



Politics ► The Government responded to the questions posed by the various parliamentary groups

Espot claims to be aware of the country's acquisition loss

The head of government, however, still hopes to find an agreement with the employer and the different unions

Marsol extends her hand to the parliamentary groups to work on the problem of housing

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA
@PeriodicAND

The demonstrations for decent housing that have taken place in recent weeks continue to take place and, once again, the General Council took part in them. In a new session, in which the questions to the Government by the different parliamentary groups with oral answers were the only point of the day, the social democratic councilor general, Pere Baró, wanted to take an interest in the citizens' rally that took place on October 31st, when the country's loss of purchasing power became evident. The head of the Government, Xavier Espot, stated that he was aware of this problem and that «the purchasing power of citizens stagnates or decreases year after year», indicating, however, that to this conclusion, «we have not reached in the last 15 days, but it is a finding from a long time ago» and with the hope «to find an agreement with the management and the unions».

The president also put on the table the different wage increases carried out in his previous legislature: «We raised the minimum wage by 22% and this year's intention is to maintain its sustained growth, with the firm intention to place the minimum wage ahead of the Spanish minimum

wage». However, the question formulated by Baró took a back seat to highlight the different «courageous measures» promoted by the democratic government, such as «forcing companies to increase wages that were below 4,000 euros, the Renova Plan or the flexibility in aid for studies».

The also president of the social democratic parliamentary group, however, stated that the Andorran people, aside from work, what they are asking for is stability: «Salaries must be revalued by listening to the

Espot assures that the 4.2% increase in electricity receipts by FEDA is a «surgical» measure

social agents and the wealth must be distributed equitably among the citizens», indicated Baró, accusing the Executive, in addition, of carrying out neoliberal policies. Words that were not well received by Espot, who once again highlighted the reasons why his Government is moving away from them precisely. «We have extended rental contracts, increased wages by 22%, forced employers to raise wages and established free public transport. If for you these are neoliberal po-



►► Xavier Espot, during the session of questions to the Government of Andorra.

licies, I think we have very different concepts», said the president. In addition, questioned about the 4.2% increase in electricity receipts by FEDA, Espot stated that «these are not generalized increases, since the subsidized rates that people with difficulties have will not be changed».

On the other hand, the president

of the Andorra Endavant parliamentary group, Carine Montaner, offered the possibility of launching a collaboration with hypermarkets to distribute food in parish solidarity sales points, with the aim of fighting against poverty and food waste. The proposal, this time, was well received by the head of the Executive, who pro-



XAVIER ESPOT
HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

«From the Government we are aware that the purchasing power of citizens stagnates or decreases year after year»

PERE BARÓ
GENERAL COUNSELOR

«Salaries must be revalued by listening to social agents and the wealth must be distributed equitably among citizens»

mitted to study it.

Finally, the Minister of the Presidency, Economy, Work and Housing, Conxita Marsol, placed the parliamentary groups to meet in two weeks «to set the priorities in the case of housing and what we can attack first. The will is to do it with consensus and we are willing to listen to do it as best as possible». ≡

The shutdown of the Grifols laboratory, a confirmed reality

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA

After the various reports that pointed to a shutdown of the P3 Grifols laboratory, the Government confirmed yesterday the reality of the facts at the request of a question posed by the General Counselor of the Andorra Endavant parliamentary group, Noemí Amador. The head of the Executive, Xavier Espot, stated that «we will not continue to move forward with the project until we have 100% of the guarantees confirmed, which is why it is taking longer than we initially thought», stress-

ing, however, that the laboratory «continues to be a project in which we believe, both for its strategic importance and for its ability to attract other sectors that have difficulties in diversifying into added value».

In this way, the president wanted to reject possible doubts that confirmed a definitive stop, indicating that it is a «dynamic and not static» project, so it «must adapt to the changing contexts of science, the economy and society of each moment». On the possibility raised by Amador to review the pact with the partners of the agreement, Es-



►► The General Counselor, Noemí Amador.

pot re-emphasized the casuistry of working in a «very detailed and surgical way, without excessive haste».

