



**Union Syndicale  
Fédérale  
Luxembourg**



**VOTE THE CHANGE**



Luxembourg, 20th September 2016

## **OP QUO VADIS: AND NOW?**

On 19 May, the Vote the change and USF Luxembourg met with Mr STROHMEIER, director-general of the Publications Office, and Mr VILELLA, President of the Steering Committee for an informal and informative meeting. Even if we received some information about the last weeks, many questions still remain open:

- **The shrinking number of OP staff that does not take into consideration the tasks and missions of the Office that have to be accomplished;** the announcement of this reduction has been made in the communication of the Commission of 4 April 2016: 18 posts by 1/7/2016 and 5 posts by 1/1/2017.

During the meeting last May we were told that this issue would be carefully examined and that discussion would be sought with the competent authorities. Four months afterwards, our concerns remain about the 'redeployment tax' to be paid by the PO in light of the budget cuts of 2017;

- **The future of the Publications Office and the willingness to restore its inter-institutional character.** We are not aware of any steps taken in the context of this project which is essential to the PO's survival;
- **Outsourcing:** During the meeting we have pinpointed the hidden costs of any outsourcing as well as the loss of control over IT. We agreed that any outsourcing should correspond to a strategy and an advantage and not only be the answer to a quantitative or a budget emergency. We are preoccupied by the idea of outsourcing the Portal of the Publications Office; it is our main element for dissemination of information. We invite the Directorate to communicate on the state of negotiations.
- **The building and the associated uncertainties:** The survey 'How did you come this morning?' ended on 15 July. Nobody doubts that the results will be published shortly and that the opinion and needs of our staff will be taken into account for the future location of the Office buildings.

.Isabelle Wolff

Jean-Marc Dehoy

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**FFPE – U4U**