

# Bulletin

**Information bulletin for members of the Association**

**April 2014**

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**The annual subscription has been increased to  
minimum €30**

Decided at the AGM of 13 December 2013

## **Forthcoming SEPS GENERAL MEETING and information meeting**

VM2 – Room 2. 2, rue Van Maerlant, 1040 Brussels  
Metro Maelbeek – exit Chaussée d’Etterbeek.

Following the usual agenda of the meetings at Overijse : from 11.00 to 16.00

- General meeting (11h00 to 12h30)
- Lunch at the Brasserie
- Information: SEPS, pensions, sickness insurance, Staff Regulations
- Members’ problems

## **Wednesday 25 June 2014 (AGM)**

**Don’t forget to contact the secretariat to reserve your lunch (€25)**

**Secretariat:** e-mail [info@sfpe-seps.be](mailto:info@sfpe-seps.be) ; fax : +32(0)2 2818378

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Payment for the lunch can be made on site or to the SEPS ING account (See page 2)

A few parking places can be reserved ten days in advance  
for those members having difficulty in walking.

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## **I. Letter from the Editor**

The atmosphere amongst the staff of the European Institutions is gloomy – for several very valid reasons.

The decision taken by the Council and the Parliament, taking no account whatsoever of the Staff Regulations, to adjust salaries and pensions for 2012 upwards by 0.8% is a very bad one. Seen against the decisions already taken for 2011, 2013 and 2014, this adjustment, when added to the 0.1% in 2010, means that salaries and pensions have increased by 0.9% in five years! The parallel progression of national and European salaries has been totally distorted.

Although the pensioners<sup>1</sup> can consider themselves lucky for having kept their pensions intact despite the reform, those in active service are entitled to feel rather hard done by: quite apart from the 6% solidarity levy introduced despite the lack of salary adjustment, working conditions have deteriorated. Consultations have started up again on working

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<sup>1</sup> The word “pensioner” is used here to mean those benefiting from a European pension. This is not the case for all persons retired from the Institutions.

hours, flexitime, the freezing of AST9, AD12, AST secretarial and contractual careers as well as internal competitions and so on. The unions are, or will be taking court action on the disappearance, for some colleagues, of travel allowances for annual leave, the lack of salary and pension adjustments, careers and so on.

As if these disturbing factors were not bad enough, developments in our health insurance scheme, JSIS, are harassing a good many members, who are having to face increased severity on the part of the PMO in applying the usual rules. For example, certain members are no longer having their serious illnesses acknowledged despite the fact that their state of health is not improving others find that medical treatment that was reimbursed without problem in the past is now being refused and many members have trouble contacting the PMO.

The PMO's new attitude towards pensioners is coupled with lack of information – no letter to pensioners members explaining the attitude and, furthermore, the PMO must be contacted by internet now given that the telephone lines are overlaid. The some 10 000 or more pensioners that either do not use or do not like using internet are simply ignored.

SEPS has reacted against all this by contacting the PMO, the unions, the JSIS management committee and HR DG. The AIACE has protested to the PMO and HR DG and has made proposals to redress the financial situation. The presidents of the various staff committees have written a long, joint letter to the heads of Administration taking up SEPS's complaints, amongst other things. The unions are bothered but do not necessarily share the same opinions.

The section in HR C1 unit that provides support for former officials has taken the excellent initiative of producing an information bulletin for pensioners every two months. Is this to be – at last – the starting point for increased respect on the part of the Commission for its duty to care for all pensioners of the European Institutions?

Serge Crutzen

## **II. Annual adjustment of salaries and pensions : the end**

All staff in active employment and pensioners have had their salaries and pensions frozen for 2013 and 2014. The new automatic adjustment method will not come into force until the end of 2015, with effect from 1 July 2015.

Following the negative Court ruling, the Commission proposed an adjustment of a mere 0.9% from 1/7/2011 and again from 1/7/2012 instead of twice 1.7% as provided for in the method in Annex XI of the Staff Regulations. This is the first time in over 40 years that the Commission has proposed a "political" figure.

However, the Council Working Party on the Staff Regulations has not taken the proposal into account and CoRePer went to the triangular discussions with a proposal of 0% for 2011 and 0.2% for 2012!

*At its full session on 12 March in Strasbourg the European Parliament stated that it could agree to the compromise resulting from the trialogue of 4 March, to wit 0.0% for 2011 and 0.8% for 2012 (with effect from 1 July 2012).*

*The Council confirmed the decision.*

This 0.8% adjustment is the outcome of bitter resistance on the part of the Parliament's negotiators within the trialogue and also because the limited sum will not call for a supplementary budget for 2014.

As a result of this compromise between Member States, European Parliament and Commission, we stand to lose 2.6% in comparison with the original Commission proposal based on the Method, which was 1.7% for 2011 and for 2012.

However, in view of the negotiating process and the CoRePer vote, it was politically impossible to obtain a better outcome and there was a very real risk that 2012 salaries would be frozen.

At the request of Mrs Roth-Beherendt, the Parliament rapporteur, the following paragraph was added to the final text of the compromise<sup>2</sup> :

*"...Consequently, during a period of five years (2010-2014) the adjustment of remuneration and pensions of officials and other servants of the European Union is as follows: In 2010, the application of the method laid down in Article 3 of Annex XI resulted in an adjustment of 0.1%. For 2011 and 2012 the result of this global approach to settle the disputes regarding the 2011 and 2012 adjustments of remuneration and pensions leads to an adjustment of 0% and 0.8% respectively. Furthermore, as part of the reform of the Staff Regulations, it was decided a freeze of remuneration and pensions for the years 2013 and 2014."*

It should be noted that the new adjustment method resulting from the reform of the Staff Regulations is automatic. Henceforth, it will not be necessary to negotiate any adjustments with the Member States.

Backpay is due for 22 (or 23 ) months at 0.8% = 17.6% and will probably be paid in May or June this year.

### **III. 2014 Staff Regulations – GIPs – appeals**

The new Staff Regulations came into force on 1 January this year.

As we have already stated, the new regulations have little or no effect on existing pensions and acquired pension rights have been respected. The "notional pension fund", the distinguishing feature of our system, has been confirmed explicitly. There is no "solidarity levy" on pensions.

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<sup>2</sup> Original: English  
SEPS-SFPE

However, these new regulations do cut down career and pension prospects for active staff. In addition, working hours have been increased and staff in all Institutions will be reduced.

As we stated last year, some unions have already appealed to the European Civil Service Tribunal regarding the lump-sum payment of the annual home travel allowance, the reduction of which, in the new regulations, is leading to considerable loss of income for certain families.

Further complaints and/or appeals are in the pipeline, for example:

**Point B of Annex I to the Staff Regulations**, laying down promotion rates reduced to 8% for AST 9 and 15% for AD 12 and 13.

**Article 82(7) of “other servants” regulations.** Contract staff of group I are not allowed to take part in internal competitions.

**Article 8 of Annex VII and Article 7 of Annex V to the Staff Regulations.**

Advantages linked to annual leave will be granted only to such staff as benefit from expatriation allowance.

Replacement of travel time by an additional two and a half days' stay in the place of origin – provided the official has the nationality of the place of origin.

