

The reform of the project approved, but with the abstention of Andorra Endavant

The group led by Carine Montaner justifies its position by «empathy with La Massana»

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA

The General Council today approved the draft law amending the General Law on Land Use and Urban Planning (LGOTU), with the support of most of the parliamentary circle and the sole abstention of the Andorra Endavant group. The amendment has been processed through the extremely urgent procedure by the Executive with the aim of allowing the extension of temporary suspensions of licenses during the study and drafting phase of the Parish Land Use and Urban Planning Plans (POUP).

As explained by the Minister of Land Use and Urban Planning, Raül Ferré, the text provides for two cases in which these extensions can be applied. On the one hand, an extension of up to 18 months for temporary suspensions of licenses derived from the review or adaptation processes of POUPs based on parish maximum load capacity studies. On the other hand, an extension of up to six months if justified by the scope and complexity of the allegations presented during the public information period. In the event that both circumstances occur, the maximum duration established is 18 months, thus avoiding the accumulation of the two deadlines.

In the parliamentary debate, the president of the Andorra Endavant group, Carine Mon-



A moment from the plenary session held today in the General Council, with the Minister of Territory and Urban Planning, Raül Ferré.



CARINE MONTANER

ANDORRA ENDAVANT

«We are always against moratoriums because they often have a striking effect and scare investors»

JORDI CASADEVALL

CONCÒRDIA

«The Government must speed up the analysis of parish load capacity studies»

taner, justified her abstention by stating that they are “always against moratoriums”, since they consider that “they give a bad image of the country” and that “they often have a chilling effect and scare investors”. In addition, she defended the need for “long-term planning” and “legal certainty that comes from clear regulations”. However, she has admitted the problems affecting the parish of La Massana, especially with regard to water management. It is for this reason that, out of «empathy with La Massana», they have chosen to abstain.

On the other hand, from the parliamentary group of Concòrdia, the general councilor Jordi Casadevall has expressed his «full support» for the project, pointing out that «it is absolutely necessary to work for sustainable development». However, he has warned that «it is not enough» and has formally asked the Government to «speed up the analysis work of the parish load capacity studies» with the aim of completing a national load study, at which point Ferré has responded that this task is already being carried out. ●

ANTI-DRUG OPERATION

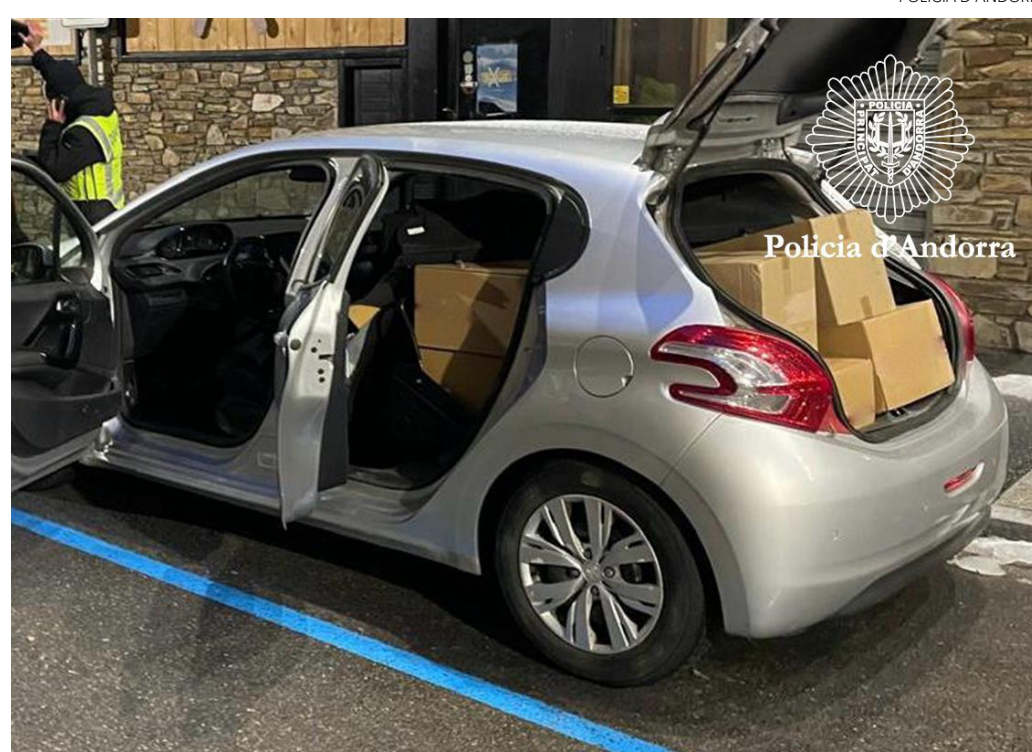
More than 125,000 euros in tobacco and cash seized in Pas

A total of 6,000 packages were seized in the last delivery

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

The Police and Customs dismantled, early yesterday morning, a tobacco smuggling network operating in Pas de la Casa. As for the details, and within the framework of the joint operation that has been named 'Borrasca' and that has been coordinated by the Public Prosecutor's Office, four people have been arrested as alleged perpetrators of crimes against the socio-economic order, for smuggling; against public order, for belonging to an organized gang, and against the administration of justice otherwise for money laundering.

In this sense, those arrested are three non-resident men aged 30, 34 and 36 and the manager of a shop in the Encamp parish, aged 40. According to the body, the latter would have been preparing and delivering the tobacco to the rest of the gang members, who



Part of the fleet of vehicles with French number plates that the Police have confiscated after intercepting the gang's latest shipment of tobacco.

Several searches were carried out in which more than 100,000 euros were found distributed in bags

were introducing the goods circulating in convoy to France.

So, the investigations by the Police and Customs established how the person in charge of the establishment was part of an organized group that acted continuously and coordinated in tobacco smuggling operations of a very large volume. It is estimated that, during the month of March, the store manager would have delivered a minimum of 11,250

packets of tobacco valued at more than 44,000 euros. Otherwise, it was determined that the modus operandi of those involved was "repetitive, precise and with well-defined roles".

On Wednesday morning, after several surveillance and monitoring operations and as part of a large operation, around fifteen police and customs officers intervened when the gang was acting up again and immediately intercepted the delivery. Thus, they surprised the group members and confiscated around 6,000 packets of tobacco valued at around 23,600 euros, as well as 30 kilos of cut tobacco worth around 1,775 euros. In addition, they seized three vehicles with French number plates that were to be used to transport the goods.

Finally, and once arrested, throughout the morning of this Wednesday, several searches were carried out in Pas de la Casa in which more than 100,000 euros in cash distributed in bags were found. It is worth noting that the arrested were brought to justice this Thursday afternoon and that the investigation remains open. ●

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