

## Commissioner Hahn met with the representatives of the local staff committees and the trade unions

Luxembourg, 05/02/2020

On 22 January, Commissioner Hahn met the local committees and the representative trade unions.

The main issues raised by the **USF Luxembourg** include: ·

- The cost of living in Luxembourg also applies to the reimbursement of medical expenses for which there is no tariff agreement. The Luxembourg national system has started on a major revision which will take years and following the denunciation by the Commission of the local agreement with the hospitals, **USF Luxembourg** is concerned that free prices may fluctuate while waiting for the new prices. Therefore, **USF Luxembourg** calls on the Commissioner and his departments to find an interim solution (whichever) without delay in order to avoid the explosion of costs for staff serving in Luxembourg which will upset both the social dialogue and the budget of our sickness insurance scheme.
- In addition, in Luxembourg, the second major site of Commission staff, cost of living is much higher than in Brussels. After some 20 years of awareness-raising on this subject, the institution finally commissioned an independent study which, recently published, showed that the cost of living and mainly the cost of housing was a major problem. This explains, among other things, the chronic impossibility to recruit colleagues or keep them before they escape for other sites.
- The difficulties of the effective implementation of the Georgieva - Asselborn agreement (extension of the presence of the Institutions in Luxembourg — 2015), which is directly linked to the problem of attractiveness. A rapid examination of the figures for the last 5 years (2015-2010) shows a decrease of about 250 posts (6.4 %) of officials and an increase in contract staff or other low base grades.
- That is why **USF Luxembourg** calls for the introduction, as soon as possible and in the following months, of the opening of negotiations (consultation or any other means which would seem to be appropriate) for the creation of a housing allowance. It took more than 20 years to start recognising the problem, it is now more time to act. Of course, we are already very late.

In his priorities, President von der Leyen promoted a modern, more agile but also more transparent administration while creating a more inclusive leadership culture. **USF Luxembourg** interprets these criteria as a humanisation of the European civil service. Let's hope...

Finally, **USF Luxembourg** (and USF as a whole) reiterated its opposition to any reopening of the Staff Regulations, which would undermine the working conditions of staff once again.

need help? contact us:

[REP-PERS-OSP-USF-LUXEMBOURG@ec.europa.eu](mailto:REP-PERS-OSP-USF-LUXEMBOURG@ec.europa.eu)

Your representatives:

BECH and T2: N. MAVRAGANIS, C-A POPESCU	Gasperich: S. KARDARAS N. FETTAH-ZTIA R. DELGADO SAEZ	POS: I. WOLFF, MR COLLIGNON J-M DEHOY
---	--	--



**UNION OF THE UNION FOR THE  
LUXEMBOURG TRADE UNION**

Contact: [REP-PERS-OSP-USF-LUXEMBOURG@ec.europa.eu](mailto:REP-PERS-OSP-USF-LUXEMBOURG@ec.europa.eu)

[www.usf-Luxembourg.eu](http://www.usf-Luxembourg.eu)

