



SOCIETY

Punjabi: «The operating system of the APDA is unmanageable»

The head of the agency explained the reason for the latest resignations

She also details that a possible solution could be for the inspectors to be civil servants



ANA/M. R.



Resma Punjabi

HEAD OF THE APDA

«After taking the oath of office, Pujol saw what schedules we had at the agency and wanted to resign the same day»

«I would like a system in which I can supervise the work of the inspectors and be able to incentivize them»

►► Image of the head of the APDA, Resma Punjabi, during the press conference last Tuesday.

MARIA LOZANO
ANDORRA LA VELLA
@marilo1709

The head of the Data Protection Agency (APDA), Resma Punjabi, publicly explained yesterday the reason for the last three resignations from the position of data protection inspector. Punjabi informed the media that in the case of the resignation of the last inspector last Monday, Sabrina Pujol, it was clear from the first day because of the schedules that were established: «Pujol after taking the oath of office saw what schedules we did at the agency and she wanted to resign the same day», declared the head, adding that «so that she wouldn't do it we changed her schedules, ad-

justing them to her personal life, but in the end she ended up resigning».

Even so, this is not the first case that the head of the data protection agency explained. The first was that of inspector Gemma Gaset: «The inspector resigned for personal reasons», but she remarked that she never got to exercise her job and collected her salary for months.

The second inspector was Adga Castillo, and that year Punjabi saw how the work tripled: «That year I found myself with a closed budget, which was also cut, with an inspector on leave who, by law, could not replace», and added that «there was a very large volume of work, but we did not have the resources to deal

Sabrina Pujol SWORN in as data protection inspector last October and resigned this Monday

with it». Thus, the head of the agency added that this volume of work could have caused burnout.

Thus, Punjabi remarked that the operating system «is unmanageable», because «the selection process of the inspectors is done by the General Council and I have nothing to do», adding that «I have no room for action». She also added that she would like a system «in which I can supervise the work that the

inspectors do, be able to incentivize them and that they have a motivation».

The head of the agency also informed that it was decided to dispense with the entity's secretary. This was a position with acquired rights, although Punjabi explained that she did not need a person in charge of secretarial service. This person was also paid 44,000 euros per year, which right now, and with this amount «we decided to incorporate two technicians with university training».

Punjabi explained that data technicians receive 26,690 euros per year, inspectors 33,190 and she 45,000 euros per year, which is 45% less than the head of the previous agency.

Asked by the media if she was considering resigning, Punjabi remarked that «I don't quite understand the reasons why I should submit my resignation», adding that «I have fulfilled a legal mandate and I am achieving the proposed objectives despite the lack of resources». Even so, she explained that with respect to the cases mentioned above «I have had bad luck and I have encountered extraordinary situations».

Thus, the head of the agency detailed that a possible solution to prevent a similar situation from happening again would be for labor inspectors to be civil servants, since «being civil servants gives you more security and, for example, there may be a sanctioning regime when a person stops showing up at the workplace». ≡

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

COMPANY

The fund that brought down Gowex accuses Grífols of manipulating its figures

Pharmaceuticals shares have fallen by 50% on the Ibex-35

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY
@PeriodicAND

The figures of the pharmaceutical company Grífols are in doubt after Gotham City Research, a bearish fund that analyzes the accounts of companies for irregularities and which brought down Gowex, hinted that the figures of Grífols could be manipulated.

The report published today, Tuesday, has caused shares to collapse by 50% in the Ibex-35 and the titles are now at 7.12 euros. One of the things that the document published by Gotham City Research shows is that the Catalan company has manipulated its accounts and hidden part of its debt. Faced with these accusations, Grífols has sent a note to the CNMV denying the accusations.

The activities that Grífols would be carrying out are to transfer figures to investors without taking into account the company's debt. Both Grífols and Scranton, the financial



► Image of Grífols pharmaceutical company.

holding company for the pharmaceutical owners, are misleading investors about their financial statements. As the Gotham City Research paper explains, it has manipulated debt and ebitda (earnings

before taxes and depreciation) by reporting a leverage of six times its ebitda and amounting to 9.54 billion euros, when in reality has a debt that would be between 10 and 13 times. For this reason, the

report states that «if the estimate we are making about Grífols' debt is correct, the company faces significantly higher financing costs than what it has transferred to the market. We believe that these sha-

res should not be invested and their real value is close to zero.»

There have been few reactions to this news from the country's political class. Of course, the leader of Andorra Endavant, Carine Montaner, who has already shown her disagreement with the Grífols project from the beginning by sharing «my concern regarding the financial health of the firm, but not only that, but I was also concerned about the ethics of the company in terms of the blood trade in the United States». In statements to this medium, Montaner detailed that «unfortu-

The activities it would be carrying out are to transfer some figures to the investors without taking into account the debt

nately, if we look at the liabilities of many big pharma firms and all the scandals there were... nothing surprises me anymore», assuring that there are too many scandals in this industry and that «the list is long: mediator, opioids and Pfizer with unauthorized clinical tests on children in Niger that caused hundreds and hundreds of deaths». For this reason and given the seriousness of the information made public about Grífols, «from Andorra Endavant we hope that the project of the P3 laboratory with Grífols will be stopped». ≡



A unique and welcoming place to buy and/or eat fresh products.

Ciabatta bread sandwiches, hamburgers, crêpes...

OPENING HOURS:
Monday to Saturday:
from 7:30h to 20:00h
Sundays:
from 7:30h to 14:00h

Carrer de la Vall, 2, AD500 Andorra la Vella Tel. +376 829 470
Av. Casamanya, edifici Casa Font AD100 Ordino Tel.+376 847 064