**Article 55(2) of the new Regulations:** working hours between 40 and 42 per week.

**General implementing provisions** applying specifically to individual Institutions are in preparation. It will be possible to contest GIPs once they are published.

**Future pensions:** specific requests tailored to the applicable system.

The articles of the Regulations that have been amended under the reform must have

As is often remarked “the devil is in the details”. One must have a copy of them and they are available only on the website “administrative notices”, for which one must have an “ECAS” account or access to My IntraComm-Ext.

HR DG has set up a widespread staff consultation programme for the Commission. It is not yet complete. The DG has agreed that certain provisions may be reconsidered without preventing application of the new regulations as at 1 January 2014.

The main subjects up for discussion are:

- . **Working hours**, for which a joint committee will monitor application of this particular implementing provision.
- . **Professional incompetence.**
- . **Internal competitions** for contractual agents and agents engaged after 2004.
- . **Officials' careers**, access to end of career (beyond AST9 and AD12).
- . **Contractual agents careers**
- . **Reform of staff consultation system** (social dialogue).

## **IV. JSIS – Letter from the CPCP to the CCA**

The November 2013 Bulletin gave a few significant extracts<sup>3</sup> from the 2012 financial report of the Joint Sickness Insurance Scheme.

The chronic deficit of our health system has induced PMO to take measures, often negative for pensioners, to apply the rules of the JSIS in a stricter fashion than in the past. In addition, the Management Committee of the JSIS (CGAM) has been working towards more restrictive measures in order to generate savings.

SEPS sent a letter to the trade unions and to the CGAM, published in the February 2014 Bulletin.

The **Presidents of the Staff Committees of the various institutions (CPCP)** wrote a long letter to the **College of the Heads of Administration<sup>4</sup> (CCA)**. Our arguments have been heard, as several sections of this letter demonstrate:

*“...a strengthening of the internal procedures will not necessarily be profitable. The threats which weigh on the viability of our system are the more alarming because **many members and beneficiaries are no longer in a position to subscribe to a complementary private insurance**, either because they do not have the means, or because their health has deteriorated too much, or because **they are too old for a private insurer to agree to cover them.**”*

*Faced with such circumstances, the CGAM must explore measures to redress the situation and formulate proposals. Instead, it is stuck under a constantly increasing flood of complaints, generated by the **sudden changes of mind of the reimbursement offices relative to their former practices, which had been in place for many, many years, or even decades. These changed interpretations of the rules are so substantial that they are the equivalent of a total overhaul of the DGE in a much more restrictive direction, but without the benefit of a process of discussion or even a prior notification.***

*Hereafter some examples of the most recurrent reasons behind the complaints:*

- 1) **The refusal to extend recognition of a serious illness, even after 20 or 30 years of doing so**, independent of the worsening of the illness, even cases of multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's, a new heart attack, diabetes, etc: Serious illness must conform to an 'administrative' definition according to PMO, which has nothing to do with the national rules which define a much wider number of serious illnesses, sometimes referred to as "long term ailments";*
- 2) obtaining recognition of depression as a serious illness is virtually impossible;*
- 3) handicaps, even serious, such as deafness from birth, blindness, amputation of a limb, are no longer recognised as serious ailments, in total violation of the United Nations*

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<sup>3</sup> SEPS November 2013 Bulletin, page 10

<sup>4</sup> Available on request from the secretariat of SEPS



*Convention on the rights of handicapped persons, signed on 26 November 2009 by the Council in the name of the European Union;*

*4) the effects and the consequences of serious illnesses are excluded from 100% coverage....;*

*5) the complementary coverage of the partner is granted with great difficulty, whereas before the excess was reversed...;*

*6) the agreements for direct payment of hospitalisation do not mention the fixed ceilings, although the establishment has been frequented by affiliates and their partners for decades without these ceilings being applied;*

*7) treatment which has been accepted several times before for a patient is suddenly classified as non-functional, invoking an opinion of a medical council of several years before; certain opinions are forgotten as time passes before being rediscovered and brandished against an affiliate as justification for refusing to reimburse treatments which were previously allowed;*

*8) psychotherapies accepted in Belgium for decades are suddenly rejected because these psychotherapists need to be registered with the Commission of Psychologists, on the strength of a law dating from 1993, something which the Commission concerned has denied...;*

*9) after a long period of tolerance the receipts supplied by the medical and paramedical professionals in Belgium are suddenly obliged to take the form of fiscal receipts...the insured do not contest the need for these practitioners to conform to the fiscal regulations, but a period of transition is necessary...it is not the duty of our affiliates to enter into discussions with the (para)medical establishment for the delivery of supporting documents, but rather it is for PMO to provide clear instructions to for example the various (para)medical associations:*

*10) the reversal of decisions by PMO are so surprising that even experienced officials and agents of the reimbursement offices have difficulty in adapting ...*

*11) we regret the failures of the reimbursement offices: the absence of response to phone calls by the reimbursement office of Ispra, to which are attached pensioners, officials and other agents assigned to delegations as well as officials of the EEAS; the difficulties for 'isolated' pensioners to manage contacts with PMO, particularly with Ispra; the long delays of replies to e-mail, to requests for prior authorisation (for example the late refusal for a transport requested three weeks before the scheduled date) caused by problems of understaffing; in the absence of reliable information affiliates chose their establishments and/or treatments to discover subsequently that the service will either not be reimbursed, or only partially.*

*As you will understand the affiliates are more and more distraught by these disappointments, especially since they vainly invoke principles of legal security and legitimate confidence. In reality, the population which can no longer accede to 100%*

*reimbursement is constantly growing, whereas they are either barred from access to private insurance or it is too expensive”.*

The CPCP then requests a series of measures for the greater efficacy of the CGAM, for an evaluation of the effects of the 2014 reforms, for recourse to agreements with national health insurances, for the creation of specific health services for active staff and for retirees, for the creation of a central pharmacy, for the progressive but limited increase of contributions (portions of 0.1% of revenue), for the development of a real public health policy, for negotiations with the Member States for the recognition of the JSIS and the elimination of over-charging, for a recalculation of the equality coefficients, for the improvement of information to colleagues, for the verification of invoices by the affiliates, for agreements with health bodies, for the preservation of free complementarity,...

The CPCP also indicated its opposition to the transfer to the general budget of certain budget lines: those for complementarity, for dependency, for Article 72§3, and funeral costs.

This letter endorses many of the complaints and demands SEPS has made over the last two years now. It highlights many dangers for pensioners, good clients of the JSIS: the slide of dependency and of Article 72§3 towards probably limited budgets. This will result in a greater financial risk which can only be compensated by complementary insurance, if one can still subscribe to such.

In complement to this letter, we will need to insist on communication specifically aimed at retirees: the problems encountered can affect thousands of pensioners who do not use electronic communications tools very much. On the basis of the membership list of our association, more than 50% of pensioners either do not use internet or do so infrequently. Many are only able to receive or send simple messages. There are thus some 10,000 former officials who are experiencing very real difficulties in communication. PMO is not worried about this.