In addition, he highlighted the creation of a laboratory with similar characteristics on Avinguda Diagonal in Barcelona, which «took four years to complete and no one has made any kind of complaint». Statements that referred to the multiple complaints about the implementation of the laboratory in Ordino, forgetting, however, to mention the possible consequences that this will have in the parish environment over time. ≡

Don't miss any special editions
of **El Periòdic!**

Housing does not rule out controls for the arrival of temporary workers

Segués questions the arrival of these and the current lack of housing

EL PERIÒDIC
ANDORRA LA VELLA

The councilor general of the Concòrdia parliamentary group, Núria Segués, took the floor to show interest in the arrival of temporary workers in relation to the lack of housing that is currently going through Andorra. The Minister of the Presidency, Economy, Work and Housing, Conxita Marsol, indicated that this season «5,000 authorizations have been approved to cover the needs of the country's economic sector in winter, such as ski slopes». In addition, Marsol wanted to emphasize the fact that all those people who come to the country on a temporary basis to work «must come with an assigned accommodation, since without it they will not obtain the residence permit». It is true, however, that the main plain-



► The General Counselor of the Concòrdia parliamentary group, Núria Segués.

tiffs «already have properties throughout the country to accommodate these workers».

The possibility of the existence of a control tool for these cases was one of the maxims that Segués proposed, alleging Marsol that, for now, he does not know if these really exist: «The controls are already done at Immigration, where it is ascertained whether a home is decent and correct. From here, if it is checked whether these flats are really true or not, I could not guarantee it, but possibly yes we will have to end up doing them». However, the general councilor was also interested in the implementation of night-time public transport, since many temporary workers reside in other parishes from their place of work. «The Government's will is to bet on it, but it has a significant cost and it is still in an implementation phase. There is no exact date», remarked the head of the Executive, Xavier Espot.

Precisely, it was the president who made a comparison of the situation experienced this season with the one that happened last year: «Last season we experienced certain scenes of tension. Andorra is a land of opportunities, but we cannot all fit there and it is limited. However, we are managing to drain the arrival of temporary workers and make it compatible with the slow arrival in the country of another type of resident». ≡

More acts for referring doctors

The Minister of Health, Helena Mas, responded to the question posed by the social democratic councilor general, Susanna Vela, regarding the expenditure generated by the implementation of the preferred route. Mas declared that the intention of the ministry is to decrease the acts of specialist doctors with respect to generalists or referents by the end of this 2023: «The preferred route has not increased the number of generalist acts, beyond what is normal in these cases», adding that «the tendency is for acts to stabilize and become a gateway».

Creation of protected flats in Sant Julià

The financing of the project of protected flats promoted in the parish of Sant Julià de Lòria was the question raised by the general councilor Maria Àngels Aché, affirming Marsol that this type of initiative is very good «to promote and help people with problems of autonomy, and that they can have homes adapted to their needs». Along these lines, the minister indicated that the Executive «will bear the cost of 50% of these rents in accordance with the reference price». The amortization of the building is 50 years.



La Caubella hosts the National Heliport

The president of the Concòrdia parliamentary group, Cerni Escalé, was interested in the planned construction of the Andorra National Heliport in La Caubella, after the Borda Vidal location was ruled out. The reasons for this change, according to Espot, were, among others, a configuration that was too narrow for the construction of the structure, the increase in inconvenience and the signing of an agreement with Spain in be entirely territory of the Principality. In addition, the Caubella also includes the possibility of hosting large helicopters.

Bronchiolitis vaccine

The reasons why the bronchiolitis vaccine has not been included in the general schedule for children was one of Vela's other interests. Helena Mas stated that it is «a misunderstanding», since this exclusion really refers to the drug Beyfortus: «Unlike vaccines, what we do with it is introduce the antibodies to the person. The recommendation of the Advisory Council on Infectious Pathologies was not to address the drug to the entire healthy population, but only to children at risk», said the minister.

Your leading real estate agency in Andorra.

Our experience guarantees results, realtors since 1988.



(+376) 353 424 / (+376) 379 769

(+376) 747 747

laportella@andorra.ad

Casa Nova Olivet 10 · Ordino

www.laportella.ad