



## PACKAGE OF MEASURES

# The Government recommends that all wages be increased according to the CPI

It approves minimum increase obligations between 7 and 0.5%, according to the current remuneration

Rents can be increased up to 5% in case of extension and up to 2% with a contract in force

EL PERIÒDIC  
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The Government announced last Tuesday the new measures to improve the purchasing power of citizens, as minutes before the meeting of the Economic and Social Council (CES) had failed to reach an agreement between unions and employers. The measures, which include recommendations and obligations, affect wages, rents and pensions. «They are brave in terms of salaries and content in housing», assessed the head of government, Xavier Espot, who appeared in the press room accompanied by ministers Jordi Gallardo and Víctor Filloy. In terms of recommendations, the Executive asks employers to increase all wages in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is currently at 7% and is expected to end this way at the end of the year.

If we look at the obligations and in the area of wages, the Government has set a mandatory minimum increase from January 1st, 2023 that ranges between 7 and 0.5%, depending on the current salaries, from the minimum wage (1,286 euros) and up to 4,000 euros gross per month in 12 payments. Therefore, the increase will gradually decrease by half a point for each 200 euros band. For example, the worker who has a salary of 2,000 euros gross will benefit from a 5% increase, while the one who receives 1,500 euros, of 6.5%, and the one who receives 3,000 euros, of 2.5%. This obligation, which is not applicable to workers with less than a year in the company, will affect 94% of the wage bill.

The measures are part of a bill that has been approved by the Government and that will soon enter the parliamentary procedure in the General Council, with the aim of being approved before the beginning of 2023. In the amendment procedure, there may be modifications, although the Executive has already agreed with the parliamentary groups of the majority on the content of the text. According to Espot, «we have contained the social alarm, but we also do not want to give an image of false con-



**Xavier Espot**  
HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

«We have contained the social alarm, but there are enormous difficulties and, if necessary, we will approve more initiatives»



► The Head of Government, Xavier Espot, at a press conference.

**Contributory pensions** below the minimum wage and solidarity pensions will be revalued by 7%

formity or boastfulness, because there are enormous difficulties and, if necessary, we will approve more measures, but we must be honest and sincere, and affirm that there is no there are miraculous remedies.» In addition, he assured, «any other government would not have solved it either».

Regarding the minimum wage, the Government highlighted that it has increased three times in the last year, from 1,157 euros in January 2022 to 1,286 euros next January (1,201 euros in May). Thus, the increase will have been 15% in the last year and 10% in the last six months, an increase higher than

that of France and Portugal, while waiting to know that of Spain.

Another of the star measures that the Government presented last Tuesday referred to apartment rentals. In this sense, the Executive has set two differentiated increases according to the type of contract. In the case of contracts that have expired and are in a situation of tacit or forced extension since December 31st of this year or before (75% of tenants, according to the Government), they can be increased up to a maximum of 5%, all and that the Executive wanted to emphasize that landlords can decide not to increase the rent or

to do so to a lesser extent if they feel that the tenant cannot afford it. In the case of contracts that have been in force for at least one year and, therefore, not extended, the rent can be increased up to a maximum of 2%.

Finally, the third part of the measures will affect pensions, an initiative that is expected to impact the State coffers by 1.5 million euros. In this way, contributory retirement, widowhood, and disability pensions below the minimum wage will be increased to 7%. Likewise, non-contributory solidarity pensions for the elderly and disabled will also be revalued by 7%. ≡



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## Employers and unions fail to reach an agreement

► - The Economic and Social Council (CES) ended yesterday without an agreement between the Andorran Business Confederation (CEA) and the Andorran Trade Union (USdA). Employers and unions did agree on a 7% increase in the minimum wage, but the CEA proposed raising wages between 4 and 5% to the middle, subject to revision according to inflation during 2023, while the USdA wanted a 5% increase in all wages over the next four years, with the introduction of the 13th pay. «We've only been working for a short time, we've run out of time and we don't have the best structure to compare the data between the parties,» said the president of the CEA, Gerard Cadena. The general secretary of the USdA, Gabriel Ubach, announced mobilizations. «We cannot allow the middle class to be burdened,» he emphasized.

