

el Periòdic News

FRAGILITY OF TEMPORARY WORKERS

«Taking advantage of others» is what has kept good work away from Andorra

Ubach makes it known that the Trade Union is aware of the cases and that a maximum rental price is needed

EL PERIÒDIC

PARIS MAMEGHANI
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

That people who come to live in the country to seek opportunities, and especially those who come from third countries, are subject to working in certainly compromised and unstable conditions is no longer a secret to anyone. In fact, it is what the Association of Argentines in Andorra has been demanding for months, and with the help of its president, Marcelo Ponce, giving publicity and a voice to people who are victims of fraudulent employment contracts and scams that endanger not only their stay in the country, but also that of their families, partners or children. It should be remembered, in this regard, that in recent weeks there have been five Argentines and three Peruvians who have publicly contrasted and highlighted this situation.

The general secretary of the Andorran Trade Union, Gabriel Ubach, has a lot to say on this issue, and in his last appearances at the Economic and Social Council he stipulated that “no more displaced people could be brought in” if they had to live in “deplorable conditions and without a guarantee of maintaining their labor rights.” A violation that has turned what was previously (and should be) a country of opportunities into “an Andorra that takes advantage of people” who arrive in need of employment to fill their frid-



The entrance of the Immigration Service and the Department of Work and Employment located in Escaldes-Engordany.



GABRIEL UBACH
GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE USdA



“In the Principality you can no longer live decently, not only for foreigners, but also for the locals themselves. We cannot let more people in without a guarantee of a decent life”

ge. “Every day more Spaniards, French and Portuguese are leaving here when they see the situation,” the secretary of the USdA asserted in a conversation with EL PERIÒDIC.

A problem that has led to the departure of a large part of the country’s skilled workforce, which for Ubach is «increasingly nonexistent because it is now unfeasible to live with dignity in the Principality», and is replaced, in exchange, by a «cheap workfor-

ce». He also considers that the Trade Union is «fully aware» of the cases exposed by the workers that Ponce denounces, despite not being able to specify the exact number of them because «it is impossible» and especially without official data. «The sad thing is that there are businessmen in Andorra, and I do not mean all of them, who take advantage of the needs of these people, who also do not dare to denounce the situations they experien-

Government strengthens ex officio controls in Labor by 65% to detect irregularities

► The Labor Inspection Service has carried out 65% more ex officio labor inspections since the beginning of the year than the previous year. For this reason, a total of 46 ex officio inspections have been carried out this year, compared to 28 carried out in 2023. In this regard, it is worth noting that to improve the task, the main administration has incorporated four new inspectors into the service, two of whom are to fill vacancies and the other two to fill newly created positions. It is worth noting that complaints from workers who are immersed in flagrant breaches in this matter are essential to act in the face of similar cases. The Government has an information leaflet for the cause.

ce due to obvious fear». A principle that was also reflected, as the USdA spokesperson recalls, with rental apartments: «It is like the oil stain of renting apartments. It was a principle that four of them began to enact, renting their spaces for 1,500 euros and now they are completely the majority”. A fact that shows that all these bad ‘practices’ create this effect of appeal, and that the answer to the serious housing crisis, according to Ubach, only involves ending the democratic policies that encourage “real estate speculation”, and setting a maximum price for all rentals that set a course. ●

SWITCHING FROM TABLETS TO LAPTOPS

Education implements 350 new laptops in Andorran schools

The ministry prepares the classroom device model for next year with an investment of 101,000 euros

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Last Monday, the Government approved the award of the acquisition of the first purchase of Chromebook portable devices. It should be noted that these devices are part of the change in the classroom device modality that will be implemented from next year, in 2025/26, for the second year of education in Andorran schools. Specifically, 130 laptops for students, 12 inches, and another 120 devices for teachers, 14 inches, were acquired, for a total amount of 100,879.97 euros.

So, the award has fallen to the company SEMIC S.A. A fact that will cause the rest of the devices to be acquired at the beginning of 2025 in order to guarantee at the beginning of the school year, all first-year secondary school students will have their own computers. It is worth noting that once the winning company delivers the devices, they can be distributed to secondary school teach-



The Minister of Institutional Relations, Education and Universities, Ladislau Baró, sitting in a study.

ers so that they have time to familiarize themselves before entering the new school year.

For this reason, the Ministry of Education is finishing training aimed at teachers on the new platform and the new devices. Regarding the devices that the students will receive, which will not leave the schools, they

will be configured to be centrally managed by the ministry's technical team. In addition to laptops, the administration will equip classrooms with display systems compatible with the new devices, as well as other charging systems so that students can leave them charging when their school day ends. This change in classroom devices is part of the Comprehensive Plan for the Good Use of Technology in Schools, which was announced last November. A plan that

is included, it is worth noting, in the measures taken by the ministry to improve the academic results of students, presented last June and after the survey prepared by the AR+I on the use of technology in the classrooms of the Andorran education system, which will be published soon. ●

The Ministry of Education is just finishing training aimed at teachers on the new platform

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