



POLITICS

The majority will work on the reform of the foreign investment law

The parliamentary groups will meet to agree on possible solutions for the new law

The General Council unanimously approves that the Lauredian commune obtains ownership of the Hotel Pol

SÒNIA LECHA
ANDORRA LA VELLA

X @SoniaLecha

«We propose, from tomorrow itself, that we all sit at the same table to analyze slowly but surely, the needs and possible solutions in terms of economic opening and diversification in the medium and long term». This was the proposal made by the deputy president of the Democratic Parliamentary Group, Maria Martisella, in her intervention in the debate on the Bill to amend the Foreign Investment Law introduced by Concòrdia. An initiative that came after the Minister of the Presidency, Economy, Work and Housing, Conxita Marsol, communicated the reasons why this proposal cannot be favorable. Some of the reasons are that the motion made by Concòrdia aims to incorporate different types of residence in Andorra or to introduce a safeguard clause that is more extensive than the current one. Even so, Marsol commented that in general terms this proposal is «shared and materialized» and from the Executive «we propose to work on an alternative text through a legislative proposal that establishes a consensual law».

Councillor Pol Bartolomé defended on behalf of Concòrdia that this foreign investment law «has had devastating effects on decent housing». For this reason it is necessary that it be reformed urgently and he stressed that what they proposed «were reasonable, consistent and desirable changes». Among the changes in the initiative, he recalled that the acquisition of a property per foreign person was limited or the establishment of quotas with the exact number of acquisitions that could come from foreign investment as well as the establishment of «exclusion zone» for second residences.

The president of the parliamentary group of Andorra Endavant, Ca-



CONSELL GENERAL

►► Concòrdia's councillor, Pol Bartolomé, during the General Council session.

rine Montaner, celebrated the fact that all the parliamentary groups agreed to meet to agree on a new law on foreign investment, since the law needs to be changed and above all, «rectify foreign investment to curb speculation». Montaner also warned that you can't put everyone in the same boat because this investment has also had positive effects for Andorra and «has made us grow».

The head of government, Xavier Espot, was prepared to promote a debate with all the parties involved. Related to this, he defended that «if we want to solve the housing problem, we cannot do it through unilateral or partial initiatives». In addition, he admitted that the law needs to be revised and above all that it should be done through a broad dialogue.



CONXITA MARSOL

MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY, ECONOMY, WORK AND HOUSING.

«We propose to work on an alternative text through a law proposal that establishes a consensual law»

POL BARTOLOMÉ

COUNSELLOR OF CONCÒRDIA

«The law has had devastating effects on decent housing. The proposed changes are reasonable and consistent»

In the case of the councillor of the Social Democratic parliamentary group, Pere Baró, he celebrated the fact that the dialogue table can be held, an action that they have been demanding for some time.

As for the president of Ciutadans Compromesos, Carles Naudi, he expressed that his political party was against this proposal by Concòrdia and that they subscribe to the words that Marsol said. «Foreign investment also helps many families in Andorra to have housing», stressed Naudi. And as for the non-affiliated General Counsel, Víctor Pintos, he defended that foreign investment intended for rent cannot be limited when there is precisely a lack of supply and he did not share the exclusion zone either.

Finally, this proposal presented by Concòrdia was not accepted, since it received 11 votes in favor and 17 against. However, they unanimously reached an agreement to meet and agree on a new law between them all. ≡

Sant Julià gets 100% of the Hotel Pol

The General Council, with the unanimity of all parliamentary groups, facilitated the Municipality of Sant Julià de Lòria to obtain 100% ownership of the Hotel Pol. Remember that currently, 60% of the property of the Hotel Pol corresponded to the Government and 40% to the Lauredian community. The Executive brought to the General Council the declaration of the alienability of this asset to pass its 60% ownership to the Municipality and this in return will receive three million euros.

Approved the bill on the euro

During the session of the General Council, the amendment bill on the introduction of the euro in the framework of the monetary agreement signed between Andorra and the European Union to adapt it to the new European rules was approved by assent. «This law is necessary because the copies of euro banknotes that are used for programs and films have increased», detailed the Minister of Finance, Ramon Lladós. The problem with this is that they get confused with real banknotes.

Proposal on health transport

Andorra Endavant presented a proposal on non-medicalized medical transport and this was rejected by 19 votes against, three in favor and six abstentions.

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

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Approved the code of conduct for members of the Executive and senior officials

The objective is to ensure the Government's rules with transparency

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY
@PeriodicAND

Reinforcing the prevention and fight against corruption, emphasizing the responsibility of public authorities in the direction and management of the general administration, is the objective with which the Council of Ministers approved last Wednesday the code of conduct of the members of the Government and high officials. It is a text that establishes the rules of conduct and the ethical principles that must be met to ensure the rules of good governance, as well as the exercise of functions with maximum transparency, integrity and efficiency.

