



POLÍTICA

The advanced CPI rises to 7.5% during the month of February

This data has been caused by the increase in the amount of fresh products

Cesar Marquina says that 'there are no levers to make the descent immediately

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The consumer price index in February increased by 1%, compared to January, reaching a figure of 7.5%. This figure has been caused by the rise in food prices, specifically fresh products. Like the Minister of Finance and Acting Spokesman, Cesar Marquina, explained it yesterday during the press conference after the Council of Ministers. Marquina said that «for now we do not have the levers to bring down (inflation) immediately». The Minister of Finance compared Andorra's situation with that of neighboring countries such as Spain, which has «certain autonomy in the hydrocarbon sector and is a food producer», and where levers have been activated such as fuel subsidies or reduction of indirect taxation in the case of food, «but what, unfortunately, has not resulted in a positive effect».

The Government assured that «it has not proposed any lever» to stop the inflation of the Andorran economy. The Minister of Finance indicated that the executive is in the «monitoring phase» of the evolution of the CPI throughout the months. Marquina explained that the configuration of the Andorran economy «does not allow us excessive leverage to control inflation,



► The Minister of Finance and Acting Spokesman, Cesar Marquina at the press conference following the council.



CESAR MARQUINA
MINISTER OF FINANCE

«It does not allow us excessive leverage to control inflation, for the sectors that sell in installments»

due to the sectors that sell in installments».

ADVANCED CPI/This is an indicator that assumes a prior calculation of the ordinary CPI where approximately 91% of prices are used. The remaining 9% are data based on the results of the previous month, as published yesterday by the Department of Statistics of the Government of Andorra. The calculation of this indicator aims to provide the same information, in time and quality, as the data published by the statistical institutes of the European Union.

Inflation continues to grow in recent years, since in 2021 the CPI was 0.4% and in 2022 it stood at 4.1%, figures far removed from the advanced CPI of February with 7.5%, which is significantly affecting the purchasing power of families. ≡

The increase in medical fees will be «asymmetrical»

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After the board of directors of the Andorran Social Security Fund (CASS) considered on Tuesday that the increase in medical procedures carried out by doctors, dentists and medical assistants should correspond to the IPC and, therefore, of 7.1%, the Minister of Finance and Acting Spokesman, Cesar Marquina, stated yesterday that «most likely, we will have to have different sensitivities according to the groups», so he assured that this increase will be «asymmetric» according to the type of medical procedure. In this sense, the minister pointed out that what the executive will do will be to «analyze these data in detail», since it must be taken into account that there are groups that «have not been touched for more than ten years the rate», while others have experienced increases and, therefore, the increase will not be the same in all cases. ≡

The Engega 2023 program has a budget of 740,000

This project regulates financial aid for electric mobility

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The Government has approved the opening of the call for the Engega 2023 program, which will have a budget allocation of 740,000 euros, as informed by the acting minister, Cesar Marquina. This year's plan makes it possible to respond to those 166 requests that were made during the past year and that remain

ned on the waiting list. The spokesman for the executive assured that «this form of subsidy was enabled with the intention of facilitating the purchase of electric and efficient vehicles and not slowing it down due to a lack of budget». Since 2019, the Government has granted 736 grants through this program, with a total budget of 3.1 million euros as detailed by Marquina. The Engega 2023 program will subsidize the purchase of a new electric mobility vehicle (pure electric or plug-in hybrid) to scrap a vehicle associated with this purchase. ≡



► An electric car charging.

A new quota of immigration permits is approved

A total of 600 authorizations to reside in the country without working

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Yesterday, the Council of Ministers approved, at the proposal of the acting Minister of Justice and Interior, Josep Maria Rossell, the Quota Regulation for immigration authorizations for residence without work, which includes a total of 600 permits. The acting minister pointed out that these authorizations

are intended for those people who choose Andorra as their country of residence without developing economic activity within the country. Considering that the last quota of 600 authorizations that was approved in May 2020 is almost exhausted, it has been considered necessary to approve a new quota that allows us to continue responding to this demand. Marquina highlighted that since the digital economy law was approved, around forty requests to come to the country have been received. ≡

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SOCIETY

The kennel opens its doors for us

The main problem of abandonment is housing, followed by economic problems, the behavior of the dogs and the conditions in the orchards ≡ In 2022 the kennel had an average occupancy of 80%

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GosSos is a non-profit organization from Andorra, specialized in helping abandoned, mistreated dogs or those who need some kind of help to live in dignity. So far this year they have had three entries, reaching a total of 32 dogs that live in the GosSOS compound in Sant Julià de Lòria.

