Union Syndicale Parlement Européen

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Energy price explosion, general inflation, economic disruption, etc. The bad news is accumulating and putting many colleagues in difficulties.

The actual automatic salary adjustment method allows inflation to be (partly) taken into account. Figures for the salary adjustment at the end of 2022 are circulated in the press, which presents this as an additional kind of bonus with a style designed to discredit the European civil service.

These media are generalising and **forgetting that there are not only senior staff in our institutions.**

The Council demands that the actual method is not applied meaning that it should not keep up with inflation. Not applying the method would violate the principle of parallelism of purchasing power with officials of the Member States, one of the main principles of the method.

USPE asks the authorities to respect the "given word" and the Staff Regulations. Staff have already accepted the application of the exception clause of the method and the still unpaid postponement of part of the 2020 adjustment.

We have already paid a lot of arbitrary reforms and political decisions: precarious jobs for contractual agents, recruitment of colleagues from new Member States in lower grades in 2004, creation of AST/SC category with no career perspectives, salary freeze in 2013 and 2014, partial application of the salary adjustment in 2010 and 2011.

USPE will support any initiative aimed at the full application of the "Method".

Any other decision would put many colleagues, mainly those with lowest salaries, and without whom the institutions could not function, in economic insecurity. For some staff members this will mean not being able to sustain their families in a foreign country, where they moved in the hope of pursuing a "career" in the EU civil service. Work of every Colleague devoted to the European project is a vocation, but is accompanied by many sacrifices, oftentimes very difficult.

USPE is following this matter very closely and will inform you as and when the follow-up takes place.