**Once more, SEPS/SFPE would like to repeat that:**

*It is unacceptable to confront retirees with the suppression or with the brutal reduction of certain acquired social rights. A long period of notice should be given prior to retirement. Once retired it becomes difficult if not impossible to offset the modifications to the JSIS, by for example, complementary insurances. Pensioners feel increasingly inclined to accept an increase in their contributions to the system, even unilaterally<sup>5</sup>, by complementary premiums which the JSIS might propose as do certain national health systems.*

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<sup>5</sup> Unilateral: without asking the Member States to increase their contribution which according to the Staff Regulations is 2/3.

## **V. Messages and opinions on subjects that are important for the future of Europe**

*The opinions expressed in these paragraphs do not necessarily represent the opinions of all members of the Administrative Board and are not the responsibility of SEPS.*

### **1. Between an agitated Ukraine and the East China Sea Air Defence Identification Zone**

**Giovanni Martinetto**

To the west of Russia hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians have been demonstrating “against” their government and corruption – but just at the very moment when the signing of an agreement with Russia was competing with the signing of an agreement with the European Union. And, given that the government tended to favour the first option, the demonstrators pronounced in favour of the second. Our media have taken a stance in favour of the demonstrators, thus opposing Russia to Europe. Events got somewhat out of hand and Russia’s annexation of the Crimea has exacerbated this opposition by creating a further opposition – this time between the United States of America and Russia – though the European and American governments are being relatively careful.

To the east, at the same time, China was declaring an air defence identification zone designed to put pressure on Japan and South Korea to get them to give up their claims to certain islands which it declared were its territory. This was a “display” such as animals perform when they are trying to impress a rival in order to make it accept a dominant position. It is understandable, therefore, that both Japan and United States reacted immediately by defying the prohibition, whatever the consequences. Nothing has happened yet but that is not the end of the story. The trial of strength will go on since, if China were to succeed in persuading its neighbours to accept strict economic cooperation coupled with political and military subordination, it could then look north, towards Mongolia and, especially, Siberia – both so rich in raw materials and with so few inhabitants.

To the south, China and Mongolia (with over 7 000 kilometres of common border), former soviet countries rich in gas and oil which are attracting covetous glances from America and China and, finally a distinctly hostile Georgia. On Russian territory, in the Caucasus, there are about 25 million moslems, becoming more and more secessionist and integrationist at the same time. We need only mention the name of Chechenia to remind us of a war of secession no less bloody than that of the Americans.

How can the Russians *not* feel threatened when surrounded by all this? The feeling must be all the stronger since the loss of power was so great and still reeks of the horrifying possibility that the state of Russia might have disappeared for good with the collapse of the

bloc as well as brutal privatizations. Hence, a square was formed around the State as it was the only way to counter internal splitting and external attacks. It was, so to speak, Russia's spine or shell and it had to be strong to cope with the expansion of the country and its troubles. To do this, they acted in the Russian manner, brutally, both to recover the "privatized" riches and to fight any act or idea preaching individual values that might weaken the State. This is what is so horrifying for our media and our societies, which are becoming increasingly individualistic and seek their identities in human rights.

The task of re-establishing state sovereignty/authority at home has been coupled with fierce efforts to re-establish its sovereignty/independence abroad. It has been all the more difficult in the face of widespread suspicion and covetousness. Hence it was necessary to establish links with everybody, but counterbalanced in such a way as to avoid falling into traps. In relations with the West, they agreed to take part in G8 and the WTO but broke its hold on globalization by setting up associations of emerging national economies (BRICS) and an agreement with gas-producing countries. They negotiated with the European Union but broke its exclusive customer status by building pipelines to the Far East; they created the Shanghai cooperation organization with China and built a pipeline there but they palled up with India and opened another pipeline to Korea and Japan; they had been united with the other soviet members of the Central European Initiative (CEI) but are now suggesting closer cooperation within a customs union; they are pitiless towards moslem secessionists but have gained a seat as observer in the Arab League; within the UN Security Council they have always been against anything which, either advocating or tolerating any kind foreign interference, might restrict their own domestic policy but have not hesitated to offer friendly help during the crisis over Syrian chemical weapons – and so on.

The 2014 winter Olympics, what with the ostentation and phenomenal cost, are the sign and reward for these prodigious efforts which, starting out from a Russia on the brink of destruction, have (re)produced a world Power. They are supposed to express the pride of an entire people.

In fact, they are many who do not share this sentiment. In the first place, they are all those who have been marginalized or from whom everything they had acquired during "privatizations" has been taken back; then it is this new middle class emerging from the enlightenment, which, not merely content to adopt western consumer practices, has also adopted the customs and ideas; finally, there is the great mass of the abandoned, who are nostalgic about their soviet past. After all, the effort has been tough and difficult and priority was given to the State, of which the power and riches were more important than all the rest. This has had a tremendous effect, especially on the number of prisoners.

However, despite all Russia's sacrifices, the power regained appears weakened at the base. Russia is suffering from a debilitating shortage of inhabitants. Since the Bloc collapsed, the 148 million have dropped by 800 000 annually to settle at the recent figure of some 140 million. If we subtract the 25 to 30 million rebel Caucasians and the 25 million people living

in the Asiatic part of the country, we arrive at a European Russia with a population close to that of Germany but on an area ten times larger. But the really empty quarter is in the east of the country – 25 million on an area of over 13 million square kilometres (more than three times the size of the European Union). As most of the population lives in the few towns, this immense territory is practically uninhabited. And yet that is where the riches and power come from. How can one defend it and, especially, how exploit it?

How to defend it? This has become the burning question since the emergence of China. The common border has always been over 4 000 kilometres long but the arms ratio has reversed – there are ten Chinese for every Russian and China, transformed by the West into a planetary factory, is overrunning the world – Australia, Latin America and especially Africa – to grab the materials it needs to go on playing the part. Why go so far when it could find all it needs just over the border – in Siberia? Moreover, it could even dump some of its surplus population there! Nevertheless, the answer will probably not be provided through arms even though the Chinese army –some two million strong – is double the size of the Russian army and possesses more modern equipment in increasing quantities.

No, the real question is how to exploit it and this is of particular concern to the Russians as it touches the image they have of their country. Is Russia a European country with territories in Asia or is it Eurasian? With the answer to this we can decide on the Russian identity and the future of Siberia. In 2009, President Medvedev concluded a nine-year cooperation treaty with the President of China which allowed China to exploit all resources over a large area of Siberia, with the exception of diamonds and energy products. Hence the Chinese are in the process of moving in the necessary workers and building living quarters, road and rail networks, to transport the mineral resources back home and flood the whole of Siberia with their own products. Why has this been allowed? Because Russia simply did not have the manpower to exploit these resources itself and thought it was getting useful barter trade in return. For China had been stuffed with money and know-how by western companies but Russia had been shamed and reduced to a country exporting crude fossil fuels. European Russia has a crying need for advanced technology and is hoping to acquire it through this agreement. Experience has taught us, however, that it will obtain only what China wants to give via this channel, which is something they can now well do without. Russia would drag behind and become dependent. By using its “technological display” on Russia, China will have obtained exactly what it is trying to obtain from Japan and Korea with its present “display”.

The United States intervened to help these countries defy China’s impositions but no western State has said or done anything about the case of Siberia despite the vehement protests of those Russian citizens who, especially in Siberia, were denouncing what they thought of as subjugation and betrayal. For them, Russia was an entity and extended as far as Vladivostock. Hence, the agreement was hardly mentioned in the press, even though the “*Courrier International*” published a long article with the very significant title “When Siberia becomes China”.

