



FÉDÉRATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SALARIÉS
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF SALARIED DOCTORS

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Portugal remains, under a rescue program and dependent on the Troika, which insists on austerity policy that has led to an increase of the economic recession and the consequent increase in public debt and budget deficit.

Official unemployment has exceeded 17% (it is estimated that the real is well over 20%); every day there are companies in bankruptcy; tax revenues decrease and only the Government believes that's the way out of the crisis.

It is estimated that the purchasing power of the population has decreased by around 30% and they announce more cuts – about 4000 million for the next four years - mainly in health, education and social security.

There was a sharp increase general in taxes - in the case of doctors, the IRS reaches 48% of gross income.

It also introduced a surcharge on pensions of retirees who exceeding 1100 euros, were cut off from support on chronic diseases, were increased user fees, increasing the retirement age, etc..

In Health, there have been closures of services, mergers of hospitals and cuts in the amount of overtime practiced on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and evening hours, beyond the cuts 10% in the salary since 2011 and holiday pay and Christmas (now restored by a decision of the Constitutional Court).

While it was in the last meeting of FEMS, last October, the Unions and the Government, after a hard struggle and negotiation process, reached an agreement on matters in negotiation of the new Agreement Collective - Salary Table and reorganization of medical work.

The new working time passed from 35 to 40 hours per week with a maximum of 18 hours at the emergency for hospital doctors, which corresponds to a salary between € 2,746.24, beginning as specialist (was 1,853.96) and € 5,063.38, Head of Service, career at the top, (was 3,089.93).

In general medicine, the list of users increased from 1,550 to 1,900 users, with these salaries.

This new regime, which came into force on 1 January of the current year, only applies to doctors who start functions; for those already in the career, the transition is voluntary, while maintaining the same conditions if not choose.

But since then, there have been, by the administrations, various outrages to the agreement; either delaying the transition to the new regime to doctors who have been expressed their intention to move, or trying to impose more hours in the Emergency or more users to the doctors of general medicine.

The medical unions remain united to denounce these situations and the discontent is increasing within the doctors, and for that, we cannot exclude new forms of struggle.