

## **Warning strikes help secure pay deal**

 [Germany](#)

Around 13000 employees of hospitals in Hamburg are set to benefit from a new collective agreement after 2000 took part in warning strikes earlier this year. A pay increase of 3.5% will be backdated to 1 March and two further increases of 1.4% will be paid on 1 January and 1 August 2013. In response to employee complaints about excessive weekend working there will also be a guarantee of 26 weekends free each year. Ver.di has criticised the employers for threatening some workers with the sack if they took action, particularly after the union had offered to negotiate an agreement on emergency cover that was rejected by the employers.

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