In fact, should this come about, it would no doubt be the most important event of the century, bringing about a radical change in the world geopolitical situation. If it were to acquire a territory one and a half times larger than its own, full of all kinds of rich resources, China could exploit it thoroughly using colonization while grossly enlarging, if not doubling, its population. In a broadcast devoted to Siberia on Arte, a German who has been living there for several years and owns 150 000 ha of farmland declared: "here, the limits are only those that you set yourself". As in the olden days, other people would become subject to the "Central Empire" – but this time, the "others" would be the rest of the world.

The agreement signed by Medvedev will expire in 2018. Will the United States and the European Union wake up to what is at stake before then? Will they take a different view of Russia and, more important, its leaders? Will western companies do for Russia what they have done and are still doing for China? Will they be prepared to provide the Russians with that advanced technology which they have been obliged to give to the Chinese in order to be able to work and sell over there and which has now become part of the Chinese "display" only to turn against them and their country of origin? Most of all, could this enormous territory beyond the Urals become for the Union – and especially its youth – a new frontier, a "Far East" comparable to the American's "Far West"? Would our Member States of the Union want to help them settle there?

For centuries, Russia has been the furthest point of Europe, the shield that kept the successive invasions from the steppes at bay and enabled us to develop that which, rightly or wrongly, we consider our culture and our identity. It has made an essential contribution to our European patrimony in all areas. Without harking back to the influence of the Russian campaign and the Congress of Vienna in the early XIXth century, we should think about what we owe to the 21 million Russians that gave their lives during the Second World War. We have blood ties with them and our destinies are bound together.

Ukraine has a role to play here. Russians could not be Russians without the Crimea and Sebastopol, where they have their warships moreover. For their part, the Ukrainians have long shared the fate of the Russians. Also, the fact that the Ukrainians are divided, some looking west and others looking east, is perhaps a good thing. When the disputes have died down, they will be able to work towards bringing our European Union closer to what will be the customs union on the Russian side.

There will probably be other geopolitical events involving the United States, Europe and Russia but necessary changes in attitude, made possible in time and to counterbalance China's rise, could lead, eventually, to a confederation of the entire northern hemisphere containing the two federal north American States at one end with the Russian Federation (including Siberia) at the other and, in between, the United States of Europe. It would be Greater Europe. In a world dominated by continent-states it would be a balancing factor. However, prior to that, we should at last set about making Little Europe!

## **2. Immigration from outside the European Union**

**Giovanni Martinetto**

The question of immigration will be playing an important part in the elections in May this year. It is logical, therefore, to continue the discussion begun by Giovanni Martinetto last February's Bulletin.

**Part one:** In a first article in the February Bulletin<sup>6</sup> - having said that we must think beyond the usual controversies indulged in by those parties that occupy the top of the ladder in which they accuse the up-and-coming parties of racism and populism and are accused in turn of laxism and human rights-ism – we wondered whether, in the matter of immigration, it was up to the host State to take the decision.

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### **Part two: Should the decision be taken by the host State?**

Among those who reject this idea we find in particular:

- (1) The advocates of “live and let live”, for whom the development and, hence, the well-being of the world population depends necessarily on total freedom of movement in the fields of finance, exchange of goods and services and mass migration. They stress the advantages for Europe of a massive influx of migrants for population growth and growth in general. They never say whether or where this “live and let live” should end and they dodge the difficulties encountered by saying that they result from the fact that movement of capital/goods/persons is not yet entirely free. Anchored as they are in this “to-the-bitter-end-ism”, they condemn as “racist” any proposal aimed at protection in our countries saying “this liberalization has enabled hundreds of millions of people in Asia and Latin America to rise up the ladder and you just take refuge in your rich men's pretensions!”

In fact, they are shut into an absolute economic bubble which takes no account whatsoever of any other aspect of living together. This, when modern doctrine (starting from Hobbes) is that State sovereignty is justified by the fact that the State is the only body capable of neutralising a situation where everyone fights one another, but now it is precisely this battle that is supposed to lead to making optimum use of resources and capacities for the greater good of all. By some providential mechanism, some “mysterious hand”, it is individuals' greed and egotism which, via rabid competition, will best be able to make use of resources and, thus, satisfy needs. This is the *doxa* of the dominant economic school and of most of those persons who make up European “governance”.

- (2) All employers who profit from a very cheap illegal workforce.

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<sup>6</sup> SEPS February Bulletin SFPE, page 14.

- (3) Partisans of class warfare who, while being fiercely opposed to partisans of laissez-faire economics, actually agree that, where immigration is concerned, since they take no account of any state or ethnic cleavage and see only one form of opposition – that between exploiters and the exploited – for them, immigrants are brothers in battle.
- (4) Partisans of human rights who are fighting not only for the right to emigrate (a right exercised in respect of the departure State) but also for migrants' rights (to be imposed upon the host State). They never stop digging up causes for this global movement but they see the enormous dimensions of it (at least two hundred million people) and consider it irreversible. They are divided into those that see the earth as one global village – and take almost no notice of states – and those who, on the contrary, like to see themselves as profoundly “European” and think that “human rights” are the be all and end all of our own culture, our identity in short, and are convinced that even the immigrants will soon come to think so as well.
- (5) Immigrants and candidates for immigration for whom any sign of weakness in the host State regarding its attitude to them will increase their chances of getting in, staying and bringing their families to join them without taking account of any political aims.

**Question:** Do the associations and volunteers who welcome and help illegal immigrants share this rejection of the host State's power of decision?

**Answer:** Not necessarily. They act according to their conscience, but it is split. They help illegal immigrants but are also aware of the very difficult situation in their countries, especially of the unemployment rate. They know that, to really do the job properly, they should take charge of the immigrants themselves, including any medical costs – so as not to increase the country's indebtedness. They also know that the people they are helping will become badly paid slaves and live in even worse housing and that, if they are lucky enough to find a regular job it will be to the detriment of unemployed nationals. They do good, but they hope that the flow will stop in the end. In this sense they agree implicitly with the idea that the host State should decide.

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**Notes:**

- (a) It is not surprising that these groups should reject the idea of the State taking the decision because none of them is concerned by the State, whichever it be, neither by the reality of existence (territory, political régime, tradition, cultural and/or linguistic identity and so on). Their thinking is either abstract – centred on the individual (homo oeconomicus, migrant) or on a class (the exploited) – or even restricted to private, personal or work-related interests. Their common base is essentially economic.
- (b) It is surprising that those people who launch fierce attacks on “laissez- aller” when it is a question of uncontrolled movements of capital and goods should accept mass migration which is precisely a result of such movements. Even more surprising is the connivance



within European governance between States and partisans of “laissez-aller”, despite their radical opposition to each other, because, for these partisans everything happens, or should happen, as though the State did not exist.

