



ARIA SURVEY

Girls show more sensitivity to current gender inequalities

70% of young people think that the gap is «big» and 43% of boys consider it «small»

Equal pay, balancing the family burden, and freedom of choice are all challenges

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Perceptions of gender inequality today vary by gender. This is clear from the survey carried out on high school students by Andorra Research and Innovation (ARI) in the framework of the activities for the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, which discussed the stereotypes and challenges were established to achieve equality, and that involved the participation of students, faculty, and researchers from the ARI. In other words, in the previous survey of young participants, and when asked about the inequalities between women and men, we can see a contrasting answer between them: while 70.6% of them find «great», the gender gap, this assessment is only made by 26.1% of them, since the majority response in this group is 43.5% who considered them «small», an assessment pointed out by 20, 6% of girls.

Regarding the working environment in Andorra, the majority of young people surveyed said that they saw gender equality in aspects such as wages (73.9%), job opportunities (65.2%), stability in the workplace (69.6%), access to education (82.6%), and access to positions of responsibility in companies (56.5%). For their part, the girls agreed to find equality in the majority of job stability (35.4%, although very close to the 29.4% who find it worse) and for access in education (82.4%), but they recognized worse wage conditions (61.8%), job opportunities (50%) and access to positions of responsibility in companies (70.6%). In the same vein, although all respondents pointed out that 82.5% believed that there were no women's and men's careers, they did list professions such as nursing, cleaning staff, teachers and secretary, or receptionists such as those who would have more presence of women, and on the other side of the coin, targeted more men developing the trades of security forces, construction, mechanic or doctor.



► Archive image of some Catalan students taking the university entrance exams.

Respondents only recognized Marie Curie and Rosaline Franklin among the eight scientists presented

LACK OF REFERENTS // Given the context of the survey, the ARI asked students about the presence of female referents in schoolbooks, and they responded in 70.2% of cases that there were more men than women. This is directly related to the fact that, when asked if they knew different scientific figures, respondents recognized only two of the eight women referred to them: Marie Curie and Rosaline Franklin, while Margaret Hamilton, Simone de Beauvoir, Rachel Carson, Jane Addams, Inge Lehmann, and Hypatia of Alexandria, no. However, the respondents knew the six men for whom they were asked: Charles Darwin, Albert Einstein, Isaac Newton, Galileo, Stephen Hawking and Nicolas Copernicus.

In fact, the preferences of young people for the careers they want to study keep in line with the differences indicated in the survey. 43.5% of boys would like to study engineering, industry and construction, while the second most common option is social sciences, economics and law, in 26.1% of cases. Likewise, the most common response from girls was for the latter group, in 23.5% of the responses, followed by 20.6% who opted for health and social services.

At the end of the day of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, the participants collected the outstanding challenges in the field of gender equality in the Principality and put them together in a mural. According to

the ARI, young people are sensitive to equal pay, achieving a level playing field between men and women and ending the wage gap. The groups also pointed to a need to balance the family burden, facilitating work-life balance and equalizing maternity and paternity leave. Young people highlighted the need to improve the representation of women in positions of responsibility, both in the private sector and in the political environment. And ultimately, the exercise picked up on other outstanding tasks such as fostering critical thinking in denouncing harassment, securing educational opportunities around the world, and ensuring freedom of choice in all areas of life ≡

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HOUSING

The reasoner asks for more flats for rent between 400 and 700 euros

Middle-aged women with financial problems are the majority profiles who attend the institution

