

Pay deal implemented but unions still have key bargaining demands

[Spain](#)

A statute published last month confirms the pay increases that will be implemented this year for all public sector workers as part of a three-year package that was negotiated with unions last year. Along with a basic increase of 2.25% this January, there will be an additional 0.25% (0.3% if there is a budget surplus in 2018) and a further 0.25% in July if economic growth is 2.5% or more. Unions will be looking for progress on other key demands when they meet the government later this month. In particular, they want to see an increase in public sector employment and an end to restrictions on recruitment. They are also calling for negotiations, without conditions, on working time, early retirement and the restoration of other rights lost or worsened by austerity measures.

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