- (c) Can the European identity, in all its unity and diversity, be reduced to a “table of human rights” which, as such, is supposed to be universal and therefore takes no account of any kind of attachment? This question is all the more appropriate because, as we shall see later, we shall soon be obliged to take a fresh look at the problems raised by these “rights” if we do not wish to lose our self assurance and have to change many of our attitudes. This will be a painful exercise that will affect us deeply because, for decades, these “rights” have enabled us to give lessons at international level – which also enabled us to feel “superior” and forget that pretensions to (moral) superiority were a mere replacement of a (genuine) former state.
- (d) For NGOs, highly committed to promoting “migrants’ rights, saying that the earth is henceforth “one single large village” enables them to consider themselves protagonists – as far as legislation and supervision is concerned – ignoring the role of States. Besides, if everything happens in a single space, there is no need to deal with the cause of migration nor call in question the responsibility of the States of origin: suffice it to direct the movement towards places offering the best possibilities and the least resistance.

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### **Part three: What about those who agree that the host State should decide? Who are they?**

- (1) All the traditional parties active within the State. States are sovereign, that is independent, in this present world, whatever their politics may be. If there are international, even worldwide, organizations it is because the States have founded them and are members. All States are defined by their territories, which those parts of the planet in and over which they have supreme political authority and which, in our countries, is where we live a democratic life. One of the basic tenets of democratic life is the law on nationality whereby the people – directly or via representatives – define themselves by setting down the criteria of their own make-up and reproduction. This decision forms the basis of living together in the given territory.

These criteria have been broadened over the years as a result of decisions taken by successive governments – most often without consulting the people. We have the European Union with free circulation of its citizens and the Schengen area. More, we have many agreements on refugees and migrants. These decisions seemed to be obvious until competition stopped setting companies against one another but henceforth sets people against one another, whether it be at world level or within a highly enlarged Union. Competition was once symmetrical but it became the opposite, counting on cost

prices that were unbalanced since some had to take account of environment/social security/worker protection/union activity and so on, whereas others very little or nothing at all. We kept on using the word competitiveness but, as soon as the same company found itself on both sides of the fence at once, the bill had to be paid by the people with the highest protection. Sackings, closures, delocalizations – under the nose of governments that, since they could no longer manipulate the currency, had only one solution: cut expenditure, across the board. Along came the subprime crisis together with speculation on national debts.

Faced with increased indebtedness and unemployment, governments then tried – with slight differences according to left- or right-wing – tried to slow down immigration, especially since all over the world and mainly in Africa globalization and galoping population growth was upsetting traditional society, creating misery and violence which swelled the numbers of displaced persons and migrants. Countries in the south of the Union were taken by storm while those in the north accused them of laxism and threatened to suspend all circulation of people, Schengen or not. The worry was dictated mostly by economics and security.

- (2) All new so-called “populist” parties, whether they be brand new or have sprouted up as a result of the State crisis. The State has been taking up more and more space in the lives of the people for centuries and, as the intermediate strata of society disappeared, there remain only “individuals” and “citizens” face to face with their State. In our case, “State” and “individuals/citizens” are correlative ideas and realities and if the former starts to collapse the latter tremble. As the State was stripped of its functions to integrate and protect, people still found themselves all alone but this time overwhelmed by globalization and unknown forces over which they had no control. So, they have sought more solid ground in order to escape from their solitude and helplessness and replace or shore up that of the State. Religion was not a fall-back solution in a state secularized as ours. The new binding factor was found in a combination of language, customs, culture, history, folklore, cookery and so on, which formed an “identity” and could be the distinguishing feature of a group – national or regional. However, in order to flourish and become a political force, the sense of belonging, the “we”, created by these “identities” needed “others” to form an opposition – the stronger the opposition the more united the group would be. This is how where the “identity” was national, the party became “sovereignist”, against the Union and where it was regional, the party even became “secessionist”, against the “others” within its own country. But, for everyone, the absolute “others” were the immigrants invading Europe and undermining the “identity” upon which the whole concept of living together was based. The problem then was still an economic and security one but it turned more into one of identity. In the face of all these dangers – summed up in the word “globalization” – we find ourselves back in the XIXth century and its dream of peace emanating only from an agreement among “nations” – in the ethnic sense of the word.

In these circumstances, all partisans of unlimited migration (cf ) are condemned as enemies of the people and the traditional parties are accused of being blind: (a) they cannot see that if they want to limit immigration and stay with “European governance” they are in contradiction with themselves; (b) obsessed by short-term and magagerial vision, they cannot see the problems that such immigration will cause in the longer term as regards religion, society and policy.

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**Notes:**

- (a) Far from the preceding text, we are here speaking of a “territory” and the idea that, originally, there as not an “individual” but a “society” and that mutual assistance is the true and only path to development and survival. The fundamental structure for everyone is the Nation-State, even if some place emphasis on the State and institutional allegiance – with the risk of obtaining an empty democracy of which the declaration of “human rights” would be the ultimate expression – whereas others are obsessed by the Nation, with the risk of walking down the path to “ethnic cleansing”.
- (b) Since they are stuck in the Nation-State and fundamentally “sovereignist”, they cannot even conceive of the possibilities that a Union could offer them to solve the economic, security and identity problems they are encountering because of the various aspects of globalization. As they idea has not occurred to them that there could be a Power capable of influencing such large planetary movements, leave our fate to “laisser-aller” while others think only of barricading themselves behind national or even regional frontiers. They cannot even glimpse the destiny we are to share with the African continent and even less prepare themselves to guide it in the common interest.
- (c) The “populists” rightly denounce the blindness of the traditional parties but still they can be accused of that form of blindness that is called begging the question: (i) when they merely defend Catalan identity as opposed to Castillian they are only scratching the surface of the Catalan identity without noticing that it is threatened nowadays far more seriously where it is no longer Iberian, nor even Roman, but is European. This is why all these “identity” parties are springing up all over the Union, parties that, paradoxically, are all equally blind. (ii) When one puts too much effort into opposing an “other” one becomes the “other” of that person, his shadow, forgettin one’s own true, positive identity. (iii) One wonders whether the European identity, instead of scaling itself down to some of its facets, does not precisely transcend all of them. (iv) History has shown us that, although settling on just one “otherness” (skin colour) has helped the Americans to accept all the rest, it has also induced them to oppress and murder. (v) The desired aim in fighting immigration from outside the Union has never really been stated clearly, nor have the stages or means. Thus, the new parties are often conglomerates of very diverse, if not opposing, tendencies (*more about this later*).
- (d) Given the common elements of both old and new parties, it is a shame that they cannot bring themselves to talk to one another and that they waste their time in insults – such

as “racist”, “phobic”, “stinking” – and even have recourse to institutions that detect and prosecute any expression that is not “politically correct” in order not to deepen one another’s complementarity . This dialogue ought to be pursued in the Union as well. It would enable many citizens to express themselves freely, without being afraid or ashamed, and would give them an impression of a more open democracy. There is no longer much sense in objecting that these linguistic or legal barriers are there to protect us from the “minorities” given the number of people – citizens or not – henceforth present in the Union and in our countries.

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#### **Part four: What if the host State had the power to decide, could it also give it up?**

This is exactly what it has done by signing many of the international and European agreements. What is left then? *(to be continued)*

### **3. The staff of the European Institutions is under constant attack! Is this collective harassment?**

Brigitte Pretzenbacher ([Brigitte.Pretzenbacher@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Brigitte.Pretzenbacher@ec.europa.eu) )

Since the financial crisis of 2008, the European Union is today confronted by the most serious crisis in its history. Several Member States are particularly affected. They cannot find the sufficient resources to adopt the policies and the economic reforms that are necessary to stimulate growth and employment, whilst guaranteeing the stability of public finances and of the social security systems.

