

Collective bargaining 2023 for federal and municipal public services

Information
for citizens

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**10,5 %
500 Euro
mindestens**

Collective bargaining for public services at the federal and municipal level started on 24th January 2023.

Directly or indirectly, this affects more than 2.5 million employees nationwide.

They work in widely differing areas: from waste management and the federal police, to kindergartens and hospitals, to city administration and customs.

Yet they all have one thing in common: They give their all to ensure that public services in this country work for everyone – as long as politicians allow it.

Unfortunately, there's already a shortage of over 360,000 employees in the public sector because of the misguided austerity policy. On top of that, over 1.3 million of our colleagues will retire within the next ten years.

We all notice this on a daily basis – for example, when the day-care centre has to close early again because of a lack of staff, or when no one answers the phone at the citizens' administration office.

To attract enough young people and skilled workers, incomes urgently need to rise. This is, of course, also to ensure that our colleagues can make a decent living. Rapid inflation is also impacting public sector workers: at supermarket checkouts, at petrol stations and on electricity bills.

We want a 10.5% increase in income, with a minimum of 500 euros. That sounds a lot, but it's reasonable in the face of sky-rocketing prices.

If the state is able to spend hundreds of billions of euros on rearmament and aid packages, it must also be in a position to pay its employees properly.

The state also needs to set a good example. After all, it goes without saying that private enterprises should also pay their employees decent wages, especially now in the midst of the current crisis.

So far, politicians have refused to do so. Neither the federal government nor the municipalities are prepared to make fair compromises.

That is why we, the workers in the public sector, are now taking our protest to the streets.

We are federal police officers. We are rubbish collectors. We are educators. We are care workers. We are road maintenance workers. We are firefighters. We are your neighbours.

We know that our strikes and demonstrations affect some of you, too. We're sorry, but politicians have left us no other choice. So please don't be angry with us. Instead, we ask for your solidarity. So that we can continue to be there for you in the future.

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