



January, 23 2004
Public Administration National Strike
The reasons

The main aim of this strike is to show the government, the wrath of the public services workers against the invidious way that this government has treat them. Once again this Government wants to give the idea, to the public opinion, that current situation of Portugal (high public deficit and inflation, unemployment) is public services workers fault.

We claim:

Real negotiations:

The negotiation Law (Law 23/98) has been disrespected:
 the beginning of the 2004 negotiation process start 09 of January, (the law indicates September has the month to start the negotiations);
 the trade unions doesn't have any counterproposal from the government (the law refers that as an obligation);
 the trade unions doesn't have any schedule for future meetings;
 the Republic Assembly approved the state budget proposal including references the increase of the public services worker wages without any negotiations with the trade unions.

Salaries and retirement allowances:

The public services workers and their families lost of the purchasing power could be seen on this table:

Year	Inflation	Wages increase
2000	2,9 %	2,5 %
2001	4,4 %	3,71 %
2002	3,6 %	2,75 %
2003	3,3 %	0 % *

*to wages over €1.009 and 1,5 % to wages equal or below € 1.009

In the last year only, 45% of the workers had wage increase.

For a serious Pubic Administration reform

SINTAP always defended the Pubic Administration reform.

Not a reform that served the political or private interests, but one that satisfies the needs of Portuguese's citizens.

The five laws and decrees presented and approved by the Government doesn't led to any real reform of the public administration, it only lead us to privatisation's of the state essential tasks, favouritism, more jobs for the boys, and the massification of the Individual work contract (with fewer working conditions than in the private sector).

Change in the retirement status

In 2002 the Government tried to change, trough 2003 State Budget, the retirement status but the Constitutional Court declared that change unconstitutional.

During 2003 two members of the parliament ,one from the PSD and the other from PP(collation that govern) used one mechanism, the "parliament initiative", to approved what the Constitutional Court had rejected.

Already this year the Portuguese President proclaim the decree changing the retirement status.

SINTAP cannot agree and accept this change (36 year of working in the public services and 60 year of age).

These are the reasons why all the public services trade Unions announced one national strike for the next Friday 23 of January