In the years to come the challenges facing the Member States will be immense. With more than 23.5 million unemployed, the unemployment rate of the European Union will be at its highest since the beginning of the 1990s.

This crisis, which is responsible for a general reduction in the standard of living in the Member States, encourages the citizens to view the European institutions – the European Union itself – as the scapegoat, the source of all this misery!

Though it is legitimate to constructively criticise certain policies initiated by the European Institutions, there is nonetheless a confusion which is knowingly promoted by certain media and politicians, tempted by political opportunism: they seek to mop up the wavering votes of the citizens, perturbed by the crisis which is hitting ever harder all layers of society.

The amalgam that is made between those who decide on European policies (the Council=the Member States in co-decision with the European Parliament) and those who are responsible for the implementation of these policies (the civil servants and other agents) engenders in the man/woman in the street a visceral hatred for the European project, the

European Union and all those in its service. The ground is thus fertile to blame the civil servants and other agents of the EU and to continuously hammer home the notion that they are privileged. The consequences have not taken long to make themselves felt: the staff regulations of the EU staff are continually being eroded by repeated reforms, and are gradually being reduced to a mere shell. These reforms are generating a situation of competition between officials and other staff, those whose status is more precarious, notably the contractual and temporary agents. The working conditions become harder, the career paths are slower or blocked and the salaries are frozen in total illegality.

The pressure exerted on the staff of the EU appears to be knowingly organised, the public opinions in Europe are constantly being stirred up by the media, who systematically seek to engender jealous indignation.

Some go as far as publishing the salaries of European Parliamentarians, or of high level officials such as Commissioners to sow confusion, ignoring the important disparities in salary, depending on whether one is a permanent official, a contractual agent or a temporary staffer, whether one works at the Commission, the European Parliament or in another of the European institutions, and of course on which grade one occupies and one's length of service. Brandishing the salary of a Commissioner or of a European Parliamentarian in order to denounce the salaries of the exact opposites like the other agents, makes no sense at all, except to promote a very specific political agenda.

These daily attacks, coming from all parts of Europe, discourages the staff and puts them on the defensive. Once proud to contribute to the construction of Europe, namely under the presidency of Jacques Delors, officials and other agents of the European Union catch themselves hiding their profession, omitting to mention it or even to be ashamed of it. This is a detail, but it is significant: already ten years ago fewer and fewer staff members were prepared to register their vehicles with "EUR" plates: today, many even hide the badges which give them access to the parking areas of the Institution buildings.

The question is now on the table: has it now become necessary to hide in order to work in these institutions?

The European Institutions which are regularly called upon by the staff representatives to take effective action to re-establish the truth and to make clear what the working conditions within the institutions are, do so weakly, from time to time. So nothing changes! The institutions and above all the Commission should make use of the media to communicate positively, rather than be on the defensive all the time. They should systematically denounce the lies and the untruths proffered by certain media and politicians. As for the citizens, they should be in a position to be able to read media information critically and consequently to become aware of when they are being manipulated. This phenomenon is more than likely to grow during the European Parliament election campaign. We know that anything goes in order to get the votes.

Other solutions should henceforth be envisaged:

Public recognition is needed that we are being subjected to collective, violent and continuous harassment, which now needs a firm and adequate riposte in keeping with the scale of the phenomenon.

Let us examine the definition of harassment as given by Belgian law:

*“One speaks of moral harassment at work when repeated, abusive behaviours, from various sources, external or internal to the company or the institution are manifested during a period of time and which take the form of behaviour, words, intimidations, acts and gestures, unilateral messages, aimed at or having the effect of undermining the personality, the dignity or the physical or psychological integrity of the person at the workplace, undermining his work or creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment.”*

This is exactly what is happening!

The image of the Institutions’ staff is unfortunately already seriously undermined by this harassment which has been going on for years.

*One should collect a maximum of proofs (press articles, e-mails in circulation, television programmes, incidents in public spaces, etc) which illustrate this harassment. Then we need to take action through legal means (complaints, petitions) to create a case law and bring an end to this manhunt, of which the staff of the European Institutions has unjustly become a victim during these last years.*

## **VI. Information – Questions from members**

### **1. Pensioners and the elections of end May**

The European elections at the end of May and also, in certain countries, the national or regional elections, are the occasions which should not be missed to try and give a priority, by mandated intermediary, to the needs of retirees.

It is evident that for members of SEPS, pensioners of the European Institutions, the priority is to develop the European Union, which needs to be able to guarantee their future by respecting their acquired rights, notably the pension system and the health insurance system.

However, in preparing to vote, it is necessary to also become interested in the candidates, who in their declared programmes will have introduced elements in favour of retirees, such as:

- Maintain and even increase the services offered to old persons, starting with communication
- Develop independent insurances, mainly in the field of dependency
- Eliminate discriminations based on age
- Use the experience of retirees; put it to the service of the young
- Develop inter-generational projects

- Promote the mobility of older persons
- Insert clauses in favour of the elderly in the staff regulations under the obligations of the services

## **2. The PMO newsletter**

Unfortunately the PMO newsletter is not accessible to or sent to pensioners. DG HR C1 has decided to fill this gap (cf point 3, here under)

For members of SEPS the recommendations of PMO3 are pertinent, whether they use “JSIS on-line” or not<sup>7</sup>.

### **Medical expenses and their supporting documents**

To have your medical expenses reimbursed, you must attach to the form all the receipts received from the providers of health care services. The latter will in principle give you a receipt which must be “in keeping with the legislation of the country in which the service has been provided”. In Belgium, for example, be aware that the psychologist, the osteopath or the chiroprapist needs to provide you with a receipt whose format has been validated by the Minister of Finance. (Cf Annex 2).

If you are paying the service provider by bank transfer, attach the pertinent receipt or invoice to the reimbursement request, as well as proof of payment.

### **Psychotherapy is reimbursed if and only if...**

Psychotherapy sessions are reimbursed by the JSIS on condition firstly that they have been prescribed by a house doctor (for a maximum of 10 sessions) or by a consultant doctor – psychiatrist, neurologist or neuropsychiatrist – for up to 30 sessions. The prescribing doctor will establish a diagnosis and indicate which pathology needs treatment by which recommended type of treatment.

The second condition is the recognition of the practitioner by the authorities of the country in which he works. The sessions need to be carried out by a psychologist/psychotherapist who is legally recognised. In Belgium only psychologists who are registered with the Commission des Psychologues are recognised as being qualified to exercise this profession. However, in other countries, in addition to psychologists, psychotherapists are also recognised and their sessions are therefore reimbursable.

If the sessions are undertaken by a psychologist/psychotherapist a prior authorisation is always necessary.

If they are to be undertaken by a psychiatrist/neurologist/neuropsychiatrist, no prior authorisation is required for 30 sessions or less.

### **JSIS on-line; how long do you need to keep the supporting documents?**

If you use JSIS on-line for the reimbursement of your medical expenses, be aware that from now on the time to safeguard the original supporting documents has been reduced to 18 months. This period of 18 months starts from the date of receipt of the detailed account of your medical expenses.

