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FIDES R E P O R T
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Slovenia is still experiencing severe recession, the GDP continues to decrease and all economic indicators remain unfavourable (bankruptcies of companies, higher unemployment rate). Six months have passed from the last change of government, however, there is still no sign of taking specific measures for overcoming the crisis anytime soon and the assessment that the current government is ineffective, is thus definitely true. Slovenia has been trying to increase the government revenue by raising all possible existing taxes and introducing new ones, but has at the same time failed to address the expenditure side of the national budget. Economists emphasize that such an approach is inappropriate, as higher taxes are stifling the economy and reducing competitiveness.

In June, an agreement was reached between the public sector trade unions and the government on certain measures for the rationalisation of the public sector, including the reduction in wages ... This agreement was to secure social harmony throughout the entire 2014, however, it has become clear already in a few months that this does not suffice. We are thus most likely to face a new round of negotiations in autumn.

A document, drafted in spring, which health organisations titled „**Strategy to end the crisis in the Slovene health care system**“ has been fully shaped during the summer and will soon be presented to the public. The document is an in depth and comprehensive presentation of the Slovenian health care system, its weaknesses, problems and its operation. We described the current situation thoroughly and presented short-term and long-term comprehensive solutions. Although we offered our support to the sectoral minister, he did not respond to our initiative but did initiated an open debate on the health services reform law (without our cooperation ...), which, unfortunately, does not introduce any changes. Doctors believe that the reform law in its current form is not appropriate for further discussion but have nevertheless actively joined the open debate and prepared an extensive set of comments.

FIDES has been following the current political situation with deep concern and is making its members aware of possible black scenarios. We risk a financial collapse of the health care system as the majority of hospitals are operating dangerously in the red and its consequences could be aggravating and unpredictable, including wage arrears. This is why we find it difficult to comprehend why the sectoral minister refuses to consult us and look for solutions to overcome this serious condition together with us.

Due to his unresponsiveness we took the initiative and sent him a request to amend the collective agreement. We would like to solve the question of leave in accordance with the new legislation and include the so-called standards and norms of medical work in the collective agreement. This would set foundations for better evaluation of medical work including the variable pay.

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