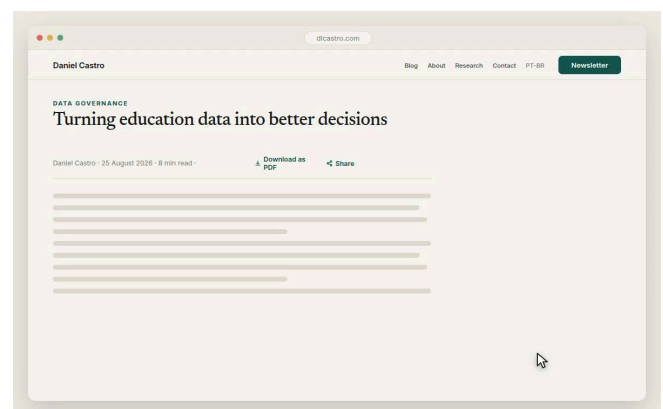


The Download as PDF button appears at the start of the text and again through the article.

3. Share it with your network

Every text has a quick way to share. Click **Share**, pick the network or the app, and the link goes with you.

On WhatsApp, for instance: click Share, choose *Send on WhatsApp*, pick the conversation or the group, and send. The link arrives with the text's card – title and visual identity – rather than as a bare address nobody opens.



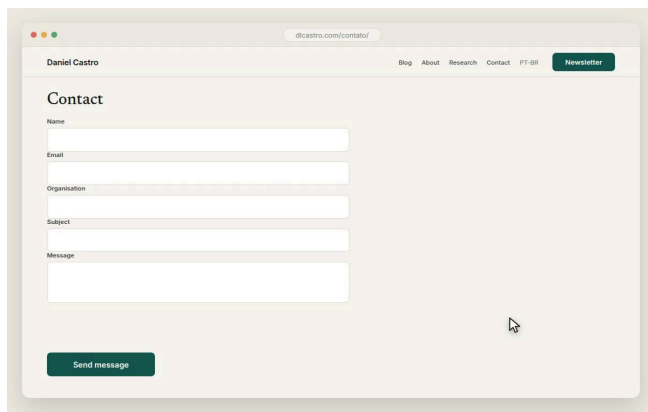
From Share to a WhatsApp group: the link arrives with the text's card, not as a raw address.

LinkedIn, X, email and copy link are there too. If you want to follow the discussion around the writing, [LinkedIn](#) is where I comment on what I publish.

4. Need to reach me? It is simple

Got a question, a disagreement, an invitation or a problem you want to talk through? Use the [Contact](#) page.

Five fields: name, email, organisation (optional), subject and message. The more context you give – who you are, what the problem is, and the timeline you are working with – the better I can answer. Click **Send message** and I will get back to you personally, usually within two working days.

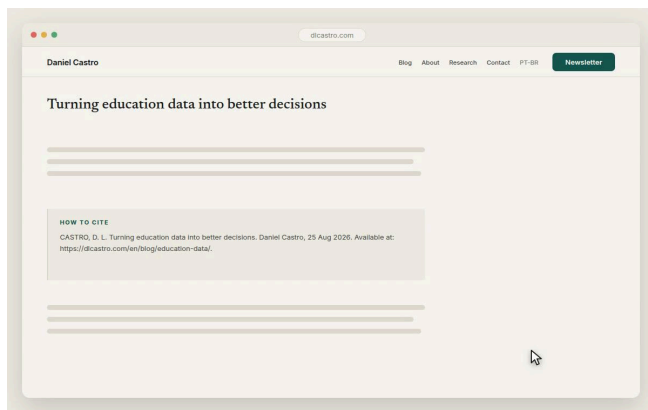


Five fields and one click. I reply personally, usually within two working days.

5. Want to cite a text? I have formatted it for you

If you are going to use something from here in an academic paper, a technical report or a presentation, you do not have to build the reference by hand.

At the end of every article there is a **How to cite** block, with the reference ready – author, title, publication, date and address, all in the right place. Select it, copy it, and paste it into your material.



The reference comes ready at the end of every text. Select, copy, use.

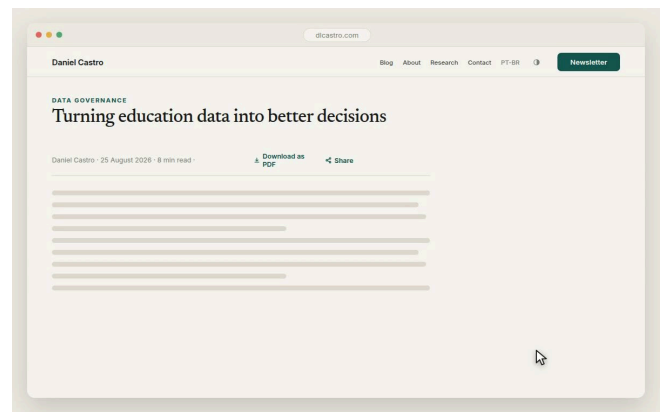
6. Read by day or by night: change the site's colours

Reading a long text on a bright screen in a dark room is tiring – and so is the opposite, a dark screen in full sunlight. So the site has three colour modes, and the choice is yours.

At the top of any page, on the right, between the language switcher and the Newsletter button, there is a small icon. Click it and the three options appear:

- **Automatic** – the site follows your device. If your phone or computer is set to go dark at night, the site goes dark with it, on its own. This is how it comes.
- **Light** – light paper and dark text, always, whatever the device says.
- **Dark** – dark background and light text, always.

The option in force is marked with a check, so you can tell which state you are in without having to test it. The choice applies to every page and still holds when you come back later – it is kept in your browser, and only there.



The theme selector sits at the top of the page. Three options in plain sight, and the change is immediate.

If you pick *Automatic*, your system setting decides. If you pick *Light* or *Dark*, your decision beats the device – in both directions, and until you change your mind.

7. Follow me on social (and academic) networks

The writing lives here, but the conversation around it happens elsewhere – and the academic record in a third set of addresses. All of them are in the footer of any page, under **Profiles**:

- **LinkedIn** – where I comment on what I publish and where most of the discussion happens.
- **X, formerly Twitter** – shorter remarks, in the heat of the moment.
- **GitHub** – where I host my open codes and packages.
- **ORCID** – the identifier that ties my academic output together unambiguously, useful for citing or cataloguing.
- **Lattes CV** – the full record in Brazil's CNPq standard: education, supervision, publications and projects.

If you arrived through one text and want to follow the rest, LinkedIn and the newsletter – the first feature on this list – are the two most direct routes. To check credentials or cite a piece of work, use Lattes and ORCID.

That is it. Seven features, none of them hidden behind a sign-up or a payment – all of them built so the text is actually useful after you finish reading.

If any of them does not work as expected, or if something is missing, **tell me**. The site gets better through the people who use it.

CONTINUE LENDO

Mais ensaios sobre educação, dados e inteligência artificial em dlcastro.com/blog. Para receber por e-mail, assine a newsletter no site.



Leia no site

COMO CITAR

CASTRO, D. L. An invitation: learn how to use this site. Daniel Castro, 25 Aug 2026. Disponível em: <https://dlcastro.com/en/blog/an-invitation-learn-how-to-use-this-site/>.