According to Jesús Cardesin, head of the kennel, in 2022 there were 33% fewer abandonments, even so 101 dogs ended up at the kennel, of which 4 could not be adopted. Throughout last year, the kennel had an average occupancy of 80% and most abandonments occurred in the spring and at the end of the year.

The head of the kennel explains that throughout the year they are promoting awareness campaigns for adoption and that «every time a dog arrives, we analyze it first, we see what its character is, we see what its conditions are, and we look at his chances of adoption and we look at



►► The kennel in Andorra yesterday morning.

In 2022, there were 33% fewer abandonments in the Principality

making a profile for him to publish on social networks so that he can be adopted as quickly as possible.»

Cardesin explains that the main reason why they come to the kennel is housing problems, when the owners for various reasons cannot provide the dog with a home and end up abandoning it or taking it to the kennel. The second reason for abandonment today is financial problems, Jesús explains that despite having an apartment and a home for the dog «you can have financial problems and keeping a dog costs a lot of money, at least you have to pay the vet, you have to have conditions and a way of living for him that is good and correct». The third is the behavior of the dogs and according to the manager of the kennel the last reason for abandonment is new and he explains that «since we are working a little more on the issue of the orchards, there are people who have dogs in the orchard and they don't

have them in good conditions and that we demand a work there, to make a decent home for the dog and they don't want to do it or they can't and they end up leaving it here.»

Jesús Cardesin also points out that «when a dog spends a lot of time in the kennel, it is confined, I mean here we have time to be with them, every day they all go out, if volunteers come, which normally we always have volunteers they can go out and they go out and walk, but a dog that is in a kennel ends up having problems with

anxiety, depression and we have to try to limit his time inside the kennel, that's why we always ask for the help of people who come to visit us and see the dogs.»

He explains that from the kennel they monitor the health of the dogs a lot and they have a vet who goes there every week to do health checks, and checks that all vaccinations are always up to date, if they have wounds they treat them, if they have food problems they look for needs for the dog to feel comfortable, Jesús explains

that «in the end they will spend many hours alone and we try to make life as comfortable as possible.» The kennel also has a network of around 20 volunteers who go there with regularity to walk the dogs and be with them.»

Cardesin also points out that following the courses on potentially dangerous dogs (pp dogs) that have started, the kennel is launching a campaign to let people know about the pp dogs they have there. They explain that «they are of a kindness, that you can see, that you can perceive that

they are good dogs, that they are only listed as dangerous because they were born from a breed and that they also need to be adopted. We are giving them a lot of visibility and we started calling for two dogs that are Bobop and Shira, that are dogs that deserve to go out and find a family, because they are dogs that are totally adoptable, as adoptable as another that is not a dog classified as dangerous». From the kennel they also explain that the problems the dogs suffer are chronic inside the kennel. Jesús Cardesin explains that some of them have been there for almost 5 years, because they are dogs that have some kind of problem that makes it very difficult for them to adapt «We cannot give a dog to a person to give him a problem, because we have decided from the Association that we will have these dogs and take care of them in a special way until the end of their days.»

One of these dogs is Furry, a dog they describe as «spectacular with people, he's very good, he's loyal,

Cardesin explains that «we understand them and therefore we will stay with them until the end»

he's affectionate, but he has a problem of aggression towards other dogs that they haven't been able to fix at the moment.

Gaspi is a little dog that has a possible neurological problem, and that when she gets very nervous she attacks herself, from the kennel they believe that this «could lead to some kind of violence against people we have no control over». and Kai who is a dog who has had a very bad time in his life and has something inside that makes him at least defend himself. The kennel points out that «they are dogs that we will take care of and that we have here and they will be with us until the end of their lives. We all have some sign of them, because working with a hammer you will hit your finger, because working with dogs you will take a bite but that does not mean that we do not want to have them, on the contrary, we understand them, therefore we will stay until the end.» ≡

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