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SENIORS

# Sant Julià de Lòria will build residential apartments for over 65s

The project, which will cost between 9 and 10 million, is the result of the collaboration between the majority and the minority of the municipality

COMÚ DE SANT JULIÀ DE LÒRIA

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The Municipality of Sant Julià de Lòria will publish tomorrow at the BOPA a public competition «of ideas for the construction of a building of supervised flats» for over 65s, as explained last Tuesday by the senior consul of the parish, Josep Mayoral. In this sense, Majoral pointed out that the municipality has a plot of 1,000 square meters «on which, today, 7,000 m<sup>2</sup>» of apartments can be built, with the intention of building «the most as soon as possible». In relation to this, the land is located near the center of the parish,

**The building** will have community services such as a dining room, gardens or specific areas for medical treatments

at the entrance to the town, and the idea is that the flats that will be built there will be between 40 and 52 square meters. In addition, the preliminary municipal project estimates the construction of 71 homes intended for one or two people.

In more detail, this block of flats was created with the desire «to offer an open service adapted to the person and their needs», remarked the director of Desperta Laurèdia, Cerni Cairat. This is why the building will have a whole series of community services such as a common dining room, specific areas for basic medical treatments, or gardens and collective spaces to develop various activities, among others. Thus, Mayoral considered that «we are not inventing anything because the neighboring country already has it, but it is an element that does not exist here and that is necessary». «It is a space that the user needs to improve the end of his life, and we understand that it is a project of national interest», he added.

The initiative is the result of the joint collaboration between the majority and the minority of the



Cairat and Majoral during the press conference.



**JOSEP MAJORAL**  
MAJOR CONSUL OF SANT JULIÀ

«It is an element that does not exist in the country and that is necessary. We understand that this is a project of national interest»

**CERNI CAIRAT**  
COUNCILOR OF DESPERTA LAURÈDIA

«[Majority and minority] we believed that it was essential to provide the group of elderly people with a more dignified aging»

Lauredian community, apart from the «necessary» cooperation between the public and private sectors. Within this framework, the Julià Reig Private Foundation will contribute three million euros, the

Red Cross will take over healthcare management and will collaborate with 300,000 euros. Bomosa will be in charge of business management and will contribute an amount of money «that is still to be determi-

ned», the executors of Climent Riera provide the land, and those of Maria Duró will donate two million euros. On the other hand, the Government, through the Ministry of Social Affairs, Youth and Equality, has promised to sign an agreement soon «in which it will be clear the number of flats that are available to arrange», pointed out Mayoral.

By now, therefore, the Municipality of Sant Julià de Lòria already has 5.3 million euros at its disposal. However, the estimated total budget would be «between 9 and 10 million» and, therefore, «we are short of these three or four million». Consequently, Majoral and Cairat appealed to other families and people with the possibility of contributing capital: «They can also make this project their own because this can lead to a change of consciousness and a new model of accompanying the elderly», remarked Cairat.

At the same time, the consul pointed out that work is being do-

ne with «the assembly of the appropriate legal form to be able to operate and execute» the initiative. In this sense, «everything indicates that we must go towards a foundation system» of which «we are already working internally with the realization of its statutes».

It should be noted, as explained, that this project is the result of the joint collaboration of the majority and minority of the community. Thus, Cairat emphasized that the two parties «believed that it was essential to provide the group of elderly people with a more dignified aging, and to allow them to have as much autonomy and support as possible during old age». In addition, the councilor of Desperta Laurèdia pointed out that «as soon as we had the land available, we thought about this apartment project». For his part, Majoral considered this collaboration «as an example of what the political world should be» and thanked the participation of the minority. ≡

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