

el Periòdic News

CRITICISMS OF THE GOVERNMENT

«Outrageous» and «disproportionate»

The opposition reacts to the 174,000 euros for the creation of the cube intended to inform about the Agreement

CONSELL GENERAL



Parliamentary groups react to the 174,000 euros intended to inform about the Agreement.

ALEX MONTERO
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

The president of the Concòrdia parliamentary group, Cerni Escalé, has strongly criticized the investment of more than 174,000 euros by the Government in the creation of a cube with LED screens to inform about the Association Agreement with the European Union. Speaking to EL PERIÒDIC, Escalé described this expenditure as «scandalous» and denounced that, without a defined legal framework for the referendum

on the agreement, the Executive continues to allocate public money to actions it considers institutional propaganda. «The Government should maintain a neutral position and is not being impartial in the way it promotes the Agreement», he assured, adding that the information provided is partial and very favorable to the agreement. Escalé insisted that the Government should provide objective information, including both positive and negative impacts, which, in his opinion, it is not doing.



Cerni Escalé

CONCÒRDIA PRESIDENT

«The government should maintain a neutral position and is not being impartial in the way it promotes the Agreement»

For its part, the parliamentary group of Andorra Endavant, headed by Carine Montaner, also expressed its dissatisfaction with this expenditure. Montaner regretted the Government's decision to hire the company Blit Entertainment SLU directly for an amount of 174,515 euros for the rental of the interactive cube for a period of seven months. According to Montaner, this investment is «disproportionate» and she pointed out that the Government could have acquired a similar cube for around 70,000 euros, according to consultations with specialized companies. In addition, she added that this expenditure is part of a marketing strategy by the Government to favor the «yes» vote in the referendum, instead of focusing on a rigorous analysis of the consequences of the agreement. «We are concerned about the mismanagement of public resources and the lack of transparency in this decision.»

Finally, the parliamentary group of Democrats, in the majority, defended the investment, arguing that it is part of a dissemination campaign that has been planned as part of the state pact on the Association Agreement. Jordi Jordana, president of the parliamentary group, explained that this campaign aims to provide citizens with detailed information about the Agreement. «This cube is part of the planned campaign to disseminate the Agreement and make it easier for the population to be informed», declared Jordana. ●

MENTAL HEALTH

Health launches a campaign to break the stigma of mental illness

One of the objectives is to break taboos and appeals to citizens to talk about them without fear

ARNAU OJEDA GARCIA
ANDORRA LA VELLA

Last Thursday, the Ministry of Health presented a new campaign to combat the stigmatization of mental illness and people who suffer from it. Under the motto 'Let mental health be taboo is madness', the initiative aims to raise public awareness of the importance of talking openly about mental health, prevent social stigma and promote both prevention and promotion of this area.

The main objective of the campaign is to promote early detection, improve access to mental health services and guarantee respect for the rights and dignity of the people affected. In addition, it wants to break the taboos that still surround these pathologies, calling on society to talk about mental health without fear and helping to normalize the debate.

The campaign has been launched on the eve of World Mental Health Day, which is celebrated on October 10th, with



The Minister of Health, Helena Mas, and the Secretary of State for Health, Cristina Pérez, in the presentation.

the intention of taking advantage of this date to give more visibility to the message. The Minister of Health, Helena Mas, emphasized that «we want October to be the month of mental health, where people can talk about it without taboos». However, Mas emphasized that the campaign will not be limited to the month

of October, but will extend throughout the year with actions that keep the debate on mental health alive.

Regarding the dissemination of the campaign, the Secretary of State for Health, Cristina Pérez, explained that it has been designed from a multi-platform perspective. The campaign will in-

clude advertising in various media, as well as on marquees and vinyl buses of public transport. With a cost of 4,500 euros for the graphic design and creativity of the campaign, Mas acknowledged that the immediate impact may be difficult to quantify, but indicators will be established to measure its scope, such as the number of people impacted and distribution of promotional material. Surveys are also planned to assess the effectiveness of the initiative.

«WE DON'T WANT TO HARM THE NEIGHBORS»// In relation to the meeting with the residents of the Ròdol building, Mas made it clear that the aim is not to harm them, but also not to «compromise the project» of the Government.

NO SPECIFIC DATE // With regard to the draft Law on health neglect, presented by the social democratic parliamentary group, Mas admitted that it has not yet been reviewed, but assured that «we will analyze the proposal». ●

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