

Report on the health care situation in the Czech Republic

October 2023 - May 2024

As I reported in the Autumn Report, more than 6000 physicians had rejected overtime work (over 30%). Other doctors, who had more complicated contract, actively encouraged this practice.

We demanded changes in the Labour Code, changes in postgraduate education and a pay rise.

It was a hectic time, but finally on 8. 12. 2023, an agreement with the Minister of Health in the presence of the Prime Minister was signed: A Salary increase by EUR 200-600 depending on qualification level with the proviso, that from 2025 there will be a separate remuneration law with further increases.

While the other demands are in process of realization, the drafting of the Remuneration Bill is not going well, which delays the whole process. The Minister's approach is lax and we have to prepare our colleagues for the eventuality that the key requirement will not be met.

I will report on further developments in Berlin.

Prague, April 24, 2024

Dr. Martin Engel - chairman of the Czech Doctors' Trade Union (LOK-SCL)