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<sup>7</sup> Let us not forget that the submission of reimbursement requests in paper form remains and will remain valid.

During this period keep all the various supporting documents as they can potentially be requested for checking.

### **JSIS on-line: No duplicates**

There are many active staff members who are using this new tool **JSIS on-line** and given the comments received by PMO every day, they seem generally satisfied. With this new application it is better to regularly introduce reimbursement requests, even for small amounts. This will save time and avoid any risk of mislaying a receipt from the chemist, or an attestation from the dentist or any other supporting document.

**If you opt to use this on-line application, do not send the same request in paper form, as such duplication would only cause a superfluous need for verification. The originals would be requested only if your reimbursement request becomes the subject of a control.**

**PMO informs** that as from now pensioners will receive their detailed account in paper form, even if they have submitted their reimbursement requests via JSIS on-line.

### **3. DG HR proposes a new information bulletin**

**Message from Monique Théâtre, DG HR C1 – Responsible for the sector “Relations with pensioners” – addressed to those in charge of pensioner associations:**

*“We would like to inform you that in order to improve communication with and information for pensioners, Unit HR.C.1 will, from May 2014 onwards, be publishing a bi-monthly information bulletin – SENIOR INFO – for all pensioners.*

*This bulletin, which will appear every two months, will contain short, clear and pertinent information for all pensioners about the subjects which interest them, such as: staff regulations, method, pensions, health insurance, social support, communication, retiree associations, financial rights, insurances, health, etc.*

*Having seen, for a number of years, the communication problems arising mainly from language, it has been decided that this information bulletin will be translated into five languages: FR-IT-DE-NL-EN, which are, in decreasing order, the individual languages of pensioners counted in the PMO data base.*

*We would also like to take account of the sizeable number of surviving partners – who never worked for the institutions – and also of orphans. Another element to be taken into account is that of the growing number of very old pensioners, notably those who returned to their country of origin and who after a great number of years, no longer really speak the ‘Community’ languages, and for whom somewhat “technical” language is difficult to understand.*

*We hope we can count on your collaboration in the framework of this new project.*

*More precise information and requests for contributions/editing will be sent to you during the coming days.*

*A stagiaire, Elise Conan, has been assigned to HR.C.1 and she will be responsible, under my supervision and that of my Head of Unit, for the contents and the programming of this information bulletin.*

*The first edition is foreseen for the first week of May.”*



Since the SEPS April Bulletin will be reaching members towards the end of April, early May, there is a risk that some information is duplicated. The coordination and selection of information will become better organised in due course.

#### **4. "eu can aid!" a non-profit EU staff association**

"*eu can aid!*" was set up by EU staff in 1968 to support micro-projects in developing countries and awaken and foster the solidarity of EU staff with less privileged people.

Run entirely on voluntary basis, with funds raised through membership fees and donations, it supports small NGOs or local communities who do not have access to funding from major donors and enable local communities to take charge of their own development by improving their living conditions.

##### **You can aid too! Get involved!**

Join us now to help people in need! Tomorrow it will be too late!

- **Make a donation. You can make a difference. Small actions change lives**
- **Become a member and make regular donations**

« *eu can aid!* » Aisbl c/o Council, Office JL – 02 CG 39, rue de la Loi 175 – B-1048 Brussels  
+32 2 281 83 71 – [info@eucanaid.eu](mailto:info@eucanaid.eu) – [www.eucanaid.eu](http://www.eucanaid.eu)  
IBAN - 6231002404461 – BIC : BBRUBEBB

#### **5. New edition of the SEPS insurance file**

Since R&D's launch of a new complementary health insurance to JSIS, SEPS' working document "File on complementary health and accident insurances" (FR and EN) has been updated to 11 February 2014. This document is available on request from the secretariat.

#### **6. Vade-mecum part 3**

Part 3 of the Vade-mecum is regularly brought up-to-date: every month there are changes in address, in the indicated responsibilities, mainly at PMO. After the February edition, there is now one for March 2014.

Members who would like to have the addresses of PMO, of the social services, etc....need to regularly request the latest edition of Part 3 of the Vade-mecum or download it from the SEPS website.

## **VII. Annexes**

### **Letter of the PMO Director** (to the active staff – février 2014)

#### **Reimbursement of medical expenses – Supporting documents**

Dear Colleagues,

In the framework of ensuring the good management of the Joint Sickness Insurance Scheme (JSIS), PMO must ensure the rigorous application of the rules as laid down in the [General Implementing Provisions](#).

It is within this context that my services draw particular attention to the compliance of the supporting documents attached to the reimbursement of medical claims. All reimbursement requests which do not respect the rules will be refused. In order to avoid such inconvenience, allow me to remind you of some simple principles:

#### **Verify the compliance of your supporting documents**

The reimbursement is done on the basis of receipts and invoices which comply with the legislation in the country where the treatment took place. In Belgium, for example, the receipts for treatments that are subject to VAT (e.g. for psychotherapy, osteopathy and podology/medical chiropody) must be numbered and stamped by the service of direct taxes or of the VAT.

Otherwise, you can attach an invoice in an appropriate format accompanied with the proof of payment by bank transfer.

For further information, please consult [MyIntraComm](#), where you will find examples of acceptable supporting documents.

For supporting documents for which the date is prior to this present information, in the event of difficulties to obtain the appropriate supporting documents from a Belgian practitioner, PMO is at your disposal to assist you.

For reminder, the reimbursement of medical claims is also subject to certain rules concerning [prior authorisation](#) and the [recognition of the practitioners](#).

The well-being of our joint scheme, the JSIS is the concern of us all, that is why I count on your support to preserve it.

- **For more info:** [https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/hr\\_admin/en/sickness\\_insurance/reimbursement/Pages/index.aspx](https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/hr_admin/en/sickness_insurance/reimbursement/Pages/index.aspx)
- **For any question:** <https://ec.europa.eu/pmo/contact/>

Marc Lemaître  
PMO Director

## **Annex 2**

### **Example of receipt required by the PMO**

for osteopathy, psychology, podology, etc.

(Source: My Intracomm - DG HR Administration)