Therefore, the subjects obliged to comply with the code are the head of government and the ministers; as well as the high-ranking officials who are understood to be the holders of the General Secretariat of the Government and of the State Secretariats, the head of the Cabinet of the Head of Government and the head of Protocol. In addition, for the purposes of this text, ambassadors are assimilated to high positions while they are in charge of an embassy or a diplomatic mission, the heads of diplomatic missions and



► The administrative building of the Government.

The subjects obliged to comply with the code are the head of government and all the ministers

the heads of consular offices.

With regard to the general principles, the importance of exercising the position in accordance with the general interest of the citizens is determined, among others; the application of transparency, equality, impartiality and objectivity, as well as accountability to all official activities and acts; and the use of information that is known by reason of the position solely for the purposes of public benefit, reaffirming the rele-

vance of confidentiality. At the same time, the need for absolute dedication to the position exercised or the fact that the management of resources must be done in a rational, adequate and efficient manner is highlighted. Finally, it includes as a principle active listening to the needs expressed by the population and the enhancement of open government, through citizen participation.

In relation to incompatibilities, the precepts of the Government

law are included, emphasizing that members of the Executive and senior positions cannot make their position compatible with that of general counsel. Nor can they contract with the public administration, or hold managerial positions or belong to the boards of directors of private companies that contract with the administration.

Going into detail, rules linked to honesty and independence are listed, such as that obliged subjects cannot accept any gift, offer of hospitality, invitation, favor or other services that involve a financial expense at the expense of third parties, for their own benefit or that of their family environment. Abstention from adopting measures or decisions that entail, exclusively, a future personal or professional advantage after the termination of the position is also included as a rule; and the hiring of relatives up to the second degree of kinship is prohibited, unless the said relative appears in a selective process respecting the principles of competition, publicity and transparency.

In parallel, it is established that the obliged subjects must take care to prevent or suspend any situation of conflict of interest. When they become aware or have any doubt, they must immediately bring it to the attention of the Government. In the event that their direct or indirect personal interests come into conflict with the matters subject to deliberation and resolution in the meetings of the Government or other collegiate bodies of which they are part, they must notify before intervening or voting that this situation occurs related to the issue that must be dealt with. In these situations, the affected subject must be absent from the meeting while the specific topic is discussed. ≡

New route between La Seu-Andorra airport during the winter

It is a pilot test that aims to connect the Principality with the Balearic Islands

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

The Government approved the final award of the tender for the launch of a new air route from Andorra-la Seu d'Urgell airport to Palma de Mallorca airport with operations during the winter season this year. The international competition has been awarded to the airline Air Nostrum (Iberia Regional), which was the only offer that was submitted within the deadline established in the competition - a second offer that was submitted outside the deadline was rejected -.

From the Secretary of State for Energy Transition, Transport and Mobility, it is valued that the new route is added to the one already established at Alt Urgell airport and that allows to connect with Madrid, thus adding alternatives to diversify the arrival of tourists and airport activity, generate new economic synergies in the Pyrenees area and unlock the country.

The award approved by the Go-



► The plane that connects Andorra-la Seu airport and Madrid.

vernment is a pilot test that aims to connect Andorra-la Seu airport with the Balearic Islands during the 2023-2024 winter season. The company will offer two flights, round trip, every Friday and every Sunday from January 5th to March 31st, making a total of 13 weeks of

operations during the coming winter. Specifically, the flights will be: Friday PMI-LEU: 08.45 hours and LEU-PMI: 10.45 hours; Sunday PMI-LEU: 1.45pm and LEU-PMI: 3.45pm.

With regard to commercial operations, the tender specifies that it is something that the company

promotes. In fact, the sale of tickets will take place within the circuits and alliances already agreed by the company, through its website. In this sense, the company has already announced that the ticket price will cost from 50 euros per flight, with a 75% discount for residents living in the Balearic Islands and that the Spanish state applies to all air operations which are made from the Balearic airports to abroad. Likewise, the airline has also announced that the internal connec-

The company will offer two flights, round trip, from January 5th to March 31st

tion with the airports of Ibiza and Menorca will be facilitated with the same flight ticket between Andorra and Palma.

With regard to the remuneration from the Government that allows to ensure the economic viability of operating these passenger flights, the Executive will offer a maximum of 220,000 euros depending on the actual occupation of the route. In this way, this maximum cost will be reduced depending on the occupancy of the flights of the pilot test mentioned above. ≡



► A nurse vaccinating

Vaccination against HPV for children aged 12 years

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

The Council of Ministers, at the proposal of the head of Health, Helena Mas, approved the inclusion of the vaccine against the human papilloma virus (HPV) in the vaccination schedule for 12-year-old boys - it was already included in the schedule, but only for girls. The decision to extend vaccination against HPV to this segment of the population has been taken with the collaboration of the Infectious Pathology Advisory Council and in accordance with the recommendations of international bodies. HPV is a virus capable of infecting human skin and mucous membranes. ≡