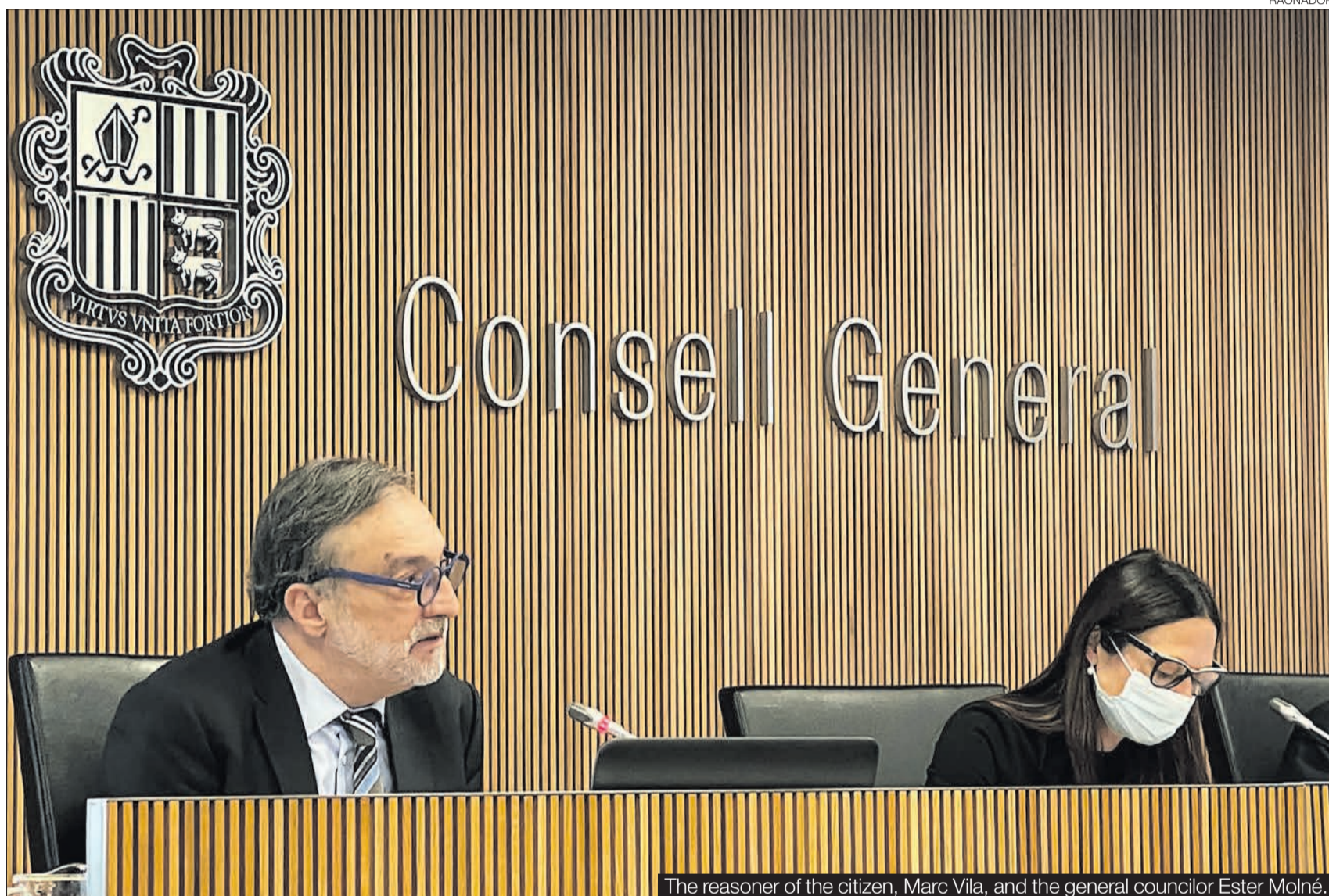
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Citizen's reasoner, Marc Vila, calls for more flats to be made available to citizens at a price ranging from 400 to 700 euros in order to «promote an improvement in the quality of life of a large contingent of people who are allocating more than 30% of their salary to this aspect. Similarly, Vila stressed during his speech to the Legislative Committee on Justice, Home Affairs and Institutional Affairs that «rents should be frozen for citizens who have financial difficulties until the Principality has a higher number of social homes».

After showing the results of the report of the citizen's reasoning of 2020, which was largely delayed by the «collapse caused by the global pandemic», Vila indicated that the general rise in rental prices has been dazzled by the growing supply of luxury housing that is encouraging other tenants to raise prices. A total of 91 formal cases were registered during 2020, a decrease of 10% compared to 2019, when 101 were registered. It should be noted that «a quarter of all cases» were in favor of the plaintiffs which «explains the usefulness of this institution, which is often despised by the political and social class,» Vila said.

Regarding the analysis of the report two years ago, the main concern of the people who came to the institution has to do with housing, «which does not surprise us at all, as it is the main problem today», said Vila. Thus, the reasoner established the majority profile of people who come to the institution since 2020: «Middle-aged woman with children, financial difficulties and very little help from the couple or ex-partner.» He also recalled that the figure of the reasoner exists to «provide an overview of the scale of the cases of the plaintiffs who intend to resort to the Mayor's Office to resolve conflicts with the Administration.»

On the other hand, CASS, social benefits and institutional courts are some of the concerns that most affected the 2020 report. First, the-



The reasoner of the citizen, Marc Vila, and the general councillor Ester Molné.



MARC VILA REASONER OF THE CITIZEN

«A quarter of the files were in favor of the plaintiffs, which explains the usefulness of the institution»

«Citizens' disagreement with CASS medical checks and premature discharges was noticed»

re was an increase in «plaintiffs' disagreement with the results of medical check-ups and premature medical discharges.» Referring to the institutional courts, some citizens found that there was a «lack of proportionality in the seized percentages.» Recently, there have been «numerous difficulties in accessing aid, despite the good work of social workers.» Similarly, the report states that «the scales for granting social benefits are very tight.»

Social media activity and the opening of more communication channels to reach the institution are one of the items that marked 2020, with the proliferation of profiles on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter and «the growth of visits during the confinement». Finally, Vila stated that «a delay of this mag-

nitude» will not be repeated in the presentation of the report and that «2021 will see the light of day in the coming months».

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE // Regarding the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the reasoner of the citizen dedicated a few words of introduction and farewell in relation to the ongoing armed conflict. On the one hand, Vila adhered to the ruling of the Governing Council of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsmen (FIO) calling for an end to Russian aggression against the people of Ukraine, peace and respect for human rights. He also said that «I am very proud to belong to the list of hostile countries approved by the Putin government» in relation to the states that were added to the sanctions on Russia. ≡

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(+376) 353 424 / (+376) 379 769

(+376) 747 747

laportella@andorra.ad

Casa Nova Olivet 10 · Ordino

www.laportella.ad