

EN

1416 colleagues responded to our telework survey of 27 October!

The overwhelming majority (86%) asked to maintain the current rules which allow for greater flexibility: 1, 2 or 3 days/week on average per month of telework!

DG PERS had consulted the Staff Committee on a revision of these rules, in fact it wants to impose a compulsory presence at the office of at least 2 days

You have indicated that imposing more rigid rules would be a huge signal of mistrust from the administration towards EP staff. That you feel EMPOWERED by the current rules, which are flexible.

This was not a surprise to **USPE** (L'UNION SYNDICALE du PE)! Many of you had already commented on telework after COVID! Our survey only confirmed this!

On this basis, **USPE**, with the co-operation of ETHOS, and the support of U4U and PluraList, prepared amendments which our representatives supported during the vote on 15 November at the Staff Committee

Amendments that would maintain the current teleworking regime, otherwise access to the 3 days/week telework would be considerably reduced.

Contrary to the majority in the Staff Committee, we do not believe that the Parliament is "not ready" for this way of working. You have been ready for two and a half years and you have passed the test!

USPE also believes that the proposed changes would, as usual, hurt especially those colleagues with the lowest incomes: single parents in the lower grades, colleagues with tiny salaries who commute to Luxembourg. It will also be difficult for a large number of colleagues who, in the meantime, have been forced to share offices while doing work that requires a lot of concentration, such as translators. And all this at a time when Colleagues are alarmed at the abnormally low temperatures in their offices.

Although not all our amendments were accepted, we did manage to have passed a long-awaited new option of teleworking from abroad! (an option long available to colleagues in other institutions, but absent in the Parliament).

In addition, USPE urges the Secretary General to keep the current flexible rules, which have worked well and have been appreciated by all of you. Don't fix it if it ain't broken!

USPE will continue to fight to change attitudes and introduce the TRUST principle as a basis for hybrid working in the European Parliament Secretariat.

Join **USPE** (L'UNION SYNDICALE du PE), the oldest trade union in the European Institutions! Contact us at: uspe@europarl.europa.eu

Because Staff Matters!