

EUROPEAN UNION

The Agreement begins the journey towards the 'approval' of the European Parliament

Espot announces the closing of the negotiations and has presented the final text to the European Commission

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Negotiations regarding the Association Agreement were concluded before yesterday, Tuesday. The Head of Government gave a press conference to the European Commission in order to officially inform about this fact, accompanied by the Executive Vice-President of the European Commission, Maroš Maroš Šefčovič, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Economic Cooperation and Telecommunications from San Marino, Luca Becari. The conference took place in a meeting in which Espot highlighted the key moment that Andorra is experiencing as a country by having the text of the Association Agreement, currently in its official English version, which will be published in full on Friday, April 26th.

Now, once the negotiations have been officially concluded, Espot's assistance in Brussels was used to present the final text to the committee, so that the process of translating the text into the official language of the Principality can then begin. However, the vice-president of the chamber underlined that the presentation of these texts - both the Andorran and the San Marino - «are actions that work in favor of the society and culture of the two countries», emphasizing all the work done because «during the negotiations we had time to talk with the administrations and their representatives».



A moment of the press conference offered by the head of government, Xavier Espot, in Brussels to the European Commission.

XAVIER ESPOT HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
«We must understand the financial services protocol as a general framework [...] Andorra will be able to participate in the European market little by little»

Šefčovič, when asked about a schedule to follow, remarked that «the Agreement will be signed before New Year's Eve and then it will be passed to the European Parliament», since he also remarked that it must be taken into account that it is an election year in many European countries, in addition to the parliamentary elections that will take place very soon, which is why «today's deliberations are impor-

tant. Now we have finished our tasks in order to finalize the negotiations».

Espot also took the opportunity to re-emphasize certain beneficial factors that the Agreement will bring to the Andorran population, since «our citizens will be able to participate in the European market». «After five months of work, we have a complete text in English that we have presented to society», said the he-

ad of government, without wasting the opportunity to assert that «our citizens have followed the Agreement very closely», referring to the two appointments that were organized by the Government in order to 'resolve doubts' regarding the text and the negotiations. Public events that opened the door to the cluster of questions and concerns with which Andorrans continue to have no answers.

In line with the highest concerns expressed by Andorra's possible accession to the European Union is the country's participation in the European financial market, a tangible worry that the head of the executive tried to alleviate by stating that «Andorra will be able to participate step by step in the European market taking into account the qualities and specifications of our environment». An action that Espot pointed out will be done by the vice-president of the commission: «The vice-president of the European Commission will come to our country to take part in this explanation». For this same reason, the representative declared that «we must understand the financial services protocol as a general framework. We must base ourselves on trust». Finally, the head of government insisted on the need to include the financial sector within the accession, although he defended that it must be done in a staggered manner so that they can «fit» with the financial system institutions of the European Union. ●

COMISSIÓ EUROPEA

POLITICS

Concòrdia requests details of personal income tax and corporation tax for recent years

Escalé is interested in distribution by activity sector

EL PERIÒDIC
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Through a statement issued last Tuesday afternoon, the parliamentary group of Concòrdia reported that it was just a month ago that the campaign for the declaration of the Personal Income Tax (IRPF) corresponding to the year 2023. Coinciding with this period, the political formation has submitted a request for information to the General Council, requesting data on this matter.

Specifically, the president of the parliamentary group, Cerni Escalé, has asked the Government for all the calculations that have been made annually since 2015 in relation to inequality in the income of natural persons, indicating the distributions by corresponding percentiles in this matter.

At the same time, he has also asked for the total personal income tax that has been collected from residents without Andor-



The president of the Concòrdia parliamentary group, Cerni Escalé.

ran nationality, according to the type of residence permit and the sector of activity. He requests the data broken down year by year since 2019.

Finally, Escalé has request the

distribution by activity sectors of the income generated through the Corporation Tax, annually for the last five years. The will is to know in which activities the profit of the country's compa-

es is being generated.

For each and every one of these data, the general counsel has asked for details of the methodology that has been used to perform the calculation. ●

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