**See French version of the Bulletin.**

## **Annex 3**

### **In memoriam**

01.3.2014

<i>Nom, Prénom</i>	<i>Date de naissance</i>	<i>Date de pension</i>	<i>Date de décès</i>	<i>Institution</i>
KLEIN-LORENTZEN Marion	23/04/1930	1/05/1986	29/11/2013	COM
RICHTER-STEPHANNY Fernande	12/05/1923	1/06/1988	5/12/2013	COM
EVERS Gabrielle	25/06/1933	1/05/1983	20/12/2013	COM
LIBERTAZZI Claudia	5/07/1948	1/04/2011	19/01/2014	COM
HUBSCH Alphonse	2/09/1922	1/10/1987	29/01/2014	COM
MEYER Klaus	10/04/1928	1/06/1992	29/01/2014	COM
DHENIN Britta	27/10/1945	1/09/2007	29/01/2014	COM
BRUNET Françoise	26/08/1950	1/06/2013	29/01/2014	COM
BRUNI Giambattista	31/03/1921	1/04/1986	30/01/2014	COM
KAWAN Louis	17/11/1926	1/12/1989	31/01/2014	COM
DELAHOUSSE Jean-Pierre	27/02/1921	1/03/1986	1/02/2014	COM
WIGGER Heinrich	9/04/1938	1/02/2000	1/02/2014	COM
MC LAUGHLIN Monique	4/10/1935	1/10/1998	2/02/2014	COM
GAMBARETTI Renzo	29/05/1936	1/06/2001	4/02/2014	COM
LUDOVICI Georges	22/01/1931	1/02/1996	5/02/2014	COM
HERRMANN Doris	16/09/1940	1/04/1997	7/02/2014	BER
XENAKIS Emmanuel	21/08/1948	1/09/2004	9/02/2014	COM
MACZKOWIAK Guenter	8/11/1940	1/05/1980	10/02/2014	COM
HERRMANN Marc	25/02/1952	1/01/2008	12/02/2014	COM
HUEBER Roland	2/01/1942	1/02/1996	13/02/2014	COM
BODEN Ghislain	26/09/1948	1/01/2002	15/02/2014	COM
PEREIRA-VERSLUYS Maggy	18/06/1927	1/07/1987	18/02/2014	COM
SCHUSTER Nadine	16/12/1952	1/06/2004	18/02/2014	CM
SCHMIT Marcel	17/09/1944	1/06/2002	21/02/2014	COM

01.04.2014

<i>Nom, Prénom</i>	<i>Date de naissance</i>	<i>Date de pension</i>	<i>Date de décès</i>	<i>Institution</i>
COLOV Finn Martens	1/11/1919	1/12/1984	3/01/2014	COM
FAIRCLOUGH Anthony	30/08/1924	1/09/1989	9/02/2014	COM
STRAUS Alida	20/02/1928	1/06/1990	18/02/2014	COM
BLASIG Volker	17/12/1943	1/09/1994	21/02/2014	COM
PAPADOPOULOS Evanthia	11/04/1963	1/02/2000	21/02/2014	COM
IBSEN Hans	27/09/1927	1/09/1990	23/02/2014	CC
TRACCITTO Maria	7/09/1950	1/06/2012	25/02/2014	PE
RAVENNA Ineke	15/02/1942	1/01/2002	26/02/2014	COM
LOEBISCH Ralph	7/11/1924	1/12/1984	27/02/2014	CM
BOSGIRAUD Marie-Christine	5/03/1952	1/03/2012	28/02/2014	PE
LE BEC Denise	6/02/1921	1/05/1984	1/03/2014	COM
ROOVERS Charles	13/04/1929	1/03/1991	1/03/2014	PE
HILGER Andrée	29/03/1930	1/08/1994	3/03/2014	PE
ANDRE Agnes	10/12/1949	1/01/2005	3/03/2014	COM
GRISON Gaston	22/08/1920	1/07/1984	4/03/2014	COM
CREVATIN Carina	7/02/1969	1/04/2005	4/03/2014	MIN
SIEMERS Gunhild	17/04/1948	1/07/2002	7/03/2014	COM
KNAEPEN-SMULIAN Josefa	24/06/1933	1/09/1991	9/03/2014	COM
MASCHKE Erich	3/11/1932	1/12/1997	9/03/2014	COM
BRAUN John	7/06/1916	1/01/1977	10/03/2014	COM
BONNETT Ian	10/03/1945	1/09/2002	12/03/2014	COM
SANDFORTH Josephine	3/05/1912	1/08/1976	13/03/2014	COM
SOETERBOEK Maria	10/08/1929	1/09/1989	13/03/2014	COM
KLEIBER Rene	6/03/1923	1/04/1988	16/03/2014	COM
DEBRIGODE Theodore	2/09/1924	1/10/1989	19/03/2014	COM
VANDEVELDE Roger	26/12/1933	1/01/1995	20/03/2014	COM
FORTI Patrizia	4/02/1956	1/03/2014	21/03/2014	COM
ANCIAUX Georges	10/04/1928	1/10/1991	22/03/2014	COM
KAMPOLIS Ioannis	2/08/1955	1/01/2009	23/03/2014	COM
MATHUES Guy	21/07/1943	1/09/1985	24/03/2014	COM
HEMBD Herman	6/06/1932	1/07/1987	25/03/2014	COM

## **Annex 4.**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Files and documents available. Order form</b></p>
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**Please send this reply slip to the secretariat**

I should like to receive the English edition of the following documents

**SEPS Vade-mecum**

Part 1 (Procedures)

Part 2 (forms /pers. data)

**Part 3 (addresses PMO – ADMIN. ...) Edition February 2013**

Part 4 (reimbursement forms – RCAM/JSIS)

**Summary of the SR reform (DG HR - 12 pages)**

**Supplementary health insurances** Edition june 2013

**Invlidity allowance and survival pension (Hendrik Smets)**

**EU Officials and taxation (Me. J Buekenhoudt)**

**Inheritance (Me. J Buekenhoudt)**

**JSIS Guide**

Please send these documents to :

Surname.....

First name .....

Address :  
.....  
.....  
.....

Date : ..... Signature : .....

To be sent to

**SFPE – SEPS**  
175 rue de la Loi,  
Bureau JL 02 40 CG39,  
**BE-1048 Bruxelles**

**Fax: +32(0)2 2818378**

GSM: +32 (0)475 472470

Email:

[info@sfpe-seps.be](mailto:info@sfpe-seps.be)

**APPLICATION FORM**

I, THE UNDERSIGNED: .....

HOME ADDRESS: .....

HOME Tel: ..... GSM: .....Email: .....

FORMER OFFICIAL OF (Institution + DG or Dep.): .....

IF still active: date of birth and number of years of service: .....

HEREBY APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE "ASSOCIATION OF SENIORS OF THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC SERVICE " (S.E.P.S).

NATIONALITY: .....DATE:..... SIGNATURE: .....

*The annual subscription is €30, payable every year on the date of joining.*

Bank account No. of SEPS:       **363-0507977-28**   **ING bank**   Brussels  
**IBAN BE37 3630 5079 7728**                   **BIC BBRUBEBB**  
Communication: **Annual subscription + 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> names**

*Please return this application form to:*

SEPS - SFPE  
Office 02 40 CG39  
175, rue de la Loi,  
B-1048 BRUSSELS

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*If you choose to pay by standing order (see below), please send the slip YOURSELF direct to your bank.*


---

**STANDING ORDER**

(Please send direct to your bank)

I, the undersigned, .....

HEREBY INSTRUCT .....(Name of bank)

to pay on .....(date) and on the same date each year, until further notice, by

debit of account N° ..... the sum of : € **30** to:

**SEPS – SFPE JL Office 0240CG39,**  
**rue de la Loi 175**  
**B 1048 Brussels**

Account N°       **363-0507977-28**   **ING Bank**   Brussels  
**IBAN BE37 3630 5079 7728**   **BIC BBRUBEBB**  
**Reference : Annual subscription (+ first name and surname)**

DATE : ..... SIGNATURE : .....

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175 rue de la Loi,  
Bureau JL 02 40 CG39,  
**BE-1048 Bruxelles**

**Fax: +32(0)2 2818378**

GSM: +32 (0)475 472470

Email:

[info@sfpe-seps.be](mailto:info@sfpe-seps.be)