

el Periòdic News

POLITICS

Concòrdia considers a change in the Qualified Immigration Law

The aim is to tighten the residence criteria for foreign self-employed workers

EDUARD COMELLAS



The president of the Concòrdia parliamentary group, Cerni Escalé.

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Following the case that happened with the 'King of OnlyFans', the parliamentary group of Concòrdia wants to initiate a modification in the Qualified Immigration Law, with the aim that foreign salaried workers must reside and work for a period of six months in Andorra before being able to formalize a self-employed commercial company. They re-

ported this in a statement last Tuesday morning, in which they demanded a «legislative change» to ensure that foreign self-employed workers established in the country comply with the requirement established by the Foreign Investment Law, which obliges, among others, to make a deposit of 50,000 euros. In this way, the aforementioned reform would establish «a more transparent and equitable regulatory framework» for immigration and

The political formation wants to continue maintaining the obligation of a deposit of 50,000 euros for workers

economic activity in the country, ensuring at all times that these international workers do contribute decisively to the socio-economic development of the Principality. In order to achieve this goal, the political formation sees it as essential to «reinforce effective control by the Government of the labor activity of these workers as salaried employees», so that they cannot make the change to self-employed workers until half a year has passed. So, and using the case of the 'King of OnlyFans' as an example, the group led by Cerni Escalé mentioned that this «is not an isolated case», since the majority of foreign self-employed workers enter the country for the salaried way so as to be able to save the deposit requirement of 50,000 euros. A situation that, according to the parliamentary group, is «intolerable and deserves an urgent legislative change», which would not fail to be temporary due to the Association Agreement with the European Union, since this deposit would disappear in the event of negotiations will proceed. ●

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PARISHES

The consuls want to make changes to the regulations of the Civil Protection Act

The base text could be modified to guarantee the safety of cultural events in parishes

LAURA GÓMEZ RODRÍGUEZ
ENCAMP

«There are a series of regulations that have been developed for the different activities that are carried out from the municipalities, in addition to a series of particularities that have been detected, and we want to talk to the Ministry of Justice and the Interior and Civil Protection because they must be improved», explained the Consul Major of the Municipality of Encamp, Laura Mas, in statements to the press following the second meeting of consuls, which took place, on this occasion, at the communal corporative of Encamp. Thus, the group of consuls from the seven parishes expressed their desire to meet with the Minister of Justice and Interior, Ester Molné, and the representatives of Civil Protection, with the intention of being able to make the relevant amendments to the law, especially those related to cultural events. The aim of the will to carry out improvements in these regulations is to offer an extension in the security of the events, as well as to guarantee this protection. The regulation, which was drawn up by Civil Protection, explains what are the requirements that must be met when holding events through annexes on the minimum number of people and with special characteristics. «From here, there are a series of obligations to be able to do the specific events», added the Con-



The major and minor consuls of all the parishes in the second meeting of consuls held on Tuesday.



LAURA MAS

MAJOR CONSUL OF ENCAMP

«A series of particularities have been detected [in the Civil Protection Law] and we will work because they must be improved»

«We are waiting for a response from the ABA because we have asked that the banks' interest rates be improved»

sul Major. On the other hand, Mas declared that, taking into account the «popular nature of some of them», perhaps in certain activities «the obligations of this regulation should not be taken into account».

IMPROVEMENTS IN INTEREST RATES// On the one hand, the meeting also discussed the issue of interest rate improvements in the country's banking institutions. As Mas pointed out, the consuls met a few weeks ago with Andorran Banking (ABA) in order to request an adjustment in the «financing rates in the banking sector», argued the consul ma-

jor, since «the last time [the assessment] was done was during Covid-19». Thus, «we are now waiting for a response from the meeting», which was attended by the senior consul of Canillo, Jordi Alcobé; the minor consul of Escaldes-Engordany, Quim Dolsa, and the major consul of Ordino, Maria del Mar Coma. Currently, interest rates are above 3%, when during the pandemic they were set at 0%. «First approaches have already been made with the ABA and interest rates have been agreed with an Euribor of +1.60 for loans and policies. As well as the five-year financings, they

are analyzed case by case», announced the Consul Major of Encamp.

THE AMENDMENT OF THE CENSUS LAW

On the other hand, one of the points also discussed at the meeting of the highest representatives of the seven municipalities was the modification of the Census Law, noting that, by now, the document had been read by all the consuls. However, the law has two sections, and two premises «under which the previous legislature worked»: streamlining citizens' documentation and procedures through the Census Law and updating parts of the law, since some «they become obsolete», argued Mas.

THE INTERPAROCHIAL BODY WORKS ON INDIVIDUAL REGULATIONS

Finally, the meeting included the point that deals with the training of agents of the interparochial body and it was affirmed «that the parishes are already working to make a regulation», according to Mas. ●