



**Fédération Européenne  
des Médecins Salariés**  
European Federation  
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## **FIDES REPORT FOR FEMS, Dubrovnik 9/2021**

FIDES has not been very active in public this summer since the last FEMS meeting via video conference. On the contrary, a lot was happening in the background, as intensive meetings were held with representatives of the Ministry of Health to solve our goal of leaving the single public sector wage system.

A year has passed since the meeting with the Prime Minister, where we laid the foundation for the said exit. Then there was an epidemic, and now Slovenia holds the presidency of the EU Council. There were no significant steps in the right direction, but we came to our concrete proposal and the ministry prepared its own. Both proposals are currently on the table with the Prime Minister.

As for the COVID-19 situation, it has been satisfactory since mid-June, the epidemic was canceled but in the second half of August the situation began to deteriorate rapidly. The number of infected is now growing rapidly and the "delta" variant is on the march. The state does not intend to close this time, it calls on the population to vaccinate in as large a number as possible. At the same time, all preventive measures remain in place (masks, hand washing, distance maintenance). Those who have a COVID certificate have virtually unlimited access to all services, while for others the limit is higher every day.

Currently, the country is in the red phase and we are fast approaching the dark red. The biggest problem is the poor vaccination coverage of the population, as less than 50% are fully vaccinated. Here, a negative role was played by many well-known persons on social networks with an unprofessional approach to the epidemic itself, to the denial of the need for action and, last but not least, a negative attitude towards vaccination. The dominant media and the opposition added their own, constantly "harassing" the current government, and the result is here despite the large stockpiles of vaccines. A difficult situation to understand, as many countries that have limited the spread of infections by vaccination and made it possible to eliminate measures could be an example for us. Unfortunately, the appeals of the profession remained unheeded.

In September, they started vaccinating us with the so-called booster dose. Preference is given to the elderly and those who are in constant contact with people, especially health and social services.

Ljubljana, 13th of September 2021

Damjan Polh, vicepresident of FIDES